

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE



PAGE 4: B.1) ABOUT YOU

Q1: COUNTRY	AFGHANISTAN
Q2: ABOUT YOU	
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Q3: CONSULTATION (Other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply) :	Yes

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

Q4: Do you have Aid-for-Trade priorities?	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 policy analysis, negotiations and implementation	1
Network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications)	2
Regional integration	3

Q6: Additional information.

Improving and investing in Value chains is also one of the priority areas of the government of Afghanistan.

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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) Change of government, Regional integration, Competitiveness objectives

Q9: Additional information. *Respondent skipped this question*

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, National sectoral strategy(ies), National infrastructure development strategy

Q14: Additional information. *Respondent skipped this question*

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

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

Q16: Please indicate in which new draft policy documents, currently being updated or formulated, trade facilitation is included:	National development strategy, National trade strategy, National sectoral strategy(ies), National infrastructure development strategy, Regional infrastructure strategy
Q17: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 14: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q18: How important are trade costs for the competitiveness of your exports?	Important
Q19: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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 infrastructure strategy
Q22: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 16: D.1) TRADE COSTS

Q23: How important are trade costs for access to imports?	Important
Q24: Additional information.	
Currently imports are 25 times higher than the exports and most of the importers are Afghan traders, thus affecting the final cost of goods sold to consumers in the Afghan markets.	

PAGE 17: D.1) TRADE COSTS

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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? National trade strategy

Q27: Additional information. *Respondent skipped this question*

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

Q29: Additional information. *Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 20: D.1) TRADE COSTS

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),
Transport infrastructure (e.g. for tourism),
Poor regulatory environment for services,
Low levels of skills in service sectors

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) Western Europe, Central Asia, South Asia,
North Africa and the Middle East

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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),
Non-Tariff Measures (including standards),
Transport infrastructure

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)

Poor network infrastructure (ICT, telecoms),
Poor transport infrastructure (e.g. for tourism)

Q37: Additional information.

Lack of sufficient electricity to run service related businesses

PAGE 23: D.1) TRADE COSTS

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

More than 10% increase

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 donor funded project,
World Bank Doing Business Index,
World Bank Logistic Performance Index

Q41: Additional information.

Private sector research includes information provided by private businessmen to the relevant government authorities.

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

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

Border procedures (trade facilitation),

Non-Tariff Measures (including standards),

Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),

Transport infrastructure,

Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms),

Transport infrastructure (e.g. for tourism),

Negotiations with trading partners on access for service suppliers

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

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

Q49: Please specify (You may tick more than 1 box)	Free trade agreements, Corridor initiatives, Initiatives supported by development partners
Q50: In which areas have regional actions been undertaken or are on-going? (You may tick more than 1 box)	Border procedures (trade facilitation), Non-Tariff Measures (including standards), Network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms), Transport infrastructure, 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
Q51: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 31: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

Q54: How is external support aligned with your needs?(You may tick more than 1 box)	External support is aligned with national priorities to reduce trade costs , Dialogue with donors has resulted in attention to the issue of trade costs , Improved dialogue with regional partners has resulted in this being prioritized
Q55: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

PAGE 32: E.1) REDUCING TRADE COSTS

Q56: Why is external support not aligned with your needs?(You may tick more than 1 box)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q57: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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?	More than 10% reduction
Q59: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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)	Developed Asia, Central Asia, South Asia, North Africa and the Middle East
Q61: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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

PAGE 37: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

World Bank 2007

Other 2007

(please specify)

Need assessment conducted by the World Bank in 2003 through Emergency Customs Modernization and Trade Facilitation Project which ended in 2010.

PAGE 38: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

Q65: Do you plan to request a new Trade Facilitation Needs Assessment or an update of an existing assessment?

Unsure

Q66: Please specify why.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 39: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

Q67: Where might you need support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement, when adopted? (You may tick more than 1 box)

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

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,

Accessing the necessary expertise

PAGE 41: F.1) TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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)

The Agreement as a whole,
Publication and availability of information

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)

Funding from development partners,
Alignment of donor support with national priorities
,
Commitment of regional partners to goal

Q72: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q73: What outputs have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)

Updated customs legislation,
Greater transparency,
Updated customs working practices,
New or updated transport infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.)
,
Tariff reform

Q74: Additional information.

Creation of dialogue with private sector.

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

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

Q75: What outcomes have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)

Increase in customs revenue,
Reduction in informal payments,
Increase in traffic flows through border posts,
Increase in export volumes,
Increase in import volumes

Q76: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

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

Q77: What impacts have been achieved by actions taken to reduce trade costs? (Please choose no more than 5 options)

Diversification in export markets,
Diversification in export products,
Higher revenues for exporters,
Higher revenues for importers,
Increase in domestic private sector investment,
Fall in poverty

Q78: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

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

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,
Support for compliance with Non-Tariff Measures
,
Upgrading transport infrastructure,
Improving the regulatory environment for services
,
Improving skills levels in service sectors

Q80: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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, Moving up value chains, Foreign direct investment, Domestic private sector investment, Reduction in poverty
Q82: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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
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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, Better dialogue with regional partners
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PAGE 52: H.1) IMPACT OF THE AID FOR TRADE INITIATIVE

Q85: Why has the alignment declined?(You may tick more than 1 box)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q86: Additional information.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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 regional authorities to trade issues in 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
,
Catalyst for Aid-for-Trade flows

Q90: Additional information.

Respondent skipped this question

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
,
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

PARTNER
COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

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