



## **Global Data Alliance Welcomes Recent Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Pillar II – IV Outcomes, Calls for Digital Trade Outcomes that Meet IPEF Ministerial Goals**

**Washington, DC** (November 27, 2023) — The Global Data Alliance congratulates all Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) partners on the substantial conclusion of negotiations relating to the [Clean Economy](#) (IPEF Pillar III) and the [Fair Economy](#) (IPEF Pillar IV). The Alliance also congratulates IPEF economies on their signature of the [Supply Chain Agreement](#) (IPEF Pillar II).

The Global Data Alliance also calls for a renewed commitment to the digital trade and cross-border data goals of the September 2022 IPEF [Ministerial Statement](#) (IPEF Pillar I), which promised to “enhance access to online information and use of the Internet; facilitate digital trade; address discriminatory practices,” and “work to promote and support... trusted and secure cross-border data flows.”

Joseph Whitlock, Executive Director of the Global Data Alliance, stated as follows: “It would be a strategic error to conclude the IPEF trade pillar without meeting the original 2022 [Ministerial Statement](#) goals on digital trade and cross-border data. Among other things, this means refraining from undue restrictions on international data transfers and from localization mandates.”

“If IPEF partners aren’t willing to make such baseline digital commitments to one another,” Whitlock added, “the Agreement will not meet its original promise of supporting an Indo-Pacific that is ‘[open, connected, prosperous, resilient, and secure](#).’ It will be very difficult for IPEF partners to achieve this promise if they won’t even agree to share information”

“We urge all IPEF partners to negotiate from a place of confidence and trust in one another. Allied economies are strongest when they work together,” Whitlock stated.

The US Trade Representative recently [withdrew](#) its support at the WTO for trade outcomes relating to cross-border data, localization, source code, and principles of non-discrimination. The United States must not repeat this error in the IPEF. Replicating this error in IPEF would cause the Agreement to fall short of the 2022 [Ministerial Statement](#) commitments noted above, as well as [Ministerial Statement](#) commitments to negotiate “high-standard, inclusive, free, fair, and open trade commitments that build upon the rules-based multilateral trading system.”

Repeating this mistake would also contradict the White House’s IPEF directive for USTR to negotiate “high-standard rules of the road in the digital economy, including standards on cross-border data flows and data localization.”

### **ABOUT THE GLOBAL DATA ALLIANCE**

The Global Data Alliance ([globaldataalliance.org](http://globaldataalliance.org)) is a cross-industry coalition of companies that are committed to high standards of data responsibility and that rely on the ability to transfer data around the world to innovate and create jobs. Alliance members are headquartered across the globe and are active in the advanced manufacturing, aerospace, automotive, consumer goods, electronics, financial services, health,

media and entertainment, natural resources, supply chain, and telecommunications sectors, among others.  
BSA | The Software Alliance administers the Global Data Alliance.