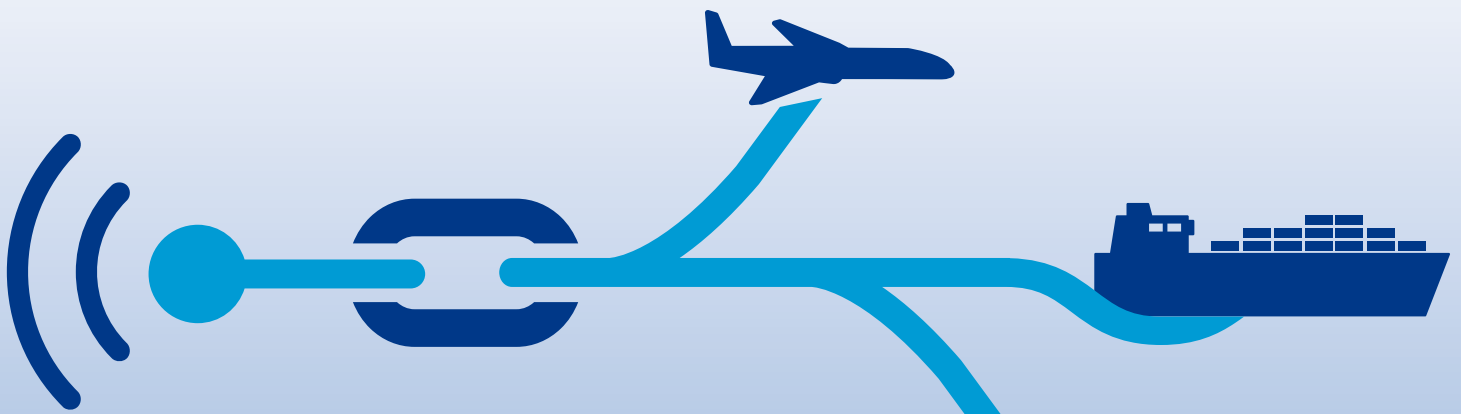


# AIDFORTRADE AT A GLANCE 2017



PROMOTING  
TRADE,  
INCLUSIVENESS  
AND CONNECTIVITY  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT



International  
Trade  
Centre

CLOSING THE SMALL-BUSINESS AND GENDER  
GAP TO MAKE TRADE MORE INCLUSIVE

Chapter contributed by the International Trade Centre (ITC)



## CHAPTER 8

# CLOSING THE SMALL-BUSINESS AND GENDER GAP TO MAKE TRADE MORE INCLUSIVE

*Contributed by the International Trade Centre*

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**Abstract:** *Over the past three decades, the connections that bind the economic activities of countries have grown and deepened at a remarkable rate. This chapter looks at the role of digital connectivity in linking small and medium enterprises, and in particular women-owned or managed enterprises, with customers and suppliers around the world. Firm-level data show that there is a significant connectivity gap between small and large firms, as well as for women-owned or managed firms. This chapter uses a selection of firm-level data to shed light on the causes and effects of these gaps, and to assess their ultimate impact on trade. Checklists to help policymakers identify policy solutions are also provided.*

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This paper constitutes ITC's contribution to the *Aid for Trade at a Glance: Promoting Trade, Inclusiveness and Connectivity for Sustainable Development*, prepared under the aegis of the OECD Development Assistance Committee and Trade Committee in close co-operation with the WTO Committee on Trade and Development.

The International Trade Centre (ITC) thanks the OECD and WTO, and in particular Frans Lammersen (OECD) and Michael Roberts (WTO), for their overall guidance of the 2017 Aid for Trade At a Glance publication.

This paper was prepared by Jasmeer Virdee under the supervision of ITC Chief Economist, Marion Jansen. Special thanks go to Christina Dienhart and Antonina Popova for their substantial research contributions.

Further thanks go to Jose Armando Cobian Alvarez, Hanna Bucher, Vanessa Erogbogbo, Loe Franssen, Michelle Ayu Chinta Kristy, Anna Claudia Zaleski Mori, Govind Venuprasad, Matthew Wilson, Quan Zhao, (all ITC).

The paper was edited by Christine Graves of the OECD and Evelyn Seltier of ITC, and designed by Peggy Ford-Fyffe King.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	1
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b> .....	3
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	7
<b>CONNECTING SMEs TO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS IS A DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY</b> .....	7
There is a connectivity gap between SMEs and large companies .....	8
Connectivity gaps can persist even when ICT infrastructure is strengthened .....	9
SMEs produce large amounts of valuable data .....	10
Policymakers can support small business digitalisation .....	11
E-commerce is fundamental for business competitiveness .....	11
Business-to-consumer e-commerce offers the greatest opportunities .....	11
Competitiveness involves many steps along the e-commerce chain .....	12
Establishing an online business requires a degree of online readiness .....	12
International e-payment systems are vital to competitiveness .....	13
Cross-border delivery has diverse phases and forms .....	16
Delivering goods across borders .....	16
Delivering services across borders .....	17
<b>AFTERSALES ARE AN IMPORTANT PHASE OF E-COMMERCE</b> .....	17
Policymakers can help by ensuring a conducive environment for e-commerce .....	18
<b>ONLINE TOOLS CAN HELP WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES CONNECT TO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS</b> .....	19
Is there a gender-based connectivity gap? .....	19
Digital solutions limiting face-to-face interactions can help .....	21
In what ways do women-owned enterprises use ICT tools? .....	22
Do women exporters trade regionally or globally? .....	23
A checklist for policymakers can help to meet the global goals .....	24
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b> .....	25
<b>REFERENCES</b> .....	26

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