



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Session 1.2

Transparency Provisions in Trade Agreements

Submitted by: OECD



**Capacity Building Workshop on Regional
Trade Agreement and Free Trade Agreement
Negotiation Skills on Transparency
13-14 January 2022**

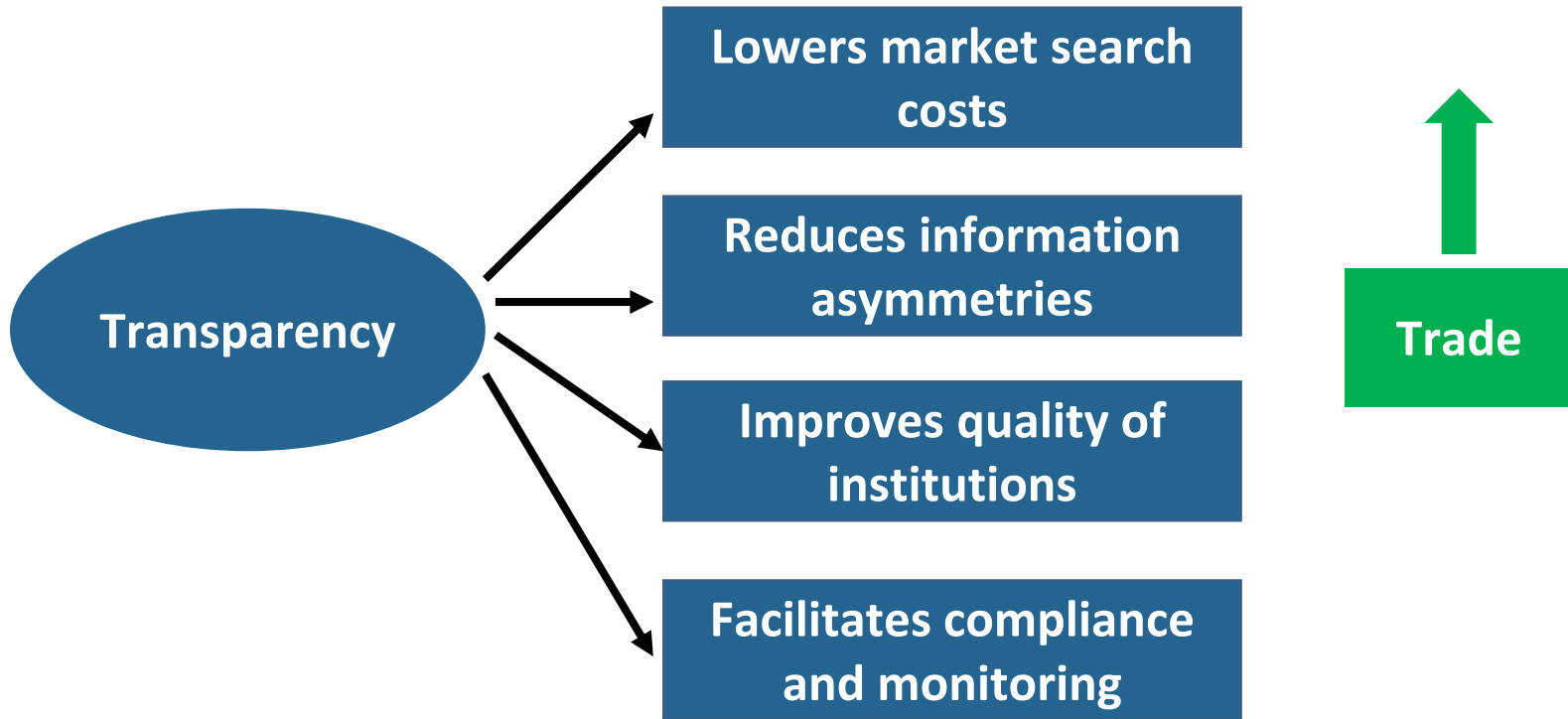


Transparency provisions in trade agreements

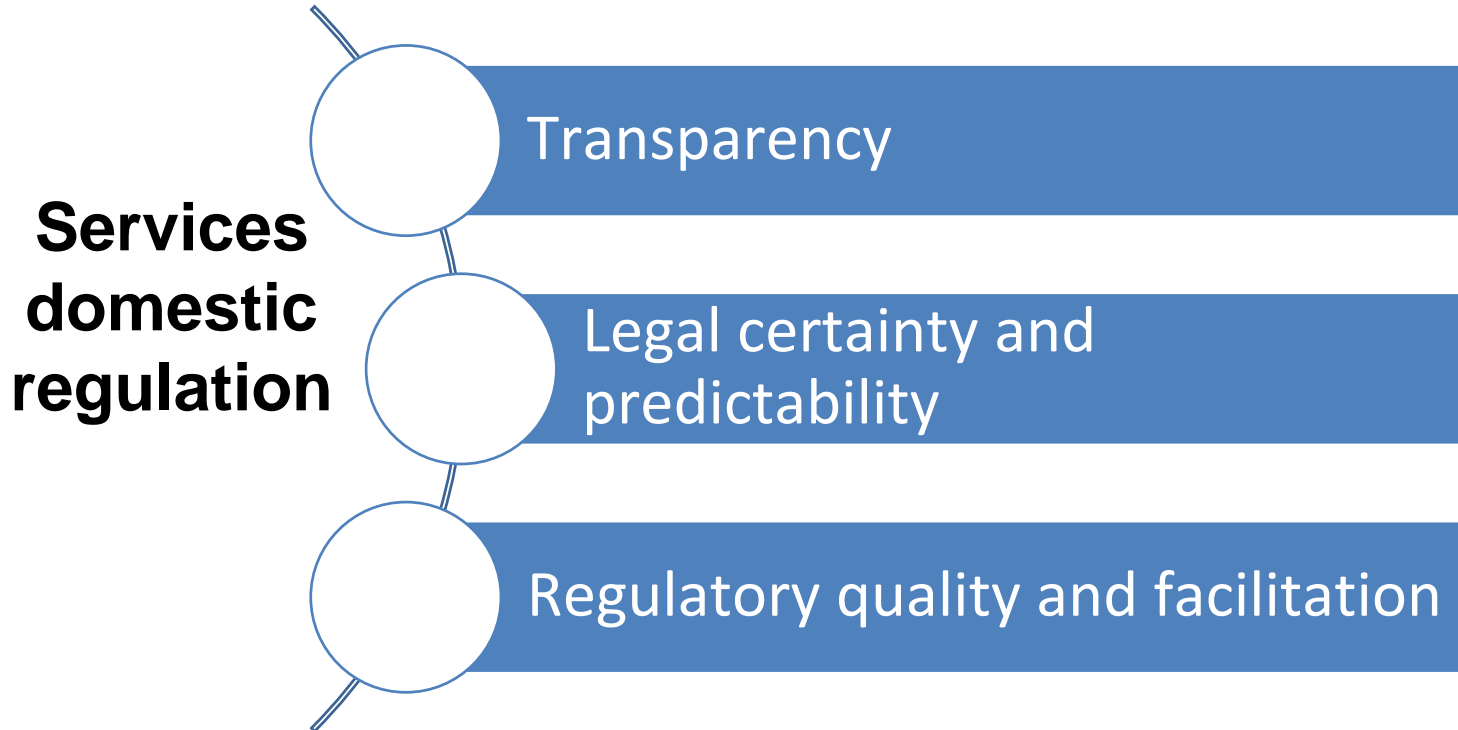
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13 January 2021

Transparency matters for trade

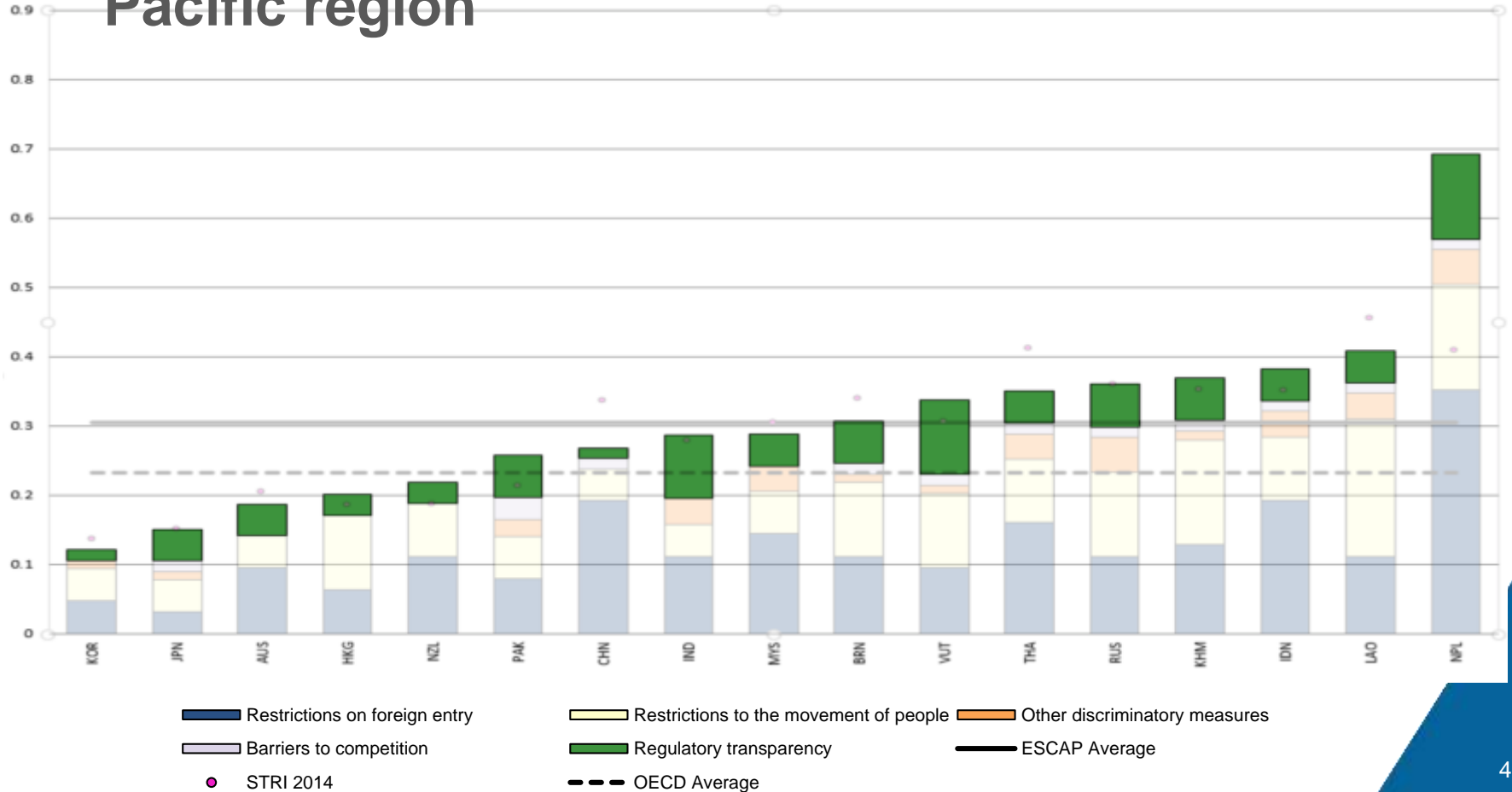


» Transparency as a core principle of the JSI SDR

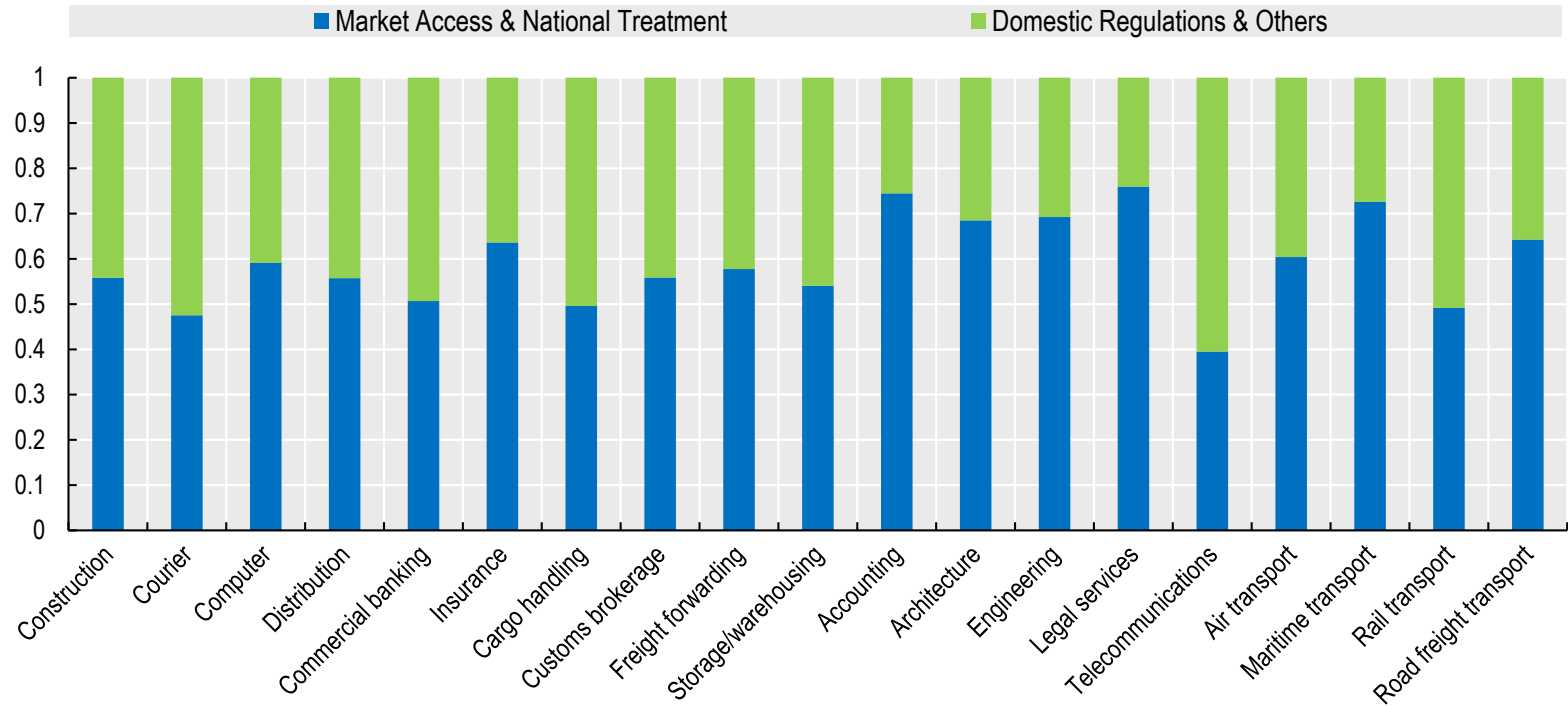


+ APEC non-binding principles on transparency

STRI findings on regulatory transparency in Asia Pacific region

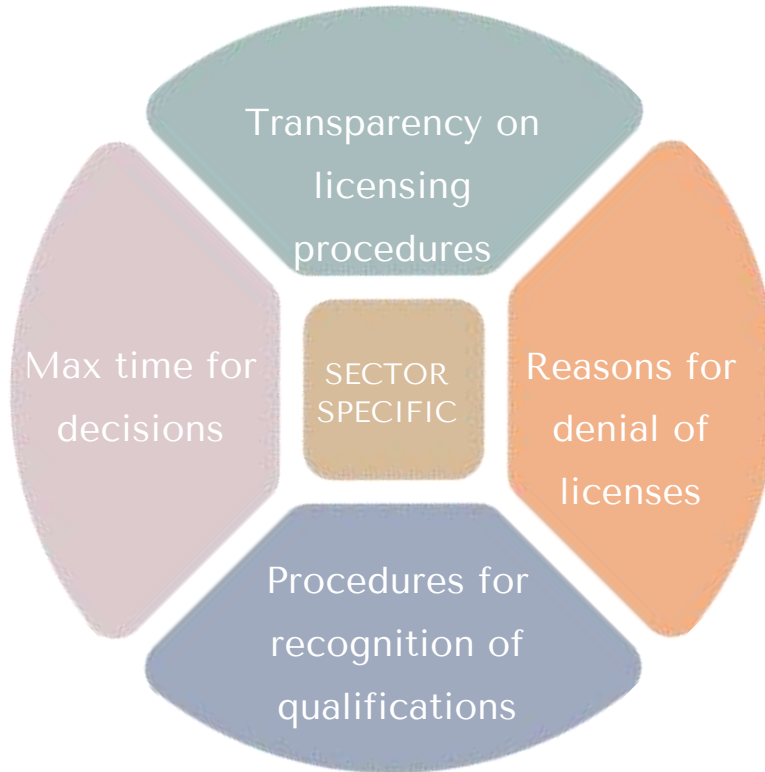


Particular importance of transparency for services trade openness



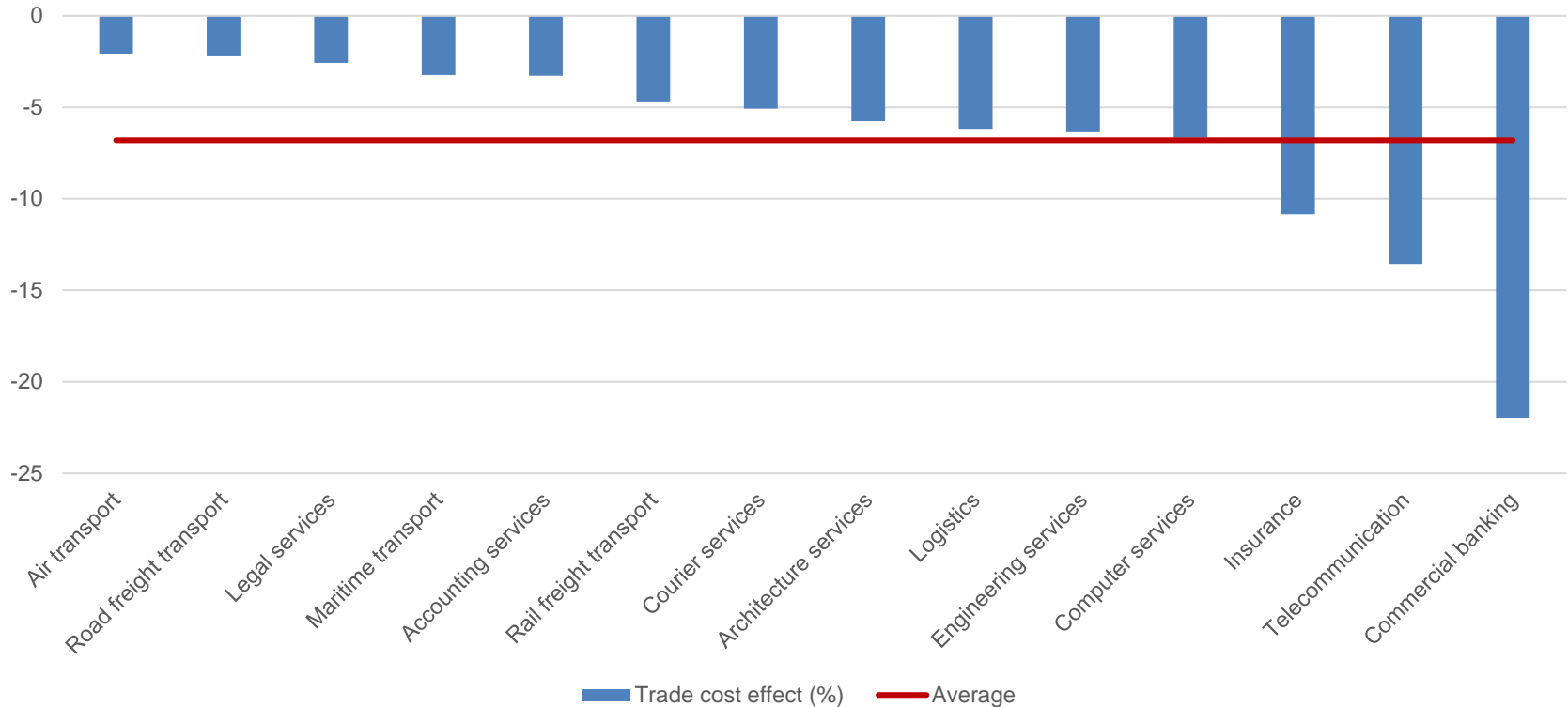
Source: [STRI \(2020\)](#)

» Transparency and DSR in the STRI (examples)



+ visa procedures

Potential trade costs reductions related to certain services domestic regulations

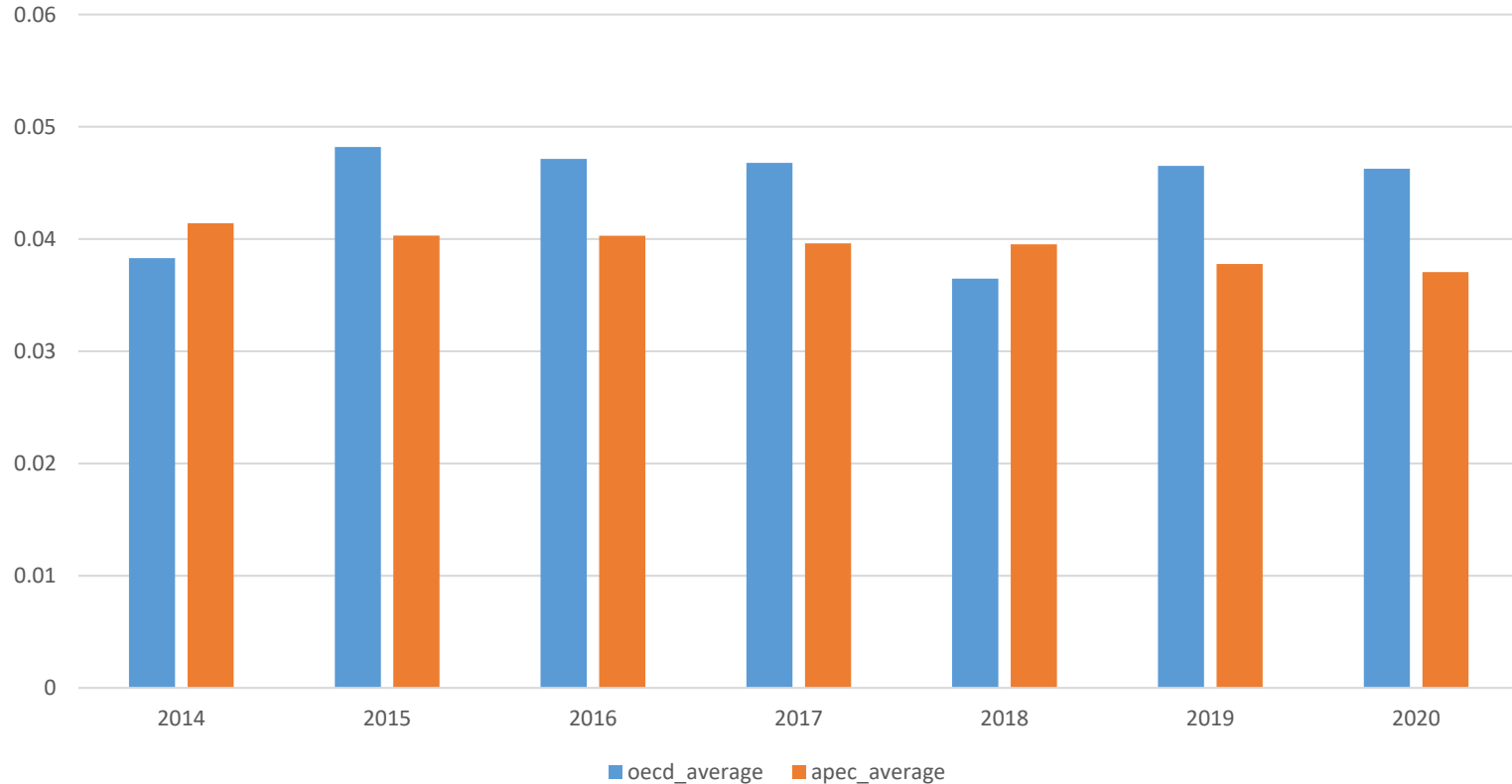


Note: Calculations based on the 14 APEC economies currently covered in the OECD STRI.

Source: Calculations are based on the methodology in [Benz & Jaax \(2020\)](#).

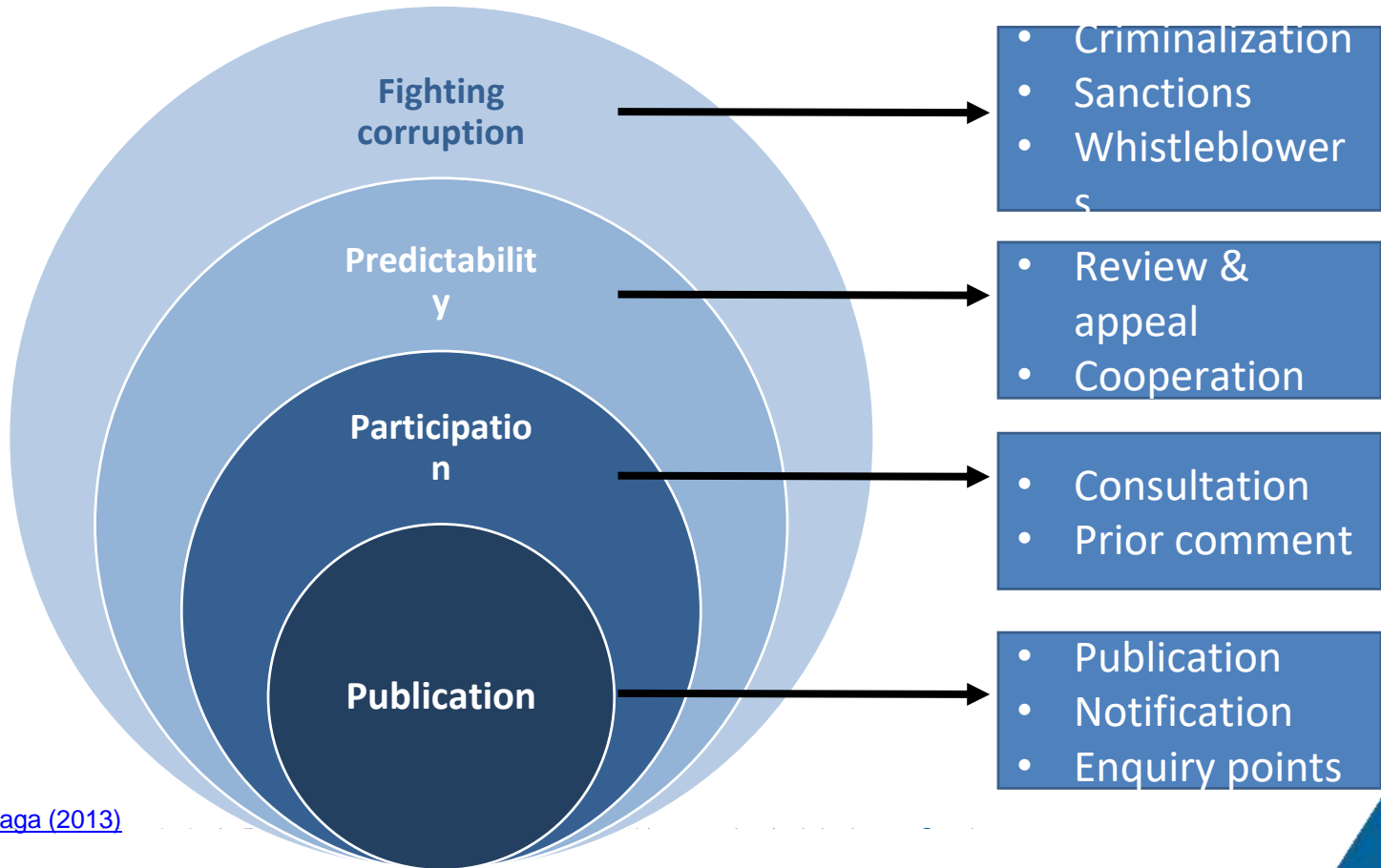


Regulatory transparency in the APEC region in recent years



Note: APEC based on 14 APEC economies currently covered in the OECD STRI. G20 based on 17 G20 countries and 19 further EU members currently covered in the OECD STRI. Trade-weighted average of intra-EEA restrictiveness and MFN restrictiveness for EU members. Equal weighting of all G20 members with available data, where the EU average is the simple average of 19 further EU members.

» Taxonomy of transparency provisions in RTAs



Conclusion

- Transparency is a key element of good regulatory practices
- APEC leading role in promoting transparency
- Transparency is becoming increasingly central in trade agreements
- The JSI on services domestic regulation makes transparency a core principle of the agreement
- Through the implementation of the JSI disciplines economies can significantly lower trade costs
- Implementation of transparency provisions benefits all.

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