

1. COUNTRY

BAHAMAS

2. ABOUT YOU

Name: - Viana Gardiner

Position: - Director of Trade and Industry

Ministry: - Ministry of Financial Services

Email Address: - vianagardiner@bahamas.gov.bs

Phone Number: - 1-242-328-5071-6

3. Have your Aid-for-Trade priorities changed since 2010?

YES

4. If YES, please indicate your NEW Aid-for-Trade priorities. Below are listed the most common priority areas grouped according to broad Aid-for-Trade categories. Please rank the top 3 NEW priority areas among the 12 listed (1 being the most important).

	1	2	3
Trade policy analysis, negotiations and implementation	X		
WTO accession costs			
Trade facilitation		X	
Network infrastructure (e.g. power, water, telecoms)			
Other transport			
Cross border infrastructure			
Competitiveness			
Value chains			X
Export diversification			
Adjustment costs			
Regional integration			
Other			

Additional comments: In addition to the areas identified competitiveness and export diversification are also areas of concern for The Bahamas.

5. If your Aid-for-Trade priorities have changed since 2010, please identify the top 3 drivers of these changes (1 being the most important).

	1	2	3
Economic crisis			
New development priorities			
Change of government	X		
Regional integration			
New trade capacity needs		X	
Competitiveness objectives			X
Poverty reduction objectives			
Green growth objectives			
Gender equality objectives			
Other			

Additional comments:

6. If your Aid-for-Trade priorities have changed since 2010, have these changes been reflected in your national development strategy?

YES

7. If your Aid-for-Trade priorities have changed since 2010, have these changes been reflected in your dialogue with donors?

YES

8. Does your national development strategy identify specific sectors as sources of growth?

YES

9. If YES, please indicate which SECTORS and sub-sectors.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERY AND FORESTRY

Agricultural products

Food products

Fish and fish products

MANUFACTURING

SERVICES

Transportation

Tourism services

Communication services

Construction

Insurance

Banking

Business and professional services

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

10. Do you have national strategies for these sectors?

YES

11. If YES, to what extent are trade objectives integrated into sectoral strategies?

	FULLY REFLECTED	PARTIALLY REFLECTED	NOT REFLECTED	NOT SURE
Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	X			
Fuels and mining products				
Manufacturing	X			
Services	X			
Intellectual Property	X			
Other				

Additional comments:

12. How important a role do imports play in sectoral development strategies?

	Imports are a factor for future growth	Imports are not considered in the sectoral strategy	Imports are a challenge to future sectoral growth	Not sure
Agriculture, fisheries and forestry			X	
Fuels and mining products				X
Manufacturing	X			
Services	X			
Intellectual Property	X			
Other				

Additional comments:

13. Do you have a national trade or export development strategy?

YES

14. If YES, to what extent is the national trade or export strategy aligned with sectoral strategies?

	WELL ALIGNED	PARTIALLY ALIGNED	NOT ALIGNED	NOT SURE
Agriculture, fisheries and forestry		X		
Fuels and mining products				
Manufacturing		X		
Services	X			
Intellectual Property		X		
Other				

Additional comments:

15. If NO, please explain why there is no trade or export strategy?

No Response

16. Was the private sector involved in the elaboration of your national strategies?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
National development strategy	X		
Sectoral strategies	X		
National trade or export development strategy	X		
Through public-private consultation body or dialogue	X		

Additional comments:

17. What stage of processing are the goods that you export?

	Raw materials	Basic intermediate products	More advanced intermediate products	Finished products
Agricultural products	X			
Food products			X	
Fish and fish products		X		
Forestry products				
Fuels			X	
Ores and other minerals	X			
Iron and steel				
Chemicals		X		
Office and telecoms equipment				
Automotive products				
Textiles			X	
Clothing		X		

Additional comments:

18. What type of services do you export?

	Services	No services data available	Not sure
Transportation services	X		
Tourism services	X		
Communication services			X
Construction services		X	

Insurance services		X
Banking services	X	
Computer and information services		X
Business and professional services	X	

Additional comments: The Bahamas Department of Statistics "National Accounts Report 2011" shows that there was no export of construction services for 2011.

19. What do you consider to be the main obstacles to greater participation of your companies in value chains? Please rank the top 3 constraints (1 being the most serious constraint).

	1	2	3
Lack of comparative advantage			
Market entry costs			X
Inadequate domestic infrastructure			
Burdensome border procedures in export markets			
Burdensome documentation requirements			
Limited access to trade finance			
Inability to attract foreign direct investment			
Lack of labour force skills			
Structure of value chains			
Trade restrictions			
Standards compliance			X
Other		X	

Additional comments: High cost of inputs, such as fuel, labour.

20. What are your government's priorities to expand export of goods and services? Please rank these objectives by order of importance (1 being the most important).

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Adding value to your exports		X				
Developing new export markets				X		
Developing new export products			X			
Addressing export competitiveness issues						X
Promoting an enabling business environment		X				
Promoting specific trade policy objectives or agreements (e.g. Free Trade Agreements)					X	

Additional comments: The Government has determined that there are opportunities for value added production processes which can create new export products for new export markets. This will enable The Bahamas to take advantage of Free Trade arrangements in existence or which may be negotiated in the future.

21. What policy measures do you use to achieve these objectives?

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
Industrial policy		X		
Firm and industry subsidies			X	
Tax incentives		X		
Local content requirements		X		
Export restrictions			X	
Infrastructure development	X			
Public-private partnerships	X			
Improving the investment climate	X			
Import policy	X			
Regulatory reform		X		
Service sector development	X			
Other				

Additional comments: The Bahamas is a developing archipelagic country and the need for foreign direct investment and partnerships as a development tool are encouraged by the Government.

22. Do you operate Export Processing Zones?

YES

23. If YES, what percentage of your exports by value do you estimate originated from your Export Processing Zones in the last year for which you have statistics ?

No statistics

24. Do your national strategies (national development strategy, sectoral strategies or trade strategy) discuss value chains?

YES

25. If YES, to what extent do your national strategies consider trade growth objectives from the perspective of participation in value chains?

	FULLY	PARTIALLY	NOT AT ALL	NOT SURE
National development strategy	X			
Sectoral strategies	X			
National trade or export development strategy	X			

Comments:

26. To what extent does your dialogue with DEVELOPMENT partners address the problems your firms face in accessing value chains?

NOT SURE

27. To what extent does your dialogue with SOUTH-SOUTH partners address the problems your firms face in accessing value chains?

PARTIALLY ADDRESSED (i.e. some priority sectors and some constraints)

28. What type of Aid-for-Trade support do you consider as the most effective in assisting your firms to enter or move up value chains?

	VERY EFFECTIVE	EFFECTIVE	INEFFECTIVE	VERY INEFFECTIVE
Infrastructure development support	X			
Investment promotion support	X			
Trade promotion and market analysis and development	X			
Business development	X			
Support to improve business climate	X			
Support for export processing zones		X		
Support for labour skills development		X		
Direct sectoral support	X			
Support for financial services		X		
Other				

Additional comments:

29. What is the most important source of financing for your firms to connect to regional, South-South and global markets?

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
Official development assistance			X	
Non-concessional financing	X			
Foreign direct investment	X			
Domestic private investment		X		

Domestic public investment	X
Income remitted by migrants	X

Additional comments:

30. What do you expect will be the most important source of financing over the next 5 years to connect your firms to regional, South-South and global markets?

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
Official development assistance		X		
Non-concessional financing	X			
Foreign direct investment	X			
Domestic private investment	X			
Domestic public investment	X			
Income remitted by migrants				

Additional comments:

31. Finally, what impact do you think connecting trade (in particular through value chains) has on your economy?

	MOST IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	NOT SURE
Increased exports	X			
Increased exports and imports				X
Export diversification	X			
Increased economic growth	X			
Employment	X			
Poverty alleviation	X			
Greater environmental sustainability	X			
Women's economic empowerment		X		
Other				

Additional comments: