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Q1

NORWAY

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

Q2

About you

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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)?

No,
 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):
 Note: This answer is based on the fact that our current Aid for Trade strategy is based on a policy document from 2013. Many of our existing A4T-related agreements originate and are based from from that time.
https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/aidfortrade_e.pdf Building trade-related capacity and supporting commitments in LDCs is nonetheless still a priority and funds are allocated through our annual state budget, without being confined to the a specific strategy. Norad is the grant manager of the A4T portfolio in LDCs and our strategy is aligned with acheiving the SDGs. Norwegian development priorities as a whole do however not include trade priorities as such:
<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/development-cooperation/id1159/>

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Q4 **Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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Q5 **Unsure,**

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

Additional information: please specify which of the priorities you selected are new and provide further information. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: See Q3 for background. Formally, our A4T priorities have not changed since 2019 and Norway more or less has the same level of commitments to our A4T partners. Norad's new strategy can be found here: <https://www.norad.no/en/front/about-norad/news/2021/norads-strategy-towards-2030/> Our priorities have not changed as such however it is important to note the following changes: The grant management of A4T agreements now lies in the Section for Private Sector and New Partnerships, which aims to achieve SDG 8 and 17. A4T is a part of SDG 8. Previously the A4T grant management was at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the Trade Policy section. Norway also elected a new government which took office medio Oct 2021. The aforementioned factors can insinuate minor changes in our A4T priorities, but regarding our commitments and partners, the level is the same.

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Q6 **Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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Q7 **Same**

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

Q8

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

No,

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

No changes to report to partners.

Q9

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

Unsure,

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

Not directly related to economic recovery, but Norway is working with several organisations and partners to help mitigate the short-term and long-term effects of the pandemic. See more here:

https://www.regjeringen.no/en/historical-archive/solbergs-government/ud/tema-og-redaksjonelt-innhold/redaksjonelle-artikler/2020/corona_initiative/id2699925/

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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).

Respondent skipped this question

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Q11

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

https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/aidfortrade_e.pdf

https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dep/ud/tilskuddsmidler/ovrige-tilskudd/tilskudd_utviklingssamarbeid/id755294/

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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).:

This priority was part of the 2013 action plan

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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,

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

https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/aidfortrade_e.pdf

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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).

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),

Other (please specify)

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 SDGs are the framework for Norad's work, and since SDG 8 includes A4T the answer is yes.

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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?

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.:

We provide very little bilateral aid within our A4T portfolio. Sustainable development is however covered in dialogue with the recipients where relevant, for example aid programs such as the Knowledge Bank's programs ("for development" programs, some of which relate to trade such as Fish for Development).

<https://www.norad.no/en/front/the-knowledge-bank/programmes-in-the-knowledge-bank/>

<https://www.norad.no/en/front/the-knowledge-bank/>

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Q18**Yes**

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

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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,
Fisheries,
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.:

Clean energy

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,
Forestry,
Industry,

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

A lot of challenges in these sectors related to climate adaptation and mitigation.

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,
Lack of human resource capability,

Social pressures (poverty, population growth),

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).:

Another challenge is that it is the LDCs who are facing most of the consequences of climate change although the problem often originates from developed or middle income countries.

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,
Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,
High trade costs,
Lack of technology transfer (including sharing of know-how)

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Q23

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

No,
Additional information on your circular economy strategy, policy, plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Circular economy is not an A4T priority. However, achieving a more circular economy is indirectly a part of Norad's mission to achieve the SDGs.

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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).

Respondent skipped this question

Q25

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

Respondent skipped this question

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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.:

Note again the fact regarding Norad's strategy after the SDGs. The Section for Innovation works with SDG 9.
https://www.norway.no/en/missions/un-rome/Norway_in_Rome/News/news/norway-at-the-forefront-of-efforts-to-share-digital-public-goods/ White Paper on digital transformation and development policy:
<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokumenter/meld.-st.-11-20192020/id2682394/?ch=1>
<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokumenter/meld.-st.-11-20192020/id2682394/?ch=1> Input from the Section for Innovation: We see connectivity as the first, necessary step towards digital transformation. While we have some initiatives supporting connectivity, connectivity is not our main focus. Norway's main priority is on digital public goods and supporting digital inclusion efforts. Norway realised that its development co-operation was not fully capitalising on the potential of new technologies, due to a fragmented, uncoordinated approach to digitalisation. To deliver sustainable results in the long term and beyond the scope of individual projects, Norway set out to develop a strategy for digital transformation in development policy. Following consultation with academia and private and public sector actors, a set of eleven guidelines targeting Norway's own administration were developed and included in the Digital strategy for Norwegian development policy (2018). These guidelines are designed to help integrate established best practices into all programmes. The strategy also outlines how to make digitalisation a part of Norway's thematic priorities, where a broader, more elaborate and politically inclusive approach is needed. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented the "Digital transformation and development policy" white paper to parliament, which defined the greatest barriers to digitalisation (i.e. access, regulation, digital competence and inclusion of marginalised groups), along with opportunities and risks in certain focus areas. The ministry would be accountable for a total of 72 measurable goals and action points outlined in the paper. Each of the steps in the policy-making process was accompanied by communications activities to inform internal and external stakeholders of progress, to ensure buy-in across the ministry and raise awareness and understanding of the role of digitalisation in Norway's development co-operation. Norway and Norad is also a part of the board to the Digital Public Goods Alliance, participating in the establishment of this multi-stakeholder initiative with a mission to accelerate the attainment of the sustainable development goals in low- and middle- income countries by facilitating the discovery, development, use of, and investment in digital public goods.

Q27

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

No,

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

There is nothing on digitalisation in the A4T White Paper from 2013.

Q28

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

Agriculture,**Fisheries,****Forestry,****Mining,****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).:

We are not solely focusing on connectivity, but on access, content, and capacity strengthening.

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,****Real-time navigation,****Smart energy grids,****Smart motors,****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?

No

Q31**Yes**

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?

Q32

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

Digital gender divide,**Digital payments issues,****Insufficient or uneven internet coverage,****Digital connectivity strategy needs to be developed/updated**

,

Poor access to internet services,**Poor digital skills and IT literacy,****Slow, expensive or unreliable internet services,****Trade facilitation and logistics issues,****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):

Social safety nets / digital public infrastructure that other service providers can build on top of for better service delivery, such as digital ID systems, CRVS, etc

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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.:

Clean energy

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).

(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)

(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)

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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.:

Our main priority countries are Sub-Saharan Africa and LDCs. A4T funding is provided through trust funds.

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.:

Our projects can be found here:
<https://resultater.norad.no/partners>

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?

Respondent skipped this question

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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):

This is the most recent action plan on equality and women's economic empowerment:

[\[https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/fc55501761024732bc7b13d82346e313/eliminate_harmful_practices.pdf\]\(https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/fc55501761024732bc7b13d82346e313/eliminate_harmful_practices.pdf\) It is based on the Action Plan for Women's Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy 2016-2020,1 in which one of the five thematic priority areas is the elimination of violence and harmful practices targeting girls and women. The strategy also builds on previous action plans and strategies for efforts to combat female genital mutilation \(2003-2017\), and is one of several measures set out in the national Action Plan to Combat Negative Social Control, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation 2017-2020.](https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/the-un/innsikt/womens_rights/id439433/#:~:text=Action%20Plan%20for%20Women%27s%20Rights,Norway%27s%20international%20gender%20equality%20efforts.&text=The%20aim%20is%20to%20improve,and%20men%20in%20different%20ways. The Action Plan for Women's Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy 2016-2020 sets the framework for Norway's international gender equality efforts. A new action plan is currently under progress. See also Norway's International Strategy to Eliminate Harmful Practices 2019-2023:</p>
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Q39

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

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):

Our support to A4T funds include womens's economic empowerment such as SheTrades (ITC).

Q40

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

Respondent skipped this question

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).:
From the policy document from 2013

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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,
Gender equality 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).:
See the links in the previous page

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?

Unsure,

Additional information on the data on women's economic empowerment that your government/institution collects. (Please include weblinks as applicable).:
See the evaluation for more information:
<https://www.norad.no/en/toolspublications/publications/2015/evaluation-of-Norways-support-to-womens-rights-and-gender-equality-in-evelopment-cooperation/>

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,**
- Exclusion from male-dominated distribution networks**
- ,**
- Gender pay gap,**
- Lack of access to digital services,**
- Informal employment,**
- Poor access to information,**
- Restricted access to markets,**
- Unpaid care and domestic work**

Q46

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

Yes

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Q47

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

Unsure,
 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.:
 Through our funds such as ITC (SheTrades)

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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).

Respondent skipped this question

Q50

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q51

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q52

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q53

Respondent skipped this question

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

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Q54

Respondent skipped this question

Do women face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies?

Q55

Respondent skipped this question

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

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Q56

**Agriculture,
Fisheries,
Services**

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).

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)

Q58

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

Provide access to finance and vocational training, and job opportunities are key.

Although favorable education policies and incentives are important, market opportunities are hugely important for increases in female education.

Any stimulus packages should be designed to support women's employment retention, creation of jobs, and incomes, according to the Center for Global development.

See more here: <https://www.cmi.no/publications/8061-knowledge-review-of-violence-against-women-and-harmful-practices>

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Q59

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and The Permanent Mission in Geneva
