

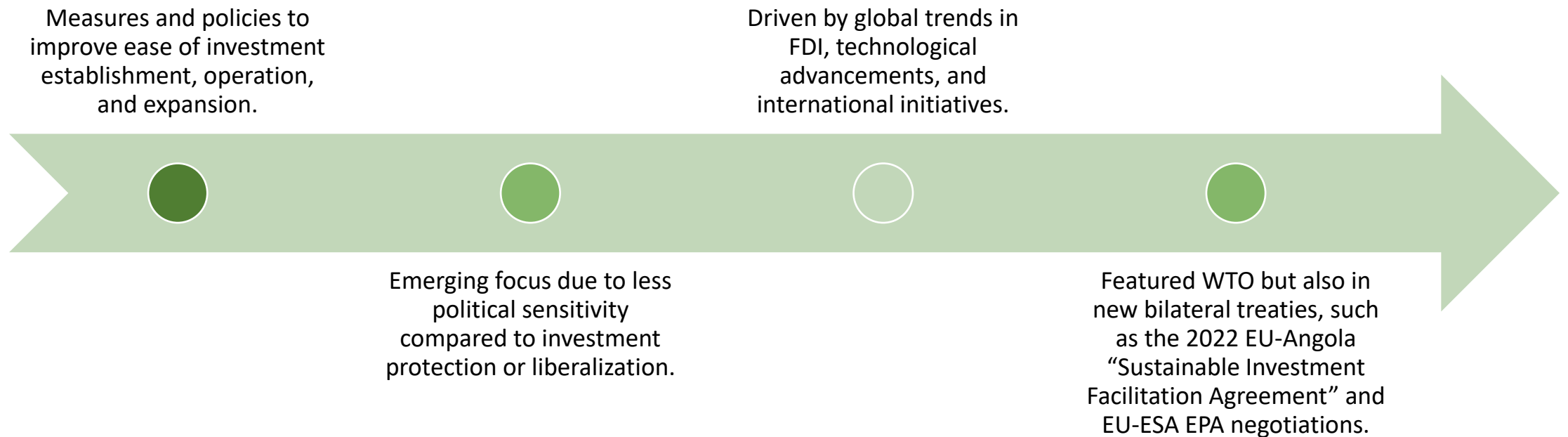


Session 5: CARTIF Priority Chapters – Investment Provisions

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Significance of Investment Facilitation



Significance of Investment Facilitation for CAREC Region



Streamlining Administrative Procedures

Importance for FDI:

- Reduces time, cost, and complexity for obtaining permits and licenses.
- Enhances investor confidence through a stable and predictable investment climate.
- Minimizes risk of delays and unexpected obstacles, reducing operational costs.

Single-Window Mechanisms:

- Centralizes and simplifies permit and license processes.
- Example: India's National Single Window System integrates central and state clearances.

Leveraging Technology:

- Digital platforms for online tracking and document submission.
- Example: Estonia's e-Tax system for online tax declarations.

Case Study: Kazakhstan:

- One-stop shop for over 360 types of permits and licenses.
- Reduced bureaucratic hurdles and improved investment climate.

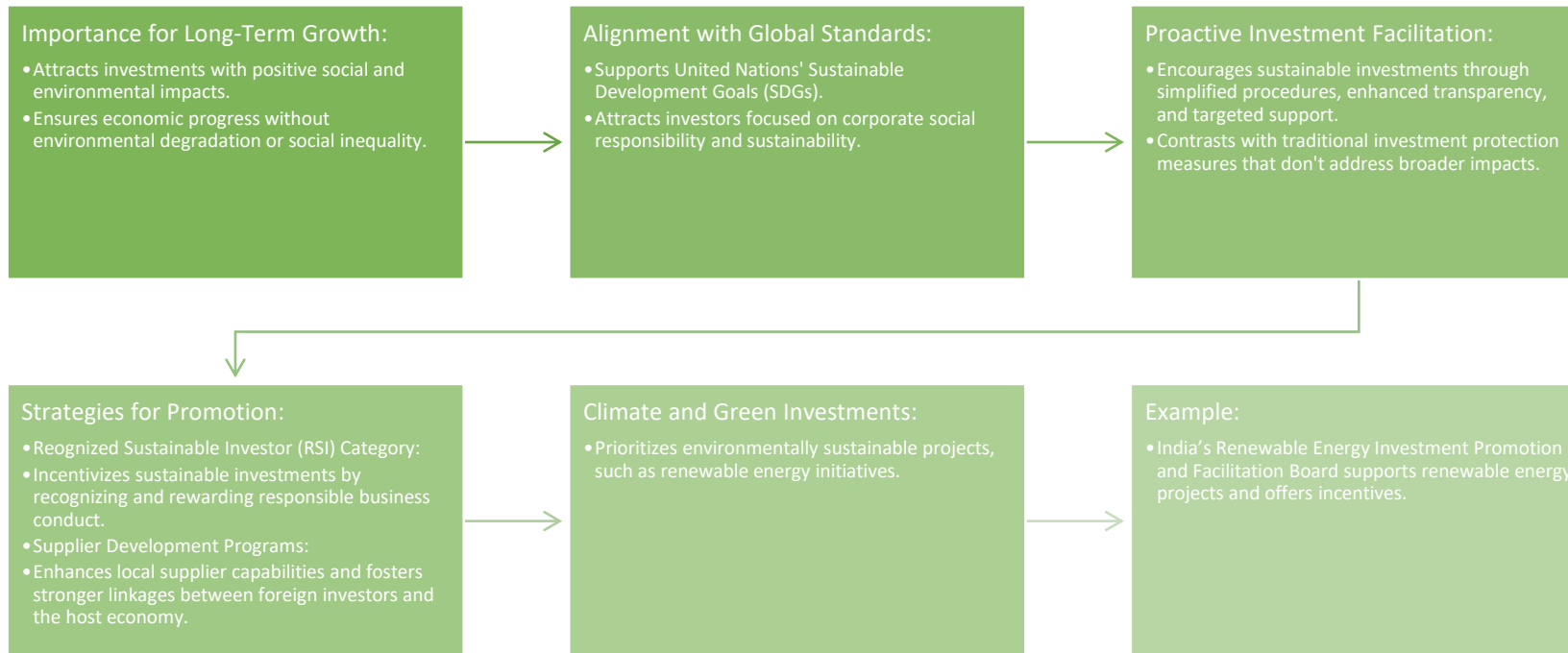
ARTICLE 16

Electronic applications and acceptance of copies

If a Party requires authorisation, it shall ensure that its competent authorities:

- (a) to the extent possible, accept applications in electronic format; and
- (b) accept copies of documents, that are authenticated in accordance with the Party's law, in place of original documents, unless the competent authorities require original documents to protect the integrity of the authorisation process.

Promoting Sustainable and Responsible Investments



ARTICLE 33

Investment contributing to sustainable development

1. In accordance with their commitment to enhance the contribution of investment to the goal of sustainable development, the Parties shall facilitate and encourage investment in sustainable production and consumption, in environmental goods and services, and investment of relevance for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Enhancing Transparency and Predictability

Importance for Investors:

- Provides clarity and assurance for informed decision-making.
- Example: Kenya's e-regulations portal by KenInvest offers detailed investment information.

Transparency:

- Publish clear criteria and guidelines for investment incentives and procedures.
- Ensure information is readily accessible to minimize confusion and arbitrariness.

Predictability:

- Consistent procedures and requirements, with prompt communication of any changes.
- Regular updates via newsletters, online platforms, and investor forums to keep investors informed.

Public-Private Dialogues:

- Facilitate regular meetings between government officials and private sector representatives.
- Address investment-related concerns and improve policies through feedback and collaboration.

ARTICLE 9

Transparency of the investment framework

1. Each Party shall make available via electronic means such as a website and, where practicable, accessible through a single portal, and update to the extent possible and as appropriate, the following:
 - (a) laws and regulations specifically concerning investment;
 - (b) restrictions and conditions applying to investment; and
 - (c) contact information of relevant competent authorities for the authorisation of investment.
2. Each Party shall make available, where practicable via electronic means such as a website and accessible through the single portal referred to in paragraph 1, and update to the extent possible and as appropriate, a description that informs investors and other interested persons of the practical steps needed to invest in its territory including the requirements and procedures related to:
 - (a) company establishment and business registration;
 - (b) connecting to essential infrastructure such as electricity and water supply;
 - (c) the acquisition and registering of property such as land ownership rights;

Concluding remarks

Key Lessons:

- Streamline administrative processes with single-window systems and digital platforms + Enhance transparency and predictability to boost competitiveness and economic diversification.
- Focus on environmentally and socially responsible investments + Implement initiatives like the Recognized Sustainable Investor (RSI) category to promote sustainability and resilience.
- Align investment facilitation with national and regional goals + Foster public-private dialogues to create an adaptive and investor-friendly environment.

Policy Recommendations:

- Streamline Processes: Prioritize reforms for efficient administrative procedures and improved transparency.
- Sustainable Incentives: Develop incentives like the RSI category to attract responsible investors.
- Enhance Coordination: Strengthen policy alignment and institutionalize public-private dialogues.