

WTO Technical Assistance

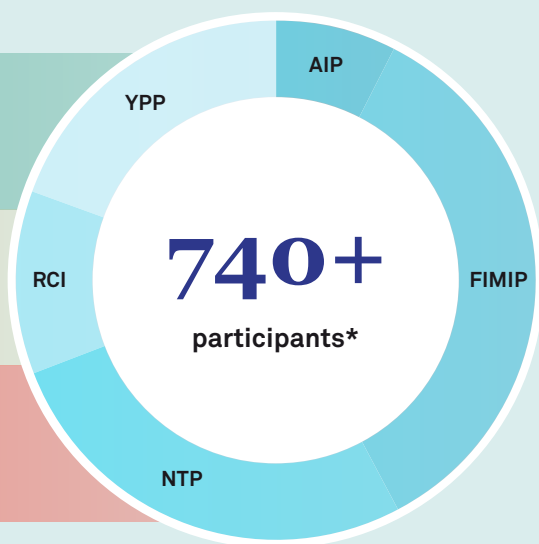
Learning-by-doing initiatives

Hands-on training opportunities are a key component of WTO Technical Assistance programmes. The five traineeships on offer are designed for mid-level government officials, recent graduates, and young professionals. They provide participants with valuable learning-by-doing experiences, with the support and guidance of staff from the Secretariat or from permanent missions to the WTO.

5 hands-on
training programmes

About 65
new openings / year

100+
countries represented*



* From 1998 to 2022



Scan for more insights

The French and Irish Mission Internship Programme - FIMIP

Launched in 2001, the FIMIP provides government official participants with a hands-on capacity-building experience, while enabling countries with limited human resources within their permanent representations to the WTO in Geneva to take an active part in the ongoing work of the WTO. The FIMIP officials are attached to their country's permanent mission as delegates and can participate in various WTO meetings and committees. Every year, the FIMIP attracts up to 20 officials.

280+ participants*



"Taking part in this programme was a rich experience for us, both professionally and personally. Thanks to the quality of insights gained from the various sessions with WTO experts, as well as interactions with other institutions working with the WTO, our knowledge about the multilateral trading system has been considerably enhanced."

Claudia Razafiarinoro

Head of the Regional Integration Support Division, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Crafts, Madagascar
FIMIP 2022 Cohort

"The rules-based multilateral trading system can only be efficient if it is inclusive and beneficial to all stakeholders. For over 20 years, the French and Irish Mission Internship Programme has been contributing to building the institutional capacity of hundreds of officials from developing countries. We are honoured to support WTO Technical Assistance efforts to ensure that countries in need are empowered to meet their obligations and assert their rights as Members."



Mr Étienne Oudot de Dainville

Permanent Delegate
of France to the WTO



H.E. Mr Noel White

Ambassador
and Permanent
Representative of
Ireland to the UN and
other International
Organisations in Geneva

The FIMIP is financed by earmarked extra-budgetary funds from France and Ireland.

The Netherlands Trainee Programme - NTP

Since 1998, the NTP has been enabling officials from targeted Members and Observers to improve their understanding of the WTO and the multilateral trading system. NTP participants are mid-level public officials from least developed countries, low-income countries, and comparable vulnerable economies, with experience in areas related to trade policy. The NTP accommodates an average of 15 participants per year.

250+ participants*



"I have gained so much insight into the function of the WTO, the multilateral trading system and trade policy. My objectives have been satisfactorily achieved. Not only have I learnt from the division's work, training opportunities, meetings of WTO committees, councils and the General Council, but also I have acquired practical knowledge from discussing and interacting with my colleagues and experts with regards to trade policy, current issues affecting global trade, among other things. It is a life-changing experience for me."

Teerra Tso Hanz

Chief of Bureau, Department of Notifications and
Legal Compliance, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia
NTP 2022 Cohort



"The Netherlands Trainee Programme has a proven track record in supporting the capacity of countries to participate in the multilateral trading system (MTS). Every year, we are pleased to enable officials from least-developed countries and other low-income & lower middle-income developing countries to deepen their understanding of the MTS and gain an in-depth knowledge of the work programme of the WTO. We are confident that the experience and insights obtained by the officials in the WTO Secretariat can make a real difference."

Mrs Audrey GOOSEN

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the WTO

The NTP is financed by earmarked extra-budgetary funds from the Netherlands.

Accessions Internship Programme - AIP

The AIP enables recent graduates and young professionals to gain an in-depth understanding of the WTO rules-based system, especially WTO accessions, so as to prepare for careers in the fields of trade law, international economics and international relations. The programme was established in 2011. Five full-time traineeship positions are available on an annual basis.

40+ participants*



“Working specifically in accessions provided me with a comprehensive overview of WTO rules and enhanced my understanding of the political realities involved in bilateral negotiations between acceding governments and WTO Members. My daily tasks were challenging, dynamic and innovative, and working under the supervision of the Division was very enriching: I received solid guidance while having the autonomy to focus on my areas of interest and to propose new ideas for research, events, and more.”

Amanda Sayuri MIASHIRO

International Trade graduate, from Brazil.
AIP 2022 Cohort



“China recognizes the importance of capacity building in strengthening the participation of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the WTO and assisting governments in the accession process. We are committed to playing an active role in this regard, and are gratified by the progress made under the Accessions Internship Programme, which is one important pillar of the China’s LDCs and Accessions Programme designed to enhance the capacity building efforts in the WTO. China will continue to work closely with the WTO Secretariat, LDCs and acceding governments in need to make the most of the Accessions Internship Programme.”

H.E. Mr. LI Chenggang

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of China to the WTO

The AIP is financed by earmarked extra-budgetary funds from China.

* From programme inception to 2022.

Young Professionals Programme - YPP

The YPP launched in 2017, funded by the Global Trust Fund, supports, among other things, the enhancement of knowledge and skills of young professionals from Members with no or low representation at the professional level in the WTO. YPPs work under the supervision of Secretariat staff for 12 months in various divisions in addition to being assigned mentors and/or coaches. The Secretariat aims to host 20 young professionals per year.

70+ participants*



"It has been quite a fruitful and engaging year. Particular highlights for me were playing a key role within the communications team during major events such as the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference, Aid for Trade Global Review and the 2022 Public Forum. I look forward to applying the insights and lessons learned in my future endeavours."

Matilda Frimpong (Ghana)

YPP 2022 Cohort



Regional Coordinator Internship Programme – RCI

The RCI programme was launched in 2005 after the creation of the Global Trust Fund and is designed for WTO Members eligible for technical assistance when they assume the rotating coordination of one of the institution's regional groups. Participants in the RCI programme are government officials who bring additional capacity to the relevant permanent mission and gain experience from the country's responsibilities as group coordinator. A maximum of 6 RCIs is expected annually.

90+ participants*



"I had the privilege to take part in the retreats organised by the WTO, especially the WTO Fisheries Retreat and the WTO Agriculture Retreat, knowing that these retreats are important for the Pacific in addressing fisheries issues in relation to the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference outcomes and agriculture, especially in regard to the food security crisis. The experience is amazing, building courage and confidence."

Jonah Taravaki

Customs and Inland Revenue Officer
Department of Customs & Inland Revenue, Vanuatu
RCI 2022 Cohort



* From programme inception to 2022.

The RCI and the YPP are financed by the WTO Global Trust Fund with voluntary contributions from



Australia



Japan



Estonia



Korea



European Union



Liechtenstein



Finland



Sweden



Germany



United States



WTO Technical Assistance

Coordinated and Managed by the ITTC

Technical assistance is one of the major capacity-building initiatives of the World Trade Organization (WTO). It is deployed to build human and institutional capacities in beneficiary countries, in order to enable them to enforce their rights and obligations so as to take full advantage of the rules-based Multilateral Trading System and deal with the challenges and opportunities emerging from it.

Within the WTO Secretariat, the Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation (ITTC) is responsible for managing and coordinating the organisation and delivery of technical assistance.



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

www.wto.org