



## Everything But Arms (EBA) – Who benefits?

### Duty-free, quota free treatment for all LDCs.

The EU is at the forefront of global initiatives to help least developed countries (LDC) integrate further into the global economy

Tailor-made to the specific needs of least developed countries, the EU's **"Everything But Arms" arrangement** (EBA) was born in 2001 to give all LDCs **full duty free and quota-free access** to the EU for all their exports with the **exception of arms and armaments**. This makes it the most generous form of preferential treatment to LDCs globally—an approach we encourage other partners to follow.

There are currently **49** beneficiaries under this arrangement. In 2011, EBA beneficiaries accounted for exports worth € 10.5 billion — **12% of all the preferences under the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP), which provides tariff reductions for developing countries**. Entry into the EBA is automatic and, unlike other GSP arrangements, the EBA has no time-limit.

### EBA will be strengthened as of 1 January 2014.

A new GSP will apply in the EU as of 1 January 2014. Under the new GSP, the **effectiveness of the EBA scheme will be strengthened**. By focussing preferences on those that need them most (lower-income economies and LDCs), the new GSP will have to fewer beneficiaries. This will reduce competitive pressure on LDCs and make the preferences for LDCs more meaningful—providing much more opportunity to export.

### What happens when a country is no longer considered 'least developed' by the UN?

When countries successfully move up the development ladder, their efforts are recognised and they are no longer considered 'least developed' by the UN. Thus, EBA preferences are no longer required. The smooth progression into this change in status is guaranteed by a **generous transition period of three years**, during which time EBA preferences will continue to apply. This helps mitigate possible trade flow shocks and is a reflection of the EU's commitment to the continued progress of the developing world.

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### AFRICA

1. Angola
2. Benin
3. Burkina Faso
4. Burundi
5. Central African Rep.
6. Chad
7. Comoros
8. Congo, Dem. Rep.
9. Djibouti
10. Equatorial Guinea
11. Eritrea
12. Ethiopia
13. Gambia
14. Guinea
15. Guinea-Bissau
16. Lesotho
17. Liberia
18. Madagascar
19. Malawi
20. Mali
21. Mauritania
22. Mozambique
23. Niger
24. Rwanda
25. Sao Tome & Principe
26. Senegal
27. Sierra Leone
28. Somalia
29. Sudan
30. Tanzania
31. Togo
32. Uganda
33. Zambia

### ASIA

34. Afghanistan
35. Bangladesh
36. Bhutan
37. Cambodia
38. Lao PDR
39. Maldives<sup>1</sup>
40. Myanmar/Burma<sup>2</sup>
41. Nepal
42. Timor-Leste
43. Yemen

### AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC

44. Kiribati
45. Samoa
46. Solomon Islands
47. Tuvalu
48. Vanuatu

### CARIBBEAN

49. Haiti

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<sup>1</sup> The Maldives has ceased to be an LDC and has a transitional period where it can benefit from EBA until end 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Myanmar/Burma's preferences are withdrawn since 1997 due to serious and systematic violations of principles of core international labour conventions. Following the ILO's favourable decision in June 2012, the Commission proposed its reinstatement into EBA in September 2012. The Commission proposal is currently being discussed at the European Parliament and the Council.