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Page 5: ABOUT YOU

**Q1** Respondent

**LIBERIA**

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**Q2** About you

Name

**Jesse Jefferson FAHN**

Position

**Director/Coordinator**

Ministry

**Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

Email Address

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

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

**Yes**

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

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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Export diversification  | 3 |
| Trade facilitation  | 2 |
| Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)   | 1 |
| Other priority areas including: MSMEs, Women's economic empowerment, Youth, etc. (please specify) | 4 |

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

**Transport infrastructure development programs have been identified as a top priority, including the development of farm to market roads and other trade related infrastructures; youth empowerment, MSMEs productive capacity development and, women economic empowerment are equally emphasized as top priorities; enabling Liberians to be active economic actors and not spectators in their own economy. However as a result of low domestic revenue generation caused by falling prices of major Liberian exports; couple with infrastructural deficit and relevant human capacity and logistical gaps.**  
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## Page 9: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

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

**Yes,**

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

Liberia has a new political administration and a new development strategy. The AfT priorities remain relatively the same technically but with more emphasis on road connectivity, youth empowerment and education. The ultimate goal is to diversify the economy, enhance structural transformation, value addition in order to increase export.

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

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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Change of government   | 1   |
| New national development strategy  | 2   |
| Youth economic empowerment objectives  | 3   |
| Additional information on the top 3 drivers of changes in your Aid-for-Trade priorities since 2016.: | The new government Development agenda- the Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development pillar 1 and 2 identified programs to empower Liberian with the tools to gain control of for their lives through equitable provisions of opportunities in education, health, youth empowerment and social protection and economic stability and job creation. |

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

**Yes,**

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

The New Development Agenda was subjected to intensive and constructive consultation with both national and international stakeholders. The final document was the flection of inputs and recommendation from all stakeholders.

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

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

Our strategy has changed since the National Trade Policy. We are currently working under the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (2018-2023). Within this agenda, you will find our updated strategies for improving trade within Liberia.

## Page 13: SECTION 2: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

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

**Yes,**

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

Liberia is moving away from dependence of major extractives sectors and looking to increase the domestic production of manufacturing, industrialization, and value-added products. Through the Special Economic Zone located in Buchanan Port, there is 900

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

High input costs ,  
 High tariffs in target markets/products ,  
 High trade costs ,  
 Inadequate network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications) ,  
 Limited access to trade finance ,  
 Limited e-trade readiness,  
 Limited inward foreign direct investment ,  
 Limited industrial or manufacturing capacity ,  
 Limited network and/or transport infrastructure of a cross border nature ,  
 Limited services capacity,  
 Low levels of training and skills

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

Trade policy and administrative management ,  
 Trade facilitation,  
 Multilateral trade negotiations ,  
 Trade education/training,  
 Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,  
 Business support services,  
 Building productive capacity

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

Yes

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

Unsure

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

Respondent skipped this question

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

Respondent skipped this question

## Page 15: SECTION 2: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

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

Trade policy and administrative management ,  
Trade facilitation,  
Regional trade agreements (RTAs) ,  
Multilateral trade negotiations

## Page 16: SECTION 2: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

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

Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities ,  
Capacity to draft funding applications ,  
Coordination among donors ,  
Country ownership,  
Institutional capacity to implement projects ,  
Mobilization of domestic private investment

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

**Diverging priorities between partner and donor** ,

**Inadequate infrastructure,**

**Failure to mobilize domestic private investment** ,

**Lack of country ownership** ,

**Poor alignment of aid-for-trade received with national/regional priorities**

,

Additional information on the factors that may limit the success of the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic diversification.:

Limited infrastructures, access to road connectivity, and reliable electricity and /or energy availability.

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

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

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

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

China,  
 Egypt,  
 Kuwait

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

**Agriculture,**  
**Industry,**  
**Services,**  
**Fisheries,**  
**Forestry**

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

**Trade policy and administrative management** ,  
**Trade facilitation,**  
**Regional trade agreements (RTAs)** ,  
**Multilateral trade negotiations** ,  
**Transport and storage infrastructure** ,  
**Energy supply and generation infrastructure** ,  
**Building productive capacity** ,  
**Agriculture,**  
**Forestry,**  
**Fishing,**  
**Industry,**  
**Travel and tourism**

## Page 19: SECTION 2: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

**Q24** Is there any Aid-for-Trade project or programme for economic diversification that you would like to showcase as an example of best practice?(Please provide additional information and include weblinks as relevant)

Ministry of Commerce annual MSMEs supported by the Japanese grant, Trade Fair, Data harmonization, EIF Tie1 and 2.  
[www.moci.gov.lr](http://www.moci.gov.lr)

## Page 21: SECTION 3 : AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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

**Yes,**  
If yes, please provide additional information on how economic empowerment is prioritized in your national or regional strategy.:  
Pillar 2 of the National Development Strategy (PAPD) outlines programs for economic empowerment.



## Page 22: SECTION 3 : AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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

**Women's economic empowerment** ,  
**Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises** ,  
**Youth economic empowerment**

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

**Yes**

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

**Yes**

## Page 23: SECTION 3: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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

**Trade policy and administrative management** ,  
**Trade facilitation,**  
**Multilateral trade negotiations** ,  
**Trade education/training,**  
**Agriculture,**  
**Forestry,**  
**Fishing,**  
**Industry,**  
**Travel and tourism**

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

**Yes,**  
 Additional information on how the aid-for-trade support you receive for economic empowerment aligns with the empowerment priorities established in your national or regional trade and development strategy(ies).:  
 The AfT received for economic empowerment aligned with Liberia's empowerment priorities in terms of product capacity development, institutional capacity development and sustainability; increase women participation etc.

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

- Improving access to information ,
- Improving access to foreign markets ,
- Improving access to global value chains ,
- Improving digital connectivity ,
- Improving the provision of services ,
- Improving the flow of goods at borders (Trade Facilitation) ,
- Providing access to finance ,
- Supporting the growth and economic development of women ,
- Supporting rural trade ,
- Supporting the elaboration of gender-sensitive policies ,
- Supporting the growth and economic development of Youth ,
- Upgrading business skills,
- Upgrading ICT skills ,
- Upgrading the transport infrastructure

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

- Trade policy and administrative management ,
- Trade facilitation,
- Multilateral trade negotiations ,
- Trade education/training

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

**Alignment of aid-for-trade support with national/regional priorities**

**Capacity to draft funding applications**

**Coordination among donors**

**Mobilization of domestic private investment**

**Institutional capacity to implement projects**

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

Improving the flow of goods at borders (Trade Facilitation)

,

Providing access to finance

Supporting the growth and economic development of women

,

Supporting rural trade

Supporting the elaboration of gender-sensitive policies

,

Supporting the growth and economic development of Youth

,

Upgrading business skills,

Upgrading ICT skills

Upgrading the energy infrastructure

Upgrading the transport infrastructure,

Improving access to information

Improving access to foreign markets

Improving access to global value chains

Improving digital connectivity

Improving the provision of services

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

- Business support services,**
- Banking and financial services**
- Building productive capacity**
- Agriculture,**
- Trade policy and administrative management**
- Trade facilitation,**
- Trade education/training,**
- Travel and tourism**

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

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

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

- Providing access to finance**
- Supporting the growth and economic development of Youth**
- Upgrading business skills,**
- Upgrading ICT skills**
- Improving access to information**

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

- Business support services,**
- Building productive capacity** ,
- Agriculture,**
- Trade policy and administrative management** ,
- Trade facilitation,**
- Trade education/training,**
- Travel and tourism**

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

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

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

**Yes**

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

- 1. No poverty** ,
- 2. Zero hunger,**
- 3. Good health and well-being** ,
- 4. Quality education,**
- 5. Gender equality** ,
- 8. Decent work and economic growth** ,
- 9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure** ,
- 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions**

## Page 28: SECTION 3: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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

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

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

China,  
 Kuwait,  
 India,  
 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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

**Business support services,**

**Banking and financial services**

**Agriculture,**

**Trade policy and administrative management**

**Trade facilitation,**

**Regional trade agreements (RTAs)**

**Trade education/training,**

**Transport and storage infrastructure**

**Fishing,**

**Industry,**

**Travel and tourism**

Additional information on which category(ies) of Aid for Trade you think your country will require further aid-for-trade support for economic empowerment.:

Liberia is in the process of developing a special economic zone (SEZ) on 900 acres of land to attract investments in agro processing gearing toward economic diversification and industrialization.

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## Page 29: SECTION 3: AID FOR TRADE IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

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

Among the most important ongoing AfT Programs currently ongoing in Liberia are: EIF Tier1 and Tier 2 project; ADB PATSIL program; Japanese grant, The Netherlands ITC and CBI cocoa program and etc.

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## Page 30: END OF SURVEY

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

Yes. The EIF Single Project Implementation Unit the National Implementation Unit responsible for coordinating AfT initiatives coordinated a nation wide consultation with relevant stakeholders.