

# AID FOR TRADE KEY FACTS

March 2021



OECD statistics on Aid for Trade draw from the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and include all official development assistance (ODA) activities pertaining to (i) technical assistance for trade policy and regulations, (ii) economic infrastructure, (iii) productive capacity building, including trade development, (iv) trade-related adjustment, and (v) other trade-related needs. See additional details [here](#).

This fact sheet presents data on ODA disbursements. Data on commitments are also available

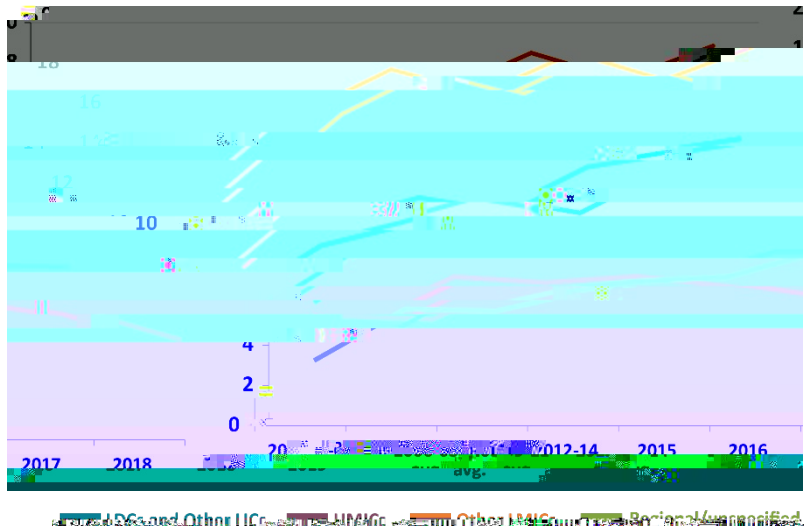
**Aid for Trade  
amounted to  
USD 46.6 billion  
in 2019**

# Aid for Trade has steadily grown since 2006

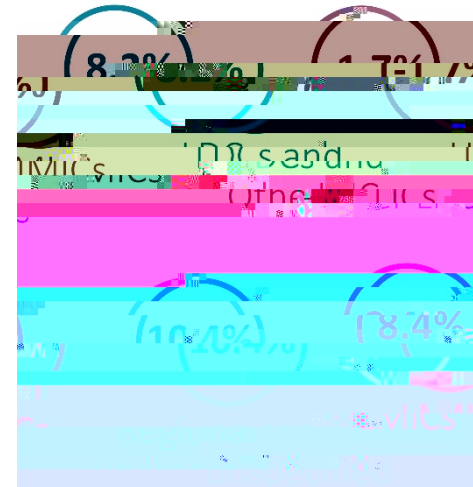
Over 2006-19, A4T disbursements have increased on an average 6.6% per year, with regional/unspecified allocations growing fastest (10.4% per year). While support to least developed countries (LDCs), other low-income countries (LICs) and lower middle-income countries (LMICs) has also grown at a sustained pace (respectively at 8.2% and 8.4% per year on average), A4T to upper middle-income countries (UMICs) has declined (-1.7% per year on average).

## A4T disbursements by region (2006-2019)

USD billion disbursements, 2018 prices



## Aid for Trade trends (2006-19), average annual growth rates of disbursements





# Aid for Trade focuses on infrastructure and productive capacity

Economic infrastructure represented the bulk of total A4T disbursements in 2019 (USD 25.3 billion), together with economic capacity building (USD 20.4 billion). Trade policy adjustments accounted only for USD 0.9 billion.



ECONOMIC  
INFRASTRUCTURE

BUILDING  
PRODUCTIVE  
CAPACITY

TRADE  
POLICY AND  
ADJUSTMENT

OTHER  
LMICs

LDCs AND  
OTHER LICs

UMICs

UNALLOCATED  
BY INCOME

Source: OECD (2021), Creditor Reporting System,  
<https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=crs1>.





# Aid for Trade flows per capita are highest in LDCs and other LICs

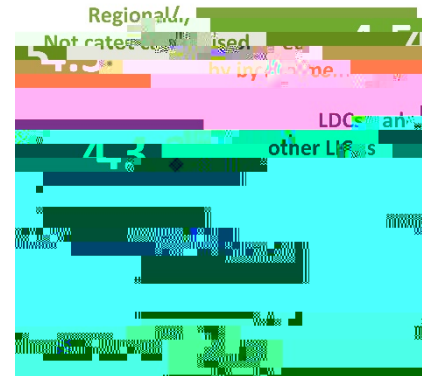
LMICs not in the LDC category (“other LMICs”) attracted the largest share of A4T, followed by LDCs and other LICs. Per capita, LDCs and other LICs benefited most from A4T disbursements, with an average **USD 13.3 per inhabitant**, compared to **USD 6.8** for other LMICs and **USD 2.0** for UMICs in 2019.

Source: OECD (2021), Creditor Reporting System  
<https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=crs1>.

## Share of Aid for Trade disbursements by level of income, 2019



## Per capita Aid for Trade disbursements, USD, 2019

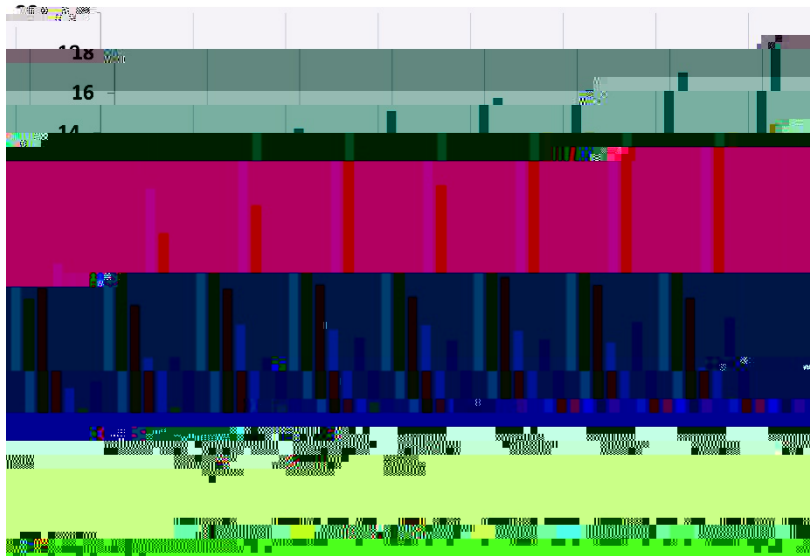




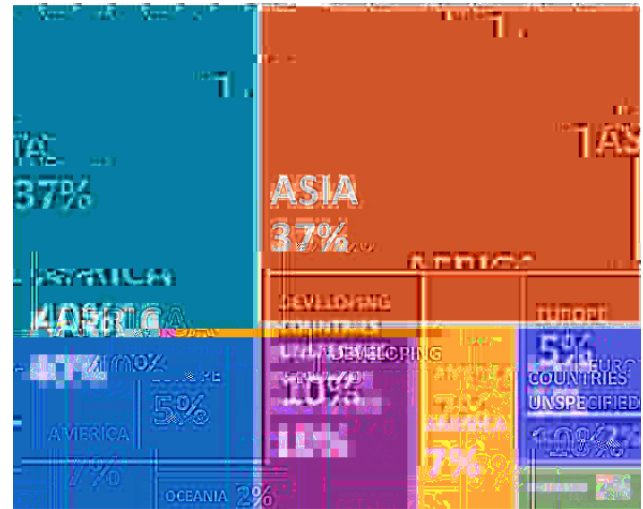
# Aid for Trade goes primarily to Africa and Asia

Since tracking of A4T began in 2006, Africa and Asia have been the main recipients. In 2019, Africa represented 40% of geographically specified A4T disbursements, compared to 37% for Asia, and 23% for the rest of the world.

A4T disbursements by region, USD billion, 2018 prices (2006-2019)



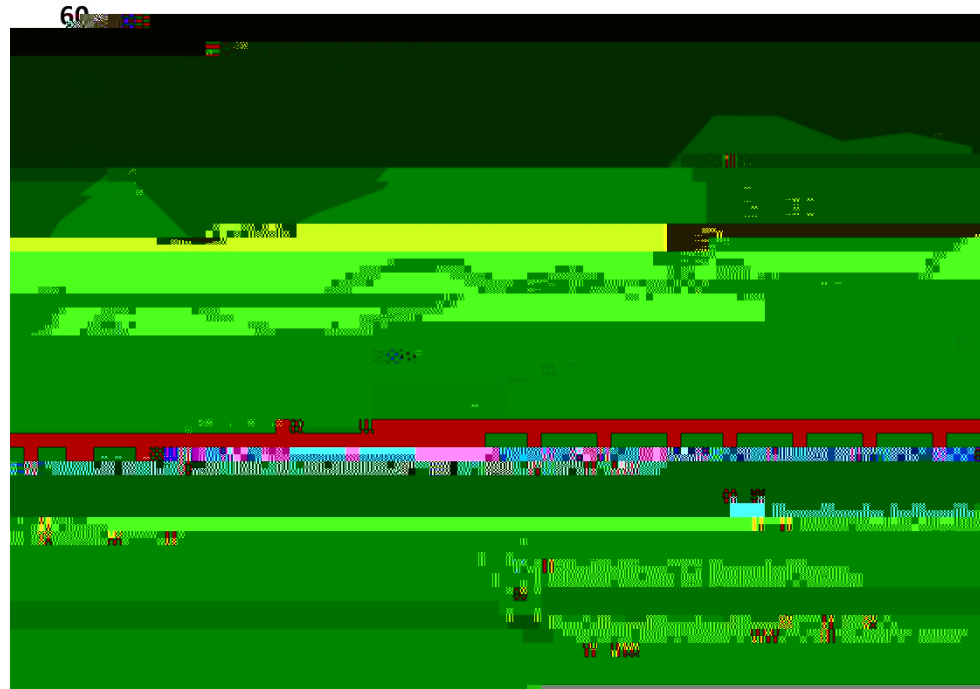
A4T disbursements by region, % (2019)



# Other official flows have been following similar trends

Trade-related other official flows (OOF) disbursements (defined as non-concessional loan disbursements targeting A4T) have grown by **44%** on average per year over **2006-16**, but declined by **3%** on average per year since **2017**, down to **USD 41 billion** in **2019** from a peak of **USD 46 billion** in **2016**.

## Other official flows to A4T, by sector (2006-2019)



Source: OECD (2021), Creditor Reporting System  
<https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=crs1>.

LMICs outside the LDC category and UMICs attract **79%** of total trade-related

