

# Trade facilitation around the world: State of play and economic impacts

Silvia Sorescu Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) OECD

WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement 5-Year Anniversary Event Session 1. Measuring the impact of five years of TFA Implementation 29 June 2022





### Outline

Global supply chains continue to experience disruptions, which are placing logistics under further stress and increasing uncertainty around trade costs  $\rightarrow$  Trade facilitation measures remain key in offsetting some of the time and cost increases experienced by firms and consumers across all sectors.

- (1) How and where is progress taking place in the implementation of the various TFA areas
- (2) What are the multi-dimensional economic benefits from continued efforts in implementing the TFA
- (3) Which challenges need to be addressed to reap the economic benefits

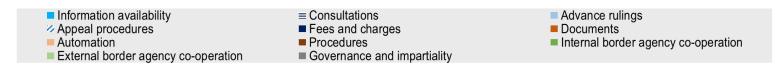


# How and where is progress taking place in the implementation of the various TFA areas

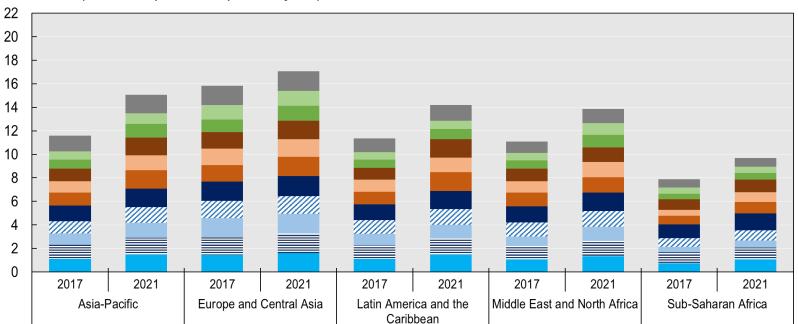


## Progress in implementing TF reforms is occurring across all regions

### **OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators (TFIs), 2017-22**



#### TFI indicator (2=maximum performance possible by area)



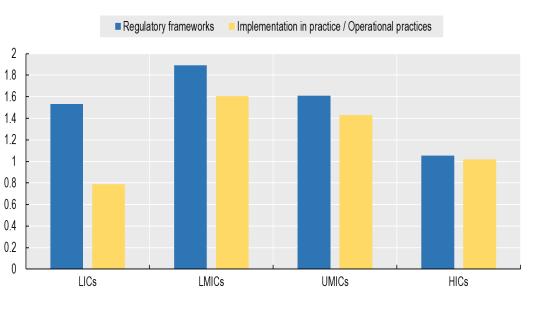
Source: TFIs database, 2022.

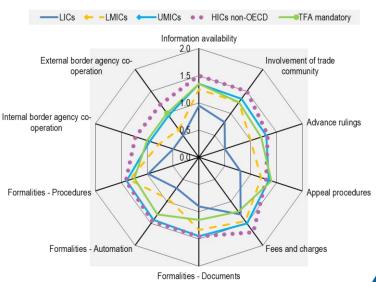


## Improvements in regulatory frameworks are supporting TFA implementation

Improvements in regulatory frameworks are notable across all income groups (2021-22)

### TFA implementation advances across all income groups (2021-22)





Source: TFIs 2021-22 data collection.

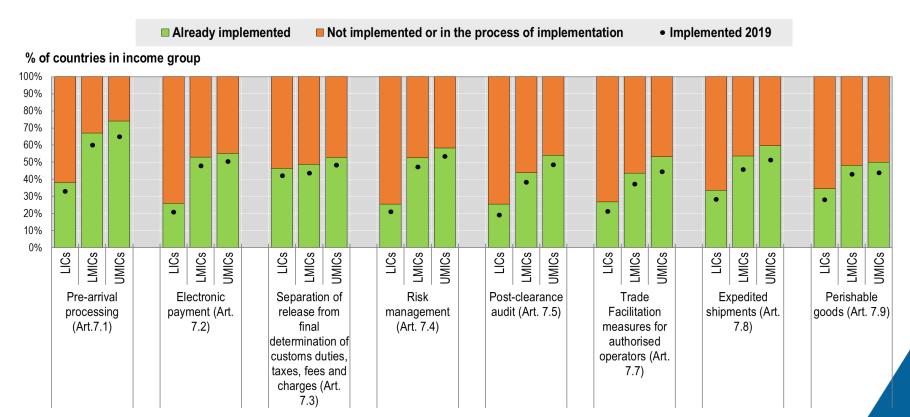


Source: TFIs 2021-22 data collection.



## And helping advance the digitalisation of trade-related processes, essential during the COVID-19 crisis

### TFA areas relating to the release and clearance of goods



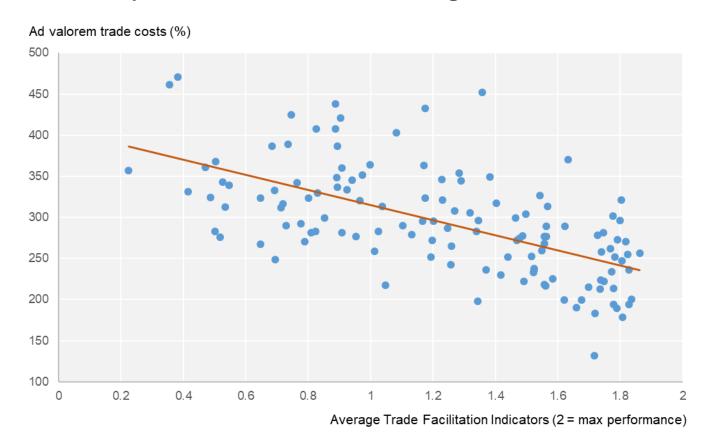


# What are the multi-dimensional economic benefits from continued efforts in implementing the TFA



## Trade facilitation policies support participation in international trade, across all goods sectors

Trade facilitation performance and trade costs for all goods, selected economies, 2019



Source: UN ESCAP - World Bank Trade Costs Database and Trade Facilitation Indicators database.



## Trade facilitation matters for inclusiveness and for the digital age

- ➤ Even small improvements in the trade facilitation environment can increase the probability of an MSME becoming an exporter by up to 3% in countries at all levels of development
- Areas such as automation of border procedures can increase MSMEs exports by between 4.5%-6.5%
- ➤ Trade facilitation policies matter more, not less, in the digital age: trade facilitation policies such as transparency, automation and streamlining of processes at borders, as well as border agency cooperation can each enhance parcel exports -- including those that are digitally ordered -- by between 6% 14%



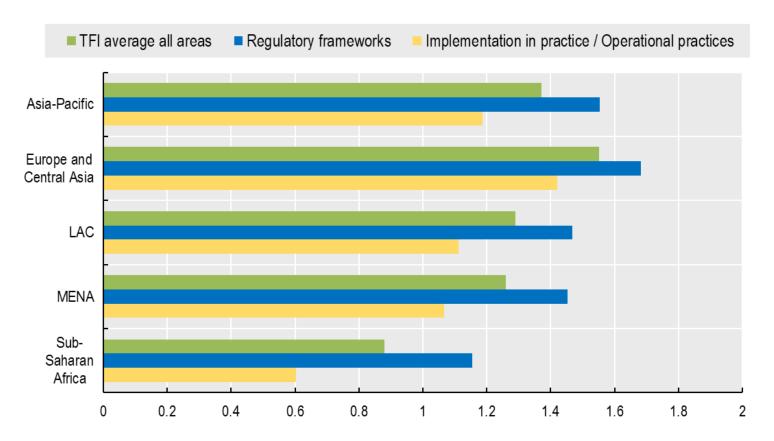
# Which challenges need to be addressed to reap the economic benefits





## Further efforts needed in closing gaps between regulatory frameworks and implementation in practice

Improving operational practices is more challenging than establishing regulatory frameworks



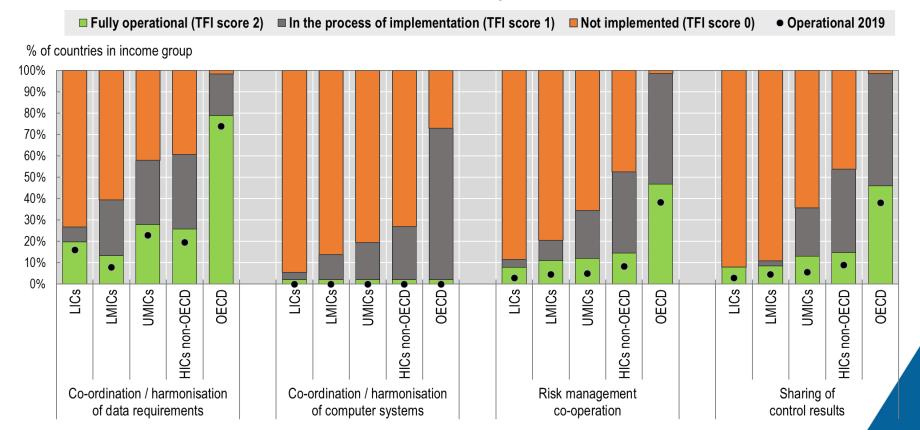
Source: TFIs 2021-22 data collection.

11



## Advancing border agency co-operation to enhance global supply chains resilience

Improving cross-border agency co-operation can build on progress in automating trade-related processes



Source: TFIs 2021-22 data collection.



### Thank you for your attention!



Access all of the information from the Trade & Agriculture Directorate at:

www.oecd.org/tad

You can reach us via e-mail by sending your message to the following address:

tad.contact@oecd.org

We invite you to connect with us on Twitter by following:

@OECDtrade
@OECDagriculture