



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



Page 2: ABOUT YOU

Q1

Respondent

United Nations Industrial Development Organization - UNIDO

Q2

About you

Name	Frank Van Rompaey
Position	UNIDO Representative in Geneva
Organization	UNIDO
Email Address	f.vanrompaey@unido.org

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.: UNIDO's overall development cooperation goals and priorities are laid out in a number of policy documents, notably the organization's multi-year programmatic and budgetary framework as well as its integrated results and performance framework. In addition, UNIDO has strategies to address the development challenges of groups of countries (LDCs, LLDCs, MICs, SIDS) and also has regional strategies. Finally, thematic/sectoral strategic frameworks have been developed for selected priority themes (e.g. 4IR strategic framework, Climate change strategy). As a specialized agency of the UN, UNIDO provides support to its developing country member states largely on the basis of extra-budgetary/voluntary resources- especially for technical cooperation. UNIDO's policy documents - notably the UNIDO's Medium-Term Programme Framework 2022-2025 as well as the Programme and Budget (2024-2025) document - identify trade as one of UNIDO's areas of expertise and an engine for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 9. UNIDO aims to integrate developing countries into the global trading system and help them derive maximum benefit from international trade. Overall, UNIDO works to enhance the competitiveness of industries in developing and least developed countries (increasing value addition, increasing and diversifying exports); enhance the shared prosperity from industry (improve SME inclusion in value chains and increase access to products); and promote environmentally sustainable industry (reduced emissions, increased efficiency of production and increased number of new green products). UNIDO pursues these objectives through promoting market access, facilitating trade-related capacity building as well as building productive capacities (through developing business support services and institutions, public-private sector networking, (agro-) industrial infrastructure development and investment promotion).

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.)

- Economic diversification,**
- Enhancing exports in non-traditional sectors,**
- Export diversification,**
- Expansion of the agriculture sector,**
- Expansion of the manufacturing sector,**
- Expansion of the services sector,**
- Expansion of the digital economy,**
- Infrastructure development,**
- Innovation and technological development,**
- Expansion of the MSME sector,**
- Expansion of public-private partnerships,**
- Human capital development (e.g. education through skills, training and health)**
- ,
- Higher labour productivity,**
- Trade integration,**
- Employment creation,**
- Women's economic empowerment and gender equality**
- ,
- Youth employment and skills,**
- Climate change adaptation,**
- Environmental protection,**
- Sustainable resource management,**
- Waste management and pollution control,**
- Circular economy,**
- Improved environmental governance,**
- Pollution control targets,**
- Oceans and blue economy,**
- Food security,**
- Climate change mitigation,**

Additional information on thematic issues::

UNIDO's Director General, Gerd Müller, has set three major priorities for action: - Sustainable supply chains and sustainability standards: supporting sustainable supply chains so that developing country producers get a fair deal and scarce resources are preserved. - Sustainable access to energy and industrial decarbonization: limiting climate breakdown by using renewable energy (incl. green hydrogen) and energy efficiency to reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions. - Food security: ending hunger by cutting post-harvest losses and developing

agribusiness value chains (for job creation and local value addition). These thematic priorities accentuate the main areas of expertise of UNIDO and enhance services for greater impact.

Page 7: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q7

Yes

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).

Page 8: SECTION A: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

Q8

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).

Poverty reduction targets,

Economic growth targets,

Other targets (e.g. digital connectivity, gender equality, renewable energy, circular economy etc.)

Additional information on key strategic objectives::
 UNIDO' Programme and Budget documents includes specific targets for the Organization's main areas of intervention and country support. For the new biennium (2024-2025), these include, inter alia, 185 industrial strategies prepared, USD 550 million of new investments leveraged and 4200firms with improved business practices. Country- specific objectives and targets are however typically defined in Country Programmes which UNIDO develops, in close cooperation with the relevant authorities in a country, and in consultation with the private sector and the donor community. Strategic objectives and targets are defined with reference to the SDGs.

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.

No,

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).: Trade objectives and targets are included in country-group (LDC, LLDC, MIC, SIDS) and regional strategies. Some thematic strategies, such as the 4IR Strategic Framework 2021-2030 as well as the Climate Change Strategy, also have trade-related objectives.

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 full,

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)::

Following UNIDO's Medium-Term Programme Framework 2022-2025, UNIDO's Aid-for-Trade programming supports developing countries to enhance their trade capacities, diversify their exports, and integrate into regional and global value chains. Some of the main areas of UNIDO's Aid-for-Trade programming are: - Quality infrastructure: UNIDO helps developing countries to establish and upgrade their standards, metrology, testing, inspection, and certification systems, which are essential for ensuring the quality and safety of their products and services. - Trade facilitation: UNIDO assists developing countries to simplify and harmonize their customs procedures, reduce trade costs, and improve their logistics. - Trade policy: UNIDO supports developing countries to formulate and implement trade policies that are coherent with their industrial development strategies. - Trade and environment: UNIDO helps developing countries to adopt environmentally sound technologies and practices, comply with environmental requirements and standards, and access green markets and finance. - Trade and gender: UNIDO promotes the economic empowerment of women through trade, by enhancing their skills, productivity, and competitiveness, and by addressing the gender-specific barriers and opportunities in trade. - Building Productive Capacity - Trade related/industrial infrastructure UNIDO works in close collaboration with other UN agencies, with DFIs as well as with regional and national partners, to deliver its Aid-for-Trade programming, and also participates in the Aid for Trade Global Reviews to monitor the progress and impact of the Aid for Trade Initiative.

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

Q11

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

Yes

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.

Security of supply,

Increased competitiveness,

Expansion of agricultural exports,

Expansion of manufactured exports,

Expansion of MSME sector exports,

Growth in the number of export markets reached,

Improvements in trade facilitation,

Climate change related objectives (e.g. reduction in emissions associated with trade)

,

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::

According to UNIDO's Operational Strategy for LDCs 2022-2031, UNIDO aims to support the LDCs in export diversification through regional and national quality assurance systems, identification and integration into export markets for domestically manufactured products in LDCs, industrial upgrading and modernization, and advice on trade policies and strategies. Key action areas include: 1) Technical assistance and capacity-building related to regional and national quality infrastructure, metrology systems and support through the Aid for Trade initiative; 2) Support to regional value chains; 3) E-commerce and building digital capacities of the private sector for trade; 4) Facilitation of regional integration, including through support to Regional Economic Communities, and support to the AfCFTA implementation in African LDCs. Targets are normally specified in Country Programme documents.

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 of natural ecosystems; enabling improved climate resilience for 500 million 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:

- I.e. One of the six focus areas of the UNIDO Strategy for Africa 2023-2025 is "Supporting AfCFTA implementation for accelerated regional productive integration", whose planned targets include: 1) Develop and strengthen regional productive systems (e.g. formulate and implement national/regional AfCFTA strategies, develop and strengthen regional and continental value chains and connection to global value chains, establishment of cross-borders and regional industrial hubs, creation of trade corridors) 2) Development of regional ecosystems for enterprise-upgrading including clusters and networks development to better access markets 3) Continental and regional Quality infrastructure development 4) Increase regional productive capacities for value addition, economic diversification and export of manufactured goods 5) Strengthened value addition, quality & standards compliance and export diversification; etc.
- One of the main goals of the UNIDO Climate Change Strategy is "Facilitate international industrial cooperation for climate action" through the establishment of global and regional alliances and partnerships to accelerate collective action, decarbonize global value chains, and expand markets for sustainable industrial products. Some examples of UNIDO's trade targets in this area include: 1) Supporting the development and implementation of trade policies and measures that are consistent with the Paris Agreement and the SDGs. 2) Enhancing the competitiveness and market access of low-carbon and climate-resilient products and services from developing countries and LDCs. 3) Promoting the diffusion and adoption of climate-friendly technologies and practices in industrial sectors and value chains. 4) Strengthening the capacity of developing countries and LDCs to participate in international climate negotiations and to access climate finance. 5) Fostering regional and South-South cooperation on trade and climate change issues.

Q14**Yes**

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.

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,
Renewable energy,
Manufacturing sector,
MSME sector development,
Business and professional services,
Energy services,
Environment services,
Science, technology and innovation,
Cross-sectoral e-commerce and digital trade

Page 14: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q16**Yes**

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.

Page 15: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Q17

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

Additional information on relevant economic communities::
 Cooperation with Economic Communities is a common way of working for UNIDO- especially in trade-related assistance. UNIDO has /intends to develop cooperation with most of the above-mentioned entities.

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?

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 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)

,

Business support services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Industry,

Digital trade and e-commerce,

Trade-related energy supply and generation infrastructure

,

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::

In line with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, UNIDO's thematic priority on "Sustainable access to energy and industrial decarbonization", through limiting climate breakdown using renewable energy and energy efficiency to reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions, aims to advance climate neutral industry, foster innovation and accelerate structural transformation. I.e. UNIDO supports an inclusive global trade of low carbon hydrogen: As green hydrogen is a viable solution to decarbonizing the industry, energy and transport sectors while creating sustainable jobs and other socio-economic benefits, UNIDO is committed to advance a just and inclusive global hydrogen economy, ensuring that no country is left behind. -As coordinator and technical secretariat of the International Hydrogen Trade Forum (IHTF) - aimed at accelerating global hydrogen flows and providing a platform to foster the dialogue between a wide group of governments on the nascent international hydrogen market- UNIDO facilitates the cooperation among the Forum's members and industrial leaders, while bringing in the perspective and considerations of developing countries and transition economies in line with its

mandate. -UNIDO actively supports the COP28 Hydrogen Action Agenda and the initiatives of the International Hydrogen Trade Forum through the Private Public Action Statement (see Declaration of Intent on Mutual Recognition of Certification Schemes for Hydrogen and Derivatives and the launch of the ISO Methodology for greenhouse gas emissions assessment of hydrogen - Technical Specification, TS 19870). -In addition, through its Global Programme for Hydrogen in Industry (GPHI), UNIDO influences and contributes to the development of hydrogen policies, standards, skills, financing instruments, innovation and tangible green hydrogen industrial cluster projects aiming to unlock the socio-economic and environmental value of the international hydrogen economy and trade.

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:

As indicated before (question 18), UNIDO predominantly relies on extra-budgetary resources to implement trade and development cooperation programmes. These resources are, by and large, grants (development aid). We are however increasingly facilitating access to finance for infrastructure development (concessional and non-concessional loans to states and state institutions) and private sector investment (equity, loans, guarantees). This is part of our new organizational strategy, with dedicated divisions that have been set up to this end.

Some examples of recent partnerships:

<https://www.unido.org/news/new-alliance-special-agro-industrial-processing-zones-commits-3bn-investment-boost-african-agriculture-and-food-production>

<https://www.unido.org/news/uk-unido-launch-ambitious-programme-accelerate-clean-energy-innovation-developing-countries>

<https://www.unido.org/our-focus-safeguarding-environment-clean-energy-access-productive-use-climate-policies-and-networks/private-financing-advisory-network-pfan>

Page 19: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

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.

Yes,

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::

As indicated before, as part of its technical cooperation with countries, UNIDO seeks to increasingly facilitate access to finance, for public investment (mostly in agro-industrial parks but also in renewable energy infrastructure) as well as for private sector investment. KPIs are set for mobilizing private sector investment (for the 2024-25 biennium, USD 550 million of new investments leveraged). This is part of UNIDO's new organizational strategy, focused on mobilizing investment and technology transfer for food security, sustainable supply chains and climate action. Grant-funded technical cooperation is used to leverage public and private investment- through the use of feasibility studies, technical assistance in preparing bankable projects and business plans, introduction to investors and active investment promotion. Dedicated divisions have been set up to identify new sources and means of finance/ innovative finance instruments and enter into new partnerships- notably with domestic and international financial institutions and with the private sector.

Page 20: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

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.)

Insufficiency of grant financing,**Challenges engaging in public-private partnerships,**

Additional information on the difficulties you encounter in mobilizing financing to implement your Aid for Trade and development cooperation objectives::

- Insufficiency of grant financing: UNIDO's country programmes- which are programmes of technical cooperation that address the industry-related priorities of its developing country member states - are rarely fully funded. These programmes typically address priorities for productive capacity building (often in agro-based industries).

Page 21: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Q23

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

Other (please specify):

N/A to UNIDO

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

Q24**Respondent skipped this question**

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

Page 23: SECTION D: FINANCING TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Q25

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?)

Other (please specify),

Additional information on plans to stop foreign aid or Aid for Trade::

N/A to UNIDO

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::

Official perspective: UNIDO's technical cooperation is initiated upon request of partner countries, on the basis of priority needs. The programmes are developed in close consultation with the relevant authorities and counterparts. Mobilizing funding for the implementation of programmes is done jointly- and often is the most challenging part. In a good number of cases, we are not successful in mobilizing funding for the priorities of partner countries. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms further serve to ensure close alignment with partner countries' priorities.

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.)

Conditions required by development partners to access support

Additional information on the challenges you encounter in aligning the Aid-for-Trade support you provide with the sectoral financing needs of partner countries and regional organizations::

There is insufficient grant funding available to meet the priorities needs of developing and least developed countries- certainly for building productive capacities (in agro-industry).

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

Q28

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

Yes, for the development cooperation strategy,

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

UNIDO has a well-developed results-based management system- the backbone for the alignment of all UNIDO's strategic planning documents is the Integrated Results and Performance Framework (IRPF) that complements the organizational Theory of Change with an integrated set of results areas and indicators, linking efficient and effective management of internal operations, to management and delivery of programmatic activities and outputs, to development outcomes and impact results.

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::

UNIDO does align its monitoring and evaluation activities with the monitoring or results framework of partner countries, as well as with the broader development objectives and strategies of the UN and other international cooperation agencies. UNIDO also engages in joint activities with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) and other international cooperation agencies, and activities to build national evaluation capacity of UNIDO counterpart ministries.

Q30

Do you measure the impacts of the Aid-for-Trade support you provide?

Yes

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.)

Building productive capacity,

Additional information where Aid for Trade is having a measurable impact::

Good examples are the EU-funded regional programmes implemented by UNIDO with regional economic communities in Africa – notably ECOWAS (see also question 31).

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?

Yes,

Additional information on Aid-for-Trade projects or programmes that you would like to highlight as examples of best practice::

The West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP), a partnership between the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the European Union (EU) that aims to support selected value chains at the national and regional level so as to promote structural transformation and better access to regional and international markets while taking into account social and environmental concerns. Its major objectives are to strengthen the competitiveness of West African countries and enhance their integration into the regional and international trading system. To reach this overarching goal, the programme is aimed at improving: • performance, growth and contribution to the industry • regional trade and exports of selected value chains • the business climate. UNIDO has been entrusted as implementing partner of the WACOMP for several project components, of which one at the regional level, the West Africa Competitiveness and Quality Infrastructure Project (WACQIP) to stimulate the competitiveness of SMEs in the 16 project countries through value chain development and an enhanced level of production, transformation and export capacities of the private sector; as well as other seven components in Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Senegal and Cabo Verde. --> In light of the need for quality standards in West African countries to compete on the international market, UNIDO's interventions through major technical cooperation programmes, such as the West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP), have been systematically supporting the overall business environment in these countries and regions through improved quality infrastructure, with a particular focus on selected value chains. The path, covered together with the ECOWAS Commission and UNIDO at regional level and the country at national level is covered by convincing results and full of promise for the future and all these advances realized within the framework of Competitiveness and Quality Programmes are significant and must be sustained further for the benefit of the region. Main highlights: -31 ECOWAS Standards related to three regional value chains- Mango, Cassava, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)- were validated by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers, providing great support in the promotion of the ECOWAS Regional Conformity Mark (ECOQMARK) and ensuring an increase of consumer protection in the region. -WACOMP has created markets for entrepreneurs in the regions to take advantage of the AfCFTA, and it continues to strengthen the quality infrastructure of the region. - Overall understanding that the development of a Regional Quality

understanding that the development of a Regional Quality Infrastructure and regional standards is an enabler for sustainable development and sustainability, encompassing economic, social and environmental aspects and an essential element of a conducive business environment, as it ultimately makes quality control and certification affordable for any company willing to sell quality and safe products in the region- improving overall competitiveness in West Africa. - By enabling the creation of productive jobs, income generation and the facilitation of social integration, industrialization and the promotion of the business environment are an essential factor in economic growth and sustainable development in the ECOWAS Region, hence inclusive and sustainable industrialization is an important part of the way forward for the ECOWAS region, as a key element in advancing economic diversification and structural transformation to achieve the ECOWAS 2050 vision.

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 some sectoral priorities,
 Additional information on whether you foresee a continuing need to provide for Aid-for-Trade financing:
 Sectoral priorities: building productive capacity in manufacturing industry (incl agro-industry) in African LDCs- and related infrastructure investment. LDC's in Africa are facing serious challenges in achieving the SDG's manufacturing targets by 2030. While LDCs in Asia have made considerable progress, African LDCs would need to change the current trajectory and accelerate progress significantly to attain the target (doubling the share of MVA by 2030)- as emphasized in the latest SDG progress report. Public investments and grant-based technical cooperation will also be needed to deploy clean technologies in manufacturing industry and in energy generation- given the currentCO2 emission trajectories, as reported in the latest SDG progress report. Also support for digital trade in the industrial transformation efforts of latecomer countries will be needed.

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-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE (Including physical infrastructure)**
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure,**
- Business support services,**
- Building productive capacity,**
- Digital trade and e-commerce**

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::

International trade has been identified as a crucial means of implementation in the 2030 Agenda. The role of trade is certainly key in achieving SDG 9. However, if developing and least developed countries are to effectively leverage international trade for achieving the SDGs, there is a clear need to increase Aid for trade support for SDG 9.

Significantly increasing the exports of LDCs- as called for in SDG 17 - will require greater AFT support for SDG 9 (supporting LDCs in economic diversification/MVA growth as well as access to finance and integration into value chains -targets 9.2 and 9.3). This will address in good part the dire need to improve the trade record of LDCs, whose share in global merchandise exports has stagnated at 1 % since 2011. Aid-for-trade support for climate action is also needed to achieve SDG target 9.4 (by 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities), given the importance of manufactured goods for world trade.

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 7: Affordable and Clean Energy,

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production,

GOAL 13: Climate Action,

GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal,

Additional information on SDGs referenced in your development cooperation or Aid-for-Trade strategy::

The most relevant SDGs are selected above. It should however be noted that as Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (UNIDO's mandate) has relevance for all SDGs, UNIDO's development cooperation strategy references all 17 SDGs, with a particular emphasis on SDG 9- of which UNIDO is a custodian agency for six industry-related indicators (here for more info).

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::

The industrial sector is responsible for 1/3rd of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Left unabated, emissions from industrial processes risk consuming the world's carbon budget by 2050. Manufacturing industry is therefore a crucial sector for future climate action- and international (industrial) cooperation will be key in this regard. As trade in manufactured goods continues to drive world prosperity, it seems only logical for Aid for Trade to support industrial decarbonization efforts and climate-friendly industrial development. UNIDO's Climate Change strategy, which is currently under development, through a consultative process with member states, foresees a number of crucial areas for assistance to developing and least developed countries. These are: - Facilitate international industrial cooperation for climate action- through the establishment of global and regional alliances and partnerships to accelerate collective action, decarbonize global value chains, and expand markets for green industrial products. - Promote Paris-compatible industrial policies and provide evidence-based industrial policy advice for low-emission climate-resilient development. - Facilitate technology and knowledge transfer to achieve low-emission climate-resilient development. - Boost the use of renewable energies in achieving low-emission climate-resilient development – this will inter alia be pursued through UNIDO's Global Programme for Green Hydrogen in Industry (notably the programme's technical Cooperation pillar – focused on supporting the uptake of national green hydrogen industrial clusters, road maps and joint development of projects- see also below link to opinion piece). - Assist developing countries in enhancing their capacity to assess impact of climate change on enterprises, food and energy systems and infrastructure to climate change. - Build the capacity of Member States to effectively participate in the new market-based mechanisms of the Paris Agreement. - Coordinate and leverage climate finance opportunities. - Foster green and digital skills to enable a just transition of the workforce: "Towards a holistic green hydrogen (GH2) approach for developing countries- trade and domestic use" (<https://iap.unido.org/articles/embracing-dual-gh2-strategy-domestic-use-and-trade>).