

#### ESCAP-OECD Webinar

Exploring digital-trade regulations to promote inclusive and sustainable regional integration in Asia and the Pacific 23 June 20222

Asia-Pacific Digital Trade Regulatory Report 2022: Summary of key findings

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## **Focus**

## Main findings from United Nations Regional Commissions' RDTII

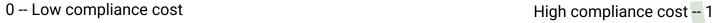
- How diverse are digital trade policy environments in Asia and the Pacific?
- Where may businesses find compliance challenges?
- How to get regional cooperation rolling?

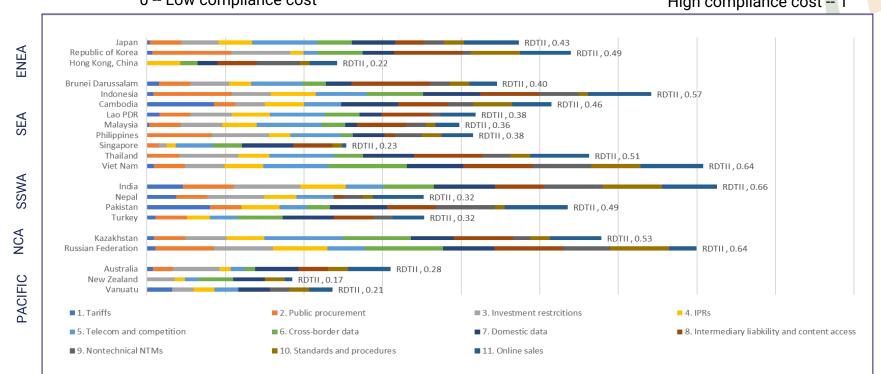




### Diverse policy environments in the region

Asia-Pacific Regional Digital Trade Integration Index (RDTII) 1.0







## Compliance challenges come more from behind-the-border

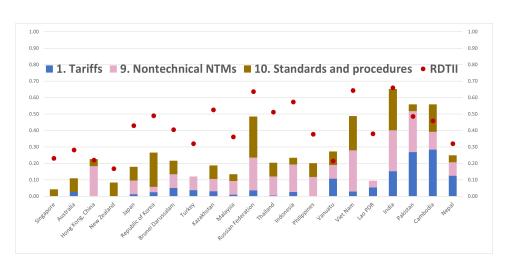
8. Intermediary liabkility and content access, 0.55	11. Online sales, 0.50	3. Foreign investment restrcitions, 0.47	6. Cross-border data, 0.42	9. Non-technical NTMs, 0.33 10. Standards and procedures, 0.29
5. Telecom and competition, 0.52	7. Domestic data, 0.50	2. Public procurement, 0.42	4. IPRs, 0.38	1. Tariffs, 0.18

Digital governance policies, 0.50
Other domestic policies, 0.45
Traditional trade policies, 0.26





## **Traditional trade policies**



Higher-income

Lower-income

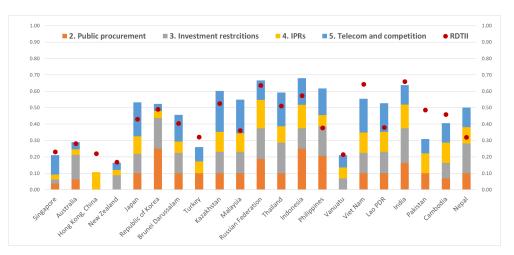
#### **Common issues**

- Not participating in the Information Technology Agreement (ITA I, II)
- Conditions in import licensing for digital devices
- Testing procedures and certification





## **Domestic regulations**



Higher-income

Lower-income

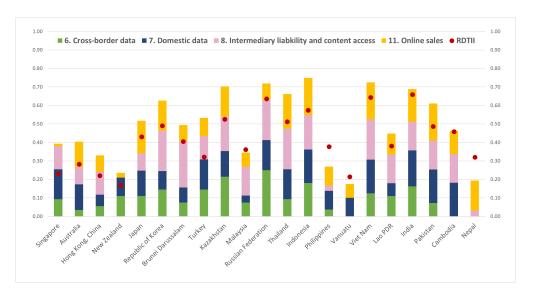
#### **Common issues**

- Screening conditions in investment and public procurement
- Conditions in copyright exceptions and patent filing
- Licensing and anti-competitive practices in the telecom market





## **Digital-economy governance**



Higher-income

Lower-income

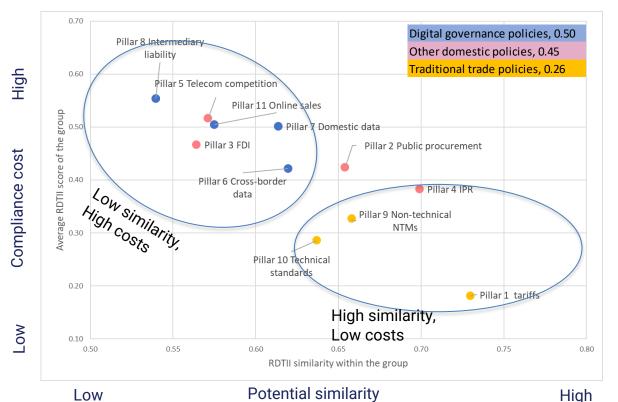
#### **Common issues**

- Varying conditions for data flow, data retention
- Blocking-, filtering-, monitoring-, local-presence requirements
- Conditions in e-commerce licensing and transactions, online consumer protections





## Broad digital-trade policy mapping for Asia and the Pacific







# **Takeaways**

- There is no one-size-fits-all, but interoperability is always the key
- Regional cooperation to start from areas with more common ground
- Better evidence, understanding trade-offs, sharing experience
- Enhancing commitments (and implementation) in multilateral and regional agreements







## Thank you. Please find out more:

**APDTR 2022** 



#### **RDTII**



https://bit.ly/3ynpcYV