



GCCR

Global Conference on
Contemporary Research

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES

CONFERENCE THEME:

Language, Culture and Innovation:
Bridging Global Perspectives
through Research.



LANGUAGE
STUDIES



LITERATURE



CULTURAL
STUDIES



INTERNATIONAL
COLLABORATION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PEER-REVIEWED PROCEEDINGS



OCTOBER
2026



NEW YORK, USA



gccr.academy



GCCR

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES

OCTOBER 2026 | NEW YORK, USA





DIGITAL TRADE AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN UZBEKISTAN

Jahongirova Farangizbonu Davronbek qizi

Second year student, Faculty of Management,

World Economy and International Economic Relations,

Tashkent State University of Economics,

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23265077>

Abstract. Digital trade can widen access to foreign markets for firms in Uzbekistan, particularly when services can be delivered across borders through computer networks. This thesis examines the channels through which digitalisation may support international economic integration and the conditions that limit these gains. It uses a focused review of publications by the WTO, OECD and World Bank and distinguishes digitally ordered goods from digitally delivered services. The evidence points to growth in Uzbekistan's information technology enabled services exports, but also to gaps in business skills and trade process automation. The analysis suggests that training, interoperable trade procedures and credible rules for cross border transactions should be developed together. The paper offers policy implications rather than a causal estimate of digitalisation's effect on national exports.

Keywords. digital trade; Uzbekistan; international economic relations; services exports; trade facilitation; digital skills

Introduction. Digital technologies change how firms find customers, conclude contracts and deliver products abroad. For a landlocked economy such as Uzbekistan, the distinction between physical and digital delivery is especially relevant: a software service can reach a foreign client without crossing a border as a parcel, whereas an online sale of textiles still depends on transport and customs. The international statistical standard defines digital trade as trade that is digitally ordered, digitally delivered, or both [1]. This definition prevents a common error: treating every online order as an export of digital



services.

The policy question is whether digital tools can help more Uzbek firms participate in external markets. A joint report by the IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, World Bank and WTO links the potential of digital trade to infrastructure, skills and a workable regulatory environment [2]. These conditions matter because a website alone does not solve problems of payment, product compliance, delivery or trust. This thesis assesses the main opportunities for Uzbekistan and identifies practical priorities for firms and public institutions.

Research Design and Sources. The study is a qualitative analysis of secondary sources published by international economic institutions. The WTO handbook supplies the definition of digital trade [1]; the joint report provides a framework for examining opportunities and policy constraints [2]. World Bank material documents the development of information technology enabled services in Uzbekistan [3], while OECD country studies describe business skills and trade procedures [4, 5]. The sources were compared around three mechanisms: access to foreign buyers, capacity to fulfil orders and the reliability of cross border transactions. This design supports a reasoned policy assessment, but it cannot establish that a particular digital reform caused export growth.

Opportunities for International Integration. Digital platforms can reduce the effort required for a small firm to display products, obtain market information and communicate with buyers. Their effect is likely to differ by product. For physical goods, an online storefront may generate demand, but competitiveness still depends on certification, logistics and predictable customs clearance. For digitally delivered services, distance imposes fewer shipping costs; providers can supply programming, design, accounting support or other remote work to clients abroad. The scope of such trade depends on the skills of workers and on the rules governing cross border provision [1, 2]. Uzbekistan already has a relevant example. The World Bank reported that exports of information technology enabled services increased from USD 0.6 million in 2017 to USD 140 million in 2022 [3]. This comparison indicates rapid growth from a small initial base;



it is not evidence that digital services now dominate national exports. The World Bank's Digital Inclusion Project also targets skills and employment opportunities outside the capital [3]. If firms in the regions can meet clients' language, quality and reliability requirements, remote service exports could distribute some benefits of integration more widely.

Constraints and Policy Implications. Market access depends on firms' ability to use digital tools effectively. The OECD found that digital uptake among Uzbek firms remained limited despite improvements in connectivity, and identified shortages of digital skills among managers and employees as a central obstacle [4]. An exporter needs more than basic computer literacy: it must present reliable product information, communicate with customers, protect business data and handle payments or after sales problems. Programmes should therefore combine practical business tasks with language training and sector specific instruction, then assess whether participating firms actually begin or sustain foreign sales.

Trade procedures are a second constraint. The OECD's assessment of Central Asia notes improvements in Uzbekistan's trade facilitation while identifying remaining weaknesses in process automation and coordination among border agencies [5]. For an online order of physical goods, repeated submission of information and uncertain clearance times can erase the advantage of faster customer acquisition. A practical reform is to connect electronic customs records and payment processes, publish clear requirements in one place and test the system with small exporters. This recommendation follows from the OECD's diagnosis; its effect would need to be measured after implementation.

Finally, firms and customers require confidence in cross border transactions. Clear treatment of electronic contracts, consumer complaints and data protection can lower uncertainty, provided that compliance costs remain manageable for smaller businesses [2]. Priorities should be monitored with separate indicators: the number of firms receiving useful training, the share of export documents processed electronically, and the



value of digitally delivered services exports. Keeping these measures distinct would show where progress occurs without confusing platform use with completed international trade.

Conclusion. Digital trade offers Uzbekistan two different routes into the global economy: online ordering can help sell physical goods, while digital delivery can expand service exports. The growth reported in information technology enabled services shows the relevance of the second route. Its wider economic value will depend on firm capabilities, efficient trade procedures and reliable transaction rules. A useful next study would compare firms before and after a specific training or customs reform, using export outcomes rather than internet access alone as the measure of success.

REFERENCES

- [1] IMF, OECD, UNCTAD and WTO. (2023). Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade, 2nd ed. WTO publication
- [2] IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, World Bank and WTO. (2023). Digital Trade for Development. WTO publication
- [3] World Bank. (2023, November 30). World Bank to Support Uzbekistan in Developing the Digital Economy and Creating New Jobs in the Information Technology Sector. World Bank release
- [4] OECD. (2023). Digital Skills for Private Sector Competitiveness in Uzbekistan. OECD Publishing. doi:10.1787/6c54f447-en
- [5] OECD. (2023). Trade Facilitation in Central Asia. OECD Publishing. doi:10.1787/80ed999c-en

