



The Commonwealth Standards Network (CSN)



Commonwealth
Standards
Network

The CSN seeks to promote the use and awareness of international standards, and improve technical and institutional capacity to use and develop international standards amongst its members. Its key aim is to facilitate Commonwealth trade and poverty reduction through the increased use of international standards.

The Commonwealth:



The Commonwealth advantage:

Intra-Commonwealth investments generate 3.3 times more jobs than investments from non-Commonwealth countries. Intra-Commonwealth trade and productive investment are on track to exceed US\$1 trillion by 2020...

Commonwealth countries, on average, tend to trade around 20% more and generate 10% more investment with each other than with non-member countries.

Bilateral costs for trading partners in Commonwealth countries are on average 19% less than between those in non-member countries. ²

Policies which build upon this advantage can trigger even greater gains.

¹ 'Action on trade and inclusivity to benefit all Commonwealth citizens' Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street. Press release. 2018

² Commonwealth Trade Review 2018', Commonwealth Secretariat. 2018

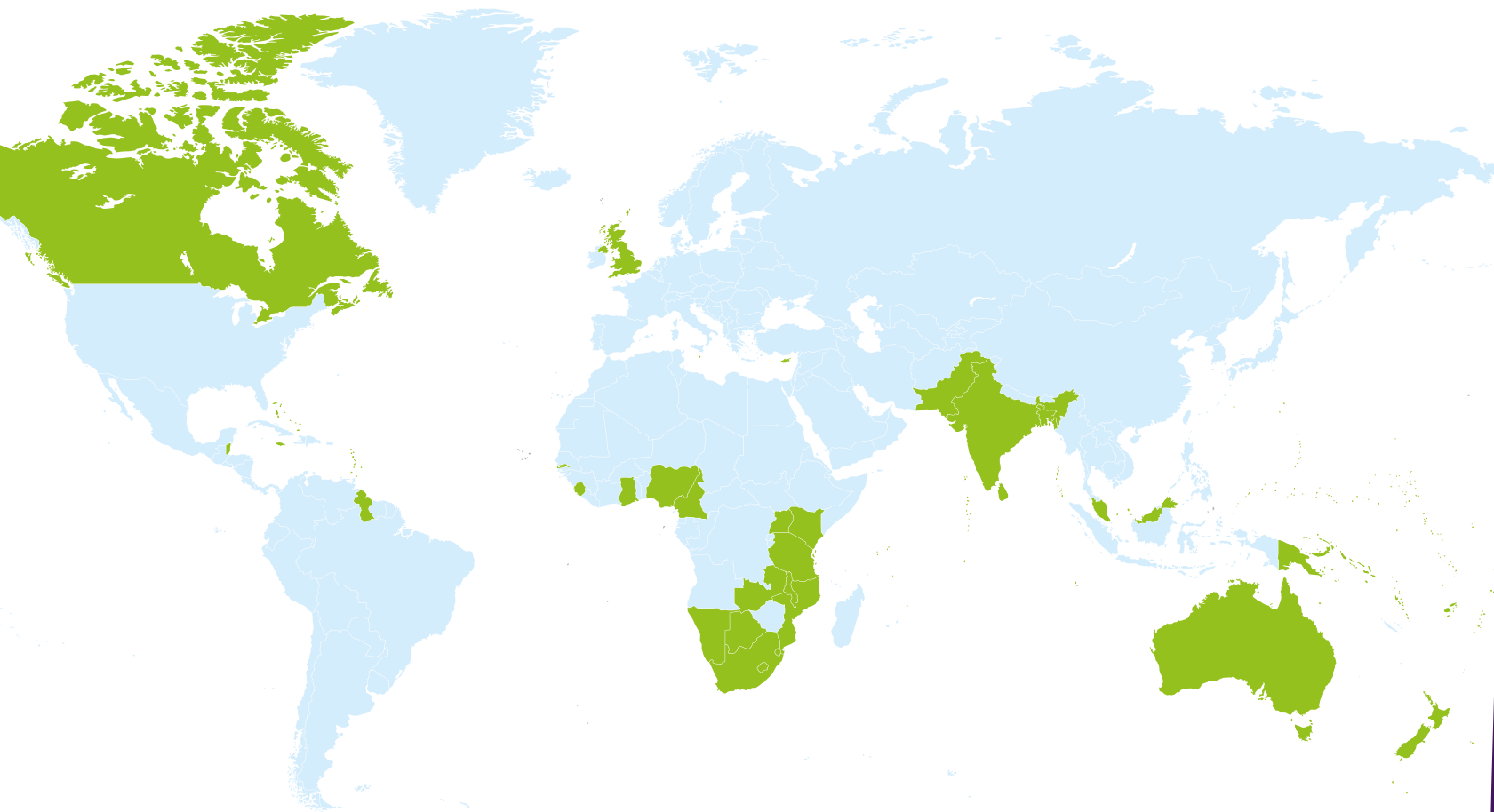
The UK Prime Minister recently announced UK Government funding for the development of a Commonwealth Standards Network (CSN):

“The network will provide a significant opportunity for national standards experts to collaborate and share best practice and it will empower developing countries to have a stronger voice in the international standards community – something that has benefits on a global scale.”

UK Prime Minister Theresa May at the Commonwealth Head of Governments Meeting, 16th April 2018.

Funding is secured for the development of the CSN during the first two years of the project, engagement with CSN members and international donors will seek to secure continued funding post 2020.





Commonwealth countries by region:

Africa	Malawi	Uganda	Asia	Caribbean and Americas	Grenada	Europe	Pacific	Solomon Islands
Botswana	Mauritius	United Republic of Tanzania	Bangladesh	Antigua and Barbuda	Guyana	Cyprus	Australia	Tonga
Cameroon	Mozambique	Zambia	Brunei	Barbuda	Jamaica	Malta	Fiji	Tuvalu
Gambia, The	Namibia		Darussalam	Bahamas, The	Saint Lucia	United Kingdom	Kiribati	Vanuatu
Ghana	Nigeria		India	Barbados	St Kitts and Nevis		Nauru	
Kenya	Rwanda		Malaysia	Belize	St Vincent and the Grenadines		New Zealand	
Kingdom of eSwatini	Seychelles		Pakistan	Canada	Trinidad and Tobago		Papua New Guinea	
Lesotho	South Africa		Sri Lanka	Dominica			Samoa	

CSN overview:

The CSN seeks to promote the use and awareness of international standards, and improve technical and institutional capacity to use and develop international standards amongst its members. The following outputs will be delivered by April 2020:

- 1 Platform:** The CSN platform will encourage collaboration between National Standards Bodies throughout the Commonwealth, to support information exchange and peer to peer learning and support.
- 2 Framework of International Standards:** The network will agree a suite of existing international standards for use across the Commonwealth, based on members' economic development priorities. A toolkit will be tailored to support implementation of these standards and an online collaborative platform will be used for knowledge sharing.
- 3 Support:** In-country training and workshops will be delivered to a range of Commonwealth countries, focused on raising awareness of the benefits and use of international standards and empowering countries to take a more active role in standards development.
- 4 Technical Assistance:** A number of developing countries within the Commonwealth will be provided with technical assistance to gain the skills necessary to support domestic standards development, use international standards effectively for trade, and be empowered to take an active role in standards development. For more information on the Technical Assistance programmes please contact projects@bsigroup.com



Join the CSN:

The CSN is a collaborative network open to all Commonwealth countries and it is important that its members are actively involved in shaping its development so that outcomes will best suit their needs.

If you would like find out more about the CSN or wish to participate or support this important initiative please contact the CSN Programme Manager Ben Hedley ben.hedley@bsigroup.com



Commonwealth
Standards
Network

