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Q1

THE NETHERLANDS

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

Q2

About you

Name

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Page 7: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES (YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES)

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):

Policy Strategy Minister Kaag "Investing in global prospects for the world and for the Netherlands: Policy Document on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation"

(<https://www.government.nl/documents/policy-notes/2018/05/18/investing-in-global-prospects>). Digital Strategy Minister Kaag "Digital Agenda for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation"

(<https://www.government.nl/documents/policy-notes/2019/07/31/digital-agenda-for-foreign-trade-and-development-cooperation-bhos>).

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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).

E-commerce	5
MSMEs growth and development	3
Regional integration	2
Trade facilitation	1
Women's economic empowerment (please specify in the box below: rural women, women-owned businesses, women-led businesses, female workers, etc.)	4

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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).: Since 2019 we have additionally included the following topics in our Aid-for-Trade agenda: services trade, digital trade & e-commerce, climate change and trade, safe trade for COVID-19 challenges.

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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

,

Economic and trade impact of COVID-19 pandemic, Continental or regional policy instruments (e.g. AfCFTA)

,

E-commerce development (and digital transformation)

,

Expansion of developing countries' services sectors and/or trade in services

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Q7

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

Same

Q8**Yes**

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

Q9**Yes**

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

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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).

E-commerce,
Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy
 ,
Job creation,
MSME support,
Poverty reduction objectives,
Preparedness, recovery and resilience,
Trade in health products (PPE, vaccines, etc.),
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.

Policy Strategy (2017-2021) "Investing in global prospects for the world and for the Netherlands: Policy Document on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation" (<https://www.government.nl/documents/policy-notes/2018/05/18/investing-in-global-prospects>).

Digital Strategy (2017-2021) "Digital Agenda for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation" (<https://www.government.nl/documents/policy-notes/2019/07/31/digital-agenda-for-foreign-trade-and-development-cooperation-bhos>).

EU Aid for Trade Report - 2021 (https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/eu-aid-for-trade-progress-report-2021_en.pdf).

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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):

Sustainable development is reflected in our development policy documents. Also in our Aid-for-Trade agenda we started to integrate issues of circular economy and research and analyses on the nexus trade – climate. However the environmental dimension of sustainable development is to be integrated more broadly/deeply in the economic domain of our development policy, including on Aid-for-Trade. It will become a crucial part of our policy in 2022 and onwards.

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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,

Sustainable trade strategy, policy or plan,

Strategy, policy or plan for circular economy/sustainable consumption and production patterns

,

Strategy, policy or plan for COVID-19 recovery

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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).

Sustainable Production and Consumption (SDG 12),

Climate Action (SDG 13),

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.:

Our Aid for Trade agenda and development strategy both include promotion of sustainable value chains, promotion of circular solutions to trade, promotion of sustainable consumption & production, and support for research and analyses on the climate-trade nexus.

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 Netherlands strategy for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2017-2021) is based on the SDGs.

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Q16

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

Yes

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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?

No,

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.:

Not directly, only through partners like the EU, World Bank and UNCTAD.

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Q18

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

Respondent skipped this question

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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,

Industry,

Services

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).

Mining,

Industry

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,**
- Dependence on a narrow basket of goods and services**
- ,
- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,**
- Existing transport infrastructure,**
- High concentration of economic activity in the informal sector**
- ,
- Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**
- Social pressures (poverty, population growth),**
- Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

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)

- Business climate,**
- Developing countries' political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Existing transport infrastructure,**
- Gender inequality,**
- High concentration of economic activity in the informal sector**
- ,
- High trade costs,**
- Limited economic and export diversification,**
- Social pressures (poverty, population growth)**

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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).: The Netherlands development strategy and Aid for Trade agenda include objectives towards a circular economy. In combination with the Circular Dutch economy by 2050 (<https://www.government.nl/topics/circular-economy/circular-dutch-economy-by-2050>). The Netherlands is a member of the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE), in which more than 40 countries, companies and international organisations work together.

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Q24

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

Agriculture,**Industry,****Services****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).:

The Circular Dutch economy by 2050 includes actions on trade (<https://www.government.nl/topics/circular-economy/circular-dutch-economy-by-2050>).

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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 Agenda for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

(<https://www.government.nl/documents/policy-notes/2019/07/31/digital-agenda-for-foreign-trade-and-development-cooperation-bhos>).

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).:

A number of our Aid for Trade activities focus on the Digital Economy and E-commerce, such as our support to the UNCTAD work on E-commerce & Digital Economy.

Q28

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

Agriculture,**Services****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).

E-commerce,**E-government,****Innovation and technology for gender equality,****Smart work,****Transport information systems**

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?

Yes,

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):
We would like to showcase the UNCTAD work on E-commerce and Digital Development (<https://unctad.org/topic/ecommerce-and-digital-economy>) for the promotion of digital trade for sustainable development, including technical assistance for eTrade Readiness Assessments and implementation of the recommendations (<https://unctad.org/news/dutch-funding-set-boost-unctads-work-e-commerce-and-digital-economy>), support to the eTrade for All initiative and the eTrade for Women initiative (<https://unctad.org/news/building-communities-women-digital-entrepreneurs>). The UNCTAD-led eTrade for Women initiative is creating regional networks to help women digital entrepreneurs access the resources needed to succeed and contribute to sustainable development.

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**Q32**

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

Inadequate network infrastructure including broadband capacity**Insufficient or uneven internet coverage,****Poor access to internet services,****Rules relating to e-commerce need updating,****Slow, expensive or unreliable internet services**

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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,**Industry,****Services**

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 facilitation,

Regional trade agreements (RTAs),

(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)

,

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

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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).

Additional information on the partners to which you provide Aid-for-Trade financing for the environmental dimension of sustainable development.:

Most of the Netherlands support is channeled through multilateral, regional programs, sme support programs and sustainable value chain support. Focus regions are: East Africa, West-Africa, and MENA.

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).

Respondent skipped this question

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?

The Netherlands Trust Fund V (NTF V - <https://www.intracen.org/NTF5/>) programme was approved in July 2021 and will run until June 2025. The programme is based on a partnership agreement signed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands and the International Trade Centre. Its ambition is to contribute to rebuilding back better in the targeted countries with a focus on MSMEs in the digital technologies and agribusiness sectors, linking up both for synergies and business opportunities.

The programme covers both sectors in Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal, as well as a multi-country approach aimed at the digital technologies sector in Ivory Coast, Benin, Mali and Uganda. It also includes a follow-up project to support the tourism industry in Myanmar. As previous NTF programmes, NTF V will be jointly implemented with the Dutch Centre for the promotion of exports from developing countries (CBI).

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Q38**Unsure**

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?

Q39**No**

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

Q40**Respondent skipped this question**

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

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Q41**Yes**

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

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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

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

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Q44

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

Yes

Q45

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

Difficult working conditions,
Difficulties in meeting regulatory and procedural requirements
 ,
Harassment, security and safety issues,
Informal employment,
Poor access to information,
Poor access to professional bodies (e.g., chambers of commerce)
 ,
Restricted access to markets,
Smaller sized business,
Unpaid care and domestic work

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.:
 Aid-for-Trade can and should play a role in addressing these constraints.

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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.:

The Aid for Trade programs we supported between 2015-2020 almost all finance women's economic empowerment. In particular on trade facilitation (Trade Mark East Africa, Trade Facilitation West Africa and with a strong gender policy of the WB and IFC) and sustainable trade chains (decent work and living wage by ILO Better Work, IDH and Solidaridad), we have invested significantly in more opportunities for women to improve their wealth. Women make up half of the population, but are still the largest untapped reservoir of talent in the world. It is smart to support women entrepreneurship, empower women to become entrepreneurs that they want to be. Critical challenges for women to be successful in business and trade, like access to finance, access to markets and gender specific trade barriers, need to be tackled.

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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.

Respondent skipped this question

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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,**
- Developing Access to trade related infrastructure,**
- Capacity-strengthening initiatives,**
- Increasing women's participation in services sectors,**
- Facilitating access to digital technologies and e-commerce platforms**
- ,
- Facilitating access to trade finance,**
- Facilitating access to trade-related information,**
- Facilitating women's traders' inclusion in Global Value Chains (GVC)**
- ,
- Facilitating women traders' inclusion in regional trade.**
- ,
- Gender sensitive awareness initiatives for trade stakeholders (e.g., border officials regarding safety issues);**
- ,
- Supporting women's entrepreneurship,**
- Supporting women-owned/led MSMEs to export,**
- Supporting women's representation in trade policy and design of trade/Aid-for-Trade initiatives**
- ,

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):

TradeMark East Africa Under Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA), 20,000 women traders have been trained in Ethiopia on how to navigate intra-regional trade and new markets. This led to a direct increase in monthly incomes of over 100%. Going forward, TMEA targets reaching 150,000 women before 2023. The Netherlands is currently involved in developing the "Care Women Economic Empowerment programme" (EUR 1.5 million) in Ethiopia with the objective of developing profitable enterprises by and with women while generating enabling circumstances in the business environment. Other examples are e.g. capacity building activities that aim to; increase income from trade, increase the capacity of women to participate in trade and promote the rights of women in trade while reducing their vulnerability to violence and exploitation (<https://www.trademarkea.com/trademark-east-africa-to-build-capacity-for-2000-women-entrepreneurs-and-informal-cross-border-traders-in-south-sudan/>).

Q50**Yes**

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

Q51**Unsure**

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

Q52**Yes,**

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

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

Yes, most of the programs we support have results frameworks with gender/WEE included.

Q53**Yes,**

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

Additional information on how the Aid-for-Trade support for women's economic empowerment you provide aligns with your partner's trade priorities and objectives.:

Mostly yes, but not with all partners.

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Q54**Yes,**

Do women face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies?

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).:

The Netherlands supports the UNCTAD eTrade for Women initiative and ITC NTF5 both supporting women to benefit from digital trade and e-commerce, including tackling difficulties faced by women in accessing digital technology.

Q55

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

Lack of awareness of opportunities offered by digital technologies

,

Limited internet connectivity,

Poor IT literacy and/or skills,

Privacy, safety and harassment concerns

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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,

Services

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).

(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)

,

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

,

(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 advancesustainable development.:

Aim for gender mainstreaming in all Aid-for-Trade categories.

Q58

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

One best practice is the work done under the Trade Facilitation Support program of the World Bank. In an effort to fill the data gap on the gendered experiences of women and men traders when undertaking cross-border processes and procedures at the firm level and better inform future trade facilitation intervention design and implementation, the WBG— through TFSP—completed the Trade and Gender Study in five Pacific Island nations in FY20 (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu). The survey found that women-led firms are highly underrepresented in all the surveyed countries, highlighting an opportunity to potentially increase the participation of women in trade by understanding and addressing the challenges they face. The survey results from the Pacific work are feeding into a new regional project, and the survey methodology is being replicated in other regions Find all the reports at: Trade Facilitation Challenges for Women Traders in the Pacific Islands and Timor-Leste (<https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/trade-facilitation-support-program/publication/trade-facilitation-challenges-for-women-traders-in-the-pacific-region>)

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Q59

Respondent skipped this question

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