DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE ON AID FOR TRADE

This questionnaire is intended to solicit information about the progress made since the 2008 self assessment. It focuses in particular on the outcomes of aid-for-trade strategies and programmes to further knowledge sharing among stakeholders.
For further details or additional forms please visit www.oecd.org/dac/aft/questionnaire or contact the secretariats of the OECD (aft.monitoring@oecd.org) or the WTO (aft.monitoring@wto.org).

COUNTRY: Finland

A. YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

1. HAS YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY CHANGED SINCE 2008?

YES ☒	NO ☐	NOT SURE ☐	NOT APPLICABLE ☐

1.1 If YES, please rate the importance of each of the following changes?

Greater focus on:	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
• Economic growth	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
• Poverty reduction	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
• Climate change and green growth	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
• Gender equality	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
• Regional integration	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
• Monitoring and evaluating results	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Different geographic focus	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Please specify: Finland's AFT Action Plan has remained unchanged since launch in 2008. However, some new issues have emerged which were not identified in the Action Plan: geographical expansion of cooperation to Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South Caucasus on one hand, and to the Western Balkans on the other. In terms of overall funding allocations, the expansion has not been very important.					
Different thematic focus	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Please specify: There is also an increased thematic focus on investment and development.					
Phasing out of aid for trade	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

Please specify: Cooperation with the Ministry of Employment and the Economy on development issues has intensified; and stronger emphasis on mobilization of the entire Finnish society, especially private sector, in development cooperation.

1.2 If YES, please rate the importance of the following driving forces behind these changes:

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
The economic crisis	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
Changed priorities in the development strategies of partner countries	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
Changed priorities in the development strategies of regional bodies	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
Change of national government	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
Changes in bilateral trade and investment relations	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
Changed priorities in your development cooperation	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
New research, approaches, or aid instruments	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
More focus on triangular co-operation	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please specify: These derive both from political and technical reasons. The priorities have not changed much but the emphasis is increasingly on private sector and whole-of-society engagement as well as the greater preparedness of the Finnish society to get involved.

2. LOOKING AHEAD TO 2013, IS YOUR GOVERNMENT PLANNING ANY CHANGES TO ITS AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY?

YES ☒	NO ☐	NOT SURE ☐	NOT APPLICABLE ☐

2.1 If YES, please rate the importance of the changes your government is planning:

Greater focus on:	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
Economic growth	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Poverty reduction	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Climate change and green growth	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Gender equality	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Regional integration	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Monitoring and evaluating results	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Different geographic focus	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please specify: Finland's Aid for Trade Action Plan (as well as the entire Development Policy) will be renewed due to a transition resulting from elections in April 2011 and a new government. The new priorities will build upon the results of the upcoming AFT evaluation, experiences and political priorities. Specificities are naturally not yet known.					
Different thematic focus	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Please specify:					
Phasing out of aid for trade	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Please specify:					

B. YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE FINANCING

DEMAND

3. HAS THE DEMAND FOR AID FOR TRADE FROM YOUR PARTNER COUNTRIES CHANGED SINCE 2008?

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED ☒	INCREASED ☐	LITTLE/NO CHANGE ☐	DECLINED ☐	NOT SURE ☐

3.1 If the demand increased, please describe from which countries and for which type of aid for trade: Basically the demand has increased from all our long-term partner countries as well as in the form of regional cooperation. The demand has increased particularly from those countries in which Finland has launched sizeable sector programs in agriculture, forestry, energy, information society and private sector development: Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and Vietnam an well as reginally from East and Southern Africa, Mekong region, and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South Caucasus. The most common types of AFT are productive capacity and economic infrastructure but increasingly also trade development.

4. HAS THE DEMAND FOR AID FOR TRADE FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES CHANGED SINCE 2008?

SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED ☐	INCREASED ☐	LITTLE/NO CHANGE ☒	DECLINED ☐	NOT SURE ☐

4.1 If the demand increased, please describe from which regions and for which type of aid for trade: The demand has increased for regional cooperation but not really for regional integration.

RESOURCES

5. HAVE YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE RESOURCES INCREASED SINCE 2008?

YES ☒	NO ☐	NOT SURE ☐

6. DOES YOUR AGENCY HAVE INDICATIVE FORWARD SPENDING PLANS?

YES ☒	NO ☐	NOT SURE ☐

6.1. If YES, do these forward spending plans include estimates for aid for trade?		
YES ☒	NO ☐	NOT SURE ☐

6.2 If YES, please specify these estimates: The most straighforward spending plan is that of trade-reated assistance channeled through multilateral trade and development organizations and funds. Finland also has country-specific spending plans as well as those for regional cooperation but the country-specific plans are categorized according to projects and programs which include a good number of AFT-related activities but are not necessarily exclusively AFT, an example of which would be an energy and environment partnership program.

C. IMPLEMENTING YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

7. IN HOW MANY OF YOUR POLICY DIALOGUES IS TRADE NOW A REGULAR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION?

	> 75%	75% - 50%	50% - 25%	< 25%	NOT SURE	NOT APPLICABLE
With partner countries	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
With regional communities	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

8. IS THIS AN IMPROVEMENT COMPARED TO 2008?

	SIGNIFICANT	MODERATE	LITTLE/NONE	NOT SURE	NOT APPLICABLE
With partner countries	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
With regional communities	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

9. IS THE PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVED IN YOUR DIALOGUE?

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE
With partner countries	☐	☒	☐	☐
With regional communities	☐	☒	☐	☐

9.1 Please describe and provide examples of your experience in dialogues that involve the private sector: The involvement of the private sector in appraising the Private Sector Development Reform Programme II in Zambia contributed to our analysis of the program and design of our involvement. In Vietnam, there is a dialogue with the private sector (Vietnam Business Forum) before each high-level donor-Vietnam governement policy dialogue takes place. A more appropriate answer to question 9. would be "often" or "nearly always".

10. IS CIVIL SOCIETY INVOLVED IN YOUR DIALOGUE?

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE
With partner countries	☐	☒	☐	☐
With regional communities	☐	☐	☒	☐

10.1 Please describe and provide examples of your experience in dialogues that involve civil society: The involvement of the civil society in appraising the Private Sector Development Reform Programme II in Zambia contributed to our analysis of the program and design of our involvement.

11. ARE YOU HARMONISING YOUR STRATEGY WITH OTHER DONORS BETTER NOW THAN YOU WERE BEFORE 2008?

SIGNIFICANTLY ☐	MODERATELY ☒	RARELY/NEVER ☐	NOT SURE ☐	NOT APPLICABLE ☐

11.1 If you are harmonising better, how often do you use the following approaches?

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE
Joint needs assessment	☐	☒	☐	☐
Co-financing	☐	☒	☐	☐
Sector-wide approaches	☐	☒	☐	☐
Joint implementation	☐	☒	☐	☐
Common monitoring	☐	☒	☐	☐
Joint evaluation	☐	☒	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please specify: Finland participates in some SWAps, pooled funding arrangements and trust funds which include all the above. In Zambia up to now, all Finnish AFT/Private Sector Development (PSD) activities have been implemented under a comprehensive PSD Reform Program umbrella which provides for a joint design-implementation-monitoring frame-work for a broad range of PSD-activities..

12. HAS ALIGNMENT OF YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PROGRAMME IMPROVED SINCE 2008?

	SIGNIFICANT	MODERATE	LITTLE/ NONE	NOT SURE	NOT APPLICABLE
With partner country priorities	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
With the Enhanced integrated Framework	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
With regional priorities	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

Please elaborate with examples: Since the launch of AFT Action Plan in 2008, AFT has become a standard element of all bilateral cooperation dialogues and hence contributed to significantly improved alignment with partners country priorities. At the regional level, AFT is not yet as strongly present as bilaterally at the country level. Alignment with the EIF has also moderately improved in concert with Finland's heavily increased multilateral funding to the EIF Program in Geneva; the most improved country-level alignment is in Zambia where Finland acts also as the EIF Donor Facilitator. However, there is significant variation between countries.

12.1. How many of your aid-for-trade programmes are aligned around trade priorities of?

	> 75%	75% - 50%	50% - 25%	< 25%	NOT SURE	NOT APPLICABLE
Partner countries' development strategies	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The DTIS Action Matrix (for LDCs)	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
Regional organisations development strategies	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

13. HAS THE MONITORING OF YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PROGRAMMES IMPROVED SINCE 2008?

SIGNIFICANTLY ☒	MODERATELY ☐	RARELY/NEVER ☐	NOT SURE ☐

13.1 If there have been improvements, how often do you:

	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE
Use your own monitoring	☐	☒	☐	☐
Rely on partner countries' monitoring processes	☐	☒	☐	☐
Use joint monitoring arrangements	☐	☒	☐	☐

13.2 Please provide examples and describe your experience with monitoring your aid-for-trade programmes: ***Joint monitoring is relied on in SWAps, other joint funding arrangement and trust funds. In sector programs, such as the Private Sector Development Reform Programme II in Zambia, the partner country's monitoring processes are used. Finland monitors bilateral projects and programs also by itself. Monitoring of multilateral AFT has been intensified through periodic monitoring missions and focused evaluations.***

D. IS YOUR AID FOR TRADE WORKING?

14. DOES YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY DEFINE CLEAR OBJECTIVES?

YES	NO	NOT SURE	NOT APPLICABLE
☒	☐	☐	☐

14.1 If YES, what are the objectives of your aid-for-trade strategy?

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Enhanced understanding of the role of trade in economic development (awareness)	☐	☒	☐	☐
Increased trade profile (mainstreaming)	☐	☒	☐	☐
Larger aid-for-trade flows	☐	☒	☐	☐
Increased exports	☐	☒	☐	☐
Increased trade	☐	☒	☐	☐
Export diversification	☐	☒	☐	☐
Increased economic growth	☒	☐	☐	☐
Reduced poverty	☒	☐	☐	☐
Greater environmental sustainability	☐	☒	☐	☐
Greater gender equality	☐	☒	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please specify:

15. WHAT IS THE SHARE OF YOUR AID FOR TRADE PROGRAMMES THAT CONTAIN QUANTIFIABLE OBJECTIVES?

> 75% ☐	75% - 50% ☐	50% - 25% ☐	< 25% ☒	NOT SURE ☐	NOT APPLICABLE ☐

16. HAS YOUR GOVERNMENT EVALUATED ITS AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY, PROGRAMMES OR PROJECTS?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Overall strategy	☐	☒	☐
Programmes and projects	☒	☐	☐
Both	☐	☐	☐

16.1 If YES, please provide a copy of the(se) evaluation(s) when submitting this questionnaire.

16.2 If NO, is your government planning an evaluation of its:

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Overall strategy	☒	☐	☐
Programmes and projects	☒	☐	☐
Both	☒	☐	☐

16.3 If YES, for which year is the evaluation planned?

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Overall strategy	☐	☒	☐	☐
Programmes and projects	☒	☒	☒	☒
Both	☐	☐	☐	☐

17. PLEASE RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING CHALLENGES IN EVALUATING YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS:

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Difficulty in identifying quantifiable objectives	☒	☐	☐	☐
Difficulty in obtaining in-country data	☐	☐	☒	☐
Absence of suitable indicators	☐	☒	☐	☐
Budgetary constraints	☐	☐	☐	☒
Ability of in-country staff to collect and report data	☐	☐	☒	☐
Ability of project partners to collect and report data	☐	☒	☐	☐
Difficulty of assigning trade outcomes to the programme	☒	☐	☐	☐
Difficulty in identifying quantifiable objectives	☒	☐	☐	☐

18. ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR EXAMPLES OF YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PROCESSES, PROGRAMMES OR PROJECTS THAT HAVE OBTAINED GOOD RESULTS THAT YOU THINK COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD PRACTICES?

Please list and describe:

1)THE EIF PROGRAMME AT THE COUNRY LEVEL IN ZAMBIA HAS RAISED THE PROFILE OF TRADE AND IT HAS CONTRIBUTE TO COORDINATION AND ALIGNMENT OF DONOR ACTIVITIES TO THE COUNTRY'S OWN PRIORITIES. FINLAND, AS THE EIF DONOR FACILITATOR IN ZAMBIA, HAS PREPARED CASE STORIES TOGHETHER WITH ZAMBIA ON THE EIF THAT HIGHLIGHTS BOTH GOOD PRACICES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROGRAMME.

2) FINLAND HAS ORGANIZED AFT SEMINARS AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL (ZAMBIA, VIETNAM, TANZANIA) FOR THE PURPOSE OF SENSITIZING THE STAFF IN FINNISH EMBASSIES, BUILDING DIALOGUE WITH MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS BOTH IN FINLAND AND AT THE COUNTRY/REGIONAL LEVELS, AS WELL AS TOGETHER DEVELOPING CONCRETE IDEAS OF COOPERATION POSSIBILITIES.

3) IDLO'S (INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION) AFT PROGRAM IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, ESP. IN ZAMBIA, HAS TRAINED SUCCESSFULLY AND SUSTAINABLY PARTNER COUNTRY STAKEHOLDERS BOTH FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS WELL AS FROM THE CIVIL SOCIETY.

4) THE WIDER EUROPE INITIATIVE (WEI) IS A NEW OPENING IN FINLAND´S DEVELOPMENT POLICY FOR EAST EUROPE, SOUTH CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA. IT INCLUDES A LONG TERM PARTNERSHIP WITH UNDP TO PROVIDE TRADE RELATED ASSISTANCE TO THE REGION TO FOSTER INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE 1ST PHASE COMPRISED TRADE NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PILOT PROJECTS THAT IS FOLLOWED BY A BROADER AFT SUPPORT PROGRAMME IN THE 2ND PHASE IN 2011 – 2013.

19. DOES YOUR GOVERNMENT CONSIDER IT USEFUL TO MONITOR AID FOR TRADE AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL?

VERY USEFUL ☐	USEFUL ☒	NOT USEFUL ☐	NOT SURE ☐

20. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS MAJOR CHALLENGES OR AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN MONITORING AID FOR TRADE AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL?

Please describe and provide examples: **FOCUSING OF MONITORING ON RESULTS, OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS RATHER THAN AID FLOWS; TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OF CROSS-CUTTING THEMES; JOINT AGREEMENT ON THE DEFINITION OF INDICATORS; PRODUCTION OF OBJECTIVE, VERIFIABLE AND RELIABLE DATA. GLOBAL MONITORING NEEDS TO BE ANCHORED AT LOCAL LEVEL MONITORING AND POLICY DIALOGUE. RESULTS CAN BE HIGHLIGHTED AT GLOBAL LEVEL, BUT DETAILED AND SUBSTANTIAL DISCUSSIONS CAN MOSTLY TAKE PLACE AT THE NATIONAL/LOCAL LEVEL.**