

Greece

Greece is managing a comparatively small-size development co-operation budget which remains compressed, among others, due to national budgetary constraints. Individual strategies are not, therefore, easy to be prepared along thematic lines only, and be respectively accompanied by a ring fenced amount out of the total development co-operation budget. More attention is paid, rather, to increasing concentration of aid to a limited number of sectors and, thus, increasing effectiveness of aid within the programming of available resources. In that sense, Greece deems it cannot provide systematically appropriate replies to the questionnaire compiled by the OECD and WTO.

Notwithstanding the limited development co-operation resources, Greece recognises the role Aid-for-Trade activities play in developing trade-related capacities and, consequently, in sustaining growth and reducing poverty. It is in this vein that Greece will reflect on ways to integrate an Aid-for-Trade Strategy and related activities in its second multi-annual programme.

To date, Greece has been financing individual activities in the area of building productie capacity, and, more specifically, in business support services and institutions, banking and financial services, agriculture and tourism, public-private sector networking, and trade promotion strategy and implementation. The absence of a properly formulated Aid-for-Trade Strategy per se does not diminish, in Grec's opinion, the positive impact individual trade-related activities have had in the transformation of the economies of its developing partners (list of Greece's trade-related activities in 2006, sent electronically to OECD and WTO on 25.7.07 upon request of their statistics services).