



Fact Sheet

Export Supply Chain Service (ESCS)

1 August 2022

The Export Supply Chain Service (ESCS) launched on 1 August 2022. ESCS will share intelligence and insights across government and industry to help businesses navigate the complex supply chain and logistics environment.

What is the Export Supply Chain Service (ESCS)?

The **Export Supply Chain Service (ESCS)** is a new program administered by the Australian Trade and Investment Commission ([Austrade](#)).

The small, specialised service will coordinate insights on complex supply chain and logistics issues to agribusiness, food and beverage exporters, government partners and other supply chain and logistics stakeholders while connectivity to international markets remains volatile and capacity diminished and expensive.

ESCS will continue to support and engage with state and territory governments and bridge the export community's transition from the International Freight Assistance Mechanism (IFAM) to the new international trading environment and further expand the wide range of services already provided by government.

The service has **three main functions**:

COORDINATE	CONNECT	ADVOCATE
1 Coordinated intelligence-collecting and insights-sharing with SME agribusiness, food and beverage exporters who may lack the resources to navigate complex international supply chain and logistics issues.	2 Partner with Austrade's Ag, Food & Consumer sector team, who provide one-on-one expertise to high impact expanding exporters, as they build capability, strategically plan and manage export supply chains to strengthen resilience.	3 Coordinate and advocate for exporters on supply chain issues within Federal Government agencies, and state and territory governments.

Does the ESCS provide financial support for Exporters?

No. The ESCS does not provide financial assistance to the SME agribusiness exports, supply chain, logistics and freight community.

The ESCS is a centralised intelligence-collecting and information-sharing service for the agribusiness SME exports and freight community, managed by supply chain and logistics specialists.

WHAT DOES ESCS DO?

Coordinate Intelligence & Insights with industry and government partners.



Advocate for industry within government.



Deep & Regular Engagement with industry and Government stakeholders.



DO



DON'T



WHAT DOESN'T ESCS DO?

Provide financial support to the SME Ag, food and beverage export and freight community.



Charter flights or arrange block bookings with airlines.



Provide tailored business advice to individual exporters.



Why did the government establish the ESCS?

The global pandemic triggered a restructure of the freight and supply chain sectors and research indicates freight prices **will not** return to pre-COVID levels.

The Australian Government recognises there remains a pressing need for strategic supply chain, freight and logistic insights and intelligence.

SME (small to medium enterprise) agribusiness, food and beverage exporters, government partners and the freight sector have asked for assistance navigating global supply chain challenges to build their resilience and ability to capitalise on opportunities that emerge as the global economy recovers.

Airfreight capacity is no longer severely limited by COVID-19 restrictions and the aviation sector is recovering. Businesses once again have the levers they need to trade:

- international borders are open, and
- flight numbers and connectivity between Australia and international markets is increasing.

Exporters must continue to manage higher freight prices, as well as normal market fluctuations and disruptions, including the impacts of international conflicts, geopolitical shifts and extreme weather events.

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the ESCS launch?

ESCS will launch on 1 August 2022 and a regular schedule of industry meetings and briefings will commence towards the end of August 2022.

Will the ESCS be providing financial assistance, e.g. grants?

No. Research indicates that freight prices **will not** return to pre-COVID levels and as such, exporters must continue to manage higher freight prices.

ESCS will coordinate insights into supply chain challenges, trends and opportunities to help exporters navigate the new trading environment.

Where do I find more information on the ESCS?

Visit the [ESCS webpage](#), or email supplychains@austrade.gov.au with your name, business name and industry to join our mailing list.