

**UNDP Comments – Zero Draft Doha Programme of Action for LDCs
August 2021**

UNDP welcomes the opportunity to comment on the zero draft of the Doha Programme of Action. This note makes some general comments on the proposed focus areas and on implementation, follow up and monitoring. In addition, specific comments are provided directly in the pdf attached to the present note.

Focus Areas

The approach chosen for the focus areas in the Doha PoA is rather broad. For example, the focus area of Structural Transformation includes productive capacity, employment, infrastructure including road and energy, private sector development, among others.

While such a broad focus covers a wide range of activities taking a holistic/integrated approach of development, there is danger of losing sight of concrete actions which are necessary for LDCs. These include for example improved infrastructure and connectivity, and provision of employment through creation of labour-intensive industries.

Overall, the governance and environmental dimensions are less comprehensively addressed. A more comprehensive approach to good governance and environment in line with the SDGs would be welcome, as well as possibly, a reprioritization of the topics.

Food security/ agriculture: In contrast to the IPoA, there is no separate focus area on agriculture, food security and rural development, no ~~67h-9eh006-96~~ m data

2. It may be suggested to include a *results framework* for effective monitoring and tracking of the Doha PoA and its targets and actions under each focus and sub-focus area.
3. It may be suggested to make the case for an interconnected world within the Doha PoA, which highlights the reciprocal benefits developed countries would gain from improving living conditions in LDCs. It may be argued that an improvement in the environment of the LDCs will have positive external effects for developed countries.