



## PAGE 5: ABOUT YOU

<b>Q1: Country or customs territory</b>	AUSTRALIA
<b>Q2: About you</b>	
Name	Craig Robinson
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## PAGE 7: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

<b>Q3: Do you have an Aid-for-Trade Strategy?</b>	Yes
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## PAGE 8: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

<b>Q4: If no, please indicate if your development policy includes trade priorities.</b>	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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## PAGE 9: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q5: Below are listed the most common priority areas grouped according to broad Aid-for-Trade categories. If yes, please rank the top 5 priorities areas among the items listed.(1 being the most important)**

Trade policy analysis, negotiations and implementation	2
Trade facilitation	1
Network infrastructure (power, water, telecommunications)	3
Connecting to value chains	4
Services development	5

Additional information : please specify further the priorities that you selected above as well as the main problems/obstacles encountered in furthering them and provide a weblink to the relevant strategy.

The Strategy for Australia's Aid for Trade Investments, launched on 1 July 2015, articulates how aid for trade supports the aid program's key objectives of reducing poverty and lifting living standards through sustainable

economic growth. It encourages innovation, including by partnering with the private sector and promoting market-based solutions. The Strategy can be accessed at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-aid-for-trade-investments.aspx> The Australian Government has set an aid for trade target of 20 per cent of the total aid budget by 2020, which is consistent with the level of similar investment by other key donors and the increasing demand from developing countries, especially in the Pacific. Australia's aid for trade priorities include trade and investment policy, trade facilitation, global value chains, private sector development, services, economic empowerment of women, knowledge and skills development, infrastructure and agriculture. In 2016-17, Australia's aid for trade expenditure is expected to reach \$748 million or 19.5 per cent of Australia's total aid budget. An evaluation by the Australian Office of Development Effectiveness found Australia's trade facilitation investments have been effective in building capacity and improving the lives of the poor. Since the 5th Global Aid for Trade Review, Australia is pleased with the increased focus on gender issues by multilateral organisations, including the WTO, ITC and World Bank. Australia has strived to promote the economic empowerment of women including through investments such as: (i) Improving export opportunities — in partnership with the International Trade Centre, the facility supports two projects assisting women entrepreneurs in the Pacific and the Indian Ocean Rim to export. For example, supply chain development of Billum bags has resulted in export markets and high-end marketing, including in Vogue Magazine. (ii) International Labour Organisation Better Work Programme — improving workplace conditions and reducing gender discrimination in export factories in developing countries. Australia is also encouraged that the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement is proving to be a useful vehicle in engaging developing countries undertake trade facilitation reform. Australia has always been a strong supporter of the Agreement, which is a demonstration of the continuing vitality and relevance of the rules-based global trading system. Australia contributes to a range of trade facilitation investments, such as the World Bank's Trade Facilitation Support Program, the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility, and the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation. Please see our answer to question 10 for further information. Greater international attention needs to be placed on the challenges of Pacific island countries. This was a feature of Australia's contribution to the fifth Global Aid for Trade

Review, including through our sponsorship of the Asian Development Banks “Aid for Trade in Asia and the Pacific” report. We are appreciative of the WTOs efforts to reinvigorate engagement with the region. Australia has also recently provided aid for trade support to the Pacific, including through: (i) Improving access to finance and investment – in partnership with ADB, the Pacific Business Investment Facility is providing technical assistance to help Pacific businesses access commercial finance. In 18 months the Facility raised USD3.4 million of finance for six companies. (ii) Pacific Island Forum (PIF) – investing in a PIFs office in Geneva to support some Pacific Island Countries engage in the WTO. (iii) Asian Development Banks Trade Finance Program — facilitates SMEs in developing countries access trade finance, including in the Pacific. (iv) Support Program on Investment Policy and Related Areas - assists developing countries in the Indo-Pacific to address legal, regulatory, and administrative impediments to attracting and retaining investment to enable sustainable economic growth, including partnerships with Fiji and Vanuatu. Moving forward, the challenges ahead include: - ensuring aid for trade supports the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (including on ending hunger, achieving food security and promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG2), access to affordable and sustainable energy (SDG7), and decent work and economic growth (SDG8)); - better targeting and design of aid for trade investments so these make an immediate and direct impact on disadvantaged groups, such as small businesses and women; and - utilising aid for trade in the effective advocacy of the benefits of trade to counter the growing sentiment towards protectionism.

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PAGE 10: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q6: Has your Aid-for-Trade strategy changed since 2014?**

No

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PAGE 11: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q7: If yes, what are the top 3 drivers of these changes?(Please choose no more than 3 options)**

Change of government 1

Gender empowerment objectives 2

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## PAGE 12: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q8: How has your Aid-for-Trade spending changed since 2014?**

Between 0-10% increase ,  
 Additional information on changes to your Aid-for-Trade spending since 2014.  
 In 2014, the Australian Government set an aid for trade target of 20 per cent of the total aid budget by 2020, which is consistent with the increasing demand from developing countries, especially in the Pacific. The Australian Government is on track to meet its target. In 2015-16, Australia's aid for trade represented about A\$698.3 million or 17.2 per cent of Australia's total Official Development Assistance, up from 12.8 per cent in 2013-14. In 2016-17, Australia's aid for trade expenditure is expected to reach A\$748 million or 19.5 per cent of Australia's total aid budget.

**Q9: How do you expect your Aid-for-Trade spending to change in the next 5 years?**

Between 0-10% increase

**Q10: Looking ahead, what changes do you expect to your Aid-for-Trade strategy in the next 5 years?**

Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals ,  
 More focus on climate change and green growth ,  
 More focus on gender equality ,  
 More focus on poverty reduction ,  
 More focus on private sector development ,  
 More focus on regional integration ,  
 More focus on results ,  
 More focus on trade facilitation

**Q11: Are you engaging with the private sector in the design, delivery and monitoring of your Aid-for-Trade programmes?**

Yes

## PAGE 13: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES

**Q12: If yes, how are you engaging with the private sector:**

Project or programme identification,  
 Project or programme implementation,  
 Project or programme financing,  
 Private sector associations in partner countries,  
 Private sector associations in donor country,  
 Additional information on how you are engaging with the private sector in the design, delivery and monitoring of your Aid-for-Trade programmes.  
 Australia has committed A\$3 million over three years (2016-18) to support the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation. Australia's participation in the Alliance

was formally announced at the Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2015. The Alliance is a multi-donor, non-UN international forum which aims to assist developing countries to implement trade facilitation reforms in order to progress the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. It brings together five national governments, a number of multinational businesses, and industry bodies, to find solutions to streamline border management processes in developing countries. Australia sits on the Global Alliance Steering Group with four other donor countries and international businesses including DHL, Maersk, Wal-Mart and Fiat-Chrysler. Australia has committed to provide A\$2.5 million to the WEF to manage the day-to-day activities of the Global Alliance and the Steering Group. DFAT has retained A\$500,000 to deliver trade facilitation projects within the Indo-Pacific region. 'Trade Facilitation Reform: A Business and Government Partnership' Conference The considerable potential of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) to reduce the costs of goods trade — by 10 per cent for OECD countries and up to 14 per cent for low-income countries — was emphasised by Assistant Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Keith Pitt in his keynote address at the December 2016 'Trade Facilitation Reform — A Business and Government Partnership' conference. Hosted by DFAT and the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, and co-sponsored by Brambles, the Export Council of Australia, Commonwealth Bank, DHL and the Freight & Trade Alliance, the conference increased domestic and regional understanding of the benefits of trade facilitation reform, including ratification of the TFA. Participants included Australian and international business and industry groups, sponsored developing country government and industry representatives, representatives of other donor country and international multilateral organisations (including the World Bank, WTO and WCO). Participants gained a better appreciation of global trade facilitation efforts and opportunities to partner with governments to advance reforms. Sponsored developing country participants also attended site visits to Australia's port facilities in Botany Bay and DHL operations at Sydney airport, where they gained a real-life insight into Australia's world-class customs, transport and logistics links. Delegates described the conference as setting a new government benchmark for industry engagement and were very pleased with the connections forged. See DFAT's Trade Facilitation Agreement webpage at <http://dfat.gov.au/trade/topics/Pages/trade-facilitation.aspx> or contact [aidfortrade@dfat.gov.au](mailto:aidfortrade@dfat.gov.au) for further information.

**Q13: In your view, can Aid for Trade make a contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda ?**

Yes

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**PAGE 15: SECTION 1: AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES**

**Q14: If yes, please specify which Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) you think that Aid for Trade may help to achieve? Sustainable Development Goals:**

2. Zero hunger, 5. Gender equality,  
7. Affordable and clean energy ,  
8. Decent work and economic growth ,  
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure ,  
13. Climate action, 14. Life below water ,  
15. Life on land,

Additional information on how Aid-for-Trade can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. Aid for trade is embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and our future investments will in turn be influenced by these goals. Aid for trade plays a prominent and cross-cutting role in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including: o SDG 2 - ending hunger, achieving food security and promoting sustainable agriculture o SDG 5 - gender equality o SDG 7 - access to affordable and sustainable energy o SDG 8 - decent work and economic growth o SDG 9 - building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive sustainable industrialization and foster innovation o SDG 13 - taking urgent climate change action o SDG 14 - conserving and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development o SDG 15 - promoting sustainable use of territorial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

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**PAGE 16: SECTION 1 : AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES**

**Q15: Are you integrating women's economic empowerment into your Aid-for-Trade programmes?**

Yes,

Additional information on how women's economic empowerment is being integrated into your Aid-for-Trade programmes? (e.g. indicating how these programmes are attempting to impact women and marginalized groups)  
Australia's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy, released in March 2016, commits to removal of barriers in trade-related regulation to women's economic participation and equitable benefit and to ensure gender equality issues are integrated in our economic diplomacy strategies. These commitments also include a specific focus on

aid for trade, including on women's participation in and access to trade opportunities. 80 per cent of investments funded by Australian Aid, regardless of their objectives, will effectively address gender issues in their implementation. The Strategy can be accessed at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment-strategy.aspx> The Strategy for Australia's Aid for Trade Investments, launched on 1 July 2015, prioritises the incorporation of women's economic empowerment into every aid for trade investment. The Strategy explicitly recognises that aid for trade investments can make a significant contribution to advancing gender equality and economic empowerment of women. Previous aid for trade efforts have fallen short in ensuring gender issues were adequately addressed, despite significant potential for women to be a core constituency in advocating the benefits of trade. The Strategy aims to incorporate a gender equality objective in every aid for trade investment to help ensure that Australia's aid for trade target can be achieved simultaneously with the target on gender equality. Australia has strived to promote the economic empowerment of women including through investments such as: (i) Improving export opportunities — in partnership with the International Trade Centre, the facility supports two projects assisting women entrepreneurs in the Pacific and the Indian Ocean Rim to export. For example, supply chain development of Billum bags has resulted in export markets and high-end marketing, including in Vogue Magazine. (ii) International Labour Organisation Better Work Programme — improving workplace conditions and reducing gender discrimination in export factories in developing countries. Our experience with the Better Work Programme (BWP) has demonstrated that firm productivity and profitability goes hand in hand with improved workplace conditions. Participation in a scheme such as BWP is not a business cost, but a business opportunity. For example, the recently completed impact assessment from Tufts University found that firms participating in the BWP were: • 22 per cent more productive through supervisory skills training • 25 per cent more profitable (based on revenue-cost ratio) Firms also enjoyed lower rates of turnover and injury rates, thereby helping to avoid unbalanced production lines (a situation where staff on the production line are not trained in other components of the line, thereby restricting overall output if a particular team member was injured or otherwise absent). Under BWP, firms that also made progress on key issues, such as pay and working hours, typically saw an increase in order sizes from buyers. For example, in Cambodia, nationally in 1996, women earned nearly 40 percent less than men in Cambodia. By 2007, the gender wage gap had decreased to 17 percent. This trend accompanied the sharp growth in apparel exports that occurred after the implementation of the U.S.-Cambodian Bilateral Textile Trade Agreement and the establishment of Better Factories Cambodia to ensure compliance with labour

Cambodia to ensure compliance with labour standards. While improved workplace conditions offer a clear business incentive, there are also strong spill over impacts for the women working in these factories. For example:

- Remittances – significant majorities of workers are sending their wages to their families, with trends in Jordan finding that families put this money into more productive use, such as health or education for children as opposed to debt repayment.
- Education – in Vietnam, workers in BWP factories are able to fund schooling for their daughters. A similar pattern was also reported for worker's sons in Indonesia. In Nicaragua and Haiti, there has been a decline in the number of workers reporting that their children are not in school due to financial constraints
- Health – there is a direct link between the BWP and a decrease in reports from workers of severe hunger. In Haiti, Jordan and Vietnam, access to pregnancy-related healthcare has significantly improved. Additionally, where parents (particularly mothers) achieved better working hours and pay, their children's health also improved. Australia considers these results demonstrate the significant potential of aid for trade to drive women's economic empowerment.

**Q16: Have you undertaken an evaluation of your Aid-for-Trade support?**

Yes,

Additional information on the evaluation of your Aid-for-Trade support. (Please include information on the review's finding and/or a weblink to the evaluation document)

In May 2016, Australia's Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE) released an evaluation that examined and assessed the effectiveness of Australia's recent investments supporting trade facilitation and regional trade agreements to find out how Australia's investments may be better targeted in the future. The evaluation found that DFAT investments in trade facilitation have been effective in addressing capacity issues, have the potential to make significant impacts to poverty reduction, and contain many elements of good global practice. Australia's trade facilitation investments were found to have assisted partner countries in Asia and the Pacific to better integrate with regional and global economies. These investments work best when they are responsive to partner government priorities, complement and assist developing countries' own efforts to boost economic growth, and enable an innovative and competitive environment. The full evaluation is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/how-we-measure-performance/ode/odepublications/Pages/gearing-up-for-trade.aspx>.



**Q17: Is trade facilitation reflected as a priority in your Aid-for-Trade programming? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Yes, Aid-for-Trade strategy with a broader conception of trade facilitation (e.g. trade and transport facilitation)

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Yes, Overall Development Strategy with a broader conception of trade facilitation (e.g. trade and transport facilitation)

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Additional information on how trade facilitation is reflected as a priority in your Aid-for-Trade programming.

Objective one of the Strategy for Australia's Aid for Trade Investments, released in July 2015, is 'to improve the regulatory environment in developing countries'. 'Trade and investment policy and trade facilitation' is the first priority area linked to this objective. Trade facilitation is one of the key pillars of Australia's six aid investment priorities, as outlined in Australia's development policy available at <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/Pages/australias-aid-program.aspx>. Australia broadly defines trade facilitation and related assistance as all activities and efforts that remove obstacles to the movement of goods and services across borders. This includes simplification and harmonisation of import and export procedures; support to customs departments; tariff reforms; sanitary and phytosanitary measures; and regulatory reform.

**Q18: Are you providing Aid-for-Trade support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement?**

Yes, funding to regional/multilateral TFA implementation mechanism

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Additional information on Aid-for-Trade support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement. Australia's total assistance for implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement totals A\$10 million over four years. This includes support to the:

- World Bank Trade Facilitation Support Program— assisting partner countries undertake trade reforms in order to implement the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation.
- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility— provides funding of last resort for trade facilitation reforms.
- The Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation— utilises private sector expertise and resources to encourage reform by lowering the cost of trade in developing countries.

**Q19: If yes, how are you programming Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation support?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

As part of on-going programmes offering regional support for Trade Facilitation Agreement implementation

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On a country-by-country basis supporting implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement in its entirety

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As part of dedicated global thematic programmes

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**PAGE 20: SECTION 2 : TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**

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**Q20: In which regions are you providing Aid-for-Trade support to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement? (You may tick more than one box)**

Asia and the Pacific

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**PAGE 21: SECTION 2 : TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**

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**Q21: For implementation of which disciplines of the Trade Facilitation Agreement are you providing Aid-for-Trade support?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Art 1: Publication and Availability of Information ,  
 Art 2: Opportunity to Comment, Information before Entry into Force and Consultations  
 ,  
 Art 3: Advance Rulings ,  
 Art 4: Procedures for Appeal or Review ,  
 Art 5: Other measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non discrimination and Transparency  
 ,  
 Art 6: Disciplines on Fees and Charges Imposed on or in Connection with Importation and Exportation and Penalties  
 ,  
 Art 7: Release and Clearance of Goods ,  
 Art 8: Border Agency Cooperation ,  
 Art 9: Movement of Goods Intended for Import under Customs Control  
 ,  
 Art 10: Formalities Connected with Importation, Exportation and Transit  
 ,  
 Art 11: Freedom of Transit ,  
 Art 12: Customs Cooperation ,  
 Additional information on disciplines of the Trade Facilitation Agreement for which you are providing Aid-for-Trade support, for example with respect to specific measures within articles (e.g. single window, authorized operator, etc.).  
 Australia's support to the Trade Facilitation Agreement is directed to the agreement in its entirety, not to defined articles within the agreement.

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**PAGE 22: SECTION 2 : TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**

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**Q22: What difficulties, if any, are you facing in programming and providing support to partner countries or regional economic communities to implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Differing priorities of partner countries ,  
 Ensuring coherence with past programmes ,  
 Ensuring TFA implementation is a priority in national development planning documents  
 ,  
 National coordination and demonstration of political will for TFA reform  
 ,  
 Problems to quantify TFA implementation needs

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**PAGE 23: SECTION 2 : TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**


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**Q23: Are you working with the private sector to support implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement?** Yes

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**PAGE 24: SECTION 2 : TRADE FACILITATION IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**


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**Q24: If yes, how are you engaging with the private sector:(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Project or programme identification,  
 Project or programme implementation,  
 Project or programme financing,  
 Project or programme evaluation,  
 Private sector associations in partner countries,  
 Private sector associations in donor country,  
 Global business associations, Individual companies,  
 Additional information on how you are working with the private sector on TFA implementation.  
 Please refer to our answer to question 10.

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**PAGE 26: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**


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**Q25: Does e-commerce (or other digital strategy) feature among the priorities in your national development policy?** Yes

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**PAGE 27: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**


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**Q26: If yes, please indicate which of the following is included: (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development

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Broadband development,

Telecommunications strategy,

Additional information to elaborate on how e-commerce (or other digital strategy) features in your national development strategy.

Australia's Strategy for Investments in Economic Infrastructure, released in July 2015, covers transport, energy, large-scale water and sanitation, and information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure. Australia's aid program for infrastructure can play an important role in helping governments to improve their policy and regulatory settings to capture these economic benefits and leverage greater private sector investment and delivery of ICT services. All three principles of the Strategy for Australia's aid investments in economic infrastructure promote improved outcomes for ICT development, and consequently the foundations for greater e-commerce. The Strategy is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-investments-in-economic-infrastructure.aspx>

**PAGE 28: SECTION 3: E-COMMERCE**

**Q27: Do you have any special policy initiatives that cover the area of e-commerce (or other digital strategy)?**

Yes,

Additional information on any special policy initiatives that cover the area of e-commerce (or other digital strategy) and add a weblink to the special policy initiative.

A case study of Australia's aid assistance to Indonesia and Vanuatu for telecommunications reform is provided at page 10 of the Strategy for Australia's Aid Investments in Economic Infrastructure. This is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-investments-in-economic-infrastructure.aspx>

**PAGE 29: SECTION 3: E-COMMERCE**

**Q28: Does e-commerce feature in your in-country dialogues with partner countries?**

Yes

**PAGE 30: SECTION 3: E-COMMERCE**

**Q29: If yes, please indicate which of the following is included: (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development

,

Broadband development,

Additional information on how e-commerce features in your in-country dialogues.

ICT development features in country dialogues particularly with the Pacific Islands Countries. The Pacific is undergoing a 'digital revolution' that is helping to mitigate the challenges of isolation and could dramatically change private sector development in the Pacific. Deregulation and reform of the telecommunication sector has led to a boom in mobile phone use. It is estimated that 60 per cent of Pacific Islanders now have access to a mobile phone, a huge growth from under 10 per cent in 2006. Attention is increasingly turning to reducing the cost and increasing access to broadband infrastructure to enable businesses and governments to participate in the global economy and capture the benefits of greater e-commerce. Australian support for reform of ICT infrastructure in the Pacific is bringing connectivity to hundreds of thousands of people in some of the most remote places on earth. Australia has facilitated key outcomes in internet connectivity in Tonga and Fiji, telecommunications in Vanuatu and mobile coverage in Kiribati and the Solomon Islands. Our focus is on ICT policy and regulatory reform to support competitive market structures, increase equitable access to services and enable private sector-led investment in ICT infrastructure and services. We have ongoing partnerships with ANZ, Westpac and telecommunications companies, which are bringing innovative mobile banking, telephone and internet services to poor women and men throughout the region.

**Q30: If yes, please indicate how demand from partner countries for e-commerce support has grown in the past 5 years:**

Significant growth in demand for support

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**PAGE 31: SECTION 3: E-COMMERCE**

**Q31: Does e-commerce feature in your dialogues with regional partners e.g. regional economic communities or transport corridors?**

Yes

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**PAGE 32: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

**Q32: If yes, please indicate which of the following : (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Broadband development,

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development

,

Additional information on how e-commerce features in your dialogues with regional partners e.g. regional economic corridors or transport corridors.

Australia directly supports the efforts of ASEAN to improve regional connectivity. This has included the development of an ASEAN Master Plan for Connectivity which covers physical connectivity underpinning e-commerce, such as international undersea telecommunications cables and domestic broadband coverage. Australia also delivers support through the World Bank in the Indo-Pacific region covering ICT infrastructure development such as international undersea cable connections, and policy and regulatory technical assistance to improve access to ICT infrastructure assets and services.

**Q33: If yes, please indicate how demand from regional partners for e-commerce support has grown in the past 5 years:**

Significant growth in demand for support

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**PAGE 33: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

**Q34: What types of support are you offering for e-commerce development?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Broadband infrastructure development,

Broadband regulatory policy support,

E-commerce regulatory policy support,

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure upgrading

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Information and Communication Technology (ICT) regulatory policy support

,

Telecommunications infrastructure,

Telecommunications regulatory policy support

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**PAGE 34: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

**Q35: Are you working with the private sector to support growth in e-commerce in partner countries and regions?**

Yes

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**PAGE 35: SECTION 3: E-COMMERCE**

**Q36: Based on your experience of e-commerce support programmes, please indicate the main issues that firms and consumers in your partner countries face in accessing and using internet services?(You may tick more than 1 box)**

Cost of broadband subscription,  
Slow internet connection speeds

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**PAGE 36: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

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**Q37: What are the most common trade issues that you encounter in your e-commerce support programmes? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Absence of, or difficulties in, using electronic single window for customs or border clearance

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**PAGE 37: E-COMMERCE**

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**Q38: Do you anticipate a growth in future demand from partner countries and regional partners in the area of e-commerce?**

Yes

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**PAGE 38: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

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**Q39: If yes, please elaborate:**

Significant growth in demand for support

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**PAGE 39: SECTION 3 : E-COMMERCE**

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**Q40: In your view, can growth in e-commerce in partner countries and regions make a contribution to women's economic empowerment?**

Yes,

Additional information on how growth in e-commerce in partner countries and regions can make a contribution to women's economic empowerment. Australia's Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, released in February 2016, makes a strong case for increasing women's economic participation to drive growth. E-commerce will likely play an increasing role in reinforcing economic activity and growth by expanding access to banking services, market information, and commercial opportunities. The Strategy articulates how gender equality and empowering women can contribute to growth, development and stability. It also stresses that while economic growth and development can provide opportunities to reduce inequalities between men and women, growth alone is not sufficient for gender equality. The Strategy is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/news/news/Pages/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment-strategy.aspx> Infrastructure is essential to promoting gender equality, supporting improved access to essential services, education and employment opportunities. Australia is dedicated to ensuring it embeds gender equality approaches across its network in infrastructure for development and promotes the mainstreaming of gender equality in infrastructure globally, including through engagement with multilateral infrastructure development facilities.

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**PAGE 41: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q41: Does your development policy or Aid-for-Trade strategy include trade-related infrastructure development priorities?**

Yes,

Additional information on how your development policy or Aid-for Trade strategy includes trade-related infrastructure development priorities. A key priority area for Australia's development policy includes investments in infrastructure, trade facilitation and international competitiveness. Australia is committed to tackling infrastructure bottlenecks to help create the right conditions for sustainable economic growth and to enhance trade and investment opportunities across the Indo-Pacific region. Australia's Strategy for Investments in Economic Infrastructure, released in July 2015, guides our official aid expenditure in infrastructure at global, regional and country levels. It covers transport, energy, large-scale water and sanitation, urban and ICT infrastructure investments. The strategy prioritises investment in infrastructure as part of the strategic target of the Government's commitment to scale-up the aid for trade portfolio. Australia's aid expenditure on infrastructure is estimated in 2016-17 to be \$A345.4 million, or 9 per cent of Official Development Assistance. The Strategy is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about->

us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-investments-in-economic-infrastructure.aspx The Strategy identifies the following priorities: A. Mobilise the private sector to finance and deliver infrastructure to meet the needs of the Indo-Pacific region B. improve access to infrastructure services to facilitate private sector and human development and promote women's participation and empowerment; and C. promote infrastructure to enhance trade and connectivity throughout the Indo-Pacific region. Implementing the Strategy involves working with partner governments on improving their physical infrastructure construction and maintenance, as well as strengthening the policy and regulatory environment for efficient and inclusive infrastructure investment. Australia is committed to: a) facilitating greater private investment in infrastructure by helping partner governments to get the policy and regulatory settings right, and by promoting greater private sector participation in infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships (PPPs) b) investing in infrastructure that enables private sector and human development, such as transport infrastructure and water systems c) expand access to reliable energy— vital for businesses and for communities d) unlocking transformational information and communication technologies to expand access to banking services, market information, and commercial opportunities e) working with multilateral organisations that have significant expertise in innovative solutions to deliver enabling infrastructure f) working through international fora, such as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the G20, to address systemic barriers to investment in infrastructure. In addition, objective two of Australia's Strategy for Aid for Trade investments released in July 2015 is 'to address poor economic infrastructure in developing countries'. Priority areas/sectors linked to this objective include infrastructure for connectivity, Public-Private Partnerships and the economic empowerment of women.

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#### PAGE 42: SECTION 4 : INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES AND INVESTMENT

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**Q42: Do you have any special policy initiatives that cover the area of infrastructure or trade-related infrastructure specifically?**

Yes,

Additional information on any special policy initiatives that cover the area of infrastructure or trade-related infrastructure specifically.

Overview of Australia's Economic Infrastructure Initiatives The Australian Government works with a range of multilateral organisations, other governments and the private sector to deliver quality infrastructure and to support the growth of public private partnerships in developing countries. Australia supports specific bilateral infrastructure development assistance in countries, as well as regional/global

infrastructure initiatives. Australia's Strategy for aid investments in economic infrastructure includes a key priority area (priority 3) on 'Promoting infrastructure to enhance trade and connectivity throughout the region'. This priority area aims to help improve connectivity throughout the region by facilitating a range of infrastructure development initiatives including improving supply chains between producers and consumers (e.g. connecting farmers to national and international markets); major transport connections such as arterial roads, railways and ports; and ICT that improves the efficiency of commerce, financial services and transport logistics. In the case of large-scale investments our approach will be to assist partner governments to develop infrastructure (e.g. project preparation and technical assistance). For smaller-scale investments, we may directly finance or build infrastructure. Global, Regional and Country Program initiatives At the global and regional levels Australia supports the following infrastructure initiatives:

- The Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG): an innovative multi-donor, multi-company structure, designed and implemented by donors (the United Kingdom, Australia and others) as a collective of private sector subsidiaries. Around \$28 million of Australian funding has supported the PIDG subsidiary InfraCo-Asia Development which focuses on Asian investments, and a further \$4 million has funded another PIDG subsidiary GuarantCo which provides local currency guarantees to shore up financing for infrastructure projects.
- The Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) - A\$25 million committed: a World Bank initiative to encourage collaboration between MDBs and the private sector, to attract investment in developing countries by providing end-to-end project preparation, appraisal, structuring and transaction support.
- The Asia Pacific Project Preparation Facility (AP3F) - A\$10 million committed: an Asian Development Bank initiative to encourage private sector participation in infrastructure by adopting a more consistent and higher-quality approach to public private partnership (PPP) project preparation and transaction advice across the region.
- The Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) - A\$29.6 million committed: a World Bank led initiative targeting weak or incomplete legal and regulatory frameworks for public private partnerships in developing countries.
- The Global Infrastructure Hub: a G20 initiative to facilitate collaboration between stakeholders, address data gaps, lower barriers to investment, increase the availability of viable project pipelines and help match investors with projects.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB): Australia is the sixth largest shareholder with approximately \$1 billion in paid capital over 5 years and \$4 billion in callable capital. Australia leads a constituency on the Board of Directors comprising New Zealand, Singapore and Vietnam.
- The Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF): a multi-donor coordination mechanism to improve the delivery of development partner support for infrastructure in the Pacific. The Facility seeks to eliminate duplication and

Facility. The Facility seeks to eliminate duplication and reduce the burden on Pacific Island governments of dealing with multiple donors. Members include Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the ADB, the World Bank, and the European Commission and European Investment Bank. Regional-level: Mekong Other examples of assistance include a \$160 million investment in the Mekong in the design and construction of the Cao Lanh Bridge in Vietnam, which is part of a major new road transport network in the Mekong. This will improve road access, reduce travel time, and remove the bottleneck caused by slow ferry operations. It will also enhance connectivity in the Greater Mekong Subregion from Ho Chi Minh City to the Southern Coastal Region and Vietnam's western provinces to the Cambodian and Thai highway networks. These areas are largely rural and poor and this development will bring economic opportunities to the region. Australia is also providing support to help Cambodia, Laos, Burma and Vietnam become more integrated through improved cross-border management and transit procedures, and exchange of traffic rights. These investments aim to unlock the economic benefits of transport projects such as the Cao Lanh Bridge in Vietnam, through addressing policy and regulatory barriers to trade, as well as improving private sector trading capacity. These initiatives include safeguards activities such as income restoration, and HIV/AIDs and human trafficking awareness and prevention. For more information on the following other country, regional and global program initiatives, please refer to the links provided at: <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/infrastructure-trade-facilitation-international-competitiveness/infrastructure/Pages/infrastructure-initiatives.aspx> Country-level: Examples include: Asia Indonesia Infrastructure Initiative (INDII) Facility Infrastructure investment supporting economic integration in Vietnam Transport infrastructure assistance in the Philippines Transport infrastructure assistance in Timor Leste Pacific Transport infrastructure assistance in Papua New Guinea Transport infrastructure assistance in the Solomon Islands Transport infrastructure assistance in Vanuatu

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**PAGE 43: SECTION 4 : INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q43: Does trade-related infrastructure feature in your in-country dialogues with partner countries?** Yes

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**Q44: If yes, please indicate which of the following : (You may tick more than 1 box)**

- TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE,
    - Maritime transport infrastructure ,
    - Internal waterways transport infrastructure ,
    - Air transport infrastructure ,
    - Rail transport infrastructure ,
    - Road transport infrastructure ,
    - Maritime transport infrastructure ,
    - Infrastructure related to all modes of transport: cargo handling, storage and/or warehousing
    - ,
  - COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE,
    - Telecommunications infrastructure ,
    - Infrastructure related to audio visual services (radio, television, motion pictures)
    - ,
    - Network cable infrastructure ,
  - ENERGY-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE,
    - Energy distribution infrastructure ,
    - Energy transport infrastructure (pipelines for transportation of petroleum, natural gas, etc.)
- 

**PAGE 45: SECTION 4 : INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q45: Does trade-related infrastructure feature in your dialogues with regional partners (e.g. regional economic communities or transport corridors)?**

Yes

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**Q46: If yes, please indicate which of the following services trade sectors feature as priority sectors in your national development strategy :(You may tick more than 1 box)**

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE,  
 Maritime transport infrastructure,  
 Internal waterways transport infrastructure,  
 Air transport infrastructure,  
 Rail transport infrastructure,  
 Road transport infrastructure,  
 Maritime transport infrastructure,  
 Infrastructure related to all modes of transport: cargo handling, storage and/or warehousing  
 ,  
 COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE,  
 Telecommunications infrastructure,  
 Infrastructure related to audio visual services (radio, television, motion pictures)  
 ,  
 Network cable infrastructure,  
 ENERGY-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE,  
 Energy distribution infrastructure,  
 Energy transport infrastructure (pipelines for transportation of petroleum, natural gas, etc.)

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**Q47: Do your programmes link trade-related infrastructure to the development of related services sectors?**

No

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**PAGE 48: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q48: If yes, please specify which services sectors feature as priority sectors in your national development strategy. (You may tick more than 1 box)**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**PAGE 49: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q49: Which service sectors do you expect will support implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement and will help realize associated economic benefits in partner countries? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, Legal services,  
 Engineering services,  
 COMPUTER AND RELATED SERVICES (e.g., services related to installation of computer hardware,

data processing and database services)

,

OTHER BUSINESS SERVICES,

Services incidental to agriculture, hunting and forestry

,

Services incidental to fishing ,

Services incidental to mining ,

Services incidental to manufacturing services ,

Services incidental to energy distribution ,

COMMUNICATION SERVICES, Postal services ,

Courier and express delivery services ,

Telecommunication services ,

CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED ENGINEERING SERVICES

,

DISTRIBUTION SERVICES (including wholesale and retail trade services)

,

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES,

FINANCIAL SERVICES,

Insurance and insurance-related services ,

Banking and other financial services (excluding insurance)

,

HEALTH RELATED AND SOCIAL SERVICES ,

TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES ,

Hotels and restaurants (including catering) ,

Travel agencies and tour operators services ,

Tourist guides services ,

RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SPORTING SERVICES (other than audio visual services)

,

TRANSPORT SERVICES (passenger and freight transportation)

,

Maritime transport services ,

Internal waterways transport services ,

Air transport services, Rail transport services ,

Road transport services ,

Pipeline transport services ,

Services auxiliary to all modes of transport (cargo handling, storage and warehouse, freight transport agency services, etc.)

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**PAGE 50: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q50: Do your development programmes link growth in services capacity and services trade to growth in industrial capacity and manufacturing exports?** No

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**PAGE 51: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q51: If yes, please specify which services sectors are identified for growth in industrial capacity and manufacturing. (You may tick more than 1 box)** *Respondent skipped this question*

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**PAGE 52: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

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**Q52: What are the main issues constraining growth in national services capacity and trade in your partner countries? Issues constraining growth : (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Absence of national services policy framework ,  
 Access to finance ,  
 Competition from suppliers in informal sector ,  
 Costs of services offered ,  
 Education and vocational training ,  
 Foreign ownership restrictions ,  
 Funding constraints of national professional bodies ,  
 Lack of recognition internationally of professional or vocational qualifications  
 ,  
 Licensing requirements ,  
 Limitations on natural persons ,  
 Limited access to export markets ,  
 Low levels of domestic investment ,  
 Low levels of foreign direct investment ,  
 National monopolies ,  
 Poor information and communication technology network infrastructure  
 ,  
 Poor transport infrastructure (maritime, inland waterway, air, rail, road)  
 ,  
 Qualification requirements ,  
 Quality of services offered , Regulatory restrictions

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**PAGE 53: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

**Q53: Does your Aid-for-Trade programming include actions to improve the investment climate in partner countries?**

Yes

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**PAGE 54: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT**

**Q54: If yes, please specify how: (You may tick more than 1 box)**

By providing assistance to update investment policy, regulations and/or strategy  
 ,

By reducing risk for investors, By training officials

## PAGE 55: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT

**Q55: What Aid-for-Trade actions have you taken to support national or regional initiatives to improve the investment climate in partner countries during the past 5 years? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Embedding investment policy in overall development strategy

Facilitating entry and operations of foreign investors

Focusing on investment policy implementation and enforcement

Training officials,

Updating investment policy, regulations and/or strategy

Additional information on Aid-for-Trade actions to support national or regional initiatives to improve investment climate reforms in partner countries in the past 5 years.

Objective one of Australia's Strategy for Aid for Trade Investments, released in July 2015, is to 'improve the regulatory environment in developing countries'. 'Investment policy and facilitation' is one of the priority areas linked to this objective. The goal of Australia's Strategy for Private Sector Development, released in October 2015, is to grow the size and inclusiveness of the private sector in our partner countries, including by building better business and investment environments. Australia's Strategy for Investments in Economic Infrastructure, released in July 2015, also prioritises the improvement of the investment climate for infrastructure development by regulatory, legal and institutional reform. Key aid for trade initiatives in the area of investment reform include:

- World Bank Investment Climate Program— helping developing countries undertake domestic reforms to improve the regulatory environment for domestic and foreign investment.
- Asian Development Bank Trade Finance Program— facilitates SMEs in developing countries access trade finance.
- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)— helping developing countries strengthen their intellectual property systems for increased domestic innovation and inward investment.

Australia's aid for trade strategy is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-aid-for-trade-investments.aspx> Our strategy for Private Sector Development is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-aid-investments-in-private-sector-development.aspx> Our strategy for Investments in Economic Infrastructure is available at <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-investments-in-economic-infrastructure.aspx>

## PAGE 56: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT

**Q56: Are you providing specific assistance and capacity building to help LDCs utilize services waiver opportunities?** Yes

## PAGE 57: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT

**Q57: If yes, what kind of support are you providing? (You may tick more than 1 box)**

Broader Aid-for-Trade programmes,

Cross-cutting supply-side capacity building to help utilize preference (i.e. infrastructure)

,

Sector specific supply-side capacity building to help utilize preference

,

Training of LDC professionals and services suppliers relating to preference benefits available

## PAGE 58: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT

**Q58: In your view, can the development of services trade contribute to women's economic empowerment?** Yes

## PAGE 59: SECTION 4: INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES, AND INVESTMENT

**Q59: If yes, please specify in which services sectors? Services sectors:(You may tick more than 1 box)**

BUSINESS SERVICES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

,

COMMUNICATION SERVICES,

EDUCATION SERVICES,

CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES,

DISTRIBUTION SERVICES,

TRANSPORT SERVICES, ENERGY SERVICES,

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES,

FINANCIAL SERVICES,

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES,

TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES

## PAGE 60: END OF SURVEY

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**Q60: CONSULTATION** Please list other ministries/agencies consulted in preparing this questionnaire reply.

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*Respondent skipped this question*