



Easing Trade Bottlenecks in Landlocked Developing Countries

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Project Origin



- Yearly Secretariat report on the Vienna Programme of Action for the Landlocked Developing Countries to UN OHRLLS
- 23 March 2021 Aid for Trade Stocktaking event on the Impact of COVID-19 on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Implications for Resilient Recovery, where LLDCs expressed the effects of the effects of COVID-19 border measures on their import and export capabilities
- Finally, a meeting between LLDC Group and Director-General Ngozi Okonjo Iweala, after which the DG requested that the WTO Secretariat to conduct a study on the logistical constraints impacting the trade performance of LLDCs.

Transit Issues

Table 6: Article 7 notification data

	Category A current (%)	Category B current (%)	Category C current (%)	Category B future (%)	Category C future (%)
Article 7.1: pre-arrival processing					
Global	40	8	3	6	18
LDCs	29	3	6	6	49
Developing members	61	14	3	8	13
Transit countries	57	13	3	3	23
LLDCs	23	15	3	15	42
Article 7.4: risk management					
Global	31	3	2	1	36
LDCs	14	6	3	3	66
Developing members	51	4	3	1	39
Transit countries	43	10	10	–	37
LLDCs	30	4	–	–	66
Article 7.5: post-clearance audit					
Global	40	3	2	4	25
LDCs	37	3	–	3	49
Developing members	59	5	3	6	26
Transit countries	56	8	3	3	30
LLDCs	42	4	–	4	50

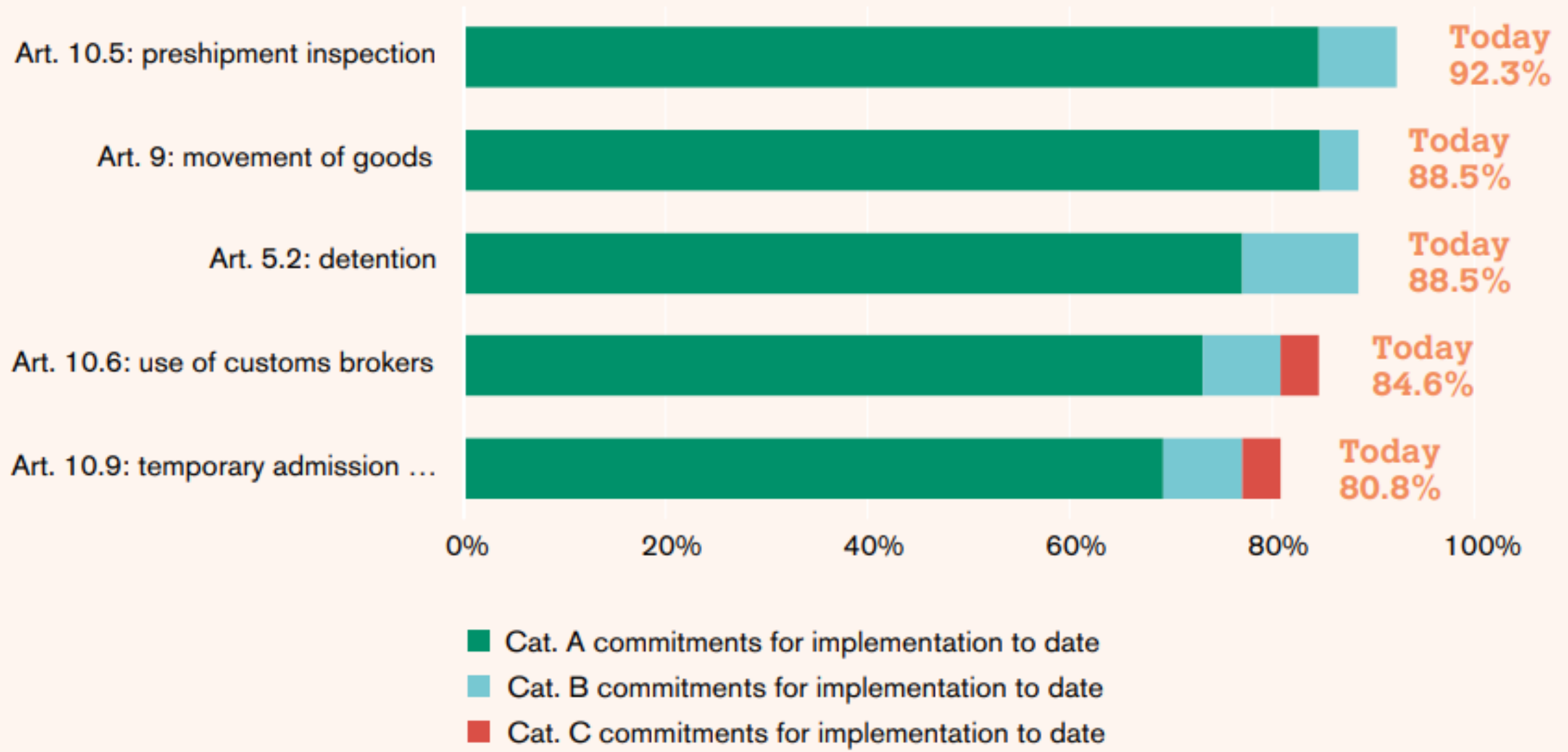
Source: WTO Secretariat.

Table 7: Articles 8 and 11 notification data

	Category A current (%)	Category B current (%)	Category C current (%)	Category B future (%)	Category C future (%)
Article 8: Border Agency Cooperation					
Global	29.4	5.1	1.2	4.1	33.7
LDCs	0.5	5.7	5.7	3.3	76.2
Developing members	53.1	7.0	3.3	6.1	31.5
Transit countries	30.6	3.3	–	10.0	52.8
LLDCs	23.7	3.8	–	0.6	71.8
Article 11: Freedom of Transit					
Global	45.3	6.4	1.7	7.3	13.3
LDCs	30.7	3.5	2.9	21.5	32.8
Developing members	70.2	10.2	2.0	4.9	11.3
Transit countries	50.5	6.0	3.7	10.8	29.0
LLDCs	43.6	9.9	4.9	20.9	20.7

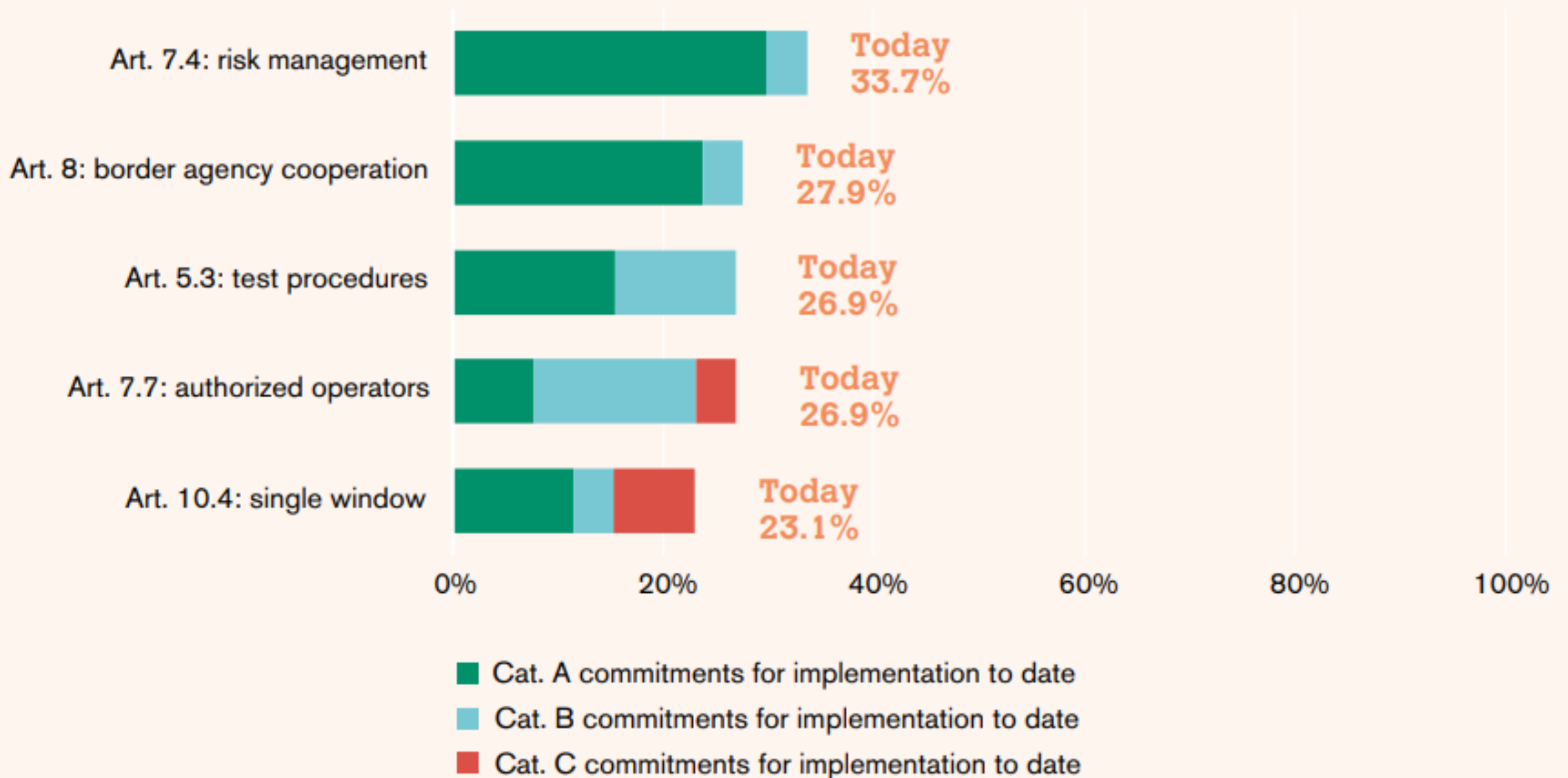
Source: WTO Secretariat.

Figure 10: Top five measures with the highest rate of TFA implementation commitments by LLDCs



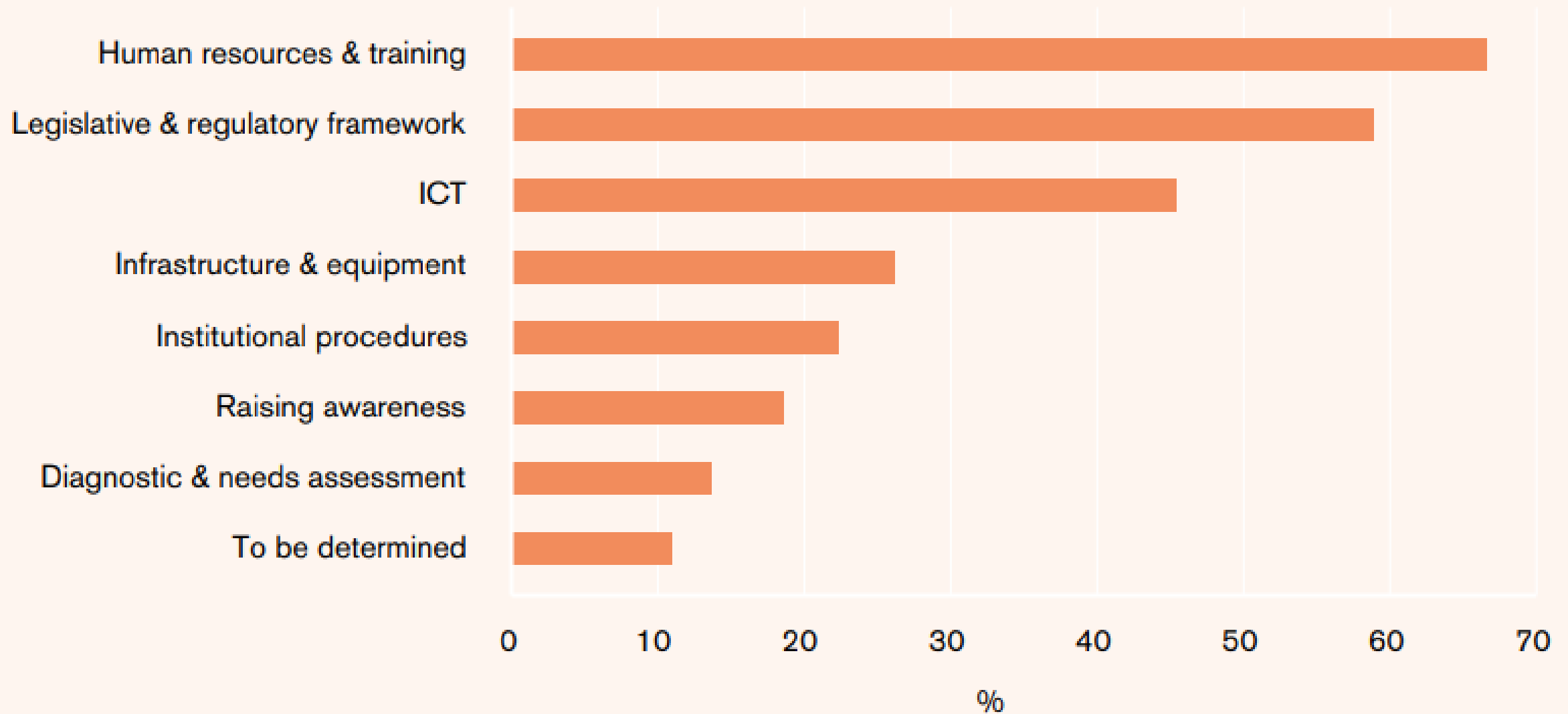
Source: TFAD.

Figure 11: Bottom five measures with lowest rate of TFA implementation commitments by LLDCs



Source: TFAD.

Figure 12: Type of technical assistance required



Source: TFAD.

Recommendations



- LLDCs to lead on transparency
- Enhanced TFA implementation
- Priorities import/export documentation and border cooperation
- Digitalization of border processes
- Customs interconnectivity and interoperability
- Developing transit corridors
- Targeted AFT
- Improving trade related infrastructure

- LLDC and Transit Country TPRs to focus on transit & transport
- Interdependency of LLDCs and transit countries
- Information on transit requirements
- Develop SPS standards that apply to goods in transit only when they present a risk
- Provide assistance to LLDCs to develop quality infrastructure to meet standards

- ROO should not require direct consignment
- Tackle the logistics, shipping cost and supply chain issues
- Engage in e-commerce discussions in WTO to close digital divide
- Connectivity and digital technologies should be a priority for LLDCs
- Develop industries and services that are less affected by lack of sea access
- Enhanced partnerships