UK-AO CONNECT · MARKET-ENTRY GUIDE

Doing Business in the United Kingdom

A guide for Angolan companies trading with, or setting up in, the United Kingdom.

SET UP A UK COMPANY	REGISTER AT	MOST COMMON FORM
Often same-day, online	Companies House	Private Limited (Ltd)

The UK is one of the simplest places in the world to start and run a company. Angolan businesses can trade with the UK, appoint UK partners, or set up their own UK company, with no requirement to be a UK resident. This guide covers the routes in, the set-up steps and how to visit for business.

1 Ways into the UK market

Export / trade

Sell directly to UK buyers or appoint a UK distributor or agent, the lightest-touch route.

UK subsidiary LTD

A UK private limited company owned by your Angolan business, your own presence and brand in-market.

UK establishment BRANCH

Register your existing Angolan company's UK branch with Companies House.

Partnership / JV

Team up with a UK partner to share market knowledge, channels and risk.

2 Setting up a UK company: step by step

1 Choose your structure

A **Private Limited Company (Ltd)** is the standard choice. There is **no requirement** for a director to be a UK resident, overseas owners and directors are welcome.

2 Register with Companies House

Online and often **same-day**. You'll need a company name, a **UK registered office address**, at least one director and shareholder, your share capital, a SIC activity code, and details of People with Significant Control (PSC).

3 Register for tax with HMRC

Register for **Corporation Tax** when you start trading (rates range from 19% on small profits to 25% on larger profits). Register for **VAT** if turnover exceeds the threshold (currently £90,000), and for **PAYE** if you employ staff.

4 Open a UK business bank account

Plan ahead, UK banks run identity and source-of-funds checks on overseas owners, which can take time. A UK address and a clear business plan help.

5 Get ready to trade goods

Obtain an **EORI number** for importing or exporting goods, and check UK product rules and conformity marking (UKCA) for your sector.

3 Visiting the UK from Angola

Angolan nationals need a **UK visa to travel**. For meetings, negotiations and events, the **Standard Visitor visa** is the usual route, it permits business activities but **not paid work**. To send staff to a UK branch or build a team, look at routes such as **Global Business Mobility (Expansion Worker)**, **Skilled Worker** or **Innovator Founder**.

PLAN AHEAD

UK visit visas are applied for online in advance, with biometrics given at a visa application centre. Apply in good time before travel.

MEMBER PERK

Your soft landing in the UK

We connect members with UK partners, banks and advisers, and we engage with UK trade bodies such as the Department for Business & Trade, so you arrive with a network already in place. Email **info@ukaoconnect.com**.

4 Set-up & travel checklist

- Company name & UK registered office address
- Director(s) & shareholder ID documents
- People with Significant Control (PSC) details
- SIC activity code
- HMRC Corporation Tax registration
- VAT registration (if over threshold)
- PAYE (if employing staff)
- UK business bank account
- EORI number (for trading goods)
- UK visa (for business travel)

5 Key bodies

Companies House
UK company registration
gov.uk

HMRC
Corporation Tax, VAT & PAYE

UK Dept for Business & Trade (DBT)
Trade & investment support

UK Visas & Immigration
Visitor & work visas

THE CHAMBER IS YOUR SAFE SPACE

One trusted network, the right people, properly introduced

UK-AO Connect is a neutral, members-only forum where you meet vetted professional service providers and our institutional partners under one roof. No cold calls and no guesswork: we make warm, relevant introductions so you can build your business on solid ground, in either market.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER **AIPEX · Private Investment & Export Promotion Agency**

& we engage with government, trade & diplomatic bodies across both markets

Legal & Regulatory Law firms, compliance	**Tax & Accounting** Accountants, auditors	**Banking & Finance** Corporate banks, FX
Insurance & Risk Cover, bonds, guarantees	**Real Estate & Workspace** Offices, industrial, land	**Market-Entry Consulting** Strategy, due diligence
Logistics & Customs Freight, brokers, warehousing	**HR, Payroll & Recruitment** Hiring & employment	**Translation & Liaison** Interpreting, local fixers
Technology & Telecoms IT & connectivity	**Construction & Engineering** Projects & EPC	**Travel & Relocation** Visas, accommodation

Tell us what you need and we will introduce you to the right member partner, **info@ukaoconnect.com**.

This guide is provided by UK-AO Connect for general information only and does not constitute legal, tax or immigration advice. Procedures, thresholds, fees and rules change frequently. Always confirm current requirements with the relevant authority or a qualified adviser before acting.

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STA. A′ · 51°30′ N
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DUAS MARGENS, UM ACORDO
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STA. A · 08°52′ S
8.8390° S · 13.2894° E
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