



Integrating a Gender Lens in Free Trade Agreements : Reality of Impacts in Practice and its Relevance during COVID-19 Trade Disruptions

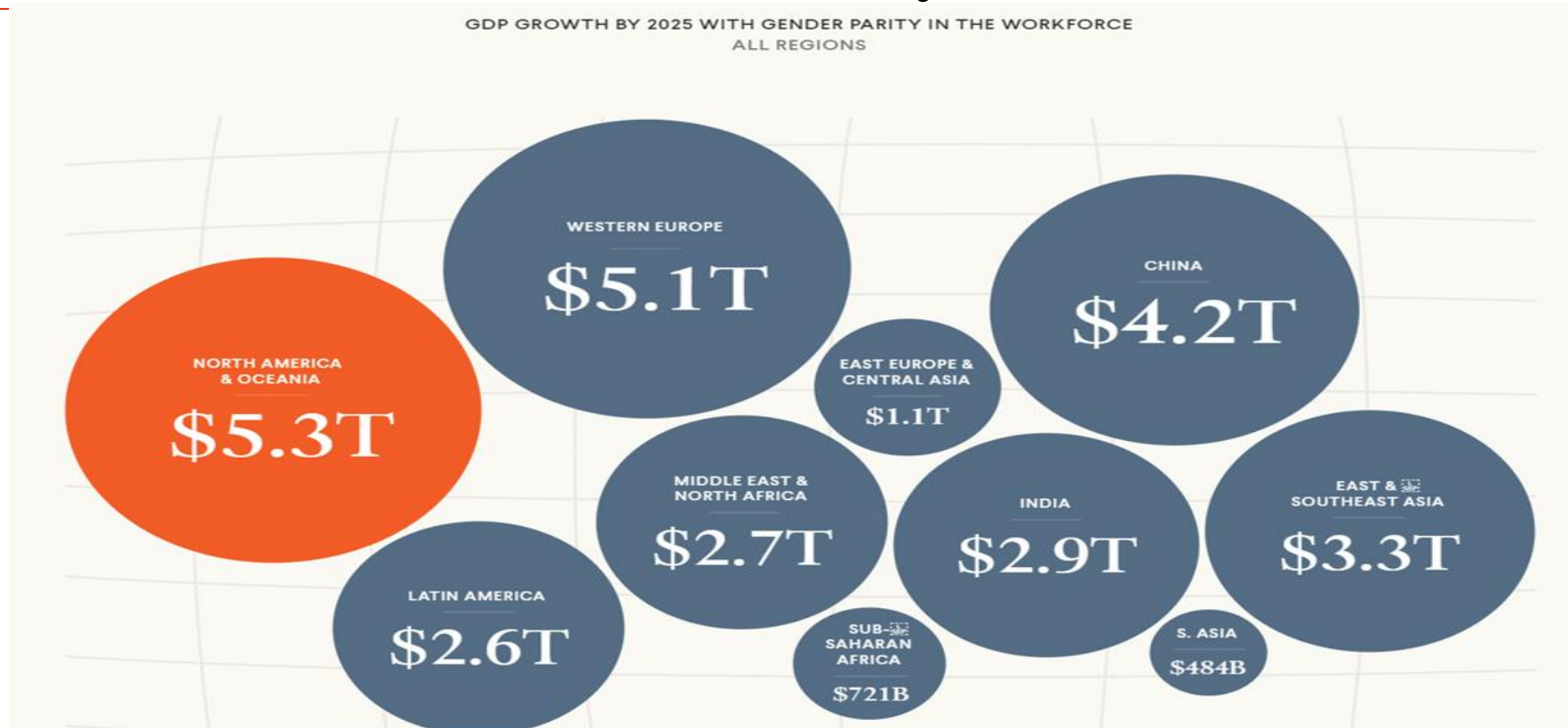
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Table of Contents

- 1. Trade & Gender: The Business Case**
- 2. Approach?** - Measuring Gender-Responsiveness in FTAs through ITC's Maturity Framework
- 3. Results?** - Canada and East Africa are Pioneers, EU Follows...

The Business Case: Gender Equality Benefits Economy

GDP GROWTH BY 2025 WITH GENDER PARITY IN THE WORKFORCE
ALL REGIONS



Source: McKinsey Global Institute

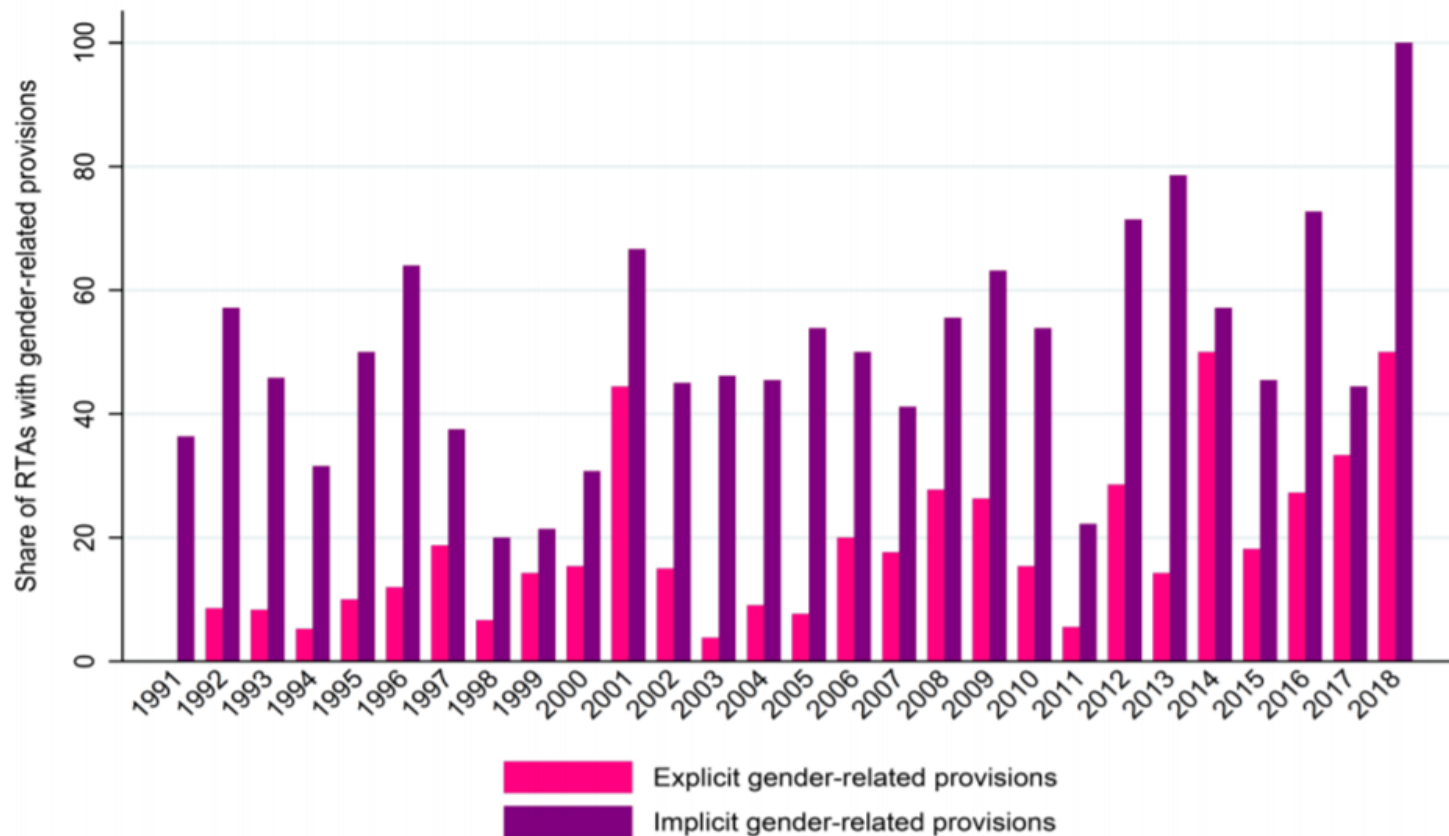
International Instruments Acknowledge this Relation....



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



Beijing
+25



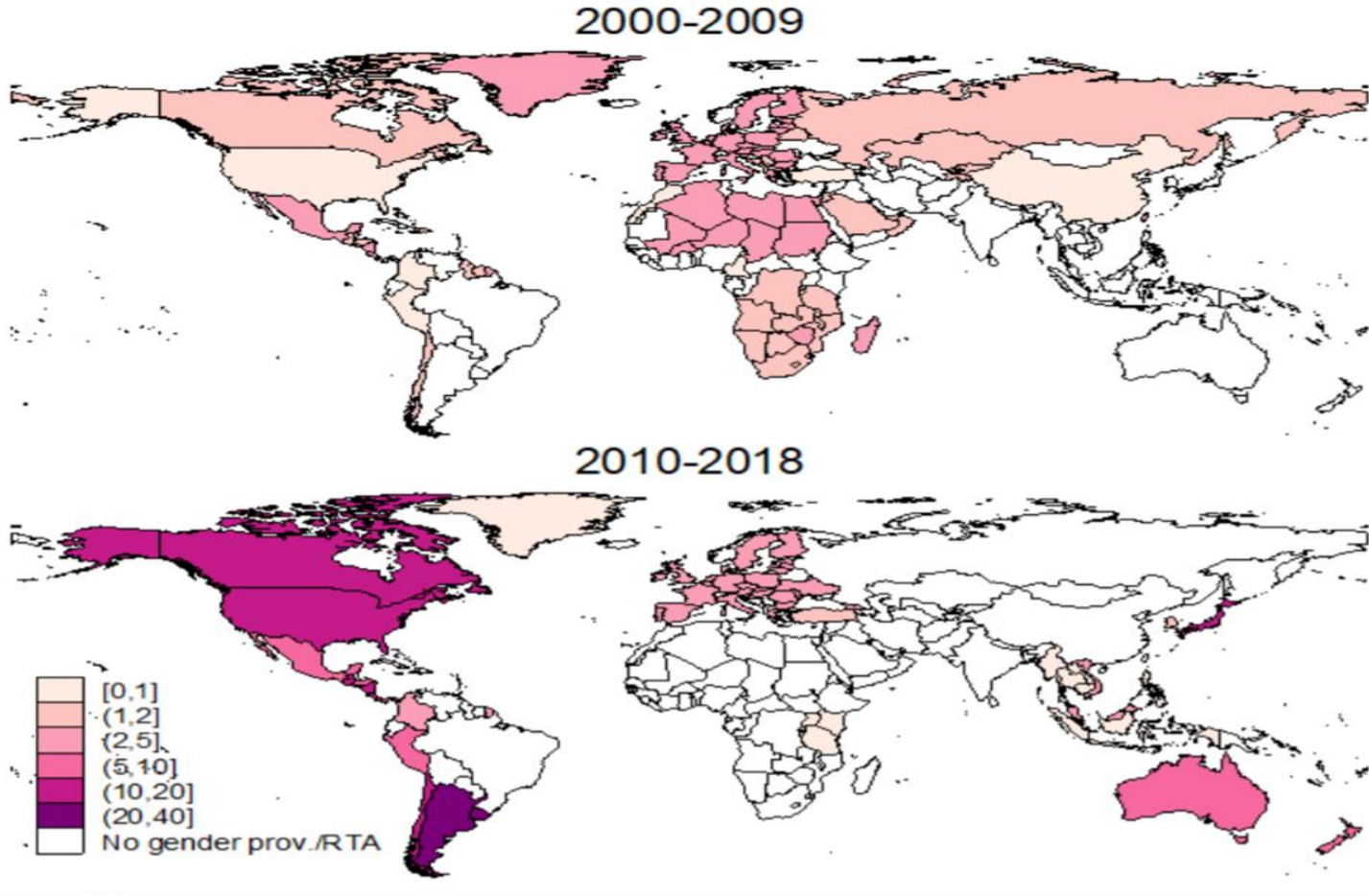
Percentage of RTAs with explicit and implicit gender-related provisions

Source: Author's calculations.

Note: The total number of RTAs with gender-related provision per year is the sum of RTAs incorporating gender-related provisions that entered into force that year. Figures are not cumulative. Implicit gender-related provisions refer to provisions addressing human rights, vulnerable groups and the social dimension of sustainable development, including labour discrimination, fair trade and corporate social responsibility without any explicit reference to gender.

Source:
WTO Economic Research
and Stats Division 2018




Average Number of Gender-related Provisions in RTAs by country



1. **What is happening here?**
2. **Why is it happening?**
3. **What could be the hesitations?**

Source:
WTO Economic Research
and Stats Division 2018

Approach: Measuring Gender-Responsiveness of FTAs: ITC's Maturity Framework

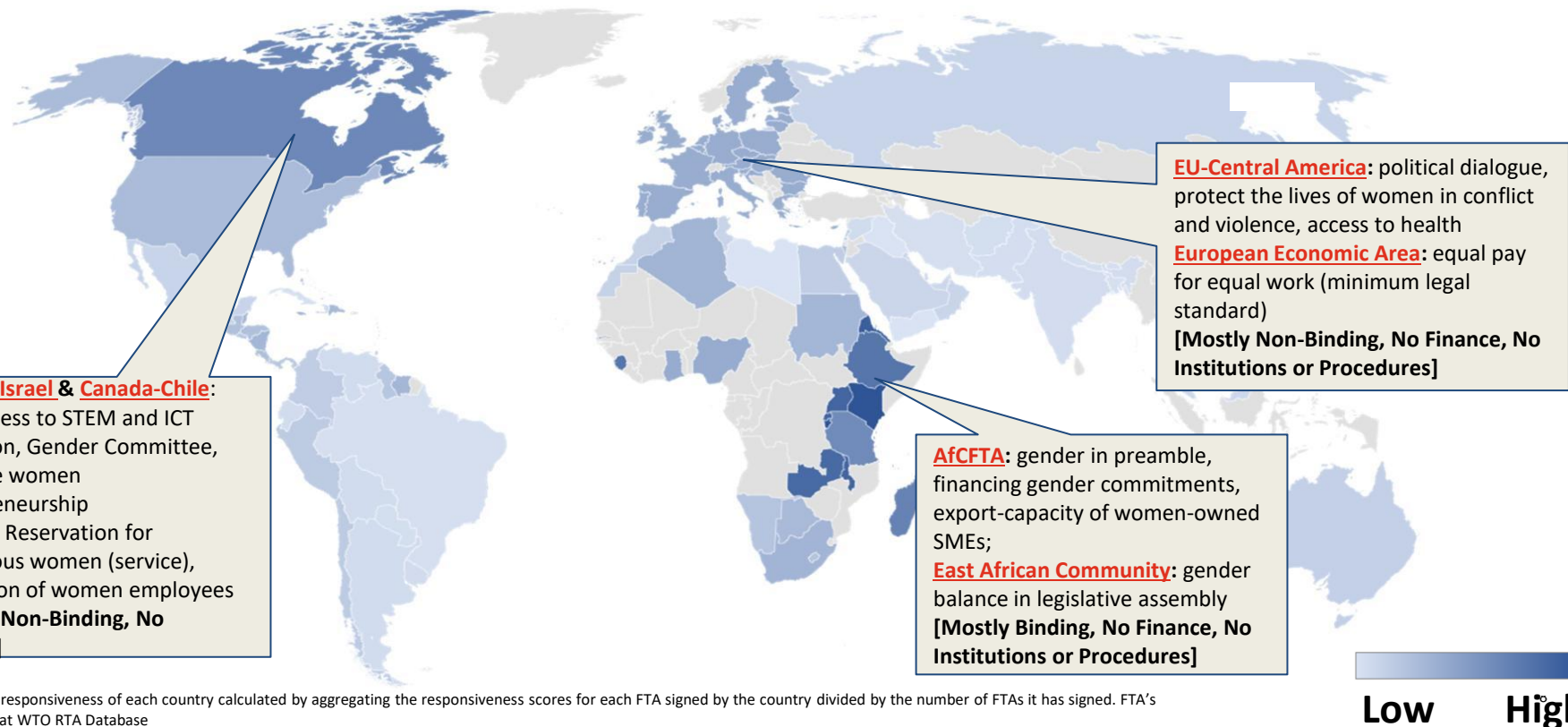
Category	Definition	Dimensions	
 Awareness	This category reflects parties' awareness and the importance they assign to the incorporation of gender concerns in the given free trade agreement (FTA).	1. Frequency of Relevant Provisions	2. Location of Relevant Provisions
		3. Affirmations and Reaffirmations	
 Affirmative Action	This category reflects whether parties to the given FTA consider or commit to any affirmative action to incorporate gender concerns.	4. Cooperation Activities	5. Institutional Arrangement
		6. Procedural Arrangements	7. Review and Funding
 Enforcement	This category reflects whether parties to the given FTA consider or commit to the robust enforcement of gender-components included in the FTA.	8. Settlement of Disputes	9. Minimum Legal Standards
		10. Waivers, Reservations & Exceptions	

Limited - FTA at this level is either completely or close to being gender-blind or gender-neutral in nature as it fails to mainstream gender concerns.

Evolving - FTA at this level employs some best practices for mainstreaming gender concerns, but it has a significant scope for further improvement.

Advanced - FTA at this level achieves the highest level of maturity in the way it mainstreams gender concerns with the use of best practices for incorporating gender concerns, and there is no or only a negligible scope for further improvement.

Results: *Canada and East Africa are Pioneers, EU Follows...*



iThanks!

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