

# Survey of the implementation of Trade Facilitation & Paperless Trade implementation in the ESCWA region 2017

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



UNITED NATIONS

الأمم المتحدة

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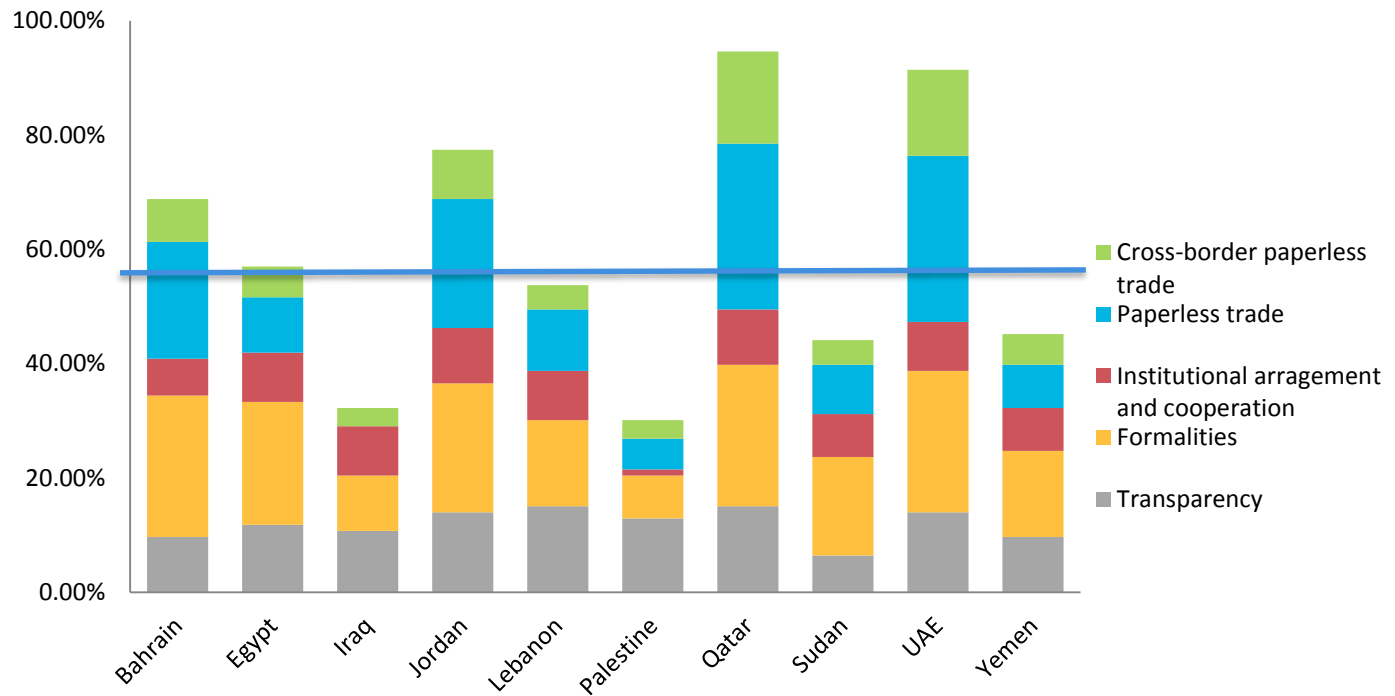
**UNRCs TF side event on WTO TFA  
11<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial, Buenos Aires  
9 December 2017**

## Trade facilitation is important for the region

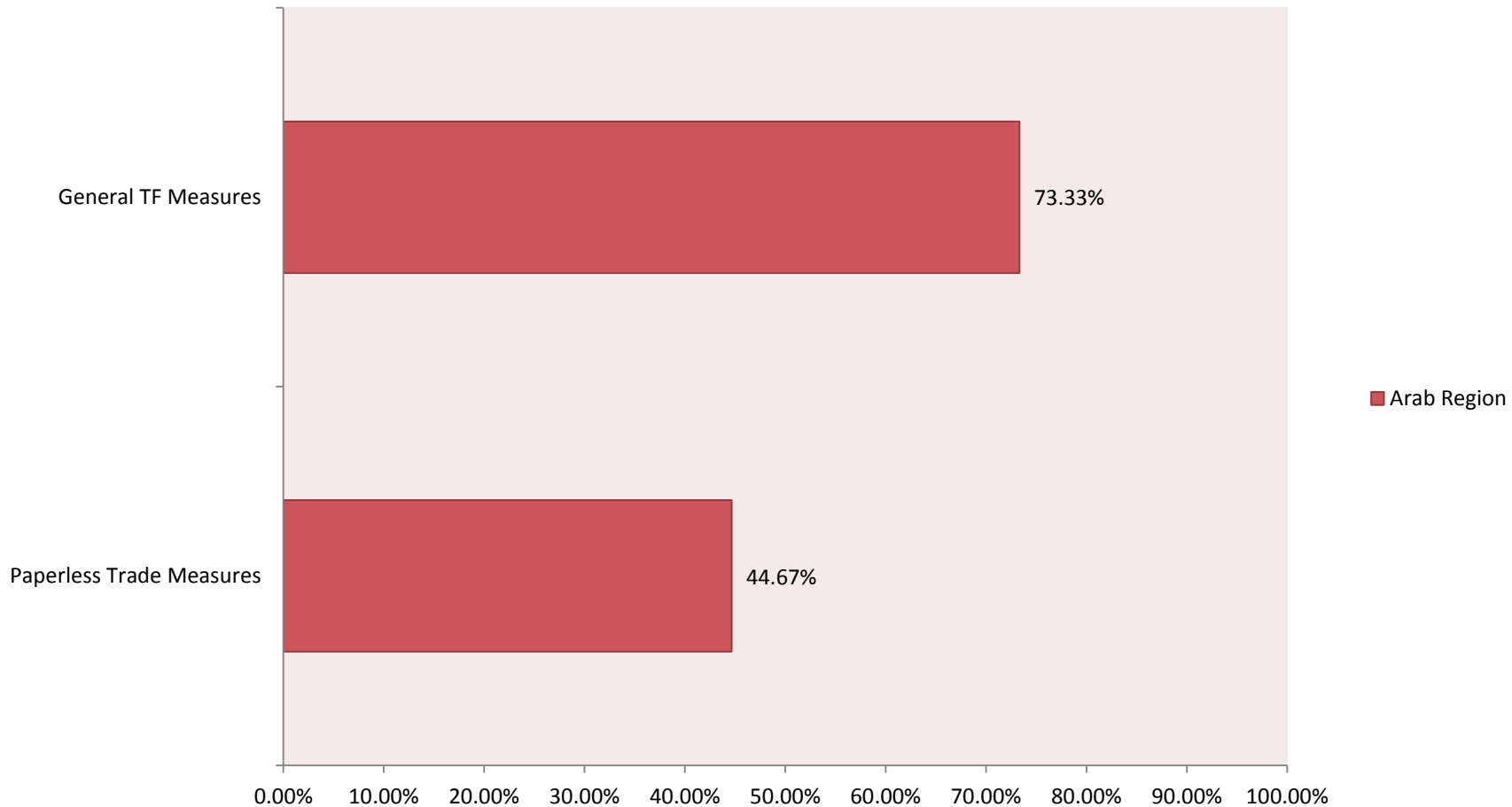
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- ✓ The region's share of international trade is 4.3%.
- ✓ Intra regional trade is around 10% compared with 24% in ASEAN, 64% in EU.
- ✓ Sub-regional trade is also very low ( GCC, AMU, Aghadir).
- ✓ Arab export is 50% below its potential (WB).
- ✓ High trade costs despite cheap oil, cheap labor, etc.
- ✓ High logistics costs compared to transport costs.

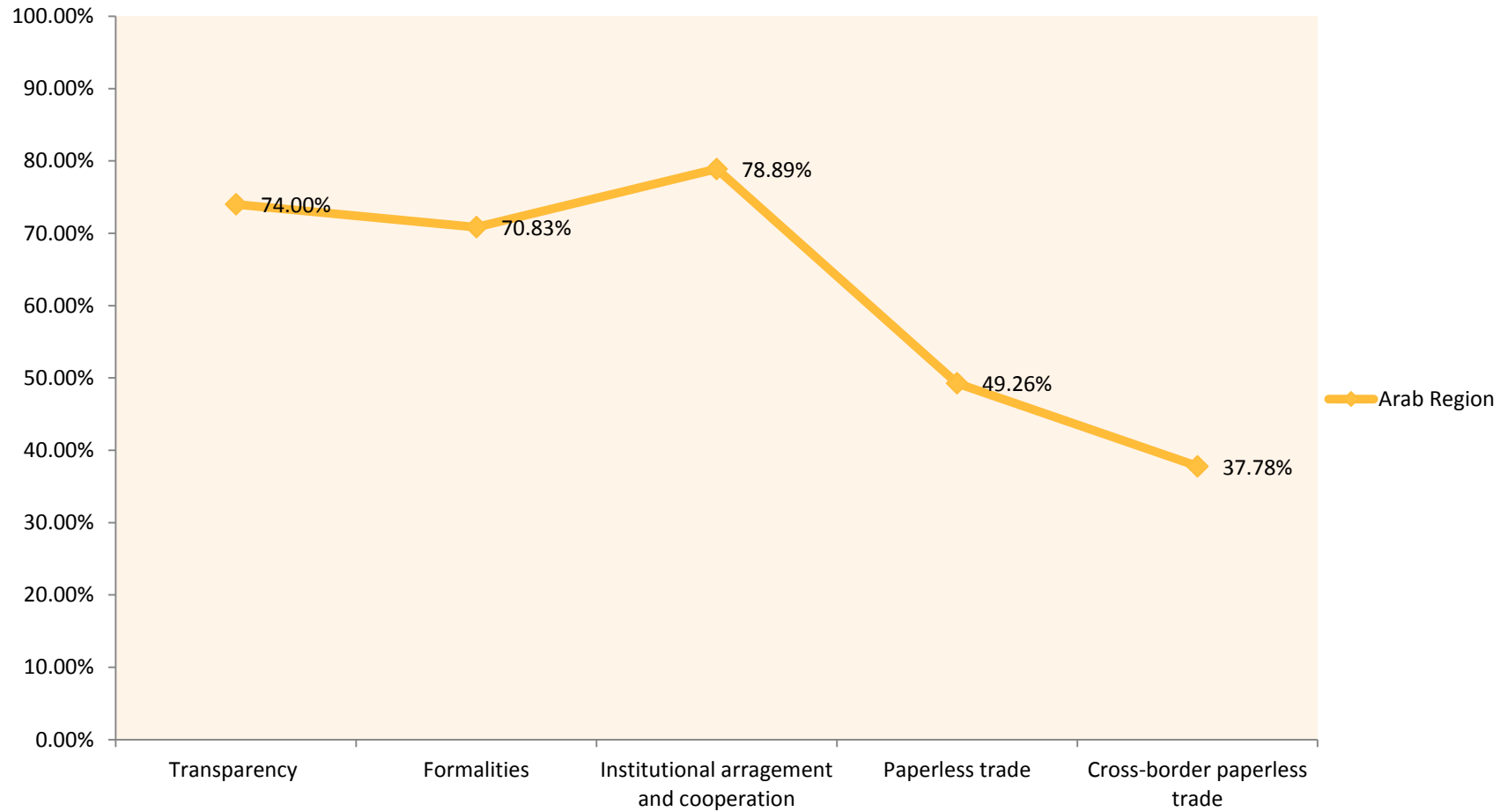
## 57% overall implementation rate of TF and paperless trade in the region ( 48% in 2015)



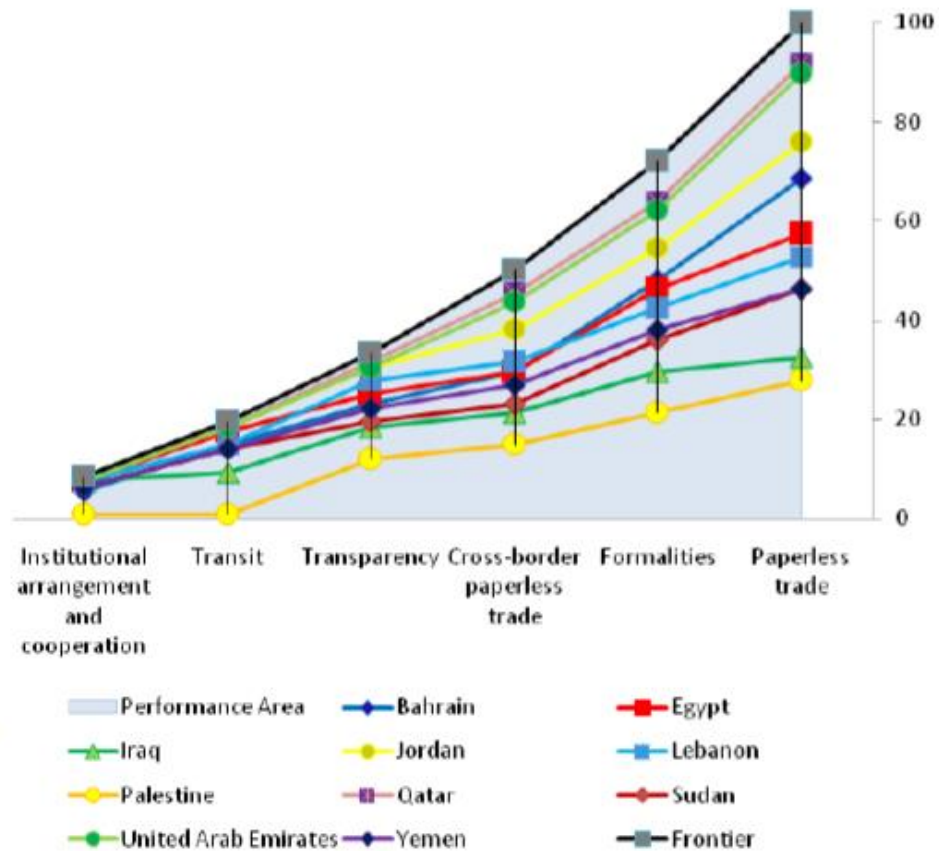
## Implementation of the General TF vs Paperless Trade measures



# Most and least implemented measure in the ESCWA region



## Moving up the trade facilitation ladder towards seamless international supply chains in the ESCWA region



# Conclusion

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- ✓ Good progress in TF implementation and paperless trade.
- ✓ Important to implement beyond cross border measures.
- ✓ Regional coordination mechanisms to improve regional performance.
- ✓ More investment on infrastructure efficiency to enhance competitiveness.

# Thank you

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