



International
Trade
Centre

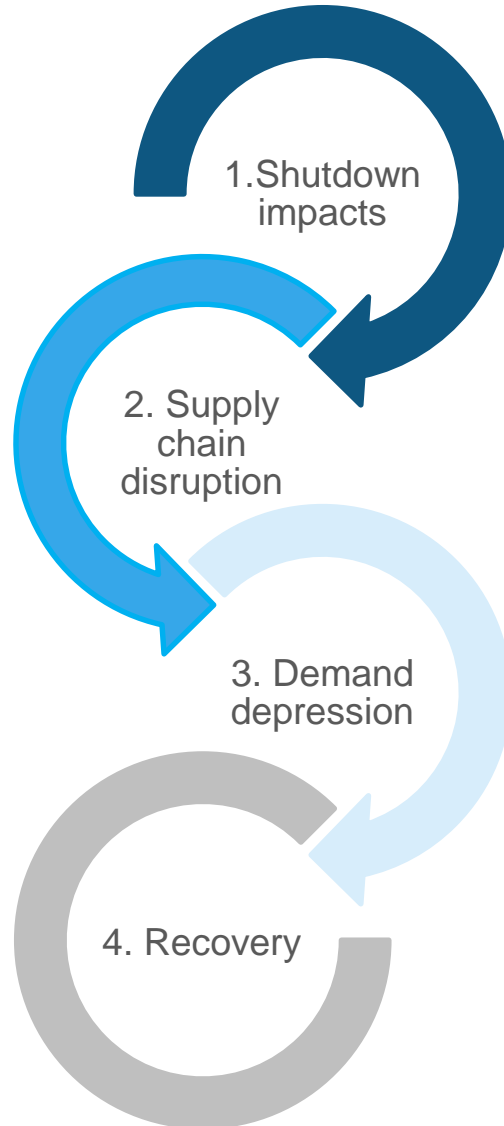
Coping COVID – 19 through trade facilitation

ITC's experience and continuing technical assistance



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COVID-19: a health crisis that challenges economy...



... and cross-border operations

Lives

&

Livelihoods



While adhering to social distances principles, speed up clearance without compromising safety issues and controls



Border
coordination

Simplification
of procedures

Automation and
digitalization

Trade Policy is part of solution and...

Trade Facilitation is more important than ever

ITC's response to COVID-19 challenge

Think

Act

1

Analysis and insights from businesses

2

Advice for business competitiveness

3

Adapt TRTA delivery modalities

4

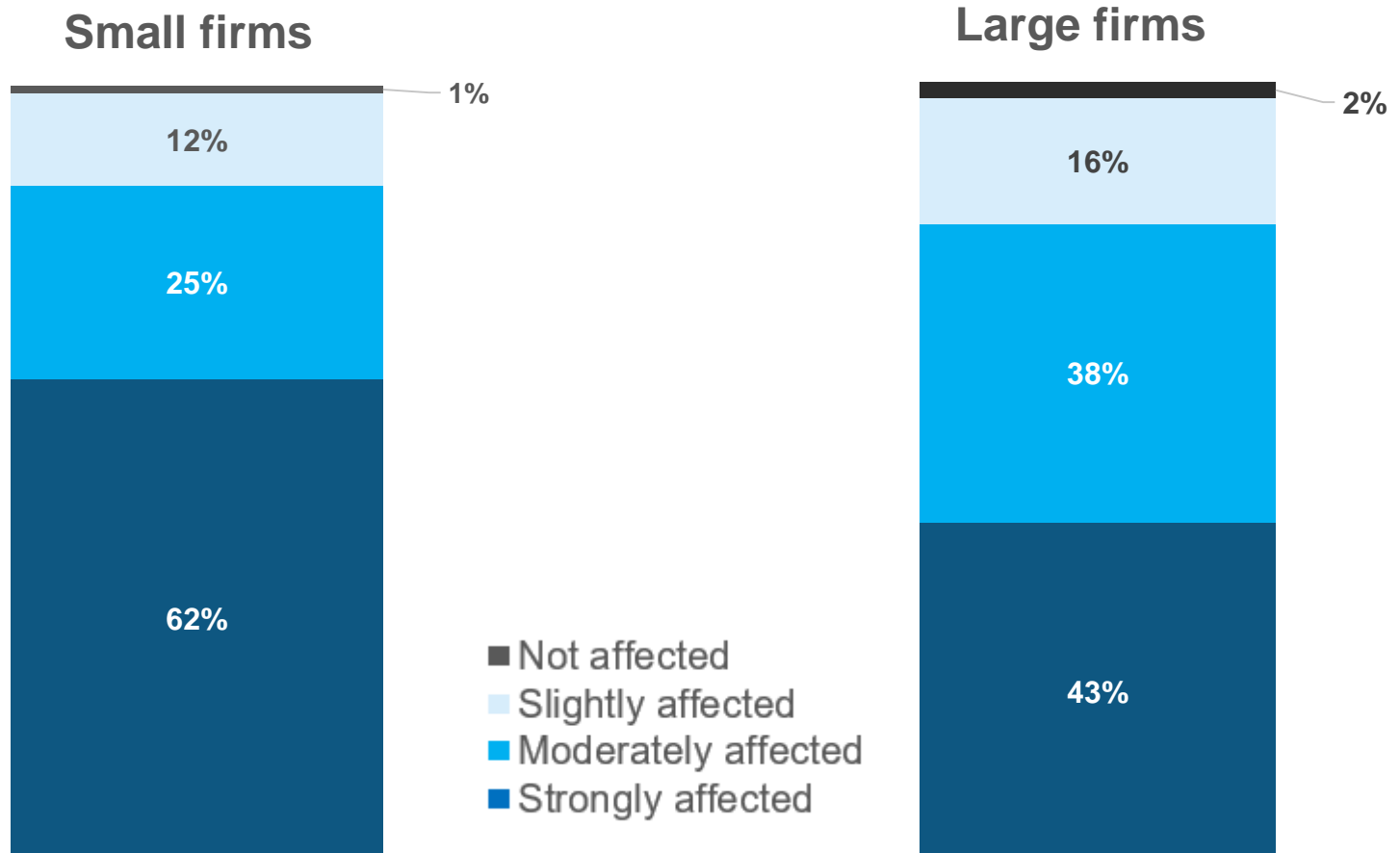
Implement digitally enabled TF reforms

1 Analysis and insights from businesses (1)



1 Analysis and insights from businesses (2)

- More than **60%** of MSEs are strongly affected by COVID-19, compared to **43%** of large firms



1 Analysis and insights from businesses (3)

- African exporters may lose more than **\$2.4** billion in global industrial supply chain exports
- **~20%** of SMEs are at risk of shutting down permanently
- COVID-19 strongly affected **64%** of women-led firms, compared with **52%** of men-led companies
- **21%** of small businesses were agile in their response to the crisis, compared to just **16%** of larger firms

2 Advice for business competitiveness (1)



2 Advice for business competitiveness (2)

Businesses

- Adapt business processes by applying common-sense and restructuring operations
- Optimize cash management
- Re-orient activities to ensure business continuity
- Build business models that foster resilience
- Foster relationships with partners and employees

2 Advice for business competitiveness (3)

BSOs

- Channel trusted information
- Coordinate collective actions by MSMEs
- Use digital platforms to enhance the competitiveness
- Enable MSMEs to thrive within a digital, global economy
- Be both global and local to inform and reduce the risks

2 Advice for business competitiveness (4)

Governments

- Resist protectionism
- Expand and facilitate access to trade finance
- Streamline cross –border trade in goods and services
- Spur the digitalization of trade documents and procedures
- Prepare to operate in digital, global economy

3 ITC adapts technical assistance services to the “new normal” (1)



Invest more in national resources and capacity



Boost investment in e-learning facilities



Adapt implementation modalities



Leverage bilateral and regional online consultations

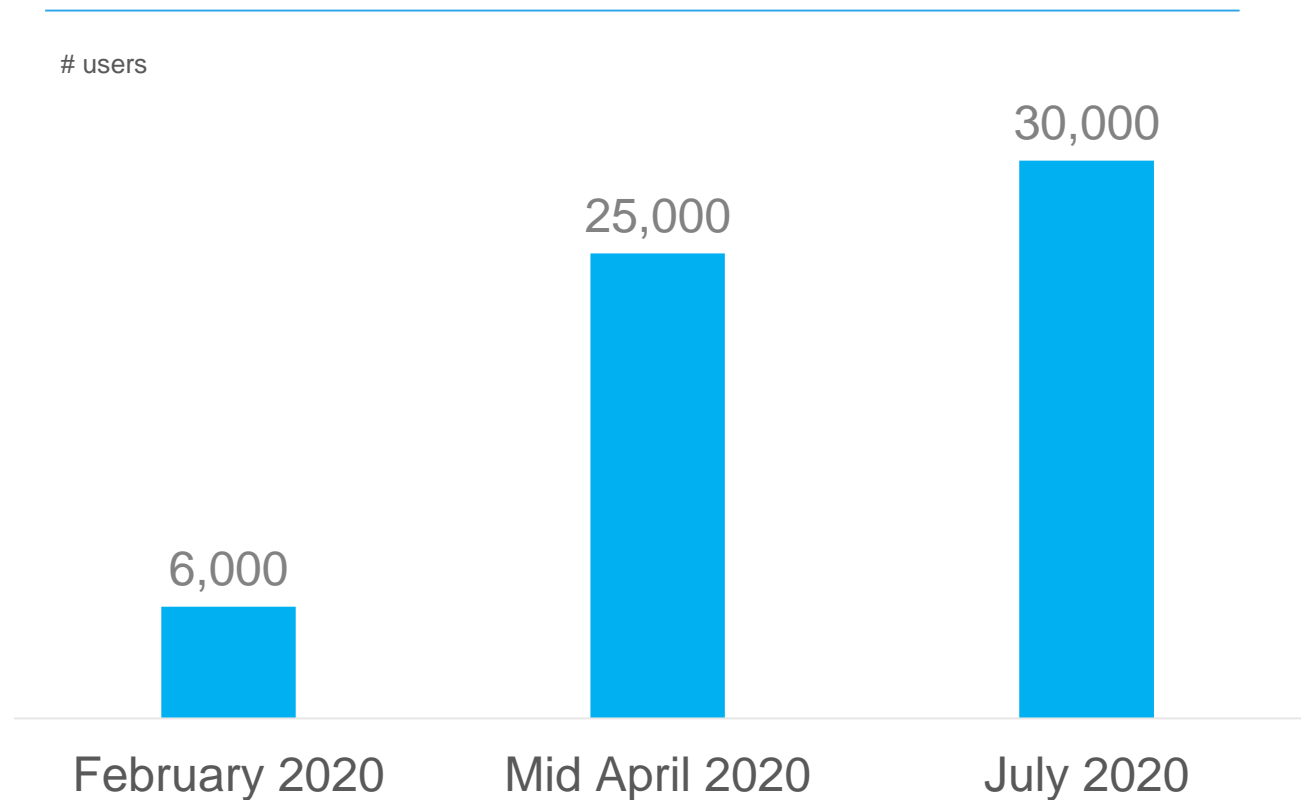
3 E-learning courses from ITC SME Trade Academy are in huge demand (2)

100
e-learning
courses free of
charge

More than
110,000
enrolments so
far in 2020
(**55%** women)

16,000
unique visitors
in a single day

Number of platform user grew by **5** times
over confinement period



4 ITC kept the reform momentum high for the past 8 months (1)

Streamlining procedures

PPD and NTFC online

Advance rulings

Pre-arrival processing

Acceptance of copies

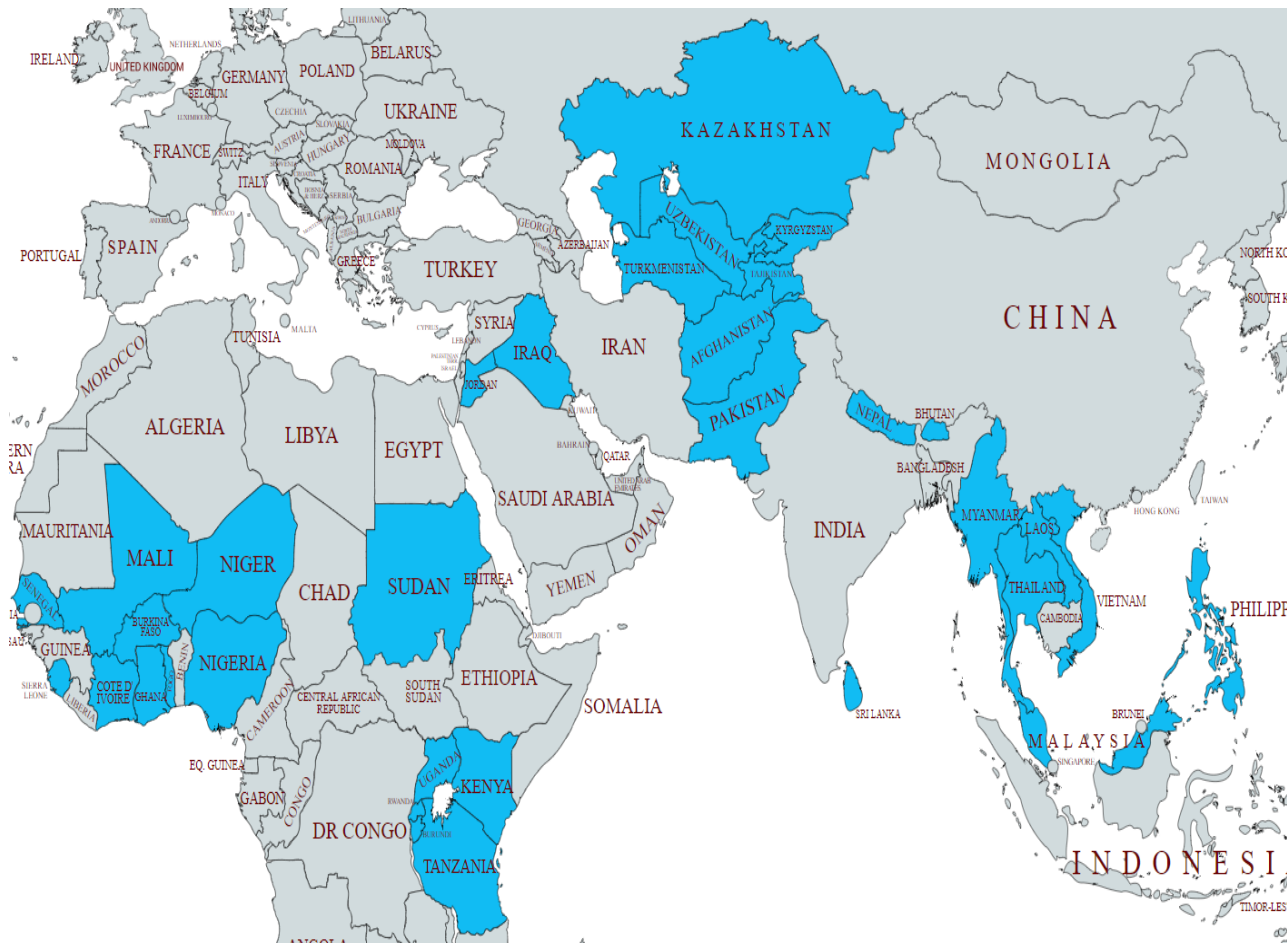
Online Trade Portals

Digitalization of CO

AEO scheme

Regional dialogue and harmonization

NTFC - COVID 19 response



Digitalization is the biggest enabler of TF reforms

4

How ITC assists private sector in adapting to COVID-19 challenges (2) (January 2020 up to now)

E-curriculum

More than **20,000** participants from **180** countries to online courses on trade facilitation, logistics, quality and export management



On-the job Coaching

20 businesses coached in **6** countries on import/export management practices by local trainers trained by ITC



Advocacy

6 BSOs and **10** CCI (continuously) trained in **6** countries on advocating and for sectoral and policy reforms



More than **200** businesses trained on how to advocate for trade facilitation reforms

Training for women traders

Development of training programme for women-led businesses on cross border trade



Thank you for your attention

