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FDI in Landlocked Developing Countries at a Glance



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Note

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Reference to “dollars” (\$) means United States dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

Annual rates of growth or change, unless otherwise stated, refer to annual compound rates.

Details and percentages in tables do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

The material contained in this study may be freely quoted with appropriate acknowledgement.

Landlocked developing countries (LLDCs)

Thirty countries are currently designated by the United Nations as LLDCs. They comprise 15 in Africa, 13 in Asia and 2 in Latin America. Sixteen of the 30 LLDCs are classified as least developed countries. These are: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Paraguay, Rwanda, Swaziland, Tajikistan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Zambia and Zimbabwe

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Preface

The international community recently reiterated the need to pay more attention to the economic difficulties of landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), and to address specifically the development challenges faced by these countries. At its 50th session, the General Assembly endorsed a number of initiatives to assist LLDCs to enter world markets and achieve their development goals. The decision by the General Assembly to convene in 2003 an International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation further reflects this renewed commitment. This was expressed in the Millennium Declaration by the United Nations that called for a global partnership to address the special needs of LLDCs. As part of this effort, UNCTAD initiated a study on foreign direct investment (FDI) in LLDCs, with a view to examining the unique challenges and opportunities that their particular geographic position raises as hosts for FDI. The results of the study, which is the first attempt to address these issues, are contained in this volume.

This booklet, *FDI in LLDCs at a Glance, 2002*, presents a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of FDI and the activities of transnational corporations (TNCs) in each of the LLDCs. It includes information on the importance of FDI in domestic investment, cross-border mergers and acquisitions (including privatization), the largest foreign affiliates, and the regulatory framework for FDI. It aims to contribute towards supporting LLDCs in developing and implementing appropriate FDI strategies and policy frameworks by providing enhanced information on favourable investment opportunities and thus encouraging increased FDI flows to LDCs.

The objectives of this booklet are to provide reliable statistical information on the magnitude, regional origin and sectoral distribution of FDI in a concise manner, to enable policy makers to evaluate and design appropriate FDI strategies, and to facilitate their understanding of the regulatory framework in each of the LDCs. It is hoped that it will also help to increase FDI by enhancing the awareness of potential investors of the investment opportunities in each of the LLDCs.

The booklet is divided into two parts. The first describes recent trends in FDI to LLDCs, and the changes that have taken place in relevant areas of the regulatory legal framework. The second part presents country profiles of each of the 30 LLDCs to provide the reader - at a glance - with a general picture of the role of FDI in these countries.



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The primary sources of information are a number of UNCTAD databases, specifically those dealing with foreign direct investment, transnational corporations, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, bilateral investment treaties, and double taxation treaties. Every reasonable effort, including requests to the governments concerned to verify the data, has been made to ensure that each country profile is accurate and up-to-date. Country tables of least developed countries presented in this volume were updated version of those in the publication entitled *FDI in Least Developed Countries at a Glance 2002* (United Nations publication, UNCTAD/ITE/IIA/6).

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Abbreviations

AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act (of the United States)
BIT	bilateral investment treaty
CREFAA	Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DTT	double taxation treaty (bilateral treaty for the avoidance of double taxation)
FDI	foreign direct investment
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services (of WTO)
GDP	gross domestic product
ICSID	International Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes (between States and Nationals of Other States)
ICT	information and communication technology
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IT	information technology
LDC	least developed country
LLDC	landlocked developing country
M&As	mergers and acquisitions
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SIDS	small island developing State
TNC	transnational corporation
TRIMs	Agreement on Trade-related Investment Measures
TRIPS	Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
WAIPA	World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies

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