# Digital Trade Agreement

# QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of the HMG <u>Trade Strategy</u> published in June 2025, the UK is considering opportunities to negotiate new bilateral Digital Trade Agreements (DTAs) with a range of partners including Malaysia, Thailand, Kenya and Brazil.

Below you will see background information on DTAs and links to recent agreements the UK has made in this space. Further down are the questions on which we are inviting feedback from stakeholders. We would be most grateful if you could answer in the text boxes or in a separate document if preferred. If any information provided is commercially sensitive, please note this in the responses.

## What is a Digital Trade Agreement?

DTAs are a formal agreement on digital trade which combines rulemaking and cooperation. Beyond that, the model can be flexible to meet the interests of both parties. The UK has DTAs in place already with <u>Ukraine</u> and <u>Singapore</u> and information about these agreements is available on GOV.UK. However, these agreements differ from each other and should not be viewed as a template for all future UK agreements.

### What are the timeframes to deliver DTAs?

The Trade Strategy is a forward look for this government's priorities on trade across the parliament. We are starting scoping work with the partners named in the Trade Strategy. However, any future work plan will be subject to further engagement. We are therefore interested to gain more evidence and stakeholder feedback on these markets.

#### What value do DTAs have and what are some of these benefits?

Digital Trade Agreements can provide many benefits to the wider economy. Value can come both from binding digital trade rules which help to create the right environment to support digital and services trade e.g. free flows of data; and negotiating side instruments on cooperation which target specific issues of shared interest. These benefits can be for both businesses and consumers – e.g. protecting users of e-commerce from fraudulent practices and supporting strong protections for personal data.

For example, with the Singapore DEA, these side instruments ranged from Memoranda of Understandings on Digital Trade Facilitation led by DCMS to a regulatory 'Fintech Bridge' negotiated between HMT and Singapore's Ministry of Finance. We have included some examples in attachments and links of these cooperation instruments in practice, including the UK-Singapore Fintech and Lawtech collaborations and UK-ASEAN and UK-Taiwan Trade Digitalisation pilots:

- <u>UK-Singapore DEA Explainer</u>
- <u>UK-Singapore Lawtech Programme</u>
- <u>UK-Taiwan Pilot</u>

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