



Action on GSP Trade Preferences Stakeholder Survey

Fields marked with * are mandatory.



GSP Trade Preferences: Stakeholder Survey

The European Union (EU) provides preferential tariff access for selected products originating from eligible beneficiary countries under the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP). Beneficiaries of the EU's GSP fall under one of three arrangements - **General GSP, GSP+, or Everything But Arms** - matching benefits and commitments with level of development. In addition to the three main GSP arrangements, selected EBA beneficiaries undertake Enhanced Engagement with the EU. In total, the various arrangements under the EU's GSP apply to between 6,350 and 7,200 tariff lines covering products from 71 beneficiary countries, and link together with **core international conventions and norms encouraging sustainable growth and development**.

The current EU GSP runs from January 2014 until December 2023 and is subject to **periodic review and assessment**. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on the level of general awareness about the EU GSP among stakeholders from civil society, international organisations, economic operators in the EU, beneficiary, and third countries, industry associations, and public officials. Respondents are invited to share their perspective on the EU's GSP and provide an **assessment of current engagement strategies**, as well as identifying avenues for stakeholders to increase their **engagement with other GSP stakeholders** and exploring ways to encourage stakeholders to take **full advantage of the GSP's benefits**. All responses will be treated securely and confidentially, for the sole purpose of providing **analysis and recommendations** to the European Commission with regards to enhancing the EU's GSP.

For more information about the current **Action on GSP Trade Preferences**, please visit www.gsp-hub.eu.

Thank you in advance for your contribution. Your reply matters.

*Fields marked with * are mandatory | Estimated time to complete: 10 min.*

Survey Instructions

The **GSP Trade Preferences: Stakeholder Survey** is designed to collect the perspectives and insights of diverse stakeholders in the context of the EU's GSP.

- We invite you to identify the organisation or entity on behalf of which you are participating in the survey, and to indicate whether you represent an **international organisation, public authority, academic or private researcher, civil society organisation, industry association, economic operator, trade union, or other category of stakeholder**.
- You are encouraged to provide **as much information as you can** when completing the survey, however we would like to remind you that you are not under any obligation to reply to questions which are not applicable or relevant to your situation.
- You are encouraged to provide your email or contact information when completing the survey, noting that all information provided through the survey is handled **securely and confidentially** by the survey team. You are also asked to indicate whether you are open to being contacted by the survey team in the context of interviews, workshops, and other activities carried out under the **GSP Trade Preferences Action**.
- We recommended you to save the Contribution ID when submitting your survey response. The Contribution ID will appear on the last page when submitting.

The survey primarily consists of multiple choice questions, which facilitate data compilation, analysis, and comparison. Some questions provide respondents with the opportunity to share additional information in free-text fields.

To begin, please click **Next** at the bottom of this page.

Privacy Notice:

The information supplied to this survey will be treated in accordance with the EU (Council Regulation 45 /2001) data protection and privacy laws and regulations. The information will only be used for internal purposes and no information will be made public without prior agreement. Respondents retain the right to alter, request or remove their submitted data entries. For specific privacy and data protection related enquiries please contact us at contact@gsp-hub.eu.

Respondent Information

Name

Please write with your preferred Title, First name and Last name

Murat Özdemir

Email

Please provide your email address to help us identify valid survey responses. Your email address will be treated confidentially.

murat.oezdemir@ave-intl.de

* What is your primary country of residence?

Germany

* I agree to be contacted by the survey team to learn more about activities under the EU-funded Action on GSP Trade Preferences.

- yes
 no

Information on your Company / Organisation / Institution

Name of your company or organisation

AVE International

* Please select the stakeholder category which best describes your company or organisation.

Business Organisations, Industry Associations and Employers' Organisations (EU-based)

* What is the size of your organisation?

- Small organisation (< 50 members)
 Medium organisation (< 250 members)
 Large organisation (> 250 members)

* Which sector(s) are the companies belonging to your organisation active in?

between 1 and 5 choices

Other

* Please specify.

FMCG/Apparel

General Familiarity with the EU's GSP

* How do you rate your own level of familiarity with the EU's GSP?

- Very low
- Low
- High
- Very high

* How do you rate your organisation's familiarity with the EU's GSP?

- Very low
- Low
- High
- Very high

* How do you rate the EU's GSP compared to other countries' GSP?

- Below average
- Average
- Above average
- Exceptional

From your perspective, what are main distinctive features of the EU's GSP compared to other countries' GSP?

Holistic Approach (three arrangements GSP, GSP+, EBA), three objectives, graduation scheme etc.

Engagement with the EU's GSP

Please specify what prevents your company from intensifying trade relations with GSP beneficiary countries.

No reliable communication possible with competent authorities of beneficiary countries. Lack of communication and know how on side of contract partner.

* What prevents companies you represent from intensifying trade relations with GSP beneficiary countries?

Please select all that apply.

- Companies have established trade-relations with partners from other countries
- Inputs or intermediaries in our sector are not sufficiently developed in GSP beneficiary countries
- Companies face difficulties to find suitable business partners in GSP beneficiary countries
- Potential business partners in beneficiary countries are not yet prepared to deliver the required quality
- Potential business partners in beneficiary countries are not yet prepared to deliver the required quantities
- Other

Please specify what prevents companies you represent from intensifying trade relations with GSP beneficiary countries.

Complicated rules of origin to be adhered to
 Duty deduction for regular GSP is not sufficient to encourage sourcing (given effort to be put in to source with regard to CoC or Compliance Rules)

* What other ways can you think of to increase economic engagement with beneficiary countries?

Simplify rules of origin
 Higher duty deduction for regular GSP-Countries
 Ensure communication with competent authorities on beneficiary side

Engagement on Sustainable Development

Have companies you represent actively engaged with companies in beneficiary countries to improve conditions relating to human rights, labour rights, environmental protection or good governance in the past?

	yes	no
* contributed to improve conditions related to human rights	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* contributed to improve conditions related to labour rights	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* contributed to improve conditions related to environmental protection	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* contributed to improve conditions related to good governance	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please specify.

These engagement are an integral part of CoC of our members.

* How easy or difficult is it in your country of residence to engage with other stakeholders on issues related to human rights, labour rights, environmental protection, or good governance?

- Extremely difficult
- Difficult
- Moderate
- Easy
- Very easy

Participation in GSP coincides with greater compliance with international conventions on human rights, labour rights, environment and good governance in beneficiary countries.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
* Greater compliance with human rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Greater compliance with labour rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Greater compliance with environmental conventions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Greater compliance with conventions on good governance	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* What actions can the EU take to increase your engagement with GSP-related issues?

Offer reliable communication in case strategic and operational questions arise. Examples: Actions against Myanmar and Bangladesh. Measures against Cambodia.

Assessment of the EU's GSP

* How beneficial has the EU's GSP been for your organisation?

- Highly beneficial
- Beneficial
- No impact
- Not sure

Please elaborate on the extent to which the EU's GSP has been beneficial for your organisation.

GSP and its benefits are one of the key parameters for the engagement in the beneficiary countries

* How beneficial has the EU's GSP been for the sector you operate in?

- Highly beneficial
- Beneficial
- No impact
- Not sure

Please elaborate on the extent to which the EU's GSP has been beneficial for your sector.

Apparel Sector is one of the dominant sectors in the beneficiary countries.

* From your perspective, what are key barriers to making higher use of the EU's GSP?

Duty deduction is not sufficient in comparison with Non-GSP-Countries, as the latter provide better sourcing possibilities on an overall perspective (Administration, IT, Infrastructure etc.)

Information on the EU's GSP

* How do you assess the level of information available on the EU's GSP?

- Comprehensive information is easily accessible
- Good availability of information but not easily accessible
- Limited information available
- Other

* What is/are the primary source(s) that you or your organisation use/s to gather information on the EU's GSP? Please select all that apply.

between 1 and 10 choices

- Europa website – DG TRADE
- Europa website – Other
- EU legislative texts
- Private-sector trade consultants
- Business organisations, industry associations, and/or civil society organizations
- Trade promotion authorities and/or public officials – beneficiary countries
- Trade promotion authorities and/or public officials – EU/Member States
- International organisations
- Academic research
- Other

* Please specify

Custom Authorities

What are other sources of information you use not mentioned in the list above?

Exchange amongst member companies.

* How effective has the EU's communication of the GSP been in your country?

- Very effective – good communication of specific opportunities under GSP and how to use them
- Effective – good communication of broad-based GSP benefits and how to use them
- Ineffective – limited communication GSP benefit and little or no specific guidance
- Very ineffective – no communication of opportunities under GSP and no guidance
- Not sure

Final remarks and GSP success stories

Is there anything else related to the EU's GSP you would like to share with us?

Do you have a GSP success story you would like to share with us?

Please tick 'Yes' if you agree to be contacted to share your GSP success story. Please provide us with your email address below.

- Yes
- No

Email

murat.oezdemir@ave-intl.de

Thank you very much for your time.

Contact

contact@gsp-hub.eu