

## Least-developed countries

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The WTO recognizes as least-developed countries (LDCs) those countries which have been designated as such by the United Nations. There are currently 50 least-developed countries on the UN list, 32 of which to date have become WTO members.

These are:

Angola  
Bangladesh  
Benin  
Burkina Faso  
Burundi  
Cambodia  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Congo, Democratic Republic of the  
Djibouti  
Gambia  
Guinea  
Guinea Bissau  
Haiti  
Lesotho  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Maldives  
Mali  
Mauritania  
Mozambique  
Myanmar  
Nepal  
Niger  
Rwanda  
Senegal  
Sierra Leone  
Solomon Islands  
Tanzania  
Togo  
Uganda  
Zambia

Eight additional least-developed countries are in the process of accession to the WTO. They are: Bhutan, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Laos, Samoa, Sudan, Vanuatu and Yemen.

Furthermore, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome & Principe are WTO Observers.

There are no WTO definitions of “developed” or “developing” countries. Developing countries in the WTO are designated on the basis of self-selection although this is not necessarily automatically accepted in all WTO bodies.