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Q1 Respondent

**CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC**

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 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	4
Network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications)	1
Trade facilitation	2
Trade finance access	5
Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)	3

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

No,

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. :

-Network infrastructure is sorely lacking in CAR. For example, the access rate to electricity is only 3%. This makes it very difficult to develop trade. -CAR is a landlocked country. The only nearest port is Douala, 1200km away. Indeed, import-export operations are very expensive and less competitive. - the main mode of transport is road, but the road network is degraded and expensive - the country has enormous potential, but due to insufficient network and transport infrastructure, it is difficult to develop these assets. - Access to finance is difficult for local economic operators due to the lack of medium- and long-term sources of finance. The country does not have an investment bank, but commercial banks.

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

Le participant a ignoré la question

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

Le participant a ignoré la question

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

- Central African Republic, Diagnostic Study for Trade Integration, World Bank 2007;
- Central African Republic's export potential, ICC 2011;
- National Peace Recovery and Consolidation Plan (RCPCA), Central African Republic, 2016;
- Strategy for the development of petroleum and mining resources, developed and covering the period 2019-2023;
- A five-year Central African Forest Policy Paper prepared with the support of the AfDB and FAO and including several strategic areas;
- Livestock Development Policy Paper 2017-2021.

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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). :

CAR is rich in important natural resources. But the basis of the economy is based on only a few cash crops (coffee, cotton, diamonds, wood, etc.). Economic diversification is defined as the expansion or development of new sources of income for the country

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 inward foreign direct investment ,

Limited industrial or manufacturing capacity

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 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)

,

Trade facilitation,

Additional information on which category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing you receive aid-for-trade support for economic diversification. :

-The WTO, the OIF... have trained several officials in the field of trade policy; - The OIF and ITC have supported the country in formulating trade facilitation needs and strategy. - the World Bank and the European Union have supported the improvement of road networks. But when it comes to electricity, the difficulties are enormous.

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,
 Additional information on how the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic diversification aligns with the priorities established in your national or regional trade and development strategy(ies). :
 Support is commensurate with needs, but is largely insufficient in view of many of the challenges facing the country, including security, free movement, etc.

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

No,
 Additional information on whether your government has recorded progress in economic diversification since the launch of the Aid-for-Trade initiative in 2006? :
 The results of the efforts made in this regard have been largely destroyed by the crisis in the country since 2013.

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

Le participant a ignoré la question

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

Le participant a ignoré la question

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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)

Le participant a ignoré la question

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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)

Le participant a ignoré la question

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,
Inability to leverage foreign direct investment ,
Limited financing for the private sector ,
Limited services capacity,
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.).

No,

Additional information on how Aid for Trade received helps mobilize other forms of development finance for economic diversification. :

The political context, marked by the persistence of the political crisis, has made it difficult to mobilize foreign private financing. However, the agreement with the IMF has allowed the support of some bilateral and regional partners

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)

European Union,

France,

African Development Bank (AfDB) ,

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ,

World Bank

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,

Additional information on the South-South partner(s) that are important sources of financing for your economic diversification. :

China is one of the partners supporting the rehabilitation or construction of trade-related infrastructure (electricity, roads, bridges, etc.)

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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,

Forestry,

Additional information on the sector(s) that will require most support for economic diversification. :

The industrial fabric is still in its infancy, despite the many agricultural and forestry resources. These resources are sold or exported largely in their raw state.

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 facilitation,
Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)
 ,
Energy supply and generation infrastructure
 ,
Banking and financial services
 ,
Industry

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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 solar field construction project that the Central African government intends to carry out with the support of China and the World Bank is vital for the country's 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. :
 Economic empowerment is one of the pillars of pillar 3 of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (RCPCA), which focuses on inclusive trade and economic recovery

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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

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. :
 There are indicators on the number of women or young people who have been able to benefit from capacity building actions. Also the type and number of initiatives in favour of women and young people.

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,
Building productive capacity

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**

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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 information ,
Improving access to foreign markets ,
Improving access to global value chains ,
Providing access to finance ,
Supporting the growth and economic development of women ,
Supporting rural trade ,
Upgrading business skills,
Upgrading the energy infrastructure ,
Upgrading the transport infrastructure

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 education/training,**
- Communications infrastructure,**
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure** ,
- Banking and financial services** ,
- Building productive capacity** ,
- Agriculture,**
- Industry**

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)

- Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities** ,
- Coordination among donors** ,
- Country ownership,**
- Donor interest in specific projects/programmes** ,
- Good trade-related infrastructure** ,
- Mobilization of domestic private investment** ,
- Institutional capacity to implement projects** ,
- Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines**

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 business skills,
- Upgrading ICT skills ,
- Upgrading the energy infrastructure ,
- Upgrading the transport infrastructure,
- Improving access to information ,
- Improving access to foreign markets ,
- Improving access to global value chains ,
- Improving digital connectivity ,
- Improving the provision of services

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,
- Trade facilitation,
- Trade education/training,
- Transport and storage infrastructure ,
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure

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 ,
- Mobilization of domestic private investment

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 ICT skills ,
- Upgrading the energy infrastructure ,
- Upgrading the transport infrastructure,
- Improving access to information ,
- 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,
- Building productive capacity ,
- Trade education/training,
- Transport and storage infrastructure ,
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure

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 ,
- Mobilization of domestic private investment

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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. :
The ApC contributes to the achievement of the objective 17

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 ,
- 5. Gender equality ,
- 7. Affordable and clean energy ,
- 9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure ,
- 17. Partnership for the goals

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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)

- France, ,
- African Development Bank (AfDB) ,
- Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), ,
- 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

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)

- Banking and financial services ,
- Building productive capacity ,
- Trade facilitation, ,
- Transport and storage infrastructure ,
- Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
- 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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Q45 Please provide any additional information that you think may be relevant. (Please references in the form or weblinks, document symbols etc.) **Le participant a ignoré la question**

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 LONDO project, funded by the World Bank, whose main beneficiaries are women and youth in conflict-affected areas.
 - The BEKOU project, financed by the European Union in favour of women's and youth cooperative organisations.
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Q47 CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply):

Ministries of SMEs and entrepreneurship, agriculture, energy, water and forests, family and women's advancement.
