

SHARING AND GIG ECONOMY

10th IMF-Japan High-Level Tax Conference for Asian Countries

Tokyo 25-26 April 2019

Philip Kerfs
Head of the International Cooperation Unit
OECD





FTA work to assess the need for action

- September 2017: FTA agreed to initiate project to help ensure the effective taxation of individuals selling products and services through peer-to-peer platforms (the sharing and gig economy)
- December 2017: Project launch
 - Co-sponsored by Italy and the United Kingdom
 - More than 20 FTA members actively participated in the work
- March 2019: FTA Report issued





Platforms in the sharing and gig economy















Why the focus on sharing and gig economy "sellers"?

Rapid growth

Income out of scope of traditional third party reporting

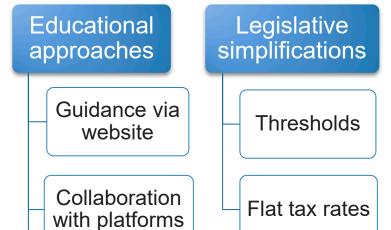
Informal economy links

Lack of understanding of tax obligations

Competition and tax and revenue concerns



Current approaches and limitations



Media

campaigns

Withholding arrangements

Identification of platform sellers

Web scraping / crawling

Voluntary agreements

Reporting rules



Rationale for multilateral cooperation in this area

Effective taxation of individual platform sellers is a concern for many tax administrations

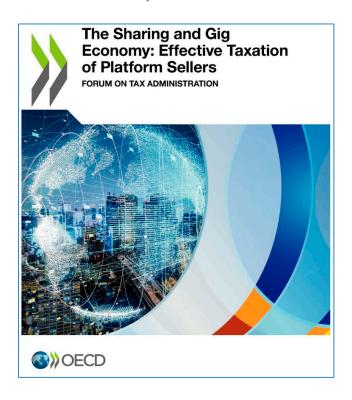
Many platforms operate across borders without physical presence in each market

Standardised reporting & due diligence requirements could help reduce burdens



FTA recommendation

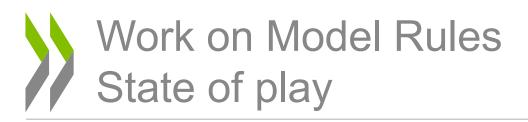
- Develop model reporting rules to standardise requirements across jurisdictions
 and help avoid proliferation of different reporting requirements; and
- Develop exchange framework to facilitate automatic exchange of information with jurisdiction of residence of platform sellers.





Work on Model Rules Objectives and driving factors

- Fostering compliance by ensuring tax administrations get timely access to highquality information on potentially taxable income earned by platform sellers
 - Focus on making compliance easier for platform sellers (pre-filling of tax returns where possible)
 - Direct and indirect taxes (and possibly also local taxes and social security contributions)
- Limit compliance burdens
 - Standardisation of reporting and due diligence requirements
 - Principles of necessity, adequacy and proportionality
- Ensure level playing field
 - No discrimination based on location, business model, domestic/crossborder reach
 - Level playing field with traditional businesses



- Discussion on the design and features of Model Rules in WP10 in March 2019
- Development of Model Rules, commentary and framework for international exchanges over Summer and Fall 2019
- Close ongoing consultation with the digital platforms