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Page 5: ABOUT YOU

**Q1**

**FIJI**

Country location of Regional Economic Community or Transport Corridor

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**Q2**

About you

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Page 7: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q3**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on the trade (or Aid-for-Trade priorities) included in your national development strategy, policy or plan (or other trade-related policy document).: The current regional development strategy is the Framework for Pacific Regionalism of 2014 - <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Framework-for-Pacific-Regionalism.pdf>. The FPR targets economic growth and sustainable development but does not specifically refer to trade as a means to achieve those objectives. However, the types of collective/regional actions mentioned in the FPR, for example, regional economic integration, clearly signal that trade has a role to play. A new regional development strategy, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, is currently being developed. The draft 2050 Strategy notes that "Pacific Regionalism to date has focused less on economic and political integration and more on a convergence of Pacific values and shared geography. However, there is increasing urgency across the region to progress issues of significance, including ... trade development, ...". The priority thematic areas for regional development do not include trade, however, two of the six priority areas present strong linkages with trade as either an enabler (Thematic Area 2: Resources and Economic Development) or a beneficiary (Thematic Area 6: Technology and Connectivity). Some of the thematic regional policy frameworks such as the 2012 Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, the Pacific Platform for Action and Women's Human Rights, the 2018 Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD), and the NCDs Roadmap link trade and economics with social issues such as economic empowerment, and taxation and NCDs.

**Q4**

If yes, please indicate 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 5 priority areas among the ones listed below. (1 being the most important)

Connecting to value chains	<b>4</b>
E-commerce	<b>5</b>
Environmentally sustainable (or green) growth, including circular economy	<b>2</b>
Network and/or transport infrastructure of a cross border nature	<b>3</b>
Regional integration	<b>1</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.

**Answers based on a subjective interpretation of the draft 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent Beyond the 2050 Strategy, the issue of women economic empowerment is also important - see, for example, the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration - <https://www.forumsec.org/2012/08/30/pacific-leaders-gender-equality-declaration/>. Economic empowerment is also a priority under the Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD), and Regional Youth Strategy.**

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**Q5**

Have your Aid-for-Trade priorities changed since 2019?

**No,**

Additional information: please specify which of the priorities you selected are new and provide further information. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Regional Aid-for-Trade priorities are included in the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy 2020-2025, which was endorsed by Forum Trade Ministers in February 2020. Consultations on the (PAFTS) commenced at the 2017 Global Aid-for-Trade Review (GAFTR) and final draft of the Strategy was presented the 2019 GAFTR Regional Aid-for-Trade Priorities, i.e. priorities to be pursued through collective regional actions, include Services, Connectivity, E-commerce, and Deepening Markets (via Quality Infrastructure, Trade Facilitation, Trade Policies and Agreements).

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**Q6**

**Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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**Q7**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on the reasons why Aid for Trade may have become more, less, or remained equally important to your institution than in the past.: Approval of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy has facilitated the development of regional initiatives focusing on identification, approval, and implementation of regional collective actions in the priority areas identified by the Strategy. These include the Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative (<https://www.forumsec.org/pacific-quality-infrastructure-pqi/>), the Pacific E-commerce Initiative (<https://www.forumsec.org/2021/02/23/pacific-e-commerce-initiative/>) , and more recently the Pacific Trade Facilitation Initiative. A regional initiative on people-to-people connectivity (labour mobility) has also commenced.

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**Q8**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on how changes in your Aid-for-Trade priorities may have been reflected in your dialogue with development partners.: All regional initiatives carried out under the umbrella of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy are conducted in close cooperation with donor partners. The donor community is involved from the early stages of each initiative so as to maximize the chances of support towards the identified regional priorities. After priorities are identified and approved by PIF members, engagement of the donor community continues through the establishment of suitable governance mechanisms giving this community ample opportunities to monitor implementation and identify the most crucial funding gaps. In the same vein, each regional initiative under the umbrella of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy strives to bring together and coordinate activities from all other development partners including relevant regional agencies, civil society organizations, and private sector representatives.

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**Q9**

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

**No ,**

Additional information on the specific regional strategy, policy or plan for economic recovery post COVID-19 pandemic. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Despite the absence of a specific plan for recovery post COVID-19 regional mechanisms have been established to respond to the emergency and sustain recovery. These include the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway, a mechanism that supports the timely movement of medical supplies, technical experts and humanitarian assistance and to Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Members, as requested and in response to COVID-19 – see <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FAQs-on-the-Pacific-Humanitarian-Pathway.pdf>. A COVID-19 Economic Recovery Taskforce (CERT) was also established following endorsement by Pacific Islands Forum Economic Ministers to lead a coordinated response that address COVID-19 economic priorities, including health, digital economy and connectivity, food security and agriculture and building resilient and sustainable economies. A Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) Report based on analysis by the Council of Regional Organizations for the Pacific (CROP) was endorsed by Forum Economic Ministers in 2021. It provided an analysis of the social dimensions of COVID-19 and its impacts in the Pacific and provided recommendations to ensure the recovery and rebuilding efforts include interventions that address the social issues of the pandemic. This SEIA Report was developed by CROP and aligned to the work of the CERT.

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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)

**Respondent skipped this question**

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**Q11**

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

Framework for Pacific Regionalism

<https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Framework-for-Pacific-Regionalism.pdf>

2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent (still in draft)

Pacific Aid for Trade Strategy 2020-2025

<https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Pacific-Aid-for-Trade-Strategy-2020-2025.pdf>

Pacific E-commerce Initiative

<https://www.forumsec.org/2021/02/23/pacific-e-commerce-initiative/>

Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative

<https://www.forumsec.org/pacific-quality-infrastructure-pqi/>

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**Q12**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on how sustainable development is reflected in your regional policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable):  
The draft 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent acknowledges the presence of two regional strategies addressing sustainable development, namely the Pacific Oceanscape which addresses the sustainable development and management of our ocean (<https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Framework-for-a-Pacific-Oceanscape-2010.pdf> ) ; and the Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas (<https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/2021-2025-Framework-nature-conservation-EN.pdf> ) guides nature conservation planning, prioritization and implementation. The draft 2050 Strategy requires to build on these strategies moving forward. The draft 2050 Strategy, under the Thematic Area 4 (Ocean and Natural Environment) requires to build partnership with the global community which emphasise the priority to harness the blue and green economies through sustainable, resilient, integrated and Pacific-relevant models of development so as to address issues such as land and ocean pollution; lack of waste management and disposal; and continued use of inefficient energy. Moreover, one of the 6 Thematic Areas of the draft 2050 Strategy (Thematic Area 3) is fully dedicated to Climate Change, one existential issue for the Pacific Islands Countries Sustainable development, defined as “development that combines economic social, and cultural development in ways that improve livelihoods and well-being and use the environment sustainably” is also one of the 4 priority objectives of the FPR, the 2050 Strategy’s predecessor.

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**Q13**

If yes, please indicate in which of your regional strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) sustainable development is reflected:(You may tick more than 1 box).

**Regional development strategy, policy or plan,**

Additional information on the Regional strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) in which sustainable development is reflected.:

Whereas sustainable development is reflected in the highest-level regional development strategy, the linkages with sustainable development are much weaker in the regional trade strategies, notably the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy. It follows that regional work on sustainability issues is carried out pretty much independently from regional trade work. Exceptions exist, for example the current work carried out in support to WTO fisheries subsidies negotiations.

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**Q14**

Does your Regional 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)**

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**Q15**

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

**Yes,**  
Additional information on the trade objectives found in your regional development strategy policy, or plan that includes sustainable development. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:  
A new regional development strategy, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, is currently being developed. The draft 2050 Strategy notes that “Pacific Regionalism to date has focused less on economic and political integration and more on a convergence of Pacific values and shared geography. However, there is increasing urgency across the region to progress issues of significance, including ... trade development, ...”. The priority thematic areas for regional development do not include trade, however, two of the six priority areas present strong linkages with trade as either an enabler (Thematic Area 2: Resources and Economic Development) or a beneficiary (Thematic Area 6: Technology and Connectivity). The trade-related priorities listed in these thematic areas (refer to answer no.4) sometimes include reference to sustainability, in particular the need to answer the sustainable management of the region’s natural resources.

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**Q16**

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

**Yes,**  
Additional information on how the environmental dimension of sustainable development is reflected in your regional policy document(s), plan(s) or strategy(ies). (Please provide weblinks as applicable).:  
See answer to previous question

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**Q17**

Does your institution have a dedicated committee (or has a coordination or dialogues with ministries of trade and agencies dealing with trade-related affairs) on sustainable development?

**Respondent skipped this question**

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**Q18**

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

**Unsure,**

Additional information on how the committee addresses the environmental dimension of sustainable development.: A dedicated committee, the Pacific Resilience Partnership Taskforce, has been established to oversee work in the areas of Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction – see: <https://www.resilientpacific.org/en/prp-taskforce>. However, participation of trade officials and experts in this committee is very limited.

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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,****Services,****Fisheries,****Forestry****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)

**Forestry,****Mining****Q21**

In your view, what challenges constitute the main obstacles to the transition towards sustainable development in your region? (You may tick more than 1 box).

**High trade costs,****Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

,

**Lack of data to support decision-making,****Lack of human resource capability,****Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity,**

Additional information on the challenges most likely to constitute obstacles towards sustainable trade, sustainable consumption and production patterns (i.e., circular economy) in your region. (Please provide examples as applicable).:

In answering this question, trade costs are intended as all costs incurred in getting a good to a final user other than the marginal cost of producing the good itself: transportation costs (both freight costs and time costs), policy barriers (tariffs and non-tariff barriers), information costs, contract enforcement costs, costs associated with the use of different currencies, legal and regulatory costs, and local distribution costs (wholesale and retail).

**Q22**

Please highlight the main challenges that Aid for Trade should address to support a transition to sustainable development in your region?(You may tick more than 1 box).

**High trade costs,**

**Lack of technology and innovation enabling environment**

**Lack of data to support decision-making,**

**Lack of human resource capability,**

**Slow, expensive or insufficient digital connectivity**

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**Q23**

Do you have a circular economy strategy, policy, plan or objectives?

**Yes,**

Additional information on your circular economy strategy, policy, plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Cleaner Pacific 2025, Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016-2025 - <https://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/WMPC/cleaner-pacific-strategy-2025.pdf>. The Strategy was developed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Involvement of Regional Trade Officials and experts in the development and implementation of the Strategy has been very limited.

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**Q24**

If yes, which economic sectors does the circular economy strategy, policy, plan or objectives cover?(You may tick more than one box).

**Other, (please specify),**

Additional information on the economic sectors covered by the circular economy strategy, policy, or plan. (Please provide weblinks as applicable).: Cleaner Pacific 2025, Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016-2025 is a cross-sectoral strategy focusing on the types of waste rather than the economic sectors

**Q25**

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

**No**

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**Q26**

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

**Yes,**

Additional information on how digital connectivity is reflected in your regional sustainable development strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s).:

The draft 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent includes a thematic area on Technology and Connectivity. Here, the Strategy requires to “improve digital platforms that enhance government and private sector service delivery” whilst “deter[ring] cyber-crime”.

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**Q27**

Do you have a regional strategy, policy or plan for digital connectivity (including digital economy, e-commerce, etc.)?

**Yes,**

Additional information on your regional policy documents for digital connectivity. (Please include weblinks of the source used).:

A Pacific E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Trade Ministers in August 2021 - <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Regional-Ecommerce-Strategy-Roadmap.pdf>

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**Q28**

In which sectors could digital connectivity best support the transition to sustainable development in your region? (You may tick more than one box).

**Agriculture,**

**Services,**

**Fisheries,**

**Forestry,**

**Mining,**

Additional information on the sector(s) in which digital connectivity can best support a transition to sustainable trade and the circular economy. (Please include weblinks of the source used).:

Agriculture is meant to also include agro-processing

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**Q29**

Please identify which issues where digital connectivity would offer most promise in the move to sustainable development in your region?(You may tick more than 1 box)

**E-commerce,**

**E-government,**

**E-healthcare,**

**E-learning,**

**Innovation and technology for gender equality,**

**Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the issues where digital connectivity that would offer most promise in the move to sustainable development.:

Digital connectivity can help monitoring activities with a potential to deplete natural resources such as fisheries, forestry, and mining. Sustainable small-scale tourism can be enabled by digital connectivity Digital connectivity can provide tools to farmers processors in remote rural areas to pursue sustainable agriculture and agro-processing practices

**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 region ?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the impact of the pandemic on the uptake of the digital economy.:

According to the Pacific Business Monitor, the percentage of Pacific business providing to online sales to face COVID-19 impact has increased from 22% in May 2020 to 35% in November 2021 -

<https://pacifictradeinvest.com/media/1850/pti-pacific-business-monitor-report-17.pdf>

<https://pacifictradeinvest.com/media/1535/pti-pacific-business-monitor-wave-1-report.pdf>

**Q32**

In which areas has the COVID-19 pandemic exposed shortcomings in regional digital connectivity?(You may tick more than one box).

**Digital gender divide,**

**Digital payment issues,**

**Insufficient or uneven coverage,**

**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,**

Additional information on the areas in which your country is facing its most significant challenges in relation to digital connectivity. (Please provide weblinks as applicable):

The Pacific Regional E-commerce Strategy provide further details on the key challenges and opportunities facing the region to improve digital trade readiness. The Pacific Regional E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap outlines the Pacific consensus on priority regional actions to increase digital trade readiness. It focuses on the seven key policy areas found in the UNCTAD's E-Trade Readiness Assessment methodology. These include (1) National E-commerce Readiness and Strategy Formulation; (2) ICT Infrastructure and Services; (3) Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation; (4) Legal and Institutional Framework; (5) Electronic Payment Solutions; (6) E-commerce Skill Development; and (7) Access to Finance for E-commerce. To achieve its vision the Pacific Regional E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap identifies 54 Priority Measures, the agencies responsible for their implementation and, where possible, their cost. Implementing the costed measures will require about USD 55 million (excluding the cost of infrastructure-related measures) thus signalling that significant support is required if E-commerce readiness is to advance through regionalism

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## Page 25: SECTION 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

**Q33**

Looking ahead, in which sectors do you think future Aid-for-Trade support to your region should focus so as to support sustainable development objectives?(You may tick more than one box).

**Agriculture,**

**Services,**

**Fisheries,**

**Forestry,**

**Mining,**

Additional information on the sectors in which you think future Aid-for-Trade support should focus so as to support sustainable development objectives.:

Agriculture is meant to also include agro-processing

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**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).

**(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)**

,  
**Trade policy and administrative management,  
Multilateral trade negotiations,**

**(c) Trade-related infrastructure (Including physical infrastructure)**

,  
**Transport and storage infrastructure,  
Communications infrastructure,  
Energy supply and generation infrastructure,**

**(d) Building productive capacity,  
Agriculture,**

**Forestry,**

**Fishing,**

**Mineral resources and mining,**

**Travel and tourism,**

**(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)**

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**Q35**

Which donor(s) are the most important for Aid-for-Trade financing for the environmental dimension of sustainable development in your region?(You may tick more than 1 box).

Respondent skipped this question

**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).

Respondent skipped this question

**Q37****Unsure**

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

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**Q38****Respondent skipped this question**

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?

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**Q39****Unsure**

Do you implement policies that address the environmental dimension of sustainable development and that also support 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?

Additional information on the Aid-for-Trade projects which combine the twin objectives of women's economic empowerment and environmental environmentally sustainable development. Please indicate the number of projects, the sector concerned (agriculture, fisheries, sustainable tourism, circular economy, etc.). (Please include weblinks as applicable).:

Overall, the environmental dimension of sustainable development is not yet well mainstreamed in the regional Pacific Aid-for-Trade agenda. This dimension could be further considered for the next iteration of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy. The same holds for the gender dimension. Women's economic empowerment & participation, and contribution to trade and the economy needs to be better reflected in Aid-for-Trade projects.

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**Q41****Respondent skipped this question**

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

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

**Q42**

Is women's economic empowerment included as an objective in any of your regional strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s)?

**Yes,**

Additional information on how women's economic empowerment is included as an objective in your regional policy documents.:

Gender equality is included as one values of Pacific regionalism identified by the draft 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. Under its thematic area 5 (People Centred Development), the draft Strategy acknowledges the persisting challenges to the achievement of gender equality and calls for inclusion and equitable participation of women. In 2012 Pacific Leaders endorsed the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED) which is aligned to the Beijing Platform for Action and has as one of its key focus Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) In addition, most Pacific countries have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) which requires countries to implement and report on progress on a regular basis. As part of the SDGs report, countries are required to also report on Goal 5 (Gender equality).

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**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)

**Regional development strategy, policy or plan,**

**Regional gender equality, strategy or plan,**

**Other (please specify),**

Additional information on the strategy(ies), policy(ies) or plan(s) that include women's economic. (Please include weblinks as applicable).:

Pacific Islands Forum Leaders endorsed the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration 30 August 2012, Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The declaration includes specific commitments to women's economic empowerment, which aim at removing barriers to women's employment opportunities and entrepreneurship - <https://www.forumsec.org/2012/08/30/pacific-leaders-gender-equality-declaration/>. The draft 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent specifically mentions this declaration. On the trade side, whilst the Pacific Aid for Trade Strategy does not cover gender issues, women's empowerment is addressed by the Pacific Regional E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap. There is scope to better mainstream gender equality and social inclusion in the next iteration of the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy.



**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).: The Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED) calls for the removal of legislative barriers that directly or indirectly limit women's access to employment opportunities or contributes to discriminatory pay and conditions for women. The 2021 review of the PLGED will also look into other aspects of WEE based on current context particularly COVID-19. Other issues of importance to the Pacific are unpaid care-work, women's leadership roles in the world of formal employment, and the provision of conditions that ensure equality and equity.

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**Q45**

Does your region or transport corridor collect data on women's economic empowerment in relation to trade and development?

**Yes,**

Additional information on the data on women's economic empowerment that your government collects. (Please include weblinks as applicable).: The Pacific Community (SPC) has a gender data program and the Pacific Data Hub data (<https://pacificdata.org/> ) has some useful data particularly in relation to WEE. Also, the PLGED report is part of the Pacific Sustainable Development reporting (Quadrennial and biennial progress reporting).

**Q46**

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

- Difficulties accessing financial services,**
- Discriminatory practices,**
- Difficulties in meeting regulatory and procedural requirements**
- ,**
- Gender pay gap,**
- Harassment, security and safety issues,**
- Lack of access to digital services,**
- Lack of access to redress options,**
- Informal employment ,**
- Poor access to information ,**
- Smaller sized business,**
- Time and mobility constraints,**
- Unpaid and domestic work,**

Additional information on the trade and development constraints faced by women in your region.:

Outcomes of the 14th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women include a series of recommendations on Economic Empowerment, which are available here: <https://www.spc.int/sites/default/files/documents/14th%20Triennial%20Conference%20of%20Pacific%20Women%20Eng.pdf>. The response to this question is informed by those outcomes.

**Q47**

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

**Yes,**  
 Additional information on the role that Aid for Trade can play in addressing these constraints. :  
 Positive gender discrimination in Aid-for-Trade programs and projects (gender mainstreaming) can play a contribution towards empowering women. Aid-for-Trade programs and projects exclusively focused on women are also an option, especially in the areas of the most binding constraints to women's empowerment. Beyond gender mainstreaming, it is also important to note that Aid-for-Trade programs and projects supporting certain sectors (ICTs, ICT-enabled services, tourism, etc.) or segment of the economy (MSMSEs) can by themselves empower women – see for example: <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/500106/leveraging-trade-womens-empowerment.pdf>

**Q48**

**Yes**

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

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**Q49**

**Respondent skipped this question**

If yes, please provide further information on the donors, South-South or triangular cooperation partners that have supported your regional Aid-for-Trade programmes on women's economic empowerment.

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**Q50**

**Respondent skipped this question**

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).

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**Q51**

**Respondent skipped this question**

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

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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: REGIONAL POLICIES FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**Q55**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Do women face particular difficulties in accessing digital technologies in your region?

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**Q56**

Please identify the top 5 barriers that prevent women from accessing digital technology in your region.(You may tick a maximum of 5 boxes).

- Limited internet connectivity,**
- High cost of device (e.g., mobile phone),**
- High usage costs,**
- Inadequate electricity infrastructure ,**
- Privacy, safety and harassment concerns**

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**Q57**

Looking ahead, in which trade sectors do you think future support for women's economic empowerment should be focused.(You may tick more than one box)

- Agriculture,**
- Industry,**
- Services,**
- Fisheries**

**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),**
- (d) Building productive capacity,**
- Business and other services,**
- Banking and financial services,**
- Building productive capacity,**
- Agriculture,**
- Fishing,**
- Travel and tourism,**
- (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)**
- ’**

Additional information on the Aid-for-Trade categories in which you think future support for women's economic empowerment should be focussed.:

As noted by the ADB, gender mainstreaming is the lowest in infrastructure projects, hence there is a potential to improve this aspect moving forward to achieve better women's economic empowerment -

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/500106/leveraging-trade-womens-empowerment.pdf>

**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**

**Respondent skipped this question**

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

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