

Lesotho National Development Corporation — A Trade-Preference-Dependent Garment FDI Anchor

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Lesotho

Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

LNDC's push for export-garment FDI built a sector employing ~34,000 (mostly women) and generating \$300m in 2024 exports, but jobs fell from 51,325 (2020) to 34,151 (2024), and a 2025 AGOA lapse triggered a state of disaster.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	0/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[Lesotho National Development Corporation \(LNDC\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[ODI — AGOA's short lifeline: what the 2026 renewal means for women in Lesotho's garment sector](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[US Dept. of State — 2025 Investment Climate Statement: Lesotho](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

[CNBC Africa — Lesotho and its textile workers hope African duty-free deal extension heralds US trade revival](#) — accessed 2026-08-16

Cite this — Evidoria. *Lesotho National Development Corporation — A Trade-Preference-Dependent Garment FDI Anchor*. Persistent ID: 353b90b3-2ae1-4598-9480-57bc25d3fa3d.