

PARTNER COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE ON AID FOR TRADE

- We advise you to read the Explanatory Notes starting on page 10 before answering the questionnaire.
- When completed, this form should be returned by 20 February 2009 via e-mail to aft.monitoring@oecd.org and aft.monitoring@wto.org.
- The questionnaire can be downloaded from the OECD website at <http://www.oecd.org/dac/trade/aft> or from the WTO Members' website at <http://members.wto.org/members/>.
- All the boxes in this form are expandable.

1 IS YOUR TRADE STRATEGY MAINSTREAMED?

Q1.1 Does your country have a national development plan or strategy?

Yes

No

If YES, does this development plan include trade as a lever for growth and poverty reduction? (*please tick the most accurate description below*)

- Trade is a key priority and the plan includes well developed trade-related priorities and implementation actions (*please attach*).
- Trade is mentioned but the plan does not include operational objectives and action plans.
- No.
- Other, please describe:

If your Government does NOT have an articulated national development plan or strategy, or if trade is not strongly present in it, are there other separate strategies/plans addressing trade-related objectives? (*feel free to tick more than one box*)

- Government priority areas are not systematically subject to a documented strategy.
- In the annual government budget.
- In various sectoral strategies (e.g. one per relevant ministry, or per sector). Please describe and attach:

- In one single trade development/competitiveness strategy document encompassing all trade-related priorities across different government departments (*please attach*).
- Other, please describe:

For Least-Developed Countries participating in the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), former Integrated Framework (IF):

Do the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) and Action Matrix reflect your Government trade strategy? (please tick the most accurate description below)

- The DTIS and accompanying action matrix reflect well my country's trade-related needs and my Government's priorities.
- The DTIS and accompanying action matrix partly reflect my Government's analysis of trade needs and priority areas.
- The DTIS and accompanying action matrix are not (or are no longer) a good indication of my country's trade-related needs and priorities.
- The DTIS and accompanying action matrix are not currently a good indication of my country's trade-related needs/priorities, but they are in the process of being updated.
- Other, please describe:

Q1.2 What are your Government's priority areas of intervention to improve your country's capacity to benefit from trade expansion and integration into the world economy?
(Below are listed the most common areas grouped according to broad aid category – please rank the top 3 priority areas among the 12 listed)

Trade Policy and Regulations	Trade Policy Analysis, Negotiation and Implementation	Economic Infrastructure	1 Network infrastructure (power, water, telecom)
	WTO Accession costs		Other transport
	Trade Facilitation		Cross-border Infrastructure
Building Productive Capacity	2 Competitiveness	Other	Adjustment costs
	Value Chains		Regional Integration
	3 Export Diversification		Other, please describe:

Q1.3 Does your Government have an operational strategy (with action plans, timelines and budgets) for its priority areas?

Priority 1: Network Infrastructure power, water, telecom Yes Being formulated No

If Yes or Being formulated, please describe: National Strategy for Power 2007-2020

Priority 2: Competitiveness Yes Being formulated No

If Yes or Being formulated, please describe

Priority 3: Export Diversification Yes Being formulated No

If Yes or Being formulated, please describe: Strategy for Business Development and Investment 2007-2013

Q1.4 Are the financing needs of these trade-related priorities included in your national dialogue with donors?

Yes No Not sure

If YES, which structures do you use to discuss the financing needs of your trade-related priorities with your donors? (feel free to tick more than one box)

PRSP/CAS Bilateral dialogues Regional-wide dialogues Other, please describe:

Please describe the type of dialogue or alternative method, its level, its frequency, and its specificity to trade matters:

If NO, do you have plans to include trade-related priorities in your dialogue with donors in the next two to three years?

Yes No Not sure

- End of Section 1 -

Please feel free to provide additional information about your trade strategy

2 HOW IS YOUR TRADE STRATEGY FINANCED?

Q2.1 Does the attached CRS¹ profile accurately quantify the Aid for Trade you received in 2006 and 2007?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If NO, please provide details of the Aid for Trade you received in 2006 and 2007.

[Please describe with figures, and include any activities that may fall under 'other trade-related needs']

This is the first time that we (Albania) response to the questionnaire sent as part o the OECD/WTO exercise to monitor aid for trade.

- End of Section 2 -

Please feel free to provide any additional information on aid-for-trade flows

¹ The CRS profile summarises the commitments and disbursements reported by donors to the OECD Creditor Reporting System on the aid categories most closely associated with Aid for Trade as defined by the WTO Task Force, specifically support for trade policy and regulations, trade development, trade-related infrastructure, building productive capacity and trade-related adjustment (available from 2008 only).

3 HOW DO YOU IMPLEMENT YOUR TRADE STRATEGY?

Ownership

Q3.1 Who is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the implementation of your trade strategies including activities funded by ODA?

- A national committee is responsible for coordination and implementation.
- The Trade Department has a coordinating role but implementation is overseen by each relevant department separately.
- The national aid agency has the main coordinating role but implementation is overseen by each relevant department separately.
- There is no central coordination department. Each relevant department is separately responsible for implementation.
- Other, please describe:

If you have (or are in the process of establishing) a national committee, please describe its main functions, its membership (e.g. ministries, private sector), frequency of its meetings and to whom the committee reports. [Please describe and exemplify below.]

Q3.2 Do you engage in dialogue with the private sector and other key domestic stakeholders about the formulation and implementation of your trade strategy?

- Nearly always
- Regularly
- Rarely
- Not sure/ NA

If you do, please describe your main stakeholders and the focus and frequency of your dialogue. [Please describe and exemplify below.]

1. BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC) -The Albanian Government has considered the Business-Government dialogue as one of its most important issues within the improvement of business climate framework. Since long time ago, it has been established a periodic consultation with the business community, starting this dialogue through the foundation of the Business Advisory Council (BAC). The BAC Council is composed by 18 members, where 13 are representatives of the business groups or associations and 5 are representatives of the various state institutions (The Government). BAC shall discuss and review all policies, strategies, measures, etc. before they are adopted by the Council of Ministers. BAC meets at least 4 times a year. Anyway, upon request of the BAC members, it can meet more often.

2. THE "AD-HOC" GROUPS -the Albanian Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and of the Albanian

Agro-Business Council, as the two largest business groups’ representatives in Albania, have been actively participating in the bilateral negotiations for trade liberalization and this has without doubts been a very constructive and fruitful reality. These business organizations were represented in the negotiating groups by their delegates, which, in a certain way, were “chosen” according to the relevant thematic and specifics of each group of interest had with a specific country or that trade policy in general.

For Least-Developed Countries participating in the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF):

Q3.3 Is your EIF focal point and committee responsible for overseeing and coordinating all your trade agenda?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If no, please describe the different arrangements:

Working with external partners: harmonisation and alignment

Q3.4 In your Aid for Trade programs, how often do donors co-ordinate and align through:

	Regularly	Sometimes	Rarely or Never	Not Sure
Joint needs assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Co-financing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sector-wide approaches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Monitoring and Evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please describe:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Monitoring and evaluation

Q3.5 Do you monitor or evaluate your donor supported trade-related programmes?

Nearly always Regularly Rarely or Never Not Sure

If you monitor and evaluate your donor supported trade-related programmes, do you use:

	Regularly	Sometimes	Rarely or Never	Not Sure
Donors' monitoring and evaluation results	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint monitoring and evaluation arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Own monitoring and evaluation arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Own monitoring but joint/donor evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you use nearly always or frequently your own monitoring and/or evaluation arrangements, can you please provide examples of your methodology and results? [Please describe and exemplify below.]

World Bank, UNDP and EC's reports.

Mutual Accountability

Q3.6 Have you established mechanisms/procedures to discuss with the relevant donors the outcome and impact of your trade-related programmes?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If yes, please can you describe and exemplify them?

Priorities for improvement

Q3.7 What are your government's priorities to improve the implementation and effectiveness of the aid for trade it receives? Please rank the top three in order of importance.

Greater say in the design of aid for trade interventions:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stronger donor focus on capacity development:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better predictability of aid for trade funding:	<input type="checkbox"/>
More extensive use of Budget Support (or Trade Sectoral Wide Approaches)	<input type="checkbox"/>
More regular joint-donor implementation actions	<input type="checkbox"/>
More harmonised reporting requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
More frequent joint donor-partner implementation efforts	<input type="checkbox"/>
More systematic use of joint donor-partner monitoring and evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please describe:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please, describe in detail the improvements needed in your top priority area

Sharing Knowledge

Q3.8 Please identify and rank three areas of interventions (see Question 1.2 for a list of examples) where aid for trade has been most effective at raising trade capacity in your country.

(Please explain your choice)

Area 1

Area 2

Area 3

Q3.9 Are there any particular examples of your aid-for-trade processes, programmes or projects that have obtained good results that you think could contribute to the development of good practices?

[If so, please describe them below and attach any relevant documents.]

- End of Section 3 -

Please feel free to provide additional information on the implementation of your donor supported trade-related programmes and projects, *i.e.* aid for trade.

4 ADDRESSING TRADE CAPACITY CONSTRAINTS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

Q4.1 Do your trade strategies specifically address regional trade capacity challenges?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If YES, please describe them:

CEFTA

Q4.2 Do you participate in regional dialogues, programmes or activities aimed at promoting regional integration?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If YES, can you tell us in how many of these you participate in and describe the most important ones to you? [Please describe below.]

CEFTA, RCC

Q4.3 Do you know if these regional dialogues, programs, and/or institutions receive aid for trade?

Yes, they do No, they don't I don't know/ NA

If YES, are you an active participant in the regional dialogues, programs and/or institutions?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

Q4.4 Do you participate in or benefit from aid-for-trade programmes implemented at the regional level?

Yes No Not sure/ NA

If YES, please describe the main benefits. [Please describe and quantify whenever possible.]

- End of Section 4 -

Please feel free to provide any additional information concerning the regional dimension of your trade strategies:

-- Thank you --