



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Page 2: ABOUT YOU

Q1

COSTA RICA

Respondent (Country or Customs Territory)

Q2

About you

Name

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Page 3: SECTION A: TRADE PRIORITIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q3

Yes

Do you have a national development plan or strategy?
(ies)?

Page 4: SECTION A: TRADE PRIORITIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q4

If yes, does your national development plan or strategy(ies) include trade priorities?

Yes,

If yes, please provide further details including hyperlinks to relevant documents containing trade priorities::

Costa Rica has long, medium, and short-term national development strategies, detailed as follows: Plan Estratégico Nacional 2050: This is the primary long-term planning instrument that outlines 50 actions by 2050. It aims to continue the Inclusive and Decarbonized Territorial Economic Strategy 2020-2050. The plan encompasses five strategic axes: Social Inclusion, Human Capital and Innovation, Infrastructure and Connectivity, Economic Development, and Decarbonization. Available at <https://www.mideplan.go.cr/plan-estrategico-nacional-2050>. Plan Nacional de Desarrollo e Inversión Pública 2023-2026: This framework guides the policies of the current government during its four-year term. It defines objectives, policies, goals, programs, and strategies for the country's development, along with public budget priorities. The plan addresses challenges in the economy, social vulnerability, insecurity, and the environment. It aims to stimulate the economy, create quality job opportunities, combat corruption, address social vulnerability, reduce insecurity, and advance economic decarbonization. Available at https://sites.google.com/expedientesmideplan.go.cr/pndip-2023-2026/pagina_principal. Plan Estratégico Institucional 2023-2026: This is an institutional planning instrument that establishes policies, objectives, and national, regional, and sectoral projects for public institutions. Each public institution has developed an Institutional Strategic Plan for the 2023-2026 period of the current administration. Available at <https://www.comex.go.cr/media/9762/plan-estrat%C3%A9gico-institucional-2023-2026.pdf>.

Page 5: SECTION A: TRADE PRIORITIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q5

Does your national development strategy(ies) have a thematic focus?

Yes

Page 6: SECTION A: TRADE PRIORITIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q6

If yes, please choose options from the non-exhaustive list of thematic options of key strategic objectives below. (If an objective(s) does not appear in the drop-down list, please tick other and add details in the text box.)

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS:

- '
- Economic diversification,**
- Enhancing exports in non-traditional sectors,**
- Export diversification,**
- Expansion of the agriculture sector,**
- Expansion of the manufacturing sector,**
- Expansion of the digital economy,**
- Trade integration,**
- Climate change mitigation,**
- Climate change adaptation,**
- Innovation and technological development,**
- Expansion of the formal economy,**
- Expansion of the MSME sector,**
- Human capital development (e.g. education through skills, training and health)**
- '
- Protection of biodiversity,**
- Higher labour productivity,**
- Employment creation,**
- Women's economic empowerment and gender equality**
- '
- Pollution control,**
- Environmental protection,**
- Sustainable resource management,**
- Waste management ,**
- Circular economy,**
- Improved (national) environmental governance,**
- Inclusive growth, including (historically) disadvantaged groups (add additional information in text box if appropriate).**
- '

Food security,

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

'

DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Page 7: SECTION A: TRADE PRIORITIES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q7

Yes

Do the trade priorities found in your national development plan or strategy(ies) reflect specific development objectives or targets? For example, the national development plan of Benin aims to achieve a sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth of at least 10% by 2025.

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Q8

If yes, please choose options from the non-exhaustive list below. (If an objective(s) or target* do not appear in the list below, please tick other and add details in the text box. Please tick relevant boxes). Objectives & Targets*:

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

Economic growth targets,

Additional information on objectives and targets::

In the case of Costa Rica, the trade policy objectives are reflected in the following national development strategies: Plan Estratégico Nacional 2050: This plan sets decade-long goals with the aim of promoting the growth of exports of goods and services and attracting foreign direct investment for sustained economic growth and national development. Detailed indicators are available at [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1i_cd4TZ_zfTwrytjmjeO4eUeBGqgaUKs4Ce6KcznbfA/edit#gid=952628310] (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1i_cd4TZ_zfTwrytjmjeO4eUeBGqgaUKs4Ce6KcznbfA/edit#gid=952628310) . Plan Nacional de Desarrollo y de Inversión Pública and the Plan Estratégico Institucional of the Ministry of Foreign Trade for the period 2023-2026: The objectives include achieving an increase in exports of goods and services to reach \$28,500 million by 2026 and attracting \$3,500 million in foreign direct investment for the same year. For the period 2023-2026, the country has proposed a Strategic Plan for Foreign Trade focusing on the following strategic areas: Foreign Trade: As a fundamental pillar for the country's integration into the global economy. Foreign Direct Investment: Strengthening competitiveness through improved investment climate and increased flows of inclusive and sustainable foreign direct investment throughout the country. Trade Facilitation: Simplification, harmonization, and modernization of trade procedures. In addition to the above, there is a commitment to working towards more inclusive trade, providing greater and better opportunities for the population, particularly micro, small, and medium enterprises, gender equality, and strategic actions that promote sustainable development. Similarly, there is an identification of working strategically on issues related to trade in the digital economy.

Page 9: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q9	Yes
In addition to the trade priorities you may have in your national development strategy, do you have trade priorities that are set out in other national policy documents or strategies?	

Page 10: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q10

If yes, do you have a national trade policy or strategy, export development strategy or similar policy or strategy (e.g. national diagnostic trade integration study update, national e-commerce strategy etc.)? For example, Jordan has published a national export strategy for the period 2023-2025.

Yes,

(If yes, please provide further details, including dates the strategy covers and hyperlinks to relevant documents):
 For the period 2023-2026, the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica has the Institutional Strategic Plan 2023-2026. This plan outlines the strategic lines that the current administration aims to develop during this period. (Available at: Plan Estratégico Institucional 2023-2026). The objectives include achieving an increase in exports of goods and services to reach \$28,500 million by 2026 and attracting \$3,500 million in foreign direct investment for the same year. In terms of foreign trade, the plan addresses the following strategic areas: Foreign Trade: As a fundamental pillar for the country's integration into the global economy. Foreign Direct Investment: Strengthening competitiveness through improved investment climate and increased flows of inclusive and sustainable foreign direct investment throughout the country. Trade Facilitation: Simplification, harmonization, and modernization of trade procedures. Recently, the Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy was updated with an emphasis on coordinated border management. Additionally, there is a commitment to working towards more inclusive trade, providing greater opportunities for the population, especially micro, small, and medium enterprises, gender equality, and strategic actions that promote sustainable development. Strategic work on issues related to trade in the digital economy is also identified. In terms of gender equality, there is an Action Plan (2023-2026) for the National Policy for Effective Equality between Women and Men (2018-2030), available at <https://www.inamu.go.cr/pieg2018-2030>. Regarding foreign direct investment, a new strategy has been announced recently to promote, attract, and retain investments that boost employment and exports in the country. More details are available at <https://www.procomer.com/wp-content/uploads/ESTRATEGIA-PROCOMER-IED-C2.pdf>. In terms of sustainable development, the following initiatives are highlighted from the foreign trade sector: Esencial Country Brand: This certification for Costa Rican companies rigorously evaluates compliance with key values such as sustainability, social development, excellence, and innovation. It includes robust sustainability criteria in its evaluation protocol, such as greenhouse gas emissions measurement, energy management, waste management, water management, and environmental education within organizations. More details are available at Esencial Country Brand. GreenTech Program: Led by the Foreign Trade Promotion Agency in collaboration with the National Learning Institute (INA) and the CRUSA Foundation, this program aims to support small and medium enterprises through training and the possibility of getting venture capital

training and the possibility of opting for venture capital. The goal is to foster the creation of a new exportable offering in goods or services that is sustainable and of high value. More details are available at GreenTech Program. Green Growth Platform: Led by the Foreign Trade Promotion Agency, this program started in 2018 and has had 9 editions. It aims to foster productive transformation processes through the contribution of seed capital (non-refundable funds) and personalized technical advice. This facilitates improvements to favor the environmental sustainability of companies and, consequently, their export profile. More details are available at Green Growth Platform. In the field of the digital economy, there are several initiatives: National Policy for Society and Economy Based on Knowledge 2022-2050, available at [Policy Document] (https://www.micitt.go.cr/sites/default/files/planes_estrategias/Politica_Nacional_Sociedad-Economia_PNSEBC_Junio22.pdf). National Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation (2022-2027), available [here] (http://www.pgrweb.go.cr/scij/Busqueda/Normativa/Normas/nrm_texto_completo.aspx?param1=NRTC¶m2=1&nValor1=1&nValor2=96799&nValor3=129868&strTipM=TC&IResultado=7&nValor4=1&strSelect=s). Digital Transformation Strategy, available at Digital Transformation Strategy. National Cybersecurity Strategy, available at National Cybersecurity Strategy. National Artificial Intelligence Strategy: The country is currently developing the National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence in collaboration with UNESCO and the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF).

Page 11: SECTION B: TRADE PRIORITIES IN OTHER NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN OR STRATEGY(IES)

Q11

Yes

Do these other national policy documents or strategies include trade objectives or targets? For example, Ghana's National Export Development Strategy envisages that over a duration of 10 years non-traditional exports will grow from \$2.8 billion in 2020 to \$25.3 billion in 2029 accompanied by deep structural transformation that positions Ghana as a competitive export-led industrialized economy.

Q12

If yes, please chose options from the non-exhaustive list below. If an objective(s) does not appear in the list, please tick "other" and add details in the text box. If no, please indicate if there is another strategy or policy that includes specific objective of targets.

- Increased competitiveness,
- Expansion of agricultural exports,
- Expansion of manufactured exports,
- Expansion of services exports,
- Expansion of e-commerce and/or digitally delivered services exports
- ,
- Expansion of MSME sector exports,
- Protection of intellectual property,
- Growth in the number of export markets reached,
- Improvements in trade facilitation,
- Climate change related objectives (e.g. reduction in emissions associated with trade)
- ,
- Export-related environmental protection objectives,
- Export diversification in terms of number of markets reached
- ,
- Competitiveness ranking in global index,
- Better export performance,
- Export diversification in terms of number of goods and services exported
- ,
- Services trade export target,
- Other (please specify),
- Additional information on trade objectives and targets including hyperlinks to relevant documents::
- Diversification of the origin of investments -
- Enhancements in investment facilitation - Promotion of sustainable investment

Q13

Yes, in full

Do the trade priorities found in your national development strategy align with those found in other national policy documents or strategy(ies)?

Q14**No**

Do the trade objectives in your national development plan and/or those found in other national policy documents or strategies include sectoral objectives? For example, Vision 2030 Jamaica includes 31 Sector Plans (in 28 separate documents) prepared by Task Forces, comprising stakeholders from public and private sector bodies, civil society and international development partners). And Bhutan's National Export Strategy 2022 identifies the mineral and timber industries as holding potential for the development of value-added products.

Page 13: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADE OBJECTIVES

Q15**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, please tick all relevant boxes and provide further details, including hyperlinks to relevant documents. If no, please indicate if there is another national strategy or policy that includes specific objectives or targets. (Please tick relevant boxes)

Page 14: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADE OBJECTIVES

Q16

Other (please specify):

Does not apply

Does the trade objectives found in your national development plan or strategy(ies) and in other national policy documents or strategies include regional objectives? For example, the national development strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2040 includes, inter alia, the objective to work on harmonious integration of the Kyrgyz economy with the Eurasian Economic Union; active participation in regional projects that improve production and transit capacity; diversification of foreign economic focus of Kyrgyzstan through development of mutually beneficial trade, economic and investment cooperation with the countries of South and Southeast Asia, the Arab East and America.

Page 15: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADE OBJECTIVES

Q17**Respondent skipped this question**

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

Page 16: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q18**Yes**

Does your government have priority areas for Aid for Trade for which it is actively seeking support?

Page 17: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q19

If yes, please indicate the relevant priority areas for Aid for Trade for which your government is actively seeking support.(Please tick relevant boxes)

Trade facilitation,

Trade education/training,

Additional information on priority Aid for Trade areas::

Trade facilitation is crucial for the economic and commercial development of Costa Rica. It stimulates commercial activity, reduces costs, increases competitiveness, promotes international trade, and attracts foreign investments. Given these considerations, it is necessary to prioritize measures and initiatives in this area to improve and streamline trade processes. Currently, trade facilitation has been identified as one of the priority axes in foreign trade in Costa Rica.

Page 18: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q20

Have these priorities been communicated to Donors and South-South partners?

Other (please specify):

Does not apply

Page 19: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q21

If yes, please provide additional information on how priorities were communicated:

Respondent skipped this question

Page 20: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q22

Does your government face difficulties in financing implementation of the trade objectives found in your development plan or strategy(ies) or trade strategy?

No

Page 21: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q23

Do you face difficulties in accessing finance to address your Aid-for-Trade priorities?

No

Page 22: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q24

Respondent skipped this question

If yes, please choose options from the non-exhaustive list below. (If a difficulty in accessing aid for trade does not appear in the drop-down list, please tick other and add details in the text box.)

Page 23: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q25

Yes

Does your government face a situation where it is receiving an increasing share of Aid for Trade in the form of loans and a declining share of grants?

Page 24: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q26

No

If yes, does this situation present a challenge for your government to achieve its trade objectives?

Page 25: SECTION D: FINANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PRIORITIES

Q27

No

Do you plan to stop receiving Aid for Trade? Has a date been set to achieve this objective (e.g. a date to stop receiving foreign aid)?

Page 26: SECTION E: ALIGNMENT OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q28

Mostly aligned

How well-aligned is the Aid-for-Trade support you receive with your Aid-for-Trade priorities?

Q29

Respondent skipped this question

What challenges do you encounter in aligning the Aid-for-Trade support you receive with the sectoral level needs outlined in relevant policy documents ? (Please tick relevant boxes)

Page 27: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q30

Other (please specify),

Do development financing partners (i.e. both donors and South-South partners) align their monitoring and evaluation with your national monitoring or results frameworks?

Additional information on alignment of monitoring and evaluation::
Unknown

Page 28: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q31

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

Other (please specify):

Does not apply

Page 29: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q32

If yes, where is Aid for Trade having a measurable impact in your opinion?(Please tick relevant boxes)

Respondent skipped this question

Page 30: SECTION F: OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF AID-FOR-TRADE SUPPORT

Q33

Is there an Aid-for-Trade project or programme that you would like to highlight as an example of best practice?

No

Page 31: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q34

Do you foresee a continued need for Aid-for-Trade financing?

Yes

Page 32: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q35

If yes, please tick all relevant boxes and provide further details including hyperlinks as relevant.(Please tick relevant boxes)

- Agriculture,**
 - Forestry,**
 - Fisheries,**
 - Renewable energy,**
 - Manufacturing sector,**
 - MSME sector development,**
 - Banking and financial services,**
 - Business and professional services,**
 - Communication services, including ICT,**
 - Construction services,**
 - Culture and creative industries,**
 - Distribution services,**
 - Education services,**
 - Energy services,**
 - Environment services,**
 - Science, technology and innovation,**
 - Transport services (air, land and maritime),**
 - Cross-sectoral e-commerce and digital trade**
-

Q36

In which categories of Aid-for-Trade support do you foresee future needs?(Please tick relevant boxes)

Trade policy and administrative management,

Trade facilitation,

Regional trade agreements (RTAs),

Trade education/training,

Trade-related Transport and storage infrastructure (e.g. port, dry port, inland container port, inland container depot, etc.)

,

Trade-related Communications infrastructure,

Business support services,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Fishing,

Multilateral trade negotiations,

Industry,

Digital trade and e-commerce,

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 undertake trade reform/facilitate implementation of trade agreements and to adapt to and comply with rules and standards)

,

TRADE-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE (Including physical infrastructure)

,

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)

,

Additional information on the categories of Aid-for-Trade support in which you foresee future needs::

The National Trade Facilitation Council of Costa Rica (CONAFAC) plays a fundamental role in supporting the objective of Costa Rica's National Strategic Plan to promote the growth of exports of goods and services. This is achieved through improving efficiency in foreign trade operations, regulatory harmonization, and fostering public-private collaboration, among other aspects. Within the

framework of CONAFAC's priority agenda, a project has been established for the council's participation in the "Empowerment Program for National Trade Facilitation Committees" developed by UNCTAD. The purpose of this project is to enhance CONAFAC's capabilities, particularly in the areas of process digitalization, monitoring, and surveillance mechanisms. This would directly impact the effectiveness of the council's work, leading to tangible improvements in trade operations. Currently, the search for financing to achieve this objective is underway.

Page 33: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q37 **Yes**

Do you foresee future needs for Aid for Trade to support the achievement of trade-related aspects of the Sustainable Development Agenda?

Page 34: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q38

If yes, please indicate the relevant SDGs that Aid for Trade can help achieve.(Please tick relevant boxes)

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth,
GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,
GOAL 13: Climate Action,
GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal,
GOAL 5: Gender Equality

Page 35: SECTION G: FUTURE AID-FOR-TRADE NEEDS

Q39 **Yes**

Do you foresee future needs for Aid for Trade to support the trade-related aspects of climate change ?
