



OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators: A Guide to Implementation and Future Action

Future Research Agenda for Trade Facilitation and Inclusive Growth
Beijing, 12 September 2013



OECD TFIs

- What is the Impact of TF Measures on Trade Flows and Trade Costs ?
- Following the structure of the Draft Consolidated Negotiating Text
- Aiming to provide a basis for prioritising trade facilitation actions by governments
- Helping mobilise technical assistance by donors in a targeted way



TFIs structure

Import/export TFIs	Transit TFIs
a. Information availability	m. Transit fees and charges
b. Involvement of the trade community	n. Transit formalities
c. Advance rulings	o. Transit guarantees
d. Appeal procedures	p. Transit agreements and cooperation
e. Fees and charges	
f. Formalities - Documents	
g. Formalities - Automation	
h. Formalities - Procedures	
i. Border agency cooperation - internal	
j. Border agency cooperation - external	
k. Consularization	
l. Governance and impartiality	



Extensive coverage

- 26 OECD and 107 countries outside the OECD area, at different stages of development
- Extensive data collection process: Customs websites and regulation, publicly available databases, collaboration with countries' Permanent Delegations to the WTO
- Focus on country groups: income groups, geographic groups, regional economic partnerships groups



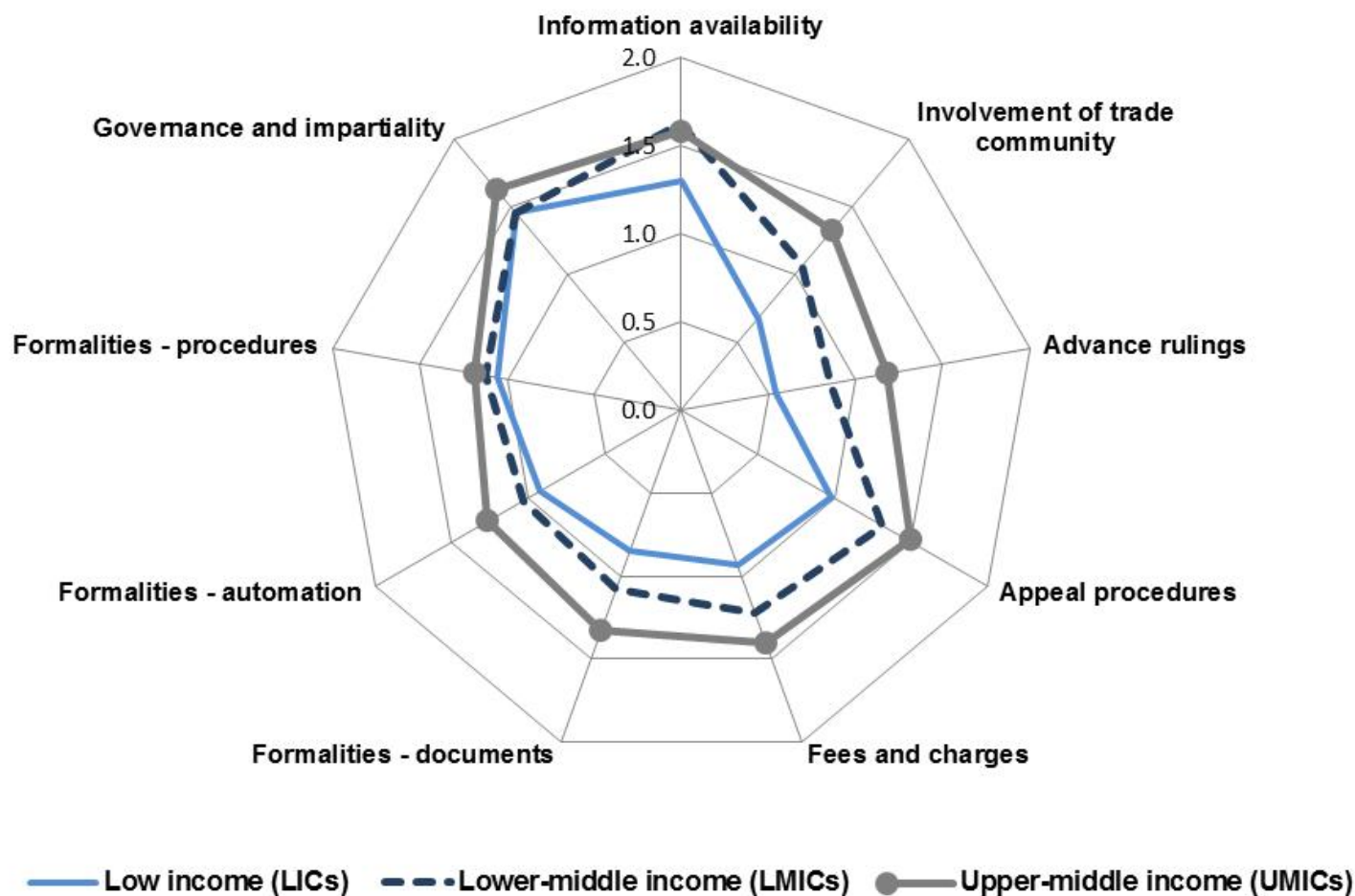
Regions and countries: state of implementation

The trade facilitation indicators are a **tool** that allows exploring the importance of trade facilitation performance across different:

- **regions**
- **countries**

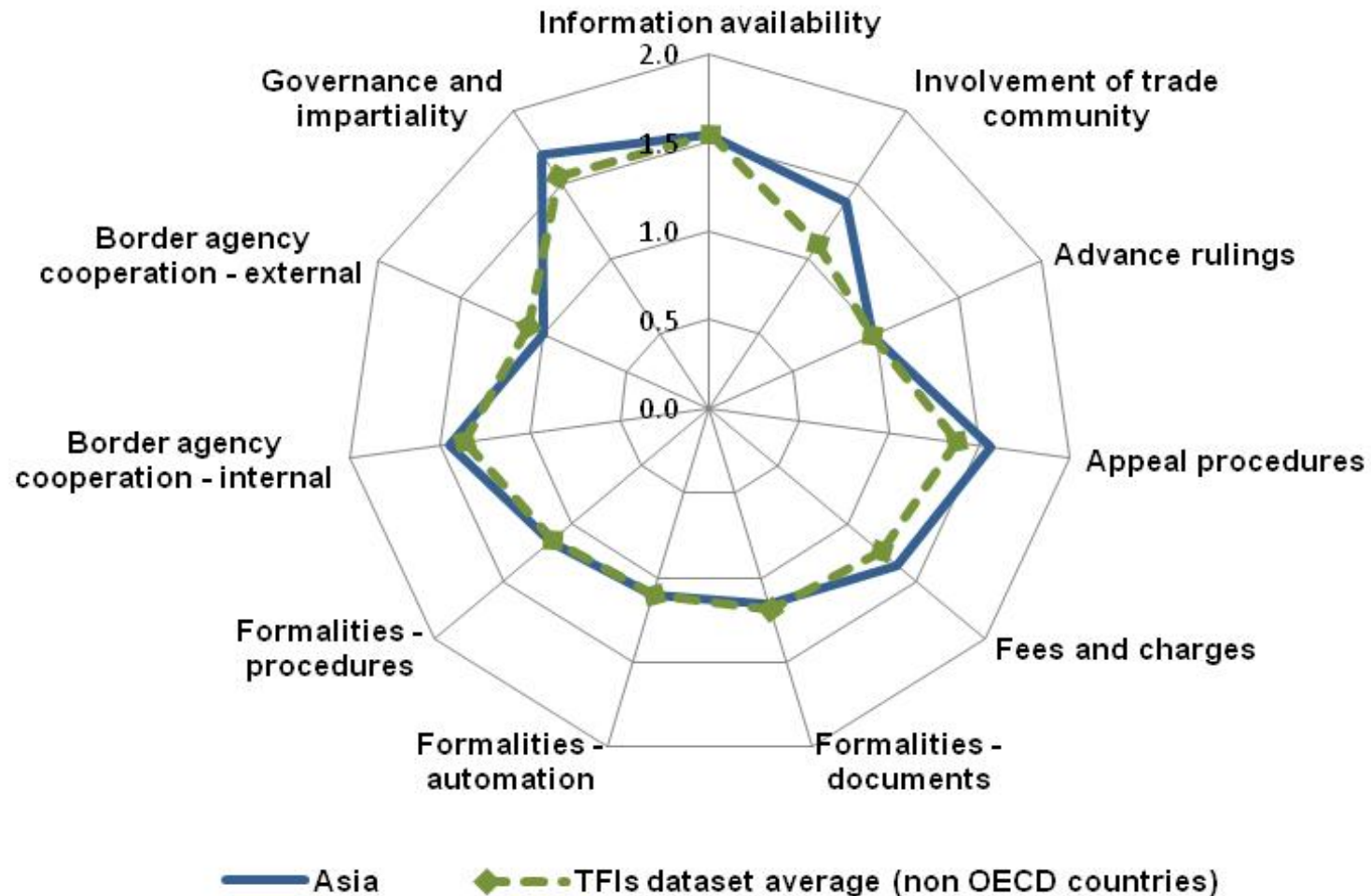


Income groups: state of implementation



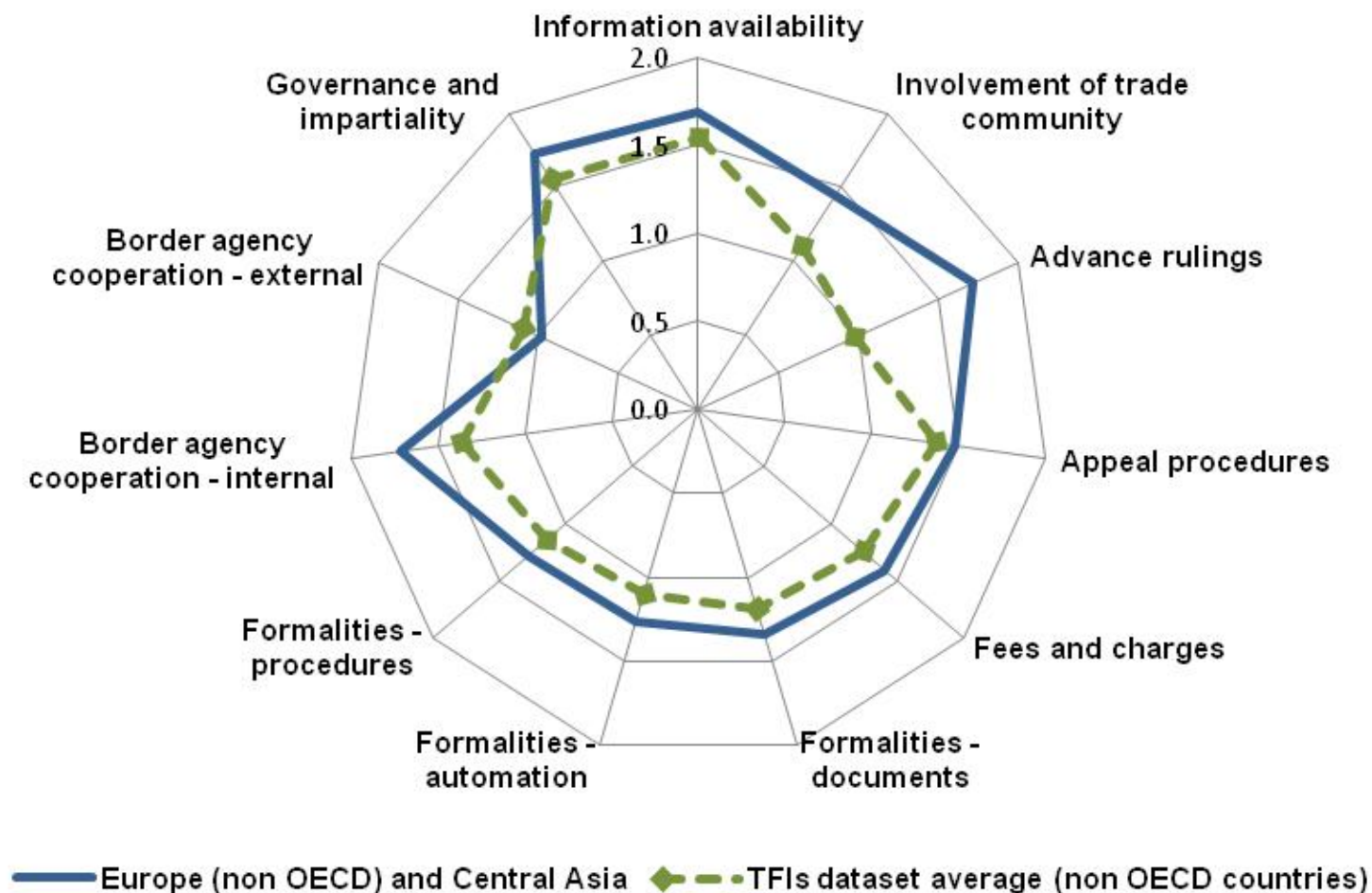


Asia



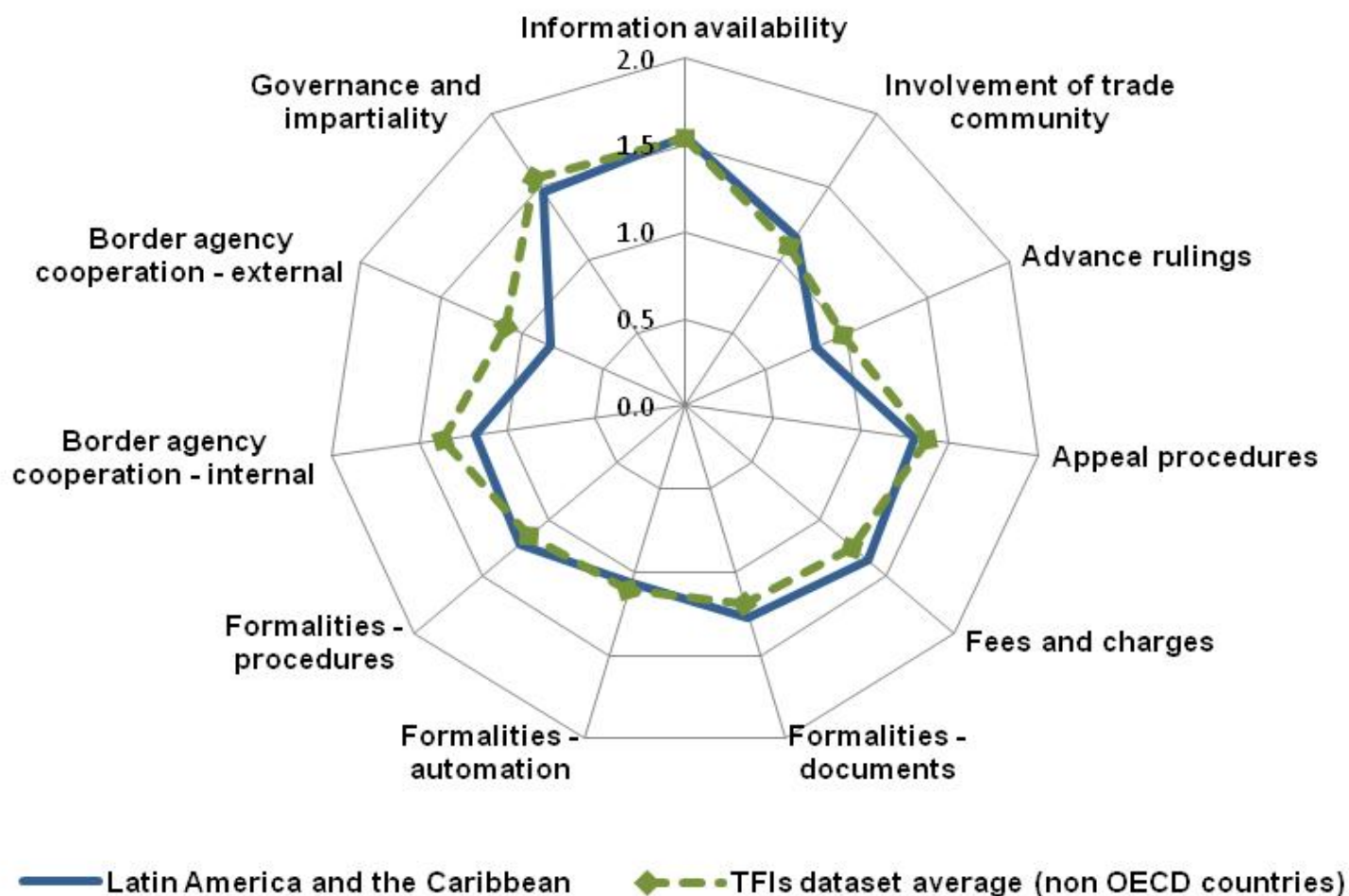


Europe (outside the OECD area) and Central Asia





Latin America and the Caribbean





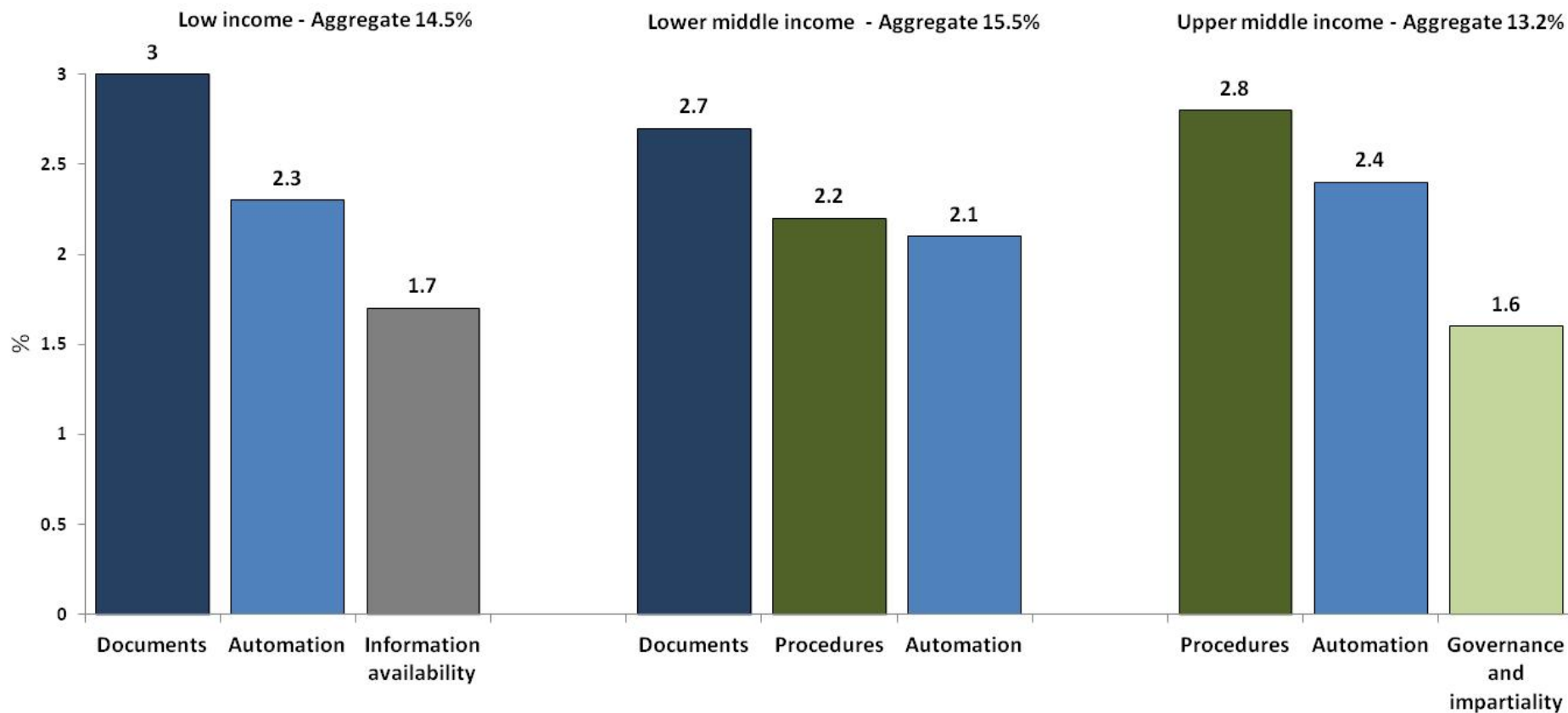
Impact on trade volumes

- Information availability
- Simplification and harmonisation of Documents
- Automation
- Streamlining of Procedures
- Governance

Equally important for exports as for imports

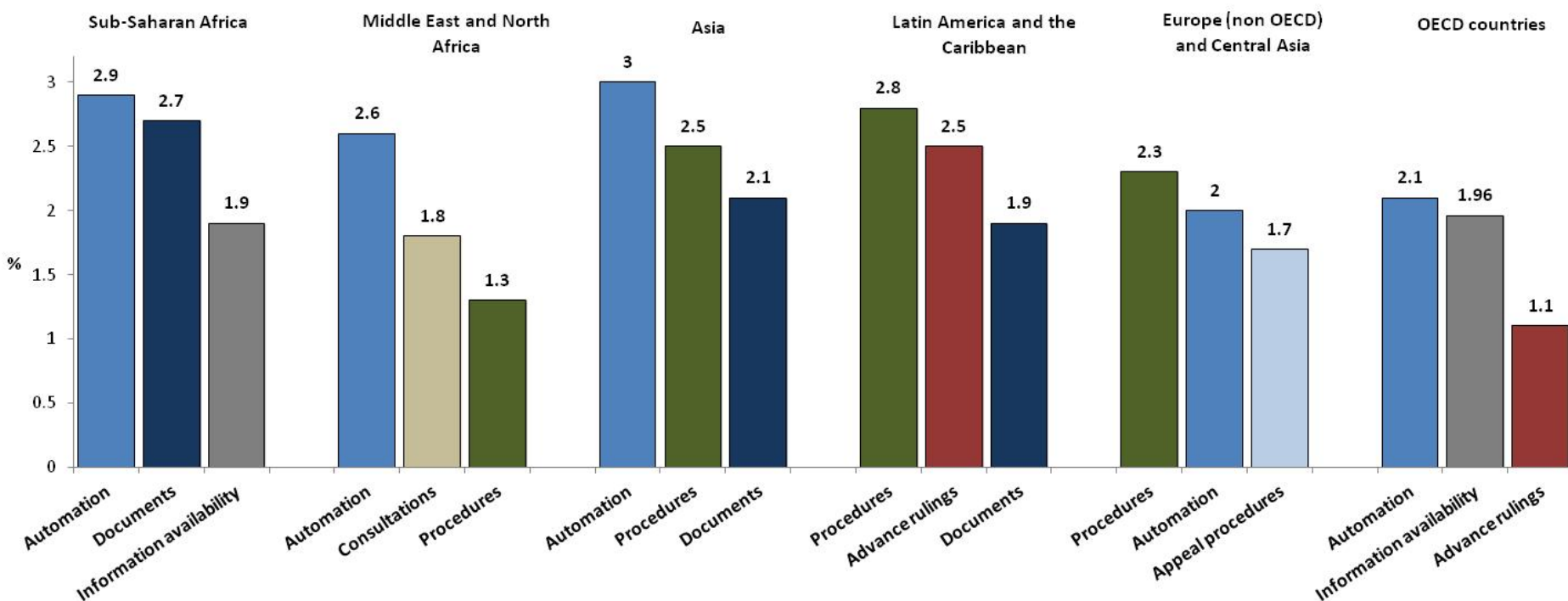


Impact on trade costs - potential reductions





Impact on trade costs – potential reductions





Impact on trade costs – potential reductions

- Comprehensive trade facilitation reform is more effective than isolated or piecemeal measures.
- The potential cost reduction of all the trade facilitation measures combined is greater than the sum of their individual impacts – almost 14.5% for low-income countries, 15.5% for lower-middle-income countries, 13.2% for upper-middle-income countries



How can these findings be put into practice?

- The use of the **indicators** in this proposed framework should enable countries sharing similar characteristics to better assess which trade facilitation dimensions deserve priority
- This **empirical evidence** provides useful information to guide policymakers, private sector practitioners and other stakeholders on which might be the areas for which resource allocation could bring the highest benefits
- The set of **variables** identified shows that some measures for which costs are considerably lower than for larger infrastructure projects can bring high benefits (e.g. the simplification and harmonisation of documents, increasing information availability)



For further information :

www.oecd.org/trade/facilitation/indicators.htm

evdokia.moise@oecd.org

trudy.witbreuk@oecd.org

silvia.sorescu@oecd.org