



Page 5: ABOUT YOU

Q1 **SAMOA**

Respondent (Country or Customs Territory)

Q2

About you

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Name | Nella Tavita Levy |
| Position | Assistant Chief Executive Officer |
| Ministry | Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade |
| Email Address | nella@mfat.gov.ws |
| Phone Number | +68521171 |

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)?

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).

| | |
|--|---|
| Connecting to value chains | 5 |
| E-commerce | 2 |
| Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy | 4 |
| MSMEs growth and development | 3 |
| Trade facilitation | 1 |
| Additional information and weblink(s) to the relevant strategy(ies), polic(ies) or plan(s) in which your Aid- for-Trade priorities are included. | Samoa 2040 - https://www.mof.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Samoa-2040-Final.pdf |

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):

PACER Plus Rapid Needs Assessment - Samoa Country Report 2021-
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sLrv7Nv_Mm-uLIOYCSbbNOz1zR7etuE/view?usp=sharing

Change in AfT needs include the following: - Specific Health Related Training: To facilitate the implementation of the COVID-19 related measures at the borders (necessary checks, testing and isolation arrangements), support for training of airport and seaport staff on the specific health measures required at ports of entry - from ground handling staff to management. - Evaluation Study of COVID Impact on Trade Facilitation (TF): Samoa is keen for an evaluation of the impact of closed borders due to COVID 19, in particular in relation to its effect on facilitating trade, and how the problems and obstacles encountered could be better handled in the future. This could be a useful region-wide study. - Impact of COVID-19 and Skills Needs in the Tourism Industry: There is a serious shortage of work in the tourism and hospitality industries at the moment due to impact of COVID-19. The Samoa Tourism Authority requires technical assistance and capacity building to train more managers and supervisors in the tourism industry to be able to take advantage of what is hoped will be a gradual increase in tourism in coming years and enable services suppliers in this sector to benefit from the implementation of PACER Plus. Such capacity building would be undertaken in collaboration with universities, APTC and other vocational education suppliers. - Assistance for the Development of a Labour Mobility Framework for Samoa: Labour mobility is one of the key long-term growth sectors in the Samoa Vision 2040. A situational analysis/concept note is being developed and is anticipated to contribute to mapping out a comprehensive labour mobility framework for Samoa. This includes a review of local labour capacity to meet future overseas demand, and how to develop the stronger participation of women in future labour market schemes. The consultations noted the labour market analysis for Samoa by APTC recently, which is yet to be released by DFAT. This would help shed light on a number of capacity issues and the future skills training required. The request now is for a technical expert to be engaged to assist Samoa, and any other PIC with a similar need, to develop a labour mobility framework. This would build Samoa's institutional capacity and labour market skills development needs in a more gendered and evidenced-based manner, to be able to meet future labour market demand in the region. - Capacity building support to the private sector/SMEs on use of E-commerce for trade: Some companies that export overseas do not have credit card facilities to complete transactions, or are not familiar

with the use of mobile phone technology for business. In terms of access to finance, businesses in Samoa need to move from traditional services, and build their capacities and infrastructure, to take advantage of digital systems/services, and the potential of trade through e-commerce platforms. There is a need to encourage the use of the internet to promote business as a priority, given restricted movements and mobility due to COVID-19. There is also a need for digital literacy for small-medium businesses on digital and e-commerce hardware and software, and how to use them effectively. Capacity building for the private sector and SMEs in how to successfully trade, through improved connectivity to new and existing markets utilizing e-commerce technology, is therefore seen as a medium to high priority. Training should focus in particular on young people and women, consistent with the Samoa 2040 Vision Statement. -

Technical Assistance for Improved Digital Banking, E-Payment and Access to Finance: A major barrier to e-commerce take up is that international banks often do not collaborate with local commercial banks on use of e-commerce technology, as they consider Samoa high-risk. This therefore limits commercial banks' ability to develop consumer-friendly facilities and services. The World Bank has been working on solutions to this, for example using appropriate apps, but this project was put on hold due to COVID-19. It is hoped that this will go live in 2022. In addition, the ADB offers a Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program to help in filling market gaps for trade finance, by providing guarantees and loans to banks to support trade. At present, Samoa continues to look for additional support to research and develop a range of online payment solutions. This would take advantage of the high penetration of mobile phones in the country, while also seeking technical support for business and individuals to set up bank accounts overseas, to improve the quality of e-commerce projects across Samoa. A specific technical assistance project which is accorded high priority is collaboration on digital banking, e-payment and access to e-commerce finance, involving working with banks, the private sector and relevant government ministries. -

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).

Change of government,

Economic and trade impact of COVID-19 pandemic,
External factors (e.g changes in key trading partners policies)

Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs),

MSMEs growth and development objectives

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

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

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

No

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

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).

Respondent skipped this question

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.

- Strategy for the Development of Samoa, 2016/17 - 2019/20 - <https://policy.asiapacificenergy.org/node/2834>

- Samoa 2040 - <https://www.mof.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Samoa-2040-Final.pdf>

- PACER Plus Rapid Needs Assessment: Samoa Country Report - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sLrv7Nv_Mm-uLIOYCSbbNOz1zR7etuE/view?usp=sharing

- All Samoa-related national policy documents - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rqtjOa3lCkEj5toSmjMN9ZM5PIWPIFbD?usp=sharing>

Page 15: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q12**Yes**

Is the environmental dimension of sustainable development reflected in your national policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies)?

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 environmentally sustainable economy strategy (or green growth), policy or plan

Page 17: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

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.:
 refer to SDS Priority Area 4 - Environment

Q15**Yes**

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

Page 18: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q16**Yes**

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

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?

Yes,

Additional information on how the Ministry of Trade is represented in your national committee on sustainable development.:

The Trade division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade sits on the Trade Commerce Manufacturing Steering Committee and Chair's the National Working Committee on Trade Arrangements.

Page 20: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Q18

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

Yes

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,
Fisheries,
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).

**Agriculture,
Fisheries**

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).

**Access to finance,
Dependence on a narrow basket of goods and services
,
Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,
Existing transport infrastructure,
High trade costs,
Limited agricultural processing capacity,
Limited economic and export diversification,
Social pressures (poverty, population growth),
Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

| | |
|---|---|
| Q22 | Access to finance, Economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, High trade costs, Limited economic and export diversification, Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment |
| 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) | |

Page 22: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Q23 | No |
| 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, Additional information on your national policy documents for digital connectivity. (Please include weblinks of the source used).: Communications Sector Plan 2017/18 – 2021/22- https://mcit.gov.ws/2018/01/01/communications-sector-plan-2017-18-2021-22/ |
| Do you have a national strategy, policy or plan for digital connectivity (including digital economy, e-commerce, etc.)? | |

| | |
|--|---|
| Q28 | Agriculture, Fisheries, Industry, 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

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**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 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,
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,
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,
- 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,
- Fishing,
- Industry,
- 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)

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).

Australia,
 Canada,
 European Union,
 Japan,
 New Zealand,
 Asian Development Bank (AsDB),
 Climate Investment Funds (CIF),
 Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF),
 Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO),
 Global Environment Facility (GEF),
 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
 ,
 International Labour Office (ILO),
 International Monetary Fund (IMF),
 International Trade Centre (ITC),
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
 UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
 ,
 World Bank,
 World Trade Organization (WTO)

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).

China

Q37

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

Yes

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?

GREEN CLIMATE FUND-VAISIGNO CATCHMENT PROJECT (GCF-VCP) Training on the Project Level Grievance Redress Mechanism (PL-GRM) Process

Q39 **Yes**

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?

Q40 **Yes**

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

Q41

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

Please refer to PACER Plus RNA- Samoa Country specific report.

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 **National development strategy, policy or plan**

If yes, please indicate the strategy, policy, or plan in which women's economic empowerment is included: (You may tick more than one box).

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 **Yes**

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,
 Discriminatory practices,
 Exclusion from male-dominated distribution networks
 ,
 Harassment, security and safety issues,
 Lack of access to redress options,
 Informal employment,
 Poor access to information,
 Poor access to professional bodies (e.g., chambers of commerce)
 ,
 Seasonal employment,
 Smaller sized business,
 Time and mobility constraints,
 Unpaid care and domestic work

Q47

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

Yes

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

Q48

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

Unsure

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

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

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

Agriculture,

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).

Fisheries,

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 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)

,

Business and other services,

Banking and financial services,

Building productive capacity,

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Industry,

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

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

- Upskilling Young People and Women for TIS: Upskilling in a number of services industries is a key focus for economic recovery in the post-COVID-19 era. For example, with emphasis on ICT skills from basic to advanced, product marketing, e-commerce and exporting skill sets, hospitality and tourism skills, and a wide range of teaching and primary health care skills. The Samoa Business Hub, APTC and other vocational suppliers will deliver training to address some of these shortages. Courses could also usefully harness the development of on-the-job training opportunities. Given this context, stakeholders in Samoa have put forward as a priority the need for Aid for Trade support as part of the PACER Plus implementation arrangement for the skill development of young people and women in key areas of business development, and the building of trade/export skills in the key areas of tourism, health and education services and the use of e-commerce, including the development of trade opportunities for women living in remote rural areas.

- Adapting to Climate Change through Support for Women and Smallholder Farmers: Trade agreements like PACER Plus should ideally enable the building of productive capacity through 'climate-smart' agricultural techniques, and through improvements in agri-technology and management practices. This can boost resilience in production and livelihood systems. A major gap was identified around the need for small businesses to have more support to identify niche markets. This would increase their capacity to understand sustainability practices, including on how to gain market access to regional supply chains. There are many smallholder farmers of kava, koko and taro who are interested in moving towards export. A number of smallholder farmers are women living in rural areas and they are seeking to attain the commercial export capability and supply capacity to meet demand in regional markets. Advice and support on how to meet the many SPS, climate change resilience and sustainability standards is vital. Therefore, there is a need for skills development and capacity building for women in particular, but also for men, in support of agricultural development and environmental management techniques, to have the skills to increase supply and to benefit from export and trade. This Aid for Trade project should be informed by and work in collaboration with existing programs in this area such as the ADB's Samoa Agri-Business Support Project co-financed by Australia, and the Green Climate Fund program. This supports and promotes sustainable micro enterprises and vulnerable households in climate resilient small-scale business operations, as well as microfinance programs to help increase financial access for women, poor households, vulnerable groups, and micro, small, and medium enterprises.

Page 37: END OF SURVEY

Q60

Respondent skipped this question

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