



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



Page 2: ABOUT YOU

Q1

Respondent

Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid), Ireland

Q2

About you

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Page 3: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q3

Yes

Do you have development cooperation strategy(ies) or policy(ies)?

Page 4: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q4

If yes, does your development cooperation strategy(ies) or policy(ies) include trade priorities?Explanatory notes: For example, the UK's policy paper on international development published in May 2022 states that the UK will support countries to increase their exports, increase trade with the UK, build sustainable and resilient global supply chains that benefit all, and tackle market distorting practices and economic policies. The policy paper outlines various ways in which these trade priorities will be advanced.

Yes,

If yes, please provide further details including hyperlinks to relevant documents containing trade priorities.: A Better World commits to promoting inclusive economic growth and trade and to “support initiatives that seek to foster trade and investment” as well as helping “developing countries build their domestic and international trade capacity and infrastructure to ensure that they can access the economic benefits of expanded regional and global trade opportunities”. DFA's Africa Strategy includes “inclusive economic growth and mutually beneficial trade and investment” as a strategic objective. Specifically, the strategy commits to supporting regional economic integration and the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement, including by sharing Ireland's experience of regional integration. The strategy also commits to stepping up support for the rules-based multi-lateral trading system, with the World Trade Organisation at its core, to ensure that African countries can participate in and benefit fully from free and open trade, including the WTO's Aid for Trade Initiative.

Page 5: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q5

Yes

Does your development cooperation strategy(ies) or policy(ies) have a thematic focus?

Page 6: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q6

If yes, please choose options from the non-exhaustive list of thematic options of key strategic objectives below. (If an objective(s) do not appear in the drop-down list, please tick other and add details in the text box. Please tick all relevant boxes.)

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS:

- '
- Expansion of the agriculture sector,**
- Human capital development (e.g. education through skills, training and health)**
- '
- Women's economic empowerment and gender equality**
- '
- Institutional strengthening (e.g. good governance, transparency and accountability)**
- '
- Social protection,**
- Promotion of peace/security and development,**
- Climate change adaptation,**
- Food security,**

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

'

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:

'

Additional information on thematic issues:
Ireland's policy priorities focus on the "Furthest Behind First" with a strong focus on LDCs and SIDS

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Q7

Do the trade priorities found in your development plan or strategy include partner country specific development objectives or targets ? Explanatory notes: For example, the International Trade Centre's Strategic Plan for the period 2022-2025 contains several targets, including: to support 75,000 micro, small and medium sized enterprises, 1,200 business support organizations and develop at least 400 trade-related policies, strategies and regulations (depending on the level of funding received).

Other (please specify):
Not directly but the AfT partners we support all have specific objectives and targets including in relation to targeting of LDCs which is a priority issue for Ireland (International Trade Centre, Advisory Centre for WTO Law, Standards in Trade and Development Facility, UNCTAD's Port Management Programme). In addition, country strategic plans are developed at Embassy level

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Q8**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, choose options from the non-exhaustive list of options of key strategic objectives found in your development strategies/plans. (If an objective(s) or target* do not appear in the list below, please tick other and add details in the text box. Please tick relevant boxes).

Page 9: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION STRATEGIES

Q9

Do you have a separate trade and development policy or strategy (e.g. an Aid for Trade strategy)? Explanatory notes: For example, the European Union published an updated Aid-for-Trade strategy in 2017 and has published annual progress reports on the strategy's implementation.

Other (please specify: e.g. strategy expired, new strategy under discussion etc.)

Additional information on the presence of a separate trade and development policy or strategy, such as an Aid for Trade strategy: If yes, please provide further details, including dates the strategy covers and hyperlinks to relevant documents. If no, please indicate if there is another development cooperation strategy or policy that includes trade targets (e.g. a multiyear strategic plan issued by a development finance institution): Ireland's Africa Strategy has a strong focus on supporting "inclusive economic growth and mutually beneficial trade and investment" including a commitment to support Aid for Trade. As noted above there are no specific institutional trade targets in the strategy but we do require our partners to commit to specific targets including in relation to engaging with LDCs.

Page 10: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION STRATEGIES

Q10

Do the priorities, themes and sectoral objectives found in your Aid-for-Trade programming align with the trade priorities found in your development strategy(ies)?

Yes, in part,

Additional information on the alignment between the priorities, themes, and sectoral objectives found in your Aid-for-Trade programming and the trade priorities in your development strategy(ies):: Yes given the strong focus on LDCs as well as supporting women's economic empowerment and food systems strengthening, both of which have a trade dimension.

Page 11: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION STRATEGIES

Q11**No**

Does your development cooperation policy or Aid-for-Trade strategy include objectives or targets for partner countries?

Q12

If yes, please tick relevant boxes and provide further details, including hyperlinks to relevant documents. If no, please indicate in the text box under the question choices whether there is another trade and development cooperation strategy or policy that includes specific objectives or targets.

- Increased competitiveness,
- Expansion of agricultural exports,
- Expansion of manufactured exports,
- Expansion of services exports,
- Expansion of MSME sector exports,
- Improvements in trade facilitation,
- Climate change related objectives (e.g. reduction in emissions associated with trade)

- Export-related environmental protection objectives,
- Better export performance,

Additional information on objectives or targets for partner countries included in your development cooperation policy or Aid-for-Trade strategy. Please include hyperlinks to relevant documents::

The above objectives apply to our portfolio of Aid for Trade partners who work in these areas

Q13

Do you have targets in other development strategies that may have trade priorities or influence your Aid-for-Trade financing? Explanatory notes: For example, USAID's climate strategy for the period 2022-2030 includes six targets that have relevance for overall trade cooperation and development policy. These targets include: mitigating 6 billion tons of CO2 equivalent; conserving, restoring or managing 100 million hectares or natural ecosystems; enabling improved climate resilience for 500 billion people; mobilizing USD 150 billion in public and private climate finance; supporting 80 countries; increasing equitable engagement with 40 country partnerships.

Yes,

Additional information on whether you have targets in other development strategies that may have trade priorities or influence your Aid-for-Trade financing:: A Better World includes a commitment to strengthen investment in Women's Economic Empowerment with a specific focus on agriculture. Ireland International Climate Finance Roadmap includes a range of targets including in relation to climate financing and engaging with the private sector.

Page 12: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q14

Does your development cooperation or Aid-for-Trade strategy include sectoral objectives? Explanatory notes: For example, one sectoral focus of Korea's International Cooperation Agency development cooperation strategy is promoting the mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation in ODA projects by establishing its Science, Technology and Innovation Mid-Term Strategy (2021-2025). The goal to support inclusive growth based on science and technology by improving the innovation system of partner countries. Korea's strategy also focuses on education, health, governance, agriculture and rural development, energy, water, transportation, climate change and gender equality.

Yes

Page 13: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q15

If yes, please tick relevant boxes and provide further details, including hyperlinks to relevant documents. If no, please indicate if there is another development cooperation strategy or policy that includes specific objectives or targets. (Please tick relevant boxes.)

Agriculture,

Education services,

Additional information on sectoral objectives included in your development cooperation or Aid-for-Trade strategy::
Ireland's priorities as set out in A Better World are focused on prioritising gender equality, strengthening governance, reducing humanitarian need and climate action. In line with these priorities our aim is to support trade which is both inclusive and sustainable.

Page 14: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q16

Does your development cooperation or Aid-for-Trade strategy include regional objectives? Explanatory notes: For example, the New Zealand's Aid Programme has a particular focus on the Pacific Islands region.

Yes

Page 15: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q17

If yes, please identify the relevant economic community(ies): (Please tick relevant boxes.)

African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA),

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

,

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS),

,

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

,

Southern African Development Community (SADC),

Pacific Alliance,

East African Community (EAC),

Additional information on relevant economic communities::

Ireland's international development co-operation, including its approach to Aid for Trade, has a specific focus on LDCs, fragile states and Small Island Developing States

Page 16: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Q18

Yes

Do you have priority areas in which you provide Aid-for-Trade support?

Page 17: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Q19

If yes, please identify the priority areas of Aid for Trade in which you are actively providing support*. (Please tick relevant boxes.)--* If you would like to indicate climate change related priorities, please tick related boxes below (e.g. energy supply and generation infrastructure) and add relevant notes in the text box. Likewise for gender equality, please tick the relevant boxes (e.g. trade development) and add a note in the comment box.

Trade facilitation,

Trade education/training,

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)

,

Agriculture,

OTHER TRADE-RELATED NEEDS,

TRADE POLICY AND REGULATIONS (Including training of trade officials, analysis of proposals and positions and their impact, support for stakeholders to articulate commercial interest and identify trade-offs, dispute issues, institutional and technical support to undertake trade reform/facilitate implementation of trade agreements and to adapt to and comply with rules and standards)

,

Additional information on the priority areas of Aid for Trade in which you are actively providing support::

Ireland's Aid for Trade partners are as follows: International Trade Centre, Advisory Centre for WTO Law, Standards and Development Facility, French-Irish Internship Programme and UNCTAD's Port Management Training Programme. We are providing core support to these organisations which work across a range of priorities and sectors. In addition, a number of our Embassies support Trade Mark Africa with a particular focus on supporting women-led MSME's working on cross-border trade. Sustainable Food Systems Ireland is working agri-food authorities in Vietnam to enhance sustainable production systems, food safety, certification and trade development

Page 18: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Q20

Which financing instruments do you use to implement your trade and development cooperation (i.e. Aid-for-Trade) priorities? For example, the Swiss economic development cooperation strategy for 2021-24 promotes innovative private-sector initiatives and the mobilisation of private resources. In this regard, the Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM) is a central instrument and focuses on four business lines: access to finance (including fintech, MSMEs and gender), infrastructure financing, integration in value chains and corporate social responsibility. For example, Development Alliance Korea (DAK) is Korea's first and largest innovation Public-Private Partnership platform joined by government, the private sector, civil society, and academia, with aim of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Please provide information in the box below:

Annual and multi-annual financing agreements with a range of partners as set out in previous responses

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Q21

Is there a form of aid, finance or other financial assistance for trade that you are seeking to expand? If so, is there an accompanying strategy to leverage this source of finance? For example, the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) is the newest U.S. government agency, launched in December 2019 with a mandate to partner with the private sector to finance solutions to the most critical challenges facing the developing world while advancing America's foreign policy goals abroad. The DFC offers loans, loan guarantees, equity investments, political risk insurance, technical assistance, and feasibility studies to drive significant amounts of private capital into challenging developing markets to address local needs.

Other (please specify),

Additional information on forms of aid, finance, or other financial assistance for trade that you are seeking to expand, and on accompanying strategies to leverage finance::

We are working closely with partners at EU level to support the work of the European Investment Bank and the European Fund for Sustainable Development to increase levels of financing available in the developing world. The EU's Global Gateway is also a key initiative to strengthen investment in the developing world including in support of inclusive and sustainable trade.

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Q22

What difficulties do you face in mobilizing financing to implement your Aid for Trade and development cooperation (i.e. Aid-for-Trade) objectives? (Please tick relevant boxes.)

Respondent skipped this question

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Q23

Are you providing an increasing share of Aid for Trade in the form of loans and a declining share of grants?

No

 Page 22: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION
Q24

If yes, does this situation present a challenge for your partner countries?

Respondent skipped this question

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Q25**No**

Do you plan to stop providing Aid for Trade? Has a date been set to achieve this objective ? (e.g. a date to stop providing foreign aid?)

Page 24: SECTION E: ALIGNMENT OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q26

How well aligned is the Aid-for-Trade support you provide with the trade priorities of partner countries and regional organizations?

Mostly aligned,

Please specify if this is an official perspective or the personal opinion of the respondent::

Personal opinion

Q27

What challenges do you encounter in aligning the Aid-for-Trade support you provide with the sectoral financing needs of partner countries and regional organizations? (Please tick relevant boxes.)

Difficulties associated with cross-sectoral approaches (e.g. e-commerce development)

‘

Lack of donor coordination,

Human capacity constraints to developing bankable projects

‘

Lack of partner country ownership,

Weak institutional capacity (e.g. lack of coordination at domestic level)

Page 25: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q28

Does your development cooperation strategy include a monitoring or results framework?

Other (please specify),

Additional information on whether your development cooperation strategy includes a monitoring or results framework::

While there is no overarching monitoring or results framework at institutional level we do work closely with partners to ensure results are agreed and a monitoring framework is set out. In addition, monitoring frameworks are developed at country level for country strategies

Q29

Do you align your monitoring and evaluations activities with the monitoring or results framework of partner countries?

Yes, with partners' development strategies,

Additional information on whether you align your monitoring and evaluation activities with the monitoring or results framework of partner countries::

Yes at country level, all country strategies are closely aligned with partner Government priorities as set out in national development plans.

Q30 Do you measure the impacts of the Aid-for-Trade support you provide? Other (please specify):
All of partners have monitoring frameworks although measuring impacts of Aft initiatives on income and poverty levels remains challenging

Page 26: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q31 If yes, where is Aid for Trade having a measurable impact in your opinion?(Please select relevant boxes.) Respondent skipped this question

Page 27: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q32 Is there an Aid-for-Trade project or programme that you would like to highlight as an example of best practice? No

Page 28: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q33 Do you foresee a continued need to provide Aid-for-Trade financing ? Yes, to address all development priorities linked to trade

Page 29: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q34 If yes, please identify the categories of Aid-for-Trade support in which you foresee future needs.(Please select relevant boxes.)

TRADE POLICY AND REGULATIONS (Including training of trade officials, analysis of proposals and positions and their impact, support for stakeholders to articulate commercial interest and identify trade-offs, dispute issues, institutional and technical support to undertake trade reform/facilitate implementation of trade agreements and to adapt to and comply with rules and standards)

,

TRADE-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE (Including physical infrastructure)

,

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)

Page 30: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q35

Do you foresee future need for Aid for Trade to support the achievement of trade-related aspects of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda ?Explanatory notes: For example, the Government of Canada works with partners and stakeholders to advance the 2030 Agenda through concrete actions on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Yes,

Additional information on whether you foresee a future need for Aid for Trade to support the achievement of trade-related aspects of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda::

There will certainly be a need for Aid for Trade to support the achievement of the 2030 SDG agenda , in particular to ensure that trade growth is both inclusive and sustainable.

Page 31: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q36

If yes, please indicate which SDGs are referenced in your development cooperation or Aid-for-Trade strategy. (Please select relevant boxes.)

GOAL 1: No Poverty,

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger,

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being,

GOAL 4: Quality Education,

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation,

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy,

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth,

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality,

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities,

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production,

GOAL 13: Climate Action,

GOAL 14: Life Below Water,

GOAL 15: Life on Land,

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions,

GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal,

GOAL 5: Gender Equality

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Q37

Do you foresee future needs for Aid-for-Trade to support the trade-related aspects of climate change ?

Yes,

Additional information on whether you anticipate future needs for Aid-for-Trade to support trade-related aspects of climate change::

Yes certainly. There is a need to ensure that trade can play its potentially positive role in addressing the impacts of climate change as well as ensuring the negative climate change implication of trade are addressed