Session 2. The potential for diversification towards and through digitally deliverable services

Digitally enabled services: Diversification supported by trade regulations

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*The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.*
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Digitalisation is key driver of diversification

New **means for delivery** across borders

Changes in the **tradability** of established services

New ‘**information industries**’ emerging (big data, quantum computing, cybersecurity)

There is a greater **bundling of goods & services**

Services enable digital trade (telecoms, financial services, transport, logistics, etc.)

**Emerging technologies** (3D printing, AI) change how & what we trade
Global barriers to digital services trade are high
Differences are wide across regions

Source: OECD Digital STRI 2021
Scope to improve digital trade policies

Digitally enabled services and regulatory restrictions
Conclusions

• Informed policy discussions rely on good measurement tools

• Growing evidence suggests that barriers remain high for digital services trade

• Closer cooperation, regionally and internationally, is key to build an enabling regulatory environment

New OECD-ESCAP-ECA-ECLAC
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