Impact and Data of TFA implementation

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Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

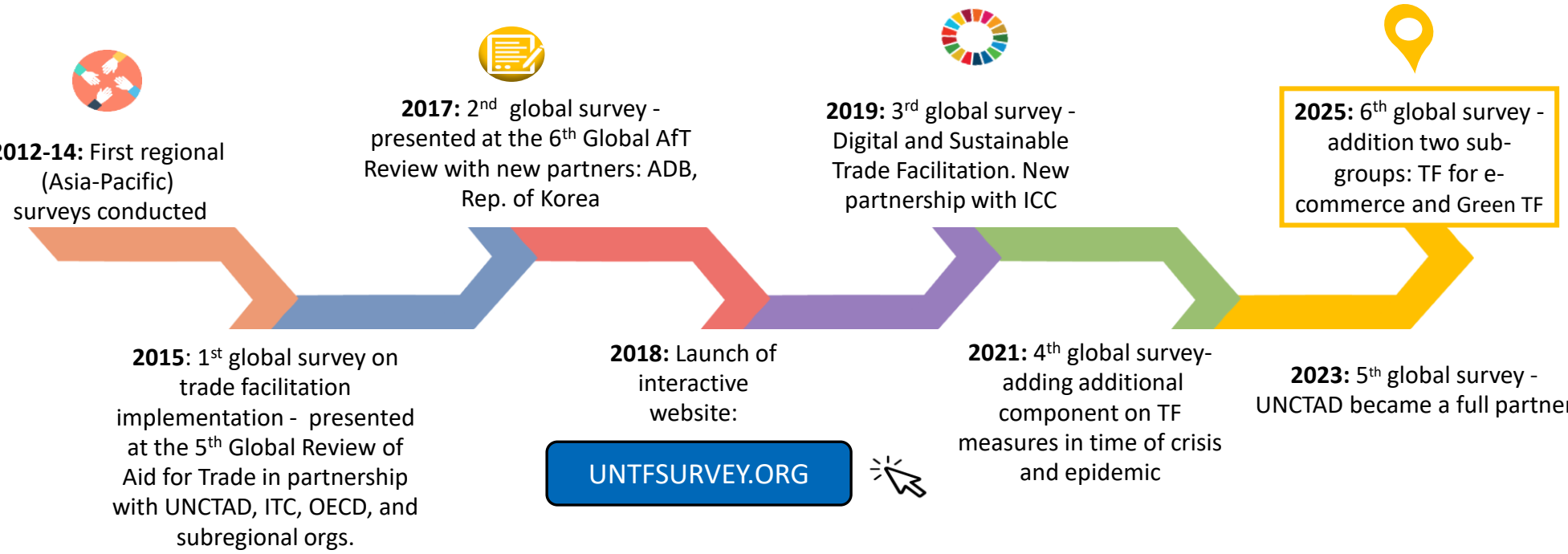
Key Findings from the 2025 UN Global Report

UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

Joint effort by United Nations Regional Commissions (ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA) and UNCTAD - Covering over 170 countries in the 2025 Survey

Objectives:

- Monitor progress on trade facilitation (TF), including paperless trade and forward-looking measures toward SDGs
- Enable evidence-based policy-making, capacity building and tech assistance



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2025)

UN Global Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (UNTF) Survey

Implementation data on 62 WTO TFA++ measures in 174 countries – since 2015

General -WTO TFA related (14 Measures)

NTFC, risk-management based inspections, pre-arrival processing, post-clearance audits, average release time publication,….

Digital TF (24 Measures)

legal framework to facilitate cross-border electronic transactions, exchange of electronic declarations, SPS certificates,….

Sustainable TF (12 Measures)

access of SMEs to trade-related information or to the single window, special support to women's participation in trade, treatment given to perishable goods,….

EMERGING AREAS

NEW in 2025! Trade facilitation for e-Commerce (5 Measures)

Legal framework, small value shipments, waiver of Customs duties, AEO programmes ...

NEW in 2025! Green trade facilitation (4 Measures)

Sustainability reporting, expedition of green and climate-smart goods, eCITES, TF in waste and harmful substances...

Trade finance for trade facilitation (3 Measures)

Facilitating traders' access to finance, emerging tech trade finance projects, trade finance services...

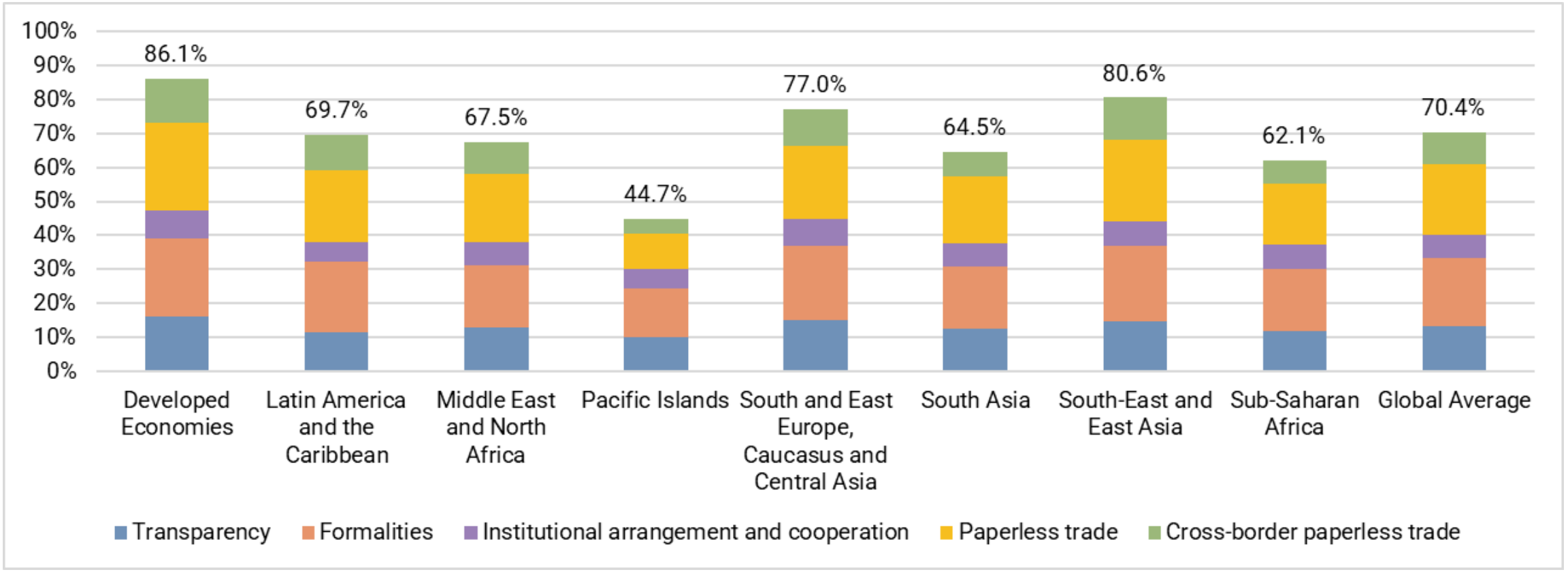
Source: Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation: Global Report 2025

www.untfsurvey.org

UN Global Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (UNTF) Survey (www.untfsurvey.org)

Implementation of WTO TFA+ measures across 170 countries

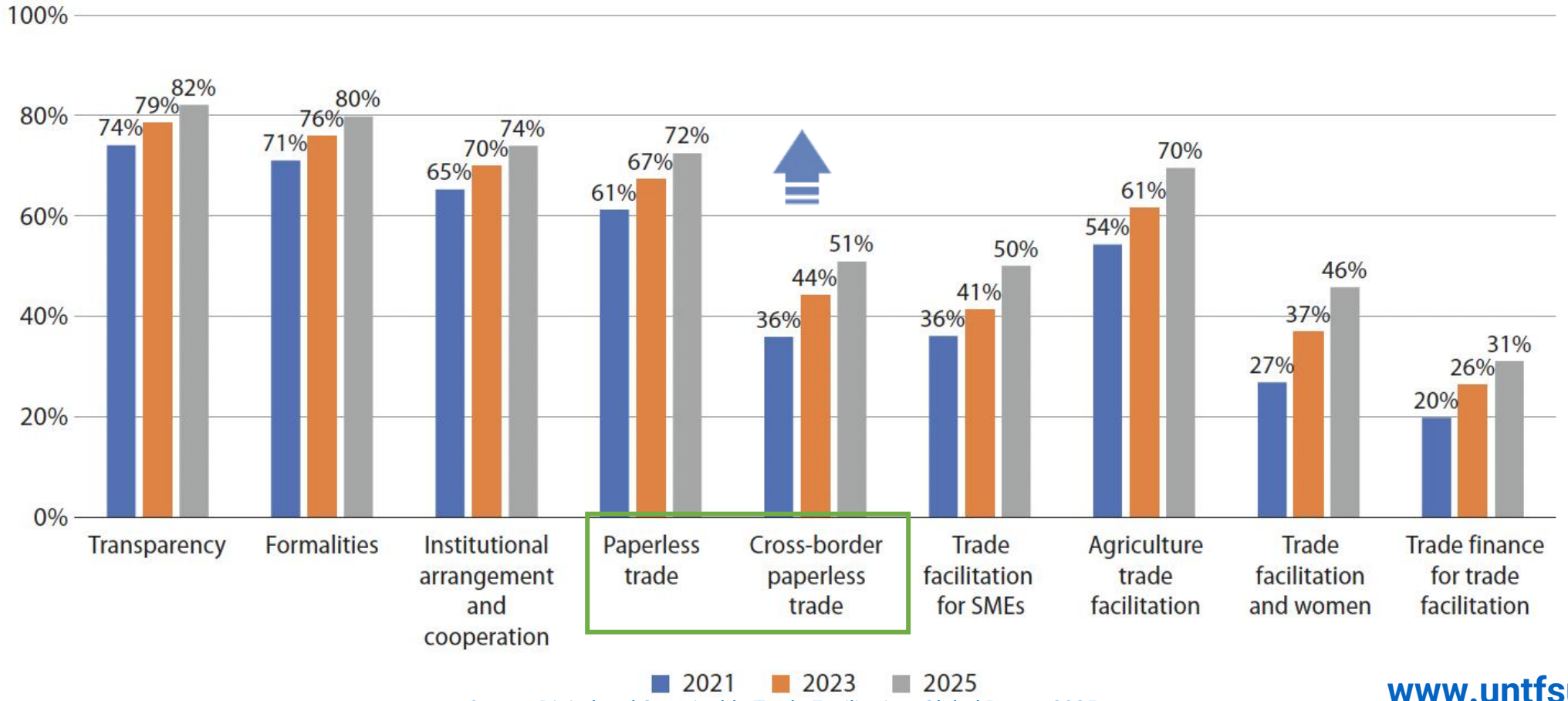
- Global average implementation rate: 70%
- Southeast and East Asia region leading developing regions



Source: UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (2025)

Progress in trade facilitation implementation by sub-group, 2021–2025

- WTO TFA measures are well implemented (>70%).
- Good progress on “Cross-border paperless trade”, but a lot remains to be done.



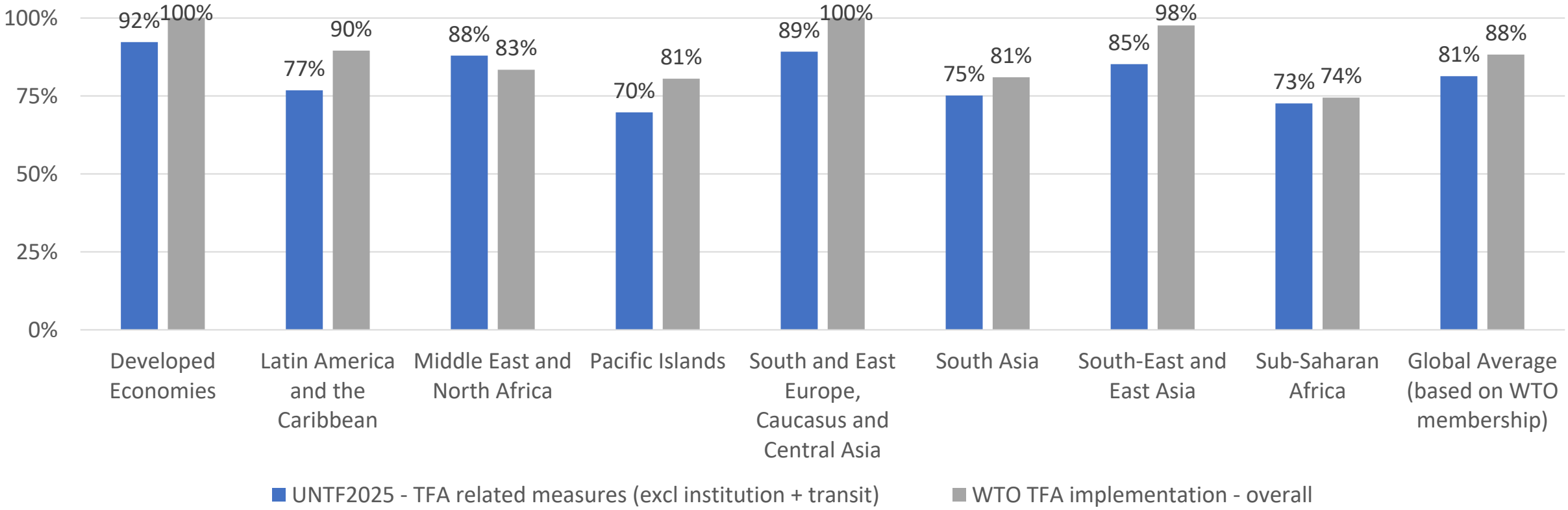
Source: Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation: Global Report 2025

www.untfsurvey.org

TFA Implementation: WTO TFA database vs. UNTF 2025

Key Finding: Implementation rates based on UNTF Survey data are generally lower than those found in the WTO TFAF database

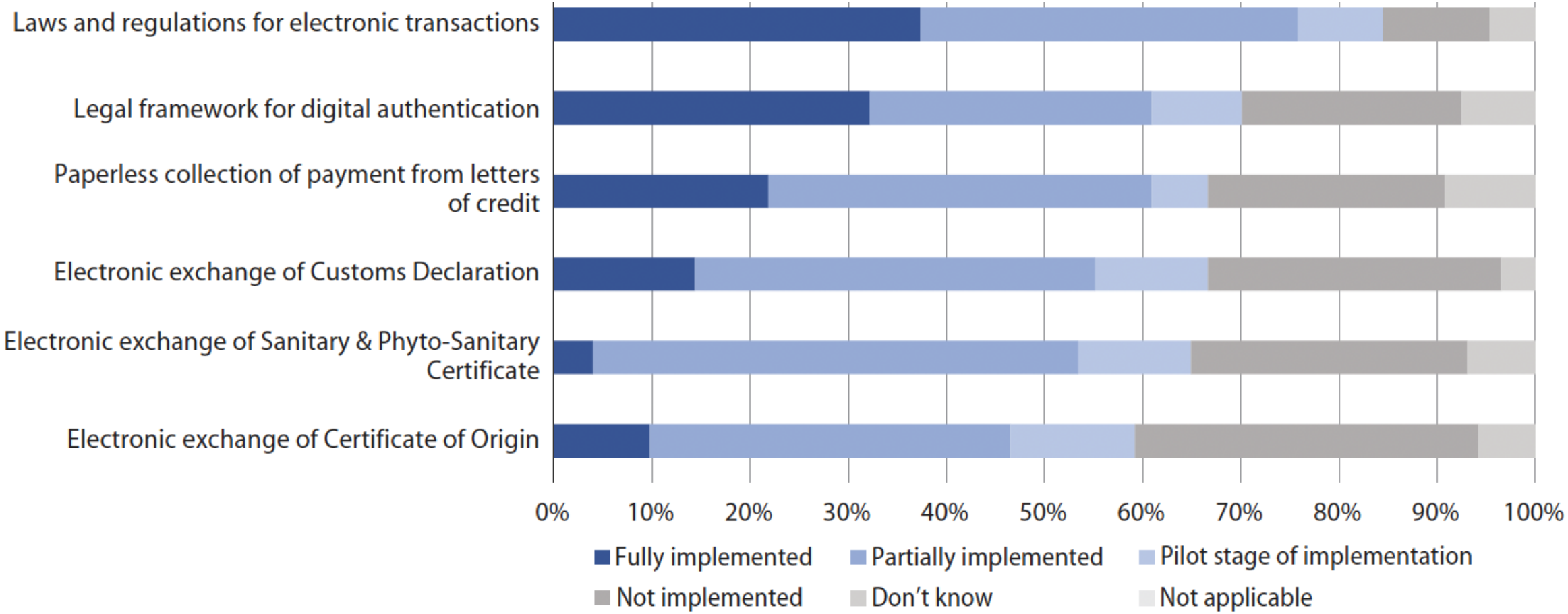
- **The UNTF Survey focuses on actual implementation of measures - as opposed to generic compliance with the TFA provisions, many of which are non-binding.**
- In a few developing country cases, UNTF implementation rate are higher than those reported to WTO (putting more measures in category C may give potentially give access to more capacity building/technical assistance)



Source: UN ESCAP, based on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation: Global Report 2025 and WTO TFA Database (https://tfadatabase.org/en)

State of implementation of ‘cross-border paperless trade’ measures globally

- Global average implementation rate: 49%.
- A coordinated approach is still needed to achieve full implementation across all measures.



Source: Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation: Global Report 2025

Significant trade cost reductions through trade digitalization

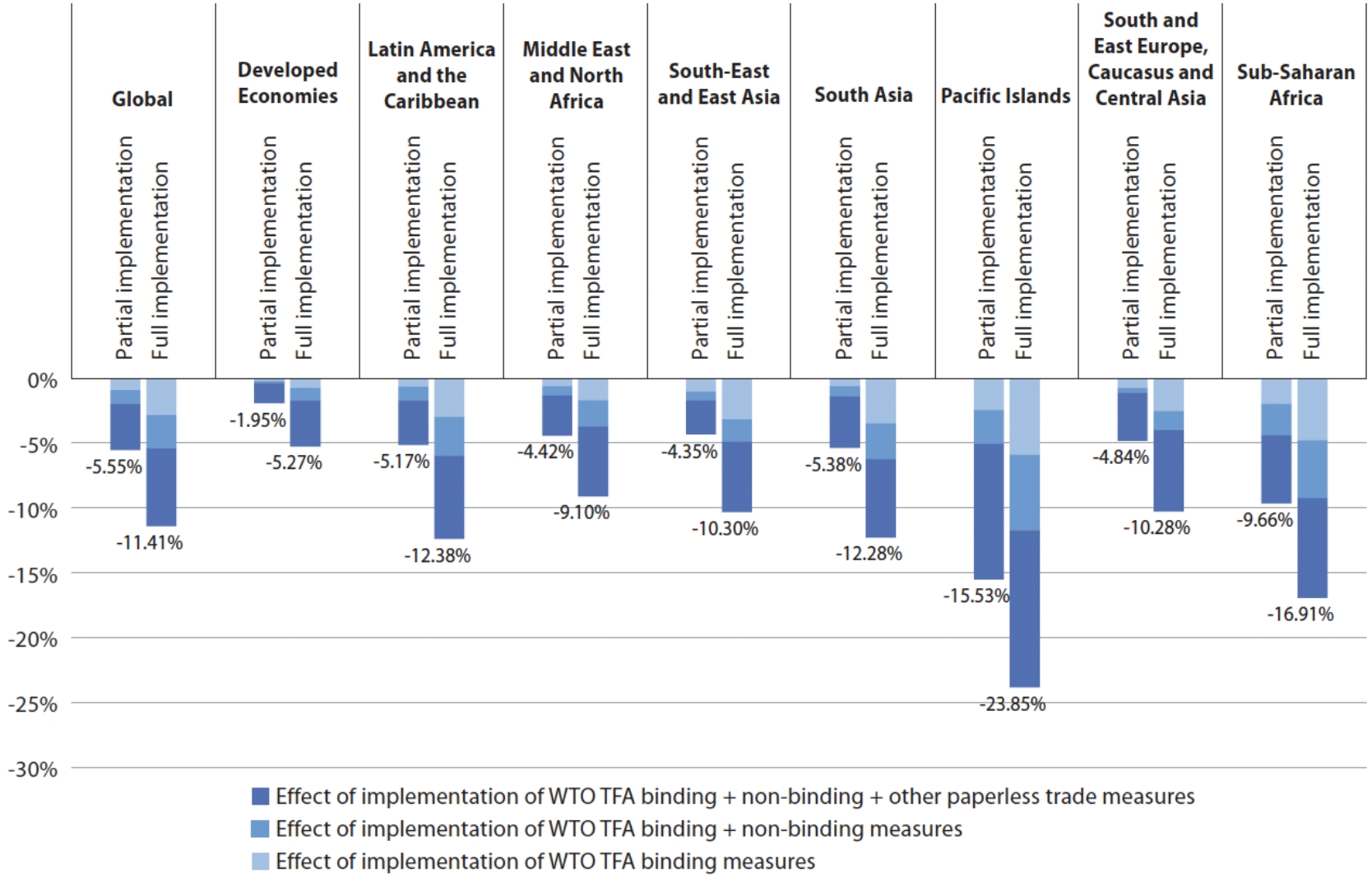
- Adopting comprehensive digital trade facilitation measures can help to significantly ***reduce trade costs by 11%.***

Global: 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	-0.94%	-2.86%	-2.00%	-5.44%	-5.55%	-11.41%
Model 2						
General trade facilitation measures	-0.78%	-2.37%	-1.34%	-3.80%	-1.67%	-4.31%
Digital trade facilitation measures	0.00%	0.00%	-0.55%	-1.19%	-4.00%	-7.18%

Source: ESCAP, based on data from www.untfsurvey.org and ESCAP/World Bank Trade Cost database

Impact of trade facilitation implementation on trade costs globally

- Global average trade cost reduction could reach 11%.
- Potential trade cost reduction across country groups and regions ranges from approximately 5% in Developed Economies to 24% in Pacific Islands.
- Achieving full implementation of trade facilitation measures will require closer cooperation between economies on developing interoperable paperless trade systems.



Source: ESCAP, based on data from www.untfsurvey.org and ESCAP/World Bank Trade Cost database

Way forward

Digital

Foster more integrated digital trading systems

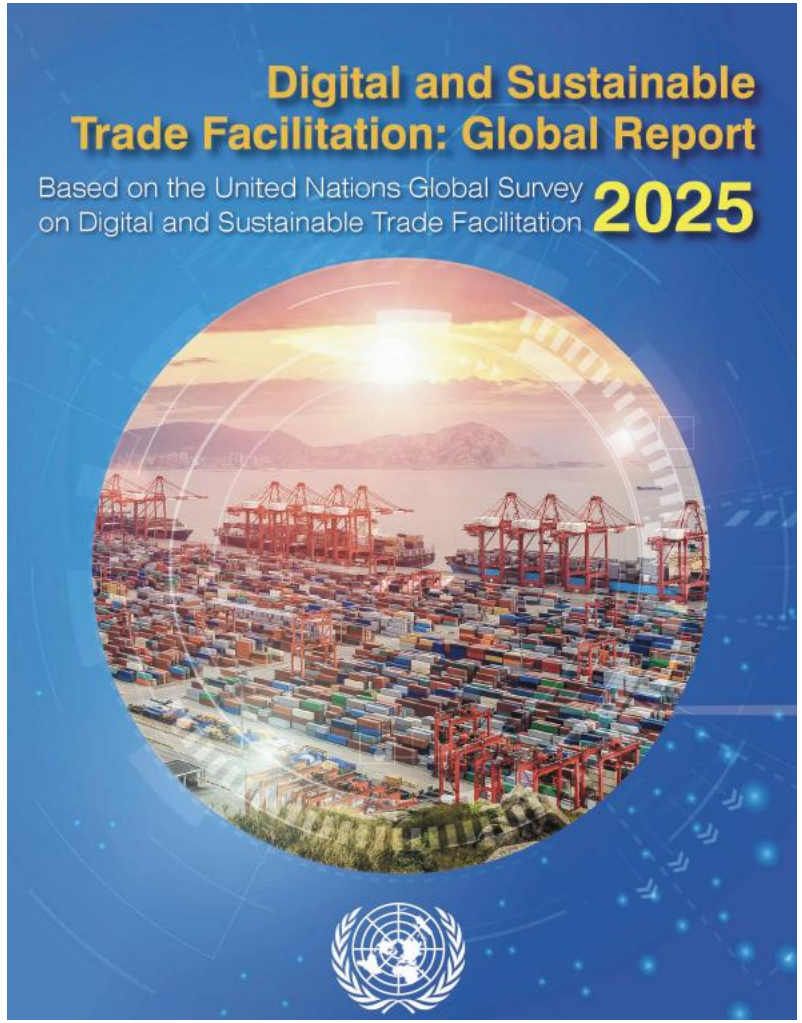
Sustainable

Align with sustainable and inclusive development objectives

Green

Reduce the negative impact of trade processes on the environment

Fostering Sustainable and Inclusive Development



Interactive data & reports

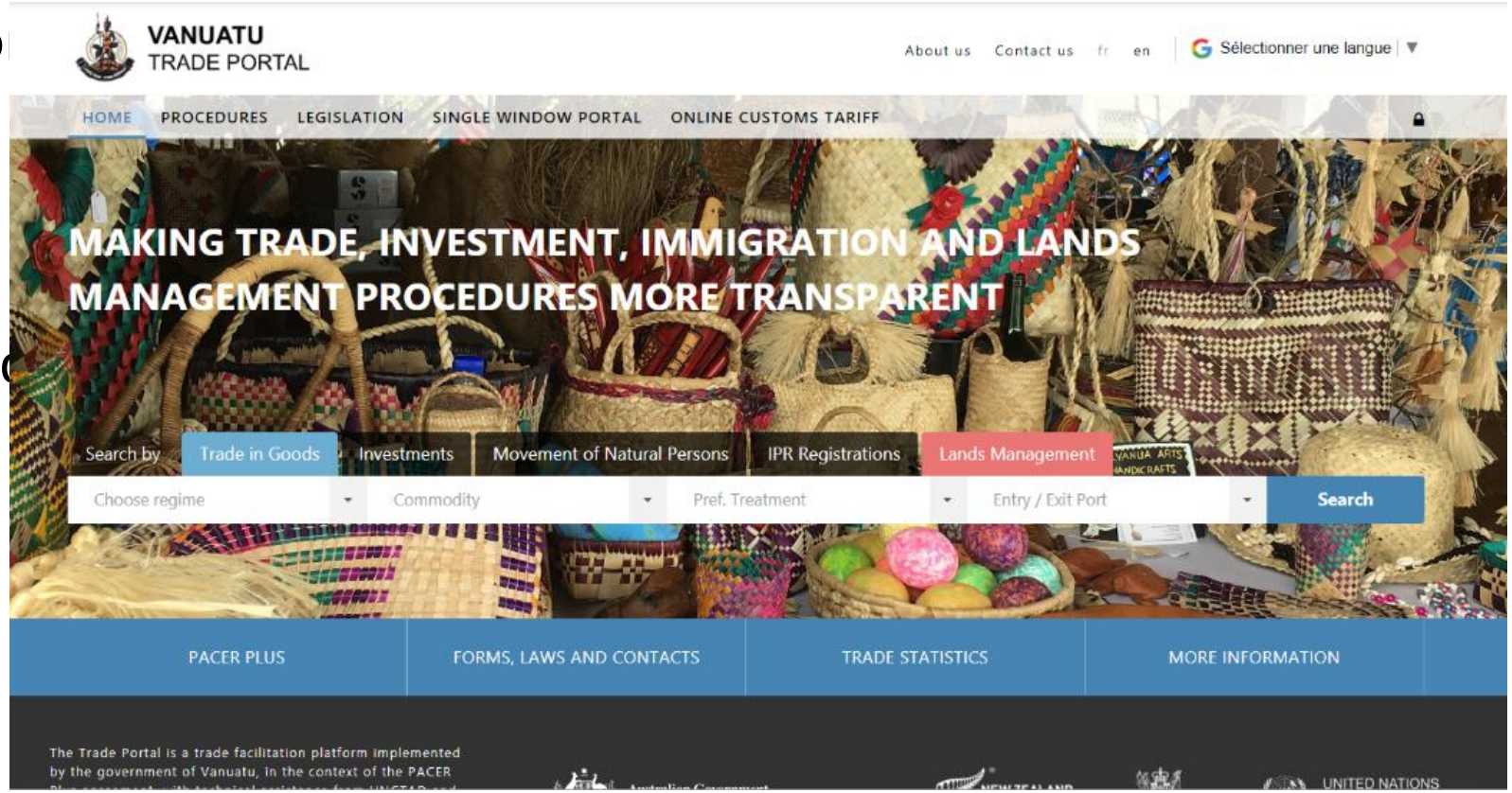
https://www.untfsurvey.org

Trade Information Portals

https://digitalgovernment.world/trade-information-portals/

Trade Information Portals

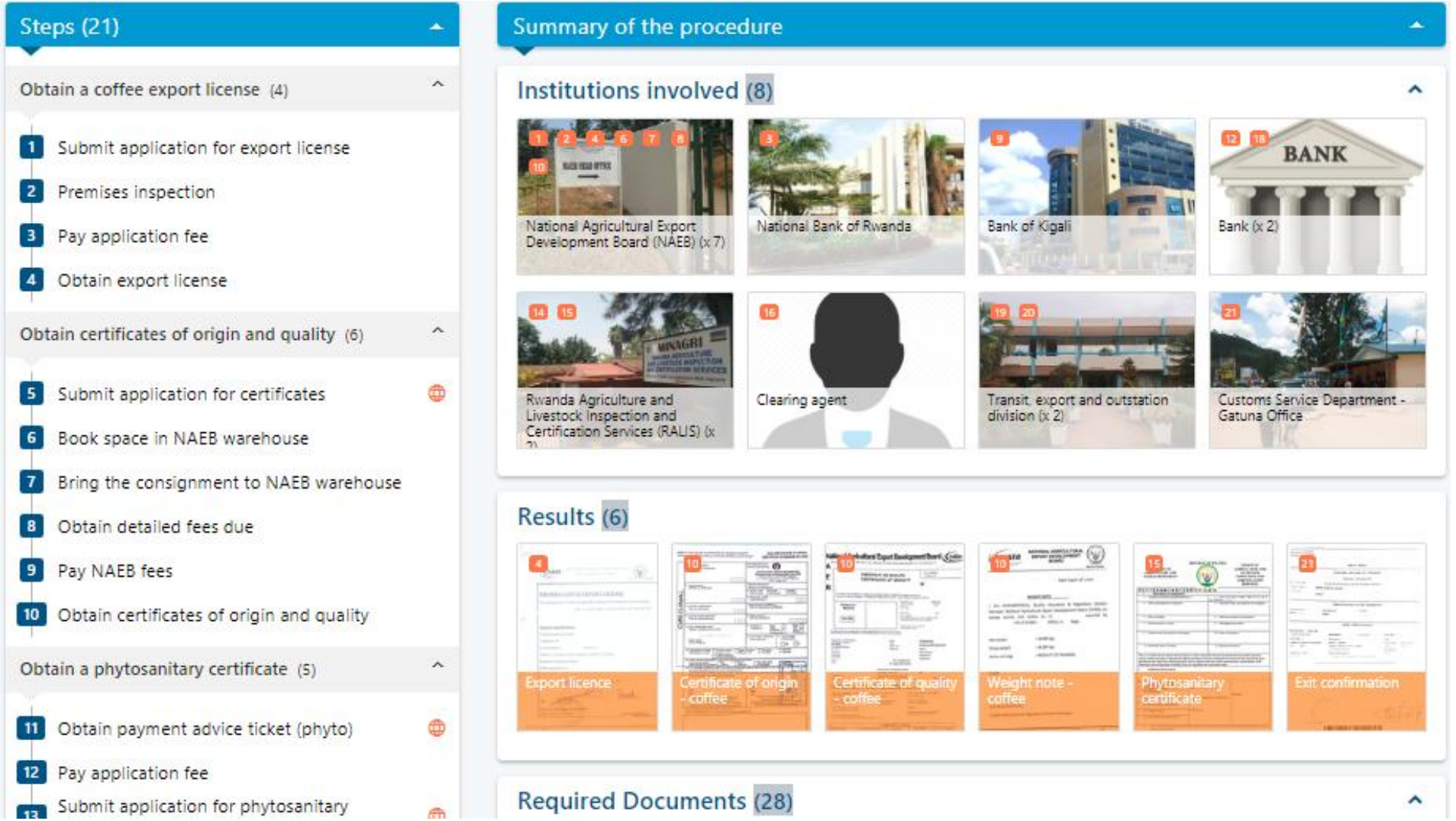
- Transparency and ease of use fo traders
- Step by step guide to trade procedures
- Using the procedure analysis an Simplification tool
- ***30 countries supported***



Link: https://digitalgovernment.world/trade-information-portals/

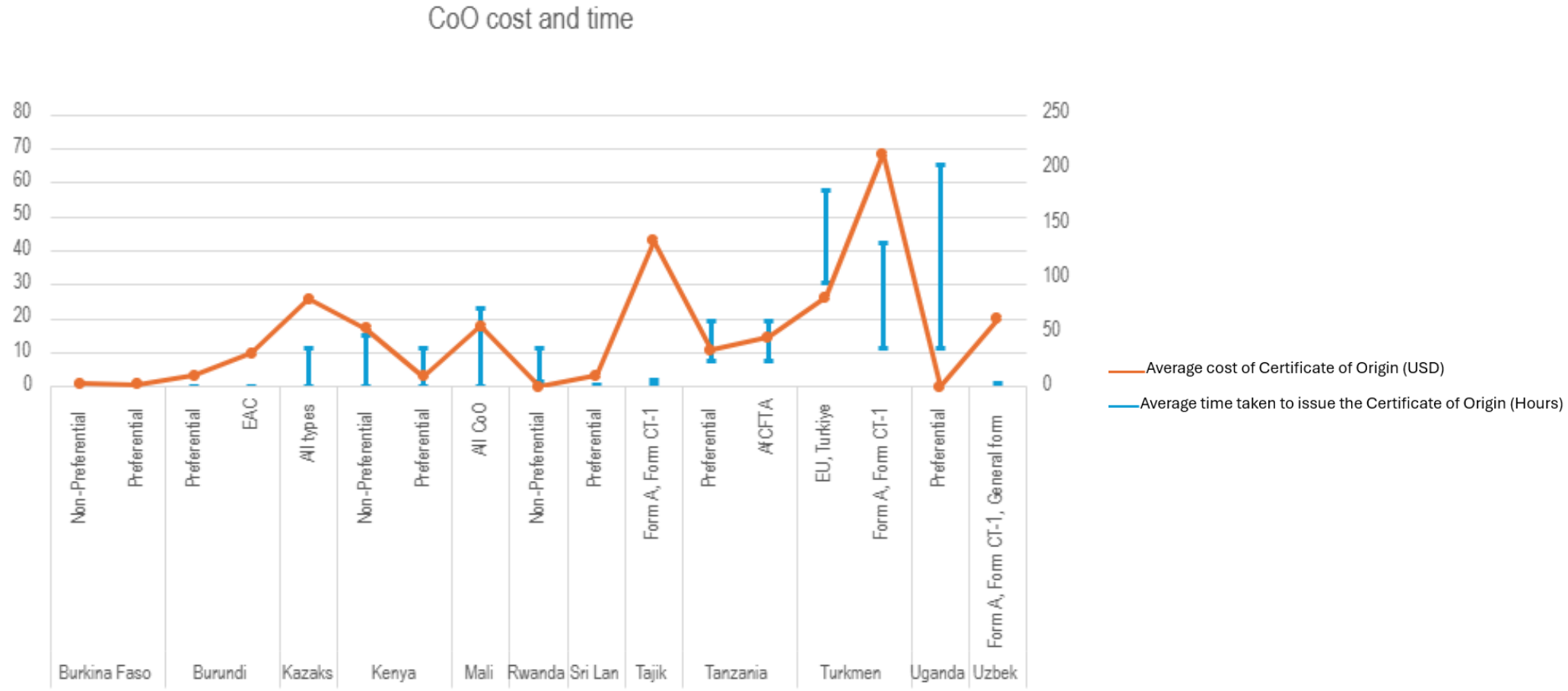
Trade Information Portals

Ex. coffee export procedure



Trade Information Portals

Average Time and Cost to Obtain a Certificate of Origin from the selected countries



ASYCUDA Data

https://asycuda.org/en/

ASYCUDA

Automated System for Customs Data

ASYCUDA 40 YEARS

ASYCUDA some impacts

Afghanistan

99% **reduction** of **exemption processing** time for 12 UN agencies.

Antigua and Barbuda

25% **increase** in **customs revenue** in 2023–2024 following AW upgrade.

Bangladesh

12% **increase** in **expor transactions** between July–January 2023–24 ar July–January 2024–25.

Malawi

760 (44% of women) Malawi Revenue Authority **staff trained** in AW.

Niger (the)

76% **increase** in **export transactions** in 2023–2024.

Palau

20% **increase** in **customs revenue** since implementation of AW in 2024.

Cambodia

14% **increase** in **customs revenue** in 2023–2024.

Gambia (the)

32% **increase** in **customs revenue** in 2023–2024.

Guyana

14.5% **increase** in **customs revenue** in 2023–2024

Sri Lanka

11% **reduction** in **processing time** for eCITES permits in 2023–2024.

Timor-Leste

85% **reduction** in **printed documents** since the implementation of TileSW.

Turkmenistan

50% **reduction** in **processing time** for submissions in 2023–2024.

Iraq

128% **increase** in **customs revenue** in 2023–2024.

Jamaica

1 billion JMD **saved** since 2016 through AW and SW **paperless transactions**.

Kazakhstan

67% **reduction** in trans declaration **processing time** in 2017–2024

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

96% **increase** in **export transactions** in 2023–2024.

Zimbabwe

803 **participants trained** on ASYCUDA-based Single Window

THANK YOU