

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE

DMDC

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The Partnership has dedicated itself to building Greater Des Moines' (DSM's) global presence through increasing exports and foreign direct investment. The Partnership has also endeavored to establish metro-to-metro relationships and to share best practices in globally-oriented economic development. It is important for Congress and the Administration to support pro-trade policy initiatives, trade and investment policies and agreements that will help American companies and workers to remain the most competitive in world.

## The Partnership Supports:

- A robust trade agenda so Iowa companies can continue to export goods and services around the globe to create jobs for American workers.
- The following pro-growth international trade and investment policies and principles:
  - Negotiate and implement new trade and investment agreements at the bilateral, regional, plurilateral and multilateral level, and modernize existing ones to reflect 21st Century challenges and opportunities as per the priorities laid out in the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (TPA Law).
  - Negotiate additional bilateral investment treaties with major markets around the globe and complete ongoing Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) negotiations with China and India.
  - Modernize U.S. export controls to enhance national security and competitiveness.
  - Boost business and leisure travel and the jobs it sustains by improving the visa process and expanding the Visa Waiver program.
  - Continue the process of normalizing relations with Cuba by removal of remaining trade and financial restrictions.
  - Approve nominees to the Export-Import Bank of the United States to give the board the quorum it needs to approve transactions over \$10 million.
- Continued funding of the State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) grant program administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).
- Funding for an Economic Development Administration program to assist with the development and implementation of Regional Export Plans.