



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

Page 2: ABOUT YOU

Q1

MAURITIUS

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::

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME 2020 -2024: "TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE, HIGH INCOME AND GREEN MAURITIUS, FORGING AHEAD TOGETHER" One of the economic growth strategies proposed by Government in the programme, to fully tap the opportunities as they unfold is to adapt the country's industrial and trade policies. Accordingly, the following are proposed: In order to speed up employment creation, Government will adapt its industrial and trade policies to the new realities and exigencies of the world economy and the higher aspirations of our population, particularly our youth. Government will build further on the impressive performance of the past few years which has enabled Mauritius to be positioned 13th globally in the Ease of Doing Business of the World Bank in 2019. It will continue to streamline licences and business processes aiming at putting Mauritius among the ten best countries for doing business. Special efforts will be made to ensure timely enforcement of contracts and settlement of commercial disputes. Government will consolidate the effective and enduring partnership with Business and Industry with special emphasis on dialogue with all stakeholders, including trade unions. A centralized repository will be established to enable businesses and relevant public sector agencies to have access to data, licences, permits, and reporting obligations. Another core objective of the new industrial and trade policies will be to strengthen the resilience of key sectors of the economy. A new reform package will be implemented for the cane industry, while encouraging the shift to modern organic and niche production in agriculture. A plan for optimising the use of agricultural land will be developed. With regard to tourism, Government will work with all stakeholders to re-engineer the whole industry, target new markets, enhance efforts to further diversify the product and client base and consolidate traditional markets. The tourism branding will be reviewed. As regards the financial services industry, Government will build on the progress achieved in developing the fintech eco-system in Mauritius and further accelerate the country's growth and consolidate the image of Mauritius as a thriving international financial centre of repute. The Bank of Mauritius is currently working on the creation of a central bank digital currency and is further developing a modern technology-driven payment system. In order to usher in a paradigm shift in the development of the manufacturing sector, Government is devising a strategic plan. It will focus on the promotion of innovation-led and technology-intensive production on building export competitiveness and on import-substituting activities. As part of its new trade policies, Government will use economic diplomacy

trade policies, Government will use economic diplomacy more intensively. It will leverage agreements already negotiated with trading partners, namely, the USA, Europe, UK, key African nations, China and India. As part of its new industrial and trade policies, Government will also focus on developing new economic pillars. Accordingly, Government will come up with a Unified Regulatory Framework, an Offshore Petroleum Bill, a Seabed Mineral Bill and set up a Marine Biotechnology hub, among others, to accelerate the development of our blue economy. In addition, Government will enhance its support towards the development of a sustainable aquaculture and fishing industry through training for semi-industrial and industrial fisheries and skills enhancement of artisanal fishers. Government will give a new boost to the Creative Industry. Appropriate infrastructure and new schemes for artistic activities will be provided. A strong policy will be developed to promote cultural tourism and expand opportunities for local artists. The development of the circular economy will also be given greater prominence by promoting the reduction, reusing and recycling culture and sustainable production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.

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Q5

Yes

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

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 fisheries sector,**
- Expansion of the manufacturing sector,**
- Expansion of the services sector,**
- Expansion of the digital economy,**
- Infrastructure development,**
- Trade integration,**
- Institutional strengthening (e.g. good governance, transparency and accountability)**
- '
- Climate change mitigation,**
- Climate change adaptation,**
- Innovation and technological development,**
- Expansion of the formal economy,**
- Expansion of the MSME sector,**
- Expansion of public-private partnerships,**
- Human capital development (e.g. education through skills, training and health)**
- '
- Preventing desertification,**
- Protection of biodiversity,**
- Higher labour productivity,**
- Employment creation,**
- Women's economic empowerment and gender equality**
- '
- Youth employment and skills,**
- Pollution control,**
- Environmental protection,**
- Sustainable resource management,**
- Waste management ,**
- Inclusive growth, including (historically) disadvantaged groups (add additional information in text box if appropriate).**
- '
- . . .

Food security

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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*:

Achieving Upper-Middle Income Status,

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

Economic growth targets,

Poverty reduction targets,

Additional information on objectives and targets::

The Government Programme 2020 – 2024 articulates around the following theme: Towards an inclusive High Income and Green Mauritius. It amongst other focus on the following priorities: • Inclusiveness • Education and Skills for the World of Tomorrow • Improving the Well-being and Quality of Life of Citizens • Building the Economy of the Future • Public Infrastructure for an Innovative Mauritius • A Peaceful, Safe and Secure Mauritius • A Sustainable and Green Society • Strengthening Democracy and Governance • Transformational Development of Rodrigues and the Outer Islands • Diplomacy and Foreign Policy

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):
 Budget Speech 2021-22 Supporting the transformation and modernisation of our industries: • setting up of a Rs 5 billion Modernisation and Transformation Fund, which will be managed by a new Industrial Financial Institution (IFI) and cater for industries in manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries amongst others. • reduction of the annual interest rate for the existing Leasing Equipment Modernisation Scheme (LEMS) • extension of the Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS) for SMEs to cover 5 percent of the default amount on leases contracted from private leasing companies. • a 200 percent deduction from taxable income will be allowed on the acquisition of specialised software and systems. Ease of Doing Business – • introduction of a Regulatory Impact Assessment Bill to require Regulatory bodies, amongst others, to submit an impact of upcoming regulations on the business environment. • to oversee and monitor the quality of assessments, a RIA Office will be established under the purview of the PMO. • the ‘silence is consent’ principle will apply to licenses and permits as may be prescribed. • streamlining some sixteen different incentives schemes under three certificates issued by the EDB, namely, (a) the Investment Certificate; (b) the Export Development Certificate; and (c) the Premium Investor Certificate. • set up a Business Support Facility that will provide facilitation and advisory services to all businesses in Mauritius. • dedicate an accounts manager to all registered businesses. • implement an information sharing platform with the MRA and CBRD to facilitate exchange of information between these institutions. • Furthermore, to keep abreast of all business and economic developments, issues and opportunities, the EDB will set up commissions on: (a) Trade and Business Facilitation. (b) Export Development. (c) Investment. (d) Sectoral Development. (e) Financial Services. • We will further pursue our strategy to automate public service delivery through the: • Development of a new Companies and Businesses Registration Integrated System; • Development of a Notice-Based registry under the Mauritius E-Registry system; and • Upgrading of the E-Judiciary system. • The Attorney General’s Office will work with the Judiciary to undertake a review of court procedures in view of expediting commercial disputes. Measures proposed for a new economic architecture with focus on: • Green energy • Tourism • Agriculture, agro-processing, animal breeding and livestock production • Blue economy • Biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry • Knowledge industry Budget Speeches 2022-23 and 2023 -24

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.

- Security of supply,
- Improved balance of payments situation,
- Increased competitiveness,
- Expansion of agricultural exports,
- Expansion of exports of fishery products,
- 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 growth targets,
- Export diversification in terms of number of markets reached
- ,
- Competitiveness ranking in global index,
- Agricultural export growth target,
- Better export performance,
- Export diversification in terms of number of goods and services exported
- ,
- Access to essential goods,
- Reduction in import targets,
- Fishery products export target,
- Manufactured export target,
- Services trade export target,
- E-commerce export target,
- MSME sector growth targets,
- Export markets diversification targets,
- Trade facilitation targets (e.g. time taken to release),
- Emissions reduction targets found in nationally determined contributions**
- ,
- Trade-related targets to reduce certain trade flows

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)?

Page 12: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADE OBJECTIVES

Q14**Yes**

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

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)

Agriculture,
Fisheries,
Manufacturing sector,
MSME sector development,
Services (general),
Banking and financial services,
Business and professional services,
Communication services, including ICT,
Environment services,
Tourism

Page 14: SECTION C: SECTORAL AND REGIONAL TRADE OBJECTIVES

Q16

Yes

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

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

African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA),

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

,

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

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 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 facilitation,

Regional trade agreements (RTAs),

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)

,

Banking and financial services,

Multilateral trade negotiations,

Travel and tourism,

Digital trade and e-commerce,

TRADE-RELATED ADJUSTMENT (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

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

Q20

Yes

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

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Q21

Communication of policy document,

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

Dialogue with development partners

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?

Yes,

If yes, please identify which sources of aid finance or other financial assistance for trade that you would like to attract to achieve your trade objectives. (e.g. Official Development Assistance (i.e. Aid for Trade), Other Official Flows (loans at concessional rates that do not qualify as ODA), South-South co-operation, Climate finance, etc.)::

Grant, concessional financing and technical assistance

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?

Yes

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Q24

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.)

Lengthy approval processes related to loans,

High cost of borrowing,

Difficulties accessing grant finance,

Insufficiency of grant financing,

Conditions attached to access aid-for-trade financing,

Lack of coordination between development partners

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

Q25

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?

Yes

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Q26

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

Yes

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

Q27

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)?

No

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

Difficulties associated with cross-sectoral approaches (e.g. e-commerce development)

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)

Lack of donor coordination,

Length of project/programme funding cycles,

Human capacity constraints to developing bankable projects

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

Q30

No,

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::

Financing partners request progress reports from implementing agencies for monitoring purposes.

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

Q31

No

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

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

Q32

Respondent skipped this question

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

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

Q33

No

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

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

Q34

Yes

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

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,**
 - Fisheries,**
 - Renewable energy,**
 - Manufacturing sector,**
 - MSME sector development,**
 - Banking and financial services,**
 - Business and professional services,**
 - Communication services, including ICT,**
 - Construction services,**
 - Education services,**
 - Environment services,**
 - Science, technology and innovation,**
 - Tourism,**
 - Transport services (air, land and maritime)**
-

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,

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,

Trade-related Energy supply and generation infrastructure

,

Business support services,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Fishing,

Industry,

Travel and tourism,

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)

,

TRADE-RELATED ADJUSTMENT (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

,

OTHER TRADE-RELATED NEEDS

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?

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Q38

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

- GOAL 1: No Poverty,**
 - GOAL 2: Zero Hunger,**
 - GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being,**
 - GOAL 4: Quality Education,**
 - GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation,**
 - GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy,**
 - GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth,**
 - GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,**
 - GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality,**
 - GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities,**
 - GOAL 13: Climate Action,**
 - GOAL 14: Life Below Water,**
 - GOAL 15: Life on Land,**
 - GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions,**
 - GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal,**
 - GOAL 5: Gender Equality**
-
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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 ?
