

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.

Singapore's Aid-for-Trade strategy focuses on human resource capacity building for developing countries in the relevant fields under the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP). Under the SCP, Singapore has been sharing its development experience with other countries in the form of technical assistance since 1992. To date, the SCP has trained more than 58,000 participants from 169 countries in a wide range of fields.

As a strong supporter of free trade, Singapore is committed to helping developing countries strengthen their human resource and institutional capacity to enable them to harness trade as an engine of growth and development. While we do not generally provide direct monetary aid, Singapore has committed substantial resources to organising technical assistance programmes on trade policies and regulations to equip developing countries with the requisite knowledge on trade opportunities and skills to access them. We also formulate a range of programmes to help enhance the economic infrastructure and productive capacity of developing countries in fields such as transport and logistic management, customs administration, tax systems, product testing.

Singapore's Aid-for-Trade strategy through the SCP is "pro-poor" focused, as it seeks to boost the economic level and productive capacity of developing countries through our technical assistance programmes. Based on this strategy, our technical assistance reaches out to many developing countries.

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

Please describe and exemplify.

With a challenging global economic environment in 2009, our Aid-for-Trade strategy would focus on capacity building programmes to help sustain growth and accelerate economic integration in the Asia Pacific, including our immediate Southeast Asian region and beyond. We also aim to build up capacity in developing economies in relevant areas that would enable them to harness the benefits of trade and an increasingly globalised economy. This would help deliver new trade flows and sustain growth in the current difficult economic climate.

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.

Our technical assistance strategy is focused on offering a varied range of relevant courses/programmes, all of which have economic or trade-related components or aspects.

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.

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.

As much as 80% or more of SCP programmes totalling US\$15 million per year have a direct or indirect contribution to Aid-for-Trade. These include programmes in the CRS proxy categories, as well as other fields not specifically stated but which also contribute to the building of a country's economic infrastructure or strengthen a government's economic policy-making capability.

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.

Singapore remains committed to its efforts and assistance in raising the capacity of other developing countries to integrate with the multilateral trading system. Resources will be allocated based on needs and our overall capacity to contribute. Despite the global economic crisis which has severely affected its economy, Singapore remains committed to maintaining its current SCP budget for Aid-for-Trade programmes in 2009.

Singapore will also strengthen its collaboration with the WTO and other multilateral, regional and bilateral partners, and nurture new international partnerships in Third Country Training Programmes (TCTP) to deliver projects that can better meet the needs and requirements of their participants.

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.

Singapore did not make any specific aid-for-trade pledges. However, Singapore has continued to allocate resources to programmes which serve the objectives of Aid-for-Trade.

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.

N.A

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

N. A

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.

Given Singapore's firm belief in harnessing trade to attain growth and development, trade-related capacity building programmes have been mainstreamed into our development assistance strategy and programming. As noted earlier, as much as 80% of Singapore's technical assistance programmes has and will continue to be geared towards enhancing the trade-related capacity and infrastructure of other developing countries, particularly those within our region.

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 type="checkbox"/> 25% to 50% | <input type="checkbox"/> 50% to 75% | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 25% to 50% | <input type="checkbox"/> 50% to 75% | <input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Increased awareness among policy-makers and practitioners at the HQ and the field
<input 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.

Singapore has continuously built on our existing pool of experts to effectively implement our development programming strategy. Singapore also sends our officials for continuous training programmes, to enable them to keep abreast of the latest trends and developments and to better equip them to impart the necessary knowledge, skills and capacities to their counterparts in the developing countries. We also work closely with key multilateral, regional and bilateral partners, such as the WTO, IMF, ADB, WIPO, ESCAP and Commonwealth Secretariat, to improve and update our joint programmes to benefit other developing countries, especially those within our region.

Singapore has leveraged on our own development experience to promote the benefits of more open world markets, in our interactions with other developing countries. During our consultation with these countries, we make a conscious effort to identify and tailor training programmes relating to trade skills, economic infrastructure and productive capacity that are crucial to these countries' trade and development.

Singapore has actively supported international events that promote and facilitate dialogue on trade and

development issues, as well as regional programmes that build developing economies' capacity to handle trade policy issues. One example is the annual WTO Regional Trade Policy Course for the Asia-Pacific, which Singapore is hosting annually from 2007 - 2010.

In addition, the SCP organises a range of training and study visit programmes for senior officials who are in a position to shape domestic opinions and/or provide policy advice to their governments. We have also invited policy makers and senior officials to Singapore to observe first-hand the critical role that trade has played in the development of Singapore.

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joint Aid for Trade programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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.

Singapore works closely with the governments of our partner countries through our Overseas Missions to assess training needs, formulate Aid-for Trade programmes and monitor/evaluate the effectiveness of our programmes. For our regional programmes, and where required, Singapore would participate in such joint initiatives with our partners. We also participate in regional forums on South-South and trilateral cooperation.

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.

Under the SCP, we have been designing programmes to share our technical expertise and experience in specific areas, while taking into account the development needs of other developing countries, as well as their respective policy planning and budgeting frameworks. In line with the growing emphasis on aid alignment and coordination, we have also been working closely with our multilateral, regional and bilateral partners, such as the WTO, ESCAP, ITC, WIPO and Commonwealth Secretariat, in tailoring our trade programmes to the needs of developing countries. While each country has its own system, the important aspect is the sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices, and to facilitate each country to adopt or adapt such best practices.

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.

Singapore's M&E framework consists of the following:

- 1) A comprehensive feedback mechanism consisting of participant evaluation forms, liaison officer evaluation forms/reports and a training agency report to ensure that all aspects of the programme are covered. Programmes jointly conducted with development partners may involve our partner's evaluation form as well.
- 2) Post-course meetings with some development partners, involving also the training agency, to review if the course objectives were met.
- 3) Meetings to review our Aid-for-Trade and other programmes under SCP on a periodic basis, to ensure SCP strategic objectives are met.
- 4) The above information is used for an annual review to determine the changes and improvements for future courses to be conducted in the following financial year.
- 5) The SCP is reviewed on an annual basis by senior management to ensure overall strategic objectives are met and to set directions for the new financial year.

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.

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

Please describe and exemplify.

We are currently reviewing the feedback and evaluation mechanism for Aid-for-Trade and other programmes under the SCP. The aim is to obtain greater clarity and specificity on the areas where our Aid-for-Trade programmes could be further enhanced, as well as the follow-up training needs of partner countries in Aid-for-Trade.

Singapore will continue to work closely with partner countries to ensure that our Aid-for-Trade programmes are relevant and benefit participants.

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* 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.

Singapore works closely with the governments of our partner countries through our overseas Missions to assess training needs, formulate Aid-for-Trade programmes and monitor/evaluate the effectiveness of our programmes.

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.

As earlier mentioned, Singapore works closely with the governments of our partner countries through our overseas Missions to assess training needs, formulate Aid-for-Trade programmes and monitor/evaluate the effectiveness of our programmes.

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

The main objective of the trade-related programmes is to build up the capacity of developing countries to participate effectively in the multilateral trading system and global economy. As development is an evolving and dynamic process, we do not set specific timelines. Some broad indicators of success include feedback from other developing countries on how they have benefited from our programmes, changes in their state of economic activities and trade volume, as well as any overall improvement in their standard of living.

Apart from post-course surveys and evaluation sessions, regular consultations are also held with other developing countries to evaluate the impact of the programmes conducted.

Singapore engages closely with other developing countries, donor partners, as well as stakeholders to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation and outcome of our programmes.

Singapore conducts regular review sessions with other developing countries and TCTP partners to evaluate whether the programmes have achieved their intended objectives.

5 REGIONAL DIMENSION

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Essential element	<input type="checkbox"/> Important element	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor element	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable
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If essential or important, please describe how your Aid for Trade strategy addresses regional challenges.

Please describe and exemplify.

In our immediate region, Singapore contributes actively to the capacity building efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which are aimed at narrowing the developmental gap and facilitating an integrated ASEAN economic community by 2015. Singapore has made three pledges towards the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) mostly in the form of capacity building programmes, i.e. US\$40 million from 2001 - 2005, US\$20 million from 2006-2008 and US\$20 million from 2009-2011. Singapore's Aid-for-Trade programmes for the lesser-developed ASEAN members under IAI are aimed at capacity building in trade negotiations, international trade facilitation, and understanding of regional/international trade agreements. To date, over 24,000 government officials from these countries have benefited from over 2,100 programmes in Aid-for-Trade and other relevant and areas under the SCP.

For the Middle East, Singapore contributes to capacity building programmes that build industrial capacity and trade negotiation skills in 49 member economies of the Asia-Middle East Dialogue (AMED). AMED was initiated by Singapore in 2005 to strengthen dialogue, economic cooperation and trade ties between the two regions. These programmes are conducted in two training centres in Jordan and Qatar, in partnership between Singapore and Jordan and Singapore and Qatar respectively.

For Latin America, Singapore has offered capacity building programmes in areas that build economic infrastructure & productive capacity, e.g. port/water management, environment, to 32 member countries of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) since 2007. FEALAC was initiated by Singapore in 1999 for the similar purpose of strengthening economic cooperation & dialogue between the two regions.

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 type="checkbox"/>	Geographical concentration of donor activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Other, please describe</i> Order of importance: 1,2,6,3,5,4

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Declined	<input type="checkbox"/> By less than 5%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By 5 to 15%	<input type="checkbox"/> By 15 to 30%	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 30%
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Q5.4 In which assistance categories are you particularly active at regional level?

	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Not sure / Not applicable
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Training (trade negotiations/WTO rules)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade facilitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development of cross-border infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity building of regional organisations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other, please describe and exemplify

foreign direct investment promotion, banking and finance

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

Please list in the order of importance.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of (or weak) articulated demands for regional Aid for Trade
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of coherence between national and regional priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of credible lending authorities at regional level
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of effective coordination at regional level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Difficulties of monitoring and evaluating results at regional level
<input 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"/> Significantly increased	<input type="checkbox"/> Increased	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little / no change	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure / Not applicable
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If yes, in which regions and for which activities has it increased the most?

Please describe and exemplify.

The demand from ASEAN remains consistently high in the light of strong commitment from the less-developed member countries to bridge the economic gap with the more-developed ASEAN members. The demand from other regions have also remained consistent.

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

Singapore will continue to do what it can within its means and objectives to contribute to Aid-for-Trade through our extensive technical assistance programmes.