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Q1 COUNTRY LOCATION

OTHER (please specify):
COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Q2 About you

Name	Hope Situmbeko
Position	Aid for Trade Coordinator
Organization	COMESA Secretariat
Email Address	hsitumbeko@comesa.int

Page 7: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES (AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES FOR YOUR REGION OR TRANSPORT CORRIDOR)

Q3 Does your regional or transport corridor development strategy include trade priorities ? (i.e. Aid-for-Trade priorities) **Yes**

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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)

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.

The COMESA Medium Term Strategic Plans has incorporated all Aide for Trade priority areas. Programs are equally designed around regional integration, trade facilitation, adjust support, industrialization, infrastructure development (transport, air, rail and energy), productive capacities focusing on regional value chains among others. Main challenges being faced is that there isnt enough resources to support the effective implementation of all these programmes. In addition, capacity constraints at Secretariat reduce the efficiency of providing support to Member States. It is however important to note that Secretariat continues to received financial support from various development partners including EU and USAid among others. Strategy can be found at:
<https://www.comesa.int/comesa-strategy/>

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

No,

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.:

Startegy can be found at: <https://www.comesa.int/comesa-strategy/>

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

Respondent skipped this question

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

Respondent skipped this question

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Q8 Please provide names, titles, references or weblinks to policy documents relevant to Aid for Trade in your region or transport corridor.

COMESA Medium Term Strategic Plan: <https://www.comesa.int/comesa-strategy/>

COMESA Aide For Strategy

Leather Value Chain Strategy: https://allpi.int/documents/ALLPI_10_Years_Strategy.pdf

COMESA Industrialisation Strategy: <https://www.comesa.int/comesa-industrialization-strategy-adopted/>

COMESA Gender Policy: https://www.comesa.int/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/COMESA-Gender-Policy_en_feb_web.pdf

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Q9 Is economic diversification a priority in your regional or transport corridor development strategy?

Yes,

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

COMESA's economic diversification agenda is premised on the industrialisation Policy and Strategy. Its main emphasis is on the need for value addition in the products produced and exported so as to ensure competitiveness. To successfully help these countries, COMESA supports the development of vibrant private sector through capacity building. To this effect, the COMESA Business Council was established to assist the growth of the private sector. Other institutions established include the Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute, Regional Investment Agency among others.

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

- High tariffs in target markets/products
- High trade costs
- Inadequate network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications)
- Limited agricultural production capacity
- Limited customs and other border agency capacity
- Limited e-trade readiness,
- Limited industrial or manufacturing capacity
- Limited network and/or transport infrastructure of a cross border nature
- Limited standards compliance
- Low levels of training and skills
- Poor international competitiveness,
- Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)

Q11 Please indicate in which category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing your region or transport corridor receives 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 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)

,

Trade facilitation,

Regional trade agreements (RTAs) ,

Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)

,

Transport and storage 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)

,

Business support services,

Building productive capacity ,

Agriculture,

Fishing,

Industry,

Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

Q12 Does the aid-for-trade support your region or transport corridor receives for economic diversification align with the priorities established in your national or regional or transport corridor development strategy(ies)?

Yes

Q13 Has your region or transport corridor recorded progress in economic diversification since the launch of the Aid-for-Trade initiative in 2006?

Yes,

Additional information on whether your region or transport corridor has recorded progress in economic diversification since the launch of the Aid-for-Trade initiative in 2006?:

Some of the notable progress in economic diversification:

*Facilitated the establishment of the Djibouti Corridor

*Provided adjustment support amounting to over Euros 86 million to among other priorities build productive capacities for economic diversification focusing on value addition.

*Formulation of national specific strategies on industrial expansion, SME development, agriculture investment, Trade facilitation etc.

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

Export ,
diversification

Structural transformation,

Industrialization, including manufacturing value added

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

Agriculture,

Industry,

Services

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Q16 In which category(ies) of Aid for Trade is the support your region or transport corridor receives 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 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)

,

Trade policy and administrative management

Trade facilitation,

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)

,

Business support services,

Building productive capacity

Agriculture,

Fishing,

Industry,

Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

Q17 What factors contribute to the success of the aid-for-trade support your region or transport corridor receives 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

,

Country ownership,

Donor interest in specific projects/programmes

,

Good trade-related infrastructure

,

Institutional capacity to implement projects

,

National/regional coordination,

Services capacity,

Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines

Q18 What factors may limit the success of the aid-for-trade support that your region or transport corridor receives 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,

Lack of country ownership

,

Lack of donor interest in specific projects/programmes

,

Limited financing for the private sector

,

Limited services capacity,

Poor digital and ICT connectivity

,

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

,

Poor national/regional coordination,

Resources dedicated to the project or programme too low

,

Time horizon too short

,

Weak institutional capacity

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,

Additional information on how Aid for Trade received helps mobilize other forms of development finance for economic diversification.:

The successful implementation of one program raises the awareness and belief from development partners that COMESA is able to implement programmes. This in turn helps in the leveraging of additional resources for implementation of programmes.

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

Canada,

European Union,

Germany,

Norway,

Sweden,

United Kingdom,

United States,

African Development Bank (AfDB) ,

Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO) ,

World Bank

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

Respondent skipped this question

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

Agriculture,

Industry,

Services,

Additional information on the sector(s) that will require most support for economic diversification in in your region or transport corridor.:

Gender and Climate change

Q23 Looking ahead, in which category of aid-for-trade financing do you think your region or transport corridor 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 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)

,

Trade policy and administrative management

Trade facilitation,

Regional trade agreements (RTAs)

Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)

,

Transport and storage infrastructure

Communications infrastructure,

Energy supply and generation 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)

,

Business support services,

Building productive capacity

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Fishing,

Industry,

Mineral resources and mining

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)

Eswathini: <https://newscentral.ng/e1-2m-eswatini-trade-hub/>. This is part of adjustment support being provided to the country.

Malawi: <https://www.times.mw/malawi-setting-up-k250-million-leather-design-studio/>. This is part of adjustment support being provided to the country.

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Q25 Is economic empowerment a priority in your regional or transport corridor development strategy?

Yes,

If yes, please provide additional information on how economic empowerment is prioritized in your regional or transport corridor development strategy.:

Economic empowerment is a priority within COMESA's agenda as described in the Industrial Policy and Gender Policy. The aim is to ensure that key productive actors of the economy like women, youth and SMEs are economically integrated within the business and economic processes to ensure their social and economic welfare are enhanced.

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Q26 For which groups does your regional or transport corridor 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 your regional or transport corridor development strategy propose any indicators to track economic empowerment or include any targets to achieve?

Yes,

If yes please provide additional information on the indicators or targets on economic empowerment included in your regional or transport corridor development strategy.:

*Percentage growth of start ups. *Existence of gender disaggregated data for decision making *Number of women and youth participating in business platforms *Business linkages established for women *Number of officials trained on gender related tools and *number of projects on youth empowerment *Number of youth participating in programme interventions * Percentage of women and youth participating in economic activities. * Percentage of women benefiting from access to finance under the WEEF.

Q28 Does your regional or transport corridor development strategy link economic empowerment to participation in international trade?

Yes

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

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)

,

Trade policy and administrative management

Trade facilitation,

Business support services,

Building productive capacity

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Industry,

Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade)

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

Yes

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Q31 How best can Aid for Trade make a contribution to women's economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor?(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 digital connectivity
 - ☐ 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
-

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

Transport and storage infrastructure ,

Communications infrastructure,

Energy supply and generation 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.)

,

Business support services,

Banking and financial services ,

Building productive capacity ,

Agriculture,

Forestry,

Fishing,

Industry,

Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade.)

Q33 What factors contribute to the success of Aid for Trade in promoting women's economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor? (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

,

Coordination among donors

Country ownership,

Donor interest in specific projects/programmes

Good digital and ICT connectivity

Good trade-related infrastructure

Institutional capacity to implement projects

National/regional coordination,

Services capacity,

Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines

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Q34 How best can Aid for Trade make a contribution to the economic empowerment of MSMEs in your region or transport corridor?(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 Youth

,

Upgrading business skills,

Improving digital connectivity

Q35 What forms of Aid for Trade financing, in your view, best support the economic empowerment of MSMEs in your region or transport corridor?(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 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).
,
Transport and storage infrastructure ,
Communications infrastructure,
Energy supply and generation 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.)
,
Industry,
Trade related adjustment (Including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade.)

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

Good trade-related infrastructure ,
Leveraging of foreign direct investment ,
Mobilization of domestic private investment ,
Services capacity,
Sufficient funding and appropriate implementation timelines

Q37 How best can Aid for Trade contribute to Youth economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor ?(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

Upgrading business skills,

Upgrading ICT skills

Improving access to information

Q38 What forms of Aid-for-Trade financing, in your view, best support Youth economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor ?(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

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).

,

Trade facilitation

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

Capacity to draft funding applications

Country ownership,

Good digital and ICT connectivity

Mobilization of domestic private investment

Services capacity

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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,

Please provide a weblink to the relevant national strategy or policy document in which SDGs are referred to.:
<https://www.comesa.int/comesa-strategy/>

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 ,
- 5. Gender equality ,
- 7. Affordable and clean energy ,
- 8. Decent work and economic growth ,
- 9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure ,
- 13. Climate action ,
- 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions

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Q42 Which donor(s) are the most important source of aid-for-trade financing for economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor?(You may tick more than 1 box)

- European Union,
- United Kingdom,
- United States,
- African Development Bank (AfDB) ,
- World Bank

Q43 Which South-South partners are the most important source of financing for economic empowerment in your region or transport corridor?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Respondent skipped this question

Q44 Looking ahead, in which category(ies) of aid-for-trade financing do you think that further support for economic empowerment will be required in your region or transport corridor.(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 ,
Building productive capacity ,
Agriculture,
Trade facilitation,
Transport and storage infrastructure ,
Communications infrastructure,
Energy supply and generation infrastructure ,
Industry,
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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Q45 Please provide any additional information that you think may be relevant.(Please references in the form or 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 region or transport corridor or as an example of best practice?(Please provide any relevant additional information and include weblinks as relevant)

Yes, these could include the Malawi and Eswathini support being provided to enhance capacities of women and youth in leather products developments. The support is being provided under the COMESA Adjustment Facility programme that provides adjustment support to Member States.

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

Respondent skipped this question