

UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

(unfssurvey.org)

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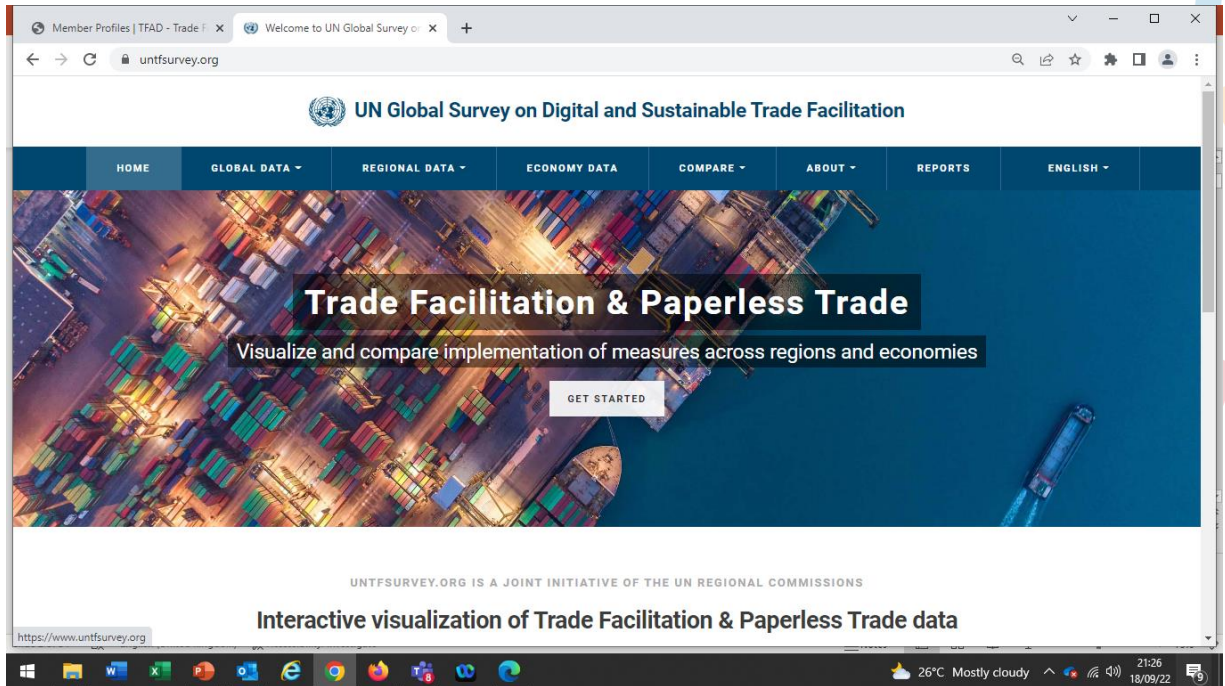
ESCAP

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



UN TF Survey?

→ A comprehensive + forward looking snapshot of TF implementation



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UN TF Survey Scope

50+ trade facilitation (TF) measures

140+ countries

1
WTO TFA-related measures

+

2
Digital TF: paperless trade &
cross-border paperless trade

+

3
Sustainable TF: for SMEs, for
Agriculture, for women, trade finance

+

4
**Trade facilitation during crisis
and pandemic**



Examples of TF measures covered

WTO TFA-related:

- publication of trade regulations procedures (transparency)

Digital TF:

- Paperless trade → electronic submission of customs declaration
- Cross-Border Paperless Trade → electronic exchange of Certificate of Origin

Sustainable TF:

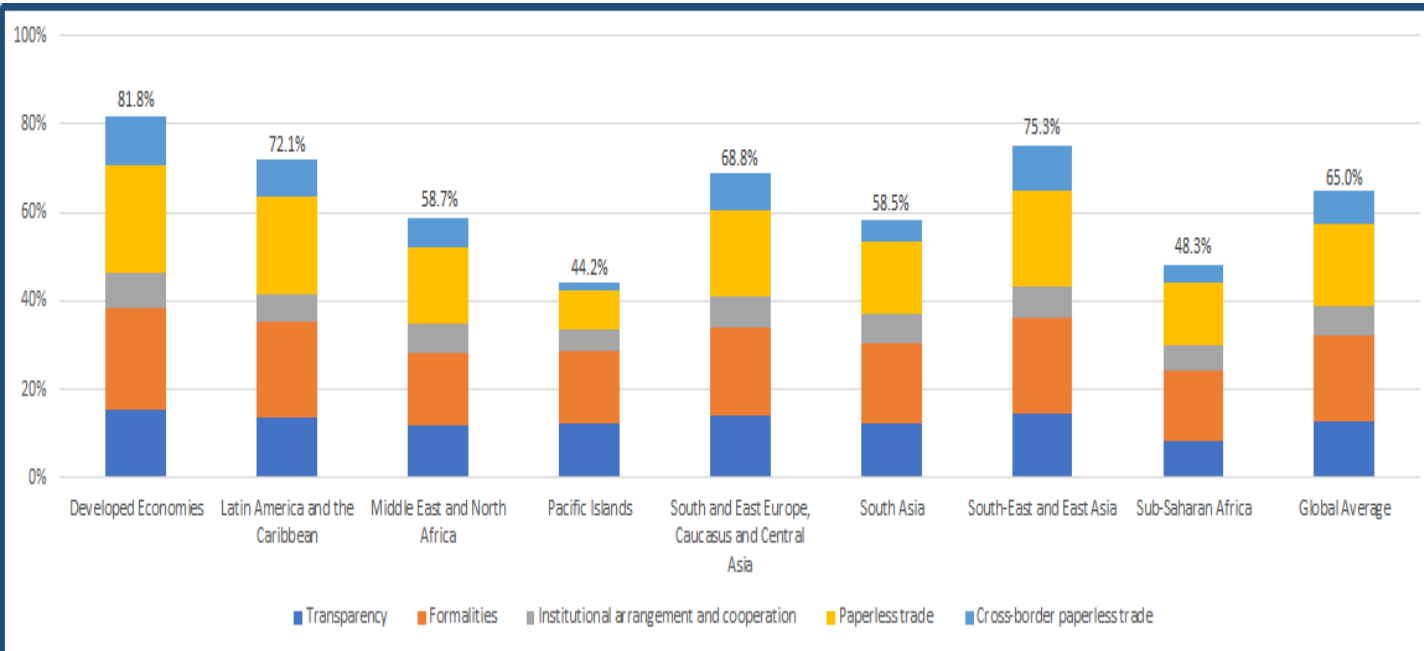
- SMEs represented in the National Trade Facilitation Committee



Implementation of Trade Facilitation

Global average stands 65%

Southeast and East Asia leading developing countries



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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.

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Implementation of Trade Facilitation in Asia-Pacific



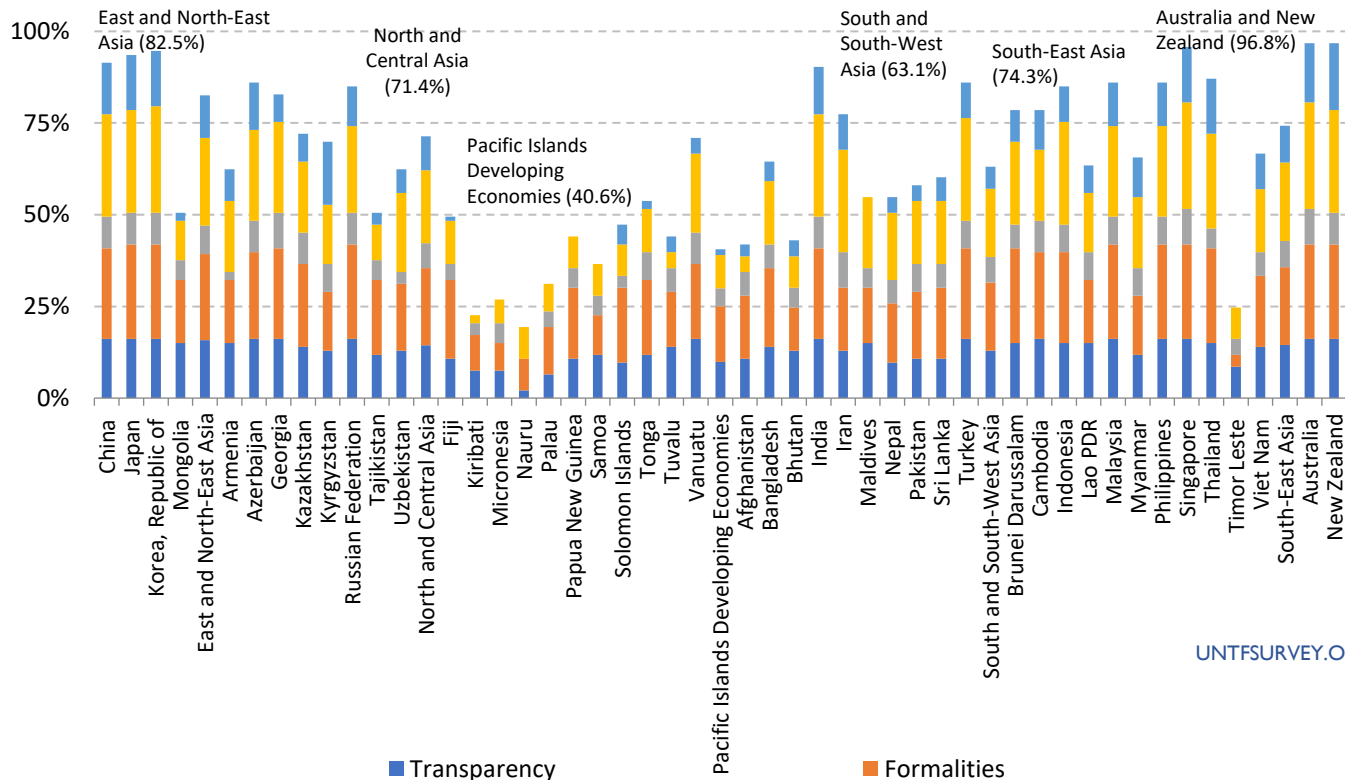
6% increase since 2019 (consistent with global trend)



7 or 13 countries who achieved >90% implementation rate are from Asia-Pacific:

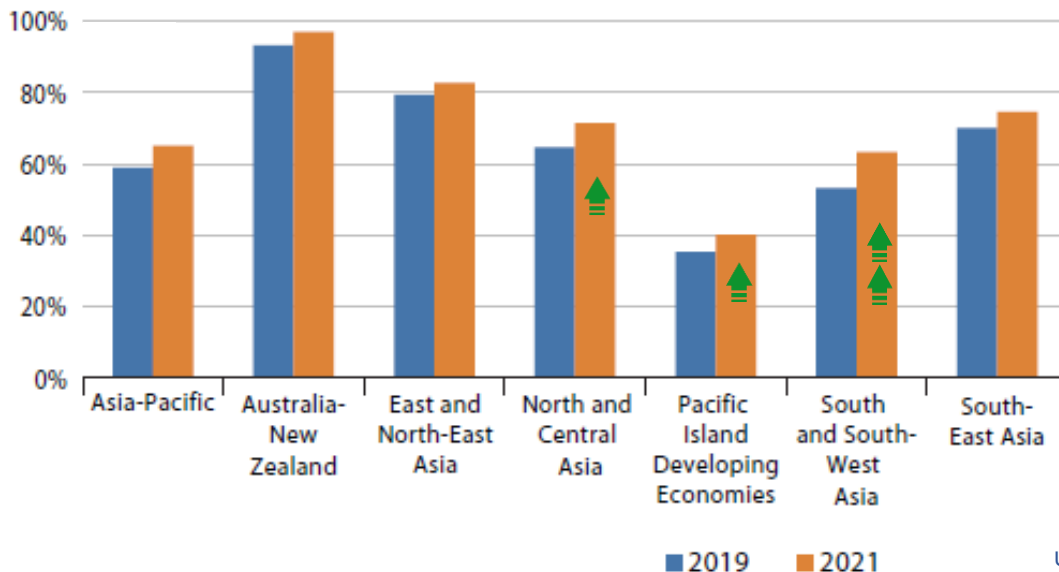


Implementation varies widely across countries and subregions



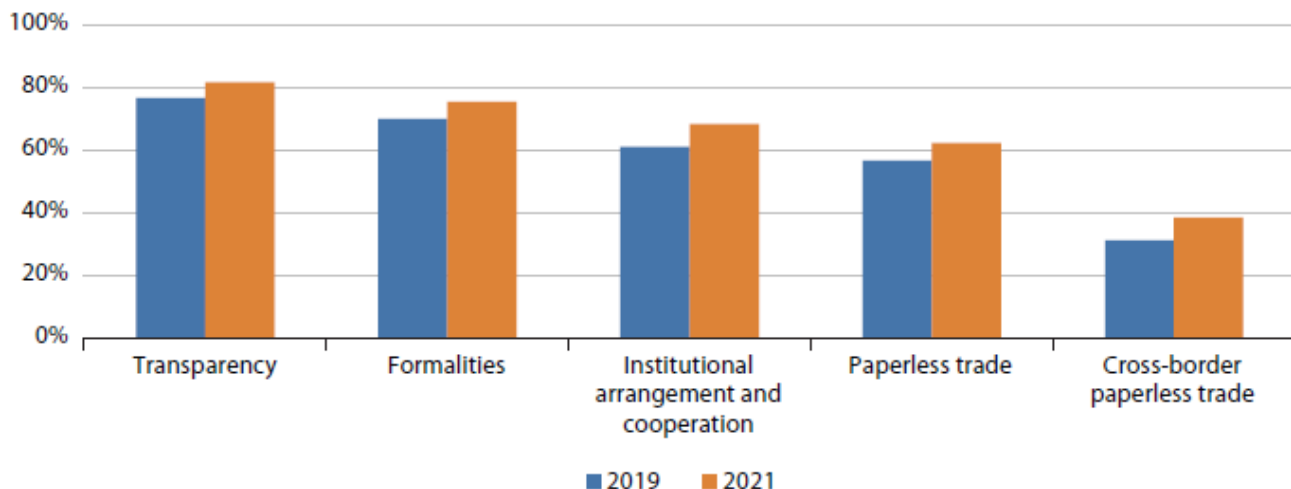
Implementation accelerated in all subregions

Trade facilitation implementation by subregions in Asia and the Pacific, 2019 and 2021

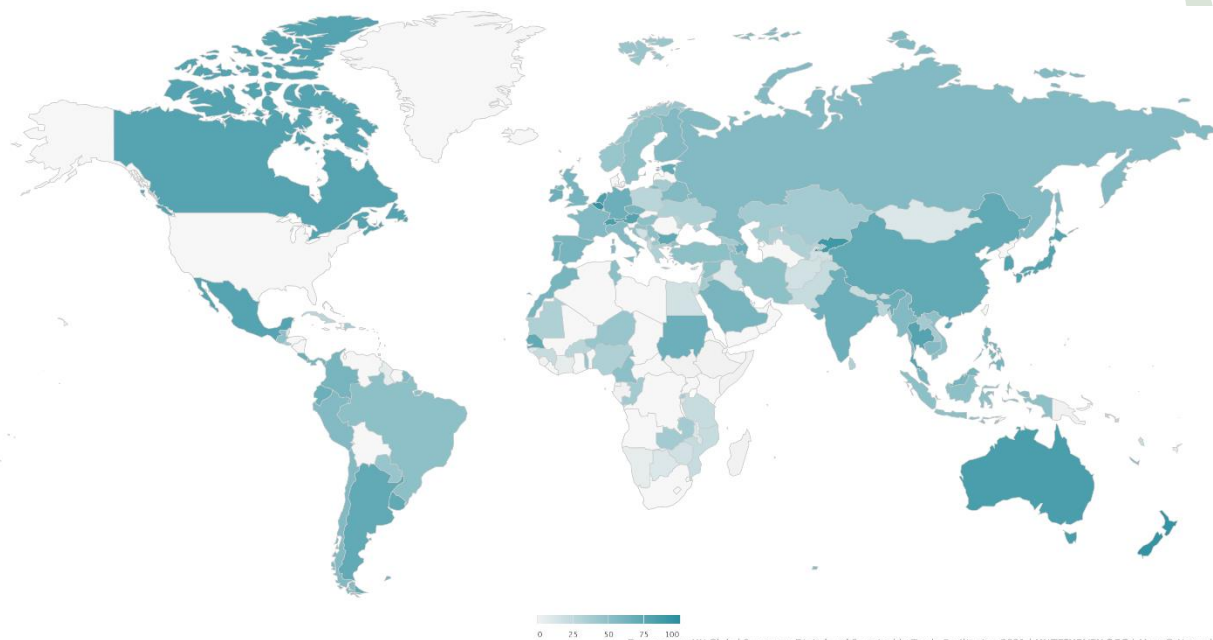


Implementation of cross-border paperless trade is still a challenge despite most progress made

Implementation of different groups of trade facilitation measures in Asia-Pacific, 2019 and 2021



Implementation of cross-border paperless trade measures (2021)

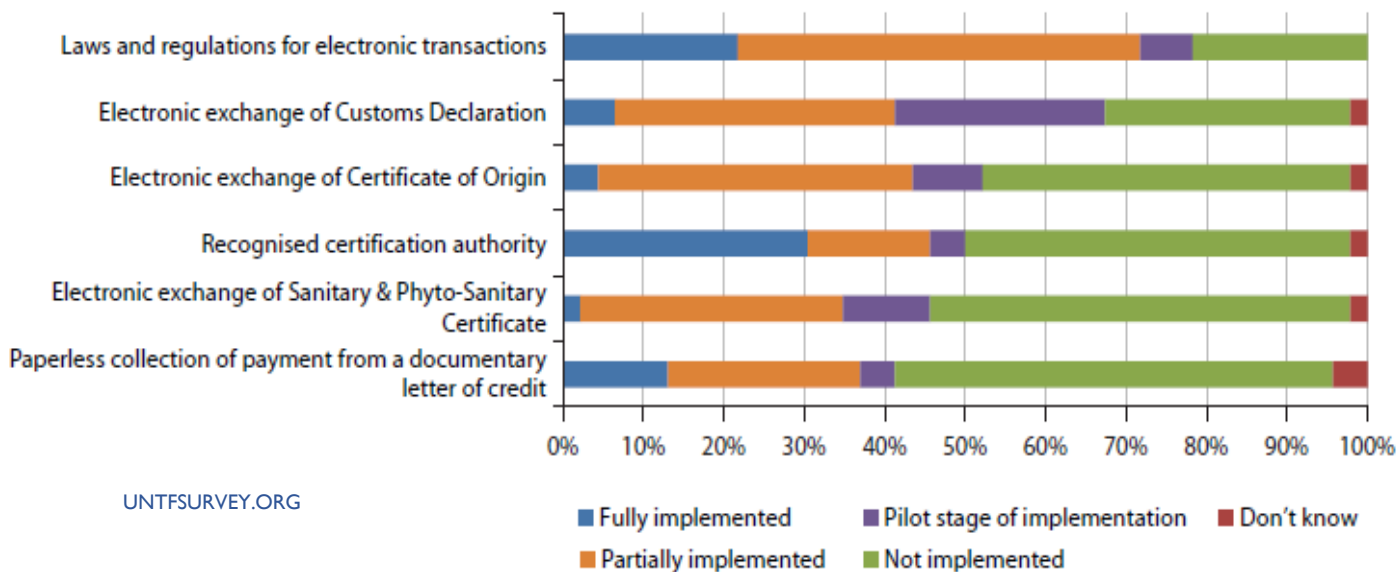


Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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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 TF and paperless trade (%)

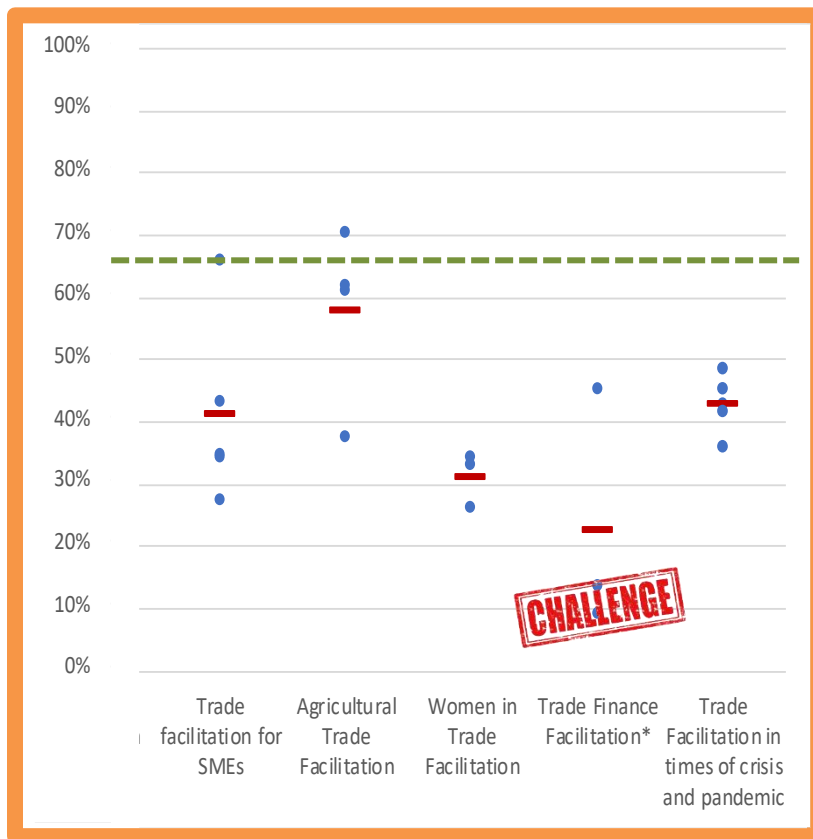


Asia-Pacific: Trade costs model	WTO TFA (binding only)		WTO TFA (binding + non-binding)		WTO TFA + (binding + non-binding + other paperless and cross-border paperless trade)	
	Partially implemented	Fully implemented	Partially implemented	Fully implemented	Partially implemented	Fully implemented
Model 1						
Overall trade facilitation	-1.74	-4.11	-2.81	-6.64	-7.65	-13.40
Model 2						
General trade facilitation measures	-0.56	-1.36	-0.73	-1.91	-0.92	-2.18
Digital trade facilitation measures			-1.56	-2.80	-8.78	-13.09

Source: ADB/ESCAP, 2021, Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Report 2021.

Implementation of “Sustainable and Resilient TF measures”

Implementation of TF
measures for special
and disadvantaged
groups (SME & Women)
remains low



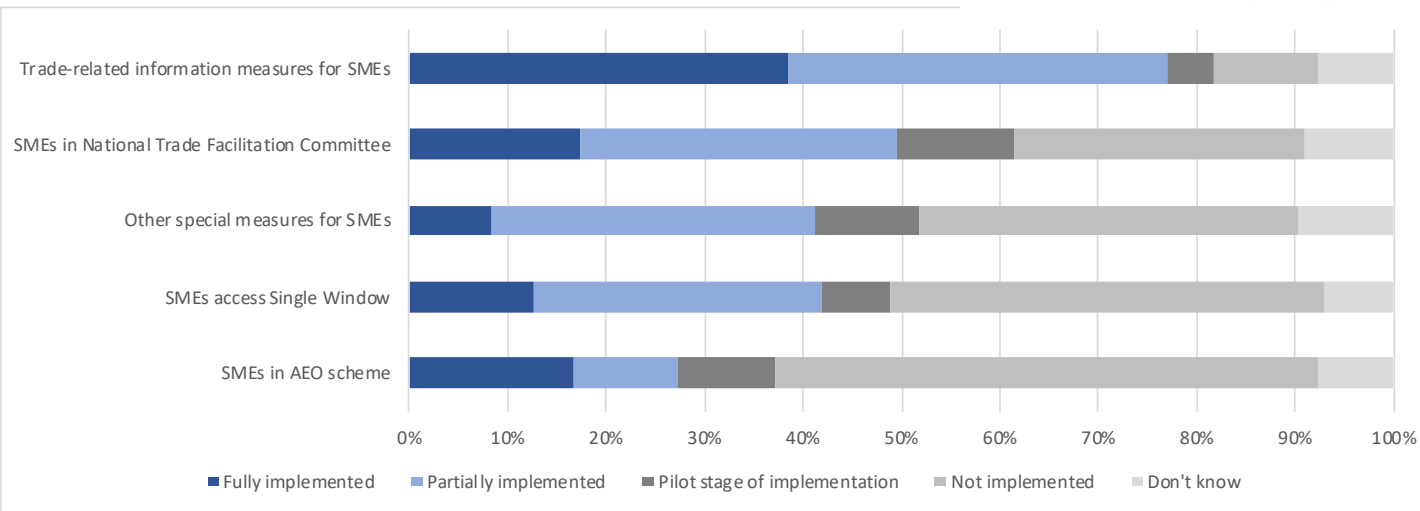
Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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Trade facilitation for SMEs

Measures that specifically target SMEs to overcome the challenges they face in trade such as facilities for SMEs access to Single Window and SMEs access to AEO scheme are carried out on a limited basis.



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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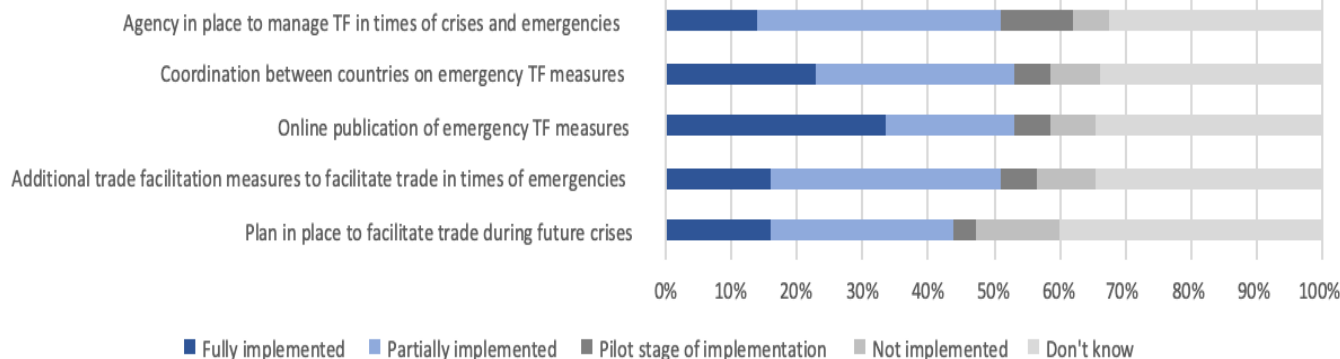


Resilient TF measures: TF in times of crisis

Work is needed on making trade procedures more resilient:

Only 14% of countries have established or clearly assigned an agency to manage TF in times of emergencies and

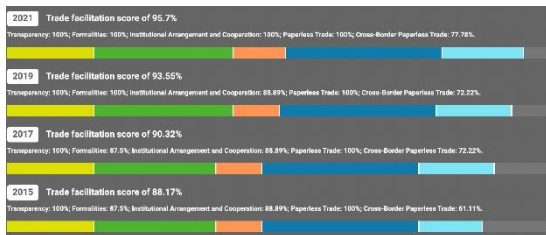
Only 16% of countries have confirmed long term preparedness for future crises.



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

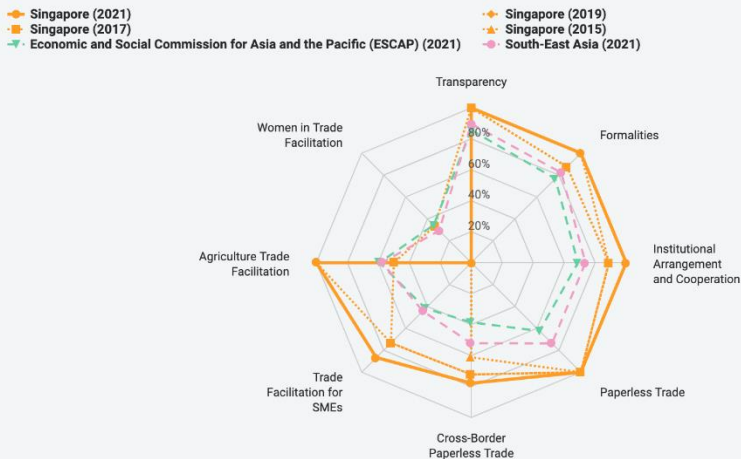
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(Take a deeper look at economy data at untfsurvey.org)



22	Electronic application and issuance of Preferential Certificate of Origin	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented
23	E-Payment of Customs Duties and Fees	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented
24	Electronic Application for Customs Refunds	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented
25	Laws and regulations for electronic transactions	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented
26	Recognised certification authority	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented	Fully implemented
27	Electronic exchange of Customs Declaration*	Planning stage	Planning stage	Planning stage	Partially implemented
28	Electronic exchange of Certificate of Origin	Planning stage	Partially implemented	Partially implemented	Partially implemented

Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation



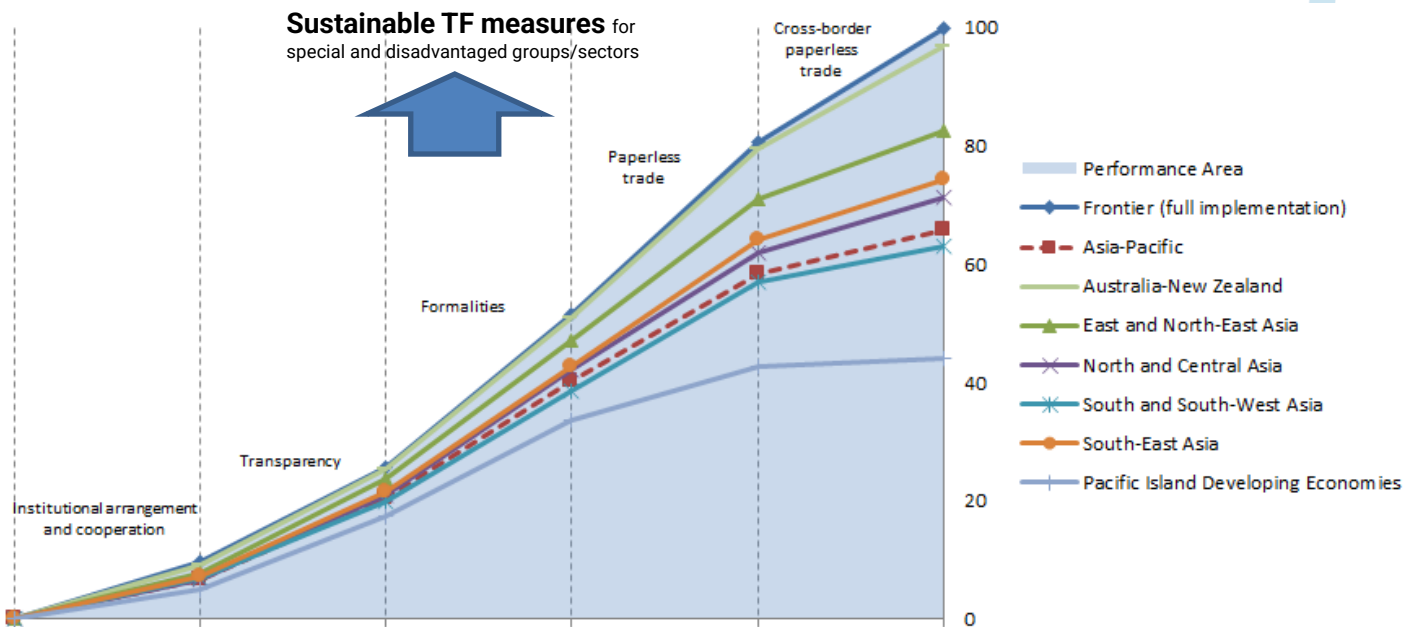
Questions

Based on the UN TF Survey data:

- What was the implementation rate of your country in 2015? and in 2021?
- Is your paperless trade implementation above or below regional average?
- What are the most/least implemented paperless trade + cross-border paperless trade measures in your country?



Moving up the trade facilitation ladder towards seamless international supply chains



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)
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Summary

- Progress made in TF implementation despite supply chain interruption caused by COVID-19
- Implementation of **cross-border paperless trade** still very challenging
- TF, **paperless** and “**contactless**” trade measures in **particular**, are essential to ensure access to essential goods and to accelerate post-pandemic recovery
- More efforts needed to implement TF measures for special and disadvantaged groups (SMEs, Women...)
- All Asian countries should join the UN treaty on CB paperless trade facilitation (CPTA)!



Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA)

❑ A UN Treaty: enabling and action-oriented

- ✓ Open to interested (53) ESCAP member states (voluntary) to become parties

❑ Objective

- ✓ To facilitate cross-border paperless trade (data exchange) among willing ESCAP member states by providing a dedicated intergovernmental framework to develop legal and technical solutions
- ✓ Complementary to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) as well as (sub)regional efforts



**3 new countries
acceded in 2022 so
far:**

- Timor-Leste
- Turkmenistan
- Mongolia

<https://www.unescap.org/kp/cpta>



ESCAP Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDzcLwBzU3s&t=37s>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPXQlr8RHU&t=102s>

Supporting Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

- ❑ United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade and Transport in Asia and the Pacific (UNNExT)

- ❑ **NEW** Cross-border Paperless Trade database

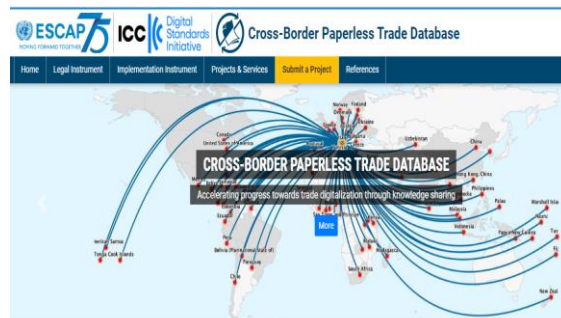
www.digitalizetrade.org

- ❑ Legal and Technical Readiness Assessment for Cross-Border Paperless Trade

readiness.digitalizetrade.org

- ❑ Paperless Trade and Environment Research

- ❑ Paperless trade implementation in AP = planting 400+ million trees
- ❑ Climate-smart Business Process Analysis



Cross-Border Paperless Trade Database



What is it? A repository of CB paperless trade projects, initiatives, services

- B2B - G2G - C2C - B2G

As of 1 Sep. 2022:

Projects in the database: 59

- Information exchanges 150+
- Countries involved 90 +

Projects being added: 16

Submit your projects:

<https://www.digitalizetrade.org/projects>

Legal checklist for CB Paperless Trade Assessment

I. ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS AND SIGNATURES LAW



- A General principles
- B Electronic signatures and trust services
- C Privacy and data protection
- D Data sharing
- E Data retention and electronic evidence

III. CROSS-BORDER ASPECTS



- A International agreements relevant for cross-border paperless trade facilitation
- B International standards, guidelines and recommendations

II. LAWS REGARDING PAPERLESS TRADE SYSTEMS



- A Establishment of a paperless trade system
- B Quality of information exchanged with the paperless trade system
- C Service-level agreements and memorandums of understanding

IV. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS



- A Ownership of information in the paperless trade system
- B Liability issues related to cross-border paperless trade system
- C Dispute settlement and conflict of laws
- D Electronic payments and records
- E Competition laws

Technical checklist for CB Paperless Trade Assessment

A - PAPERLESS TRADE SYSTEM AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

-  A1 Governance bodies
-  A2 Level of automation
-  A3 ICT Infrastructure for Paperless Trade
-  A4 Security
-  A5 Business process re-engineering
-  A6 Data harmonization and standardization
-  A7 Capacity building
-  A8 Other Matters

B - NATIONAL STATUS TOWARDS CROSS-BORDER DATA EXCHANGE

-  B1 Electronic systems
-  B2 Single Window System
-  B3 Business process re-engineering
-  B4 Data harmonization and standardization
-  B5 International transit
-  B6 Awareness programme
-  B7 Other matters



READINESS ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR **CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE**

Facilitating self-assessments of legal and technical readiness on cross-border
paperless trade



DOWNLOAD
THE CHECKLISTS



PLAN
THE ASSESSMENT



FOLLOW
THE GUIDES



TAKE
QUICK ASSESSMENT

<https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/>



Navigating

Top
Men



Technical Guide

On this page:

B2.1 Support of cross-border data exchange

B2.2 Function as the national single window

[Home » Guide to Technical Readiness Checklist](#)

B2 SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM

Open All

B2.1 If a single window mentioned in A2.2 has been implemented, does it support cross-border data exchange?

Background

A single window system is meant to connect systems of the stakeholders in the country via a single point of connectivity providing more efficient integration/interfacing. Likewise, a national single window is also meant to support cross-border data exchange. It acts as the national single point of connectivity which will ease integration/interfacing for cross-border data exchange with dialogue partners.

Good Practices

The single window system normally acts as the national single point of connectivity with all public and private stakeholders within the countries and also with dialogue partners. With the single point of connectivity, it eases integration and interfacing for cross-border data exchange. The country needs to engage with dialogue partners to discuss and agree on potential mutual benefits and challenges of cross-border electronic data exchange along value chains, namely information exchange between single windows. The challenges also focus on interoperability and suitable models between single windows to exchange and use information, in secure manner agreeing to a mutual recognition protocol, across borders without additional effort on the part of the users.

References and Case Studies

- Cross-border single window interoperability: a managerial guide (particularly on Chapter 4: D. Connectivity), <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/CROSS-BORDER%20SINGLE%20WINDOW%20INTEROPERABILITY.pdf>
- UNECE Recommendation NO. 36: Single Window Interoperability, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/Publications/ECE-TRADE-431E_Rec36.pdf
- Case Example: ASEAN Single Window Architecture, <https://asw.asean.org/index.php/faq>,

Explanatory
notes, good
practices and
references for
each question

HOME

GLOBAL DATA ▾

REGIONAL DATA ▾

ECONOMY DATA

COMPARE ▾

ABOUT

REPORTS

Trade Facilitation & Paperless Trade

Visualize & compare implementation of measures across regions and economies

GET STARTED

UNTFSURVEY.ORG IS A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Interactive visualization of Trade Facilitation & Paperless Trade data

Thank you!



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ANNEXES



A Three-step Approach for Data Collection



Step 1

Open data collection

Experts and other interested parties invited to fill the questionnaire or update the pre-filled questionnaire

Step 2

Cross-checking and verification

UNRCs internally verified the data by cross-checking answers from the experts, desk research, further interviews with respondents and informants.

Step 3

Final validation by countries

UNRCs sent the preliminary results to countries for final validation.

Key outcome of step 2:

A set of national dataset for each country surveyed



Trade Facilitation Implementation in Countries with Special Needs (LDCs, LLDCs, SIDSs)

Significantly lower than global implementation rate (65%)

LDCs

49%



LLDCs

57%



SIDSs

52%



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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2. ESCAP Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA): *Alignment of ASEAN with CPTA*

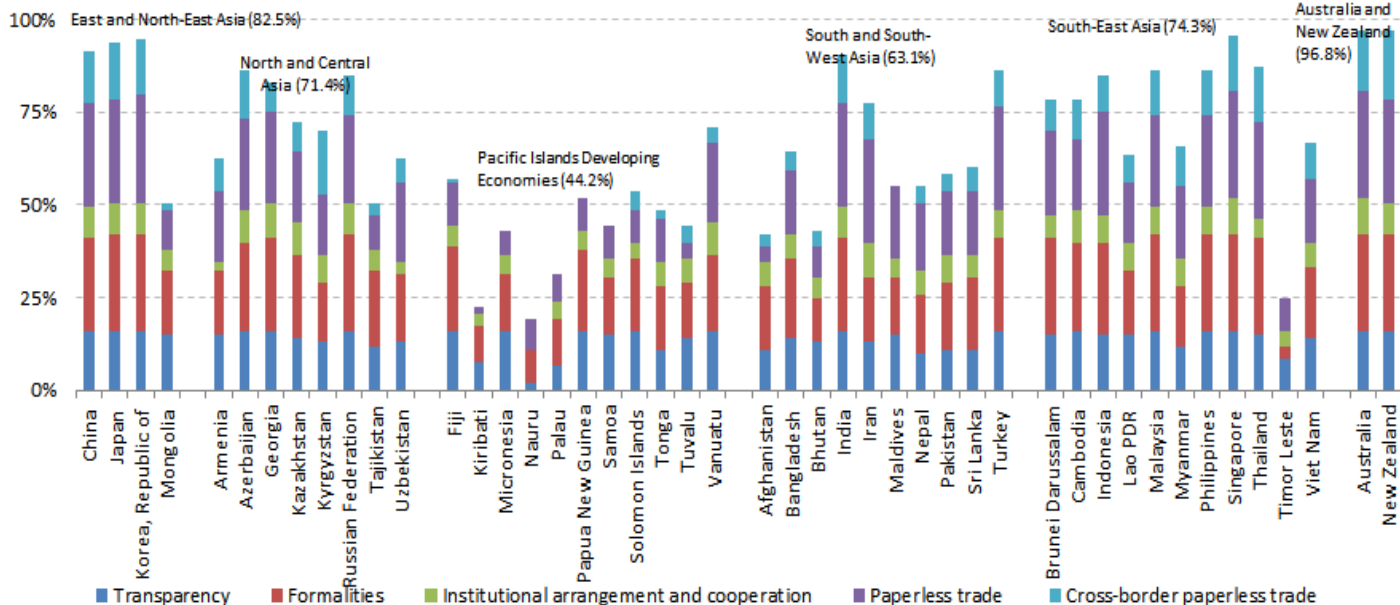
– Why should all ASEAN countries accede now?

- Easiest way to achieve ASEAN alignment with CPTA - as approved in the ASEAN Work Plan for Implementation of ASEAN E-Commerce Agreement – is to joint it
- Clear proof of political will and long-term commitment for trade digitalization
 - CPTA provisions are flexible and inclusive, allowing countries at all levels of development to participate and set their own action plan
- Effective implementation of trade facilitation and “paperless trading” commitments in RCEP and other RTAs
- Promote adoption by other countries of paperless solutions already developed by ASEAN (or individual AMS)
- Establish ASEAN as a global trade digitalization hub

– Promoting connectivity between ASEAN MS and non-ASEAN countries

- The CPTA provides an intergovernmental platform for ASEAN MS to easily engage with non-ASEAN countries
 - CPTA has dedicated provisions for initiating cross-border electronic data exchange, such as pilot projects.
- ESCAP can support feasibility and scoping study for electronic exchange between AMS and Non-ASEAN countries

Implementation of Trade Facilitation in Asia-Pacific (46 countries)



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

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Least Implemented TF Measures across Groups of Measures

Category	Least Implemented Measures
Transparency	Advance ruling on tariff classification and origin of imported goods
Formalities	Establishment and publication of average release times
Institutional arrangement and cooperation	Government agencies delegating border controls to Customs authorities
Paperless trade	Electronic Application for Customs Refunds
Cross-border paperless trade	Paperless collection of payment from a documentary letter of credit
Transit facilitation	Transit facilitation agreement(s)
Trade facilitation in SME policy framework	SMEs in AEO scheme
Trade facilitation and agriculture trade	Electronic application and issuance of SPS certificates
Women in trade facilitation	Trade facilitation policy/strategy incorporates special consideration of female traders
Trade finance facilitation	Single window facilitates traders access to finance
Trade Facilitation in times of crisis and pandemic	Plan in place to facilitate trade during future crises



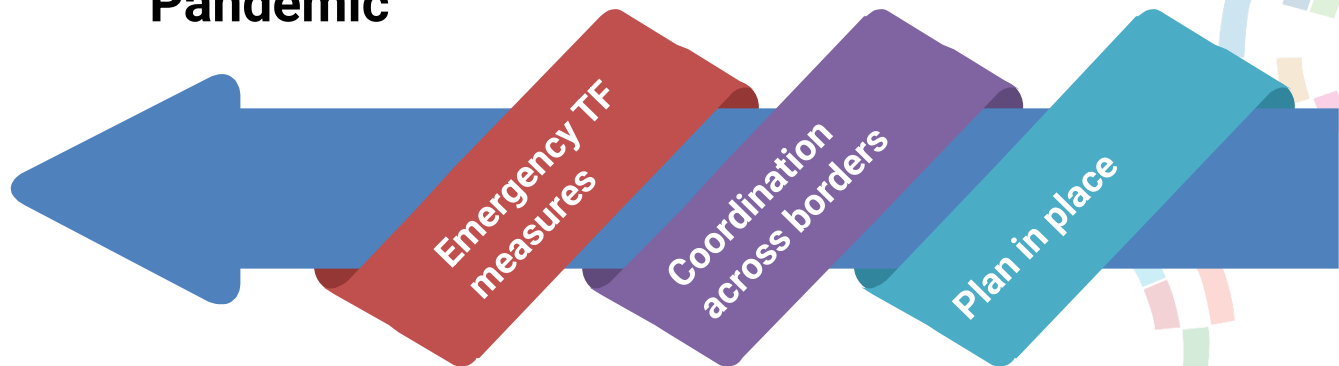
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Good Practices – TF in Times of Crisis and Pandemic



01

PHILIPPINES enacted “Clearance of Relief Consignment Entered During State of Calamity” and “Interim Procedures on Provisional Good Declaration” to support expedited clearance during pandemic.

02

INDONESIA: To facilitate international trade during pandemic, Indonesia intend to receive the electronic SPS certificate from all countries and requested for a country to officially inform Indonesia about the implementation of digital documents, supported with access to certificate validation.

03

CHINA Customs has introduced “List of TF measures” during COVID-19 to ensure SOP of TF across Customs Houses in China.





Good Practices – Cross-border paperless trade

EXCHANGE Customs Declaration

By March 2021, Cambodia, Myanmar, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand have started exchanging the ASEAN Customs Declaration Document (ACDD) to support Customs in the importing country to carry out their risk management.



EXCHANGE E-C/O

In December 2019, all ASEAN Members joined the ASW Live Operation which allowed the granting of preferential tariff treatment based on the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement electronic Certificate of Origin (ATIGA e-Form D) exchanged through the ASW.

EXCHANGE E-SPS

ASEAN Member States are working to expand the ASW to support the exchange of electronic Sanitary and Phytosanitary (e-SPS) Certificates. The exchange of e-Phyto Certificate are being tested between Indonesia and Viet Nam.

[UNTFSURVEY.ORG](https://untfsurvey.org)



Good Practices – Trade Facilitation for SMEs

Measures targeting SMEs

INDONESIA DG on Customs and Excise Regulation No. 05/2018 mandates that Customs Authority should be able to identify Import Declaration of SME importers. Customs Authority should facilitate easy procedure and access for SMEs.

SMEs benefit from AEO

REPUBLIC OF KOREA offers expedited AEO authorization examinations to SMEs through multiple procedural preferential provisions, including a “priority audit”. Consultation fees are provided to firms that show lack of personnel and financial resources.

Single Window accessible to SMEs

SINGAPORE established a document Service Center that helps SMEs to access single window more easily. The centers submit documents on behalf of SMEs.

Reduce costs for SMEs

REPUBLIC OF KOREA's International Trade Association has established Rate Discount & Consulting Service (RADIS). It provides logistics support service in conjunction with 22 logistics firms in order to assist SMEs by reducing logistics costs and providing consulting.





Good Practices – Women in Trade Facilitation



TRADE FACILITATION POLICY/STRATEGY INCORPORATES SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OF WOMEN

INDIA National Trade Facilitation Action Plan 2020-2023 Promotes gender inclusiveness in trade: - Conceptualize and develop a “Women in Global Business Program” aimed at capacity building and connectivity; -Provide information and resources monitoring program.



MEASURES TO BENEFIT WOMEN INVOLVED IN TRADE

AUSTRALIA promotes gender diversity in trades. The Tradeswomen Australia Community Foundation supports programs such as “Building Futures: Pathways to Trades” to secure rewarding trade career paths for women in trade.



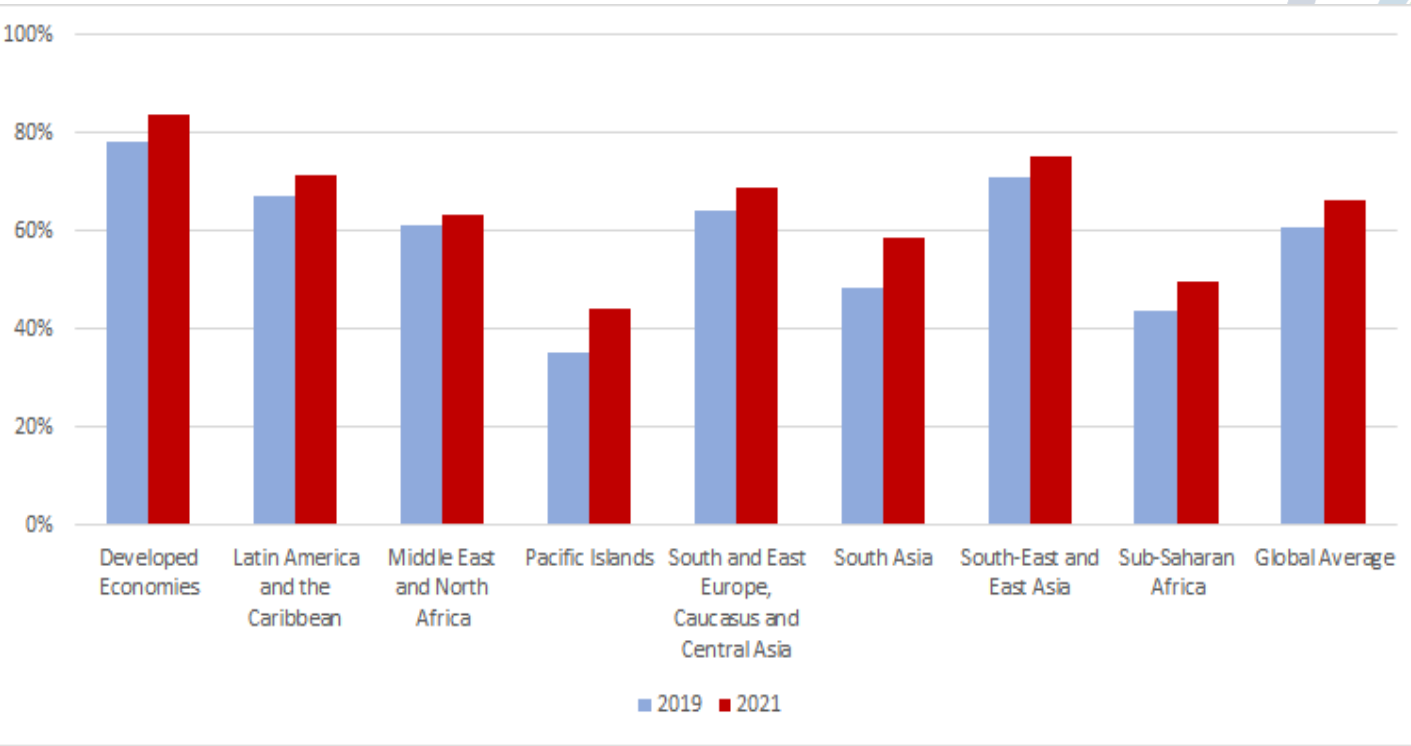
FEMALE MEMBERSHIP IN NTFC

KIRIBATI: National Women’s Organisation namely Aia Mwaea Ainen has representation in the NTFC.



Annex : Progress of Global Implementation

(by region)



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)
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.

Most Implemented TF Measures in Different Groups of Measures

Category	Most Implemented Measures
Transparency	Stakeholders' consultation on new draft regulations (prior to their finalization)
Formalities	Risk management
Institutional arrangement and cooperation	National Trade Facilitation Committee or similar body
Paperless trade	Automated Customs System
Cross-border paperless trade	Laws and regulations for electronic transactions
Transit facilitation	Customs Authorities limit the physical inspections of transit goods and use risk assessment
Trade facilitation in SME policy framework	Trade-related information measures for SMEs
Trade facilitation and agriculture trade	Special treatment for perishable goods
Women in trade facilitation	Female membership in the National Trade Facilitation Committee
Trade finance facilitation	Variety of trade finance services available
Trade Facilitation in times of crisis and pandemic	An agency available to manage TF measures in times of crises and emergencies

Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2021)

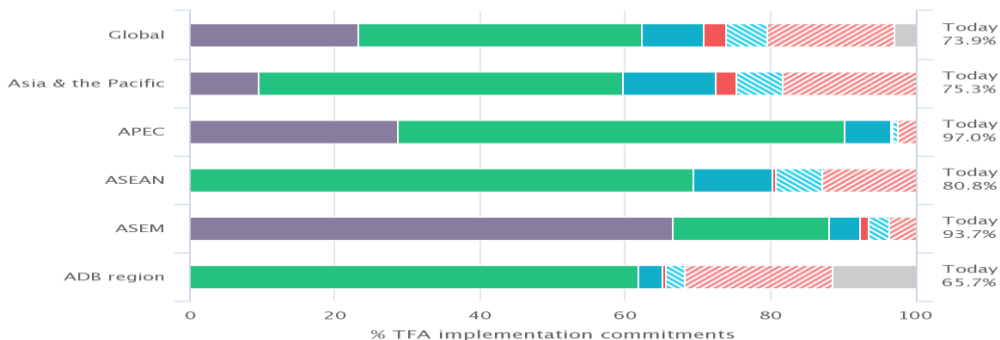
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WTO Trade Facilitation Implementation (TFA) Progress

Progress on implementation commitments

Trade Facilitation Agreement



- Developed members
- Cat. A commitments for implementation to date
- Cat. B commitments for implementation to date
- Cat. C commitments for implementation to date
- Cat. B commitments for future implementation
- Cat. C commitments for future implementation
- Unknown

TFAD (Trade Facilitation Agreement Database) www.tfadatabase.org

What is your
country's
implementation rate ?

<https://tfadatabase.org/members>