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Page 5: ABOUT YOU

**Q1** **PHILIPPINES**

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** **Yes**

Does your national development strategy, policy or plan include trade priorities (i.e., Aid-for-Trade priorities)?

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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).

E-commerce	<b>5</b>
Export diversification	<b>3</b>
MSMEs growth and development	<b>1</b>
Women's economic empowerment (please specify in the box below: rural women, women-owned businesses, women-led businesses, female workers, etc.)	<b>2</b>
Other (please specify)	<b>4</b>
Additional information and weblink(s) to the relevant strategy(ies), polic(ies) or plan(s) in which your Aid- for-Trade priorities are included.	<b>Others to specifically include industrialisation and economic recovery from the pandemic.</b>

## 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).: Addition of E-commerce and Economic Recovery.

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

**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 and trade impact of COVID-19 pandemic,**  
**E-commerce development (and digital transformation)** ,  
**New trade capacity needs,**  
**Women's economic empowerment objectives,**  
**MSMEs growth and development objectives**

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**Q7**

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

**More**

**Q8**

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

**Yes**

**Q9****Yes**

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

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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**

,

**Digital connectivity and transformation,**

**Job creation,**

**MSME support,**

**Preparedness, recovery and resilience,**

**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.

N/A

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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):  
The environmental dimension of sustainable development is reflected in both the National Development Plan and COVID-19 Recovery Plan. In the National Development Plan, known as the Updated Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, Ensuring Ecological Integrity, Clean and Healthy Environment is considered as one of the foundations for sustainable development. The section contains the following information: actions and reforms; challenges; strategies; and legislative agenda in relation to the environment and sustainable development. Please see the Updated Philippine Development Plan, pages 351-366 ([https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021\\_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf](https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf)). In the COVID-19 Recovery Plan, known as the We Recover As One, environment will be given greater emphasis and importance. The section on environment mentions environmental issues/topics such as air pollution, increase in volume of infectious waste materials, and urban agriculture.

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

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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),  
Other (please specify),**

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.:

Various sector-specific and cross-cutting strategies are to be implemented under the following areas: sustaining biodiversity and ecosystem services, improving environmental quality, increasing resilience of communities and their livelihood, and cross-cutting strategies. Please see the Updated Philippine Development Plan, pages 351-366 ([https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021\\_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf](https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf)).

**Q15**

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

**No**

## Page 18: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

**Q16**

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

## Page 19: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

**Q17**

Respondent skipped this question

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?

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**Q18**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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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,**  
**Fisheries,**  
**Forestry,**  
**Mining,**  
**Industry,**  
**Services**

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**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,**  
**Fisheries,**  
**Forestry,**  
**Mining,**  
**Industry,**  
**Services**

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**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).

- Business climate,**
- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,**
- Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,**
- Existing transport infrastructure,**
- Lack of political will,**
- Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**
- Social pressures (poverty, population growth),**
- 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,**
- Business climate,**
- Domestic political challenges (e.g., security and stability)**
- ,
- Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,**
- Existing energy and power generation infrastructure,**
- Existing transport infrastructure,**
- Lack of political will,**
- Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**
- Social pressures (poverty, population growth),**
- Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**
- ,
- Lack of technology transfer (including sharing of know-how)**

**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).: In an ADB report on the circular economy of the Philippines, the following are the current circular economy related policies and frameworks in the Philippines: Solid waste management policies (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000; Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990) Sustainable public procurement (SPP) to stimulate circular economy (CE) (The Philippine Green Public Procurement Roadmap: Advancing GPP until 2022 and beyond; Government Procurement Reform Act) Housing and construction policies for climate resilient housing in informal settlements (2017-2022 National Urban Development and Housing Framework; Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development Act; National Informal Settlement Upgrading Strategy) Renewable energy and rural electrification policy frameworks (Accelerated Barangay Electrification Program; Rural Electrification program; Expanded Rural Electrification Program) Green job creation policies (Philippine Green Jobs Act of 2016; National Green Jobs Human Resource Development Plan) Please see the ADB report for further information ([https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-documents/50158/50158-001-tacr-en\\_0.pdf](https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/project-documents/50158/50158-001-tacr-en_0.pdf))

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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).

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

Others: solid waste management; public procurement; climate resilient housing; renewable energy; green job

**Q25**

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

**No**

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**Q26**

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

**No**

**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).:

There are three plans that could be referred to in relation to the Philippines' digital connectivity. These are the following: The Philippine Digital Transformation Strategy 2022 embodies "the strategy to be adopted by the government in its pursuit of digital transformation that will greatly improve Philippine governance, socio-economic development and services to the people." Moreover, it traces the evolution of the Philippine Digital Transformation Strategy. For further information, please see: <https://www.gov.ph/web/national-government-portal-project/philippine-digital-transformation-strategy> The E-Government Masterplan 2022 "serves as the blueprint for a harmonized government information system". The Masterplan has four objectives: optimize government operations, engage citizens, transform services, and empower government employees. For further information, please see: <https://dict.gov.ph/ictstatistics/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/EGMP-2022.pdf> The e-Commerce Philippines 2022 was launched in January 2021. The roadmap outlines government and private sector strategies to advance the growth of e-commerce. It emphasizes the relationship between and among speed, structure, security, and sales. For further information, please see: <https://ecommerce.dti.gov.ph/ecommerce-philippines-2022/>

**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,  
Industry,  
Services**

**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).

**Digital contents,  
E-commerce,  
E-government,  
E-healthcare,  
E-learning,  
E-logistics,  
Transport information systems**



**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?

**Unsure****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.:

The World Bank published the Philippines Digital Economy Report 2020: A Better Normal Under COVID-19 - Digitalizing the Philippine Economy Now. The report "provides a thorough analysis of the obstacles to digitalization and identifies key reforms and policy measures that could help the Philippines harness the potential of the digital economy. The full report can be downloaded through this link:

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34606>

**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,****Lack of access to trade finance,****National digital connectivity 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**

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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,****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).

- Trade policy and administrative management,  
 Regional trade agreements (RTAs),  
 Multilateral trade negotiations,  
 Trade education/training,  
 (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)  
 ,  
 (c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)  
 ,  
 Energy supply and generation infrastructure,  
 Business and other services,  
 Agriculture,  
 Forestry,  
 Fishing,  
 Industry,  
 Mineral resources and mining,  
 Travel and tourism,  
 (e) Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

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**Q35**

Respondent skipped this question

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).

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**Q36**

**Unsure**

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).

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**Q37**

**Unsure**

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

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**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?

N/A

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Page 27: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

**Q39**

**Unsure**

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?

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**Q40**

**Unsure**

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

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**Q41**

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

N/A

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

**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 Updated Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 aims to increase female labor force participation by creating more jobs and economic opportunities. For further information, please see: [https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021\\_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf](https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf) The Philippine Plan for Gender and Development (1995-2025) is a National Plan that addresses, provides, and pursues full equity and development for men and women. One of its strategies is to facilitate the implementation of the country's women empowerment goals under international agenda such as the Sustainable Development Goals. Please see: <https://emb.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Philippine-Plan-for-Gender-Responsive-Development-1995-2025.pdf>

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****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).: For further information, please see: [https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021\\_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf](https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/8312021_Updated-PDP-2017-2022.pdf)

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

**Q45**

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

**Unsure**

**Q46**

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

**Difficult working conditions,**  
**Difficulties in meeting regulatory and procedural requirements**  
 ,  
**Harassment, security and safety issues,**  
**Informal employment,**  
**Unpaid care and domestic work**

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**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,**  
 Additional information on whether you have requested Aid for Trade to finance projects for women's economic empowerment in 2015-2020, including reasons as to why or why not.:  
 Most assistance for women's economic empowerment was courses through ITC.

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

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

**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**

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**Q51**

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

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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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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?

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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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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,**
  - Fisheries,**
  - Forestry,**
  - Mining,**
  - Industry,**
  - Services**
-

**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).

- Trade policy and administrative management,
- Trade facilitation,
- Regional trade agreements (RTAs),
- Multilateral trade negotiations,
- Trade education/training,
- (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)
- ,
- (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,
- (e) Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

**Q59**

**Respondent skipped this question**

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

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**Q60**

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

Members of the Technical Committee on WTO Matters and the Philippine Mission to the WTO in Geneva.

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