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Q1 Respondent

BENIN

Q2 About you

Name	HOUNGBO Euloge
Position	NATIONAL COORDINATOR - CIR
Ministry	MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
Email Address	elohim.agbakou2@gmail.com

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

Q3 Does your national development strategy include trade priorities ? (i.e. Aid-for-Trade priorities) **Yes**

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Q4 If yes, please indicate your Aid-for-Trade priorities: Below are listed the most common priority areas grouped according to broad Aid-for-Trade categories. Please rank the top 5 priority areas among the ones listed below. (1 being the most important)

Export diversification	1
Regional integration	4
Services development	2
Trade facilitation	3
Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)	5

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Q5 Have your Aid-for-Trade priorities changed since 2016?

Yes,

Please specify further the priorities that you selected above, as well as the main problems/obstacles encountered in furthering them. Please include a weblink to the relevant strategy. :

Priorities have changed with the new direction and vision of the new President who came to power in April 2016. These new orientations are reflected in the Government Action Programme (GAP), as well as in the new National Development Plan (NDP), as well as its operationalization plan, namely: the Growth Programme for Sustainable Development (PC2D).

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Q6 If yes, please rank the top 3 drivers of these changes :(Please choose no more than 3 options)

Change of government	1
New national development strategy	2
New trade capacity needs	3

Q7 Have these changes been reflected in your dialogue with development partners?

Yes,

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

Indeed, these changes have been taken into account through the consultation and dialogue frameworks designed around the dialogue tools of the NDP, GAP, PC2D and the Medium-Term Trade Programme (MTP) resulting from the Diagnostic Study on Trade Integration (DTIS) updated and approved by the Government in May 2016.

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Q8 Please provide names, titles, references or weblinks to policy documents relevant to Aid for Trade in your country.

Benin's National Development Plan (NDP) -//- The Growth Programme for Sustainable Development (PC2D) -//- The Government Action Programme (GAP) -//- The Medium-Term Trade Programme (MTP) -//- The National Trade Development Policy (NTDP) -//- The Strategic Plan for the Development of the Agricultural Sector (SPDS) -//- etc...

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Q9 Is economic diversification a priority in your national or regional development strategy?

Yes,

If yes, please provide additional information (including as to how economic diversification is defined and measured). :

Economic diversification is defined in the various documents cited as the fundamental element of contributing to poverty reduction in the country. All actions outlined in these national strategy documents contribute to the diversification of the economy and above all to the connection of the economy to Regional and Global Value Chains.

Q10 What are the main constraints to economic diversification identified in your national or regional development strategy?(You may tick more than 1 box)

High trade costs ,

Inadequate network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications)

,

Limited access to trade finance ,

Limited agricultural production capacity ,

Limited e-trade readiness,

Limited inward foreign direct investment ,

Limited industrial or manufacturing capacity ,

Limited network and/or transport infrastructure of a cross border nature

,

Limited standards compliance ,

Low levels of training and skills ,

Poor international competitiveness,

Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)

Q11 Please indicate in which of category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing you receive aid-for-trade support for economic diversification.(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

Trade policy and administrative management ,
Trade facilitation,
Trade education/training,
Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
Business support services,
Agriculture,
Fishing

Q12 Does the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic diversification align with the priorities established in your national or regional trade and development strategy(ies)?

Yes

Q13 Has your government recorded progress in economic diversification since the launch of the Aid-for-Trade initiative in 2006?

Yes

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Q14 If yes, please specify in which area(s):(You may tick more than 1 box)

Export diversification

Q15 If yes, please also indicate in which sector(s): (You may tick more than 1 box)

Agriculture,
Services,
Fisheries

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Q16 In which category(ies) of Aid for Trade is the support you receive impactful for economic diversification?(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

Trade facilitation,
Trade education/training,
Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
Business support services,
Agriculture,
Fishing

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Q17 What factors contribute to the success of the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic diversification?(You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities** ,
- Capacity to draft funding applications** ,
- Country ownership,**
- Institutional capacity to implement projects** ,
- National/regional coordination**

Q18 What factors may limit the success of the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic diversification?(You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors.)

- Inadequate infrastructure,**
- Lack of country ownership** ,
- Poor alignment of aid-for-trade received with national/regional priorities** ,
- Poor national/regional coordination,**
- Weak institutional capacity**

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Q19 Does the Aid for Trade you receive help mobilize other forms of development finance for economic diversification (i.e. non-concessional financing, foreign direct investment, remittances, trade finance, etc.).

Yes

Q20 Which development partner(s) are the most important source of aid-for-trade financing for economic diversification?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Belgium,
 European Union,
 Germany,
 United States,
 African Development Bank (AfDB) ,
 Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
 ,
 Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF),
 Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO) ,
 Inter-America Development Bank (IDB) ,
 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) ,
 Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) ,
 International Trade Centre (ITC) ,
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ,
 UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) ,
 World Bank ,
 World Trade Organization (WTO)

Q21 Which South-South partner(s) are the most important source of financing for your economic diversification?(You may tick more than 1 box)

China,
 Kuwait,
 Brazil,
 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ,
 Qatar,
 United Arab Emirates

Q22 Looking ahead, in which sector(s) will future support for economic diversification be most required? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Agriculture,
Industry,
Services,
Fisheries

Q23 Looking ahead, in which category of aid-for-trade financing do you think that your government will require aid-for-trade support for economic diversification.(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

Trade policy and administrative management ,
Trade facilitation,
Trade education/training,
Transport and storage infrastructure ,
Communications infrastructure,
Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
Business support services,
Banking and financial services ,
Agriculture,
Fishing,
Industry,
Travel and tourism ,
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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Q24 Is there any Aid-for-Trade project or programme for economic diversification that you would like to showcase as an example of best practice?(Please provide additional information and include weblinks as relevant)

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Programme, which is the mechanism for mobilizing Aid for Trade (Aft) for LDCs. Through the various areas of intervention of the EIF, Benin has attracted resources from the ApC to strengthen its productive and trade capacities, which is an undeniable contribution to its economic diversification.

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Q25 Is economic empowerment a priority in your national or regional development strategy?

Yes,

If yes, please provide additional information on how economic empowerment is prioritized in your national or regional strategy. :

Through Axis 6 of Pillar 3 of the GAP, the Government of Benin has opted for a significant improvement in the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations and the reduction of social inequalities as priorities for effective social inclusion. Thus, youth employment and the empowerment of women remain one of the Government's major challenges. The objective of full employment and decent work, classified in rank 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDOs), appears to be an imperative that the Government intends to address in a holistic manner, both in terms of the quality of the human resources available and the economic environment that should facilitate their absorption.

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Q26 For which groups does your national or regional development strategy seek to promote economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Women's economic empowerment ,

Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises ,

Youth economic empowerment ,

Additional information on the groups for which your national or regional developing strategy is seeking to promote economic empowerment. :

Through Axis 6 of Pillar 3 of the GAP, the Government of Benin has opted for a significant improvement in the living conditions of the most vulnerable populations and the reduction of social inequalities as priorities for effective social inclusion. Thus, youth employment and the empowerment of women remain one of the Government's major challenges. The objective of full employment and decent work, classified in rank 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDOs), appears to be an imperative that the Government intends to address in a holistic manner, both in terms of the quality of the human resources available and the economic environment that should facilitate their absorption.

Q27 Does the national or regional development strategy propose any indicators to track economic empowerment or include any targets to achieve?

Yes,

If yes, please provide additional information on the indicators, or targets, on economic empowerment that are included in your national or regional development strategy. :

The Government has opted for the Indicators contained in the MDGs

Q28 Does the national or regional development strategy link economic empowerment to participation in international trade?

Yes

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Q29 Please indicate in which category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing you receive aid-for-trade support for economic empowerment.(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave all boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

Trade education/training,

Business support services,

Agriculture,

Fishing,

Travel and tourism

Q30 Does the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic empowerment align with the empowerment priorities established in your national or regional trade and development strategy(ies)?

Yes,

Additional information on how the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic empowerment aligns with the empowerment priorities established in your national or regional trade and development strategy(ies). :

It should be recalled here that the support obtained under the EIF financing is based on the priorities well established in the GAP and in the Growth Programme for Sustainable Development (GP2D), which is the new Strategic Framework for Poverty Reduction and derives from Benin's National Development Plan.

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Q31 How best can Aid for Trade make a contribution to women's economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

Improving access to global value chains ,

Improving digital connectivity ,

Providing access to finance ,

Supporting rural trade ,

Upgrading business skills

Q32 What forms of aid-for-trade financing, in your view, best support women's economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave all boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

- Trade facilitation, ,
- Trade education/training, ,
- Transport and storage infrastructure ,
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
- Business support services, ,
- Banking and financial services ,
- Agriculture, ,
- Fishing, ,
- Industry, ,
- Travel and tourism ,

Q33 What factors contribute to the success of Aid for Trade in promoting women's economic empowerment? (You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Capacity to draft funding applications ,
- Country ownership, ,
- Donor interest in specific projects/programmes ,
- Good trade-related infrastructure ,
- Mobilization of domestic private investment ,

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Q34 How best can Aid for Trade make a contribution to the economic empowerment of MSMEs?(You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Providing access to finance ,
- Upgrading the energy infrastructure ,
- Upgrading the transport infrastructure, ,
- Improving access to global value chains ,
- Improving digital connectivity ,

Q35 What forms of aid-for-trade financing, in your view, best support the economic empowerment of MSMEs? (You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave all boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

- Business support services,**
- Banking and financial services** ,
- Agriculture,**
- Trade facilitation,**
- Trade education/training,**
- Transport and storage infrastructure** ,
- Communications infrastructure,**
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure** ,
- Fishing,**
- Industry,**
- Travel and tourism**

Q36 What factors contribute to the success of Aid for Trade in promoting the economic empowerment of MSMEs? (You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities** ,
- Capacity to draft funding applications** ,
- Good digital and ICT connectivity** ,
- Good trade-related infrastructure** ,
- Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines**

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Q37 How best can Aid for Trade make a contribution to Youth economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Providing access to finance** ,
- Upgrading business skills,**
- Upgrading the transport infrastructure,**
- Improving access to global value chains** ,
- Improving digital connectivity**

Q38 What forms of aid-for-trade financing, in your view, best support to Youth economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave all boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

- Business support services,**
- Banking and financial services** ,
- Agriculture,**
- Trade facilitation,**
- Trade education/training,**
- Transport and storage infrastructure** ,
- Communications infrastructure,**
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure** ,
- Fishing,**
- Industry,**
- Travel and tourism**

Q39 What factors contribute to the success of Aid for Trade in promoting to Youth economic empowerment? (You may tick more than 1 box. Please limit your answer to the top five factors)

- Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities** ,
- Capacity to draft funding applications** ,
- Good digital and ICT connectivity** ,
- Good trade-related infrastructure** ,
- Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines**

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Q40 In your view, can Aid for Trade make a contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda ?

Yes,
Please provide a weblink to the relevant national strategy or policy document in which SDGs are referred to. :
As Documents we have: the GAP - NDP - PC2D - TCPM

Q41 If yes, please specify which Sustainable Development Goal or Goals (SDGs) Aid for Trade can help to achieve. (You may tick more than 1 box) Sustainable Development Goals:

- 1. No poverty
- 2. Zero hunger,
- 4. Quality education,
- 5. Gender equality
- 7. Affordable and clean energy
- 8. Decent work and economic growth
- 9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- 12. Responsible consumption and production
- 17. Partnership for the goals

Q42 Which donor(s) are now the most important source aid-for-trade financing for your economic empowerment.(You may tick more than 1 box)

Belgium,
 European Union,
 Finland,
 France,
 Germany,
 Japan,
 The Netherlands,
 United States,
 African Development Bank (AfDB),
 Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA),
 Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF),
 Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO),
 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),
 Islamic Development Bank (IsDB),
 International Trade Centre (ITC),
 UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO),
 World Bank,
 World Trade Organization (WTO),
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Q43 Which South-South partner(s) are the most important source of financing for your economic empowerment?(You may tick more than 1 box)

China,
 Kuwait,
 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
 Qatar,
 United Arab Emirates

Q44 Looking ahead, in which category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing do you think that further support for economic empowerment will be required.(You may tick more than 1 box and/or leave boxes unticked if you do not receive support)

Business support services,

Banking and financial services

Agriculture,

Trade policy and administrative management

Trade facilitation,

Trade education/training,

Transport and storage infrastructure

Communications infrastructure,

Energy supply and generation infrastructure

Fishing,

Industry,

Travel and tourism

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Q45 Please provide any additional information that you think may be relevant.(Please references in the form or weblinks, document symbols etc.)

1- / Office of Public Policy Evaluation and Analysis of Government Actions;

2- / Economic and Financial Policy Monitoring Unit

3- / National Secretariat for the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework Programme

Q46 Is there any Aid for Trade project or programme for economic empowerment you would like to showcase as particularly important for your country or as an example of best practice?(Please provide any relevant additional information and include weblinks as relevant)

The Enhanced Integrated Framework Programme in Benin.

We can also take into account the various interventions of the International Trade Centre in favour of the development of trade inclusiveness in Benin.

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Q47 CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply):

DGDI (MIC) - DPP (MIC - MAEP - MENC - MEF) - DRECI (MAEC) - DGPD (MPD) - APIEx - DGFD (MPD) - DGAE (MEF) - SNCIR (MIC) - DGC (MIC) - BRMN (MIC) - DE (MAEP) - ANPME - ANM (MIC) - MENC - DDT (MTCS) - CCIB.