

DONOR QUESTIONNAIRE ON AID FOR TRADE

1 WHAT IS YOUR AID FOR TRADE STRATEGY?

Q1.1 Do you have an operational Aid for Trade strategy? Does it have a “pro-poor” focus? What are its key objectives and delivery/implementation modes? (Please break down by types of aid: "multilateral contributions" / "trust funds" / "budget support" / "other bilateral")

Please describe and exemplify. If applicable, feel free to refer to your 2007 response.

Ireland will revise its Aid for Trade Strategy in 2009. To date, Ireland’s strategy, which draws on the EU Strategy on Aid for Trade, focuses on helping, primarily the Least Developed Countries build trade capacity and protect their own interests in the WTO. The strategy has a pro-poor focus.

Ireland’s strategy is to continue to cover both the narrow definition trade policy and development support as well as, in our bilateral work, support capacity building. In 2008, aid was provided through multilateral trade development organisations as well as focusing on capacity building support, particularly in agriculture. This support was further developed through our funding of the Fairtrade Network to promote rural livelihoods.

In preparing our revised strategy this year, Ireland will focus on identifying i) a small number of multilateral agencies to provide with core funding, ii) geographical focus areas and iii) supporting demand-driven reforms of trade related policies iv) remove supply side constraints related to productive capacities and economic infrastructure and v) options for funding at regional level

Q1.2 If your Aid for Trade Strategy has evolved since 2007, please describe the changes and/or new focuses.

Please describe and exemplify.

The focus on LDCs has not changed nor is it expected that will change under this years review. In addition, greater account has been taken of supporting integrated networks with a tighter focus on coherence and aid effectiveness.

Q1.3 Have you articulated a set of best practices in the design and/or delivery of Aid for Trade?

Yes

No

Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, what form does this best practice guidance take?

Please describe and exemplify.

Guidance is provided through regular dialogue between the specialist trade unit and those working on the bilateral and multilateral sections of the programme. Ireland also commissions a think tank to help inform our trade development funding and focus.

General guidelines are as follows:

- 1) focus development assistance on poverty reduction and on the poor;
- 2) support the poor by providing ownership and control of assets, and access to markets and economic opportunities;

- 3) deliver development assistance in partnership with developing countries, in support of their development strategies, and in co-ordination with assistance from other donors;
- 4) deliver thorough evidence based analysis for the impact of their activities on poverty reduction in the medium to long term and
- 5) have the accountability and management systems and practices to ensure value for money.

2 HOW MUCH AID FOR TRADE DO YOU PROVIDE?

For CRS Reporting Donors

Q2.1 Does the attached CRS profile accurately reflect the volume of your Aid for Trade?

Yes

No

If no, please provide further details of your Aid for Trade activities for 2006 and 2007.

Please add any data that are missing in their appropriate CRS categories, including those activities that should be considered as Aid for Trade under the category of "Other Trade-related Needs" and describe, if applicable, the method used to identify trade-related activities in the relevant CRS categories. Please also provide any activities that may fall under the new category of "Trade-related Adjustment" for 2006.

The 2002-2005 attached CRS profile data does not reflect the Irish submission to the first WTO Aid for Trade Global Review, even allowing for possible exchange rate differences.

Total volume Aid for Trade 2002-2005:

2002	€18,300,839
2003	€15,815,947
2004	€18,914,445
2005	€20,70,956

Total Aid for Trade expenditure for 2006 and 2007 is estimated as follows:

2006: €24.6 million

2007: €32 million

	2006	2007
Trade Policy and Regulations	1,360,000	2,250,000
Trade Development	5,735,833	8,149,934
Building Productive Capacity	15,402,626	18,374,090
Trade Related Infrastructure	2,147,816	3,185,000
TOTAL	24,646,275	31,959,024

For non-CRS Reporting Donors

Q2.1 How much Aid for Trade did you provide in each of 2006 and 2007? Please also indicate the volume as percentage share of your total ODA.

Please use the WTO Task Force definition and include estimates of the value of in-kind Aid for Trade such as technical cooperation programmes.

For All Donor Agencies

Q2.2 Do you have indicative forward spending plans that include estimates on Aid for Trade?

Yes

No

Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, please provide details of your indicative forward Aid for Trade spending plan.

Please delineate the plan per Aid for Trade category.

2009 Aid for Trade Strategy develops our forward spending plan. We will continue to focus our spending on LDCs and on building capacity in Africa, particularly in our Programme Countries.

For Donors who had made Aid for Trade pledges

Q2.3 Please describe how you are meeting your pledges? And how much progress in delivering your final pledges do you expect to have made in 2008 and 2009?

Please provide details and evidence in accordance with your accountability mechanism.

Ireland has significantly increased its Aid for Trade funding in the last five years and continues to work towards contributing to EU pledges on Aid for Trade. Commitments to specific Aid for Trade intervention and categories will be in the 2009 strategy document.

For Multilateral Donors

Q2.4 Please describe how funding for your Aid for Trade activities is evolving [e.g. share of activities funded from your agency's core (regular budget) vs. non-core (earmarked) resources, including multi-donor funds; likely trends in these categories].

Please describe.

An increased focus on the private sector and the agricultural sector has been evident in recent years.

Please feel free to provide any other relevant information in relation to the volume of your Aid for Trade.

3 IMPLEMENTATION: HOW ARE YOU DELIVERING AID FOR TRADE?

Mainstreaming and Ownership

Q3.1 What measures have you undertaken to mainstream Aid for Trade in your overall assistance strategy?

Please describe and exemplify.

Regular dialogue within Irish Aid includes ongoing implementation of trade related support, particularly in our

bilateral programmes. An increased focus on the private sector and the agricultural sector has been evident in recent years across the programme and elements of best practise in trade development are being continuously integrated in both multilateral and bilateral sections to ensure coherent trade support to LDCs in particular.

Q3.2 In how many of the partner countries you support, are Aid for Trade concerns an important part of your policy dialogue with them (based on your best estimate)?

- | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 25% | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25% to 50% | <input type="checkbox"/> 50% to 75% | <input type="checkbox"/> above 75% | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|

Q3.3 How many of your country assistance strategies contain trade or Aid for Trade elements (based on your best estimate)?

- | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 25% | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25% to 50% | <input type="checkbox"/> 50% to 75% | <input type="checkbox"/> above 75% | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|

Q3.4 Has demand for Aid for Trade increased from partner countries since 2005?

- | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significantly increased | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little / no change | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|

If increased, from which countries / regions, and for which Aid for Trade categories / sectors?

Please describe and exemplify.

If increased, what steps have you taken to strengthen your capacity to respond to increasing demand for Aid for Trade from partner countries? Tick the box of all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increased aid resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strengthened in-house trade expertise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improved training, tool-kits and/or guidelines for Aid for Trade programming
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increased awareness among policy-makers and practitioners at the HQ and the field
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strengthened political commitment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased coordination among donors (e.g. joint assessment, joint delivery, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Please feel free to add other steps you have taken</i>

Please feel free to provide any other relevant information in relation to mainstreaming and ownership.

Our Bilateral Country Strategy Papers consider our comparative advantage vis a vis our development partners and we are committed to using delegated cooperation and silent partnerships where applicable.

Working with Others: Harmonisation and Alignment

Q3.5 In how many of the partner countries you support, have you contributed to the following joint donor initiatives?

	< 10%	10-30%	> 30%
Joint needs assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joint Aid for Trade strategy formulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Aid for Trade programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pool funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joint monitoring and evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Delegated cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3.6 Do you have a specific approach to South-South and/or trilateral cooperation in Aid for Trade?

Yes No Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, what are its key elements or particular focuses?

Please describe and exemplify.

Q3.7 How much of your Aid for Trade is aligned with your partners' country systems (based on your best estimate)?

less than 25% 25% to 50% 50% to 75% above 75% Not sure / Not applicable

Please feel free to provide any other relevant information in relation to harmonisation and alignment.

Any bilateral support is agreed with the partner government and forms part of their overall national development plan/PRS.

4 MONITORING RESULTS, EVALUATION AND MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Q4.1 Does your Strategy include specific monitoring and evaluation guidelines for Aid for Trade programmes?

Specific to Aid for Trade

Generic guidelines

If you do have specific guidelines, please provide the details of your Aid for Trade M&E framework. How often do you review progress towards your strategy objectives? Who do you report to?

Please describe and exemplify.

Q4.2 Do you regularly monitor the potential trade impact of your aid projects / programmes?

Yes

No

Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, please describe how.

Please describe and exemplify.

Desk evaluations of the multilateral organisations we support are regularly conducted and annual programme visits to these organisations monitor progress being made through the multilateral funding.

Individual projects are subject to a full evaluation of implementation and impact at the end of the project cycle. This runs parallel with the necessary annual and in year monitoring and review arrangements.

Q4.3 Do you have plans to improve the evaluation of your Aid for Trade programmes?

Please describe and exemplify.

Monitoring and evaluation will form an important part of our review.

Q4.4 Have you carried out or do you plan to carry out an impact assessment of your Aid for Trade programmes?

Yes: *please indicate when:* 06/2009

No

Not sure/Not applicable

Q4.5 Do you involve partner country stakeholders in developing measurable objectives/indicators to assess the quality of your Aid for Trade programmes?

Yes

No

Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, please describe the indicators used.

Please describe and exemplify.

Q4.6 Have you undertaken joint evaluations of your Aid for Trade with your partner country stakeholders?

Yes

No

Not sure/Not applicable

If yes, please describe when and the results of the evaluation.

Please describe and exemplify.

Please feel free to provide any other relevant information in relation to monitoring, evaluation and mutual accountability.

5 REGIONAL DIMENSION

Q5.1 How important is the regional dimension in your Aid for Trade strategy?

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essential element | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Important element | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor element | <input type="checkbox"/> Not present | <input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|

If essential or important, please describe how your Aid for Trade strategy addresses regional challenges.

Please describe and exemplify.

Our strategy will examine possible Aid for Trade Regional Integration initiatives with a geographic focus linked to our bilateral programmes.

Q5.2 Which of the following factors are important for determining whether or not to support particular regions or regional programmes? Please list in the order of importance.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Relevance to ongoing regional trade agreements / negotiations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional proximity / support to neighbouring regional economic integration processes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural, linguistic or historical ties with the region
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Existence of a viable counterpart at regional level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Request for assistance from a regional body
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Availability of a clearly defined regional development strategy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geographical concentration of donor activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please describe

Q5.3 By how much has the volume of your regional Aid for Trade increased since 2005?

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declined | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By less than 5% | <input type="checkbox"/> By 5 to 15% | <input type="checkbox"/> By 15 to 30% | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 30% |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|

Q5.4 In which assistance categories are you particularly active at regional level?

	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Not sure / Not applicable
Training (trade negotiations/WTO rules)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trade facilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Development of cross-border infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capacity building of regional organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other, please describe and exemplify

Q5.5 What are the most important challenges in implementing regional Aid for Trade?

Please list in the order of importance.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of (or weak) articulated demands for regional Aid for Trade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of coherence between national and regional priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of credible lending authorities at regional level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of effective coordination at regional level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Difficulties of monitoring and evaluating results at regional level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of credible mutual accountability mechanisms at regional level
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Other, please describe and exemplify</i>

Q5.6 Has the demand for regional Aid for Trade increased since 2005?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Significantly increased	Increased	Little / no change	Declined	Not sure / Not applicable

If yes, in which regions and for which activities has it increased the most?

Please describe and exemplify.

Please feel free to provide any other relevant information in relation to regional Aid for Trade.