

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE



PAGE 4: B.1) ABOUT YOU

Q1: COUNTRY / CUSTOMS TERRITORY	UNITED STATES
Q2: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION	World Bank Group
Q3: YOUR CONTACT DETAILS	
Name:	Ian Gillson
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Ministry/Organization	Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice
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Q4: CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply):	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 6: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q5: Do you have an Aid- for-Trade strategy?	Yes
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PAGE 7: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q6: Has your strategy changed since 2012?	Yes
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PAGE 8: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q7: Why has your strategy changed ?(Please choose no more than 5 options)	More focus on poverty reduction, More focus on inclusive, sustainable growth, More focus on results
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Q8: Additional information.

Expanding the sources of sustainable incomes is essential to ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity (henceforth, the Twin Goals). At its heart, the challenge for developing and developed countries alike is to grow their economies, improve productivity, and create more and better jobs. Higher employment and higher labor incomes enable households to escape poverty. They raise living standards and can help reduce inequality.

Yet, for many developing countries, the task is daunting. By some estimates, no fewer than 600 million new jobs are needed over the next 15 years just to keep pace with the rapid growth of the world's working-age population. In Africa and South Asia alone, an average of 1 million jobs per month will need to be created for the next decade. Failure to generate more and better jobs in lower income countries can reflect lower overall productivity and competitiveness levels, as well as large productivity gaps between firms within and across sectors. At the same time, productivity improvements themselves, for example, in agriculture, can raise incomes of the poor. In middle income countries, closing productivity gaps with advanced economies is critical to staying on course to sustained convergence.

Creating more jobs—and more productive, better paying jobs—requires that countries be better integrated with the world economy, and that their internal markets be better integrated. Policymakers, private sector leaders, entrepreneurs, and workers around the world—many of them in World Bank Group client countries—are actively seeking effective ways to do just that. Compelling experiences and considerable evidence confirm that progress can be made. Trade reforms have helped improve product market conditions, reduce labor market frictions, spur innovation and productivity, and raise employment and wages. An enhanced investment climate is associated with lower business costs, increased investment and business formation, greater productivity, and growth. There is also broad consensus on the positive impact of product innovation on firm-level employment, technology-driven innovation on firm-level productivity, and entrepreneurship—in start-ups and young firms—on net job creation. Growth poles and special economic zones (SEZs) can also spur job and productivity growth by fostering competitive industrial clusters and exploiting agglomeration economies.

The World Bank Group's Aid for Trade Strategy is aimed at systematically strengthening its engagement on trade and competitiveness issues in pursuit of the Twin Goals. It charts the way forward for a newly constituted Trade and Competitiveness (T&C) Global Practice (GP) to respond to the demands of clients in lower and middle income countries, and fragile and conflict affected states (FCS). It also aims to scale up support for policies, institutions, and catalytic initiatives that boost the volume and value of trade, improve the investment climate, promote competitiveness, and foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

PAGE 9: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q9: How has your Aid-for-Trade spending changed since 2012?

Between 0-10% increase

Q10: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q11: How do you expect your Aid-for-Trade spending to change in the next 5 years?

Between 0-10% increase

Q12: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

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Q13: Can you provide detailed information on past or planned future Aid-for-Trade spending?(You may tick more than 1 box)	Past support disaggregated by region , Past support disaggregated by sector
Q14: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q15: What information about other donors' Aid-for-Trade would you find helpful in planning your own assistance?(You may tick more than 1 box)	Disaggregated information

PAGE 10: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q16: How has your Aid for Trade facilitation spending changed since 2012?	Increase (0-10%)
Q17: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q18: How do you expect your Aid for Trade facilitation spending to change in the next 5 years?	Increase (0-10%)
Q19: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 11: C.2) YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

Q20: Looking ahead, what changes do you expect to your Aid-for-Trade strategy in the next 5 years? (You may tick more than 1 box)	More focus on poverty reduction , More focus on results, Other (please specify) More focus on shared prosperity.
Q21: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 13: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q22: How important are trade costs for the economic integration and development of developing countries and LDCs?	Very important
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Q23: Additional information.

Trade success today is determined by efficient internal transactions, low transport costs and easy access to quality services inputs. Traditional policies used to restrict trade (tariffs; non-tariff barriers) have proven to be largely ineffective instruments of economic policy for development. The priorities for current policy are to reduce trade costs for firms, including through more efficient trade facilitation and logistics; improve trade competitiveness by ensuring businesses have access to key inputs such as (trade) finance; and increase cooperation between trading partners to integrate markets, thereby allowing economies of scale to be realized and further specialization and diversification to occur. Such cooperation is being pursued regionally as well as through multilateral fora such as the World Trade Organization (WTO). Tackling trade costs, therefore, is a priority because they have a direct bearing on poverty reduction.

Q24: For MERCHANDISE GOODS: What are the most important sources of trade costs for the export of merchandise goods from developing countries? (You may tick more than one box)

Border procedures (trade facilitation),

Tariffs, fees and other charges,

Non-tariff Measures (including standards),

Transport infrastructure,

Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms)

Q25: Additional information.

Tariffs are no longer the centerpiece of the policy debate. The policy responses to the recent crisis suggest that the incentives to use traditional trade policies have changed. In contrast to the last global recession, in the early 1980s, this time there was no widespread resort to use import tariffs and quotas to support domestic production. Instead, the focus of policy was on supporting domestic demand and providing specific industries with financial assistance. Insofar as trade policies are being used extensively in a manner that distorts global markets, this is largely limited to agriculture — including both import protection and export restrictions by net exporting countries.

This does not mean that import tariffs and other border barriers have become irrelevant. For example, barriers frequently arise in those African countries where tariff peaks persist and in those sectors where ad hoc import bans and quotas are sometimes used to ensure domestic production is consumed first. Concluding the long-running Doha Round of trade negotiations would provide a boost to the world economy. It would create greater security of market access, through the negotiation of policy disciplines – such as placing tighter limits on the level of permitted tariffs and outlawing agricultural export subsidies. The primary deliverable would be policy bindings – enforceable commitments by governments that they will not raise production/support for domestic industries above a given level and will not use certain policies at all. Maintaining an open trade regime is, therefore, an important foundation for the global recovery and the necessary reorientation of global supply and demand. This is especially true for developing countries as so many depend on export markets to finance growth-stimulating imports of goods, services and technologies. One reflection of this is the engagement of governments in reciprocal preferential trade agreements (PTAs), which have come to be the major focal point for international cooperation on trade and investment policies. In contrast to the PTAs negotiated in the 1990s, the recent agreements seek to integrate markets for services and investment as well as for goods. Much of the policy focus of PTAs – including those between low-income countries – centers on regulatory cooperation/convergence and actions to reduce trade costs. The latter is particularly important for landlocked countries.

More generally, reducing the costs that limit the “connectivity” of firms, farmers and households to markets and supply chains is critical for trade opportunities to generate the investments and economic activities that will help to reduce poverty. Disciplines to reduce such costs are on the agenda of the WTO (e.g., disciplines on trade and investment in services, NTBs and trade facilitation) but are increasingly taking center stage in regional trade agreements. “Connectivity” is often also a critical domestic constraint, especially in large countries and island economies.

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Q26: For SERVICES: What are the most important sources of trade costs for the export of services from developing countries? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),
Non-recognition of professional qualifications,
Restrictions on commercial presence,
Poor regulatory environment for services,
Low skills levels in service sectors

Q27: Additional information.

Over the last two decades, trade in services has expanded rapidly to reach more than a fifth of global trade flows. The participation of developing countries in this trade increased dramatically, rising from 11 percent of world services exports in 1990 to 20 percent in 2011. As an input into other economic activities, services are a direct determinant of countries' competitiveness. Services such as telecommunications, energy, transport and business services are critical inputs into the production of goods and other services and influence productivity and competitiveness. Opening up to services imports and FDI can be an effective mechanism to increase the availability, affordability and quality of these services which are crucial for export diversification, economic growth and poverty reduction. In addition, services can offer dynamic new opportunities for exports. Trade in services is governed entirely by domestic regulation. The regulatory framework governing services trade includes a vast range of domestic laws and regulations in areas that often include land ownership, establishment of foreign companies, and migration policies, and in sectors as diverse as banking, professional services, transport, education and tourism. Laws and regulations on services sectors are generally dispersed throughout different government agencies and not easily accessible. As a result, the regulatory environment for trade and investment in services is often opaque and unpredictable, which impairs the investment environment and limits policy making capacity.

Q28: Does your Aid-for-Trade strategy specifically address the issue of trade costs?

Yes

PAGE 14: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q29: Where in your Aid-for-Trade strategy is the issue of trade costs addressed? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Your national or institutional development policy,
Specific thematic programming,
Specific regional initiatives,
Specific in-country projects

Q30: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 15: D.1) TRADE COSTS

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q31: How is the issue of trade costs reflected in your Aid for Trade programming? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Research programmes,
Multi-year country strategies,
In-country projects and programmes,
Multi-year regional strategies,
Regional projects and programmes,
Specific thematic global programming

Q32: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 16: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q33: In which regions do you provide Aid-for-Trade support to reduce trade costs? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Central America, South America,
The Caribbean, Western Europe,
Central Asia and Eastern Europe,
Developed Asia, Central Asia, East Asia,
South Asia, Pacific Islands,
North Africa and the Middle East, West Africa,
Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa

Q34: Provide web links to programmes you wish to showcase:

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/trade>

PAGE 18: E.1) SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

Q35: What difficulties, if any, do you expect partner countries to face in securing support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Accessing the necessary expertise

Q36: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q37: How do you envisage programming Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation support, when adopted?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Trade Facilitation Agreement Implementation support is already being programmed.

As part of on-going national programmes offering support for Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation

Q38: Additional information.

The Trade and Competitiveness (T&C) Global Practice of the World Bank Group (WBG) is initiating a Technical Assistance (TA) Program in support of developing countries' efforts to reform their trade facilitation practices in a manner consistent with the main components of the new Agreement on Trade Facilitation (ATF), reached at the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2013. This Program (the "Program" or "TFSP") builds on the existing trade logistics and facilitation programs within the World Bank Group, providing support to developing countries interested in strengthening their trade facilitation and logistics regimes, with a view to create and sustain reform momentum .

The Program has an initial duration of five years (from approximately April 2014 through March 2019) and has raised \$30 million of funding from multiple donors and partners. The Program will focus on the effective implementation of trade facilitation reforms in developing countries to enhance private sector competitiveness, thus leading to increased trade, investments and job creation. Under the Program, the World Bank Group (WBG) will conduct regular reviews to assess implementation progress, learn from experiences, and make adjustments as needed to ensure the effective and impact-oriented implementation of its strategy and work programs.

PAGE 19: E.1) SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

Q39: What difficulties, if any, do you expect to face in programming support for Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation, when adopted, as part of your Aid-for-Trade activities? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Programming of Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation support is already being undertaken as part of your Aid-for-Trade strategy

Q40: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q41: Which disciplines of the Trade Facilitation Agreement do you think will prove the hardest for developing countries to implement and where Aid-for-Trade support should be focused?(You may tick more than 1 box)

The Agreement as a whole

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Q42: Additional information.

The WBG is helping developing countries reform their trade facilitation laws, procedures, processes and systems in a manner consistent with the WTO ATF. More specifically, we are providing support in the design and implementation of policy, regulatory, legal and institutional aspects, taking into account countries' schedules of commitments, identified gaps and implementation capacity. The main areas of intervention supporting the core principles of the WTO ATF include:

- Assistance to schedule commitments and implementation timelines;
- Review and validation of Self Assessments and identification of reform gaps;
- Support and strengthen national trade facilitation committees;
- Review/revision and drafting of trade-related laws and implementation regulations as needed to ensure their alignment with the ATF;
- Simplification, streamlining and harmonization of trade procedures and documents to reduce the time and cost to trade;
- Integration of risk-based-management systems and other contemporary border management approaches into border inspections and clearance processes;
- Review of inter-agency coordination and design of institutional capacity building plans;
- Support of regional solutions to facilitate and support regional integration;
- Implementation of policies and practices to facilitate the recognition of agreed standards for goods crossing borders;
- Improvement of transparency and accountability measures of trade practices;
- Foster partnerships between public and private sectors to catalyze trade facilitation reforms; and
- Support for the design and implementation of automated systems and innovative technologies to facilitate trade, including e-payment systems, national trade portals and single window systems.

Q43: Will the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted, benefit other development programmes that you operate?

Yes

PAGE 20: E.1) SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

Q44: Please specify the other programmes that Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation would benefit when adopted: (You may tick more than 1 box)

Reducing costs and delays associated with procurement by in-country programmes

,

Reducing costs of disaster and humanitarian relief operations

,

Reducing delays in disaster and humanitarian relief operations

,

Positive spin-offs on governance programmes

Q45: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 22: F.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

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Q46: Do you track trade costs as part of your Aid-for-Trade programmes?

Yes

PAGE 23: F.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

Q47: How do you track trade costs?(You may tick more than 1 box)

As part of a research agenda,

As part of project/programme theory of change/logframes/results-based management approaches

,

In ex post evaluations,

In ex post evaluations using impact assessment techniques

Q48: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q49: What data sources do you use?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Own data collection,

World Bank Doing Business Index,

World Bank Logistic Performance Index,

Other (please specify)

World Bank Trade Costs Dataset

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q50: Additional information.

Trade Costs Dataset

This dataset is the result of cooperation between the World Bank Trade Department and the Trade Division in UNESCAP and is built on information collected for trade and production in 178 countries. That data is then used to infer estimates of trade costs in agriculture and manufacturing for the period 1995-2010. Symmetric bilateral trade costs are computed using an Inverse Gravity Framework, which estimates trade costs for each country pair from bilateral trade and gross national output. The dataset provides a direct understanding of the magnitude of trade costs that slow regional and global trade integration. It helps measure the impact not only of distance but also of policies – especially those beyond trade policies – that explain trade costs, such as those associated with weak trade facilitation, inefficient logistics or poor connectivity of international transportation networks.

Logistics Performance Index (LPI)

The Logistics Performance Index is based on a worldwide survey of operators on the ground (global freight forwarders and express carriers), who provide feedback on the logistics “friendliness” of the countries in which they operate and those with which they trade. Feedback from operators is supplemented with quantitative data on the performance of key components of the logistics chain in the country of work, with data collected for 155 countries.

The LPI thus includes both qualitative and quantitative measures. It helps build profiles of logistics friendliness for those countries covered. It measures performance along the logistics supply chain within a country and offers two different perspectives: International and Domestic. The International LPI provides qualitative evaluations of a country in six areas by its trading partners - logistics professionals working outside the country. In the domestic LPI, by contrast, surveyed logistics professionals assess the logistics environments in the countries where they work. The domestic part thus contains more detailed information on countries' logistics environments, core logistics processes and institutions, and performance time and cost. The LPI survey was designed and implemented by the World Bank International Trade and Transport Departments, with help from Finland's Turku School of Economics. It was endorsed and promoted by the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade. The LPI Survey would not have been possible without the active support and participation of the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations and the Global Express Association. The World Bank conducts the LPI Survey every two years to improve the reliability of the indicators and to build a dataset comparable across countries and over time. A new and updated version of the LPI was launched in May 2012.

The LPI can be freely accessed at: <http://www.worldbank.org/lpi>

Q51: How do you validate the results?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Dialogue with private sector,

Dialogue with government,

Dialogue with academic institutions

Q52: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q53: What immediate outputs have you observed from actions taken to reduce trade costs? (You may tick more than 1 box.)

Updated customs legislation,
New rules on transit, Greater transparency,
Updated customs working practices,
Improved cooperation between border agencies,
New or updated transport infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.)
,
New network infrastructure (e.g. ICT, power, telecoms)
,
New trade finance schemes, Tariff reforms,
Certification and testing capacity (e.g. laboratory facilities)
,
New conformity assessment procedures and processes
,
Creation of one stop border posts,
Creation of electronic single windows ,
Creation of trade facilitation committees,
Creation of dialogue with private sector,
Improved border infrastructure

Q54: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q55: What outcomes have you observed from actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)

Reduction in border clearance times,
Increase in customs revenue,
Reduction in informal payments,
Increase in traffic flows through border posts,
Increase in export volumes,
Increase in import volumes

Q56: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q57: What impacts have you observed from actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)	Consumer welfare effects, Rise in employment, Increase in foreign direct investment, Increase in domestic private sector investment, Fall in poverty
Q58: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q59: Which types of actions have achieved the most positive results in reducing trade costs for goods and services?(Please choose no more than 7 options)	Customs reform, Other border agency reforms, Support for compliance with Non-Tariff Measures , Upgrading transport infrastructure, Upgrading network infrastructure, Removing domestic restrictions on commercial presence , Improving the regulatory environment for services
Q60: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q61: What have been the key success factors in reducing trade costs?(Please choose no more than 5 options)	Private sector engagement and commitment, Alignment of donor support with national priorities , Sustained political engagement and commitment by national authorities
Q62: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 27: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q63: Is private sector development an Aid-for-Trade priority of your agency?	Yes
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Q64: Additional information.

A distinguishing feature of the Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice in the World Bank Group is its ability to engage firms and entrepreneurs. Targeted start-up and SME support already constitutes a major line of business for the World Bank Group. This kind of catalytic support to firms and entrepreneurs – in particular, women entrepreneurs – is being scaled up through a more coordinated package of sovereign lending and risk management measures, embedded advisory services, direct grant support. Particular emphasis will be given to leveraging real investments from the private sector.

PAGE 28: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q65: What approaches do you use to promote private sector development?(You may tick more than 1 box)

Concessional loans and grants,
Non-concessional lending,
Lending to non-sovereigns, Equity investment,
Technical assistance, Business engagement,
Political risk insurance/guarantees,
Public-private partnerships

Q66: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q67: What is the focus of your private sector development programme?You may tick more than 1 box.

Health and education of workers,
Vocational training and skills,
Business or trade support institutions,
Infrastructure, Business environment,
Improving access to credit, Support for SMEs,
Market information and business services,
Business engagement,
Private sector development in least developed countries
,
Private sector development in fragile states,
Private sector development in middle income countries

Q68: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

PAGE 29: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q69: Is the private sector in your own country/customs territory involved in your programme?	Yes
Q70: Additional information.	
Joint ventures with private sector groups such as the Global Express Association and logistics firms and freight forwarders, to collect, analyze and report data on trade facilitation performance.	

PAGE 30: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q71: How is your national private sector engaged? (You may tick more than 1 box)	Other (please specify) Joint ventures with private sector groups such as the Global Express Association and logistics firms and freight forwarders, to collect, analyze and report data on trade facilitation performance.
Q72: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q73: Do you offer support to your own private sector to invest in developing countries?	Unsure
Q74: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 31: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q75: How do you offer support?(You may tick more than 1 box)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q76: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 32: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q77: How do you measure the results of your private sector's involvement?(You may tick more than 1 box)	Involvement not measured
Q78: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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PAGE 33: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q79: Are there examples of private sector development that you would like to showcase?	Yes
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PAGE 34: G.1) PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY

Q80: Please provide details of relevant programme/project evaluations you would like to showcase (include weblinks where appropriate). You may also wish to elaborate by submitting information in a case story format. Details on how to submit a case story can be found at the end of this questionnaire.

Submissions will be made in case story format.

PAGE 36: H.1) CONTRIBUTION OF AID FOR TRADE TO INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Q81: What contribution can reducing trade costs make to inclusive, sustainable growth?(Please choose no more than 7 options)	Increase in exports, Rise in employment, Entry into new value chains, Foreign direct investment, Domestic private sector investment, Consumer welfare effects, Reduction in poverty
Q82: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

Q83: What impact has the Aid-for-Trade Initiative had since its launch in 2005? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Increase in resources available for trade development

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More attention to trade issues in development,

More priority given by national authorities to trade issues in national development planning

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More priority given by regional authorities to trade issues in development planning

,

More priority given by donors to trade issues in national development planning

,

More priority given by private sector to trade issues

,

More priority given by NGOs to trade issues

Q84: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q85: What potential future contribution could the Aid-for-Trade Initiative make to the post-2015 development agenda? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Contribution of financing for development,

Contribution to improving the business and regulatory environment

,

Ensuring continued attention to trade issues in development

,

Engaging the private sector in development issues

,

Making a contribution to economic growth and poverty eradication

,

Helping to address the issue of inequality,

Helping to create the conditions for employment,

Positive impacts on women's economic empowerment

,

Contribution to green growth through the creation of green value chains

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Q86: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q87: What potential future contribution could the Enhanced Integrated Framework for LDCs make to the post-2015 development agenda?(Please choose no more than 5 options)

Mainstreaming of trade issues in national policy ,
Engaging the private sector in national trade and development policy planning
,
Catalyst for Aid-for-Trade flows ,
Financing of catalytic actions ,
Contribution to inclusive, sustainable growth

Q88: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

Q89: How could the Aid-for-Trade Initiative be improved?

For many LDCs, especially those that are landlocked, regional integration is a critical part of the solution to the trade constraints that they face. Yet the dominant country focus of Aid for Trade and the EIF makes it difficult for countries to identify common constraints and explore joint solutions, not necessarily through existing regional economic communities. Integrating deeper analysis of regional integration into the DTIS is becoming more common, but governments and donors need to reflect on how they can more effectively implement and support coordinated trade policy reforms.

Coordinating the timing of DTIS updates is an important issue. There have been substantial benefits from undertaking the updates for Malawi and Zambia at a similar time. Regional DTISs could perhaps be pursued where there is clear demand, but there would be the challenge of ensuring ownership.

To link trade to poverty through the DTIS, it is essential that there is analysis of and engagement with informal traders. These traders are typically poor and are often trading products (food) that are produced and consumed by the poor. Defining strategies to facilitate informal trade while defining a pathway to formality should be a key element of DTISs and will in turn bring a much-needed gender focus to this important trade document.

The implementation record of DTIS Action Matrices needs to be improved. First, Action Matrices should provide a clear and manageable set of implementable actions that target the most binding constraints to trade and which are politically feasible to address. Establishing an effective National Implementation Unit is critical to ensure high quality implementation and fiduciary control. This is an essential step to make the case for government-managed implementation of activities, through for example a multi-donor trust fund, rather than direct/external execution of multiple smaller projects. The NIU is typically located in the trade ministry, but careful thought should be given as to whether greater effectiveness can be achieved by locating the NIU more strategically in the government. The experience of successful reforming countries in Africa, such as Mauritius and Botswana, and elsewhere suggests that that progress is often driven by a small, dedicated reform team connected to the top of government and in charge of formulating and updating the reform strategy, building consensus, coordinating and mobilising resources for implementing the strategy, and, crucially, nurturing the reformist political leadership over time.

Opportunities for synergies in implementation across countries should be better exploited. In this way, the EIF would become a programme that supports the collective interest of LDCs and assists them in jointly addressing the cross-border policy issues that are crucial for sustained growth of trade.

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE

PAGE 37: H.1) CONTRIBUTION OF AID FOR TRADE TO INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Q90: Additional information on "Reducing trade costs and inclusive, sustainable growth". If there is anything you would like to add on the topic of "Reducing trade costs for inclusive, sustainable growth", which you feel has not been covered in this questionnaire, please use this box.

Respondent skipped this question