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Q1

CANADA

Respondent (Donor country or headquarters location in the case of Organizations)

Q2

About you

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Q3

Does your Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan include trade priorities (i.e., Aid-for-Trade priorities)?

Yes,

Additional information on the trade (or Aid-for-Trade priorities) included in your Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan (or other trade-related policy document):

Trade or development strategy, policy or plan (or other trade-related policy document). Canada does not currently have an explicit Aid for Trade policy but its general approach is grounded in its feminist foreign policy, which seeks to address systemic barriers that prevent all people, including women and girls in all their diversity, from enjoying the same human rights and having the same opportunities to succeed. Canada is exploring synergies between complimentary objectives outlined in key policy initiatives, including its Inclusive Trade Agenda, Trade Diversification Strategy, and Feminist International Assistance Policy, notably the Action Area on Growth that Works for Everyone. Canada advances Aid for Trade related priorities in the context of its Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) and inclusive approach to trade. Through its FIAP, Canada focuses on the goal of poverty reduction and on the empowerment of women and girls, and views the promotion of gender equality as the most effective approach to achieving this goal. To this end, Canada's international assistance is focused on six action areas; Human dignity; Growth that works for everyone; Environment and climate action; Inclusive governance; Peace and security; and Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls which is the core area of focus that crosscuts all other action areas. The Growth that Works for Everyone action area (through which Canada advances women's economic rights and leadership; promotes inclusive markets and entrepreneurship; and promotes resilience and financial security) is the most directly relevant to Aid for Trade considerations. Alongside the FIAP, Canada's inclusive approach to trade seeks to ensure all segments of society can take advantage of the opportunities that flow from trade and investment and that trade policies contribute to broader economic, social, and environmental policy priorities. In this context, Canada's trade agreements include provisions on labour rights, the environment, SMEs, gender equality, and Indigenous peoples. Canada is also prioritizing the participation of different groups into the economy – groups such as women, Indigenous-owned businesses, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – and helping them connect to global value chains and markets. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement/enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3

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Q4

If yes, please highlight what these Aid-for-Trade priorities are: Below are listed the most common priority areas grouped according to broad Aid-for-Trade categories. Please rank the top priority areas among the ones listed below (1 being the most important).

Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy	2
MSMEs growth and development	4
Trade finance access	5
Trade policy analysis, negotiations and implementation	3
Women's economic empowerment (please specify in the box below: rural women, women-owned businesses, women-led businesses, female workers, etc.)	1

Additional information and weblink(s) to the relevant strategy(ies), polic(ies) or plan(s) in which your Aid-for-Trade priorities are included.

Aid for trade priorities embedded in Inclusive growth fosters progress across all dimensions of sustainable development. Such an approach seeks to enable countries to reduce and even eliminate extreme poverty and enable all segments of the population to benefit. It can generate domestic resource mobilization and strengthen the capacities needed by countries to address their development challenges, including health, education and environmental protection. The Growth that Works for Everyone action area of Canada's international assistance policy seeks to increase economic leadership and empowerment of women at all levels; help improve economic opportunities for and the resilience of rural women; promote greater financial inclusion for women, and equal access to capital, markets, digital technology and business development services; promote women's economic rights and access to decent work; support technical and vocational training for women; and help address unpaid work and the disproportionate burden of care shouldered by women. Canada also recognizes that women's and youth entrepreneurship is critical to support sustainable prosperity. In this context, Canada aims to help individuals and enterprises, particularly those led by women, become more competitive and innovative, increase their employment and market opportunities, shape markets that are economically and environmentally sustainable, and work better for the poorest and most vulnerable, especially women and youth. This entails building the capacity of institutional structures, supporting entrepreneurship, expanding access to financial services and to capital and improving supports to the private sector. It also places particular emphasis on rural transformation, renewable technologies, value addition in the natural-resource sector and investments in quality infrastructure. Inclusive economic growth will require new public and private investments in quality infrastructure.

<https://www.international.gc.ca/transparency-transparence/international-assistance-report-rapport-aide-internationale/2019-2020-toc-tdm.aspx?lang=eng>

Q5

Have your Aid-for-Trade priorities changed since 2019?

Yes,

Additional information: please specify which of the priorities you selected are new and provide further information. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Canada's Aid-for-Trade priorities have changed modestly to meet the challenges induced by the global pandemic, which has prompted a strategic re-evaluation of its overall engagement in trade and development. To address an ever changing international context, Global Affairs Canada developed a Trade and Development Guidance Note in April 2021. The Guidance Note reflects Canada's view that international trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction that can promote sustainable development (2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda) in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The note touches on the issue of definition as trade and development or Aid-for-Trade (used interchangeably by many countries and organizations), noting that the concept varies depending on the focus and forum where the discussions are taking place. At the WTO, the dialogue on trade and development is around the concept of special and differential treatment (S&DT), while at the World Bank, trade is viewed through the lens of job creation, increased economic opportunity and job creation. Canada continues working on marrying the various definitions on trade and development that inform its approach. The Guidance Note is meant to provide a general framework to foster greater coherence across Canada's efforts on trade and development, including Aid for Trade priorities. There are six thematic areas of potential focus outlined in the Guidance Note to help direct Canada's approach to trade and development: 1) gender and trade; 2) data and digitalization; 3) MSMEs; 4) infrastructure; 5) clean technology; and 6) global value chains. These areas reflect Canada's foreign and trade policies and were informed by longstanding and newly exposed challenges induced by the global pandemic, and were seen as potentially having a catalytic impact in supporting the world, including developing and least-developed countries, to build back better.

Q6

If yes, please identify the top drivers of change in your Aid-for-Trade priorities from the list below: (Please select no more than 5 options from the areas listed below).

Environmental sustainability (or green) growth, including circular economy

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Economic and trade impact of COVID-19 pandemic, Digital or ICT-related strategy, policy or plan, MSMEs growth and development objectives,

Additional information on the top 5 drivers of change in your Aid-for-Trade priorities since 2019, including in relation to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on your economy.:

As part of the \$200 million, eight year (2020-2028) support to Grand Challenges Canada (GCC), specific elements of the work being undertaken enable technology transfer from Canada to low and middle income countries. In addition, global access requirements for innovators funded by GCC will also be negotiated as part of this funding arrangement. This program supports innovators to develop and transition-to-scale innovations that improve the health, human rights, and well-being of women, adolescents, and children in low- and middle-income countries, including conflict-affected areas. This program also aims to increase gender-responsive and locally-driven health products and services, especially for the most marginalized and vulnerable populations. Examples of Canadian innovations implemented in low and middle income countries include predictive machine learning for maternal, newborn and child health in Rwanda; tablet-based interventions to improve family planning access for HIV positive women in Cambodia; focused ultrasound for the treatment of uterine fibroids in Egypt; electricity-free cold chain for vaccine delivery in India; biodegradable mosquito traps in Brazil; and digital virtual support for COVID-19 patients in Kenya. Any intellectual property created with funding from Grand Challenges Canada should be made broadly accessible to and affordable in the relevant context. Innovators may apply for and maintain intellectual property protection for funded solutions, but must administer their rights in a manner that will not impede achievement of access and affordability in these settings. Generally, ownership and control of intellectual property remains with the funding recipient, subject to applicable laws and policies. More on this can be found in GCC's Sharing & Access for Impact Strategy (attached for reference, if needed).

Q7

Has Aid for Trade become a more or less important part of your development policy since 2019?

Same,

Additional information on the reasons why Aid for Trade may have become more, less, or remained equally important than in the past.:

Canada continues to prioritize Aid for Trade and is seeking to bring greater coherence to its efforts, and position itself to engage with increased operational efficiency. Canada continues to focus its efforts to advance inclusive growth by: Bringing down barriers to women's economic empowerment Building more inclusive and sustainable economies Strengthening economic resilience. This includes: Support strengthening the key features of well-functioning market economies through the formalization of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and supporting their competitiveness, diversity, resilience and good governance; Increasing the economic leadership and empowerment of women at all levels, promoting women's economic rights and access to decent work, and helping to address unpaid work and the disproportionate burden of care shouldered by women, Support developing inclusive policy and programming reforms that recognize the specific needs of those living in conflicts and crises, putting particular emphasis on new tools and technologies that help support financial inclusion and manage financial risks.

Q8

Have these changes been reflected in your dialogue with development partners?

Yes,

Additional information on how changes in your Aid-for-Trade priorities may have been reflected in your dialogue with development partners.:

Canada has been promoting a contemporary approach to triangular cooperation, grounded in effectiveness and inclusive of multi-stakeholder actors at all levels for sustainable development. Since co-founding the Global Partnership Initiative (GPI) on Effective Triangular Cooperation in 2016, Canada has advanced the triangular cooperation modality through its ongoing leadership as a Core Group member of the GPI and its leadership of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)'s Action Area on Triangular Cooperation. Canada continues to promote and advance inclusive trade and gender equality through enhanced bilateral, regional, plurilateral and multilateral engagement and participation in international economic forums, such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (GATF), the International Trade Center (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), G7 and the G20. Throughout these engagements, Canada has affirmed its strong support for the global rules-based trading system and the important role that the WTO plays in facilitating world trade. Canada continues to lead discussions at the WTO on transparency, dispute settlement and the development of trade rules for the 21st century. Canada continues to uphold and support the bodies and organizations of the UN system. In 2017-2018, Canada's long-term institutional support to UN system organizations totaled \$293.8 million. These contributions support the organizations' core operations, including efforts to reduce poverty, promote sustainable development and foster inclusion, gender equality and women's empowerment. Canada's support helps these organizations to advance key shared priorities in line with the Feminist International Assistance Policy, including the goal to accelerate global progress in gender equality and the economic empowerment of women. Canada also supports a number of multilateral development institutions, global initiatives and international humanitarian assistance organizations, to fulfill its international development mandate of helping lift people out of poverty. More than one third of Canada's official development assistance is channelled through trusted multilateral organizations, including the African Development Bank, the Asia Development Banks, the World Bank and other International Finance Institutions. Trade and development priorities are reflected in Canada's ongoing engagement with developing country partners through comprehensive and inclusive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations. Most recently in June

Agreement (C-17) negotiations. Most recently, in June 2021, Canada and Indonesia agreed to launch negotiations toward a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA), and in November 2021, Canada and ASEAN agreed to launch negotiations toward a Canada-ASEAN FTA, marking an historic milestone in the Canada-ASEAN relationship. Indonesia and the majority of ASEAN members are developing countries, and can advance their sustainable growth through FTAs, which seek to remove tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and provide a more predictable environment for investors and service providers. Canada's discussions with partners include areas such as labor, environment, gender, and governments' right to regulate; a focus on transparency in the negotiation process and inclusive consultations; and consideration of emerging trade policy and economic issues, such as innovation or goods and services traded online. In 2020, Canada, Chile, and New Zealand signed the Global Trade and Gender Arrangement and are working to promote the Arrangement to other countries, including Mexico, which joined in 2021. Going forward, Canada continues to seek to negotiate ambitious and comprehensive FTAs in the pursuit of tangible inclusive trade elements, such as in the areas of gender, Indigenous peoples, MSMEs, environment and labor. Canada also provides technical assistance and capacity building to developing countries that are or could become trading partners. This is done through two programs: the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development (EDM) and the Canadian Trade and Investment Facility for Development (CTIF). The EDM (2018-2025; CAD\$ 16.5 million) aims to reduce poverty in developing countries by expanding trade and investment to create jobs and achieve growth that works for everyone. The project responds to requests for technical assistance from developing countries by providing a wide range of assistance prior to, during, and following the negotiation of free trade agreements (FTAs) or foreign investment promotion and protection agreements (FIPAs) with Canada. Project activities include: (1) helping to address the development aspects of priority trade issues in the lead-up to FTA/FIPA negotiations; (2) improving the ability of developing country governments to take into account the perspectives of poor populations when negotiating a FTA/FIPA; (3) supporting trade associations in developing countries to identify the economic and poverty impacts of FTAs/FIPAs; and (4) helping local, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) increase their competitiveness in light of new trade and investment regimes, in order to expand employment opportunities for the poor. CTIF (2018-2025; CAD\$ 12 million) provides technical assistance to support more inclusive, sustainable and poverty-reducing trade and investment in official development assistance (ODA) eligible Asia-Pacific countries. CTIF technical assistance providers

work with national and regional authorities to improve policy-making practices among regional and national institutions, and with public, private and non-governmental stakeholders to increase access to markets and finance by Asia-Pacific-based SMEs, particularly those led by women. CTIF provides technical assistance by external contractors following the approval of technical assistance requests from eligible beneficiaries. These include regional institutions, governments, civil society organisations, and individual firms in ODA-eligible countries in the region.

Q9

Do you have a specific development or aid strategy, policy or plan for economic recovery post COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes,

Additional information on your development or aid strategy, policy or plan for economic recovery post COVID-19 pandemic. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Canada's international assistance response to the COVID-19 pandemic is focused on three pillars of action: fighting the pandemic, managing financial stresses and stabilizing economics, and supporting the most vulnerable and reinforcing recovery. This response is also guided by the principles and policy priorities set out in the Feminist International Assistance Policy, including a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable. Through these frameworks, Canada is committed to supporting global efforts to stabilize developing country economies and enable their pandemic recovery. For example, Canada is working to provide debt relief to the poorest countries through the Debt Service Suspension Initiative, including those hardest hit by the pandemic like Small Island Developing States. Canada will support a Gender-smart Covid Recovery Plan. In April 2020, FinDev Canada launched a CAD 75 million 2X Canada: Inclusive Economic Recovery blended finance facility. 2X Canada aims to increase resilience and socioeconomic well-being of low income populations, underserved and marginalized, in particular, women and girls in Latin America, the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa. The facility will support private sector investments that intentionally drive positive impact on women's economic empowerment in entrepreneurship, leadership positions, quality employment and access to economic empowerment tools. 2X Canada is led by FinDev Canada and funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada's International Assistance Innovation Program (IAIP). To promote an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery from the pandemic, Canada is leading UN discussions under the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond initiative (with Jamaica and the UN Secretary General) to identify solutions to help guide global economic recovery efforts. Launched in spring 2020, this initiative follows on four years of dedicated work and leadership by Canada and Jamaica as co-chairs of the UN Group of Friends of SDG Financing. Through the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative, the international community identified 259 policy options on a broad range of issues to help guide pandemic response as well as global recovery efforts over the long-term towards the 2030 Agenda. Policy options identified through this initiative include encouraging the adoption of corporate strategies and business models that integrate long-term sustainable development objectives and alignment to the SDGs.

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Q10

If yes, please indicate whether your strategy, policy or plan for economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic addresses any of the following areas: (You may tick more than one box).

Agricultural sector, food production and supply chain support

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Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy

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Job creation,

MSME support,

Poverty reduction objectives,

Trade facilitation,

Women's economic empowerment and gender equality

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Q11

Please provide names, titles, references or weblinks to policy documents relevant to your Aid-for-Trade activities and action.

Feminist International Assistance Policy: https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng

Website on Canada's inclusive approach to trade
https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/inclusive_trade/index.aspx?lang=eng

The Government of Canada's International Assistance 2019-2020
<https://www.international.gc.ca/transparency-transparence/international-assistance-report-rapport-aide-internationale/2019-2020-toc-tdm.aspx?lang=eng>

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Q12

Is the environmental dimension of sustainable development reflected in your development or aid policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies)?

Yes,

Additional information on how sustainable development is reflected in your development or aid policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy includes Environment and Climate Action as one of its six Action Areas. It states: "Canada will support developing countries' efforts to transition to low-carbon, environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and societies, through initiatives that will reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and protect and sustainably manage natural resources and ecosystems, such as by addressing pollution, which disproportionately affects the poorest and most vulnerable." See:

https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/fiap_environment-paif_environmentement.aspx?lang=eng

Canada used a Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) as a tool that contributes to informed decisions in support of sustainable development by incorporating environmental considerations into the development of public policies, plans and programs. A Strategic Environmental Analysis (SEA) was done for the FIAP as well as for other departmental strategic document such as Canada's Middle East Strategy, prepared in 2016, for development assistance programming in Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria. <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/programs/strategic-environmental-assessment.html>

Q13

If yes, please indicate in which of your strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) sustainable development is reflected:(You may tick more than one box).

Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan,**Trade development strategy, policy or plan,**

Additional information on the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) in which sustainable development is reflected.:

Other than through the overarching Feminist International Assistance Policy and other Strategic domestic documents such as the Middle East Strategy, Canada's planning commitments for Global Affairs' Food Security and Environment Bureau for 2022-23 enhances strategic policy leadership on environment, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and agri-food systems. In its effort to address the COVID-19 pandemic and build a resilient, net-zero and nature positive world for sustainable development, Canada:

- aligns environment, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and agri-food systems policies of key UN and Global Partners, OGDs and civil society partners with its Feminist International Assistance Policy priorities.
- supports environment, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and agri-food systems policy dialogue and programming in line with priority objectives and outcomes of the Multilateral International Assistance Programming such as the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the G7 Nature Compact, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, as well as attainment of SDGs.
- monitors and communicates GAC's environment, climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and agri-food systems development results with Canadians and external partners.

Sustainable development is also reflected in the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Canada Enhanced Partnership (2021-2025) which encourages cooperation between Canadian experts in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) practices and the ASEAN CSR Network by sharing of information and best practices between Canadian and ASEAN CSR practitioners to support green growth, employee development, and sustainable communities.

Q14

Does your Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan explicitly target any of the following environment-specific goals? (You may tick more than one box).

Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7),

Sustainable Production and Consumption (SDG 12),

Climate Action (SDG 13),

Life Below Water (SDG 14),

Life on Land (SDG 15),

Additional information on the environment-specific goals and approaches such as financing, sharing of know-how, technology transfer (including sharing of know-how), promotion of value chain integration targeted by your Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan.:

Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7) Canada's \$5.3 billion climate finance program will likely include projects focused on supporting developing countries establish sustainable development and climate action plans leading to the attainment of SDG 7, Affordable and Clean Energy. Canada is investing \$60 million to support the expansion of clean energy systems and infrastructure in climate-vulnerable countries in the Caribbean and improve energy access for women and girls in SIDS.

Sustainable Production and Consumption (SDG 12) Canada's Action Area Policy on Growth that Works for Everyone, which provides guidance on this dimension of the Feminist International Assistance Policy, focuses on sustainable production in agriculture and food products. Part of Canada's international Aid-for-trade programming relies on sustainable agri-food value chains and Climate Smart Agriculture to deliver on environmental aspects of our development policy. Since launching the Ocean Plastics Charter at the June 2018 Leaders' Summit in Charlevoix during its G7 Presidency, Canada continues to spearhead related efforts. The Charter takes a comprehensive lifecycle approach to prevent marine plastic pollution and lays the groundwork to ensure that plastics are designed for reuse and recycling, in order to protect the environment and keep a valuable resource in the economy. To date, 28 governments and over 70 businesses and other organizations have endorsed the Charter. In support of broader international efforts, the Charter is aligned with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda and specifically commits to achieve sustainable consumption and production.

SDG 13: GAC leadership on Climate Action Canada supports comprehensive and transparent reporting on finance provided and mobilized. It is foundational to our understanding of all countries' actions to address climate change and biodiversity loss. We welcome the improvements in the quality and transparency of DAC reporting on official climate- and biodiversity-related financing, including ODA, mobilized capital, and other forms of financing in support of SDG13. Canada is investing \$102 million to build stronger and more resilient

coasts and communities: \$100 million to support the expansion of Climate Risk Insurance coverage in climate-vulnerable countries, including for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean; and \$2 million to support efforts by developing countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Source:

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2018/06/10/working-together-climate-change-oceans-and-clean-energy>

Climate Finance To better support SDG 13: Climate action, Canada is committed to combatting climate change and its impacts, including through international climate finance for developing countries. Canada recently delivered on its 2015 climate finance commitment of \$2.65 billion, and is doubling its climate finance to \$5.3 billion over the next five years (2021-2026). Canada's international climate finance supports a wide range of programs and initiatives that help developing countries build domestic capacity to take climate action, build resiliency, and reduce pollution. All projects under that program will have climate mitigation and/or adaptation as the main objective. Twenty percent (20%) of the \$5.3 billion climate finance envelope will be allocated to projects leveraging nature-based climate solutions and projects that contribute biodiversity co-benefits.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/11/canada-to-ensure-that-more-than-1b-of-its-climate-finance-addresses-the-twin-crises-of-climate-change-and-biodiversity-loss.html> SDG 14: GAC leadership on ocean plastics Since launching the Ocean Plastics Charter at the June 2018 Leaders' Summit in Charlevoix during its G7 Presidency, Canada continues to spearhead related efforts. The Charter takes a comprehensive lifecycle approach to prevent marine plastic pollution and lays the groundwork to ensure that plastics are designed for reuse and recycling, in order to protect the environment and keep a valuable resource in the economy. To date, more than 28 governments and over 70 businesses and other organizations have endorsed the Charter. In support of broader international efforts, the Charter is aligned with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda and specifically commits to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources (SDG 14). SDG 15: GAC leadership on United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Canada considers the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) as a key initiative to our commitment to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 15, which calls for global action 'to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world. The Parliament of Canada ratified this convention in 1995 and in 2001 Canada hosted the 5th Conference of the Parties. Canada engages with the UNCCD, along with the other 196

parties, to limit desertification, drought, and land degradation. Since rejoining the UNCCD in 2017, Canada has played a key leadership role in the Convention, including leading the negotiations for the adoption of UNCCD's Gender Action Plan (GAP) at the Thirteenth Conference of Parties of the Convention. Canada supports developing countries in meeting the objectives of the Convention through the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and a number of other multilateral environment agreements. Canada is the sixth-largest contributor to the GEF.

Q15

Does your sustainable development strategy, policy, or plan include trade objectives?

Yes,

Additional information on the trade objectives found in your Aid-for-Trade or development strategy policy, or plan that includes sustainable development. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:

The 2019-2022 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy does include some very high level trade objectives that are broadly related to free trade agreement negotiations and indirectly related to Canada's development/investment strategies, policies or plans, or Aid-for-Trade priorities. In particular, the FDS identifies goals/actions to:

- o Advance an inclusive approach to trade, including integrating robust environmental provisions into trade agreements, and supporting clean technology exports; and
- o Seek to include provisions in free trade agreements that promote the use of products and services related to clean and renewable energy and in addition support Canada's leadership role on chemicals management and air quality.

The department's Sustainable Development Strategy 2020-2023: Global Affairs Canada, also builds on these broad FTA actions/objectives through Canada's inclusive approach to trade. This includes conducting environmental assessments of trade negotiations and including obligations aimed at maintaining high levels of environmental protection and robust environmental governance. Canada's international assistance efforts takes into consideration trade objectives through its involvement in multilateral partnerships. Canada supports a strong messaging from the DAC to Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), bilateral Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) and multilateral funds to:

- ensure that their financial flows are aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement and support the objectives of international biodiversity conventions;
- commit to mobilizing climate and biodiversity finance at scale;
- mainstream nature across their operations.

In the next five years, Canada expects, all development programs working at country, regional and global levels will prioritize climate and nature. A few examples include working together to:

- Integrate environmental considerations into trade agreements, using policy tools such as strategic environmental assessments, to ensure alignment with the Paris Agreement;
- While not an ODA program, the Trade Commissioner Service (TCS), responsible for promoting Canadian exports, maintains Working with Offices of Liaison with International Financial Institutions (OLIFI) to identify opportunities for Canada's clean tech firms, including in the clean tech and green infrastructure sectors, to export products and services through the development procurement marketplace which can support other countries in meeting their SDGs, and;
- Developing backgrounders and informational tools on emerging green transition and nature positive policies (e.g. carbon

transition and nature positive policies (e.g., carbon adjustments, do no harm) to inform ongoing trade negotiations.

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Q16

If yes, do the trade objectives address the environmental dimension of sustainable development?

Yes,

Additional information on how the environmental dimension of sustainable development is reflected in your development policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Building on the June 2021 G7 Leaders commitment, Canada and other signatories will further prioritize support for clean technology and end new direct public support for the international unabated fossil fuel sector by the end of 2022, except in limited and clearly defined circumstances that are consistent with the 1.5 degree Celsius warming limit and the goals of the Paris Agreement.

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Q17

As a donor, do you have coordination or dialogues with developing countries' national committees, ministries of trade and agencies on sustainable development?

Yes,

Additional information on how the Ministry of Trade is represented in your coordination or dialogue held with developing countries' national committee committees, ministries of trade and agencies on sustainable development.:

The FIAP commits Canada to building local capacity and working with local and national actors, including women's groups, in design, delivery, and monitoring of international assistance initiatives. To this end, Canada is building upon traditional development programming implemented by local actors, with technical assistance and capacity building from Canadian or international organizations, and often involving local governments to increase sustainability. GAC is exploring the potential for greater localization in an attempt to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its IA, while adhering to principles of transparency, accountability and financial stewardship. Canada works with many partners within multilateral organizations to build capacity to accelerate the clean energy transition in developing countries and major emerging economies. This contributes to creating the enabling environments (e.g. policy, regulatory and infrastructure) needed to position countries to support robust economic activities, including trade. Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) engages in multilateral organizations on the sustainable development of the oil & gas sector, including on trade and investment in oil and gas projects in Canada and abroad. While NRCan maintains regular dialogues with strategic partners in priority markets (e.g. Japan), interaction with developing countries is limited to India on a semi-regular basis. Canada's engagement in the following NRCan-related organizations includes:

- International Energy Agency (IAE):
 - o Engagement in many of the IEA's Technology Collaboration Programmes, which are technical initiatives to advance the research, development and commercialization of energy technologies.
 - o Canada is a donor and participant in the Clean Energy Transition Programme, which was established to accelerate global clean energy transitions in major emerging economies through collaborative analytical work, technical cooperation, capacity building, and strategic dialogues.
 - o Member of the newly-established IEA Global Commission on People-Centred Clean Energy Transitions to ensure a just and inclusive energy transition.
- Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM):
 - o The CEM brings together major industrial powers with key emerging economies to promote policies and programs that advance clean energy and accelerate the transition to a global clean energy economy.
 - o Canada hosted the 2019 annual Ministerial meeting (CEM10) in Vancouver, which advanced a diverse and inclusive dialogue on the global clean energy transition. As host, Canada increased the CEM's focus on

transition. As host, Canada increased the CEM's focus on gender equality, Indigenous leadership, and ensuring a just and inclusive transition for workforces and communities.

- o Canada co-leads 10 of the 25 operational work streams of the CEM across a wide range of topics that are of strategic importance to Canada's approach to the clean energy transition. This includes work to advance nuclear innovation, women's education and empowerment, the deployment of electric vehicles, the deployment of hydrogen fuel cell technology, commercial-scale bioenergy production, trade, and use globally, and skills development in the clean energy transition. Canada also participates in areas of work targeting carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS), power system flexibility, smart grids, clean energy solutions, and super-efficient equipment and appliances.
- G20 Energy Working Group:
 - o NRCan offers guidance and input to advance energy-related issues in this working group and other G20 Tracks, including on sustainable natural resources development, Innovation, the circular economy, energy access, Just Transition, infrastructure, cyber security and gender equality.
 - International Renewable Energy Agency:
 - o Through membership in IRENA, Canada contributes to IRENA's mission of providing clean, sustainable energy for the world's growing population.
 - o Through IRENA, Canada actively promotes its expertise in the development and deployment of renewable energy technologies, and is helping to shape the ongoing global dialogue on renewable energy and climate change, including on issues such as energy access and gender equality.
 - o At COP26, Canada launched a new partnership with IRENA, including a \$500K investment, to create a platform that will support the transition of remote communities to renewable energy. As part of this initiative, Canada and Indigenous climate leaders will be able to demonstrate their experience and expertise in transitioning diesel-reliant remote communities toward clean energy with a focus on increasing local ownership of clean energy projects and on building local capacity and economic opportunities, including jobs for youth and women.
 - The APEC Energy Working Group (EWG):
 - o This voluntary, regional-based forum enables APEC member economies to facilitate energy trade and investment, and maximize the energy sector's contribution to economic growth, social well-being, and sustainability of the APEC region.
 - o Canada's engagement with the APEC EWG includes sharing quantitative and qualitative data and reviewing and commenting on key energy initiatives.

Q18

If yes, do these dialogues address the environmental dimension of sustainable development?

Yes,

Additional information on how the committee, ministries of trade or agencies addresses the environmental dimension of sustainable development.:

See response to question #17 Global Affairs Canada (GAC) advances environmental dialogues bilaterally with countries' national committees and ministries of trade and agencies through its network of missions abroad, and in collaboration with other government departments including Environment and Climate Change Canada and Natural Resources Canada. These discussions focus on a range of issues including solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, address the drivers of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, and to provide capacity building and technical support. Multilaterally, GAC officials represent Canada as a shareholder in six multilateral development banks as well as a Board member in the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility. Through these engagements, Canada and other donors work directly with developing countries and small island developing states to negotiate and approve funding for projects that address the root causes and impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss and help them to meet their obligations under various multilateral environmental agreements. Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) provides strategic advice to ensure competitiveness of the Canadian oil and gas sector and advocate for its role in the low-carbon energy sector and transition. This includes working with a variety of stakeholders, including some in developing countries, to promote Canadian energy products in international markets; and conduct research and analysis on geopolitical trends and their effects on the Canadian oil and gas sector. Through its trade promotion activities, this group highlights the environmental assessment and reporting best practices observed in the Canadian oil and gas sector.

Q19

Please identify the economic sector(s) in your developing and least-developed partner countries that would gain the most in terms of economic and export diversification as a result of the move to sustainable development? (You may tick more than 1 box).

Agriculture,**Fisheries,****Forestry,****Mining,****Industry,****Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the economic sector(s) that would gain the most in terms of economic and export diversification as a result of the move to sustainable development.:

Agriculture Agriculture requires substantial investment for climate change adaptation and to develop strategies to address current challenges, including hunger and food security. There is a need to increase production capacity while finding solutions to reduce the environmental toll. Export diversification is a boon for developing countries as it requires high value production of fruits and vegetables, which can spur development by attracting foreign investors. However, a lack of infrastructure often prevents such investment from materializing. Forestry Canada works in climate smart agriculture, helping farmers improve farming techniques and providing access to climate-smart seeds and farming equipment. This has the potential to help the agricultural, fishery and forestry sectors in LDC partner countries. Deforestation refers to the decrease in forest areas across the world, which are cleared for other uses such as agricultural croplands, urbanization, etc. Deforestation-free supply chains ensure that no forest ecosystems are illegally destroyed for the cultivation of agricultural commodities. Canada supports halting deforestation, and promoting sustainable land use and forest management. Global Affairs Canada is currently advancing the 2021-2025 climate finance envelope, which involves a strong emphasis on addressing the intersection of climate change, deforestation, biodiversity loss and poverty. At COP26, Canada and 27 other countries pledged their support for the FACT Roadmap, agreeing to promote sustainable development and trade of agricultural commodities while protecting and managing sustainably forests and other critical ecosystems. Canada also endorsed the UK-led Global Forest Finance Pledge, which aims to identify US\$12 billion in public climate finance from 2021 to 2025, to support further ambition from forested developing countries. Canada recognizes the prevalence of the oil and gas in the global economy and the diversity of energy sources required to support developing countries' social and economic priorities. As the world transitions to low carbon energy and net-zero emissions by 2050, Canada is a stable, reliable and transparent trade partner that can support developing countries' transition to low carbon

energy while supporting their energy security. The oil and gas sector continues to play a pivotal role as the world transitions to low carbon energy and net-zero emissions by 2050. The contribution of the oil and gas sector in developing countries has to be prescribed to defined circumstances that are consistent with countries' Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), aligned with the 1.5°C warming limit and the goals of the Paris Agreement, and determined as the cleanest technologically and economically viable option. The oil and gas sector can also be a motor of economic diversification in instances where limited options exist.

Q20

Please identify the economic sectors that may face the biggest challenge from the move to sustainable development. (You may tick more than 1 box).

Agriculture,**Fisheries,****Forestry,****Mining,****Industry,****Services,**

Additional information on the economic sectors that may face the biggest challenge from the move to sustainable development.:

Agriculture: The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our global food supply chains and the resiliency of the food system was tested. Local conflict continues to impact food insecurity. Food prices have increased around the world and food insecurity has been rising; in 2020, nearly one in three people were food insecure. Women face higher food insecurity than men by 10%. Agriculture and food systems produce 40% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 70% of freshwater withdrawals. Agriculture is the biggest driver of forest and biodiversity loss. Furthermore, a third of the Earth's soils are degraded, compromising our ability to produce food and to filter and store water. At the same time, climate change poses major risks to our food system. Vulnerable populations, especially women, are the most impacted by disruptions to the food system and are the most at risk from future shocks. Our challenge is to make the global food system more economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. Interventions in the food system must create transformative change to empower women within the food system and increase livelihoods for the most vulnerable. Energy Transition Industry Canada and our G7 partners have worked to end support for fossil fuels from multilateral development banks and other providers of capital for infrastructure projects in developing countries. Canada advocates for alignment of all energy investments with science-based transition pathways in line with Paris Agreement objectives and targets. This will include up to \$1 billion for the Climate Investment Funds - to help developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean – with a just transition away from coal-fired electricity and towards clean power, clean transport and green and energy-efficient infrastructure. At COP26, Canada committed \$1 billion to the Climate Investment Funds to help phase out coal and \$25 million to the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program to reduce energy poverty by expanding access to modern, safe, affordable and sustainable energy services. Canada also advocated for a global price on carbon and pledged to end new direct public support for the international unabated fossil fuel energy sector by the end of 2022. Canada's emissions profile shows that any credible de-

carbonization path must include meaningful reductions from oil and gas, transportation, heavy industry, buildings and agriculture. Efforts to date have captured much of the low-hanging fruit (e.g. carbon pricing, regulations). The incremental efforts will be costlier and require structural economic and behavioral changes. Services With respect to digital services, developing countries will face challenges in the provision of infrastructure needed to support advanced digital technologies in certain cases. Additionally, where sufficient infrastructure exists, economic development will be more challenging in digital sectors as developing countries will generally be a client rather than a solution provider.

Q21

In your view, what challenges constitute the main obstacles to the transition towards sustainable development in developing and least-developed partner countries?(You may tick more than 1 box).

- Access to finance,**
- Business climate,**
- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,**
- Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,**
- Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,**
- Existing transport infrastructure,**
- Gender inequality,**
- High concentration of economic activity in the informal sector**
- ,**
- High trade costs,**
- Lack of human resource capability,**
- Lack of political will,**
- Limited economic and export diversification,**
- Low productive capacity in manufacturing,**
- Low productivity of agricultural sector,**
- Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**
- Social pressures (poverty, population growth),**
- Other (please specify),**
- Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**
- ,**
- Lack of technology transfer (including know-how),**

Additional information on the challenges most likely to constitute obstacles towards sustainable trade, sustainable consumption and production patterns (i.e., circular economy). (Please provide examples as applicable):

In our experience with Canadian companies, least-developed partner countries can be perceived as high-risk markets from a financial perspective (i.e. higher political risk and financial risk), which ties with the high concentration of economic activity in the informal sector challenge identified above. The lack of a strong and regulated financial ecosystem might be deterring Canadian companies from these countries to more developed markets, thus slowing the transition toward sustainable development. ACCESS TO FINANCE Although the volume of climate finance flowing from developed to developing countries has increased substantially over the past decade, the issue of access is multifaceted and the system for delivering and accessing finance has become highly complex. While larger developing economies may have the ability to navigate

developing economies may have the ability to navigate this system, most small or low-income countries lack sufficient capacity to do so, resulting in a systemic bottleneck that is mutually frustrating for recipient and donor countries: climate finance that has been mobilized but not accessed. Least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and other climatically vulnerable countries have repeatedly singled out this issue at international forums, including the UNFCCC. Canada has been a leader in addressing the issue of climate finance access. Under our G7 Presidency, Canada spearheaded work to identify a way forward, including by committing to study how to address barriers faced by low and middle income countries, including SIDS, in accessing finance. Since then, Canada has partnered with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), a leading climate innovator, to advance this important work and identify a concrete solution for action. Through our partnership with RMI, a group of organizations experienced in deploying climate advisors identified a concrete solution for action under a Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN) initiative. The CFAN is a global network of highly trained, embedded climate finance advisors who support developing countries build their capacity to structure and secure public and private finance for priority climate mitigation and adaptation investments. Ultimately, CFAN will ensure that more countries have access to advisors who are better prepared and better connected to both donor institutions and other advisors around the world. Canada is proud to have provided catalyst funding to address this critical issue. In 2020, Canada provided \$9.5 million to support the launch of CFAN, and specifically its deployment in Pacific SIDS. While CFAN is a good step forward in identifying and addressing the barriers to accessing climate finance, a holistic approach that recognizes the multifaceted approach that takes into account various dimensions of the issue of access to finance such as ODA-eligibility, vulnerability, debt management, capacity and technical gaps is required.

ENERGY TRANSITION: Net-Zero and De-carbonization The world is in the midst of a global low-carbon economy transition. An estimated 760 million people lack access to electricity globally, and despite that renewable sources of energy generation are now cheaper than coal in many parts of the world, many still rely on coal power to meet their energy access and economic development goals. Phasing out coal cannot come at the expense of energy access, security, and affordability. The world's ability to meet the Sustainable Development Goals while avoiding catastrophic climate change hinges on a rapid transition to climate resilient, affordable, secure, efficient, low-carbon energy systems and enabling infrastructure. Countries need support to chart the path in the transition away from coal power to safeguard human health and avoid economic risks from

stranded coal assets. Reliable, renewable, and affordable sources of energy are central to both international development and ensuring a sustainable future. A just and inclusive transition to cleaner sources of energy for low and middle-income countries is a cornerstone of Canada's \$5.3 billion climate finance commitment. At COP26, Canada announced up to \$1 billion the Climate Investment Funds' Accelerating Coal Transitions program. Canada also announced support for the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Program to help countries accelerate the phase out of emissions from coal power and transition to clean energy. Climate finance is strategic capital that will play an important role in building policy, regulatory, and technical capacity to unlock larger-scale private investment, while supporting affected workers and communities in an inclusive way informed by credible social dialogue. In support of these objectives, Canada was proud to sign on to the United Kingdom's COP26 Presidency declarations on the Global Coal to Clean Transition, on Supporting the Conditions for a Just Transition Internationally, and to sign on to the No New Coal Power Energy Compact at the COP26 Glasgow Climate Change Conference in November 2021. Recognizing the importance of aligning all financial flows with the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the role of Multilateral Development Banks cannot be understated. MDBs are releasing their Paris Alignment strategies individually, however the ongoing absence of a unified approach to 'Paris Alignment' among MDBs remains a challenge. SOCIAL PRESSURES: ensuring a just transition The costs and benefits of measures will be unevenly distributed across regions, communities, industries and individuals – some will face disproportionate impacts on livelihood, including under-represented and marginalized communities. A just transition for impacted people and communities will be essential. The Development Finance Institute of Canada (DFIC) Inc. operating under the FinDev Canada brand, was launched in 2017, capitalized with CA\$300 million, to support sustainable inclusive private sector growth in developing markets. FinDev Canada contributes to poverty reduction through job creations, women's economic empowerment and through climate action. In 2021, FinDev Canada was further capitalized by an additional CA\$300 million to allow FinDev Canada to build a portfolio totaling CA\$ 1.4 billion. By filling the gap between commercial support and development assistance, FinDev Canada brings financial strength to businesses in developing markets that create stability and prosperity for local communities. Leading with impact, FinDev Canada will support the private sector in achieving sustainable and inclusive growth. In 2021, FinDev Canada launched the 2X Canada: Inclusive economic recovery facility. This is a CA\$ 75.9 million blended finance facility, funded by the Government of Canada through Global

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financed by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada that will contribute to the socio-economic wellbeing of underserved populations, particularly women, in Latin America and the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa. 2X Canada will support investments that drive positive impact on women's economic empowerment as well as a gender-smart economic recovery, including through the mobilization of additional public and private investment.

Q22

Please highlight the main challenges that Aid for Trade should address to support a transition to sustainable development? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Access to finance,

Business climate,

Developing countries' political challenges (e.g., security and stability)

,

Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,

Gender inequality,

High concentration of economic activity in the informal sector

,

Lack of human resource capability,

Other (please specify),

Lack of technology transfer (including sharing of know-how)

,

Additional information on the main challenges that Aid for Trade should address to support a transition to sustainable development. (Please provide examples as applicable).:

The Development Finance Institute of Canada (DFIC) Inc. operating under the FinDev Canada brand, was launched in 2017, capitalized with CA\$300 million, to support sustainable inclusive private sector growth in developing markets. FinDev Canada contributes to poverty reduction through job creations, women's economic empowerment and through climate action. In 2021, FinDev Canada was further capitalized by an additional CA\$300 million to allow FinDev Canada to build a portfolio totaling CA\$ 1.4 billion. By filling the gap between commercial support and development assistance, FinDev Canada brings financial strength to businesses in developing markets that create stability and prosperity for local communities. Leading with impact, FinDev Canada will support the private sector in achieving sustainable and inclusive growth. In 2021, FinDev Canada launched the 2X Canada: Inclusive economic recovery facility. This is a CA\$ 75.9 million blended finance facility, funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada that will contribute to the socio-economic wellbeing of underserved populations, particularly women, in Latin America and the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa. 2X Canada will support investments that drive positive impact on women's economic empowerment as well as a gender-smart economic recovery, including through the mobilization of additional public and private investment.

Q23

Do your Aid-for-Trade or development strategies include a circular economy strategy, policy, plan or objectives?

Yes,

Additional information on your circular economy strategy, policy, plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: In collaboration with all levels of government, businesses, organizations and others, the Government of Canada is working to transition to a more circular economy by keeping plastic in the economy and out of the environment. Canada announced the next steps in its agenda to achieve zero plastic waste by 2030. Canada strongly supports working with the private sector, innovators, and entrepreneurs in developing innovative alternatives and solutions for increasing resource efficiency and circular economy in the use of plastics and plastic products.

Q24

If yes, which economic sectors does the circular economy strategy, policy, plan or objectives cover?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Fisheries,**Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the economic sectors covered by the circular economy strategy, policy, or plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Other: Climate and the environment including plastics; Food security and malnutrition. Canada recognizes that trade plays an essential role in supporting food security by reducing the volatility of food prices, and enabling people to access the food they need especially after a disaster such as a flood. Moreover, trade can enable producers in developing countries to earn better incomes, and allow them to make choices that reduce their environmental impacts. Canada also explores opportunities to partner with likeminded economies in forums such as the FAO and APEC to advance circular economy initiatives. This approach improves our international assistance efforts by empowering women, addressing complex environmental challenges and malnutrition, and contributing to livelihoods and inclusive economic growth. Canada is taking bold action at home and abroad to stop plastic waste from entering the ocean and to promote a circular economy approach to marine litter. Internationally, some of the initiatives we are pursuing include: -\$69 million contribution to PROBLUE, a World Bank-administered Trust Fund that supports healthy and productive oceans by tackling marine pollution, managing fisheries and fostering the sustainable growth of coastal economies; -\$6 million contribution to the World Economic Forum's Global Plastic Action Partnership, which is bringing businesses, international donors, national and local governments, community groups and world-class experts to avert the growth in global plastic pollution by 2025, and promote a circular economy model to the use of plastic products; and -a \$20 million G7 Innovation Challenge to Address Plastic Marine Litter to stimulate innovation and raise awareness of needed improvements to the management of plastic in Africa. Canada is also investing \$162 million to build stronger and more resilient coasts and communities: \$100 million to support the expansion of Climate Risk Insurance coverage and climate resilience in climate-vulnerable countries, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS); \$60 million to support the expansion of clean energy systems and infrastructure, improve energy access for women and girls in SIDS, and provide training and employment opportunities for women in non-traditional, sustainable technology sectors; and \$2 million to support efforts by developing countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Q25

If yes, does the circular economy strategy, policy, plan or objectives include trade goals?

Yes,

Additional information on the trade objectives included in the circular economy strategy policy, or plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Canada recognizes that a transition to the circular economy is needed to meet the Paris Agreement targets as current efforts to meet climate targets have focused on energy efficiency, which only account for about 45% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The remaining emissions come from the production and consumption of products. Current level of ambition in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) is not sufficient to achieve climate goals, and the circular economy offers new opportunities to reduce GHG emissions. Canada is working internationally in many fora, including United Nations (UN) bodies, G7, G20 and the OECD to help extend the life of materials, promote research and discuss strategies to prevent marine litter, improve plastics management and progress towards a circular economy. In addition to addressing harmful single-use plastics, the government is seeking to support markets for recycled plastics to be used in a wide range of products and packaging. The Ocean Plastic Charter takes a comprehensive lifecycle approach to prevent marine plastic pollution and lays the groundwork to ensure that plastics are designed for reuse and recycling, in order to protect the environment and keep a valuable resource in the economy. To date, more than 25 governments and over 70 businesses and other organizations have endorsed the Charter. Canada has also committed over \$100 million to advance the goals of the Charter with the following funding provided by GAC. Canada positions as a leader in the ocean sphere abroad, working with international partners (such as the World Bank Group) to advance important oceans-related issues, promote Canada as a global partner in environmentally sustainable trade, and help develop and scale the global blue economy.

Q26

Is digital connectivity reflected as a priority in your sustainable development strategy, policy, or plan?

Yes,

Additional information on how digital connectivity is reflected in your sustainable development strategy, policy or plan.:

Digital connectivity is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Canada's membership and contributions to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the UN specialized agency for telecommunications and information and communications technologies (ICTs), is part of Canada's efforts to promote connectivity around the world. Canada provides an annual financial contribution to the ITU in the amount of approximately \$4.808 million, which helps support ITU operations and activities, including in the areas of digital connectivity. Increased connectivity and access to ICT is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Q27

Do you have an Aid-for-Trade strategy, policy or plan for digital connectivity (including digital economy, e-commerce, etc.)?

Yes,

Additional information on your Aid-for-Trade policy documents for digital connectivity. (Please include weblinks of the source used).:

As noted in the preceding question, the ITU is part of Canada's efforts to promote connectivity around the world. Within the ITU there are a number of programs that Canada has supported which focus on digital connectivity and facilitating inclusive access to ICT, including for women and girls. See <https://www.itu.int/en/action/Pages/default.aspx> and <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/default.aspx> The Growth That Works For Everyone action area provides support to increase the capacity of the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and youth, to engage in economic activities through: -technical assistance provided to stakeholders to develop and offer financial literacy, digital technology and skill development programs that respond to the need of the most vulnerable, particular women and; -technical assistance provided to stakeholders to develop and offer financial literacy, digital technology and skill development programs that respond to the needs of entrepreneurs, MSMEs and farmers, particularly women.

Q28

In which sectors could digital connectivity best support the transition to sustainable development?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Agriculture,

Industry,

Services,

Other (please specify),

Additional information on the sector(s) in which digital connectivity can best support a transition to sustainable trade and the circular economy. (Please include weblinks of the source used).:

Other: education, addressing the rural/urban divide; access to markets for small holder farmers; access to e-health services. Greater financial inclusion for women, and equal access to capital, markets, digital technology and business development services will help more women in developing countries realize more opportunities to contribute to their own economic success and the economic success of their communities Digital transformation is occurring in all sectors, and will enable all sectors to support the transition to sustainable development. From the perspective of Canada's involvement at the ITU, health, education and, accessibility (including people with disabilities and special needs) are key.

Q29

Please identify which issues where digital connectivity would offer most promise in the move to sustainable development?(You may tick more than one box).

Digital contents,

E-civil service,

E-commerce,

E-government,

E-healthcare,

E-learning,

Innovation and technology for gender equality,

Additional information on the issues where digital connectivity that would offer most promise in the move to sustainable development.:

Gender equality Digital connectivity would allow women to balance child care/unpaid care work with economic opportunities in part by removing transportation related barriers to women's economic participation. Increased access to digital content, e-civil service, e-commerce, e-government, Innovation and technology would help address gender equality. Under-Served Populations E-civil service and E-government would assist in reaching under-served populations, while digital content and e-commerce for sustainable livelihoods. Note that Digital transformation is occurring in all sectors and is being directed by market forces. The sectors with the greatest ability to adopt digital technologies as well as those with the most potential promise are more rapidly adopting. From the perspective of Canada's involvement at the ITU, health, education and, accessibility (including people with disabilities and special needs) are key. As part of the \$200 million, eight years (2020-2028) support to Grand Challenges Canada (GCC), specific elements of the work being undertaken enable technology transfer from Canada to low and middle income countries. In addition, global access requirements for innovators funded by GCC will also be negotiated as part of this funding arrangement. This program supports innovators to develop and transition-to-scale innovations that improve the health, human rights, and well-being of women, adolescents, and children in low- and middle-income countries, including conflict-affected areas. This program also aims to increase gender-responsive and locally-driven health products and services, especially for the most marginalized and vulnerable populations. Examples of Canadian innovations implemented in low and middle income countries include predictive machine learning for maternal, newborn and child health in Rwanda; tablet-based interventions to improve family planning access for HIV positive women in Cambodia; focused ultrasound for the treatment of uterine fibroids in Egypt; electricity-free cold chain for vaccine delivery in India; biodegradable mosquito traps in Brazil; and digital virtual support for COVID-19 patients in Kenya. Any intellectual property created with funding from Grand Challenges Canada

created with funding from Grand Challenges Canada should be made broadly accessible to and affordable in the relevant context. Innovators may apply for and maintain intellectual property protection for funded solutions, but must administer their rights in a manner that will not impede achievement of access and affordability in these settings. Generally, ownership and control of intellectual property remains with the funding recipient, subject to applicable laws and policies.

Q30

Is there an existing Aid-for-Trade project for digital connectivity towards sustainable development and/or environmentally sustainable growth (or circular economy) that you want to showcase as an example of best practice?

Unsure,

Additional information on Aid-for-Trade projects for digital connectivity towards sustainable development, environmentally sustainable growth or circular economy that you want to showcase as an example of best practice. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):
DOT - Digital Livelihoods: Youth and the Future of Work at Scale; Daring to Shift: Young Women at the Centre of Inclusive Growth

Q31

Do you agree that the COVID-19 pandemic has acted as an accelerator for the move to digital economy in your developing and least developed partner countries?

Yes,

Additional information on the impact of the pandemic on the uptake of the digital economy.:
From the perspective of Canada's involvement at the ITU, more than accelerating the move to a digital economy, COVID-19 has highlighted the enormous challenges resulting from the inequity in access, and use of ICTs in developing and least developed countries. Digital trade plays an important role in gender empowerment in both developing and least developed countries as it helps to increase financial independence and job opportunities for women. A 2018 PayPal Inc. study found that digital trade/e-commerce tools play a pivotal role in closing revenue gaps and increasing the earnings potential of women entrepreneurs. However, a digital divide continues to exist where women entrepreneurs using digital platforms face barriers, such as securing capital/investors. It is crucial for governments to involve women entrepreneurs and investors in policy making around digital trade.

Q32

In which areas has the COVID-19 pandemic exposed shortcomings in digital connectivity?(You may tick more than one box).

Digital gender divide,

Inadequate network infrastructure including broadband capacity

,

Insufficient or uneven internet coverage,

Poor access to internet services,

Poor digital skills and IT literacy,

Other, (please specify),

Additional information on the areas where the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed shortcomings in relation to digital connectivity. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:

Other: Concentration in value-creation and capture in the digital economy (see UNCTAD Digital Economy Report 2021). Cyber security has been increasingly exposed as a vulnerability from the beginning of the pandemic. COVID-19 has highlighted digital divides between and within countries – by gender, age, and location. And, the real-world consequences of online dis/misinformation, pandemic related and otherwise, driven by both platform concentration and inadequate data literacy. Canada recognizes that the pandemic has exposed shortcomings in digital connectivity in all of the above-mentioned areas.

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Q33

Looking ahead, in which sectors do you think future Aid-for-Trade support should focus so as to support sustainable development objectives? (You may tick more than 1 box).

Agriculture,

Fisheries,

Forestry,

Other (please specify),

Additional information on the sectors in which you think future Aid-for-Trade support should focus so as to support sustainable development objectives.:

Others: Infrastructure development, including energy and transportation There are two sectors that could be further supported to attain sustainable development objectives: infrastructure development, particularly improving the take up of efficient, accessible green technologies for infrastructure development, including in the energy and transportation sectors; and digitalization of developing countries, as well as digital infrastructure.

Q34

Looking ahead, in which categories of Aid for Trade do you think support should be focused so as to advance the environmental dimension of sustainable development?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Trade policy and administrative management,

Trade facilitation,

Multilateral trade negotiations,

(b) Trade development (Including investment promotion, analysis and institutional support for trade in services, business support services and institutions, public-private sector networking, e-commerce, trade finance, trade promotion, market analysis and development)

,

(d) Building productive capacity,

(a) Trade policy and regulations (Including training of trade officials, analysis of proposals and positions and their impact, support for national stakeholders to articulate commercial interest and identify trade-offs, dispute issues, institutional and technical support to facilitate implementation of trade agreements and to adapt to and comply with rules and standards)

,

(c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)

,

Energy supply and generation infrastructure,

Business and other services,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Mineral resources and mining,

(e) Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

,

Additional information on the categories of Aid-for-Trade in which you think support should be focused so as to advance sustainable development.:

Infrastructure, clean tech solutions and energy transition to low carbon solutions are areas where Canada has expertise and can help advance Aid for Trade priorities. Canada's support (2021-2026) to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) aims to increase environmentally friendly intra-African trade flows in goods and services by, for example, conducting a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the AfCFTA to examine the potential entry points and opportunities for climate change considerations to be integrated into the wider AfCFTA processes. Canada's support will enhance the implementation by national

Support the creation and implementation by national governments and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) of inclusive, environmentally-friendly and complementary reforms, action plans and frameworks in the context of the AfCFTA Agreement.

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Q35

To which developing and least-developed partner countries do you provide Aid-for-Trade financing for the environmental dimension of sustainable development ? (You may tick more than one box).(You may tick more than 1 box).

- Bangladesh,**
- Benin,**
- Bolivia, Plurinational State,**
- Burkina Faso,**
- Colombia,**
- Ethiopia,**
- Ghana,**
- Haiti,**
- Honduras,**
- Indonesia,**
- Jordan,**
- Kenya,**
- Lebanon,**
- Mali,**
- Myanmar,**
- Nicaragua,**
- Peru,**
- Senegal,**
- South Sudan,**
- Tanzania,**
- Ukraine,**
- Viet Nam,**
- West Bank and Gaza Strip**

Q36

Please identify the South-South and Triangular cooperation partners you work with in order to provide financing for sustainable development.(You may tick more than 1 box).

Additional information on the South-South and Triangular cooperation partners with which you associate in order to provide financing for sustainable development and any examples of projects/programmes that you would like to showcase.:

Nil

Q37

Is there an Aid-for-Trade project or programme for sustainable trade or development, green growth or circular economy that you want to showcase as an example of best practice?

In Jordan we have projects which support renewable energy systems, recycling and solid waste management, and women's economic empowerment. These projects are examples of best practices in addressing sustainable development issues.

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Q38

Do you implement policies that address the environmental dimension of sustainable development and that also support progress on gender equality and/or women's economic empowerment?

Yes,

Additional information on whether you implement policies that address the environmental dimension of sustainable development while also supporting progress on gender equality /women empowerment. You may also provide information on your intention to draft such policies in the future. (Please include weblinks as applicable).:

Additional information on whether you implement policies that address the environmental dimension of sustainable development while also supporting progress on gender equality /women empowerment. You may also provide information on your intention to draft such policies in the future. (Please include weblinks as applicable). Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy puts gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the heart of its international assistance efforts. The policy views women and girls as powerful agents of change to advance action on climate change, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, pollution and other environmental concerns. It recognizes that our environment and climate action will be most effective when women and girls play an active role in designing and developing strategic responses to climate change and environmental issues. In doing so, it focuses on: - supporting women's leadership and decision-making in all aspects of climate change mitigation and sustainable natural resource management. - ensuring climate-related and nature positive planning, policy-making and financing address the particular needs and challenges of women and girls. - supporting employment and business opportunities for women in climate and natural-resource sectors (e.g., renewable energy, bio-economy). Canada also recognizes the need to mainstream environment and climate considerations across all sectors of Canadian international assistance. This is critical to achieve sustainable poverty reduction that close the gender gaps. Development results, particularly those that benefit women, are lost when initiatives are not designed to cope with the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation or when they contribute to, or exacerbate those impacts. Canada's FTAs address the environmental dimension of sustainable development and also support progress on gender equality and/or women's economic empowerment. The Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), for example, is one of the most advanced and inclusive trade agreements that Canada has ever negotiated. It is an agreement that will improve free and fair trade between the EU and Canada, which includes high standards for consumers, workers and the environment. CETA reflects Canada's inclusive approach to trade which seeks to foster sustainable and inclusive economic growth; more effectively promote labour and environmental standards; and aims to ensure that the benefits and opportunities that flow from trade and

that the benefits and opportunities that flow from trade and investment are more widely shared, including amongst under-represented groups such as women and SMEs. Such an approach is currently being used in Canada's FTA negotiations with Indonesia, ASEAN and Mercosur. Labour provisions in Canada's free trade agreements have a long history of promoting gender equality. This is mainly accomplished through an enforceable provision that commits Parties to eliminate discrimination in employment and occupation, which supports the goal of promoting equality of women in the workplace. More recent Labour chapters such as the Canada-US-Mexico Agreement include an obligation for each Party to implement policies to protect workers against employment discrimination on the basis of sex (including with regard to sexual harassment), pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and caregiving responsibilities. Labour provisions also encourage the adoption of programs and policies that address barriers to the full participation of women in the workforce, including through job-protected leave for childbirth/adoption and family care responsibilities, and protect against wage discrimination.

Q39

Do you implement Aid-for-Trade projects that combine the objectives of women's economic empowerment and environmentally sustainable development?

Yes,

Additional information on the Aid-for-Trade projects which combine the twin objectives of women's economic empowerment and environmental environmentally sustainable development. Please indicate the number of projects, the sector concerned (agriculture, fisheries, sustainable tourism, circular economy, etc.). (Please include weblinks as applicable):

Through its \$2.65 billion international climate finance commitment in 2016-2021, Canada has contributed \$350 million since 2015 to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and helped steer the updated Gender Policy and Action Plan through the GCF Board. The updated policy makes gender assessments and gender action plans a requirement at the project level, recognizing the importance of gender considerations in terms of impact and access to climate funding. Canada's new \$5.3 billion climate finance commitment will continue to advance climate action that supports women's economic empowerment. In line with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, at least 80% of climate finance projects in the \$5.3 billion climate finance commitment will integrate gender equality considerations, in recognition that women and girls are powerful agents of change. Canada also contributed \$1.6 million to the InsuResilience Global Partnership's Centre of Excellence on Gender Smart Solutions (2021-2023) to enhance the implementation of inclusive and gender-transformative approaches to the Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) sector. This will include support for capacity-building initiatives for the greater financial inclusion and participation of women and other marginalized groups. APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership - Research and Training, implemented by Asia-Pacific Partnership of Canada. (2016-2021) The Research and Training component of the APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership project provided training, research and mentoring to MSMEs in developing APEC economies of Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Peru. Canadian MSME policy, research and management best practices are being applied in the context of these developing APEC economies to help provide an enabling environment for MSME growth, poverty reduction, green sustainable growth, and women economic empowerment. For example, 60 women entrepreneurs from these APEC economies completed the 12-month Mentoring Women in Business Programme. All 60 women entrepreneurs reported that their participation had increased their business confidence and leadership skills and that they could apply the knowledge they had gained in marketing strategy, finance, and sales management in their businesses. The women entrepreneurs reported positive improvement in knowledge and practical application of new skills in improving their respective businesses. Canada's support benefits more

respective businesses. Canada's support benefits more than 400 MSMEs through in-person capacity-building activities, research outputs and MSME toolkits published online. The project website is also used by entrepreneurs and policy-making entities.
<https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D002649001>
International Trade Center (2019-2021) Canada's core funding to the ITC supports its work in trade and gender, including its SheTrades innovative initiative that provides women entrepreneurs with a unique platform to connect to markets and to help corporations include more women entrepreneurs in supply chains. SheTrades addresses multiple barriers for women to access markets, finance, digital technologies and business development services. Canada supports the ITC's cross-cutting focus on climate change and environment, which are highlighted in the ITC's new strategic plan to strengthen local capacities to mitigate and adapt to changing climate conditions and promote nature-positive practices in value chains to preserve and restore biodiversity. Canada's support enhances the ITC's efforts to help small businesses limit their environmental footprint through efficient business practices, and circular production cycles. This includes ITC's Standards Map website and database and Sustainability Map to enhance transparency on sustainability standards and make them more attainable for MSMEs. The grant provided represents Canada's long-term institutional support to the International Trade Centre (ITC).

Q40

Any other information you wish to share? (e.g., where support for sustainable trade or development is needed).

No.

Q41

Is women's economic empowerment included as an objective in your development or Aid-for-Trade strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s)?

Yes,

Additional information on how women's economic empowerment is included as an objective in your Aid-for-Trade strateg(ies) policy(ies) or plan(s):

Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) includes an action area focused on Growth that Works for Everyone through which Canada advances women's economic rights and leadership; promotes inclusive markets and entrepreneurship; and promotes resilience and financial security. Global Affairs Canada's trade and development policy guidance considers trade as playing an important role on women's empowerment and gender equality, by increasing opportunities for women's labour force participation, protecting labour rights, reducing prices for goods and services, facilitating knowledge and technology transfer, and increasing access to value chains by enterprises owned by women, Indigenous peoples and other marginalized persons. By bringing down barriers to women's economic empowerment, Canada's integrated approach to trade and development helps individuals and enterprises – particularly those led by women – to become more competitive, innovative, and green. Canada continues to promote and advance inclusive trade and gender equality through enhanced bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement and participation in international economic forums, such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), G7 and the G20. Canada draws on its membership in key multilateral organizations and regional groups—including the United Nations (UN), multilateral and regional banks, the G7, the G20, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, APEC, Pacific Alliance and others—to champion gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Q42

If yes, please indicate the strategy, policy, or plan in which women's economic empowerment is included: (You may tick more than one box).

Aid-for-Trade or development strategy, policy or plan,

Export strategy, policy or plan,

Gender equality strategy, policy or plan,

Trade development strategy, policy or plan,

Women's economic empowerment's strategy, policy or plan

,

Additional information on the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) that include women's economic empowerment.

(Please include weblinks as applicable):

Canada's FIAP; and Canada's TCS Strategic Plan 2018-2021 (BWIT Program)

Q43

Do the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) that you have identified seek to ensure non-discrimination with respect to conditions of employment or occupation (including through the provision of flexible work arrangements)?

Yes,

Additional information on how the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) that you have identify seek to ensure non-discrimination with respect to conditions of employment or occupation. (Please include weblinks as applicable):

Canada provided \$250M in a repayable contribution to establish the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in the Americas with the Inter-American Development Bank. This fund has supported 23 renewable energy projects, where a third of projects have mainstreamed gender considerations. For example, a wind project in Argentina where the use of performance-based incentives led a company to create a gender-awareness training program for senior management and approve a gender action plan. Women were hired and internships were offered by the company to female undergraduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and there were improved working conditions for all women. Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy explicitly commits to helping address unpaid care work and the disproportionate proportion of care shouldered by women and girls around the world. o At the Generation Equality Forum (June-July 2021), Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada will commit \$100 million in new funding for stand-alone programming to address issues in unpaid and paid care work in low- and middle-income countries in which Canada provides international assistance. o The program will recognize, address and reduce the unequal distribution of unpaid and paid care work and ensure unpaid and paid care workers are represented and have their voices heard and their rights supported and protected. It is intended to address a root cause of global inequality and to help increase women's ability to participate in the economy, in education, and in public life, thus fostering gender equality, women's economic empowerment and gender-responsive economic response and recovery.

Q44

Does your government collect/institution data on women's economic empowerment in relation to trade and development?

Yes,

Additional information on the data on women's economic empowerment that your government/institution collects. (Please include weblinks as applicable):

Global Affairs Canada collects project/institutions data on FIAP Key Performance Indicators and Complementary Performance Indicators for women's economic empowerment. Canada has a results-based management approach specific to its international assistance titled Architecture for Results of International Assistance (ARIA), with the aim to roll-up strategically selected project and program results information into more meaningful evidence-based corporate level results. At project and country program level, Canada has a robust results-based management methodology and extensive guidance available.

Q45

In your view, what trade and development constraints do women face the most?(You may tick more than one box).

Difficulties accessing financial services,

Difficult working conditions,

Discriminatory practices,

Gender pay gap,

Harassment, security and safety issues,

Informal employment,

Occupational segregation,

Time and mobility constraints,

Unpaid care and domestic work,

Additional information on the trade and development constraints faced by women.:

In the context of renewable energy, many of our renewable energy projects tend to employ more men than women. Renewable energy (with construction and engineering as major sectors involved) is dominated by men in many parts of the world. Many of our projects try to employ women and bring women into these sectors. Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy explicitly commits to helping address unpaid care work and the disproportionate proportion of care shouldered by women and girls around the world. o At the Generation Equality Forum (June-July 2021), Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada will commit \$100 million in new funding for stand-alone programming to address issues in unpaid and paid care work in low- and middle-income countries in which Canada provides international assistance. o The program will recognize, address and reduce the unequal distribution of unpaid and paid care work and ensure unpaid and paid care workers are represented and have their voices heard and their rights supported and protected. It is intended to address a root cause of global inequality and to help increase women's ability to participate in the economy, in education, and in public life, thus fostering gender equality, women's economic empowerment and gender-responsive economic response and recovery.

Q46

Can Aid for Trade play a role in addressing these constraints?

Yes,

Additional information on the role that Aid for Trade can play in addressing these constraints.:

Projects addressing unpaid care would allow women to work in the formal labour sector and become entrepreneurs. This would increase women's salaries, which, as a corollary, would attract more women into the workforce. The barriers for women workers to access their rights, in particular the right to associate freely, are often higher than for men workers, restricting de facto their ability to raise issues or file complaints when their rights are violated. In addition, despite significant progress over the past decades, women are still far from achieving gender equality in the workplace. Women tend to be in low-skilled jobs and work longer unpaid hours. Female migrant workers are also more vulnerable to abuse in the workplace due to recruitment practices, legal status, language barriers and lack of or inconsistent labour law enforcement. Although labour technical assistance projects do not, typically, focus on gender-related issues, projects often times have components that strengthen the fundamental issues of freedom of association and collective bargaining, which enable workers, employers and governments to tackle gender discrimination, and issues impacting vulnerable workers such as migrant workers, young and older workers.

Financial Inclusion for Enterprise Development project ((FINEDEV) project):

- MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises): In the fourth year of the project, FINEDEV launched a pilot mentorship project for a cohort of 150 women (50 mentors and 100 mentees) with MSMEs over a 12 month period. This was so successful that in the fifth year of the project a second mentorship project was conducted with 225 participants (75 mentors and 150 mentees – of these only one was a male) over a 6 month period. A third mentorship cohort will be launched in 2022. Benefits of the mentorship program include applied capacity building, and acquisition of better business knowledge and skills.
- EXPORT-READINESS PILOT PROJECT: With the ultimate aim of increasing employment, notably for women in growth value chains, and the goal of increasing productive and financial capacity of SMEs, Sinapi Aba Savings and Loans (SASL) is implementing an export-readiness pilot project. The key objectives of this pilot are 1) to build business and financial management skills of entrepreneurs (to enable them to sustainably expand and close the gaps that previously prevented them from reaching valuable markets); 2) to enhance production to create a distinct competitive advantage; 3) to facilitate the building of market linkages with agents and distributors; and 4) to ensure compliance to key requirements, codes of conduct, and international standards. Over a 13 month period the project will work with 200 entrepreneurs (at

period, the project will work with 200 entrepreneurs (at least 60% women) who currently have small businesses, and provide them with training and capacity building activities in order to upgrade to the level of being “export-ready”. Canada provided \$20M to the Women Entrepreneurs Financing Initiative (We-Fi), an unprecedented opportunity to harness the public and private sectors to open new doors for women entrepreneurs across the developing world. This collaborative partnership, housed at the World Bank, among governments, multilateral development banks, and other stakeholders is helping to unlock financing for women-led/owned businesses in developing countries, including in the most challenging environments. We-Fi supports women entrepreneurs by scaling up access to financial products and services, building capacity, expanding networks, offering mentoring, and providing opportunities to link with domestic and global markets. In 2020-21, more than 3,300 business women benefited from financial and non-financial support from the initiative. In addition, it helped to provide more than 3000 women-led with businesses with access to finance through almost \$78 million in loans and grants. More than 1,500 businesses gained access to entrepreneurial support programs through the initiative and 15 pieces of legislation or regulations were created to support women-owned or led businesses.

Q47

Have you provided Aid for Trade to finance projects for women's economic empowerment during the period 2015-2020?

Yes,

Additional information on whether you have requested Aid for Trade to finance projects for women's economic empowerment in 2015-2020, including reasons as to why or why not.:

Under its FIAP, Canada captures gender equality and women's empowerment as cross-cutting. For the period, 2014-15 to 2020-21, approximately 3% of Canada's bilateral aid for trade specifically targeted gender equality, while 57% of investments fully integrated gender equality outcomes, and 30% of investments had limited integration of gender equality. Canada's new development finance institution, FinDev Canada, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Export Development Canada created in 2018, provides financial solutions to private sector organization in developing countries with the aim of combatting poverty through women's economic empowerment, job creation and climate mitigation and adaption. FinDev Canada's priority sectors are green growth, financial institutions, and agribusiness. Its priority markets are Latin America and the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa. In partnership with the African Development Bank, Canada has invested in the African Guarantee Fund (AGF) to improve access to finance for women entrepreneurs in Africa. The project is a part of AFAWA (Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa), a pan-African initiative to bridge the \$42 billion financing gap facing women in Africa. Created by the African Development Bank, AFAWA is a pan-African initiative that aims to reduce market risk perceptions for African women entrepreneurs and narrow the estimated US\$42 billion financing gap that they face. By contributing to this initiative, Canada supports the issuance of dedicated guarantees to African financial institutions lending to women entrepreneurs. AGF supports its guarantee activities by leveraging every dollar of capital it receives to provide up to \$4 of guarantees issued to African financial institutions. In turn, this increases the financing extended to women entrepreneurs. Since 2012, the fund has issued US\$1.1 billion of guarantees to 161 African financial institutions. This has benefitted almost 21 small and medium-sized enterprises, 30% of which are women-owned. It has also helped to create almost 130,000 jobs across 40 African countries. Canada has one recently completed project that supported increased access to Canadian markets for Ukrainian Small and Medium Enterprises with a focus on women owned enterprises. The Canada-Ukraine Trade and Investment Support (CUTIS) project directly resulted in more than \$4.6 million worth of Ukrainian exports to Canada over the life of the project. Almost 2,700 participants took part in 72 gender-equality training sessions and activities held by the project. In addition, over 500 women entrepreneurs attended a series of 18 She Champion workshops in various regions which allowed them to gain export-related

various regions which allowed them to gain export related know-how from women currently engaged in international trade and develop their leadership capacity and confidence to participate in international trade. At the project end, 62 business matching events and more than 1,200 business-to-business events were held, enabling almost 400 Ukrainian SMEs to establish or build business links with Canadian companies. Women's empowerment is a central part of our climate finance program, under the FIAP. As an example, Canada is providing \$50 million to the World Bank to create the Renewable Energy in Small Island Development States (SIDS) program to increase their renewable energy capacity and improve energy efficiency. Canada also provided \$10 million to the World Bank to create the Gender equality in the renewable energy sector in SIDS to provide technical assistance in SIDS to pursue gender equality through women's employment and enterprise development across energy value chains. Canadian Trade and Investment Facility for Development (CTIF), implemented by Cowater International Inc. (2018-2025 / \$12,000,000) The Canadian Trade and Investment Facility (CTIF) provides technical assistance to support more inclusive, sustainable and poverty-reducing trade and investment in official development assistance (ODA) eligible Asia-Pacific countries. CTIF technical assistance providers work with national and regional authorities to improve policy-making practices among regional and national institutions, and with public, private and non-governmental stakeholders to increase access to markets and finance by Asia-Pacific-based SMEs, particularly those led by women. CTIF provides technical assistance by external contractors following the approval of technical assistance requests from eligible beneficiaries. These include regional institutions, governments, civil society organizations, and individual firms in ODA-eligible countries in the region. The establishment of twenty-one technical assistance agreements with beneficiary organizations led to results in Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Afghanistan, Bhutan and Bangladesh, and three ASEAN regional organizations based in Indonesia. Ten technical assistance agreements have been completed. Due to travel restrictions and community quarantine measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, technical advisory services and capacity-building training are provided online via video conferencing. Among the key results achieved as of September 30, 2021 are: 1) In Vietnam, the Report on Gender Equality and Women Economic Empowerment at the Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV) is used by ACV in its key decisions and actions and ACV has incorporated in their work plan efforts to promote women's economic empowerment and advance LGBTQ+ rights. 2) Thirty-three master trainers, consisting of trade officials from Ministry of Industry and Trade of Vietnam and

private sector representatives from trade and industry associations (TSIs), including the Vietnam Association of Women Entrepreneurs on the provisions of the of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) successfully completed a training-of-trainers program. The master trainers trained 297 SMEs leaders-entrepreneurs (50% of whom are women) on the basics of export management and marketing; legal and procedural requirements to export to Canada; gender and environmental considerations in trade; and domestic competitiveness challenges. 3) The technical assistance to the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF) and ASEAN Secretariat Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division produced the overview study COVID 19 Pandemic Implications on Agriculture and Food Consumption, Production, and Trade in ASEAN Member States and a short video featuring the SOM-AMAF Chair from Cambodia highlighting the study's key findings and recommendations. The results presented in this study are currently being used by ASEAN Member states in policy dialogues to enable evidence-based decision-making among ASEAN members and key stakeholders on the best course of action to alleviate the burden of COVID-19. The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry are now integrating gender equality and social inclusion in their respective trade and investment policies and draft legislation. 4) In September 2021, the ASEAN Tourism Ministers endorsed the Final Study Report and the Post-COVID-19 Recovery Plan for ASEAN Tourism, which was produced through technical assistance to the ASEAN National Tourism Officials (NTOs) & ASEAN ICT & Tourism Division. The Post-COVID 19 Recovery Plan for ASEAN Tourism published on the ASEAN website is being used by tourism officials in member-states to guide the ASEAN tourism sector's recovery program in the next five years. APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership - MSME Support, implemented by APEC Secretariat. (2016-2020 / \$2,000,000) This initiative seeks to reduce poverty in developing Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies by encouraging micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) to expand into global and regional markets. This component is a sub-fund managed by the APEC Secretariat that supports small-scale projects helping MSMEs in developing APEC economies to innovate, grow, and gain better access to global and regional markets. The expected outcome of this component of the project is: increased ability of approximately 600 MSMEs in developing APEC economies, particularly those MSMEs owned by women, to expand their businesses, create poverty-reducing employment and integrate into the broader APEC market. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D002649001> Canada-OECD Project on ASEAN SMEs (COPAS) (2016 – 2021 /

OECD Project on ASEAN SMEs (COPAS), (2010 – 2021 / \$11,855,779) This project aims to enable small and medium enterprise (SME) development across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) through more effective and coordinated SME policies and link SMEs into regional and global value chains, for a more integrated, competitive, resilient, and innovative ASEAN Economic Community. Project activities include: (1) elaborate a second iteration of the ASEAN SME Policy Index to assess the scope and quality of SME policies and institutions across the region; (2) support an ASEAN-OECD Regional Policy Network on SMEs, through which senior ASEAN and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) experts can address common challenges in improving SME competitiveness, drawing on the knowledge and experiences of their respective economies; (3) support linkages between ASEAN SMEs with value chains and foreign investors, in co-operation, inter alia, with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council; and (4) associate with the OECD-World Economic Forum's Redesigning Development Finance Initiative and other major players to promote innovative approaches for SME financing in annual ASEAN roundtables. Results achieved as of (November 2021) include: (1) the project contributed to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)'s plans and priorities on small and medium enterprise (SME) development by supporting two policy network meetings by using an evidence-based policy-making approach; (2) developing, launching and disseminating the findings of the ASEAN SME Policy Index 2018 across all ten ASEAN member states with over 700 policy-makers mobilized; (3) publishing a report on strengthening women's entrepreneurship; (4) supported over 50 training, workshops and policy dialogues including 15 Regional Policy Network meetings on various pertinent topics such as SME policy Index, SME productivity, digital economy, women's entrepreneurship, inclusive business and starting a business. By improving government officials' understanding of these critical issues, they are better positioned to adopt policies and programs that enhance SME productivity, improve access to finance, promote women's entrepreneurship, and better integrate SMEs into global and regional value chains. This provides a venue to share best practices and lessons learned among key stakeholders from ASEAN member states. These workshops and policy dialogues benefitted at least 1,700 policy-makers in the region; (5) ASEAN Member States integrated the findings of the work done by the Canada-OECD Project on ASEAN SMEs (COPAS) into their national development and SME development strategies. For example, the 2018 ASEAN SME Policy Index recommendations integrated into the Government of Indonesia's SME strategy and their National Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) 2020-2024. Myanmar also

developed their first SME strategy to reflect the ASEAN SME Policy Index framework; and (6) COPAS launched 17 reports, including: (a) Strengthening Women's Entrepreneurship in ASEAN; (b) ASEAN SME Policy Index 2018; (c) SEA Going Digital: Connecting SMEs; (d) Participation and Benefits of SMEs in Global Value Chains in Southeast Asia; (e) Integrating Southeast Asian SMEs in Global Value Chains: Enabling Linkages with Foreign Investors; (f) Good Regulatory Practices to Support SMEs in Southeast Asia; (g) the Synthesis report of Integrating Southeast Asian SMEs in Global Value Chains; (h) Strengthening Women's Entrepreneurship in agriculture in ASEAN; (i) a policy review on SME and Entrepreneurship in Viet Nam; and more crucial reports on green transition, on productivity of SMEs, on alternative financing instruments.

<https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D002653001> Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (2015-2024, \$10M) Canada is a founding member of the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (GATF), providing CAD\$10M over 2015-2023, to support developing countries in the implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation. The GATF has undertaken important work to support and mainstream gender through the development of operational guidelines, aiming to bolster their respective integration in project development and implementation.

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Q48

If yes, please provide further information on the countries in which you have provided Aid-for-Trade programmes on women's economic empowerment.

Number of total projects implemented in the period 2015-2020

1,463 aid for trade projects from GAC and OGDs.

Duration in years (1, 2 or more than 3)

Duration varies depending on the project.

Percentage of projects that included women's economic empowerment as their sole/main objective (please include the % sign in your response)

Out of 1,463 projects: 87 were gender equality specific (GE-3) (6% of projects) and 368 fully integrated gender equality (GE-2) (25% of projects)

Percentage of projects that also included other objectives (please specify which in the box below and include the % sign in your response)

195 Projects had limited gender equality integration (GE-01) (13% of projects). The remaining 1223 projects either did not target GE or were not assessed. (84%) Given that GE is cross-cutting, project objectives also include aid for trade target categories.

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Q49

Please specify the areas that your Aid-for-Trade projects for women's economic empowerment sought to address:(You may tick more than one box).

Developing training programmes,

Capacity-strengthening initiatives,

Facilitating access to digital technologies and e-commerce platforms

,

Supporting women-owned/led MSMEs to export,

Additional information on the areas that the Aid-for-Trade projects for women's economic empowerment sought to address. Please describe your project(s) in no more than 300 words per box. (You may include references and weblinks and add information on results achieved as applicable, i.e. figures, case stories):

Ukraine: see

<https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D002636001>

Q50

Have you used public-private partnerships to achieve your Aid-for-Trade objectives in relation to women's economic empowerment?

Yes,

Additional information on the public-private partnerships used to achieve your Aid-for-Trade objectives in relation to women's economic empowerment. Please include reasons as to why or why not. Kindly provide a list of your private sector partners, the number of projects run, and the sectors concerned. You may also describe each project and their impacts in no more than 300 words per project. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

UNECA/ATPC, Support to the Boosting of Intra-African Trade (\$13.2M; 2015 - 2020) Canada's support for this initiative aimed to increase levels of intra-African trade to generate economic growth, create jobs and help increase the movement of goods throughout the continent. The UN's Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), through its African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) coordinates technical support for the development of trade policies in Africa, aiming to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of African governments and regional economic communities (RECs) to formulate and implement sound trade policies and participate more effectively in trade negotiations at all levels. The ATPC's discourse around the importance of gender considerations in trade policy contributed to changes in attitudes of policy makers; for instance, South Africa's Minister of Trade recently announced their intention to make their trade policy gender sensitive, and 102 female and 131 male policy makers were trained on trade and gender since the programme started in December 2015 including on mainstreaming gender in the AfCFTA. The initiative also resulted in increased participation of private sector operators and CSOs, including women entrepreneurs, traders and organizations, in regional and continental dialogues on the AU's trade agenda. The project succeeded in increasing the participation of private sector operators and CSO's, in regional and continental dialogues on the AU's trade agenda. The number of women and youth who participate in these forums also increased. The ATPC facilitated the participation of selected business operators, policy makers and experts on trade and gender to participate in the forum.

<https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D000794001> Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (2015-2024, \$10M) Canada is a founding member of the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (GATF), providing CAD\$10M over 2015-2023, to support developing countries in the implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation. The GATF has undertaken important work to support and mainstream gender through the development of operational guidelines, aiming to bolster their respective integration in project development and implementation.

Q51

Does Aid for Trade help to mobilize funds for women's economic empowerment?

Yes,

Additional information on how Aid for Trade helps to mobilize funds for women's economic empowerment, including the reasons as to why or why not.:
 Canada's integrated approach to Aid for Trade includes creating synergies across trade and development. The aim is to develop coherent and aligned policies that contribute to both sustainable development as well as free, open and inclusive trade so that benefits flowing from trade are better distributed, improve the lives of more people, especially the most vulnerable, and build resilience to shocks. This includes establishing innovative partnerships that support a growing engagement of the private sector in development and in development financing, given its key role as a driver of economic growth and investment. Under the rubric of the Feminist International Assistance Policy, Aid for Trade initiatives supported by Canada include goals for women's economic empowerment. Global Affairs Canada has not tracked specific instances of Aid for Trade helping to mobilize financing for women's economic empowerment. Nonetheless, WEE cuts across many of the FIAP Action Areas, it is most explicitly addressed in objectives of the GROWE Action Area, including: • Building more inclusive economies through helping women become more competitive and innovative, increasing their employment and market opportunities, as well as shaping markets that are economically and environmentally sustainable, and which work better for the poorest, most vulnerable, and most marginalized, particularly women; and • Strengthening women's financial security and their economic resilience, which aims at advancing the basic material needs of the poorest and most vulnerable women, particularly rural and Indigenous women, and building their economic resilience, including through improved access to financial literacy, services and products and access to climate smart agriculture. This framework guides Canada's support to Aid for Trade partners such as TradeMark East Africa (TMEA), which addresses constraints that limit the participation of women in economic activities and cross-border trade. Canada's support to TMEA and other Aid for Trade partners focused on WEE (such as the ITC) make it more possible for these organizations to leverage financing for WEE from other sources. Through the "Making Trade Work for Women in Eastern Africa" project, implemented through TMEA, a number of complementary interventions have been implemented particularly during the COVID period, to mobilise additional support for WEE. For example: • Under the Safe Trade Zones (STZ) initiative, developed by TMEA in partnership with AMREF, more than 5,000 women cross border traders will increase their trading volumes and incomes. The initiative developed Safe Trade Zones (STZ) protocols which were validated in

Trade Zones (TFZ) protocols which were validated in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, and the Horn of Africa. The protocols include guidelines and a checklist - customized to and adopted by countries, which also highlight trade-related considerations that particularly impact women traders, including the management of public health issues at selected borders. The initiative also provided capacity-building for the women traders and other users of the markets: more than 500 women cross-border traders and local market authority leaders were trained on the guidelines for the management of the public health measures. Wider sensitization campaigns were undertaken through easily accessible posters, public announcements, and radio spots. • To support recovery and build resilience among women, TMEA has partnered with Financial Sector Deepening (FSD) in Kenya and Uganda to provide injection capital to help women kick start their businesses. This initiative has two modalities – an unconditional cash transfer for emergency use and “patient capital” that is more long term. A baseline study was done, and 1,500 women vulnerable cross border traders were selected and registered on the pilot list of beneficiaries. A total of 1,200 women benefited from unconditional cash transfers. An impact survey found that these funds helped vulnerable women cross-border traders to start or improve their businesses, pay school fees, or support their domestic needs. Out of 1,200 vulnerable women, 900 women qualified and were selected for the patient capital cash transfer. Patient capital grants were made to 900 vulnerable women cross-border traders at the Busia (Kenya-Uganda) border post. In addition, all the women participants were trained on financial literacy and financial management. Global Affairs Canada’s (GAC) Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development (EDM) integrates Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) considerations into technical assistance (TA), including on cross-cutting themes and specific trade and investment mandates identified for each of the recipients. The EDM aims to help empower women as trade negotiators, advocates for women’s economic rights, and as economic leaders and entrepreneurs leveraging opportunities provided by trade liberalization; by identifying legal and policy gaps that widen gender inequalities and contributing to the development and implementation of gender inclusive legislation and policy; and, by helping to address the gender-differentiated impacts of trade and investment and supporting gender-inclusive capacity building programs and advocacy efforts. EDM is aligned with the FIAP’s Action Area 3 Growth that Works for Everyone. Via the International Assistance Innovation Program (IAIP) Global Affairs Canada (GAC), provided CAD 40 million through a repayable contribution to Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) company, GuarantCo, to enhance affordable and sustainable infrastructure credit

solutions in low-income countries and fragile states across Africa and Asia. The funding will be used to finance essential infrastructure, develop local capital markets and help economies grow by mobilising additional capital towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aiming to reduce poverty. In addition to its poverty reduction goals, the gender equality focus on GAC will allow GuarantCo to further enhance its gender policies and processes, making the resulting sustainable infrastructure more gender sensitive and contributing women's economic empowerment.

Q52

Are your Aid-for-Trade projects involving women's economic empowerment underpinned by a monitoring and evaluation/ results framework?

Yes,

Additional information on how your Aid-for-Trade projects involving women's economic empowerment are underpinned by a monitoring and evaluation/ results framework.:

Global Affairs Canada collects project/institutions data on FIAP Key Performance Indicators and Complementary Performance Indicators for women's economic empowerment. Canada has a results-based management approach specific to its international assistance titled Architecture for Results of International Assistance (ARIA), with the aim to roll-up strategically selected project and program results information into more meaningful evidence-based corporate level results. At project and country program level, Canada has a robust results-based management methodology and extensive guidance available.

Q53

Does the Aid-for-Trade support for women's economic empowerment that you provide align with your partners' trade priorities and objectives?

Unsure

Q54

Do women face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies?

Yes,

Additional information on the particular difficulties faced by women in accessing digital technology, including your data sources. (Please provide information in no more than 300 words including references and weblinks).:

“Digital divides” remain between and within countries, including across gender, geography, age, and income dimensions. They reflect inequalities in access to the social, economic and cultural benefits of increased connectivity. Canada is mindful that women and girls in developing and east developed countries continue to face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies. The ITU’s 2021 report, *Measuring digital development: Facts and figures 2021*, reveal a connectivity “grand canyon” separating the digitally empowered from the digitally excluded. While the digital gender divide has been narrowing, women remain digitally marginalized in many of the world’s poorest countries, where online access could potentially have its most powerful effect. We know, from a project by the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS), that there is a growing amount of gendered online abuse and disinformation. This harmful content aims to threaten and dehumanize women and is an obstacle to women’s political participation. The underrepresentation of women in science and technology industries may impact the design of technologies and create a male-centric bias in how technology curates information. The ITU has recognized accessibility of ICT as key to ensuring inclusive communication for all peoples – regardless of gender, age, ability or location – particularly as ICTs have become the primary medium for communications, information, transactions, education and entertainment worldwide. See: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Pages/ICT-digital-accessibility/default.aspx> Framed by its Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada seeks to address the gendered digital divide, including in relation to physical access, education and training in digital ecosystems, and the unique experiences of women and girls online. Canada promotes adherence to principles of equal access, equal availability, equal opportunity, and ethical development and application, with women and girls at the centre of the resolution of the digital divide, as innovators, advocates, and leaders.

Q55

Please identify the top 5 barriers that prevent women from accessing digital technology:(You may tick a maximum of 5 boxes).

High cost of device (e.g., mobile phone),

High usage costs,

Poor IT literacy and/or skills,

Privacy, safety and harassment concerns,

Other (please specify),

Additional information on the top 5 barriers preventing women from accessing digital technology in your country. (Please provide information in no more than 300 words including references and weblinks):

From the perspective of Canada's participation in the ITU addition to high costs of devices, usage, and connectivity, there is very little, if any substantive capacity building. That said, the main barriers are poverty and cultural/institutional challenges in many countries where women do not have the same rights as men. Limited access to digital devices in the home, women's lack of control over resources within the family. High usage costs: Canada recognizes that the digital gap needs to be addressed through equitable access to internet, technology, mobile phones; all of which have impact on women's ability to remain socially or economically active during the pandemic. Privacy, safety and harassment concerns Safety is a concern, and the extent to which it can be ensured that women and girls may safely access and use technologies. Canada is concerned that despite advances in science, technology, and innovation, significant gaps remain in deployment between LDCs and the rest of the world, and we need to support to build capacity and framework to scale up the development, deployment of and sustainable utilization of emerging technologies for the SDGs. Poor IT literacy and/or skills Digital literacy and skills need to be strengthened, as part of efforts to bridge digital and knowledge divides, as a prerequisite for inclusive participation in the digital economy. Innovation is needed to increase the relevance and impact of aid investments and enable new or improved locally-driven solutions for better results and greater and impact. With this, there is a need to ensure that women and girls are able to access new technologies and are involved in the innovation process from inception to testing and scale-up of innovative solutions to be themselves beneficiaries of innovations. There is also a need for an organized structure to bring about change, as well as to address cultural perceptions of women in STEM and support young girls who are interested in science, but also their teachers.

Q56

Looking ahead, in which trade sectors do you think future support for women's economic empowerment should be focussed?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Agriculture,**Industry,****Services,****Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the sectors in which future support for women's economic empowerment should be focussed.:

Other: Health Care, Education, Energy, Transportation, industry and services (women have a comparative advantage in services) Canada sees women's economic empowerment as applying to all sectors. However, Canada wants to give particular consideration to sectors dominated by women, such as the service sector. Under services, digital trade is an important area where future support for women's economic empowerment should be targeted. This support should aim at narrowing the digital gender divide, notably by focusing on empowering women entrepreneurs operating online businesses. Considering that many women entrepreneurs operating on digital platforms lack the necessary resources or skills to improve and/or manage their e-commerce business, future support needs to be focused on ensuring equity in learning opportunities is enhanced. For instance, workshops/programs, which offer training and mentoring, can improve women's digital literacy by providing girls and women the necessary information and technical skills to expand their digital capabilities. Agriculture is a key sector for Canada's international assistance, in particular for action areas "Growth that works for everyone" and "Environment and climate action". To achieve Canada's Feminist Policy objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Canada's support to agricultural development will focus on Gender Transformative Approaches in Agriculture (GTAAg). Canada supports programming at the intersection between women's rights and climate adaptation in order to better support sustainable and equitable resource management, agricultural production and access to markets. According to the 2011 FAO State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA), women make up 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries. Women's participation in agriculture varies by region, with the highest participation rates seen in Sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern and Southeastern Asia (nearly 50 percent). Despite their active participation in the agricultural sector, in 2018 the FAO estimates that globally less than 15 percent of all landholders are women. Secure land tenure is associated with higher levels of investment and productivity in agriculture. In most countries, women in rural areas who work for wages are more likely than men to hold seasonal, part-time and/or low-wage jobs (FAO, 2011).

Q57

Looking ahead, in which Aid-for-Trade categories do you think future support for women's economic empowerment should be focussed?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Trade policy and administrative management,

Trade facilitation,

(c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)

,

Transport and storage infrastructure,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Travel and tourism,

(f) Other trade related needs,

Additional information on the categories of Aid-for-Trade in which you think support should be focused so as to advance sustainable development.:

Canada sees women's economic empowerment as applying to all sectors and categories. However, Canada wants to give particular consideration to sectors dominated by women, such as the service sector. Under services, digital trade is an important area where future support for women's economic empowerment should be targeted. This support should aim at narrowing the digital gender divide, notably by focusing on empowering women entrepreneurs operating online businesses. Considering that many women entrepreneurs operating on digital platforms lack the necessary resources or skills to improve and/or manage their e-commerce business, future support needs to be focused on ensuring equity in learning opportunities is enhanced. For instance, workshops/programs, which offer training and mentoring, can improve women's digital literacy by providing girls and women the necessary information and technical skills to expand their digital capabilities. Empowering women within value chains, especially downstream in value-added segments like food processing, can improve livelihoods and transform the food system. According to a 2018 OECD/West African Papers report, off-farm employment in food related processing and service activities have been increasing. Women have higher representation in off-farm employment in the food sector, like food processing and food service, than men (37% of women vs. 11% of men) (OECD, 2018). Investments in the downstream activities of the food system have the potential to empower women within the food system and increase livelihoods.

Q58

You may use the box below to elaborate on how you think that Aid for Trade can advance women's economic empowerment.

nil

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Q59

CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply):

Domestic consultations only: Natural Resources Canada; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Innovation, Science, Economic Development Canada; Employment, Social Development Canada; Heritage Canada; FinDev Canada; Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
