

PARTNER  
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE



PAGE 4: B.1) ABOUT YOU

<b>Q1: COUNTRY</b>	BANGLADESH
<b>Q2: ABOUT YOU</b>	
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<b>Q3: CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply) :</b>	All Stakeholders

PAGE 6: C.2.) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

<b>Q4: Do you have Aid-for-Trade priorities?</b>	Yes
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PAGE 7: C.2.) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q5: 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 12 listed .(1 being the most important)

Trade facilitation	2
Transport infrastructure (airport, roads, rail, port)	3
Competitiveness	4
Export diversification	1
Connecting to value chains	5

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**Q6: Additional information.**

Two other areas also have priority. These are-

1. Regional Integration and
2. Cross-border Infrastructure

PAGE 8: C.2) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID FOR TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q7: Have your Aid-for-Trade priorities changed since 2012?** Yes

PAGE 9: C.2) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID FOR TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q8: What are the top 3 drivers of these changes? (Please choose no more than 3 options)** New development priorities,  
New trade capacity needs, Trade facilitation

**Q9: Additional information.**

Two other important drivers are-

1. Competitiveness objectives and
2. Poverty reduction objectives

**Q10: Have these changes been reflected in your national development strategy?** Yes

**Q11: Have these changes been reflected in your dialogue with development partners?** Yes

**Q12: Is trade facilitation reflected as a priority in your national or regional development policy?** Yes

PAGE 10: C.2.) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q13: In which existing policy document(s) can trade facilitation be found as a priority? (You may tick more than one box)** National development strategy,  
National trade strategy,  
Regional trade agreement,  
Regional infrastructure strategy

**Q14: Additional information.** *Respondent skipped this question*

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PAGE 11: C.2.) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q15: Is trade facilitation included in new draft policy documents currently being updated and formulated?** Yes

PAGE 12: C.2.) YOUR GOVERNMENT'S AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q16: Please indicate in which new draft policy documents, currently being updated or formulated, trade facilitation is included:** National trade strategy,  
Other (please specify)  
Customs law has been updated

**Q17: Additional information.**

The existing customs law (named the Customs Act, 1969) is being updated accommodating provisions from the Trade Facilitation Agreement and the Revised KYOTO Convention. Draft of the new Customs Act will soon be placed to the National Parliament for approval.

PAGE 14: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q18: How important are trade costs for the competitiveness of your exports?** Very important

**Q19: Additional information.** *Respondent skipped this question*

**Q20: Do your national policies address the issue of trade costs for exports?** Yes

PAGE 15: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q21: Which document(s) address(es) the issue of trade costs for exports ?** National trade strategy,  
Other (please specify)  
Trade Policies and Customs Legislation

**Q22: Additional information.**

Trade policies of Bangladesh, such as the Export policy, have provisions for reducing cost of exports. Similarly, Customs legislation also provides for simplification of procedures that leads to reduction in trade costs.

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**Q23: How important are trade costs for access to imports?**

Very important

**Q24: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 17: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q25: Do national policies address the issue of trade costs for imports?**

Yes

PAGE 18: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q26: Which document(s) address(es) the issue of trade costs for imports?**

Other (please specify)  
Trade policies and Customs legislation

**Q27: Additional information.**

Trade policies of Bangladesh, such as the Import Policy Order, have provisions for reducing costs for imports. Similarly, Customs legislation also provides for simplification of procedures that leads to reduction in trade costs.

PAGE 19: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q28: What are the most important sources of trade costs for the export of merchandise goods? (You may choose more than 1 option)**

Border procedures (trade facilitation),  
Non-Tariff Measures (including standards),  
Transport infrastructure,  
Access to trade finance, Other,  
(please specify)  
Bangladesh has been facing high tariffs for exporting textile and garments to few countries.

**Q29: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q30: What are the most important sources of trade costs for the export of services? (You may choose more than 1 option)**

Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),  
Non-recognition of professional qualifications,  
Restrictions on movement of natural persons,  
Poor regulatory environment for services

**Q31: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 21: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q32: In which regional markets to which you export merchandise goods and services do you face the highest trade costs? (Please select no more than 5 regions)**

North America, South America, Central Asia,  
North Africa and the Middle East,  
Southern Africa

**Q33: Indicate your home region.**

South Asia

PAGE 22: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q34: FOR MERCHANDISE GOODS: For the markets which you have identified as the highest cost, why are trade costs high? (You may choose more than 1 option)**

Border procedures (trade facilitation),  
Tariffs, fees and other charges,  
Non-Tariff Measures (including standards)

**Q35: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q36: FOR SERVICES: For the markets which you have identified as the highest costs, why are trade costs high? (You may choose more than 1 options)**

Recognition of professional qualifications,  
Restrictions on movement of natural persons

**Q37: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 23: D.1) TRADE COSTS

**Q38: How have your trade costs evolved over the past 5 years ?**

Between 0-10% reduction

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Q39: Additional information.

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 24: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q40: Does your Government use any of the following sources to address the issue of trade costs? (You may choose more than 1 option)

Research with private sector,  
Research by government,  
Research by donor funded project,  
World Bank Doing Business Index,  
World Bank Logistic Performance Index,  
World Customs Organizations Time Release Study

Q41: Additional information.

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q42: Do you validate the results? (You may tick more than 1 box)

Yes, dialogue with private sector,  
Yes, dialogue with government

Q43: Additional information.

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 26: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

Q44: Is your government taking national action to reduce trade costs?

Yes

PAGE 27: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

Q45: What national action is your government is taking?(You may tick more than 1 box)

National government initiatives,  
Joint public-private sector initiatives,  
Initiatives supported by development partners

Q46: Additional information.

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q47: In which areas have national actions been undertaken or are on-going? (You may tick more than one box)**

FOR MERCHANDISE GOODS: ,  
Border procedures (trade facilitation),  
Tariffs, fees and other charges,  
Non-Tariff Measures (including standards),  
Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),  
Transport infrastructure,  
Access to trade finance, FOR SERVICES: ,  
Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),  
Transport infrastructure (e.g. for tourism),  
Reforms of national regulatory frameworks for services  
,  
Negotiations with trading partners on access for service suppliers  
,  
Tariffs on product inputs (e.g. on computers for ICT services)

**PAGE 28: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS**

**Q48: Is your government engaged in regional actions to reduce trade costs?**

Yes

**PAGE 29: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS**

**Q49: Please specify (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Free trade agreements, Corridor initiatives,  
Joint public-private sector initiatives,  
Initiatives supported by development partners

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**Q50: In which areas have regional actions been undertaken or are on-going? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

FOR MERCHANDISE GOODS:,  
Border procedures (trade facilitation),  
Tariffs, fees and other charges,  
Non-Tariff Measures (including standards),  
Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),  
Transport infrastructure, FOR SERVICES:,  
Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),  
Transport infrastructure (e.g. for tourism),  
Negotiations with trading partners on access for service suppliers

**Q51: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**PAGE 30: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS**

**Q52: Is external support aligned with your national and regional needs to reduce trade costs ?**

Yes

**Q53: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**PAGE 31: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS**

**Q54: How is external support aligned with your needs?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

No opinion

**Q55: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**PAGE 32: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS**

**Q56: Why is external support not aligned with your needs?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q57: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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PAGE 34: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

**Q58: What impact would implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted, have on the evolution of your trade costs?**

No capacity to estimate

**Q59: Additional information.**

It is assumed that overall trade costs will be substantially reduced by implementing the provisions of the TFA. However, no such study has so far been conducted in Bangladesh to assess the possible impact of TFA when adopted.

PAGE 35: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

**Q60: In which regions would the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted, have the biggest impact on the trade costs you face ? (Please choose no more than 5 options)**

South America,  
North Africa and the Middle East,  
Southern Africa

**Q61: Additional information.**

The answers provided above are based on assumption only. No study has been conducted to assess such impact.

PAGE 36: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

**Q62: Do you plan to seek Aid-for-Trade support to help implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted ?**

Yes, after TFA adoption

**Q63: Have you undertaken a Trade Facilitation Needs Assessment?**

Yes

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**Q64: Please specify the organization(s) involved in and year(s) of each needs assessment.**

WTO	2007
UNCTAD	2012
World Bank	2014
Other	2014

(please specify)  
The IFC has been conducting a study on Trade Facilitation needs assesment.

**PAGE 38: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT**

<b>Q65: Do you plan to request a new Trade Facilitation Needs Assessment or an update of an existing assessment?</b>	Unsure
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**Q66: Please specify why.**

As IFC has currently been conducting a needs assessment study, we will have to wait for the report. Once the report is obtained the findings of it will be evaluated and then the authority will be able to decide on requirements of further needs assessment.

**PAGE 39: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT**

<b>Q67: Where might you need support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted? (You may tick more than 1 box)</b>	To develop national implementation plans,
	To support implementation of specific TFA provisions
	,
	To align support with on-going national reform programmes
,	
	To align commitments with on-going regional programmes

**PAGE 40: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT**

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**Q68: What difficulties do you face, or do you expect to face, in securing Aid-for-Trade support to help implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted ? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Lack of information on funding opportunities ,  
Differing priorities of in-country donors ,  
Problems accessing external funds,  
Problems to quantify TFA implementation needs,  
Accessing global programmes

PAGE 41: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

**Q69: Which disciplines of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted, will prove the hardest to implement and where Aid-for-Trade support should be focused?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Publication and availability of information,  
Other measures to enhance impartiality, non-discrimination and transparency  
,  
Disciplines on fees,  
Release and clearance of goods,  
Border agency cooperation,  
Formalities connected with importation, exportation and transit  
,  
Freedom of transit, Customs cooperation

**Q70: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 43: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

**Q71: What have been the key factors in achieving successful reductions in trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)**

Private sector engagement and commitment,  
Funding from development partners,  
Alignment of donor support with national priorities  
,  
Sustained engagement of development partners,  
Use of regional approach

**Q72: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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PAGE 44: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

<b>Q73: What outputs have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)</b>	Updated customs legislation, Improved cooperation between border agencies, Tariff reform, Creation of trade facilitation committees, Creation of dialogue with private sector
<b>Q74: Additional information.</b>	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 45: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

<b>Q75: What outcomes have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)</b>	Reduction in border clearance times, Reduction in informal payments, Increase in traffic flows through border posts, Increase in export volumes, Increase in import volumes
<b>Q76: Additional information.</b>	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 46: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

<b>Q77: What impacts have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)</b>	Diversification in export markets, Diversification in export products, Higher revenues for exporters, Rise in employment, Fall in poverty
<b>Q78: Additional information.</b>	
Above responses are given on assumption. No specific study has yet been conducted on it.	

PAGE 47: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

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**Q79: 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, Tariff reforms,  
Upgrading transport infrastructure,  
Improving access to trade finance,  
Working with trade partners to recognize professional qualifications

**Q80: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**PAGE 48: G.1) IMPACT: REDUCING TRADE COSTS AND INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

**Q81: What contribution can reducing trade costs make to the target of inclusive, sustainable growth? (Please choose no more than 7 options)**

Increase in exports, Rise in employment,  
Rise in female employment,  
Entry into new value chains,  
Diversification in export markets,  
Diversification in export products,  
Reduction in poverty

**Q82: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**PAGE 50: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE**

**Q83: Has the alignment of Aid-for-Trade support to your national needs and priorities changed since the launch of the Aid-for-Trade Initiative in 2005?**

Improved

**PAGE 51: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE**

**Q84: If it has improved, please specify why.(You may tick more than one box)**

Better dialogue with donors,  
Better dialogue with the private sector

**PAGE 52: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE**

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**Q85: Why has the alignment declined?(You may tick more than 1 box)** No opinion

**Q86: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 53: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE

**Q87: What impact has the Aid-for-Trade Initiative had since it was launched in 2005?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

More attention to trade issues in development ,  
More priority given by national authorities to trade issues in national development planning  
,  
More priority given by donors to trade issues in national development planning  
,  
More priority given by private sector to trade issues

**Q88: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 54: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE

**Q89: 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  
,  
Coherence in trade and development policy,  
Catalyst for Aid-for-Trade flows ,  
Contribution to inclusive, sustainable growth

**Q90: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q91: What potential future contribution could the Aid-for-Trade Initiative make to the post-2015 development agenda? (Please choose a maximum of 5 options)**

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 through inclusive, sustainable development

**Q92: Additional information.**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q93: How in your view could the Aid-for-Trade Initiative be improved?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 55: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE

**Q94: 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*