



# GLOBAL DATA ALLIANCE

## TRUST ACROSS BORDERS

### HOW INTERNATIONAL DATA TRANSFERS ENHANCE CYBERSECURITY


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- BSA | The Software Alliance ([www.bsa.org](http://www.bsa.org)) is the leading advocate for the global enterprise software industry.
  - Our members are among the world's most innovative companies, creating software solutions that help businesses of all sizes in every part of the economy to modernize and grow.
  - With headquarters in Washington, DC, and operations in markets in North and South America, Europe and the Indo-Pacific, BSA advocates for public policies that foster technology innovation and drive growth in the digital economy.

# BSA GLOBAL AND REGIONAL MEMBERS



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- The Global Data Alliance is a cross-industry coalition of companies that are committed to high standards of data responsibility and that rely on the transfer of data around the world to innovate and create jobs.
  - Amid rising digital protectionism, a multi-sector voice is needed to support sensible and responsible cross-border data policies around the world.
  - The Global Data Alliance provides that voice.

# GDA MEMBERS

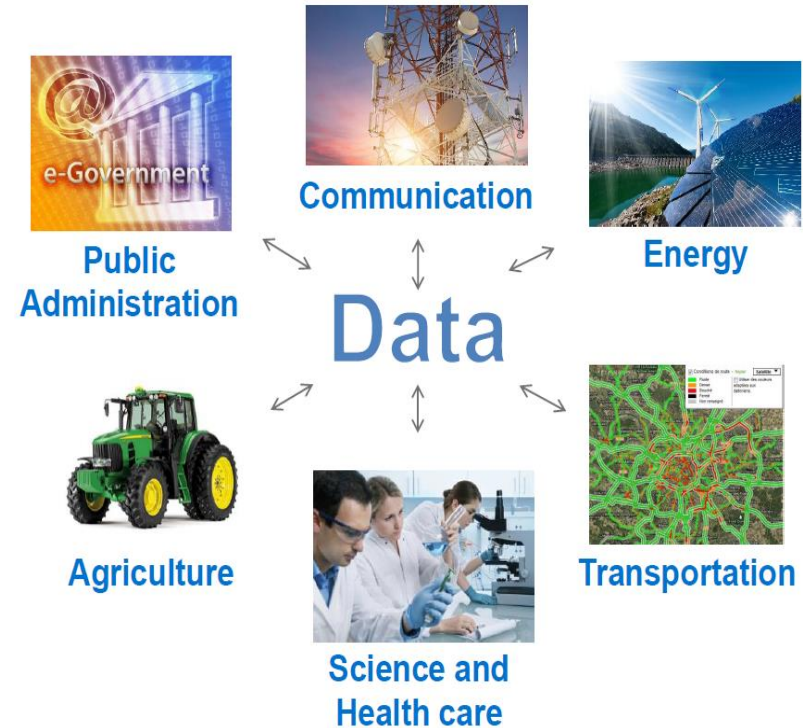
Global Data Alliance members include BSA members and the following:



\*\* GDA trial members: Aurora, Cigna, ENI, Expeditors, HanesBrands, Honeywell, HSBC, Iris Automation, JP Morgan, Johnson & Johnson, Liberty Mutual, Nasdaq, Nielsen, Resmed, Revolut, S&P Global, Samsung, SwissRe, Temasek, Warner Bros. Discovery

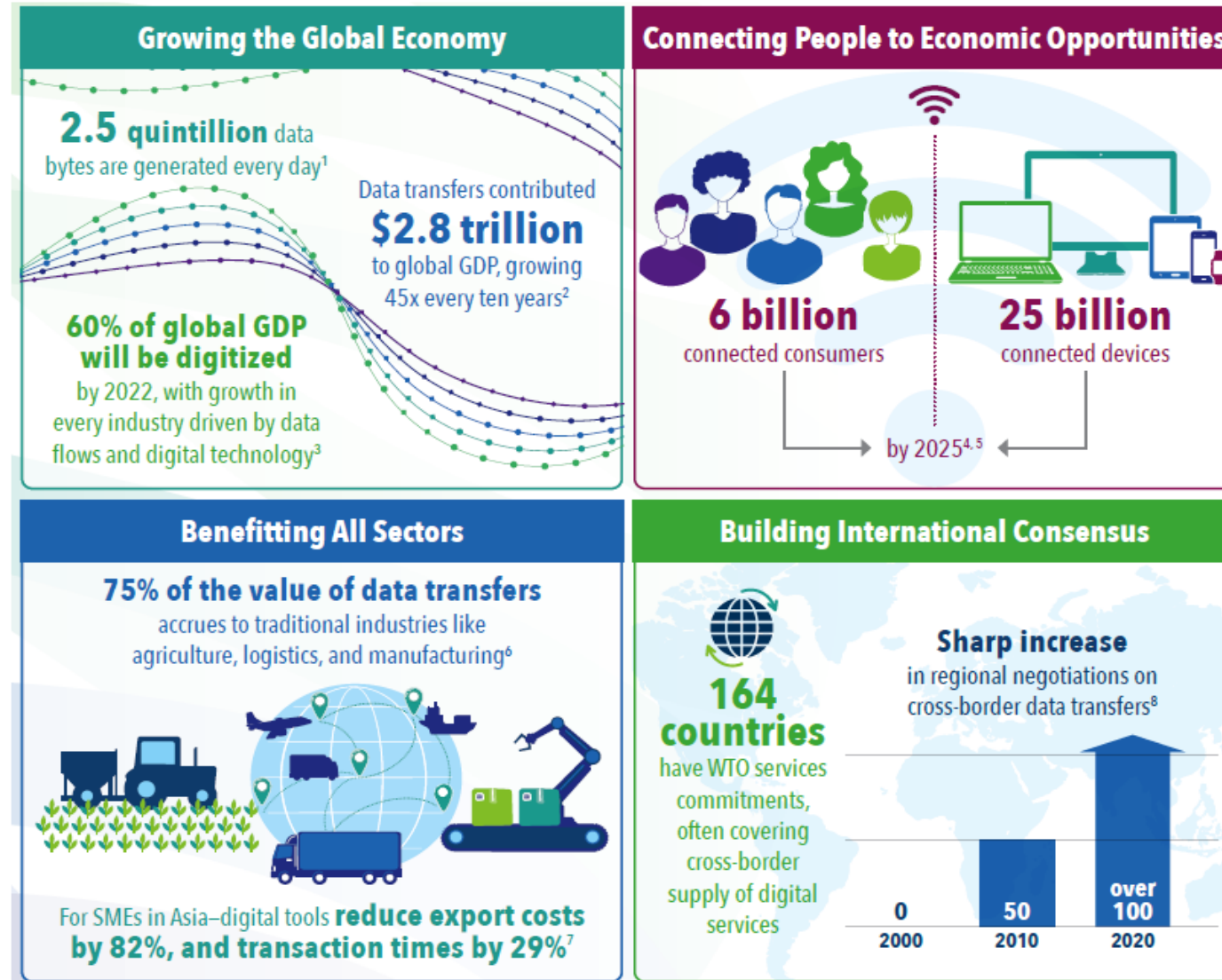
# ABOUT DATA & DATA TRANSFERS

- What is a Data Transfer?
  - “Cross-border data transfers” refer to the movement or transfer of information across IT networks.
  - Consumers and companies of all sizes rely on data transfers across countries, regions, continents.
    - Any communication to a person / device in another country
    - Financial transactions
    - Data for product safety approvals
    - Data and tools to protect consumers from fraud, ID theft, malicious cyberattacks
    - Data to identify dangerous counterfeit products (e.g., distribution patterns / sources / markers of such products)
    - Data to optimize supply chain (reducing carbon intensity of int’l trade)



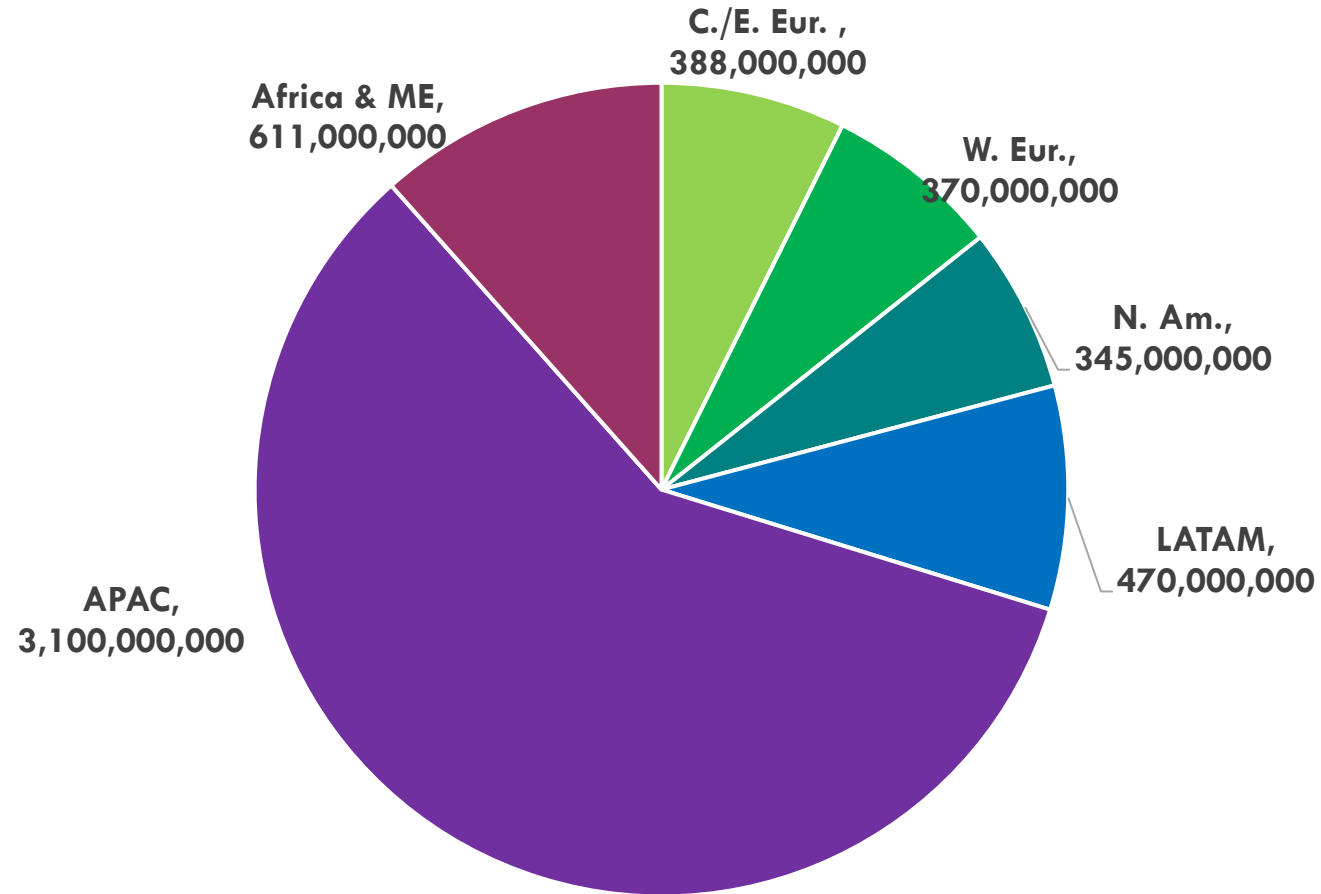
# ABOUT DATA & DATA TRANSFERS

## Cross-border Data Transfers – Facts & Figures



# DATA TRANSFERS ACROSS REGIONS

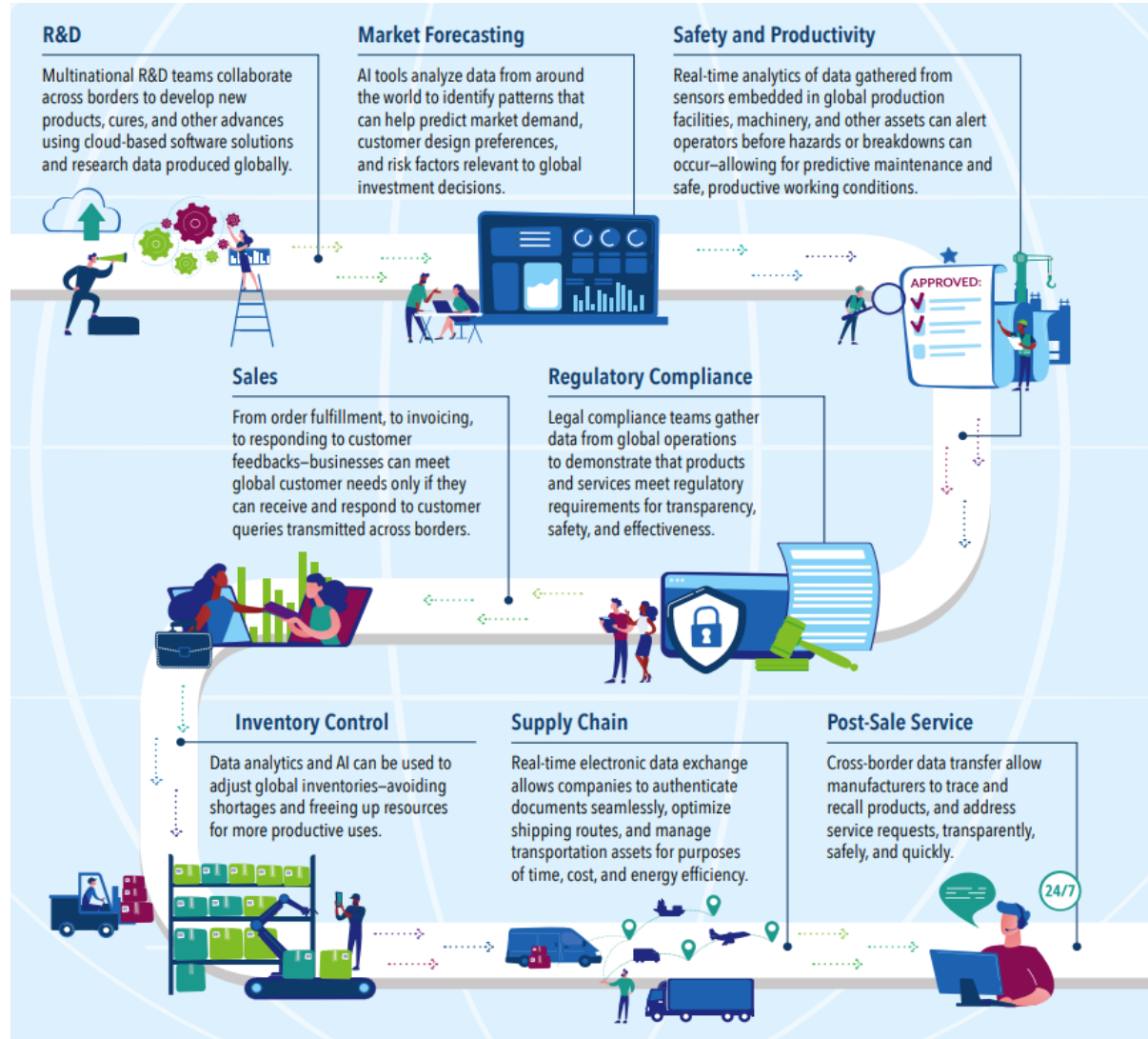
Internet-Connected Population  
(by Region, 2023 estimate)





# ABOUT DATA & DATA TRANSFERS

## Data Transfers at Every Stage of the Value Chain





# CROSS-BORDER DATA TRANSFERS & CYBERSECURITY

Cross Border Data Transfers Are Critical to Cybersecurity Because They Allow Companies to:

- Monitor Data Traffic Patterns, Identify Anomalies, and Divert Potential Threats Using Real-Time Data
- Store Data in Geographically Diverse Regions and to Obscure Data Location to:
  - Reduce Physical Threats
  - Improve Latency
  - Maintain Redundancy, Resilience, and Continuity of Operations in the Event of Physical Damage to a Data Storage Location

# RISKS FROM DATA TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS AND DATA LOCALIZATION REQUIREMENTS

- Impede Integrated Cybersecurity Planning
  - Restrictions force organizations to adopt a siloed approach to data, often restricting the locus of certain data, but not others.
  - This differentiation creates unnecessary technical complexity without any corresponding benefit to security.
  - Artificial requirements to store data within borders strain the people, processes, and technologies an organization needs to manage its cybersecurity risk.
- Impede Visibility of Cybersecurity Risks
  - If cyber defenders cannot access threat indicators or other cybersecurity data collected in one jurisdiction, it becomes harder to address malicious cyber activity in other jurisdictions.
- Impede Cross-Border Collaboration, Information Sharing, and Other Coordinated Network Defense Mechanisms
  - This provides malicious actors, that do NOT respect local legal requirements, a lasting structural advantage over entities and service providers that do.

# RISKS FROM DATA TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS AND DATA LOCALIZATION REQUIREMENTS

- Impede Use of Third-Party Cybersecurity Services
  - Many organizations amplify their own cybersecurity risk management through third-party cybersecurity service providers.
  - Best-in-class services depend on access to cyber data from around the globe and, without this access, these services and their users become more vulnerable to compromise.
- Impede Cybersecurity Resilience
  - The misconception that keeping data only within national boundaries will increase its security can create significantly more risk by preventing efficient geographical distribution and dispersion of data.
- Impede Availability of Competitive Globally Available Products and Services
  - Little to no cybersecurity benefit to localizing data within borders – security depends on the entity holding the data and the technical security controls applied to them. Decisions about these security controls should be risk-based and outcomes-based and not prescriptive.
  - Protectionist policies, or those designed to bolster simple concepts of “data sovereignty” diminish the role of laws and policies that effectively improve cybersecurity.



# THE PATH FORWARD

- Promote International Data Transfers
- Encourage Risk-Based Protections That:
  - Create a conducive environment for innovation and competition
  - Improve cybersecurity by allowing organizations to select the technology providers that best meet their operational needs and provide state-of-the-art cybersecurity protections

# RESOURCES

- [www.bsa.org](http://www.bsa.org)
- <https://www.bsa.org/policy-issues/cybersecurity>
- <https://www.bsa.org/policy-filings/global-principles-for-government-cloud-security-laws-and-policies>
- <https://globaldataalliance.org/>
- <https://globaldataalliance.org/issues/cybersecurity/>
- <https://bit.ly/47uOqnA>



# GLOBAL DATA ALLIANCE

## TRUST ACROSS BORDERS

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