

Doing Business

In Small Island Developing States **2008**

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The World Bank



IFC | International
Finance Corporation
World Bank Group

2007

- Starting a business
- Dealing with licenses
- Employing workers
- Registering property
- Getting credit
- Protecting investors
- Paying taxes
- Trading across borders
- Enforcing contracts
- Closing a business

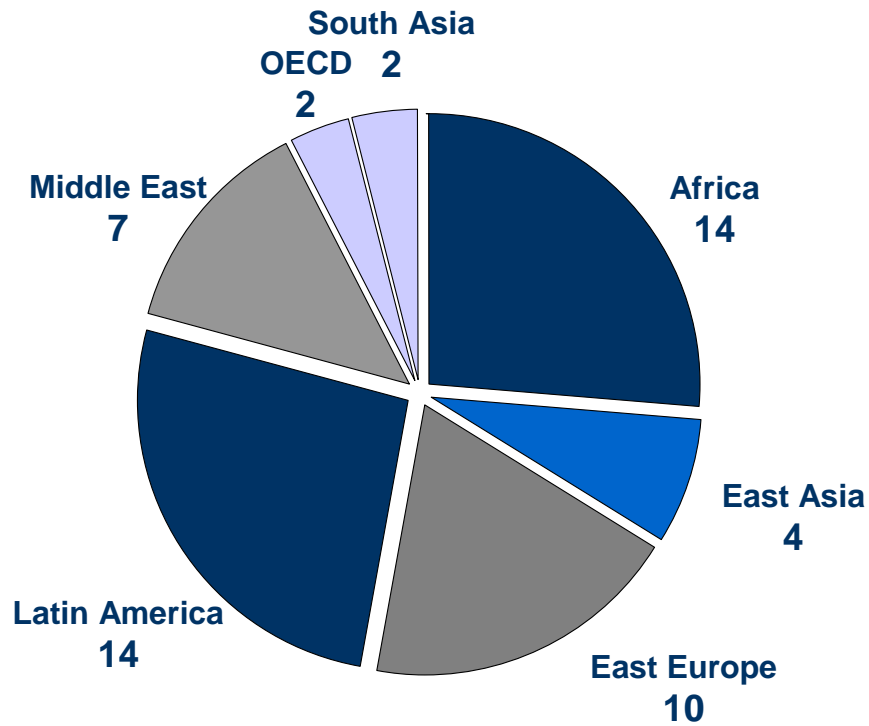
2008

- Update of 2007
- 180 countries
- Launch of Opportunities for women
- Doing Business Reform Unit

2009

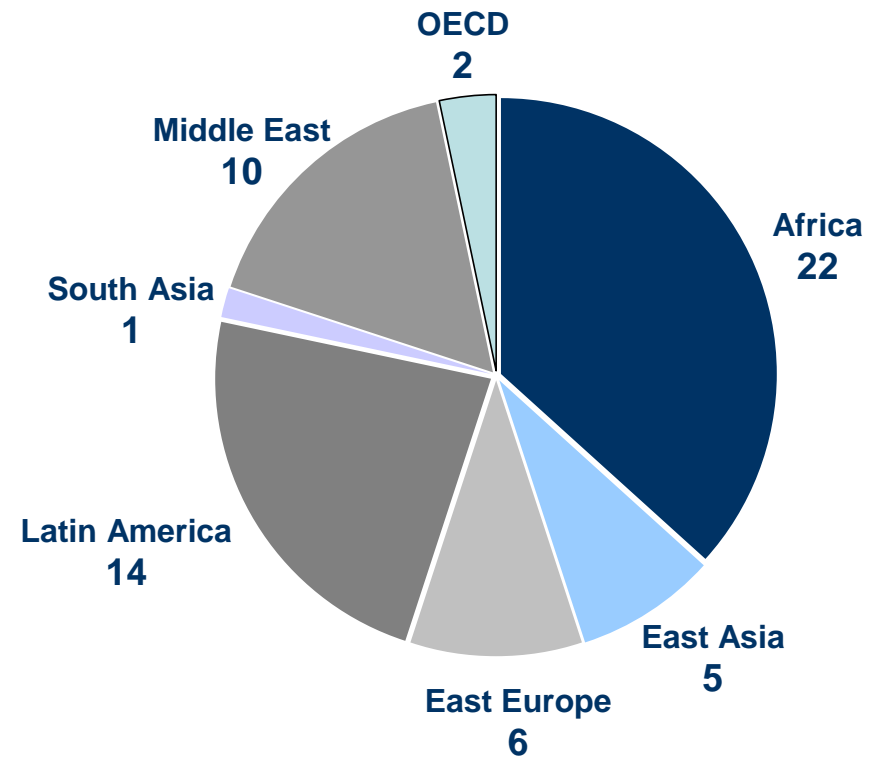
- Transparency
- Infrastructure
- Research program on opportunities for women

Inspired and Informed



53 completed reforms

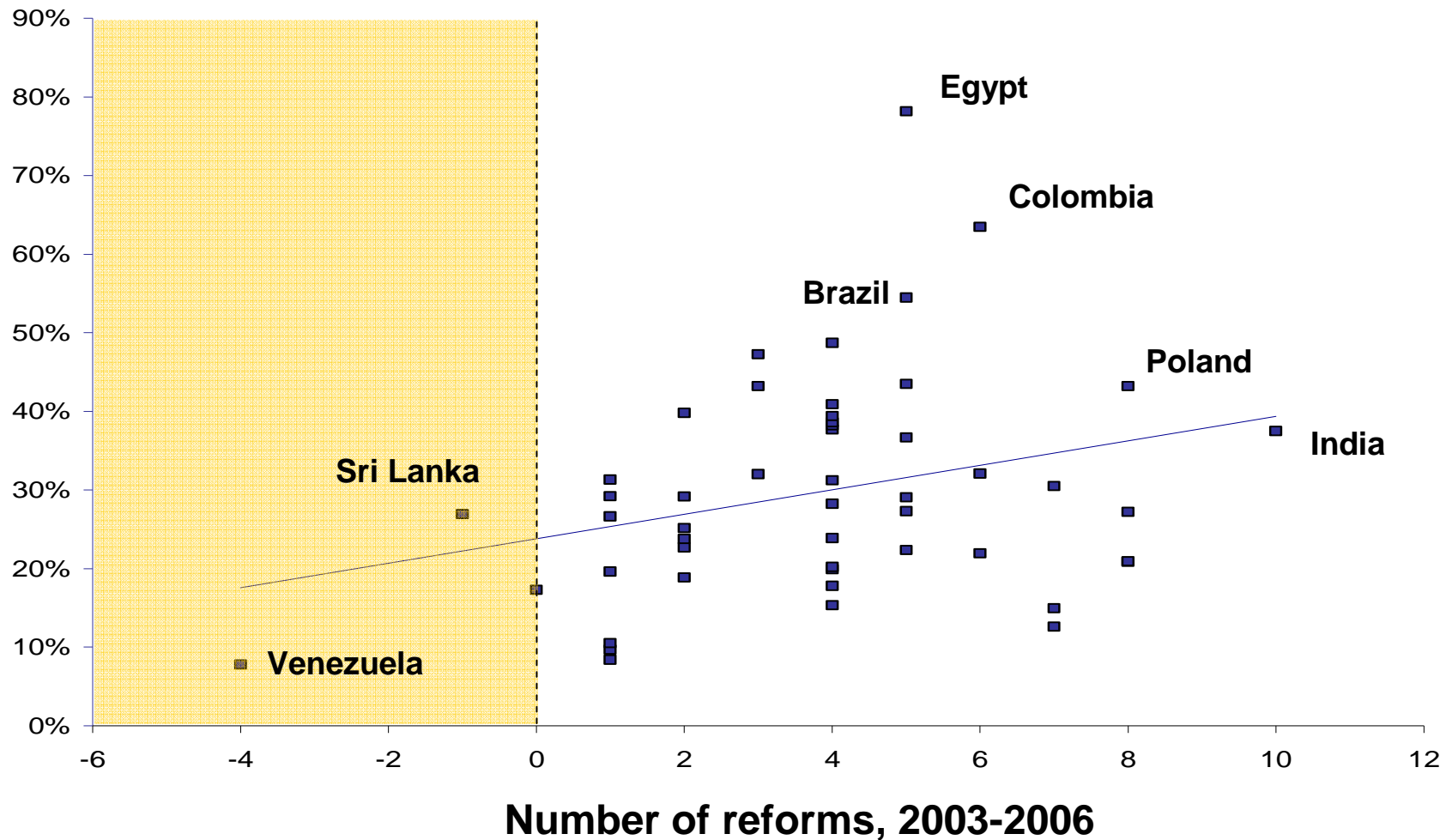
Ongoing Reforms



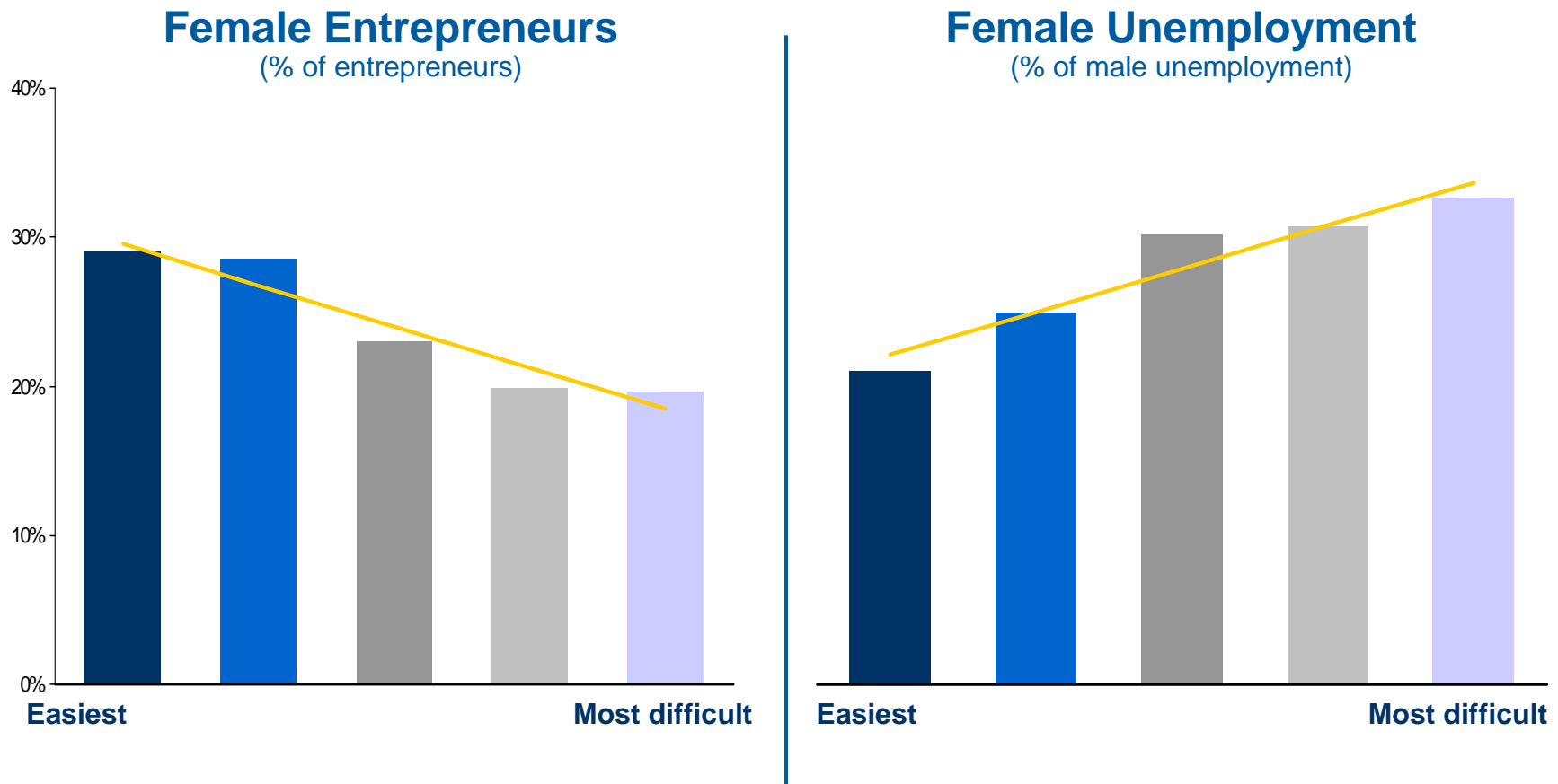
60 ongoing reforms

More Reforms - Higher Equity Returns

3-year shareholder returns



...and Higher Shares of Female Entrepreneurs and Women in the Labor Force



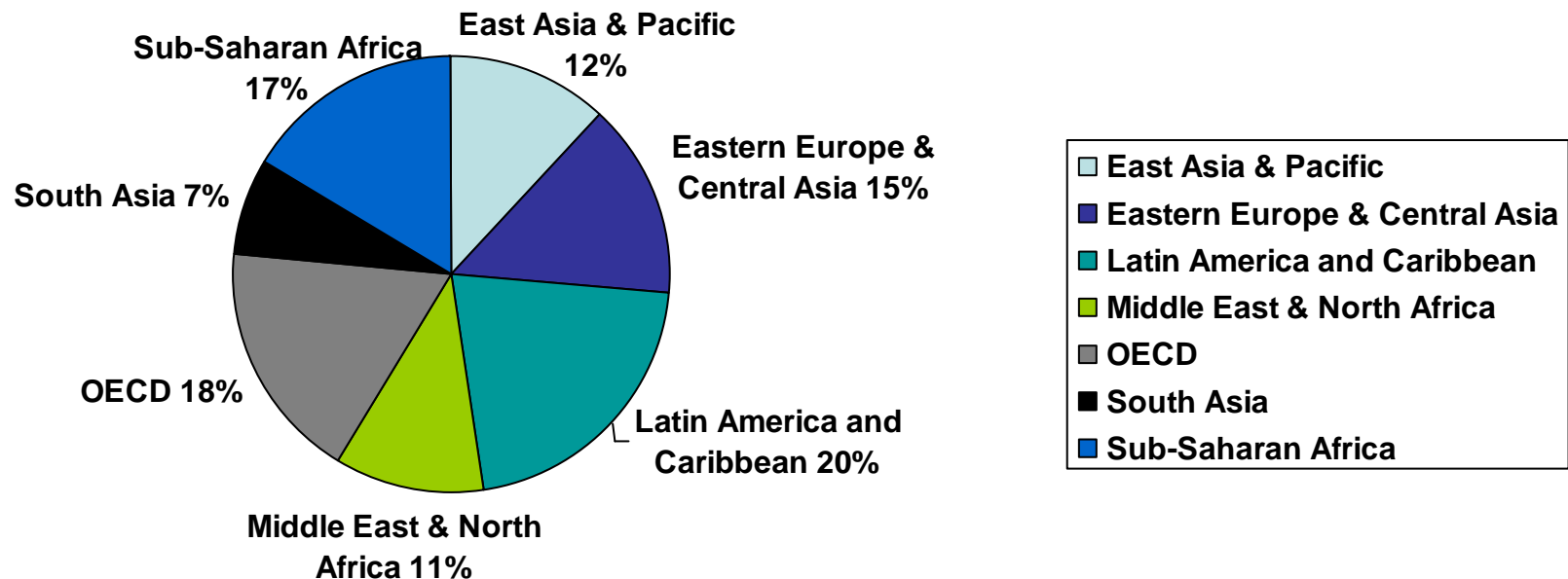
Countries ranked by ease of doing business, quintiles

Enterprise Survey Data: % of Firms With Female Participation in Ownership

Doing
Business
2008

Top 10 Countries: Firms with Female Participation in Ownership

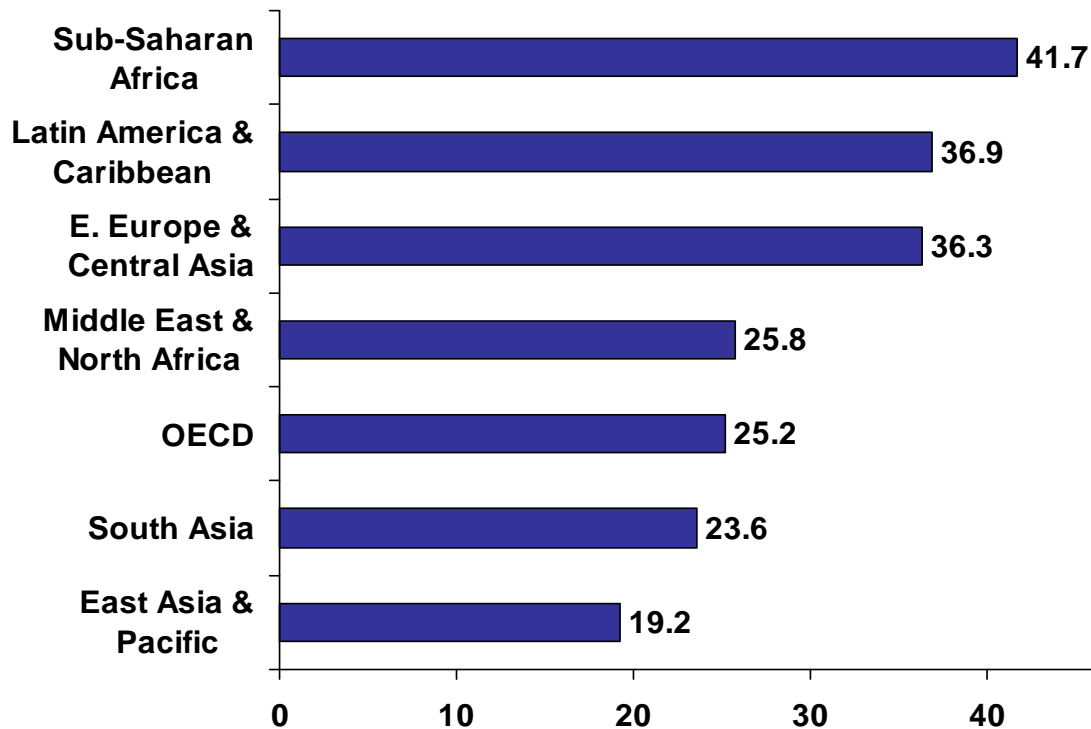
1. Costa Rica (65.26%)
2. Portugal (50.76%)
3. Paraguay (44.76%)
4. Ghana (44.01%)
5. Colombia (43.04%)
6. Cape Verde (42.71%)
7. Latvia (42.28%)
8. Ireland (41.59%)
9. Uruguay (41.56%)
10. Nicaragua (41.41%)



Ease of Doing Business in SIDS

1. Singapore	17. Dominica
2. Mauritius	18. Solomon Islands
3. St.Lucia	19. Palau
4. Fiji	20. Papua New Guinea
5. Antigua and Barbuda	21. Marshall Islands
6. Tonga	22. Seychelles
7. St.Vincent and the Grenadines	23. Dominican Republic
8. Belize	24. Guyana
9. Maldives	25. Micronesia
10. Samoa	26. Cape Verde
11. Vanuatu	27. Suriname
12. Jamaica	28. Comoros
13. St.Kitts and Nevis	29. Haiti
14. Trinidad and Tobago	30. São Tomé and Príncipe
15. Grenada	31. Timor-Leste
16.Kiribati	32. Guinea-Bissau

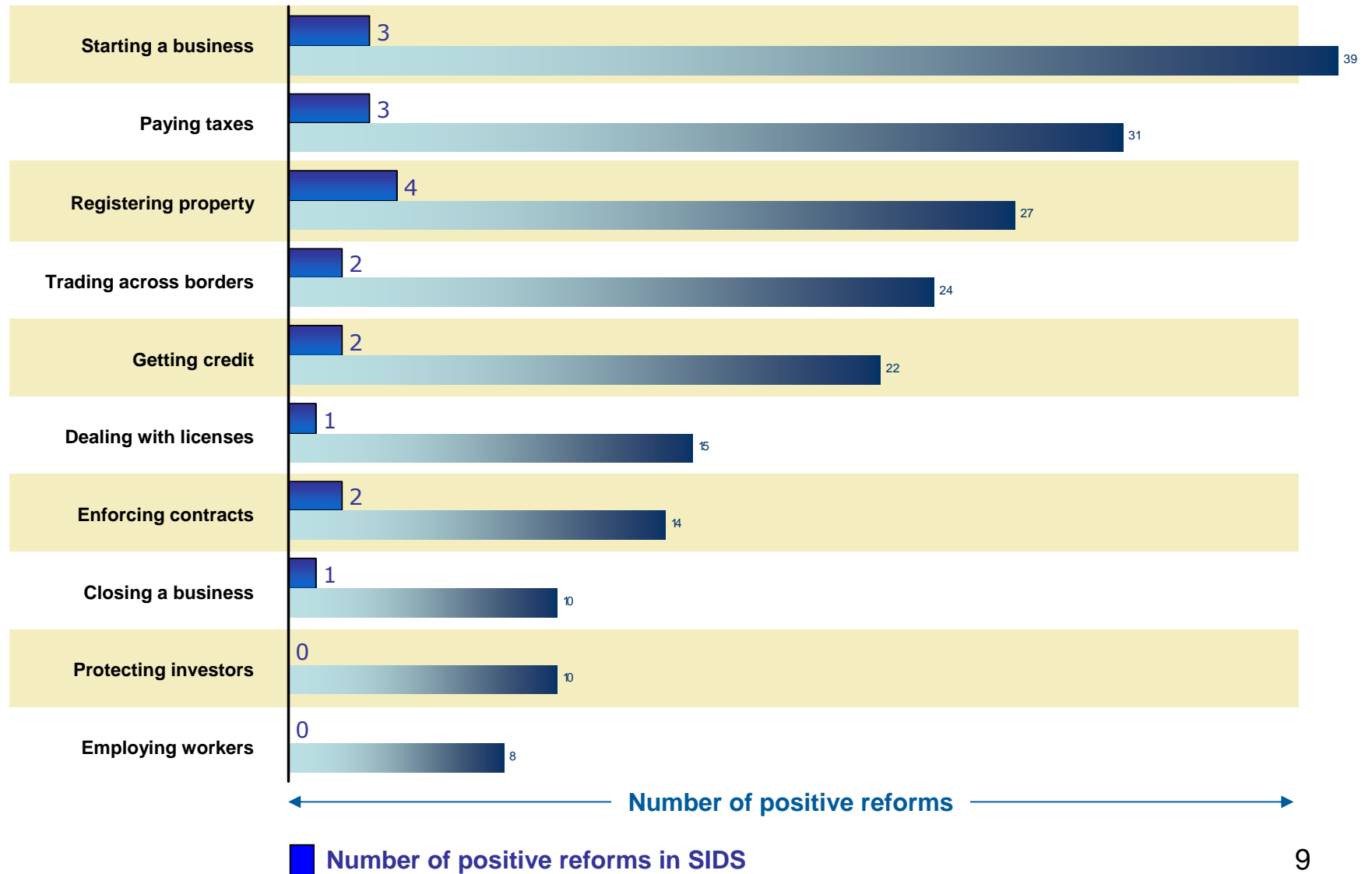
Ease of Hiring Workers (0 = most flexible)



Employing Workers Top 10

1. United States
1. Singapore
1. Marshall Islands
4. Georgia
5. Brunei
6. Tonga
7. Maldives
8. Australia
9. Palau
10. Denmark

Easier Entry Regulations, Lower Taxes, Faster Property Transfers among the Most Popular Reforms in the World 2006-07 – Few reforms in SIDS



Examples of short-term reforms:
these require **mainly**
administrative changes.

- Starting a Business*
- Registering Property*
- Dealing with Licenses
- Trading across Borders

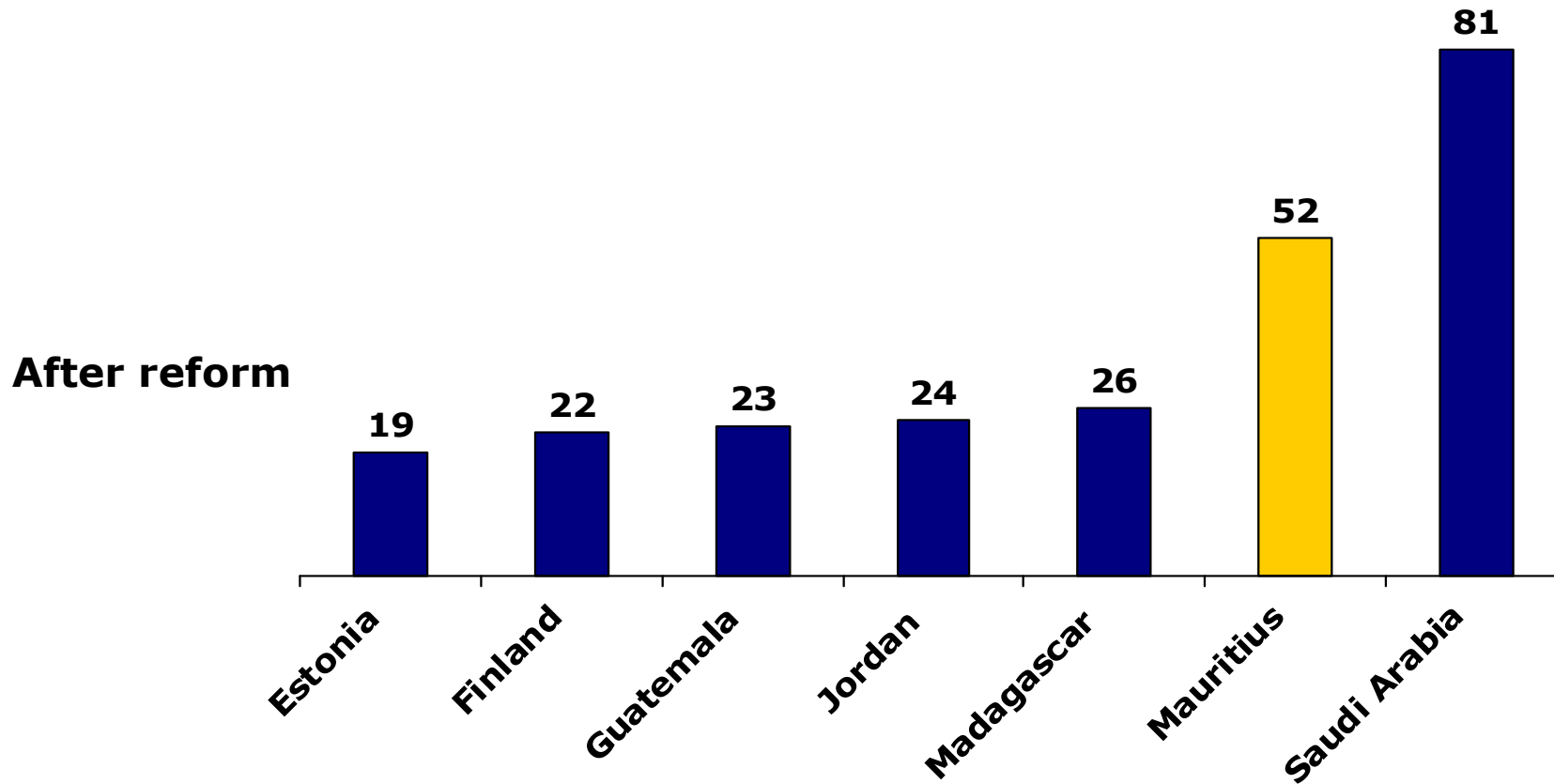
**an MCC requirement*

Examples of some medium to long
term reforms: these require
substantive restructuring,
particularly legislative reform and
institutional changes.

- Employing Workers
- Getting Credit
- Enforcing Contracts
- Closing a Business
- Protecting Investors
- Paying Taxes

Gain momentum - some results show quickly

Increase in new business registration
after reform (%)



Source: *Doing Business* database

Tonga - top reformer in Contract enforcement

- **Introduced case management:**
 - 90% of all cases —criminal, commercial and land— transferred from paper to computer.
 - 472 cases that had been dormant for years were uncovered and dropped.
 - All cases are monitored daily.
 - Time to enforce contracts dropped from 510 to 350 days.
- **Introduced simplified rules for small claims**
- **Introduced mediation**

The hypothetical country “SIDS Union” is #2 globally

- Entry in **Mauritius** (#8)
- Licensing (construction) in **St. Vincent and the Grenadines** (#1)
- Employing workers in **Marshall Islands** (#1)
- Registering property in **Palau** (#14)
- Getting credit in **Singapore** (#7)
- Protecting investors in **Trinidad and Tobago** (#15)
- Paying taxes in **Maldives** (#1)
- Trade in **Singapore** (#1)
- Enforcing contracts in **Singapore** (#4)
- Closing a business in **Jamaica** (#22)

Doing Business website has many resources

www.doingbusiness.org

Doing Business

The Doing Business project...
 provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement across 178 countries. The team works closely with thousands of professionals around the world.

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Top Reformer in 2007 – Arab Republic of Egypt

Investment Minister Mahmoud Mohieldin

Doing Business is a guide...
 for evaluating regulations that directly impact economic growth, downloading underlying laws, making cross-country comparisons, and identifying good practice reforms.

In the news...
 "[Doing Business 2008] serves as a reminder that one of the most compelling roles for the World Bank is to generate this sort of data, which is an expensive yet invaluable public good." -- *Financial Times*, Sept. 26, 2008

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Highlights from Doing Business 2008: As countries reform their business regulation, more businesses are starting up. Eastern Europe has witnessed a boom in new business entry that rivals the rapid growth in East Asia in the past. Large emerging markets such as India, China, Egypt, Turkey, and Indonesia, are reforming fast and investors are taking notice. This year Egypt is the top reforming country worldwide, while Singapore is #1 on the ease of doing business for the second consecutive year. Download the overview (PDF, 2.1MB).

Country	2006/07	2007/08
Egypt	✓	✓
Croatia	✓	✓
Ghana	✓	✓
FYR Macedonia	✓	✓
Georgia	✓	✓
Colombia	✓	✓
Saudi Arabia	✓	✓
Kenya	✓	✓
China	✓	✓
Bulgaria	✓	✓

Top Reformers in 2006/07: This year Egypt tops the list of reformers that are making it easier to do business. Egypt's reforms went deep with reforms in 5 of the 10 areas studied by Doing Business, and it greatly improved its position in the global rankings as a result. Besides Egypt, the other top 10 reformers are, in order, Croatia, Ghana, FYR Macedonia, Georgia, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, China, and Bulgaria.

Featured video

