



United Nations

CDP

Committee for Development Policy
Development Policy and Analysis Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Survey of Organizations of the UN Development System on the Application of the LDC Category

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**Consultative Meeting of LDCs and Friends of LDCs
on the implementation of the SDGs in LDCs
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Overview

- Mandate and methodology
- Non-recognition of the LDC category
- Non-application of the LDC category
- Reasons why priority is not translated to allocation
- Consequences for non-application of LDC category
- Recommendations



Mandate from IPoA, MTR

- “We invite the Committee for Development Policy to look into the reasons and consequences for the non-application of the least developed country category by some UNDS organizations and to include its findings on this matter in its annual report to the Economic and Social Council.” (A/RES/70/294, para 118)



Methodology

- Identified 47 UNDS entities
- Survey development and analysis by the CDP Secretariat
- Self declared recognition of LDC category



Recognition and application of LDC category

- 29 entities responded to the survey
- All recognize the LDC category
- Reflected in strategic planning documents



Non-recognition of LDC category

International Monetary Fund

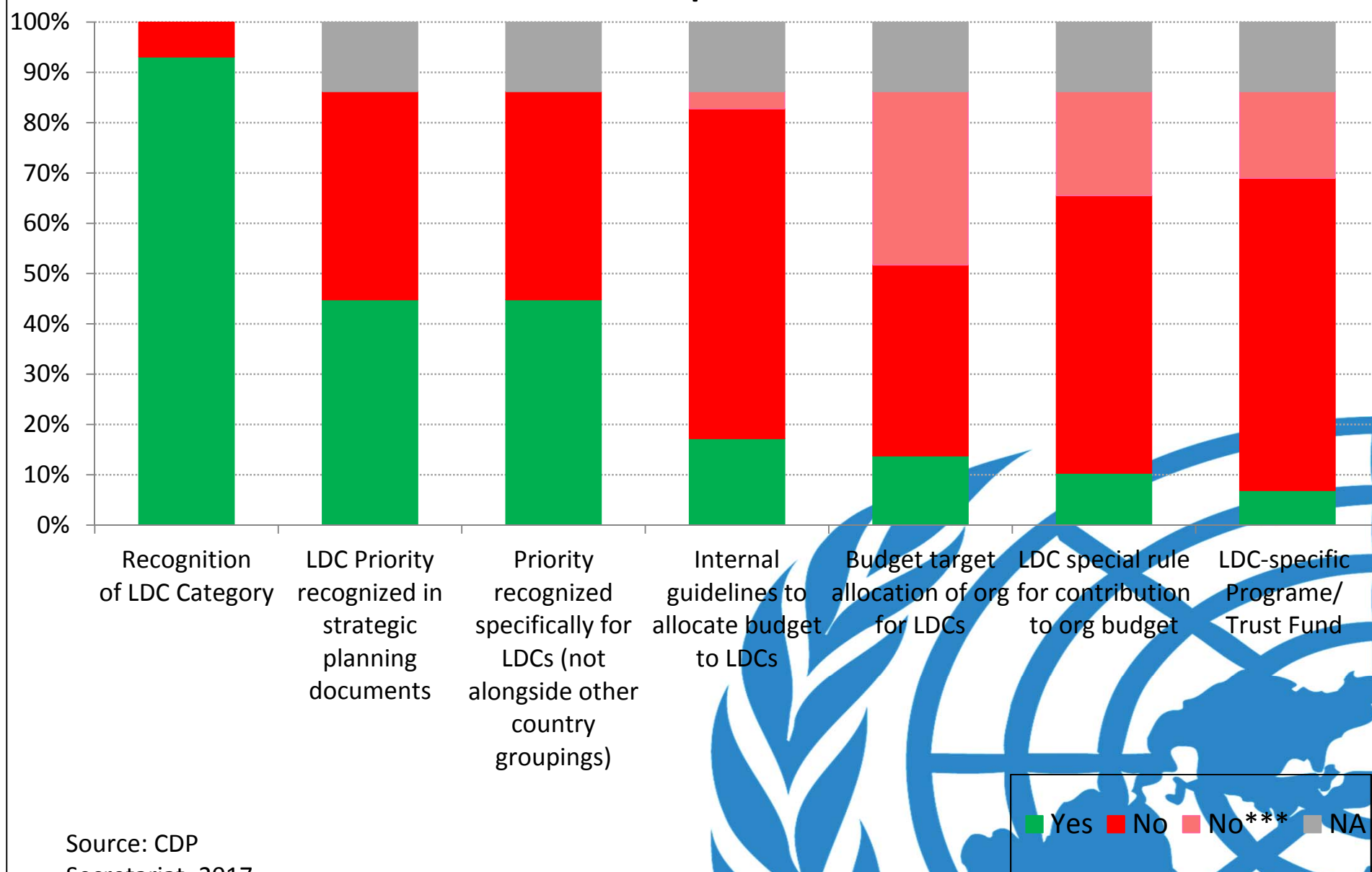
Offers specific lending facilities for countries according to their level of income and access to international financial markets. Resources not earmarked to specific member countries.

World Bank

International Development Association (IDA) focuses on the world's poorest countries based on income.



Percentage of UNDS organizations surveyed that apply selected LDCs special measures



Application of LDC category

- Caps on LDC budget contributions (FAO, UNV, IAEA, UNCDF, etc.)
- Percentage budget target allocation for LDCs, technical assistance TFs, and specific LDC programmes (UNDP, UNICEF, UNV, UNCTAD, UNCDF, UNEP, etc.)
- Travel support (ESCAP, ESCWA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, DESA, UNIDO, ITU, etc.)
- Scholarship (UNESCO, UNIDO, etc.)



Non- Application of LDC category

- Own criteria (UNAIDS)
- No resource (IAEA)



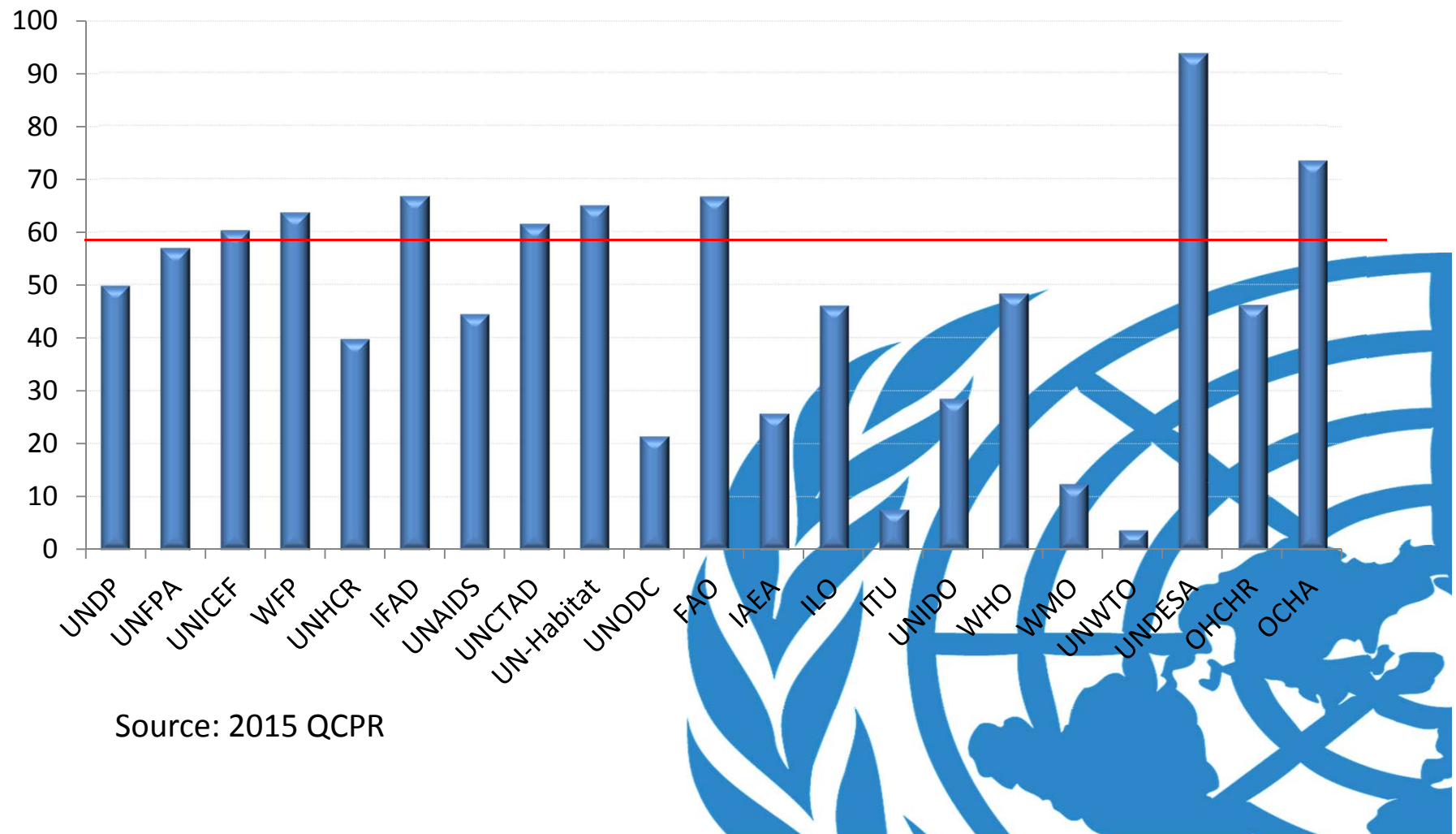
Why not priority to allocation?

- 57% to LDCs in 2013, reduced to 53% in 2014 (A/RES/71/243)
- No rules (exception of UNDP and UNICEF)
- No earmarked resource
 - Few dedicated funds and programmes
 - Blending
- Some follow guidelines of donors



UNDS expenditures for LDCs

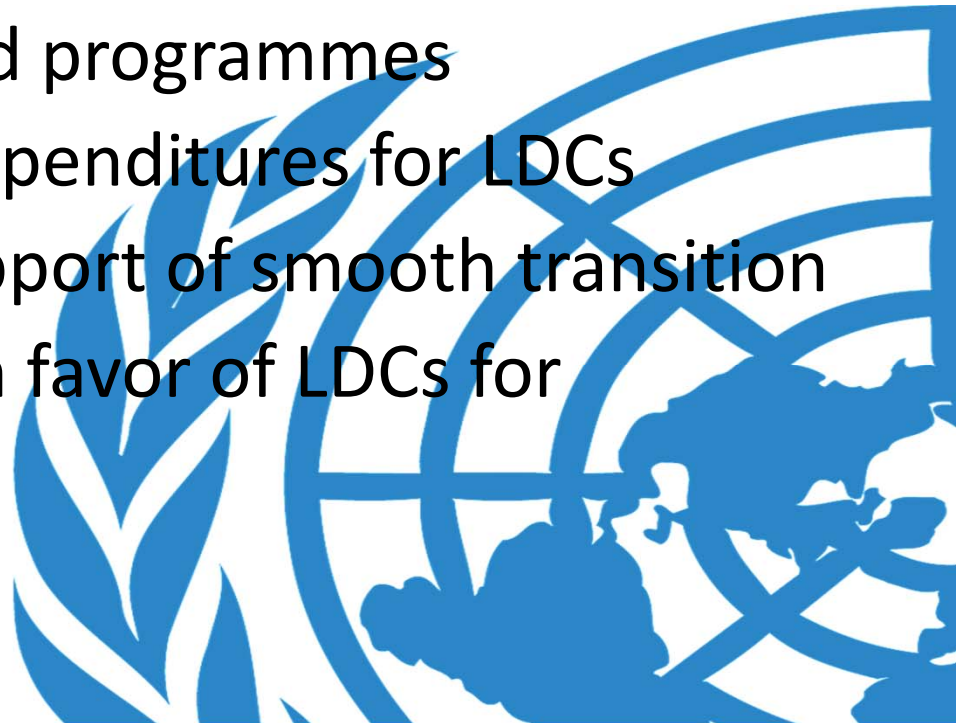
Share of LDCs in country-specific expenditures by selected UNDS (2013)



Source: 2015 QCPR

Summary of findings

- LDC category not applied by some UNDS organizations
- LDCs priority blended with other country groupings
- Few LDC specific TFs and programmes
- Lack of budget target expenditures for LDCs
- Limited measures in support of smooth transition
- Absence of guidelines in favor of LDCs for approval of CD projects



Consequences of non-application

- Some LDCs may be left out as beneficiaries.
- As priority granted to LDCs often blended with other country groupings and not LDC specific, only few LDC focused programmes and TFs.
- Declining share of expenditure in LDCs.
- Inconsistent monitoring and reporting of expenditures in LDCs reduces the accountability



CDP recommendations

1. Guidelines for application
2. International financial institutions to recognize and apply the category
3. Prioritize resource allocations to LDCs (A/RES/68/224)
4. Assist smooth transition
5. Use objective and transparent criteria, including the LDC indicators(A/RES/67/221)
6. Committee to monitor the application





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Thank you

