



# BRITISH EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION

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## **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Benchmarking of UK Export Finance Strategy and reality**

BExA launches today its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual benchmarking of UK Export Finance (UKEF) entitled “Strategy and reality”.

Brexit continues to cast a shadow over the future of UK/EU trade relationships. We urge both the UK and EU to reach an agreement that creates as frictionless a trade agreement as possible that covers both goods and services. It is not in the interests of UK or EU businesses alike to create additional bureaucracy and complexity in our trading arrangements.

The Government’s Export Strategy lays the foundations for a comprehensive, coordinated Government approach to export . BExA is pleased to see this progress on the joined up approach to trade for which we have long been calling. We look forward to continuing to work with the Dept for International Trade and Government to encourage its conversion to reality.

UKEF has a key role to play in supporting export growth . UKEF’s 2017-2018 results are consistent with recent years and show continued appetite , especially support for SME exporters. BExA’s concerns over the future of the Direct Lending Facility (“DLF”) can be easily rectified by clear positive statements from HMT regarding DLF future funding and availability.

BExA is pleased to report progress on our other recommendations such as the inclusion of a premium calculator on the UKEF website, changes to Local content treatment and the availability of fixed rate financing. However more needs to be done to increase transparency and to simplify and standardise its extensive library of documentation.

### **NOTES:**

- 1) The full BExA paper “UK Export Finance: Strategy and reality” can be viewed online at [www.bexa.co.uk/bexa-publications](http://www.bexa.co.uk/bexa-publications)
- 2) BExA represents British exporters and their service providers and takes a particular interest in the finance of exports and export credit insurance.
- 3) BExA believes there is a correlation between a country’s exports and the activities of its Export Credit Agency (ECA).
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