



TRADE and GENDER POLICY QUESTIONNAIRE

December 2024



Trade for Women

THIS POLICY TOOL WAS PRODUCED BY THE WTO'S TRADE AND GENDER OFFICE TO SUPPORT WTO MEMBERS WISHING TO PROMOTE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH TRADE POLICYMAKING.

The Secretariat has integrated this tool and a technical assistance session on the use of the questionnaire as part of its training course on trade and gender. This document is made available to all WTO members, to be used on a voluntary basis and as needed.

This tool is multipurpose. It can be used for various policy objectives, from identifying how gender equality is integrated in governments trade and development objectives to reporting through the trade policy review mechanism (government report). It can also be used to collect data, evidence and policy information on trade and gender.

The structure of the questionnaire has been adapted from the Secretariat's trade policy review report general structure to integrate a gender perspective. It is also based on research conducted by the Head of the WTO Trade and Gender Office on gender-responsive trade policy making.

TRADE and GENDER POLICY QUESTIONNAIRE



Section 1: Overall objectives of women's economic empowerment

Section 1.1: Gender objectives

Question	Answer
1. Is women's economic empowerment included in the country's national economic and development strategy?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: does the national economic and development strategy identify specific objectives related to women's economic empowerment? Specific objectives can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> The reduction of the percentage of women exiting the workforce due to childbirth<input type="radio"/> Enhancement of the working environment for women<input type="radio"/> Increase in the representation of women in leadership roles<input type="radio"/> Others (explain) <p><input type="radio"/> No: why not?</p>
2. Is women's economic empowerment listed as a primary goal in the national investment plan to provide women with more economic opportunities in the industry and services sectors?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify and add reference to the official document(s)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>

Question	Answer
3. Is women's economic empowerment incorporated as a primary objective in the national trade strategy?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify and add reference to the official document(s)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>

Section 1.2: National gender policy/strategy

Question	Answer
1. Is there a national gender equality policy or strategy?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify and add reference to the official document(s)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
2. Provide a link to the policy and/or additional information	Add reference to the official document(s)



Section 2: Data collection by gender (men and women)

Section 2.1: General information

Question	Answer
1. Does your country collect sex-disaggregated data?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information<input type="radio"/> No: explain why
2. If yes: in which areas is sex-disaggregated data collected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> All areas of governmental/public activity<input type="radio"/> Some areas of governmental activity: Identify the areas of activity where data is collected and explain why these areas were selected.<input type="radio"/> If trade is not listed as an area for which data is collected, why?

Question	Answer
<p>3. If no: identify the main/potential constraints and challenges national authorities are facing and any other reason for not conducting such data collection.</p>	
<p>4. If no: do national authorities intend to conduct such data collection in the future, specifically within the next one to two years or three to five years?</p>	

Section 2.2: Data collection methods

This section is intended for government bodies responsible for data collection.

Question	Answer
1. What method is being used for data collection?	
2. Which tools have been developed to collect this data, and what are the sources for gender statistics data?	<p>For example, national authorities typically use the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="radio"/> National censuses<input type="radio"/> Periodic sample surveys conducted regularly<input type="radio"/> Ad hoc surveys on specific issues (what are the issues being surveyed?)<input type="radio"/> Administrative records<input type="radio"/> Others (specify)
3. From data to statistics: how is the collected data being used?	
4. How often is the data updated?	
5. Which governmental body leads the data collection process?	

Question	Answer
6. Which other governmental entities are involved in this process?	<p>For example, the following entities could be involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Bureau of Statistics <input type="radio"/> Ministry for Women's Affairs <input type="radio"/> List additional entities by degree of importance of their role in the process
7. Is the data publicly available, and how? Is there an official statistics report released? Are other stakeholders involved in communicating the data?	

Section 2.3: Data collection on women in trade

Question	Answer
1. Is data on women in trade collected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information <input type="radio"/> No: explain why <p>NOTE: please also see additional questions focusing on women entrepreneurs in section 3</p>

Question	Answer
2. Is data on female workers collected?	<p>Data collection on female workers could include, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of female workers in export/import industries ○ Number of female workers in export industries and services ○ Number of female workers in import industries and services ○ Wages of female workers in import/export sectors ○ Skill level of female workers in import/export sectors ○ Levels of responsibility/job levels of female workers in import/export sectors
3. Is data on women entrepreneurs collected?	<p>Data collection on women-established could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of women-established businesses in the formal and informal sectors ○ Data on women's ownership ○ Data on women-led companies ○ Share of women entrepreneurs in the country's total exports and imports ○ Presence of women-owned and women-led companies in the export sectors (and which sectors are represented) ○ Number of businesses created by women annually ○ Number of women-owned businesses still active after two years and after five years
4. What other data on female workers is collected?	<p>Additional data on female workers can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Level of education ○ Marital status ○ Geographic area: urban or rural ○ Training and skills development of female workers

Question	Answer
5. What other data on women entrepreneurs is collected?	<p>Additional data on women entrepreneurs can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Level of education and access to training ○ Size of business and number of employees by gender ○ Marital status ○ Sector of activity ○ Export destination(s) ○ Business challenges and export challenges ○ Access to finance and access to trade finance ○ Digitalization of business activities



Section 3: Measures in support of women entrepreneurs

Question	Answer
1. Is there an export promotion agency supporting the private sector, including Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), to export?	
2. If yes , does this agency specifically support women entrepreneurs, and in what ways?	<p>Export promotion agencies' support to women entrepreneurs could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Simplified business and export license processes ○ Financial support ○ Training, workshops and mentoring ○ Information bulletins ○ Organizing trade fairs and/or supporting women entrepreneurs' participation in trade fairs ○ Organizing conferences ○ Awards ○ Other support (specify)

Question	Answer
3. Are there specific measures to help women entrepreneurs access digital technologies?	<p>Measures could include, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Assessing and monitoring the level of digital inclusion for women through data collection <input type="radio"/> Training on digital technologies <input type="radio"/> Others measures (specify)
4. Are there specific measures targeting women in rural areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information <input type="radio"/> No: explain why
5. Is there a monitoring and evaluation process for all the support measures helping women entrepreneurs to export?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information <input type="radio"/> No: explain why



Section 4: Incentives to promote women's economic empowerment in export sectors

Question	Answer
1. Do national authorities provide financial or non-financial incentives to the private sector to employ more women?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information <input type="radio"/> No: explain why

Question	Answer
<p>2. Do national authorities provide financial or non-financial incentives to women entrepreneurs in support of their exporting activities?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>3. Do national authorities provide financial or non-financial incentives to women in rural areas in support of their exporting activities?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>4. Are there “back to work” training programmes (labour market adjustment measures) to promote women’s work in export sectors?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information and specify if it is a public–private partnership</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>5. Do national authorities impose obligations on export companies to ensure and evaluate the active participation of their female employees?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>

Question	Answer
<p>2. Have national authorities included women's economic empowerment in their Aid-for-Trade objectives?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: indicate the importance of this objective on a scale from one to five, with five being the highest, and refer to the official document(s) if possible</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>3. Have national authorities included women's economic empowerment in their Aid-for-Trade priorities?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: indicate how important is this priority on a scale from one to five (five being the lowest); identify the sectors concerned and provide a reference to the official document(s)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>4. Have national authorities used Aid-for-Trade to finance projects fostering women's economic empowerment?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: provide information regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of projects that were implemented between 2015 and 2024 (b) the number of short-term projects (one year), medium-term projects (two to three years), and long-term projects (beyond three years) (c) the number of projects with women's economic empowerment as the sole objective (d) the number of projects combining women's economic empowerment with other objectives, specifying these objectives (e) the areas of focus (for each area selected in the list below, include a short description of the projects and a reference to official document(s) as well as links to online information):

Question	Answer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitating access to Global Value Chains (specify sectors involved) ○ Enhancing women's participation in the service sectors (specify sectors) ○ Facilitating access to trade-related information (specify types of information: SPS, TBT, rules, tariffs, customs processes, others) ○ Developing training programmes (specify sectors targeted) ○ Promoting women's entrepreneurship and women-owned MSMEs exports (include number of women trained and achieved results) ○ Access to digital technologies and e-commerce platforms (include achieved results) ○ Access to trade finance (include achieved results) ○ Others (specify) ○ No: explain why
<p>5. Have national authorities established public-private partnerships to fulfill their Aid-for-Trade objectives and priorities regarding women's economic empowerment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes: provide information regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) how the private sector was involved in these projects (b) the list of private sector partners (c) the number of projects conducted in partnership with the private sector and the sectors concerned (d) for each project, include a brief description, references to official documents, and links to online information ○ No: explain why

Question	Answer
<p>6. What is the level of financing that national authorities received to implement women's economic empowerment programmes?</p>	<p>Indicate which donors supported the programmes, such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Development partners <input type="radio"/> Providers of South-South assistance <input type="radio"/> Other donors (specify)
<p>7. Does the Aid-for-Trade initiative help mobilize funding for women's economic empowerment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: explain why <input type="radio"/> No: explain why
<p>8. Was the financial support aligned with the country's Aid-for-Trade priorities and objectives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: explain why <input type="radio"/> No: explain why
<p>9. Have evaluation processes been integrated into Aid-for-Trade projects for women's economic empowerment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes: provide information regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) how each project was evaluated (b) what results were achieved for each project and what next steps were taken (b) for each project, include a reference to the official document(s) and links to online information <input type="radio"/> No: explain why

Question	Answer
<p>10. Do national authorities use Aid-for-Trade financing to support women-owned businesses in conducting their export activities?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: indicate which projects were concerned and the results achieved for each, and include reference to the official document(s) and links to online information</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>11. Do national authorities consider that Aid-for-Trade can support women in their role as natural resources managers and guardians of the environment and biodiversity?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>12. Do national authorities consider that Aid-for-Trade can help provide access to clean energy in support of women's household responsibilities and health?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>



Section 6: Trade Facilitation

Question	Answer
1. Do national authorities implement gender-responsive trade facilitation measures?	<input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information on specific measures <input type="radio"/> No: explain why
2. Have national authorities built gender-friendly infrastructure at border posts, such as adequate gendered sanitation or childcare centers?	<input type="radio"/> Yes: provide relevant information on specific measures <input type="radio"/> No: explain why
3. Is the current chair of the national trade facilitation committee (NTFC) a woman?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
4. How many women have chaired the NTFC since the ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement?	
5. How many women are members of the NTFC?	
6. How many women have been members of the NTFC since the ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement?	



Section 7: Inter-ministerial collaboration and cooperation on gender

Question	Answer
1. Are ministries and governmental agencies responsible for gender equality and women's empowerment involved in trade policy formulation and implementation?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>



Section 8: Outreach and consultations with key external stakeholders

Question	Answer
1. Do national authorities consult external stakeholders when drafting trade policies?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
2. If yes, who are the stakeholders involved in gender issues and/or trade and gender issues?	
3. Have national authorities established a public-private coordinating committee to assess how specific export sectors can address gender issues?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>



Section 9: Leadership in trade

Question	Answer
1. Is the current minister in charge of WTO issues female or male?	
2. Is the current WTO Ambassador or Permanent Representative female or male?	
3. Has a woman ever been appointed as a trade/WTO affairs minister by national authorities?	<input type="radio"/> If yes: how many?
4. Has a woman ever been appointed as a WTO Ambassador or Permanent Representative by national authorities?	<input type="radio"/> If yes: how many?
5. Is there gender parity among officials working in the trade ministry?	
6. How many women work in the trade ministry or ministry in charge of WTO affairs?	
7. Among women working in the trade ministry, what is their level of responsibility? How many are in leadership positions, middle management positions, professional or support positions?	

Question	Answer
8. Are there gender focal points in all ministries, governmental agencies and bodies, including in national standard bodies and statistical agencies?	



Section 10: WTO Technical Assistance

Question	Answer
1. How many female officers have benefited from WTO Technical Assistance programmes, and what are their levels of responsibility?	
2. How many officers (trade or other) have participated in the WTO Training Course on Trade and Gender for government officials?	



Section 11: Bilateral trade agreements

Question	Answer
1. Do national authorities include gender provisions in their Free Trade Agreements?	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>

Question	Answer
<p>2. Are national authorities currently assessing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women's economic security and trade opportunities?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes: specify how</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>3. Did national authorities adopt financial and economic relief packages to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the country's economy?</p>	
<p>4. If yes, please describe these measures.</p>	
<p>5. If yes, are these measures still in effect today, or have they been updated?</p>	
<p>6. Are national authorities still monitoring the impact of the pandemic on women today?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No: explain why</p>
<p>7. If yes, how are they conducting this monitoring?</p>	



Other policy tools developed by
the WTO Secretariat to support
gender-responsive trade
policymaking are available
on the WTO website.

More information:



Questions and enquiries can be addressed to the WTO Trade and Gender Office:
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