



## Preparing for a Smooth Transition

Sharing lessons from how other Asia-Pacific countries are preparing for the graduation, and for the next triennial review

Joint Government-UN Meeting on Myanmar's LDC Graduation Process

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## Support to LDCs that have a date to graduate

**Vanuatu**

- Graduated on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Following a request from the Government, ESCAP had provided technical support to the Government's National Coordinating Committee to develop Vanuatu Smooth Transition Strategy (STS).
- ESCAP funded in 2019 a study on external financing and domestic resources mobilization in **Vanuatu**, as the country was selected as one of 3 target countries for a \$600,000 project examining how to mobilize more domestic resources for the SDGs.



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## Support to LDCs that have a date to graduate

**Solomon Islands**

- Set to graduate December 2024.
- ESCAP organized jointly with the UNRC, UNOHRLLS, DESA and UNDP a capacity building workshop to familiarize with LDC graduation implications and to identify necessary actions needed to prepare and implement a smooth transition strategy (STS).
- The country has an export structure that is highly concentrated in wood and is highly vulnerable to external shocks.
  - ESCAP has commissioned a study examining how current policies facilitate Structural Transformation and how the COVID-19 pandemic impact the overall situation.



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## Support to LDCs that have a date to graduate

**Bhutan**

- Set to graduate December 2023.
- Capacity building support focusing on and assessment of the COVID-19 impact on Bhutan's sustainable graduation path.
- Provided technical assistance on developing a sovereign bond market in Bhutan.
- Research on implications and policy imperatives of graduation for Bhutan, including on trade performance and WTO accession of Bhutan.



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## Supporting other LDCs

### Capacity building workshops

- Enhancing the capacity of South Asian LDCs to implement SDGs and sustainably graduate from LDCs status
- *Graduation from the LDC category* organized for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar in December 2020.
- National (Bangladesh), subregional (Pacific) and regional workshops (all LDCs) on *Mobilizing resources for sustainable development* planned for early 2021

### Knowledge products

- Working papers on *Implications and policy imperatives of graduation, Review of Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action*.
- CSN Development Report on *Structural Transformation and its Role in Reducing Poverty (2019)* and on *Strengthening resilience of least developed countries in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic – lessons for the next Programme of Action (2021)*
- Studies on policies facilitating structural transformation and graduation, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 pandemic (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Timor-Leste)

