



Department for International Trade



Education Sector colleagues,

Welcome to this one-off edition of the DIT Education Team newsletter, focussing on the UK Government's Free Trade Agreement negotiations.

You will be aware from items in previous editions, that we have been working closely with colleagues across DIT, wider Whitehall, and industry to ensure that you are aware of concluded or upcoming Agreements and, importantly, how and when you can input your views during the consultation periods, so allowing for the opportunity for key Asks to be considered, either directly or across several sectors.

In addition to our [Trade and Cooperation Agreement](#) with the EU, the UK Government, has been hugely successful in enabling a prompt and smooth transition to bilateral FTAs in non-EU countries. We also continue to work on the successful implementation of these new agreements, and you can view the full list of signings [here](#). DIT would welcome your views on what, if any changes, you have experienced, as a result of our current trading relationships, positive or negative.

For those consultations that have now closed, including, most recently with [Mexico](#), where we are aiming to upgrade our existing deal, and [Canada](#), DIT's FTA Team is analysing all industry feedback, including from the UK education sector, and will shortly publish the overall outcomes of the feedback on the above links.

I would like to highlight that there is still time to input to the consultation on a **UK-India FTA** [here](#), which remains open until the 31 August. With 1.4 billion people, India's population is bigger than the EU and US combined, and is by far the largest market the UK has committed our intent to negotiate a trade deal with to date. Both governments are committed to start negotiations towards a UK-India FTA, and the consultation will help to inform us of those experiences, issues and priorities that sectors, including education, would like to see reflected, and we would value your insight into how current UK-India trading relations affect your operations. You can find more information in this [press release](#), or contact uk.indiaconsultation@trade.gov.uk for more information.

The UK has now agreed the main elements of a Free Trade Deal with Australia, publishing an Agreement in Principle in mid-June, and a summary of the expected business benefits are [here](#). The UK-Australia agreement will include the world's first dedicated Innovation

chapter in an FTA, which will be of particular interest to the higher education and research sector.

The UK has also formally launched accession negotiations with the Comprehensive & Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) - Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Viet Nam – and accession would strengthen the UK's relationship with these dynamic economies, as the world economy increasingly centres on the Pacific region. Further information can be found [here](#).

If you have any queries or comments, you can contact us via DIT-Education@trade.gov.uk and you will find details of each Geographic Team member in the Resource list below. We may also pass some of these comments to the FTA Negotiations Team.

DIT Education, alongside colleagues across Government and overseas, will also continue to address international education market barriers that are not specifically part of the new FTAs. We will also continue to seek and ratify international opportunities for UK provider involvement, whilst promoting UK education innovation and excellence to international ministries, key decision makers, potential buyers and end-users.

Finally, we are currently working up plans for a new education exports campaign to promote the UK education sector across several of our key overseas markets. Watch this space for a special edition of this newsletter later this year, which will provide you with all the information you need to sign up to the campaign!

Sarah Chidgey **DIT Education Lead**

List of Advice Websites & Resources

- [DIT Education Sector Team Organogram](#)
- [Education Sector Advisory Group](#)
- [DIT Clean Growth Engagement Team enquiries](#)
- [New Rules on doing business with the EU](#)
- [BEIS Business Support](#)
- [British Council's Coronavirus advice page on the Study UK website](#)
- [Universities UK](#)
- [Independent HE](#)
- [BESA \(British Educational Suppliers Association\)](#)
- [English UK](#)
- [UK Skills Partnership](#)
- [Association of Colleges](#)
- [UK Export Finance - General Export Facility \(GEF\)](#)
- [UK ENIC, national agency for qualifications & skills](#)
- [Internationalisation Fund for SMEs](#)
- [PM Appointed Trade Envoys](#)

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