



Page 5: ABOUT YOU

Q1

LESOTHO

Respondent (Country or Customs Territory)

Q2

About you

Name

Phera Lepati

Position

Director - Planning Unit

Ministry

Ministry of Trade and Industry

Email Address

plepati2000@yahoo.co.uk

Phone Number

+26658863552

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 current National Strategic Development Plan II (NSDP II) has prioritized trade as key driver of sustainable economic growth and job creation.

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 | 1 |
| E-commerce | 3 |
| Export diversification | 5 |
| Regional integration | 4 |
| Trade facilitation | 2 |

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

Q5**No**

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

Page 10: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

Q6**Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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

Q7

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

More,

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 Covid19 pandemic has adversely impacted on the fiscus of the Government and hence the need for more Aid for Trade to augment the national budget.

Q8**Yes**

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

Q9**Unsure**

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

Page 12: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

Q10

Respondent skipped this question

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).

Page 13: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

Q11

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

1. National Strategic Development Plan II (2018/19 - 2022/23)
2. Lesotho National Trade Policy (2021 - 2025)
3. Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) Update 2012
4. Lesotho National Export Strategy
5. Lesotho Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment

Page 15: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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).: Environment and climate change are integral parts of NSDP II.

Page 16: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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 trade development strategy, policy or plan,

National export strategy, policy or plan

Page 17: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q14

Sustainable Production and Consumption (SDG 12)

Does your national development strategy, policy or plan explicitly target any of the following environment-specific goals? (You may tick more than one box).

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).:

1. To improve commercial agriculture and food security
2. To diversify export products
3. To develop business linkages between local and foreign owned businesses
4. To improve and diversify tourism products.

Page 18: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q16

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

Yes

Page 19: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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?

No

Page 20: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q18

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

Respondent skipped this question

Page 21: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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,
Mining,
Industry,
Services**

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).

Forestry

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).

- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Lack of data to support decision-making,**
- Lack of human resource capability,**
- Lack of political will,**
- Limited agricultural processing capacity,**
- Low productivity of agricultural sector,**
- 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,**
- Dependence on a narrow basket of goods and services**
- ,
- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,**
- Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,**
- High concentration of economic activity in the informal sector**
- ,
- Lack of data to support decision-making,**
- Lack of human resource capability,**
- Limited agricultural processing capacity,**
- Limited economic and export diversification,**
- Low productive capacity in manufacturing,**
- Low productivity of agricultural sector,**
- Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**
- Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

Page 22: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q23

Unsure

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

Page 23: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q24

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q25

Respondent skipped this question

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

Page 24: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q26

Yes

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

Q27

Yes

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

Q28

Services

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

Q29

E-commerce,
E-government,
E-logistics

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).

Q30

Unsure

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?

Q31

Yes

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

Q32

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

Digital payments issues,
 Inadequate network infrastructure including broadband capacity
 ,
 Insufficient or uneven internet coverage,
 National digital connectivity strategy needs to be developed/updated
 ,
 National e-commerce development strategy needs to be developed/updated
 ,
 Poor access to internet services,
 Poor digital skills and IT literacy,
 Rules relating to e-commerce need updating,
 Slow, expensive or unreliable internet services,
 Trade facilitation and logistics issues

 Page 25: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE
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,
 Fisheries,
 Forestry,
 Mining,
 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).

(d) Building productive capacity,
 (c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)
 ,
 Transport and storage infrastructure,
 Communications infrastructure,
 Energy supply and generation infrastructure,
 Building productive capacity,
 Agriculture,
 Forestry,
 Fishing,
 Industry,
 Mineral resources and mining,
 Travel and tourism

Page 26: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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).

**African Development Bank (AfDB),
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA),
Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF),
Global Environment Facility (GEF),
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
World Bank**

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).

Unsure

Q37 Have you received Aid-for-Trade financing as part of triangular co-operation projects?

No

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?

Government of Lesotho and UNDP are in the process of formulation of the Green Value Chains project. Currently baseline studies are underway to undertake rapid assessment in order to provide baseline information that will be used to guide project implementation on sustainable value chains that can be developed by the project. Design, packaging and implementation of a programme for promoting development and acquisition of digital and green technologies.

Page 27: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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?

Unsure

Q40 Do you implement Aid-for-Trade projects that combine the objectives of women's economic empowerment and environmentally sustainable development?

Unsure

Q41

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

Supply side constraints and inadequate productive capacity in sectors such as agriculture, tourism and ICT are still very much prevalent in Lesotho as a least developed country. Aid for Trade resources are needed to finance infrastructural developments in energy, ICT, roads, etc. Productive capacity financing is also very much needed in sectors such as agriculture, tourism and creative industries and technology.

Page 29: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q42

Yes

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

Page 30: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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 export strategy, policy or plan,

National gender equality strategy, policy or plan,

National trade development 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 NSDP11 document has a dedicated chapter on Cross Cutting Issues among which is gender strategies to empower women and youth.

Q44

Yes

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)?

Page 31: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q45

Unsure

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

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,
Difficult working conditions,
Lack of access to digital services,
Informal employment,
Smaller sized business

Q47

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

Yes,
 Additional information on the role that Aid for Trade can play in addressing these constraints.:
 Aid for Trade could help women empowerment by making it easier for women to have access to finance, for instance by collaborating with local commercial banks to establish small scale funding for women entrepreneurs which do not require prohibitive collateral and charges low interest rates. Training on digital services could be provided to women to use digital transactions to save time and money to queue in the long lines to deposit their and make payments.

Page 32: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q48**No**

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

Page 33: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q49**Respondent skipped this question**

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.

Page 34: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q50**Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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?

Q52

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q53

Respondent skipped this question

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

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?

Page 35: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q55

Respondent skipped this question

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

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).

Page 36: SECTION 3: NATIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Q57

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).

Agriculture,

Mining,

Industry,

Services,

Additional information on the sectors in which future support for women's economic empowerment should be focussed.:

Women empowerment should be focused more on supporting women to transition away from subsistence agriculture to commercial farming and to empower women to get involved in supply chains.

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,

(c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)

,

Transport and storage infrastructure,

Communications infrastructure,

Energy supply and generation infrastructure,

Business and other services,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Fishing,

Industry,

Mineral resources and mining,

Travel and tourism

Q59

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

In most if not in all the least developed and developing countries, women make up the majority in the informal sector of their countries economies. The working conditions in the informal sector are not conducive for women entrepreneurs to produce to their optimum. For instance, lack of basic commodities such as water, electricity and sanitation are some of the problems that women encounter in their work places. Aid for trade can advance women's empowerment to provide these basic utilities so that women's production and productivity can be enhanced due to constant availability of these utilities. Connectivity to the broadband can go a long way in enhancing women empowerment so that they can participate in the digital business services.

Page 37: END OF SURVEY

Q60

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

no
