Launch of the UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2023

Highlights for Latin America and the Caribbean

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LAC has a relatively high regional average but large dispersion at the country level

Average implementation rates in the Global TF Survey 2023 (%)

- Mexico: 88%
- Peru: 87%
- Dominican Rep.: 86%
- Ecuador: 84%
- Brazil: 84%
- Costa Rica: 83%
- Colombia: 83%
- Chile: 81%
- Uruguay: 80%
- El Salvador: 80%
- Jamaica: 80%
- Paraguay: 76%
- Argentina: 76%
- Panama: 75%
- Honduras: 69%
- Guatemala: 69%
- Trinidad & Tobago: 63%
- Bolivia (P.S.): 63%
- Nicaragua: 62%
- Guyana: 62%
- Cuba: 62%
- St. Kitts & Nevis: 57%
- Antigua & Barbuda: 53%
- Belize: 52%
- St. Vincent & Gren.: 51%
- St. Lucia: 47%

Regional average: 71%
Most progress on formalities and transparency, reflecting advanced TFA implementation

Average implementation rates by subregion and category
(Percentages)

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<th>Subregion</th>
<th>Transparency</th>
<th>Formalities</th>
<th>Paperless trade</th>
<th>Cross-border paperless trade</th>
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<td>The Caribbean</td>
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Latin America and the Caribbean
South America
Central America and Mexico
The Caribbean

Transparency
Formalities
Paperless trade
Cross-border paperless trade
LAC’s weakest performance is in paperless trade; the Caribbean also lags in some key formalities and transparency measures

LAC (26 countries): implementation of selected paperless trade measures (%)

- e-applic. & issuance of export & import permits: 62%
- Electronic single window: 53%
- e-exchange of origin certificates: 49%
- e-applic. & issuance of origin certificates: 47%
- e-exchange of SPS certificates: 46%
- e-exchange of customs declaration: 42%
- e-applic. for customs refunds: 41%

The Caribbean: implementation of selected formalities & transparency measures (%)

- Independent appeal mechanism: 63%
- Publication of average release times: 50%
- Authorized Economic Operator: 47%
- Advance rulings: 37%
Main takeaways

• Despite being badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, LAC countries have continued making progress in implementing their TFA commitments and other TF measures.

• Promising initiatives at the regional/subregional levels:
  • Regional MRA of AEO programs
  • Cross-border electronic exchange of documents within regional integration groupings

• But progress remains uneven:
  • Much room for improvement in paperless trade
  • The Caribbean lags behind in all areas

• Faster rollout of TF measures is crucial to diversify exports, foster SME internationalization, and attract FDI for nearshoring.
THANK YOU

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