Results and implications of the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2021 for Asia and the Pacific

Agenda Item 2
UNTWF Survey Scope: WTO TFA+

- 58 trade facilitation (TF) measures (2015-2021)
- 130+ economies globally, 46 from Asia-Pacific region

WTO TFA-related measures

1. Digital TF: paperless trade & cross-border paperless trade

2. Sustainable TF: for SMEs, agriculture, and women

3. TF during crisis and pandemic

4. Trade finance facilitation

UNTFSURVEY.ORG
Key findings: Implementation varies widely across countries and subregions

Overall implementation of trade facilitation measures in 46 Asia-Pacific countries
Key findings: Implementation accelerated in all subregions

Trade facilitation implementation by subregions in Asia and the Pacific, 2019 and 2021
Key findings: Implementation of cross-border paperless trade still a challenge despite most progress made

Implementation of different groups of trade facilitation measures in Asia-Pacific, 2019 and 2021
Sustainable Trade Facilitation faces many challenges – digital solutions can be effective means

Implementation of different sub-groups of trade facilitation measures, Asia-Pacific average
Implementation of paperless trade varies by measures and responsible agencies

State of implementation of Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific
Implementation of cross-border paperless trade measures remains low.

State of implementation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific.
Significant room to cut trade costs through trade digitalization

Changes in trade costs in Asia and the Pacific resulting from implementation of trade facilitation and paperless trade (per cent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asia-Pacific: Trade costs model</th>
<th>WTO TFA (binding only)</th>
<th>WTO TFA (binding + non-binding)</th>
<th>WTO TFA + (binding + non-binding + other paperless and cross-border paperless trade)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Partially implemented</td>
<td>Fully implemented</td>
<td>Partially implemented</td>
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<tr>
<td>Model 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall trade facilitation</td>
<td>-1.74</td>
<td>-4.11</td>
<td>-2.81</td>
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<td>Model 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>General trade facilitation</td>
<td>-0.56</td>
<td>-1.36</td>
<td>-0.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital trade facilitation</td>
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<td>measures</td>
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Way Forward

• All Asia-Pacific economies can gain from accelerating trade facilitation implementation, especially from cross-border paperless trade measures

• Closer intergovernmental cooperation required for developing interoperable paperless trade systems
  • as enabled in the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

Next UN Global TF Survey to begin 1 January 2023
Thank you!

7TH MEETING OF
THE INTERIM INTERGOVERNMENTAL STEERING GROUP ON
CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE FACILITATION