

Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2022

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- OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators (TFIs) 2022 highlight improvements made by the Asia-Pacific region since 2019 are particularly in transparency, automating and streamlining trade documents and border processes, as well as enhancing border agency co-operation
- These improvements are driven by progress in the establishment of regulatory frameworks for trade facilitation
- Progress in border agency co-operation has been supported by domestic and cross-border co-operation mechanisms to address bottlenecks throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- Challenges exist in closing the gap between the establishment of regulatory frameworks and implementation in practice
- Further efforts to improve implementation in practice are key for reaping the benefits from trade facilitation in the digital era (boosting trade in parcels) and in enhancing inclusiveness (MSMEs and women-led businesses participation in trade)
- Further efforts also needed to better understand sectoral specificities in trade facilitation – e.g., agro-food