



PARTNER COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE ON AID FOR TRADE

This questionnaire is intended to solicit information about the progress made since the last self assessment in 2008. It focuses in particular on the outputs and outcomes of aid-for-trade strategies and programmes to further knowledge sharing.

If you did not answer the self assessment questionnaire in 2008 please complete that questionnaire first. The 2008 questionnaire establishes a baseline concerning how your trade strategy is mainstreamed in your national development strategy.

For further details or additional forms please visit www.oecd.org/dac/aft/questionnaire or contact the secretariats of the OECD [aft.monitoring@oecd.org] or the WTO [aft.monitoring@wto.org].

COUNTRY: Solomon Islands

MINISTRY/AGENCY (coordinating the self assessment): Department of External Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade

YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES HAVE YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE OBJECTIVES CHANGED SINCE 2008? 1. YES NO 🗌 NOT SURE NOT APPLICABLE 1.1 If YES, please elaborate on what these changes are: **IMPORTANT** NOT **NOT SURE** MOST LESS **IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT** Changed trade capacity needs Changed focus on: \Box Competitiveness \Box • Poverty reduction \Box \Box • Green growth Gender equality \Box • Regional integration Other

Please specify: The Government does not have any coherent or articulated strategies, objectives or priorities which specifically refer to aid for trade. It does however have broader development plans and objectives. Whilst there may be some sectoral and Ministry-specific aid objectives and priorities which include trade-related issues, information on these is weak. It is therefore difficult to assess to what extent the country's aid for trade objectives and priorities have changed since 2008. The 2009 Solomon Islands Diagnostic Trade Intergration Study provides the most coherent guide for the formulation of national aid for trade objectives and priorities but has not yet been incorporated into the national development strategy documents. In December 2010, the new NCRA Government's published a strategy in its policy translation document to engage with donors to 'coordinate and secure resources for trade-related technical assistance' and to mainstream trade policy into the mid-term development strategy and the National Development Plan.

Z. HAVE YOUK AID-FOR-TI	2. HAVE YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES CHANGED SINCE 2008?								
YES 🗌	NO 🗌	NO ☐ NOT SURE ☑ NOT APPLICABLE ☐							
most common priority a	2.1 If YES, please indicate your new aid-for-trade priorities in each sector. (Below are listed the most common priority areas grouped according to broad aid categories – please rank the top three NEW priority areas among the 12 listed.)								
	SECTOR				PRIORITY				
Trade policy and regulations	Trade poli	cy analysis, nego	otiations and Imp	lementation					
	WTO acce	ssion costs							
	Trade faci	litation							
Economic infrastructure	Network i	nfrastructure (po	ower, water, tele	com)					
	Other tran	sport							
	Cross-boro	der Infrastructur	e						
Building productive capacity	Competiti	veness							
	Value chai	ns							
	Export div	ersification							
Other	Adjustmer	nt costs							
	Regional I	ntegration							
	Other								
does not prioritise specifically under the definition of aid for trade. The Government does however regard all of the trade-related areas listed in 2.1 as important areas, except for WTO accession costs, and recognises that additional resources are required to achieve improvements in all these areas. Solomon Islands' Diagnostic Trade Integration Study that was launched in 2010 also highlights most of these categories as priority areas for trade-related assistance and support.									
that additional resources are requ Diagnostic Trade Integration Stud	uired to achi ly that was l	eve improvemen aunched in 2010	cept for WTO acc ets in all these are	ession costs, and eas. Solomon Isl	d recognises 'ands'				
that additional resources are requ Diagnostic Trade Integration Stud	uired to achi ly that was l sistance and ectives or pr	eve improvemen aunched in 2010 d support.	eept for WTO acc its in all these ar also highlights i	ession costs, and eas. Solomon Isl most of these ca	d recognises lands' tegories as				
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that additional resources are required Diagnostic Trade Integration Stude priority areas for trade-related as 2.2 If your aid-for-trade object the main drivers of these the main drivers of these The economic crisis New development priorities Change of government Multilateral trade policy changes Regional trade policy changes National trade policy changes	uired to achi ly that was l sistance and ectives or pi e changes?	eve improvement aunched in 2010 of support. ciorities have change in MOST IMPORTANT	eept for WTO accepts in all these are also highlights in all these are also highlights in anged since 20 IMPORTANT	ession costs, and eas. Solomon Islanost of these can observe the can observe the control of the control observe the cont	nd recognises lands' tegories as ain what were NOT IMPORTANT				
that additional resources are required Diagnostic Trade Integration Stude priority areas for trade-related as 2.2 If your aid-for-trade objet the main drivers of these them are the main drivers of the ma	uired to achi ly that was l sistance and ectives or pi e changes?	eve improvement aunched in 2010 of support. ciorities have change in MOST IMPORTANT	eept for WTO accepts in all these are also highlights in all these are also highlights in anged since 20 IMPORTANT	ession costs, and eas. Solomon Islanost of these can observe the can observe the control of the control observe the cont	nd recognises lands' tegories as ain what were NOT IMPORTANT				
that additional resources are required Diagnostic Trade Integration Stude priority areas for trade-related as 2.2 If your aid-for-trade objet the main drivers of these them are the main drivers of the ma	uired to achi ly that was I sistance and ectives or pr e changes? ot applicable	eve improvement aunched in 2010 of support. ciorities have change in Most IMPORTANT	TIES HAVE CHA	ession costs, and eas. Solomon Islanost of these can observe these can observe these can observe the country's	recognises ands' tegories as ain what were NOT IMPORTANT				

Please elaborate: As indicated in question 2.2, this question is not applicable given the difficulties in defining the country's objectives or priorities specific to Aid for Trade.

4.	IF YOU HAVE OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PRIORITIES (WITH ACTION PLANS, TIMELINES AND BUDGETS), DID YOU UPDATE THESE OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES TO REFLECT THE CHANGES IN YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE OBJECTIVES OR PRIORITIES?									
	YES 🗌	NO 🗌		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE 🛛				
4.1	If NOT, are you pla or priorities?	nning to update the	se operation	al strategies w	rith these new ol	bjectives				
	YES 🗌	NO 🗌		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE 🛛				
5.	5. DID YOU INCLUDE THESE NEW AID-FOR-TRADE OBJECTIVES OR PRIORITIES IN YOUR NATIONAL DIALOGUE WITH DONORS?									
	YES 🗌	NO 🗌		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE 🛛				
5.1	.1 If NOT, are you planning to include these new objectives or priorities in your national dialogue with donors?									
	YES 🗌	NO 🗌		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE 🛛				
FOR L	EAST DEVELOPED	COUNTRIES								
6.		ED INTEGRATED FO			TEE INVOLVED I	N				
	YES 🖂	NO 🗌		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE				
Are all relevant ministries involved in the EIF process? Please detail: All major national trade stakeholders including relevant ministries are represented in the EIF National Steering Committee. The role of the EIF focal point and committee however is currently limited mostly to EIF issues and they do not address many other trade-related issues. Their roles are however in the process of being revised so as to expand the committee to play a much greater role in overseeing and coordinating the national trade agenda. This is development is reflected in the new NCRA Government's Policy Translation Document and is planned for 2011-2012 If NOT, what are the reasons?										
6.1	Do donors use the	EIF structures to coo	rdinate the s	upport they of	fer?					
	YES 🗌	NO 🖂		NOT SURE	NOT API	PLICABLE				
	If YES, to what ext	ent do donors:								
			ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE				
	ne DTIS Action Matrix Ogramming	as a basis								
	dinate their actions w									
Other										

Please specify: The DTIS was only officially launched in 2010 and the EIF structures are still being established or strengthened. It is hoped that in the near future these structures will be considered by donors for the coordination of trade-related support. It is also expected that the DTIS Action matrix will be incorporated into the next national Medium Term Development Strategy which is due to be published in 2011. This intention is reflected in the new NCRA Government's Policy translation Document.								
7. HAS THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK HAD AN IMPACT ON YOUR ABILITY TO MAINSTREAM TRADE INTO YOUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN?								
SIGNIFICANT MODERATE INSIGNIFICANT TOO EARLY TO ASSESS NOT SURE NOT APPLICABLE								
ancement: Solo refore too early	mon Islands' first	project under the E	IF was only approv	ved in December				
R-TRADE FINAN	NCING ¹							
		NCESSIONAL FINAL	NCING FLOWS AT	THE				
ES 🛚		NO 🗌	NOT S	SURE				
do you use one d	of the following tr	acking systems:						
		YES	NO	NOT SURE				
ent Platform								
Assistance Databa	ise							
nting system								
		\boxtimes						
Please specify: All external financing flows into Solomon Islands are monitored by the Central Bank. Solomon Islands does not receive any external concessional financing as the Honiara Club Agreement prohibits borrowing. The Ministry of Finance maintains records of external and domestic debt (which includes external concessional financing flows), keeping records on the principal outstanding (amount still owed) as well as the payment schedule for each loan from each creditor. External grants for general budget support and sector budget support are kept track of by the Ministry of Finance and Treasury. The Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination also keeps track of some aid flows as reported by donors. In neither case is a distinction made for trade-related programmes. The Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination is in the process of finalizing a development assistance database which aims to keep track of all development assistance flows, but will still require reporting by donors. In addition, the Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination is currently developing an Aid Management Platform to improve the coordination of aid in the country. 8.2 If YES, did the volume of external financing for trade-related programmes and projects change since 2008:								
	d. It is hoped that firade-related sure all Medium Term in new NCRA Government Relations and Medium Term in new NCRA Government Moderate further incement: Solo prefore too early strategy. R-TRADE FINANCE MEDIANCE MEDIA	d. It is hoped that in the near future for trade-related support. It is also expected for the following trade related support. It is also expected for the following trade rew NCRA Government's Policy trade region of aid in the country. It EENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED INTEGRATED INTO MAINSTREAM TRADE FINANCING¹ It EENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED INTO MAINSTREAM TRADE INT	d. It is hoped that in the near future these structures will fit trade-related support. It is also expected that the DTIS As all Medium Term Development Strategy which is due to be new NCRA Government's Policy translation Document. EENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWOR TO MAINSTREAM TRADE INTO YOUR NATIONAL IN MODERATE INSIGNIFICANT TOO EARLY TO ASSEST Incement: Solomon Islands' first project under the Enterefore too early to assess its impact on the mainstreast strategy. WEEP TRACK OF EXTERNAL CONCESSIONAL FINANT ALL GOVERNMENT LEVEL? Solomon Islands tracking systems: YES	d. It is hoped that in the near future these structures will be considered by diftrade-related support. It is also expected that the DTIS Action matrix will be all Medium Term Development Strategy which is due to be published in 2011 in new NCRA Government's Policy translation Document. EENHANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK HAD AN IMPART TO MAINSTREAM TRADE INTO YOUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANGEMENT OF THE INSIGNIFICANT TOO EARLY TO ASSESS NOT SURE DEVELOPMENT PLANGEMENT OF STATES AND SURFORM TOO EARLY TO ASSESS NOT SURE DEVELOPMENT PLANGEMENT SOLOMON Islands' first project under the EIF was only approvate too early to assess its impact on the mainstreaming of trade intestrategy. WEEP TRACK OF EXTERNAL CONCESSIONAL FINANCING FLOWS AT ALL GOVERNMENT LEVEL? NO NOT SURE DEVELOPMENT LEVEL?				

¹ The Aid for Trade Statistical Queries page offers access to aid-for-trade statistics (through the online interface called the <u>Query Wizard for International Development Statistics</u>, or QWIDS). Users can extract and download aid-for-trade statistics from 2002 onwards (i.e. volume, origin, and aid categories for over 150 developing countries and territories, including project-level information). The latest year for which information currently exists is 2008.

		INCREAS	E RE	MAIN :	STABLE	DECRE	ASE	NOT SURE
DAC Donors (see glossary)]			
Non DAC Donors								\boxtimes
South-South Providers]			
Multilateral donors								
Private Development Assistance (NGOs)]			
8.3 If YES, do you know the share of diff aid-for—trade flows?	ferent	aid-for-tr	ade pro	viders	s in your	overal	1	
				0%	50-25%	<	25%	NONE
DAC Donors (see glossary)]					
Non DAC Donors]				
South-South Providers]				
Multilateral donors]				
Private Development Assistance (NGOs)]				
9. COMPARED TO YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH OVERALL EXTERNAL FINANCING, DO YOU FACE ANY SPECIFIC CHALLENGES IN ACCESSING TRADE-RELATED FUNDING? YES NO NOT SURE								
DAC Donors (see glossary)]					\boxtimes
Non DAC Donors]					\boxtimes
South-South Providers]					\boxtimes
Multilateral donors]				\boxtimes	
9.1 If YES, please indicate which additio	nal ch	allenges	you face	::				
		//OST ORTANT	IMPOF	RTANT		LESS ORTANT	ı	NOT MPORTANT
Eligibility								
Conditionality								
Predictability								
Understanding procedures]				
Difficulties in designing "bankable" projects]				
Volume of available funding]				
Other]				
Please define: There is insufficient information broadness of the definition of aid for trade an other types of external financing. The private interest rates and lack of appropriate collaters	d the j	fact that tr	ade-rela	ted fi	nancing i	s not di	stingu	ished from

C.	HOW DO YOU	IMPLEN	MENT YOUR	STRATEGY?					
10. HAS THE ENTITY (OR ENTITIES) RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE ACTIVITIES CHANGED SINCE 2008?									
	YES 🗌		NO 🖂		NOT SURE	NOT APPL	ICABLE		
10.1	If YES, which en	tity or e	entities are n	ow overseeing	your aid-for-tra	de activities?			
Minis	stry of Trade								
Secto	or Ministries		Specify:						
Coor	dinating Ministry		Specify:						
Natio	National Committee								
Othe	r		Specify:						
No o	ne								
10.2	If YES, why did	the cha	nges take pla	ıce? Please spe	cify:				
11.	HAS THE DIALO				N YOUR GOVE	RNMENT AND DO	ONORS		
S	IGNIFICANTLY 🗌		MODERATELY		RARELY/NO 🗌	NOT S	JRE 🛛		
area to th	donors in some a of discussion in t e fact that aid for elopment Strategy	he regu r trade d	lar national g did not featu	government-do	nor dialogues.	This is likely to be	partly due		
12.	HAS THE DIALO					RNMENT AND N	ATIONAL		
S	IGNIFICANTLY		MODERATELY		RARELY/NO 🛚	NOT S	JRE 🗌		
	If YES, please do	escribe (and exemplif	y: The level of	dialogue rema	ins similar to the j	frequency		
13.	ARE DONORS I	HARMO	NISING THE	IR SUPPORT BI	TTER THAN PR	IOR TO 2008?			
S	IGNIFICANTLY		MODERATELY		RARELY/NO	NOT S	JRE 🗌		
13.1	How often do d	onors ir	n your countr	y coordinate th	rough:				
				ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY/NEVER	NOT SURE		
Joint	needs assessment				\boxtimes				
Co-fi	nancing								
Secto	or-wide approache	S			\boxtimes				
Joint	implementation								
Comi	mon monitoring								
Joint	pint evaluation						П		

Other								
Please elaborate: Sector-wide appraches include education (NZAID being the lead donor), health (AUSAID being the lead donor) and transport (ADB being the lead donor). Coordination by joint evaluation is being progressively developed and is expected to become a more common practice in the near future.								
14. HAS THE MONITORING OF YOUR AID-F	OR-TRADE	PROGRAMME	S IMPROVED SI	NCE 2008?				
SIGNIFICANTLY ☐ MODERATELY ☐ RARELY/NO ☒ NOT SURE ☐								
14.1 If YES, please describe how you improved the monitoring of aid-for-trade programmes: Aid for Trade programmes are spread across different institutions and there is no central coordinating body applying a standardised monitoring approach to all aid for trade programmes. The monitoring of Aid for Trade as a whole therefore remains fragmented and information on aid for trade programmes in Solomon Islands remains weak.								
15. HAVE DONORS ALIGNED THEIR SUPPORTED PRIORITIES SINCE 2008?	RT BETTER	AROUND YOU	IR COUNTRY'S T	RADE-				
SIGNIFICANTLY MODERATELY	R	ARELY/NO 🗌	NOT S	SURE 🛛				
15.1 If donor support is better aligned, please The country's trade-related priorities had therefore not possible to assess the degree of d	ve not beer	clearly articul		nted. It is				
15.2 If donor support is less aligned, please explain why and any steps you plan to take to reverse this trend:								
D. IS AID FOR TRADE WORKING?								
D. IS AID FOR TRADE WORKING?16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF	AID FOR T	RADE IN YOU	R COUNTRY?					
	AID FOR T	IMPORTAN		NOT IMPORTANT				
	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes Increased aid-for-trade resources	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes Increased aid-for-trade resources Increased exports	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes Increased aid-for-trade resources Increased exports Increased trade	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes Increased aid-for-trade resources Increased exports Increased trade Diversified exports	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					
16. HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE SUCCESS OF Enhanced understanding of trade Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mainstreaming) More harmonised and aligned aid-for-trade projects and programmes Increased aid-for-trade resources Increased exports Increased trade Diversified exports Increased economic growth	MOST	IMPORTAN	T LESS					

Other										
Please define: Based on observations, there have been small improvements in some of the areas above (eg. increased trade, increased profile of trade), however it is not clear to what extent aid for trade has been responsible for these successes. There is insufficient information on the final amounts of aid for trade received by the end beneficiaries and the country lacks the capacity and appropriate tools to accurately assess the impact of aid for trade with regard to the above indicators.										
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,										
17. IN YOUR COUNTRY,	DID AID FOR T	TRADE RES	SULT IN:							
	SIGNIFICANT MODERATE INSIGNIFICANT NOT SURE APPLIC									
Enhanced understanding of trade										
Increased profile of trade in development strategy (mains	streaming)									
More harmonised and aligne aid-for-trade programmes	d									
Increased aid–for-trade resou	urces									
Increased exports										
Increased trade										
Diversified exports										
Increased economic growth										
Reduced poverty										
Greater environmental susta	inability									
Greater gender equality	Greater gender equality									
Others										
Please define: Based on observations, there have been small improvements in some of the areas above (eg. increased trade, increased profile of trade), however it is not clear to what extent aid for trade has been responsible for these results. There is insufficient information on the final amounts of aid for trade received by the end beneficiaries and the country lacks the capacity and appropriate tools to accurately assess the impact of aid for trade with regard to the above indicators.										
17.1 Please illustrate with examples of both successful and unsuccessful aid-for-trade process, approaches and programmes: The country does not have sufficient information or appropriate tools to properly assess the success of aid for trade processes, approaches and programmes with regard to the indicators above.										
18. IN YOUR COUNTRY COMPLEMENTARY		ENT IS THI	E SUCCESS (OF AID	FOR TRA	DE ON				
VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMI	PORTANT [ТОМ	IMPORT	ANT 🗌	N	OT SURE 🛚			
18.1 If important, how do	you rate the in	nportance	of the follow	wing co	mplemei	ntary pol	icies?			
	VERY IMPORTAN	NT SOME	WHAT IMPOR	RTANT	NOT IMP	ORTANT	NOT SURE			
Fiscal policies										

Monetary policies						\boxtimes	
Labour market policies						\boxtimes	
Regulatory environment						\boxtimes	
Governance						\boxtimes	
Other						\boxtimes	
Please elaborate: There has been insufficient analysis specific to aid for trade to answer this question.						estion.	
19. DO YOU DISCUSS C	OMPLEMENTARY P	OLICIES IN TH	E AID FOR	RTRA	ADE DIALOGU	E WITH:	
		YES	SOMETIN	1ES	NOT	NOT SURE	
DAC Donors							
Non DAC donors							
South-South Providers							
Multilateral donors							
Your private sector							
Other							
Please elaborate: There is lit discussions with donors with concerns with regard to fisca initiatives. In aid dialogue m DAC donors tend to discuss c	regard to certain trad I policies and the rego ore generally, most d	de-related proje ulatory environi lonors discuss co	ects. The pi ment during omplement	rivate g con ary p	sector occasion sultation on ai	nally raises d for trade	
19.1 Please illustrate the importance of complementary policies with examples of both successful and unsuccessful aid-for-trade process, approaches and programmes: There is insufficient information or examples available to illustrate the importance of complementary policies in the success of aid for trade processes, approaches and programmes.							
20. HOW DOES YOUR GOVERNMENT ASSESS THE MONITORING OF THE GLOBAL AID-FOR TRADE INITIATIVE TO DATE?							
POSITIVE	NEUTRAL	NE	NEGATIVE 🔀			DON'T KNOW	
20.1 What do you see as major challenges or areas for improvements: There is insufficient information made available by donors on the breakdown of aid for trade flows. Greater transparency on how some donor aid for trade funds are spent and the extent to which aid classed as 'aid for trade' is additional to other types of funding would provide more clarity. Some countries probably lack the capacity and appropriate tools to determine the impact of aid for trade, particularly given its broad definition. Solomon Islands' monitoring processes do not yet make a distinction for aid for trade, partly due to the low profile of trade in the country and partly due to the braodness of the definition. Despite aid for trade affecting a large number of stakeholders, participation at regional and international aid for trade dialgoues is usually limited to a small number of stakeholders which poses challenges for decision making and for the assessment of global AfT initiatives.							

- 21. ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR EXAMPLES OF YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE PROCESSES,
 PROGRAMMES OR PROJECTS THAT HAVE OBTAINED GOOD RESULTS OR BAD THAT YOU
 THINK COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD PRACTICES?
 THE FORMULATION OF THE DTIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE AID FOR TRADE
 PROJECT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS. THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WHICH INVOLVED LOCAL
 STAFF AND COVERED A NUMBER OF RURAL AREAS ENSURED A GOOD LEVEL OF NATIONAL
 OWNERSHIP OVER THE STUDY. THE DTIS PROVIDES A STARTING POINT FOR DEVELOPING TRADE
 POLICY AND FORMULATING AID FOR TRADE PRIORITIES BY MAPPING OUT THE TRADE
 ENVIRONMENT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS. THE FINAL DOCUMENT HAS BEEN HIGHLY USEFUL IN
 INFORMING TRADE STAKEHOLDERS AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS.
- 22. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO RAISE ANY ISSUE THAT HAS NOT BEEN ADDRESSED IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE AND THAT YOU CONSIDER WORTHWHILE TO RAISE:

PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO QUESTIONS ABOVE:

QN. 4: GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS DO NOT GENERALLY HAVE OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES IN PLACE SPECIFIC TO AID FOR TRADE PRIORITIES. THIS IS LIKELY TO BE AT LEAST PARTLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES ARE SELDOMLY DISTINGUISHED FROM OTHERS AS 'AID FOR TRADE' AND ARE YET TO BE PROPERLY DOCUMENTED AS SUCH. WHILST THERE MAY BE A FEW ISOLATED EXAMPLES, MOST OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES ARE STILL DEVELOPED AT THE DEPARTMENT LEVEL AND TEND TO INCLUDE A BROADER RANGE OF ISSUES. AS CAPACITY INCREASES, THIS MAY BE AN AREA WHICH RECEIVES GREATER ATTENTION AND PLANNING.

QN. 5: WHILST CERTAIN TRADE-RELATED ISSUES ARE DISCUSSED IN THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE WITH DONORS, PARTICULARLY INFRASTRUCTURE, THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN ANY CONCERTED EFFORT TO REFER TO AID FOR TRADE MORE BROADLY IN REGULAR NATIONAL DIALOGUE WITH DONORS. THIS IS LIKELY TO BE PARTLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT TRADE RECEIVES ONLY A SMALL MENTION IN THE MEDIUM TERM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DOCUMENT WHICH HAS OFFICIALLY GUIDED A LOT OF THE DONOR DIALOGUE SINCE 2008. IT WILL CERTAINLY BE DESIRABLE TO INCLUDE AID FOR TRADE IN THE NATIONAL DONOR DIALOGUE ONCE SPECIFIC AID FOR TRADE PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES ARE BETTER ARTICULATED AND DOCUMENTED.

QN. 8.2-8.3: TRADE-RELATED AID IS NOT DISTINGUISHED FROM OTHER SOURCES OF AID RECEIVED IN SOLOMON ISLANDS IN THE MONITORING OF AID FLOWS. IT IS THEREFORE NOT POSSIBLE TO RESPOND ACCURATELY TO THESE QUESTIONS.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

WHAT IS THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT?

The Task Force on Aid for Trade underscored that all providers and recipients of aid for trade have a responsibility to report on progress and results, and to increase confidence that aid for trade will be delivered and used effectively. Partner countries were invited to report on trade mainstreaming in national development strategies, the formulation of trade strategies, aid-for-trade needs (including national, regional), donor responses, implementation and impact.

The qualitative information is obtained through structured questionnaires tailored to partner countries. Questions are designed to elicit information to the effectiveness of aid for trade. This Questionnaire furthers the analyse and gauges progress made since 2008. It asks about how strategies and priorities have changed, how aid-for-trade financing has evolved, probes implementation issues and solicits your views on whether aid for trade is working.

The questionnaire is being sent to those countries which completed the 2008 Questionnaire which formed the basis of the analysis in the Aid for Trade at a Glance Report 2009. Details of the previous responses to the questionnaire can be found here:

http://www.oecd.org/document/1/0,3343,en 2649 34665 42926849 1 1 1 1,00.html

WHO SHOULD RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE?

The self-assessment report (including answers to this questionnaire) should represent a whole-of-government view, and not solely a trade ministry perspective. Thus, substantial cross-ministerial cooperation and coordination is likely to be required. In some countries, officials from the Trade Ministry are best placed to coordinate the different inputs from Finance, Agriculture, Transport, Cooperation ministries, *etc*.

In many countries, particularly LDCs participating in the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) process, there are already national processes to discuss and consult on trade policy and integration strategies. These national committees might provide a good forum to discuss the response to the questionnaire. In EIF countries, the focal point is probably best suited to lead the coordination role as this person is already responsible for coordinating the Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies and implementation of the Action Matrix. Remember that the function of the self-assessments is to report to the Global Review the outcome of national processes that address aid dedicated to increasing trade capacity. We would encourage you to use the results of other monitoring and reporting requirements as much as possible.

Because of this diversity, despite our best efforts to send this information to the right people in your country, we are bound to have made mistakes along the way. If you are not the right person, we would be extremely grateful if you could pass on this questionnaire to the best person in your country to coordinate the response.

WHEN IS IT DUE?

You should send your response to aft.monitoring@wto.org by 31 January
2011. This will ensure that your response is included in the next OECD-WTO Aid-for-Trade at a Glance report and is widely available for others to read and be discussed at the next Global Review on Aid for Trade². Your response, in its original language, will also be posted on the dedicated publication website for better transparency and wider viewing.

If you do not meet the deadline, your response won't be included in the analysis of the joint OECD-WTO report to be presented and discussed at the Global Aid-for-Trade review. However it will be posted on a dedicated website which will contain all the responses to the current and the previous round of questionnaires.

See http://www.wto.org/english/tratop e/devel e/a4t e/global review09 e.htm for information on the 2009 Global Review held in Geneva at the WTO in July 2009

WHO CAN HELP ME?

There are a number of technical events being scheduled at the regional level between October 2010 and January 2011 to support this process. If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact the WTO or OECD staff at aft.monitoring@wto.org.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE STEP BY STEP

A. YOUR AID-FOR-TRADE STRATEGY

The objective of the first section is to assess if and why your strategy or policies have changed since the last questionnaire. It examines the reasons why you may have changed your strategy or priorities and if those changes were integrated (e.g. mainstreamed) in your national development strategy and included in your dialogue with donors. As noted in the previous questionnaire, In many countries, trade strategies are undistinguishable from general competitiveness strategies, particularly those focused on the globalisation of national economies.

Question 1 addresses the issue of changing strategies and the follow up question asks you to elaborate on specific objectives that may have changed. The answer should help you to signal to donors and the wider aidfor-trade community emerging trends and priorities in your strategy as different countries use very different mechanisms to draft and communicate their development plans. This can also help your government to assess whether existing strategies and plans are still relevant or have been overtaken by events. If you have changed your strategy, was this due to an increasing focus by your government on national competitiveness, changed trade capacity needs or due to increasing emphasis on poverty reduction, greener growth, gender equality or regional integration. It would be useful for you to indicate which of these changes were most important, or less so.

Question 2 asks if your priorities have changed since the first questionnaire and presents a list of possible priorities in Trade Policy and Regulations, Economic Infrastructure and Building Productive Capacity. Countries with unlisted priorities should make full use of the 'other' priorities category. A follow-up question asks about the main drivers for this change of priorities in order of importance. Possible reasons might include the economic crisis, new development priorities, change of government or trade policy changes.

Question 3 asks if changed strategies or priorities have been integrated into your overall development strategies. Responses should show whether you are finding the aid-for-trade concept useful for developing coherent trade strategies that encompass a full range of different activities (from infrastructure building to trade policy training), or whether you prefer developing strategies specific to the sector, type of activity or funding source.

Question 4 asks about whether changes outlined in Question 3 were included in updated strategies for aidfor-trade priorities. If current operational strategies do not include your revised objectives, when do you plan to update?

Question 5 asks if the changes in objectives or priorities were included in recent dialogues with donors.

Questions 6 and 7 are specifically targeted to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and ask specific questions about the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF). The first asks about the involvement of the EIF focal point and committee in overseeing and coordinating your trade agenda. It asks which ministries are involved in the EIF process and whether donors use these structures to coordinate the support they offer. This is followed by a question on the enhancement of the IF and whether this has had an impact on your ability to mainstream. These questions will enable the aid-for-trade community to assess the contribution of the EIF to LDCs with a view to better coordinating with the Aid-for-Trade Initiative

B. AID-FOR-TRADE FINANCING

This section asks about how you measure your aid-for-trade flows and how those flows have changed since 2008. Better information on flows at the local level is essential in planning and programming of trade capacity building. The WTO Task Force suggested that aid should be considered aid for trade only if designed to address trade-related challenges identified in national development strategies. We do not expect the majority of partner countries to have in place the necessary systems to identify aid for trade precisely but in those cases would like to know how they account for the aid for trade they receive and if they experience any particular challenges in accessing or measuring aid-for-trade flows compared to other forms of ODA.

Question 8 tries to understand how partner governments measure and keep track of concessional aid-fortrade flows. If such flows are tracked, what system is used:

- An Aid Management Platform (AMP) is an application designed for use by governments and their development partners, AMP provides information for planning, monitoring, coordinating, tracking and reporting on international aid flows and activities. For more information:
 http://www.developmentgateway.org/programs/aid-management-program/aid-management-platform.html
- A Development Assistance database is a web-based Aid Information Management System which involves information collection, tracking, analysis and planning tool for use by national governments and the broader assistance community, including bilateral donors, international organisations, and NGOs
- National accounting systems based on compiling all inflows of aid to the Finance Ministries, semigovernmental agencies, line ministries and associations.

Question 8.2 asks about the changes of aid-for-trade flows since 2008, according to your best estimates did flows increase or decrease? Question 8.3 asks about the relative performance of donors and providers of South-South cooperation.

Question 9 looks at whether the issues around aid-for-trade are different from those affecting generic ODA and aid to other sectors. Is aid for trade different in the way it is allocated by bilateral and multilateral donors, or South-South providers? A follow up question for those who do experience particular issues with aid for trade delivery can specify in 10.1 what the specific issues are: eligibility, conditionality, predictability etc.

C. HOW DO YOU IMPLEMENT YOUR STRATEGY?

The objective of this section is twofold: i.) to find out how your aid-for-trade strategy is implemented, by which entity, involving dialogue with which stakeholders and ii.) to assess and encourage progress in the application of aid effectiveness principles on aid for trade. Designing and implementing aid for trade strategies requires the involvement of actors across local and national government, the private sector and civil society as well as donors. How well are donors aligning and harmonizing their aid-for-trade projects? We do not want to duplicate the monitoring exercise of the Paris Declaration, but to ensure that the progress made in applying the aid effectiveness principles is benefiting trade as much as other sectors.

Question 10 asks about which entity is responsible for coordinating your aid-for-trade activities and whether this has changed since 2008. As noted above aid for trade requires the involvement of many governmental and non-governmental stakeholders but which body is responsible for coordination? This may be the Ministry of Trade or another Ministry or a specific National Committee. If a change took place it would be useful to indicate why to determine if practices are shifting and why.

Question 11 introduces dialogue on aid for trade and asks you to assess if your dialogue with donors has improved since 2008. If there have been changes, we would like to know more about what happened during this period to bring on this change.

Question 12 goes deeper into the issue of dialogue, this time between government and national stakeholders. Have these changed since 2008. If so how and why?

Question 13 begins looking at aid effectiveness issues starting with harmonisation. In the Paris Declaration donors committed to streamline and harmonise their policies, procedures, and practices; intensify delegated cooperation and increase the flexibility of country-based staff to manage country programmes and projects more effectively. This question asks if donors are doing this more effectively compared to 2008. It goes on to ask about specific coordination mechanisms such as joint needs assessments, co-financing arrangements and joint implementation and evaluation.

Question 14 asks about your Government's monitoring systems for aid for trade. We are aware that many partner countries won't have set up independent monitoring processes for externally financed programmes, and that joint approaches with donors are not very common. At the same time, progress in this area is essential to foster mutual accountability and to increase aid effectiveness. We hope the question will encourage you to take stock of the situation in your country, and that your answer will help us to identify the most common forms of monitoring systems in partner countries and encourage progress in this area. So, please feel free to expand your response to include the challenges your government encounters or has encountered in establishing monitoring systems.

Question 15 looks at the issue of alignment. Donors have committed to align their development assistance with the development priorities and results-oriented strategies set out by the partner country. In delivering this assistance, donors will progressively depend on partner countries' own systems, providing capacity-building support to improve these systems, rather than establishing parallel systems of their own. Are donors making progress towards this objective in aid for trade. If they are, please describe how this was accomplished and if donor support is less aligned please explain why where possible and outline any steps that might reverse this.

D. IS AID FOR TRADE WORKING?

The final section of the questionnaire looks at how partner countries define success of aid for trade, the degree to which complementary policies are considered and the quality and importance of global monitoring in an attempt to determine if aid for trade is working. It also gives partner countries an opportunity to elaborate on issues of importance to them that may not have been raised in this questionnaire.

Question 16 asks how you define success in aid for trade. What are you looking to achieve through your plans, strategies aided by donor support? Aid for trade can have multiple outcomes or impacts. The Aid for Trade Task Force defined aid for trade as whatever the partner countries consider trade

Question 17 asks about the results you achieved? From your perspective, what impact has aid for trade had in your country. Did the aid-for-trade process lead to enhanced understanding and increased profile of trade or did it help you to increase trade, growth and reduce poverty. Please explain why or why not you achieved these objectives with examples of both successful and unsuccessful aid-for-trade processes, approaches and programmes.

Question 18 introduces the issue of complementary policies. Aid for trade will be more effective, and its impact on trade and economic growth larger, if it is used in a supportive environment in terms of regulations, taxes, labour market policies etc. Policymakers need to be aware of the importance of these complementary policies and this question asks you to outline how dependent aid-for-trade outcomes and impacts are on these policies. Question 18.1 asks which complementary policies matter most in your experience? Question 18.2 asks if you discuss these policies with DAC donors, non-DAC donors, South-South providers and multilateral donors. Question 18.3 asks for examples which illustrate the importance of complementary policies with examples of successful and unsuccessful aid-for-trade processes, approaches and programmes.

Question 19 asks about the quality of the monitoring by OECD and WTO of the Aid-for-Trade Initiative. Since 2006 OECD has taken a lead in monitoring aid for trade through a range of quantitative and qualitative instruments including tracking flows through the Creditor Reporting System, self-assessment by donors and partner countries through specified questionnaires and case stories which expand the monitoring into looking at outcomes and impacts. Respondents also have an opportunity to flag areas of particular concern which require improvement.

Question 20 asks you to share a concrete example of good practice. Good examples of aid-for-trade projects and programmes exist in many countries, from institutional processes which are particularly successful at engaging with the private sector, to regional initiatives, infrastructure projects or trade facilitation reforms. This body of experience could be extremely helpful to other developing countries facing similar challenges. If you have a good example in your country that you think might be useful to others, please explain the objectives of the programme or project, its main characteristics, why it worked well, and provide a list of additional materials and/or contacts for those interested in further information.

Question 21 gives you an opportunity to raise any issue you feel is important but not addressed directly in the questionnaire. The questionnaire is a tool with which you can outline and describe the issues that are important for you. They are designed to encompass very different countries with different challenges and approaches. Thus the questionnaire needs to be flexible enough to accommodate these differences. This question provides this opportunity and gives you a chance to introduce relevant issues or explore areas that you feel did not get adequate coverage. In addition you are encouraged to expand on any topic you feel would be of interest to the wider aid-for-trade community through a case story. Details on this can be found here: www.oecd.org/dac/aft/casestories

GLOSSARY

Action Matrix

The outcome of the Enhanced Integrated Framework trade needs assessment. It is a summary list of recommendations and follow-up measures coming out of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study and validation workshop.

Additionality

Additional aid for trade is aid increases that do not crowd out other aid flows, such as aid to health and education, but rather, reflect increases in total sector allocable development aid.

Aid Activity

Aid activities include projects and programmes, cash transfers, deliveries of goods, training courses, research projects, debt relief operations and contributions to non-governmental organisations.

Aid for Trade

The WTO Task Force on Aid for Trade states that Aid for Trade is about assisting developing countries to increase exports of goods and services, to integrate into the multilateral trading system, and to benefit from liberalized trade and increased market access. It proposes to break down Aid for Trade into six categories:

- a. Trade policy and regulations, including: training of trade officials, analysis of proposals and positions and their impact, support for national stakeholders to articulate commercial interest and identify trade-offs, dispute issues, institutional and technical support to facilitate implementation of trade agreements and to adapt to and comply with rules and standards.
- b. Trade development, including: investment promotion, analysis and institutional support for trade in services, business support services and institutions, public-private sector networking, e-commerce, trade finance, trade promotion, market analysis and development.
- c. Trade-related infrastructure: transport and storage, energy, and telecommunications.
- d. Building productive capacity.
- e. Trade-related adjustment, including supporting developing countries to put in place accompanying measures that assist them to benefit from liberalized trade.
- f. Other trade-related needs.

Alignment

One of the Paris Declaration's five main principles on Aid Effectiveness. Donors will align their development assistance with the development priorities and results-oriented strategies set out by the partner country. In delivering this assistance, donors will progressively depend on partner countries' own systems, providing capacity-building support to improve these systems, rather than establishing parallel systems of their own. Partner countries will undertake the necessary reforms that would enable donors to rely on their country systems.

Creditor Reporting System (CRS)

The OECD CRS aid activity database covers bilateral and multilateral donors' aid and other resource flows to developing countries. The objective of the CRS is to provide a set of readily available basic data that enables analysis on where aid goes, what purposes it serves and what policies it aims to implement, on a comparable basis for all DAC members. The CRS provides detailed information on individual aid activities, such as sectors, countries, project descriptions etc. Three main CRS categories are used as proxies to track Aid-for-Trade volumes: (1) trade policy and regulations; (2) economic infrastructure (energy, transport & communications); and (3) building productive capacity. From 2008 onwards, a new CRS category will track aid to "trade-related adjustment". The database has free access. For more information, follow this link.

Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS) Evaluation of internal and external constraints to a country's integration in the global trading system. An action matrix is developed as a result of the study to facilitate cooperation with the government, donors, and the private sector. Refer to the Enhanced Integrated Framework for more information.

Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), formerly Integrated Framework (IF) The Enhanced IF (EIF) is an international initiative through which the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Bank (WB) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) combine their efforts with those of Least-Developed Countries (LDCs) and bilateral and multilateral development partners to respond to the trade development needs of LDCs. The Integrated framework was launched in 1997 and to date, up to 46 LDCs of a total of 49 have become beneficiaries. The IF process is comprised of four-parts: (1) Awareness building; (2) Diagnostic for a Trade Integration Strategy or DTIS; (3) Plan integration into the national development strategy; and (4) Plan implementation.

Evaluation

The systematic and objective assessment of an on-going or completed project, programme or policy, specifically its design, implementation and results. The aim is to determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, development efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability. An evaluation should provide information that is credible and useful, enabling the incorporation of lessons learned into the decision—making process of both recipients and donors. Evaluation also refers to the process of determining the worth or significance of an activity, policy or program. An assessment, as systematic and objective as possible, of a planned, on-going, or completed development intervention. Note: Evaluation in some instances involves the definition of appropriate standards, the examination of performance against those standards, an assessment of actual and expected results and the identification of relevant lessons.

Harmonisation

One of the Paris Declaration's five main principles on Aid Effectiveness. Donors will implement good practice principles in development assistance delivery. They will streamline and harmonise their policies, procedures, and practices; intensify delegated cooperation; increase the flexibility of country-based staff to manage country programmes and projects more effectively; and develop incentives within their agencies to foster management and staff recognition of the benefits of harmonisation.

Mainstreaming = "to bring into the main stream"

Mainstreaming means to introduce a certain way of thinking and acting into the mainstream – in all kinds of programs and measures – and to let it develop into a natural behaviour in order to penetrate and change the "mainstream". Mainstreaming in the trade context means to integrate a trade perspective in all economic development programmes and strategies, so that considerations about external trade interactions with the domestic economy are integrated in the design of all projects and activities in a way that contributes to the country's capacity to benefit from trade integration.

Managing for Results

One of the Paris Declaration's five main principles on Aid Effectiveness. Partner countries will embrace the principles of managing for results, starting with their own results-oriented strategies and continuing to focus on results at all stages of the development cycle – from planning through implementation to evaluation. Donors will rely on and support partner countries' own priorities, objectives, and results, and work in coordination with other donors to strengthen partner countries' institutions, systems, and capabilities to plan and implement projects and programmes, report on results, and evaluate their development processes and outcomes (avoiding parallel donor-driven mechanisms).

Monitoring

A continuing function that uses systematic collection of data on specified indicators to provide management and the main stakeholders of an ongoing development intervention with indications of the extent of progress and achievement of objectives and progress in the use of allocated funds.

Official Development Finance (ODF)

Used in measuring the inflow of resources to recipient countries: includes (a) bilateral ODA, (b) grants and concessional and non-concessional development lending by multilateral financial institutions, and (c) Other Official Flows for development purposes (including refinancing Loans) which have too low a grant element to qualify as ODA.

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Grants or Loans to countries and territories on the DAC List of Aid Recipients (developing countries) which are: (a) undertaken by the official sector; (b) with promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective; (c) at concessional financial terms [if a loan, having a grant element of at least 25 per cent]. In addition to financial flows, Technical Co-operation (q.v.) is included in aid. Grants, loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. The DAC List of Aid Recipients includes all low and middle income countries, except those that are members of the G8 or the European Union (including countries with a firm date for EU admission).

Other Official Flows (OOF)

Transactions by the official sector with countries on the List of Aid Recipients which do not meet the conditions for eligibility as Official Development Assistance or Official Aid, either because they are not primarily aimed at development, or because they have a Grant Element of less than 25 per cent

Ownership

One of the Paris Declaration's five main principles on Aid Effectiveness. The development community will respect the right – and responsibility – of the partner country to exercise effective leadership over its development policies and strategies, and coordinate development actions.

WTO Global Review

The Global Aid-for-Trade Review on 20-21 November 2007 was the focal point of WTO's monitoring mandate for 2007. The Global Aid-for-Trade Review had three objectives: to take stock of what is happening on Aid for Trade; to identify what should happen next; and to improve WTO monitoring and evaluation. The next Global Review is scheduled to take place in Spring 2009, and will again review the process made in implementing the Aid-for-Trade Initiative, including through an analysis of global flows, and donors and partner countries' self-assessments.

WTO Task Force on Aid for Trade

As a result of the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference, Director General-Lamy created a task force to provide recommendations on how to operationalise the Aid-for-Trade initiative and ensure it contributes most effectively to the development dimension of the Doha Development Agenda. The Task Force consisted of 13 WTO Member countries, in alphabetical order: Barbados, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, the European Union, Japan, India, Thailand, the United States, and the coordinators of the ACP, African and LDC Groups. The Permanent Representative of Sweden, ambassador Mia Horn Af Rantzien, chaired it ad personam. In July 2006, the Task force delivered its recommendations (WT/AFT/1), which were endorsed by the WTO General Council on 10 October.