

How to Claim DCTS Preferences

To reap the benefits of the DCTS offer, exporters and traders must claim preferences. To qualify for DCTS preferences, exporters must prove their product's origin and prove that they meet processing rules:

- Businesses should ensure that they have the correct export documentation needed to export goods from Madagascar (e.g. export permits, commercial invoices etc)
- Exporting can be a complex and lengthy process. Businesses may want to consider getting a customs agent to handle this process. Businesses may be required to register and have to hand an Economic Operators Registration and Identification or EORI number: <https://www.gov.uk/eori>
- Businesses should also check if they require a licence or certificate to export to the UK. Namely, animals, animal products, plants and high-risk foods.
- The UK Government's website has a step-by-step guide on how to import to the UK here: <https://www.gov.uk/import-goods-into-uk>

The website includes advice on how to:

- Classify goods
- Check goods meet the rules and that processing has gone beyond insufficient
- Identify applicable standards and regulatory requirements
- Arrange and maintain their supply chain and production documentation (e.g., proofs of origin and supplier declarations)



Rules of origin under the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS)

The UK is updating the rules of origin under the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) to make it easier for developing countries to export to the UK. The changes aim to simplify sourcing, improve regional integration, and support economic growth.

The reforms help countries source materials from within new regional cumulation groups and still qualify for duty-free or reduced-tariff access.

These groups now include: A new 50-country Africa cumulation group.

Inputs from any country in the Africa regional group can be counted as originating, provided the final processing happens in the exporting DCTS country.

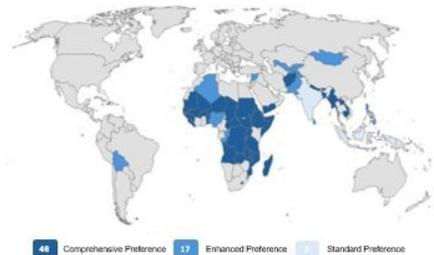
This allows more products to meet origin rules and qualify for preferential tariffs. The updates make it easier for manufacturers - especially in textiles and apparel - to export more goods duty-free, supporting transitions as countries move between DCTS preference tiers and strengthening supply chain resilience.

Only goods that are already duty-free and quota-free under UK agreements, or in the UK Global Tariff, may be cumulated. All products must still undergo final processing in a DCTS country.

Your paragraph text

For more information visit [Updates to rules of origin under the Developing Countries Trading Scheme \(DCTS\) - GOV.UK](#)

The DCTS covers 65 countries split into 3 preference tiers



THE UK'S DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TRADING SCHEME (DCTS)

HOW TO CLAIM DCTS PREFERENCES

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RULES OF ORIGIN

: UK in Madagascar

WWW.GOV.UK/MADAGASCAR/NEWS
British.EmbassyAntananarivo@fcdo.gov.uk

THE UK-MADAGASCAR TRADE PARTNERSHIP

THE UK'S TRADE FOR DEVELOPMENT OFFER

The UK is one of the foremost champions of free, fair and inclusive trade and remains committed to supporting developing countries to harness the power of trade to support long lasting development. Our approach to trade for development comprises:

Improving UK market access

... through reducing export tariffs and simplifying trade rules for over 90 developing countries, including through our network of Economic Partnership Agreements and the Developing Countries Trading Scheme.

Building capacity to trade

... by providing technical assistance to developing country governments and businesses to reduce barriers to trade and compete in global markets through our Aid for Trade portfolio.

Making the global trading system work for developing countries

... championing development at the WTO and supporting developing countries to participate effectively.



THE UK'S DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TRADING SCHEME

The Developing Countries Trading Scheme supports

3 core objectives

- ➔ Developing Countries Trading Scheme is one of the most generous trade preference schemes in the world
 ➔ **Supporting** sustainable growth in developing countries through a simpler and more generous unilateral tariff offer
- ➔ Offers duty-free, quota-free trade on thousands of products.
 ➔ **Strengthening** economic ties between the UK and fast-growing developing economies
- ➔ Support businesses to build supply chain resilience
 ➔ By **diversifying sourcing** and **benefiting** end consumers through improved quality and price

Key features and benefits to the DCTS for Malagasy Exporters and Businesses

- ➔ More tariff cuts: The DCTS cuts tariffs and quotas on most products from Madagascar giving duty free access on everything but arms.
- ➔ Simpler, more generous product specific rules: Through the DCTS Madagascar can use materials from more than 90 developing countries and still qualify for preferential tariffs.
- ➔ Products can include more imported inputs (up to 75%) and still count as "originating" under the DCTS. From 1 January 2026, the DCTS has enforced new changes to make it even easier for qualifying countries to source from other countries in their region,



We are here to support you and provide public resources to assist

...and there are some immediate resources that can help you

- Growth Gateway helpdesk: <https://growthgateway.campaign.gov.uk/>



The UK initiative, Growth Gateway is an advisory service that aims to promote two-way trade between the UK and Africa, linking business and investors with African businesses and investors. They provide tailored support, match-making and help navigate accessing financial support.

- UK Importer database:
<https://www.uktradeinfo.com/find-uk-traders/>



YouTube Webinars:

- DCTS Guidance teach-in - <https://youtu.be/xUTLb2aVBkM>
- Customs for the DCTS - <https://youtu.be/K4NQe8Wrdws>
- Intro to UK Trade Standards - <https://youtu.be/lkkm6q25G0>
- Market Opportunities - https://youtu.be/i_tXIMr_GLw
- High Risk Foods - <https://youtu.be/gqlaZmRSWk8>

