

Foreword

This report presents an in depth analysis of the importance of services in the Australian economy, the regulatory environment for services in Australia and the performance of Australian services trade internationally. It builds on the OECD's 2016 publication *Services Trade in the Global Economy*, and its findings and recommendations that national administrations should consider adopting whole-of-government strategies to capitalise on the demonstrated potential of co-ordinated services trade policy and regulatory reforms to help make trade work for all.

The scope and parameters of this report were defined by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The research and analysis was conducted by the Trade in Services Division of the OECD, employing in-house tools such as the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) and measurements of value-added trade (TiVA), drawing from organisation-wide sectoral expertise and developing new micro-data evidence in conjunction with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Quantitative findings were complemented by qualitative input gathered during a series of structured interviews in August and September 2017 facilitated by DFAT and the Australian Services Roundtable.

We hope the evidence presented in this report is useful in informing a strategic discussion among Australian policy makers and exporters on the likely effects of co-ordinated domestic policy action, priorities for promoting behind-the-border regulatory reforms in strategic international markets, and the benefits of an ambitious bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral trade policy agenda that contributes rules-based certainty and predictability to services trade in the global economy.

Acknowledgements

The publication was prepared by Francesca Spinelli and Sebastian Benz, with contributions from Håkan Nordström, Hildegunn Kyvik Nordås, Dorothée Rouzet and Jane Korinek, under the supervision of John Drummond.

The authors would like to thank the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, in particular David Cavanough, Christine Schaeffer and Melanie Crosswell, the Australian Services Roundtable, the Australian delegation to the OECD and the Australian Bureau of Statistics for their co-operation.

The authors are very grateful to Nadim Ahmad, Ken Ash, Giuseppe Berlingieri, Ali Dadkhah, Janos Ferencz, Philip Hemmings, Luca Marcolin, David Morgan, Sam Paltridge and Frank van Tongeren for their insightful comments and useful suggestions.

Finally, the authors would like to thank Charles Cadestin, Frédéric Gonzales, Cassandra Oaten, Michèle Patterson, and Özge Taneli-Ziemann for their valuable statistical and editorial assistance.

Follow OECD Publications on:



http://twitter.com/OECD_Pubs



<http://www.facebook.com/OECDPublications>



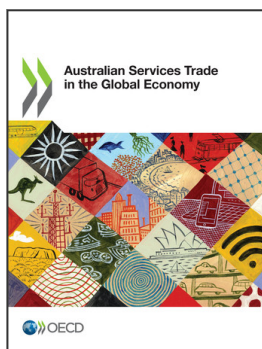
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/OECD-Publications-4645871>



<http://www.youtube.com/oecdilibrary>



<http://www.oecd.org/oecddirect/>



From:
Australian Services Trade in the Global Economy

Access the complete publication at:
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264303911-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2018), "Foreword", in *Australian Services Trade in the Global Economy*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264303911-1-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.