

The UK-Madagascar trade partnership: building opportunities together

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UK trade schemes give Madagascar near-total tariff-free access, simpler rules of origin and regional cumulation, helping exporters integrate into UK chains.

The United Kingdom's trade partnership with Madagascar is built on two complementary frameworks: the expanded Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) and the UK-Eastern and Southern Africa Economic Partnership Agreement (UKESA EPA).

Together, they support Malagasy exporters with:

- one of the world's most generous trade preference systems
- 100% tariff-free access on thousands of products
- simpler and more flexible rules of origin
- streamlined processes for integrating into global supply chains

Key benefits for Malagasy exporters

1. Reduced tariffs and fewer trade barriers

- duty-free access on nearly all products
- removal of nuisance and seasonal tariffs
- continued protection for sensitive Malagasy industries

2. Simpler and more generous Rules of Origin

- higher non-originating content thresholds (up to 75%)
- alternative product-specific rules
- wide cumulation options with over 90 developing countries

3. Expanded regional cumulation (effective January 2026)

- Madagascar can now source materials from all African countries with UK association agreements
- read more UK trade agreements in effect

Benefits of trading with the UK

1. A strong and growing UK-Madagascar relationship: the UK is committed to strengthening its trade partnership with Madagascar. Malagasy exporters benefit from predictable and generous preferential arrangements that support access to the UK's £3 trillion economy and its 69 million consumers.

2. A more generous and accessible UK trade regime: launched in June 2023, the DCTS is one of the world's most far reaching preference systems. Madagascar benefits from "Comprehensive Preferences", the highest possible tier - providing 99% tariff free access to the UK market.
3. Supporting Malagasy businesses: the scheme helps Malagasy firms build competitive regional value chains while maintaining preferential access to the UK.

Exporting to the UK

Madagascar based businesses may export using either:

- the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS), or
- the UK-ESA Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

Exporters should choose based on documentation requirements, supply chain models, rules of origin and sector-specific advantages.

How to claim preferential access

Exporters must:

- classify their goods correctly using the UK tariff database
- comply with rules of origin and undertake sufficient processing
- maintain documentation such as supplier declarations and proofs of origin
- meet UK regulatory standards (customs, food safety, phytosanitary, labelling)

Guidance materials and additional support and resources for exporters

The UK government provides a range of tools to support Malagasy exporters access guidance on trading:

- DCTS: how the schemes work (PDF, 1.48 MB, 24 pages)
- how to find UK buyers and UK trading partners (PDF, 1.48 MB, 2 pages)
- how to claim DCTS preferences and Rules of Origin (PDF, 2.62 MB, 2 pages)
- Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS)
- Import goods into UK
- UK Integrated Online Tariff: look up commodity codes, import duties, taxes and controls

Growth Gateway

A UK initiative supporting Africa-UK trade with:

- business advice
- market insights
- B2B connections
- access to finance

Find UK supply chains

Digital Pathways connects Malagasy distributors, agents, wholesalers, and partners with UK suppliers and trade opportunities.

Find a UK partner through the Digital Pathways Campaign.

Trade enquiries

Send your trade queries by e-mail to the UK Embassy in Antananarivo:
British.EmbassyAntananarivo@fcdo.gov.uk. Mention 'Trade Enquiry' in the subject line.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-madagascar-trade-partnership-building-opportunities-together>