



UNCTAD



National Training Workshop on Environmental Requirements, Market Access/Penetration and Export Competitiveness in the Leather and Footwear Industry in Bangladesh

Project on Building Capacity for Improved Policy Making and Negotiation on Key Trade and Environment Issues

Organized by

**Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) in collaboration with
UNCTAD-United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

19-21 August 2003

Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka

DRAFT AGENDA

19 August (Tuesday)

10:00 – 10:30

Opening of the Meeting:

Dr. Ulrich Hoffmann, UNCTAD-United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Dr. M I Sharif, Fellow, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)
Mr. Safiqul Islam, Deputy Director, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh
Dr. Mahfuzul Haque, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Bangladesh
Mr. Yousuf Abdullah Haroon, President, FBCCI- Address by Chair

Coffee/Tea break (10:30 – 10:45)

10:45 – 13:00

Introduction on environmental requirements and international trade: general trends and WTO disciplines.

Presentation of the training module prepared by UNCTAD- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Discussion

Lunch Break (13:00 – 14:00)

14:00 – 15:45

Country case study on environmental requirements in key export markets for leather and footwear from Bangladesh

Presentation by the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)

- current trends/practices specific to global trade in leather and footwear
- existing barriers and future trends
- domestic regulations vis-a-vis global regulations
- market access and competitiveness
- information gathering and dissemination on new requirements
- current adjustment strategies (role of private sector and government)

Coffee/Tea break (16:00 – 16:15)

16:15 – 18:00

Discussion



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20 August (Wednesday)

10:00 – 11:30

Information gathering and dissemination mechanisms available in Bangladesh on environmental requirements for leather and footwear in key export markets.

(Contributions by BCAS, participants from industry, government and academia)

Aim: take stock of how local exporters obtain information on environmental requirements.

Questions: What formal and informal channels are used (e.g. clearing-house mechanisms, partnerships, technical assistance programmes, informal channels)? How do they obtain current and new information on pipeline projects/requirements so that they are better able to respond/react to changes?

Coffee/Tea break (11:30 – 11:45)

11:45 – 13:00

Discussion

Lunch Break (13:00 – 14:00)

14:00 – 15:45

Reactive versus proactive adjustment policies to environmental requirements for leather and footwear in key export markets.

(Contributions by UNCTAD, participants from industry, government and academia)

Aim: exchange of experiences within the local industry on what is being done to help industry adjust.

Questions: What are the existing adjustment policies? How are these being supported (public and/or, private support/funding)? What would be effective forms of adjustment policies?

Coffee/Tea break (15:45 – 16:00)

16:00 – 18:00

Lessons learnt from other country's experience/ Key success factors, challenges, things to avoid/look out for etc.

Gaining Environmental Security in Leather Sector - Case Study of Experience in Tamil Nadu, India by Dr. Ramasami, Director, Central Leather Research Institute, India

21 August (Thursday)

10:00 - 11:30

Elements of a proactive adjustment strategy and required public-private partnerships

(Contributions by UNCTAD, BCAS, participants from industry, government and academia)

Coffee/Tea break (11:30 – 11:45)

11:45 – 13:00

Summary of discussions and lessons learnt

- Action plan on future directions
- Priorities for the next training workshop
- Appraisal of workshop