

Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific: Key findings from the UN Global Survey 2019

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UNTFSURVEY.ORG

Yann Duval - Outlook x UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation x +

untfsurvey.org/world-map

UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

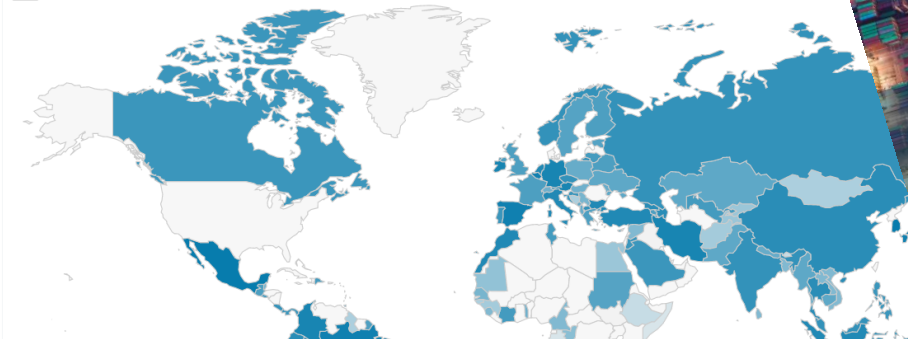
HOME GLOBAL DATA REGIONAL DATA ECONOMY DATA COMPARE ABOUT

INTERACTIVE MAP OF UN GLOBAL SURVEY RESULTS

RESULTS OF 2019 RESULTS OF 2017

Display data on map: Total score Cross-Border Paperless Trade Paperless Trade Institutional Arrangement and Cooperation Formalities Transparency

Implementation of Paperless Trade Measures (2019)



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UN DEPARTMENT OF
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UN Global TF Survey: Background

Objective



- To monitor progress on trade facilitation (TF), including paperless trade and other forward looking measures, towards SDGs
- To enable evidence-based policy making, and capacity building and tech. assistance

2012-14: Regional (Asia-Pacific) surveys conducted since 2012



2015: 1st global survey on trade facilitation implementation; presented at the 5th Global Review of Aid for Trade. [partnerships with UNCTAD, ITC, OECD Subregional org...]



2017: 2nd global survey; presented at the 6th Global AfT Review. [new partnerships: ADB, Rep. of Korea...]



2018: Launch of interactive website (now UNTF SURVEY.ORG)

2019: 3rd global survey – Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation [new partnerships: ICC (Banking Commission)]



UN Global TF Survey Scope: WTO TFA+

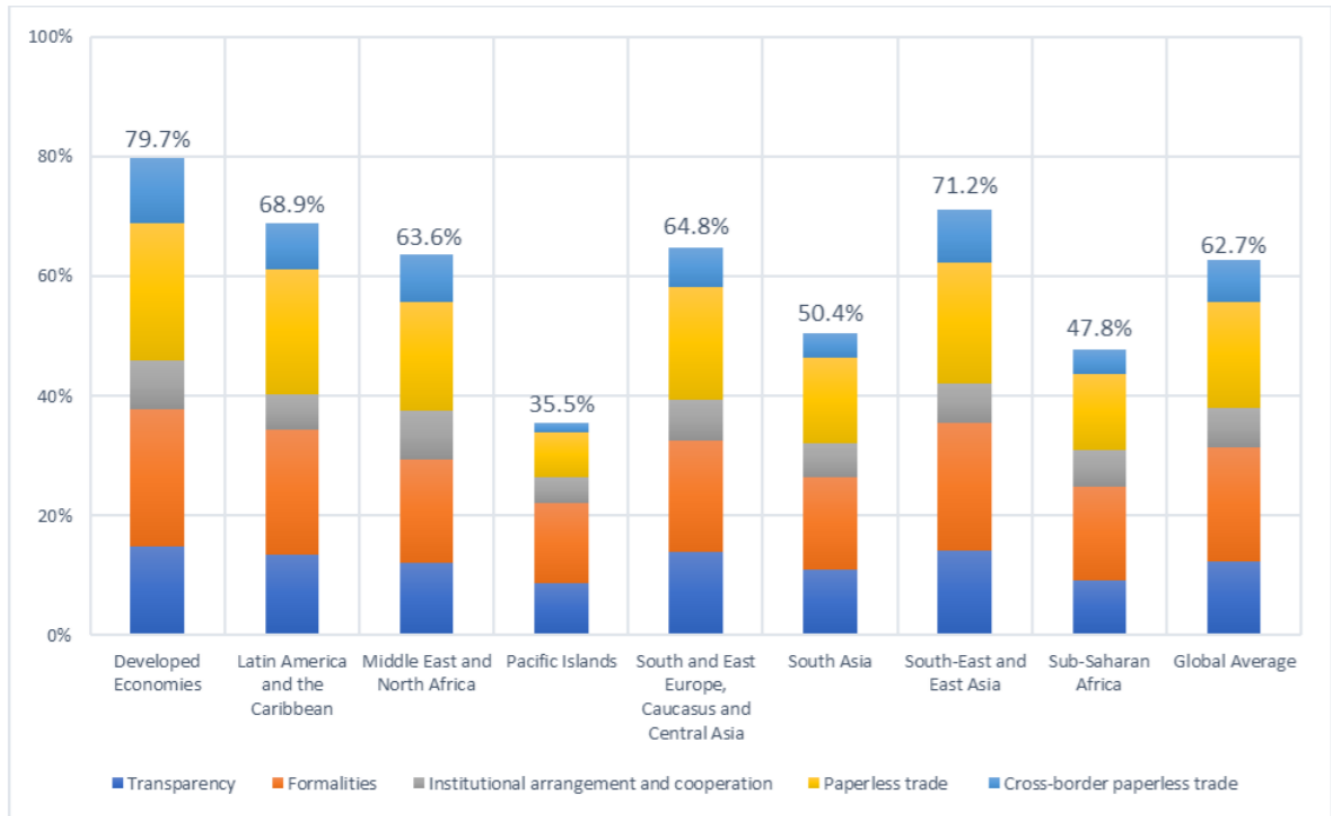
- **WTO TFA related measures +**
 - Institutional arrangement and cooperation
 - Transparency
 - Formalities
 - Transit
- **Paperless trade / Digital TF measures +**
 - Paperless trade
 - Cross-Border Paperless Trade
- **Sustainable TF measures**
 - Trade facilitation for SMEs
 - Agricultural trade facilitation
 - Women in trade facilitation
- **Others** (varies by UNRCs, e.g., Trade finance facilitation)



Data collected from 128 countries in 2019

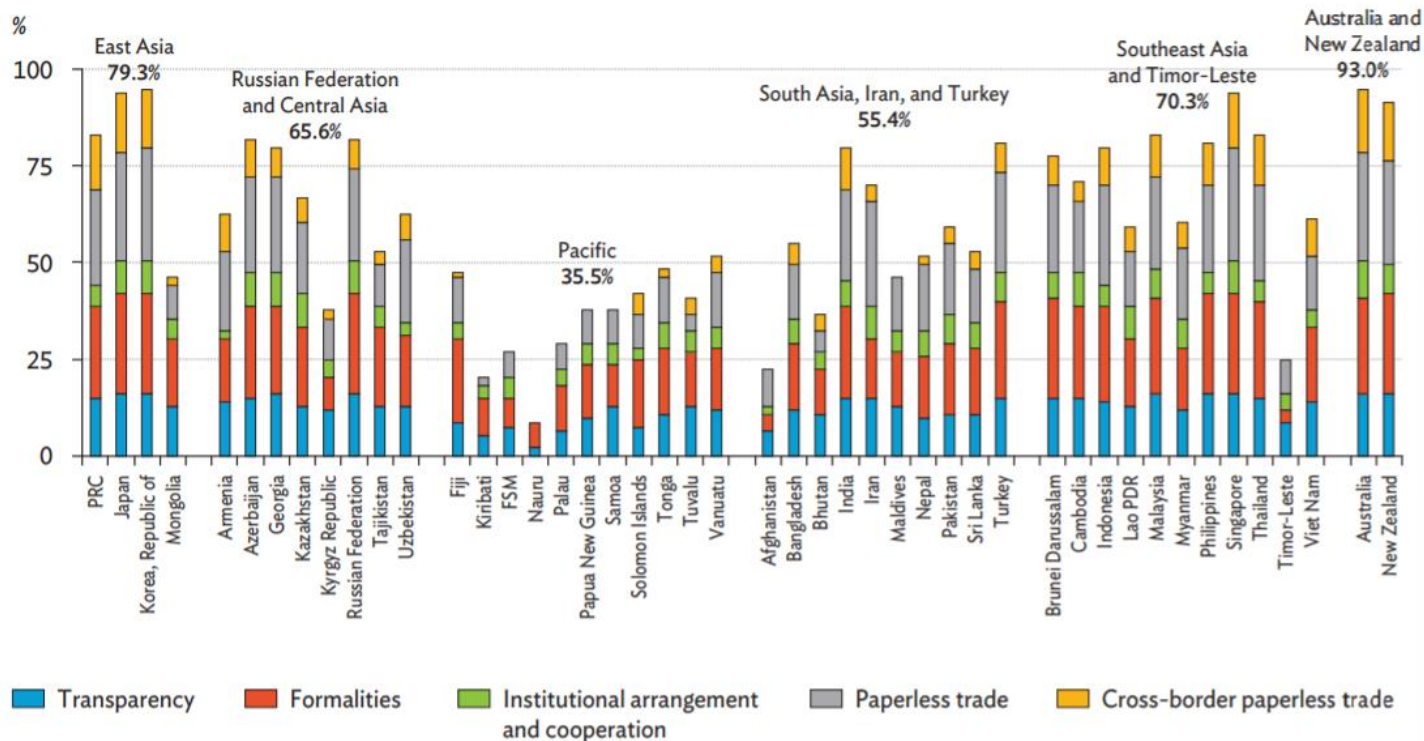
Key finding #1: Southeast and East Asia leading other developing world regions

Figure 1: Average implementation rates of Trade Facilitation measures around the world



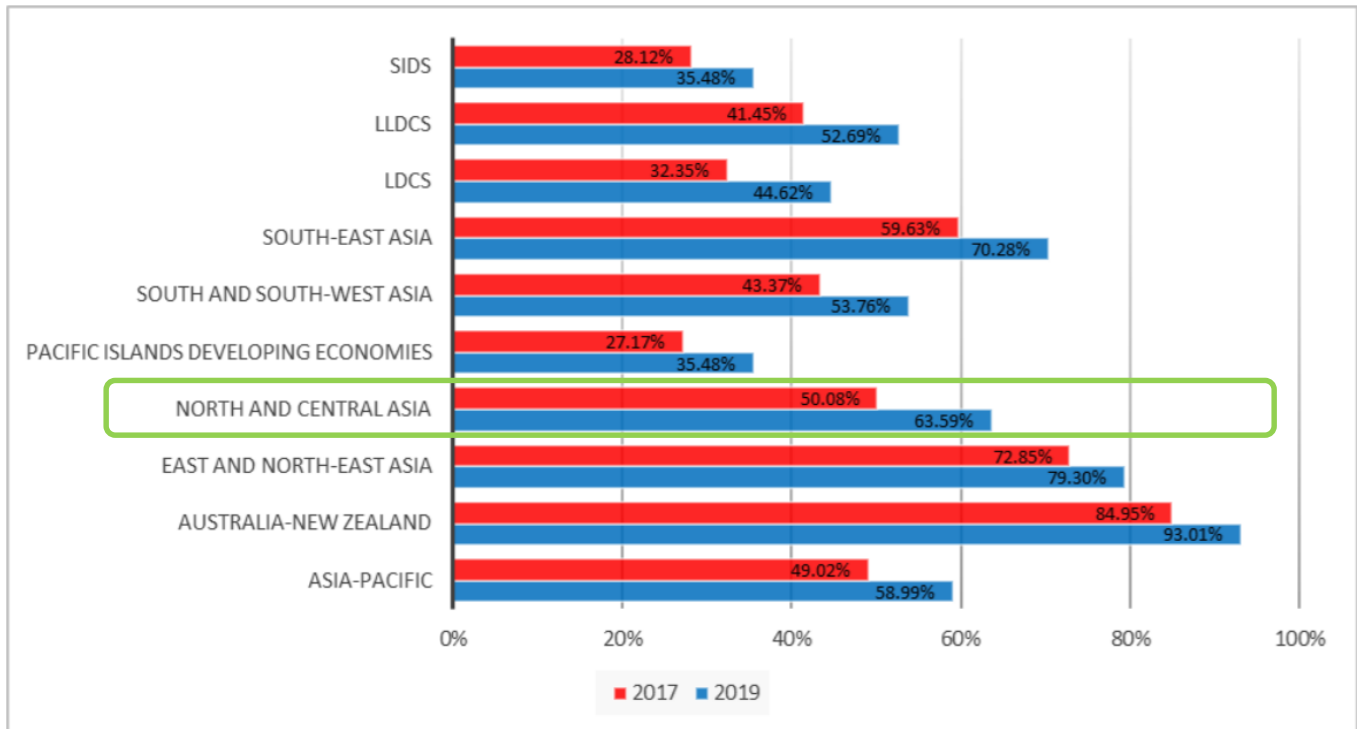
Key finding #2: Implementation varies widely across countries and subregions

Overall Implementation of Trade Facilitation Measures in 46 Countries of Asia and the Pacific, 2019



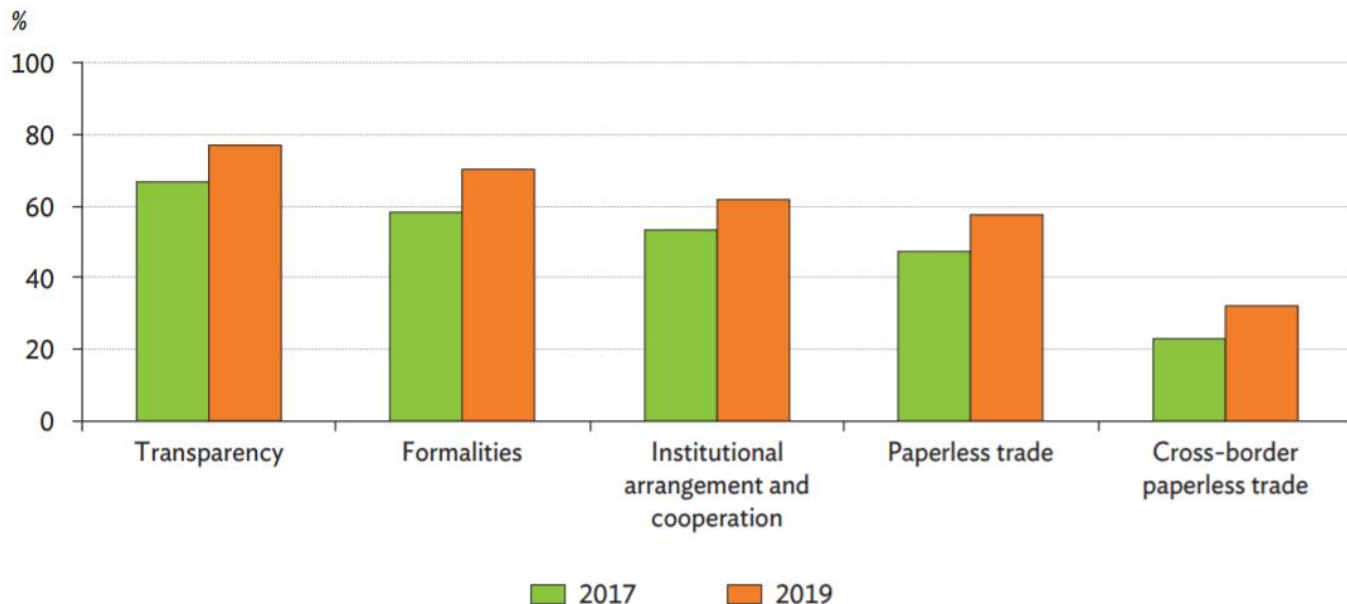
Key finding #3: Implementation accelerated in all subregions, in North & Central Asia in particular

Figure 5: Trade facilitation implementation by sub-regions in Asia and the Pacific, 2017 and 2019



Key finding #4: Implementation of cross-border paperless trade still a challenge

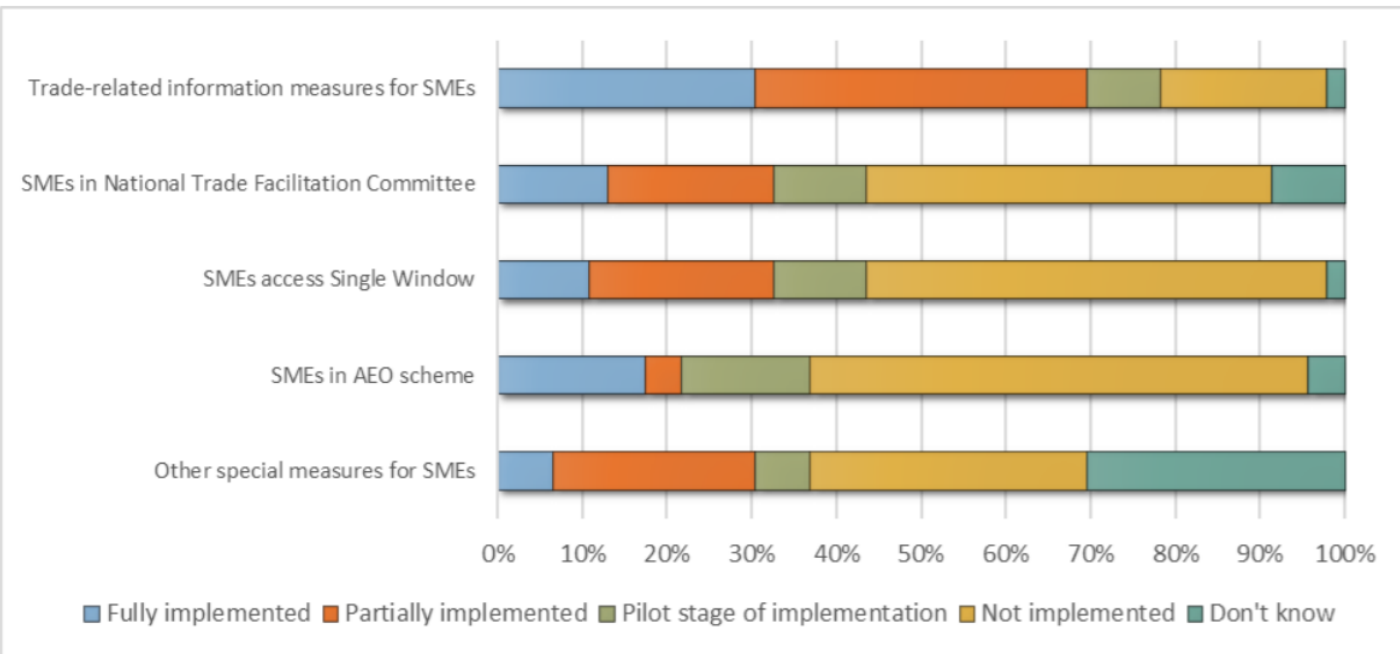
Figure 6: Implementation of Groups of Trade Facilitation Measures, 2017–2019



Source: ESCAP (2019a).

Key finding #5: Limited attention to TF needs of special groups (SMEs, women)

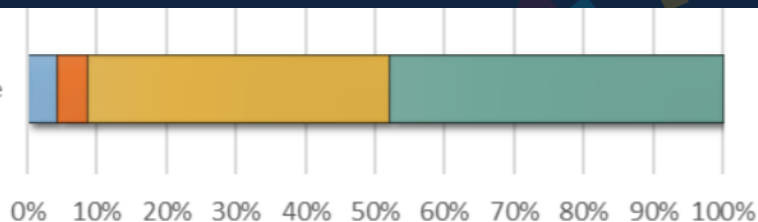
Figure 21: State of implementation of 'trade facilitation for SMEs' measures in Asia-Pacific economies



Key finding #6: Lack of integration between trade facilitation & trade finance

Facilitation of access to finance through Single Window?

Single window facilitates traders to access to finance



■ Fully implemented ■ Partially implemented ■ Pilot stage of implementation ■ Not implemented ■ Don't know



Key finding #7: Significant room to cut trade costs through trade digitalization

Table 6: Changes in International Trade Costs of Asia and the Pacific as a Result of World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement Implementation (%)

Asia and the 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	-2.84	-5.79	-4.57	-9.39	-10.52	-16.92
Model 2						
General trade facilitation measures	-1.52	-3.05	-1.99	-4.29	-2.35	-4.76
Digital trade facilitation measures	-	-	-1.97	-3.23	-9.53	-13.34

WTO TFA = World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement.

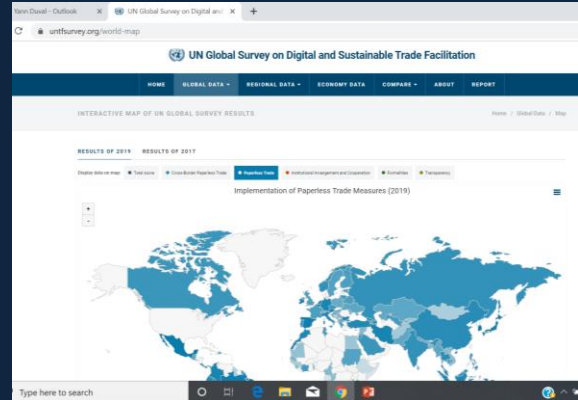
Source: Authors' calculations.

Way forward

- *Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific* more relevant than ever
- Continue to develop *inter-agency collaboration* and *human resource capacity* (identified in the Survey as #1 challenges in developing countries and LDCs, respectively)
- Better link TF with sustainable development
 - Identify and better define TF measures for SMEs, Women and other groups with special needs
 - Environmental dimension of TF measures need further exploration



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THANK YOU

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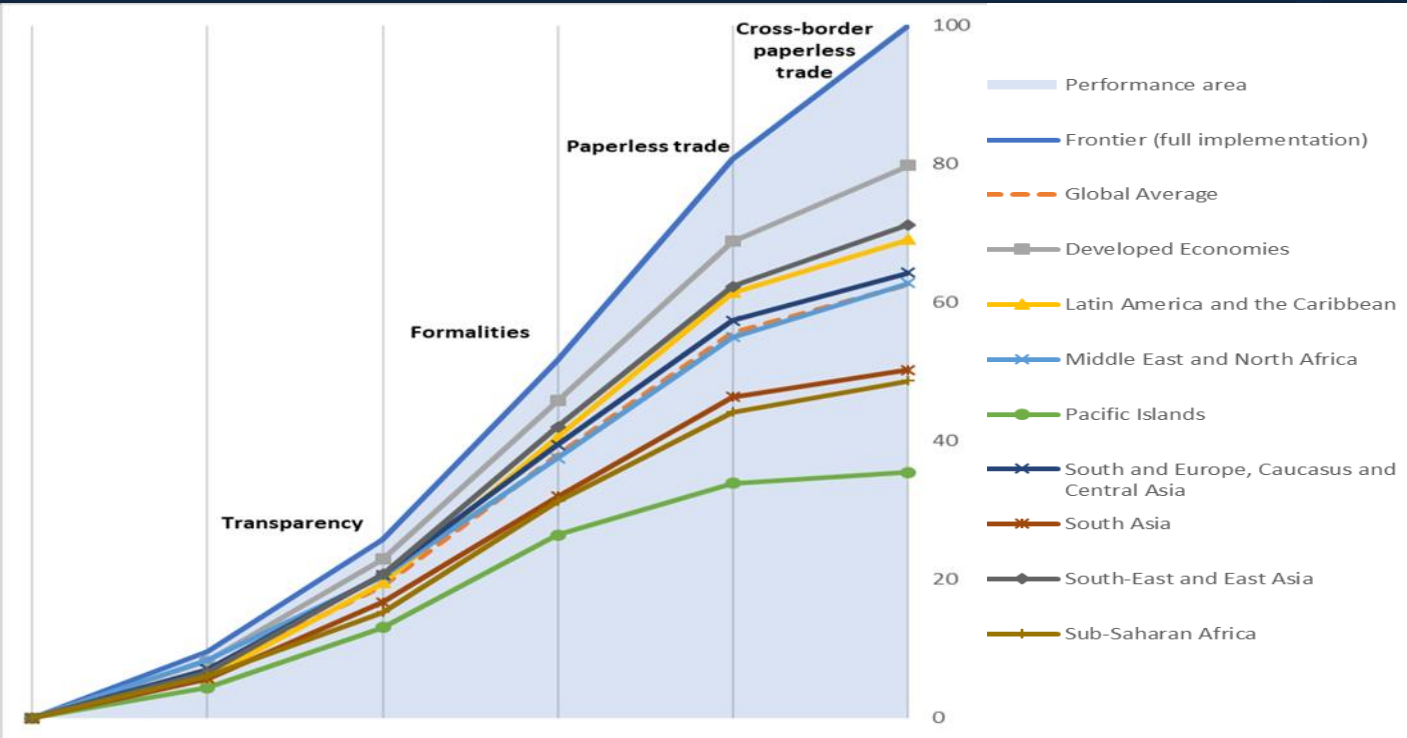


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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific



Moving up the Trade Facilitation Ladder: Towards Seamless International Supply Chains



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2019)

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.



A Three-step Approach for Data Collection



Open data

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

Cross-checking and verification

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

Key outcome of step 2:

A set of national dataset for each country surveyed

Final validation by countries

- UNRCs sent the preliminary results to countries for final validation.

