

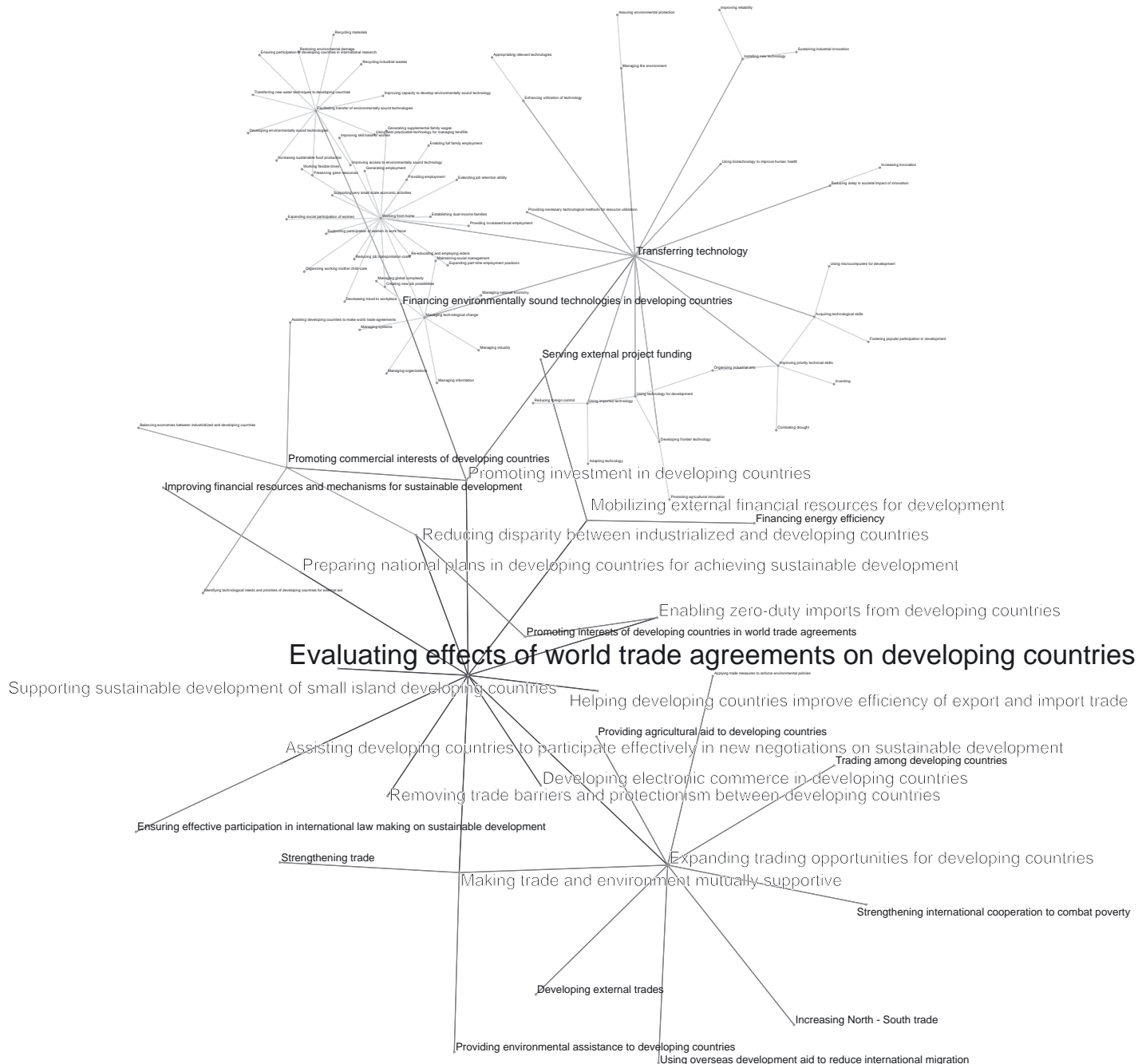
**Figure 10.3.10.**  
**Evaluating effects of world trade agreements on developing countries**

**Database:** Global Strategies and Solutions

**Link type:** facilitates strategies

**Network nodes:** 96

**UIA database:** <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=ST&CL=2&DR=J9336>



It is generally recognized that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, and that further trade liberalisation should be accompanied by whatever measures may be needed to enhance the contribution of trade to the wider sustainable development objective. The WTO Preamble commits the organisation to achieving trade liberalisation that is consistent with development objectives. A large majority of the World Trade Organization members consists of developing and least developed countries whose interests and needs should be accorded equal weight to those of the developed countries in the setting of WTO priorities, and in particular, in the design and adoption of mitigating and enhancing measures. This need is particularly evident in the case of the least developed countries whose existing level of sustainable development - as shown in the current level of their economic, social and environmental indicators - is already near to or, in some cases, below the minimum level needed for sustainable development.