UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2023

Key Findings - Africa

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TF Implementation Rate in Africa (2023)

Interconnection with AfCFTA Implementation

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)
TF Implementation Rate in Africa (2023)

Average Implementation Rate by Country

- **Number of countries Surveyed:** 2023 - 39; 2021 - 35
- **Overall Avg implementation rate:** 2023 - 61.57%; 2021 - 51.2%
- **Global Avg implementation rate:** 2023 - 69%; 2021 - 51%

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)
Progress Across Africa’s Sub-regions (2023)

- Improvements across all sub-regions – Overall Africa 61.57% [2021 – 51.2%]
- Southern Africa most improved sub-region at 71.33% [2021 - 62%]
- SIDs leading among country groupings
- Implementation of cross-border paperless trade remains low

Comparison of Implementation Rates (2015 - 2023)

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)
Average Rates Per TF Measure

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)
Status of Implementation of Institutional Arrangements in Africa

Status of Implementation, Institutional Arrangements (Africa)

- Government agencies delegating controls to Customs authorities
- National legislative framework and/or institutional arrangements for border agencies cooperation
- National Trade Facilitation Committee or similar body

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)

Note: UNRCs are still receiving feedback from some member countries on data validation. Therefore, the results may be further – probably slightly – revised in the final report to be issued in the coming months.
Trade Facilitation Measures for SMEs

- Limited implementation of measures targeted at SMEs to address challenges they face.
- Lowest implementation rate - access to AEO schemes and other special measures for SMEs.

Status of Implementation, Trade Facilitation for SMEs (Africa)

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2023)

Note: UNRCs are still receiving feedback from some member countries on data validation. Therefore, the results may be further – probably slightly – revised in the final report to be issued in the coming months.
Conclusion

- Notable progress in the rate of implementation of TF measures in Africa. However, Africa still lags behind when assessed against the global average, hence the call for more effort.

- Improvements in implementation of cross-border paperless trade and measures to support cross-border e-commerce required to maximise the benefits of trade particularly in the context of the AfCFTA.

- Increasing the rate of implementation of TF measures targeting SMEs, and women in trade, will help to accelerate intra-African trade and to support a more inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Africa.

- More effort needs to be applied at implementing e-SPS and e-CITES permits as these are important measures to safeguard wildlife and environmental sustainability goals.