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Page 5: ABOUT YOU

**Q1**

**COLOMBIA**

Respondent (Country or Customs Territory)

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**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, policy or plan include trade priorities (i.e., Aid-for-Trade priorities)?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the trade (or Aid-for-Trade priorities) included in your national development strategy, policy or plan (or other trade-related policy document).: The National Development Plan 2018-2022 includes the topic of international trade in the Pact for entrepreneurship, formalisation and productivity: a dynamic, inclusive and sustainable economy that enhances all our talents, in a chapter entitled: A world of possibilities: taking advantage of international markets and attracting productive investment. It is also found in the Sectoral Strategic Plan - Environment and Sustainable Development Sector.

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Page 8: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q4**

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).

Building productive capacity	5
Connecting to value chains	3
E-commerce	2
Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy	4
Export diversification	1

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## Page 9: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q5**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information: please specify which of the priorities you selected are new and provide further information. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Greater emphasis on sustainability and compliance with environmental commitments. New needs in terms of capacity to adapt to changes in the global context. Persistent need to diversify exports, coupled with new challenges in the value chain.

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**Q6**

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).

**Economic diversification,**

**Environmental sustainability (or green) growth, including circular economy**

,

**Economic and trade impact of COVID-19 pandemic,**

**E-commerce development (and digital transformation)**

,

**External factors (e.g changes in key trading partners policies)**

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## Page 11: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q7**

Has Aid for Trade become more or less important to your government since 2019?

**Same,**

Additional information on the reasons why Aid for Trade may have become more, less, or remained equally important to your government than in the past.: The importance remains high.

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**Q8**

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

**Yes,**

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

More emphasis on aid needs in trade and environment issues is part of the agenda with development partners.

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**Q9**

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

**Yes,**

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

The strategy is described in the document Conpes 4023: Policy for the reactivation, revitalisation and sustainable and inclusive growth: a new commitment for the future of Colombia.

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4023.pdf>

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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).

**Agricultural sector, food production and supply chain support**

,

**Building productive capacity,**

**Digital connectivity and transformation,**

**E-commerce,**

**Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy**

,

**Job creation,**

**Industrial sector support,**

**MSME support,**

**Poverty reduction objectives,**

**Services sector support (e.g., tourism)**

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**Q11**

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

National Development Plan 2018-2022 Pact for Colombia, Pact for Equity

Pact II: Pact for Entrepreneurship, Formalisation and Productivity: a dynamic, inclusive and sustainable economy that enhances all our talents.

A world of possibilities: tapping international markets and attracting productive investment.

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Prensa/PND-2018-2022.pdf>

Conpes 3982 National Logistics Policy

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/3982.pdf>

The CONPES Document 3866 of 2016 "National Policy for Productive Development", has among its objectives the diversification and sophistication of the productive apparatus and the export basket of the departments to which it applies.

export basket of the departments through a methodology for the prioritisation of productive bets (sectors). This document shows measurements such as: sophistication (Atlas of Economic Complexity), Revealed and Latent Comparative Advantage, productive linkages, among others.

General information on economic cooperation priorities is also available at:

<https://www.apccolombia.gov.co/>

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/3866.pdf>

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**Q12**

Is the environmental dimension of sustainable development reflected in your national policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies)?

**Yes,**

Additional information on how sustainable development is reflected in your national policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

National Development Plan 2018-2022.

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Prensa/PND-Pacto-por-Colombia-pacto-por-la-equidad-2018-2022.pdf> Sectoral Strategic Plan - Environment Sector.

[https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PLAN\\_ESTRATEGICO\\_SECTORIAL\\_2019-2022\\_VERSION\\_1.0.pdf](https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PLAN_ESTRATEGICO_SECTORIAL_2019-2022_VERSION_1.0.pdf) Institutional Strategic Plan - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. [https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PLAN\\_ESTRATEGICO\\_INSTITUCIONAL\\_2019\\_-\\_2022\\_VERSION\\_1.0-1.pdf](https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/PLAN_ESTRATEGICO_INSTITUCIONAL_2019_-_2022_VERSION_1.0-1.pdf) Institutional Action Plan - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.

<https://www.minambiente.gov.co/planeacion-y-seguimiento/plan-de-accion-institucional/>

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**Q13**

If yes, please indicate in which of your national strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) sustainable development is reflected:(You may tick more than one box).

**National development strategy, policy or plan,**

**National environmentally sustainable growth strategy, policy or plan**

,

**National strategy, policy or plan for circular economy/sustainable consumption and production patterns**

,

**National strategy, policy or plan for COVID-19 recovery**

,

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

Green Growth Policy. <https://www.dnp.gov.co/Crecimiento-Verde/Paginas/Politica-crecimiento-verde.aspx> National Circular Economy Strategy.

<https://economiecircular.minambiente.gov.co/> Policy for Reactivation, Repowering and Sustainable and Inclusive Growth: New Commitment for Colombia's Future

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4023.pdf>

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**Q14**

Does your national 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),**

Additional information on the environment-specific goals and approaches such as financing, sharing of know-how, technology transfer (including sharing of know-how), promotion of value chain integration targeted by your national development strategy, policy or plan.:

Technology transfer issues are of relevance, as well as the link between the fulfilment of sustainable development goals and the objectives of industrialisation, export diversification and trade within the circular economy. Local technological capacity building, through foreign investment or cooperation projects, has an important role to play.

**Q15**

Does your national sustainable development strategy, policy, or plan include trade objectives?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the trade objectives found in your national development strategy policy, or plan that includes sustainable development. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:

The Green Growth Policy seeks to maintain and increase the pace of economic growth in a sustainable manner, by (among others) generating new economic opportunities to diversify the economy through the production of goods and services based on the sustainable use of natural capital; improving the use of natural resources in the economic sectors so that they are more efficient and productive; and reducing and minimising the environmental and social impacts generated by the development of productive activities.

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**Q16**

If yes, do the trade objectives address the environmental dimension of sustainable development?

**Unsure,**

Additional information on how sustainable development is reflected in your national policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:

National policies are focused on industrial and productive policies, which in turn have an impact on trade policy.

This linkage would be an interesting issue to explore in Aid for Trade reviews.

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**Q17**

Does your government have a national committee (or has coordination or dialogues across ministries and agencies) on sustainable development that includes the Ministry of Trade?

**Yes,**

Additional information on how the Ministry of Trade is represented in your national committee on sustainable development.:

It is the National Environmental Council. The National Environmental Council, created under Law 99 of 1993, aims to ensure intersectoral coordination at the public level of policies, plans and programmes in environmental and renewable natural resources matters. Members of the Council: The Minister of the Environment, who will chair it. The Minister of Agriculture. The Minister of Health. The Minister of Economic Development. The Minister of Mines and Energy. The Minister of National Education. The Minister of Public Works and Transport. The Minister of National Defence. The Minister of Foreign Trade. The Director of the Administrative Department of National Planning. The Ombudsman. The Comptroller General of the Republic. A representative of the Governors. The Colombian Federation of Municipalities. The President of the National Council of Oceanography. A representative of the indigenous communities. A representative of the black communities. A representative of the agricultural production guilds. A representative of the industrial production guilds. Ecopetrol A representative of the mining production unions. A representative of the exporters' associations. A representative of the non-governmental environmental organisations. University elected by the National Council of Higher Education (CESU). A representative of the forestry trade unions. DECREE 3079 OF 1997 by which the National Environmental Council is regulated.

<https://www.funcionpublica.gov.co/eva/gestornormativo/norma.php?i=3335>

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**Q18**

If yes, does that national committee address the environmental dimension of sustainable development?

**Yes,**

Additional information on how the national committee addresses the environmental dimension of sustainable development.:

DECREE 3079 OF 1997 regulating the National Environmental Council.

<https://www.funcionpublica.gov.co/eva/gestornormativo/norma.php?i=3335>

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**Q19**

Please identify 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? (You may tick more than 1 box).

**Agriculture,  
Industry**

**Q20**

Please identify the sector(s) of your economy that may face the biggest challenge from the move to sustainable development. (You may tick more than 1 box).

**Agriculture,  
Mining,  
Industry,**

Additional information on the sector(s) that may face the biggest challenge from the move to sustainable development.:

There are many adaptation and transition costs associated with switching to sustainable practices. In addition, it is important to take into account the challenges of an uneven playing field.

**Q21**

In your view, what challenges constitute the main obstacles to the transition towards sustainable development in your country?(You may tick more than 1 box).

**Access to finance,  
Limited economic and export diversification,  
Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

,  
**Lack of technology transfer (including know-how)**

**Q22**

Please highlight the main challenges that Aid for Trade should address to support a transition to sustainable development in your country? (You may tick more than 1 box)

**Access to finance,  
Lack of data to support decision-making,  
Limited economic and export diversification,  
Low productive capacity in manufacturing,  
Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

,  
**Lack of technology transfer (including sharing of know-how)**

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**Q23**

Do you have a circular economy strategy, policy, plan?

**Yes,**

Additional information on your circular economy strategy, policy, plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:

National Circular Economy Strategy.

<https://economiecircular.minambiente.gov.co/>

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**Q24**

If yes, which economic sectors does the circular economy strategy, policy, or plan cover?(You may tick more than 1 box).

**Agriculture,**

**Industry,**

**Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the economic sectors covered by the circular economy strategy, policy, or plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Flows of Industrial Materials and FMCGs Biomass Flows Packaging and Packaging Material Flows Energy Flows and Sources. Water Flows Building Material Flows.

Details at:

<https://economiacircular.minambiente.gov.co/index.php/lineas-de-accion/>

**Q25**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on the trade objectives included in the circular economy strategy policy, or plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

Although they are more focused on domestic trade, they also have a direct relationship with international trade:

<https://economiacircular.minambiente.gov.co/index.php/transicion-a-la-economia-circular/>

## Q26

Is digital connectivity reflected as a priority in your national sustainable development strategy(ies), policy(ies), or plan(s)?

Yes,

Additional information on how digital connectivity is reflected in your national sustainable development strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s):

As a consideration of digital connectivity in some strategies, policies and/or plans related to sustainable development, the following can be referenced: - The National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change: <https://www.car.gov.co/uploads/files/5ade3c6955113.pdf> and its Communications Strategy: <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Ambiente/Estrategia-comunicacion-Plan-Nacional-Adaptacion-Cambio-Climatico.PDF> - Seeks to implement digital connectivity to communicate in a clear way, the advances in Adaptation to climate change to different audiences in the country, promoting the use of Information and Communications Technology tools. - CONPES Document 4058 - Public policy to reduce disaster risk conditions and adapt to climate variability phenomena: <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4058.pdf> - The Action and Monitoring Plan of the Policy includes a series of actions related to data connectivity to make available climatic, hydrometeorological and meteorological information, existing at national level, to support decision making; the opening of data and its interoperability, as well as the generation of new technologies for early warnings, and the interrelation of climate variability data between IGAC, DANE, UPRA among other entities generating information to make them available to the public. - CONPES Document 3934 - Green Growth Policy: <https://www.dnp.gov.co/Crecimiento-Verde/Documents/Pol%C3%ADtica%20CONPES%203934/Resumen%20Pol%C3%ADtica%20de%20Crecimiento%20Verde-%20diagramaci%C3%B3n%20FINAL.pdf> - This policy indicates the need to develop an information management strategy for green growth, which includes updating the Environmental Information Policy Guidelines and the Protocol for Data and Information Management of the Environmental Information System for Colombia (SIAC). It also seeks to strengthen the management of water resources in the agricultural sector and the development of tools for water monitoring in mining areas, through the strengthening of information instruments to improve management. - National Circular Economy Strategy: <https://economiecircular.minambiente.gov.co/> - The strategy includes as its target audience entrepreneurs, innovators, startup developers, information technology and telecommunications companies, creative centres and innovation laboratories, who stimulate the development of innovation and information platforms towards the circular economy; Likewise, digital connectivity is reflected within its objectives, particularly in promoting a culture of citizenship in circular economy through mass communication programmes. The above are

some examples of planning instruments and tools with content linked to digital connectivity, data interoperability or the use of Information and Communication Technologies to achieve the objectives.

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Q27

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

Yes,

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

As background, the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022 "Pact for Colombia, Pact for Equity" contains 12 cross-cutting pacts and nine regional pacts. One of the cross-cutting pacts is Pact VII called "Pact for the Digital Transformation of Colombia: Government, businesses and households connected to the knowledge era". This pact contains the whole-of-government approach to the digital transformation of the country and therefore defines Colombia's current National Digital Strategy (NDS). Specifically, this pact defines two lines of work: - "Colombia se conecta: massification of broadband and digital inclusion of all Colombians", this line has the following objectives: I. Create the enabling conditions for the massification of ICTs, II. Accelerate digital social inclusion and III. Empower citizens and households in the digital environment. - Towards a digital society and Industry 4.0: for a more efficient, effective and transparent relationship between markets, citizens and the State", this line establishes the following objectives: I. Promote the digital transformation of public administration, II. Promote the development and management of talent for digital transformation, III. Promote sectoral digital transformation, and IV. Driving territorial digital transformation. From the point of view of connectivity, in accordance with the regulatory framework and policy objectives in terms of connectivity, Colombia implemented the Vive Digital I and II Plan, the National Fibre Optic Plan and the National High Speed Connectivity Plan. Following the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022, the ICT Plan 2018-2022 was defined, which formulated strategies to massify access to ICTs and to improve the quality of communications services. Although it is not as such a regional approach, the strategies formulated include the following: - Issuance of CONPES Document 3968[1] Declaration of Strategic Importance of the project for the development, massification and access to the national Internet, through phase II of the Internet access demand incentives initiative, whose objective is to promote the affordability of fixed Internet service for low-income households through demand incentives for a period of 36 months in order to develop habits and skills in the use of ICTs. - Issuance of CONPES Document 4001[2] Declaration of Strategic Importance of the National Project for Universal Access to Information and Communication Technologies in Rural or Remote Areas, with the aim of promoting digital inclusion in rural areas by offering public Internet access to guarantee access to connectivity over a long-term horizon (up to 8.6 years), thereby promoting continuous processes of use and exploitation of the service. From the point of view of digital development and society, national policies have been defined for its

promotion in the country in an institutionally articulated manner. These policies include: i) CONPES 3975: Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence; ii) CONPES 3988: Technologies for Learning; iii) CONPES 3995: Digital Trust and Security; and CONPES 4012: Electronic Commerce. In CONPES 3975, 3995 and 4012, in the justifications section or in the diagnosis elaborated in these documents, it can be found that the policy objective contemplates a territorial approach and in some of the actions proposed, this is developed in this way. On the other hand, it is important to highlight public policies that were built within the framework of the pandemic and that have a regional vocation. Presidential Directive 02 of 2020[3] emphasised the need to use digital tools for the development of work, social and educational activities to prevent the proliferation of the virus, since one of the most effective measures to confront COVID-19 worldwide has been physical distancing. In this context, the list of administrative acts issued within the framework of Decree 417 of 2020[4] includes measures aimed at strengthening the supply of telecommunications services. Finally, in the same vein, Law 2108 of 2021 has been issued, which represents a major change regarding the provision of Internet service, declaring it an essential and universal public service. [1] Ref: <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/3968.pdf>. [2] Ref: <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4001.pdf>. [3] Measures to address the contingency generated by COVID-19, based on the use of information and communication technologies. [4] By which a State of Economic, Social and Ecological Emergency is declared throughout the national territory.

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**Q28**

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

**Agriculture,****Forestry,****Industry,**

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).:

A very high potential is seen in the selected sectors due to the realities of the country's agricultural and food production, its natural capital (in a position of conservation and protection) and the development of modern and efficient productive industries. The following can be highlighted: - Agro-climatic roundtables:

<https://www.minagricultura.gov.co/noticias/Paginas/mesa-agroclimatica-presenta-recomendaciones-segundo-trimestre.aspx> - Early warnings:

<http://portal.gestiondelriesgo.gov.co/Paginas/Noticias/2020/Sistemas-de-Alerta-Temprana-como-elementos-para-la-gestion-del-riesgo-de-desastres.aspx> - Use of ICTs in the protection of biological diversity:

<https://www.scidev.net/america-latina/news/tic-al-servicio-de-la-biodiversidad-en-latinoam-rica/> -

<http://reporte.humboldt.org.co/biodiversidad/2020/>

Strengthening the business sector in climate risk management:

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Ambiente/Estrategia-fortalecimiento-sector-Empresarial-en-riesgo-climatico.pdf>

**Q29**

Please identify which issues where digital connectivity would offer most promise in the move to sustainable development in your country?(You may tick more than one box).

**E-commerce,****E-learning,****Innovation and technology for gender equality,****Smart work****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**

Do you agree that the COVID-19 pandemic has acted as an accelerator for the move to digital economy in your country ?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the impact of the pandemic on the uptake of the digital economy.:

During COVID 19's attention to the crisis, ICTs have enabled new ways of executing government, business and individual activities. Many of the social care mechanisms have been able to continue their development through online interaction and have become a tool to fight inequality in sectors such as education and health. This can be seen in the increase in the Digital Ownership Index (CNC) from 0.23 in February 2020 to 0.39 in November 2020. Preventive isolation measures decreed by the national government have increased internet traffic in the country. According to CRC studies, towards the beginning of the quarantine in March 2020, traffic increased by around 38.5%, while between March and December of that year, traffic exceeded the annual average of around 2.3 billion GB, with a peak of 2.652 billion GB during the month of August. This widespread increase in traffic leads to increased download speeds, with traffic increasing by 75% in the period from March 2020 to April 2021, and average mobile and fixed internet download speeds increasing by 3.4% and 14.5%, respectively. A People Media study found that Colombians now spend more time online, from an average of 9 hours before the pandemic to 10 hours, making it one of the countries where people spend the most time online. The same study also found that 48% of people started to consider digital channels for shopping, making e-commerce increasingly relevant for consumers in Colombia. According to figures from the Ministry of ICT, the number of digital transactions made in Colombia increased from 136 million to 405 million in the period 2018-2020. Finally, according to the National Survey of Quality of Life in Colombia, the percentage of people who use a specialised programming language increased between 2019 and 2020, from 11.8% to 27.4%, and the percentage of people who use the internet for procedures with government entities (national, departmental or municipal) increased from 7.6% to 10.7%.

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**Q32**

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

**Insufficient or uneven internet coverage,**

**National digital connectivity strategy needs to be developed/updated**

,

**Poor access to internet services,**

**Poor digital skills and IT literacy,**

Additional information on the areas in which your country is facing its most significant challenges in relation to digital connectivity. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed gaps in national digital connectivity in the areas outlined above. Below are some figures that describe the most important challenges in relation to digital connectivity (Figures from the Survey of Information and Communication Technologies for Businesses (ENTIC), in 2019 for businesses and households in 2020): - In Colombia there is still some way to go regarding household and personal connectivity: according to the ENTIC in 2020, 56.5% of households have access to fixed or mobile internet. Low connectivity is particularly prevalent in rural and remote areas of the country: the indicator of access to fixed or mobile internet in the rural sector is 23.9%, while in the capital cities it is 66.6%. - In terms of people (aged 5 years and over), 69% use the Internet anywhere and from any device; however, in capitals it is 78% and in populated centres and dispersed rural areas it is only 43%. - These connectivity services should go hand in hand with the development of digital skills, focused on rural areas: of the total number of people aged 5 years and older who use a computer (14.5 million people), 58% know how to use basic mathematical formulas in a spreadsheet (Excel, Open office calc, etc.), however, in the rural sector this percentage drops to 45.9%. - The percentage of enterprises that have or use a platform to receive requests or orders via e-commerce is low: in the commerce sector it is 24.2%, in industry 27% and in services 35.7% on average. This indicator should be increased as a result of the pandemic for the next 2020 measurement. - Few companies have a systems or ICT development, operation or maintenance area or manager in commerce and industry: 29% of the total number of companies in the commerce sector and 30.9% in industry. In services, the percentage is 61.6% on average. - Few companies in the productive sector use technological tools for their activities: only 1.5% of companies in the commerce sector use Robotic Process Automation (RPA) systems applied to the commercial or marketing area. In industry it is 1.8% and in services 4.9%. Only 7.4% of companies in the commerce sector use data analytics processes, 9% in industry and 21.3% in services.



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**Q33**

Looking ahead, in which sectors do you think future Aid-for-Trade support to your country should focus so as to support sustainable development objectives? (You may tick more than 1 box).

**Agriculture,**  
**Industry,**  
**Services**

**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).

**Trade policy and administrative management,**  
**(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)**  
,  
**Agriculture,**  
**Industry,**  
**Travel and tourism**

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**Q35**

Which donor(s) are the most important for Aid-for-Trade financing for the environmental dimension of sustainable development in your country? (You may tick more than 1 box).

**European Union,**  
**Finland,**  
**Spain,**  
**Switzerland,**  
**United Kingdom,**  
**United States,**  
**Turkey,**  
**International Trade Centre (ITC),**  
**Unsure**

**Q36**

Which South-South partner(s) are the most important source of Aid-for-Trade financing for the environmental dimension of sustainable development?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Israel\*,  
Thailand,  
Turkey,  
Malaysia,  
Unsure

**Q37**

Have you received Aid-for-Trade financing as part of triangular co-operation projects?

Unsure

**Q38**

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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**Q39**

Do you implement policies that address the environmental dimension of sustainable development while also supporting 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):

As a country party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Colombia has ratified its commitment to achieve gender mainstreaming at all levels of climate change management in accordance with the parameters of the UNFCCC's chapter on Gender and Climate Change. The country understands the imperative need to move towards gender equality in the framework of climate change management and responds to the call by the UNFCCC to increase the ambition of gender mainstreaming in the update of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), as well as in policies, plans, programmes and projects oriented towards climate change management.

<https://www.minambiente.gov.co/cambio-climatico-y-gestion-del-riesgo/herramientas-de-genero-y-cambio-climatico/>

**Q40**

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

**Yes,**

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):.

Example: Gender Safeguards Guidelines. PROGRAMME FOR THE ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A MULTIPURPOSE RURAL-URBAN CADASTRE CREDITS BIRF N. ° 8937-CO // BID N. ° 4856/OC-CO [https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/08102021\\_Lineamiento-Salvuardas-de-Genero.pdf](https://www.minambiente.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/08102021_Lineamiento-Salvuardas-de-Genero.pdf)

**Q41**

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

**Q42**

Is women's economic empowerment included as an objective in any of your national strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s)?

**Yes,**

Additional information on how women's economic empowerment is included as an objective in your national policy documents.:

The economic empowerment of women is a key aspect in the Gender Equity Policy formulated in 2013, which has a second phase that is currently being formulated, as well as in the National Development Plan, where there is a specific chapter on gender equity and a particular line of action for the economic empowerment of women. This is also a central objective that is incorporated transversally in other sectoral and inter-sectoral policies and programmes such as the economic reactivation policy, the employment mission that issues recommendations on aspects of employment promotion, the programmes carried out by the Vice-Presidency of the Republic and the Presidential Advisory Office on Equity for Women, which have defined concrete strategies for the promotion of women's employment in decent working conditions, particularly in high-potential and non-traditional sectors for women, and their participation in the country's business development through the promotion of entrepreneurship and the strengthening of women's enterprises. It also highlights sectoral policies and plans that promote women's participation in non-traditional sectors such as transport and infrastructure, mines and energy, and the green economy. Colombia has also set as a central objective the achievement of gender equity in the framework of the strategy for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, defining specific indicators and targets related to women's employability, the income gap and access to technology. Women's economic empowerment is also promoted through national strategies to strengthen policy-making processes and development plans at the territorial level.

**Q43**

If yes, please indicate the strategy, policy, or plan in which women's economic empowerment is included: (You may tick more than one box).

**National development strategy, policy or plan,**

**National 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):

The National Development Plan 2018-2022, Pact for Colombia, Pact for Equity, includes the XIV Pact for Gender Equity for Women, which includes line B Education and economic empowerment for the elimination of gender gaps in the world of work, one of its objectives being the design of strategies for equal participation of women in the labour market, The strategies include the promotion and strengthening of labour equity and the conditions that favour the insertion of women in the world of work. Actions to close the digital divide are highlighted, through specific programmes for women in the appropriation of ICTs; the redesign and scaling up of the Equipares seal (labour equity policies within companies) not only in large companies but also at the level of the public sector and associations and cooperatives in the rural sector; and the promotion of the participation of women's enterprises in business development, where there are specific indicators related to the insertion of women in productive inclusion routes and the accompaniment of women's enterprises through specialised programmes that strengthen their business models and prepare them to expand into domestic and international markets. On the other hand, in line G. related to rural women as agents of transformation of the countryside, it was stipulated to guarantee the inclusion of rural women in the processes of social and productive planning, the provision of agricultural extension services, and access to credit, leading to equitable rural development, for which one of the strategies to highlight is the promotion of income generation for rural women through an improvement in the agricultural extension service, access to financial instruments and the conditions of employability and entrepreneurship. The detailed NDP document can be found at the following link: <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Prensa/BasesPND2018-2022n.pdf> Another of the policies that has contemplated economic empowerment is the Conpes 161 of 2013 related to gender equity for women, which proposed a specific axis of economic autonomy and access to assets, with strategies aimed at providing opportunities and conditions to promote economic autonomy, access to productive factors such as land, The document is available at: . The document is also available in Spanish, English and French. The document is available at [https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Social/161\\_n](https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Social/161_n)

<https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Social/161.pdf>. Conpes 161 also defined the indicative action plan for the period 2013 to 2016, which includes a list of actions, responsible entities, indicators of compliance and progress, which can be consulted at the following link: <https://sisconpes.dnp.gov.co/ReportesSisCONPES/Reportes/ReportePAS?numeroConpes=161> As a background to this policy, in 2012 the National Government approved the Guidelines of the National Public Policy on Gender Equity for Women, to guide the structuring and implementation of actions that over the next 10 years would contribute to the effective enjoyment of women's rights in Colombia. The document can be found at the following link: <http://www.equidadmujer.gov.co/Documents/Lineamientos-politica-publica-equidad-de-genero.pdf> The NDP 2018-2022 established the formulation of the second phase of the Gender Equity Policy for Women, which is currently under construction. This policy proposes a specific axis of social and productive development where actions are specified for the elimination of discriminatory practices against women in the labour market, business development and foreign trade and to promote entrepreneurship and women's businesses, the closing of the digital divide, access to assets, among others. Other public policies that have incorporated gender issues are also highlighted. Particularly, in relation to the issue of economic empowerment, CONPES 4011 of the National Entrepreneurship Policy (available at <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4011.pdf>), which proposes, among other things, the implementation of a strategy for the provision of comprehensive technical assistance for the creation of viable business models and the productive development of women's businesses, as well as financing for this segment. On the other hand, the creation by decree of the Fondo Mujer Emprende, whose objective is to finance and strengthen the capacities of women's enterprises, should also be highlighted. CONPES 4023, policy for the reactivation (available at <https://colaboracion.dnp.gov.co/CDT/Conpes/Econ%C3%B3micos/4023.pdf>), revitalisation and sustainable and inclusive growth, defines the implementation of mechanisms for the generation of income for rural women, with an emphasis on the sustainability of rural enterprises. It also establishes the development of human capital with training programmes in high potential areas.

**Q44**

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,**

Additional information on how the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) that you have identify seek to ensure non-discrimination with respect to conditions of employment or occupation. (Please include weblinks as applicable):

The Equipares programme mentioned above as part of the NDP 2018-2022, is based on a strategic alliance between the National Government, headed by the Ministry of Labour and the United Nations Development Programme, whose objective is the elimination of wage and employment discrimination against women, promotion of a culture of equal conditions for women, and the participation of women in tripartite commissions in the world of work, prevention, elimination and punishment of all forms of violence against women, which, as mentioned in the previous question, has been redesigned and scaled up not only at the level of large companies but also in SMEs, the rural sector and the public sector. One of the eight dimensions of the Equipares programme is related to the reconciliation of personal, family and working life with co-responsibility, including leave, working hours and services and support. This is how good practices have been identified, for example in terms of flexible working hours, reduced Friday working hours, breastfeeding rooms, voluntary extension of maternity and paternity leave and gradual return, time-use checkbooks (balance days, birthdays off, first day of school, etc.), as well as the strengthening of work-life balance committees, teleworking, tailor-made wellbeing programmes, and homework distribution boards. More information at <https://www.equipares.org/>

**Q45**

Does your government collect data on women's economic empowerment in relation to trade and development?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the data on women's economic empowerment that your government collects. (Please include weblinks as applicable).:

The Microbusiness Survey conducted by DANE captures information on economic units with no more than 9 persons employed in the country. It allows for the characterisation of micro-businesses by the sex of the owner and the sex of the employed (more information on the survey can be found at

<https://microdatos.dane.gov.co/index.php/catalog/712/datafile/F28/V1407> ). For its part, the Registro Único Empresarial y Social (RUES) recently included the gender variable in its form, which now allows for the characterisation of formal enterprises in the country (whether sole proprietorships or other types) according to the sex of their legal representative. (

<https://www.rues.org.co/> ) Also, thanks to the approval of Law 1413 of 2010, the care economy and unpaid work within the household were introduced into the System of National Accounts, allowing the country to know the contribution of unpaid work, developed primarily by women, within the national economy. In addition, the Law on Entrepreneurship established that the Government must advance the definition of women's enterprises, which is already defined and must be incorporated by the entities in the various administrative records (more information on the account

<https://www.dane.gov.co/index.php/estadisticas-por-tema/cuentas-nacionales/cuentas-satelite/cuenta-satelite-economia-del-cuidado>).

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**Q46**

In your view, what trade and development constraints do women face in your country?(You may tick more than one box).

Difficulties accessing financial services,  
 Discriminatory practices,  
 Difficulties in meeting regulatory and procedural requirements  
 ,  
 Harassment, security and safety issues,  
 Informal employment,  
 Occupational segregation,  
 Restricted access to markets,  
 Smaller sized business,  
 Time and mobility constraints,  
 Unpaid care and domestic work,  
 Other (please specify),

Additional information on the trade and development constraints faced by women in your country.:

Difficulties in generating own income, access to assets (not only financing, but also land and productive assets).

**Q47**

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

Yes

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**Q48**

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

Unsure

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**Q49**

If yes, please provide further information on the donors, South-South or triangular cooperation partners that have supported your Aid-for-Trade programmes on women's economic empowerment.

Respondent skipped this question

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**Q50**

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

**Q51**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q52**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q53**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q54**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q55**

Respondent skipped this question

Do women face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies in your country?

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**Q56**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q57**

Industry,

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).

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**Q58**

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,  
Banking and financial services,  
Industry**

**Q59**

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

Respondent skipped this question

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**Q60**

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

Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Colombian Agency for Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Planning Department, Presidential Council for Women.