



**ANNUAL
MEETINGS**
2021 | WASHINGTON DC
WORLD BANK GROUP
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

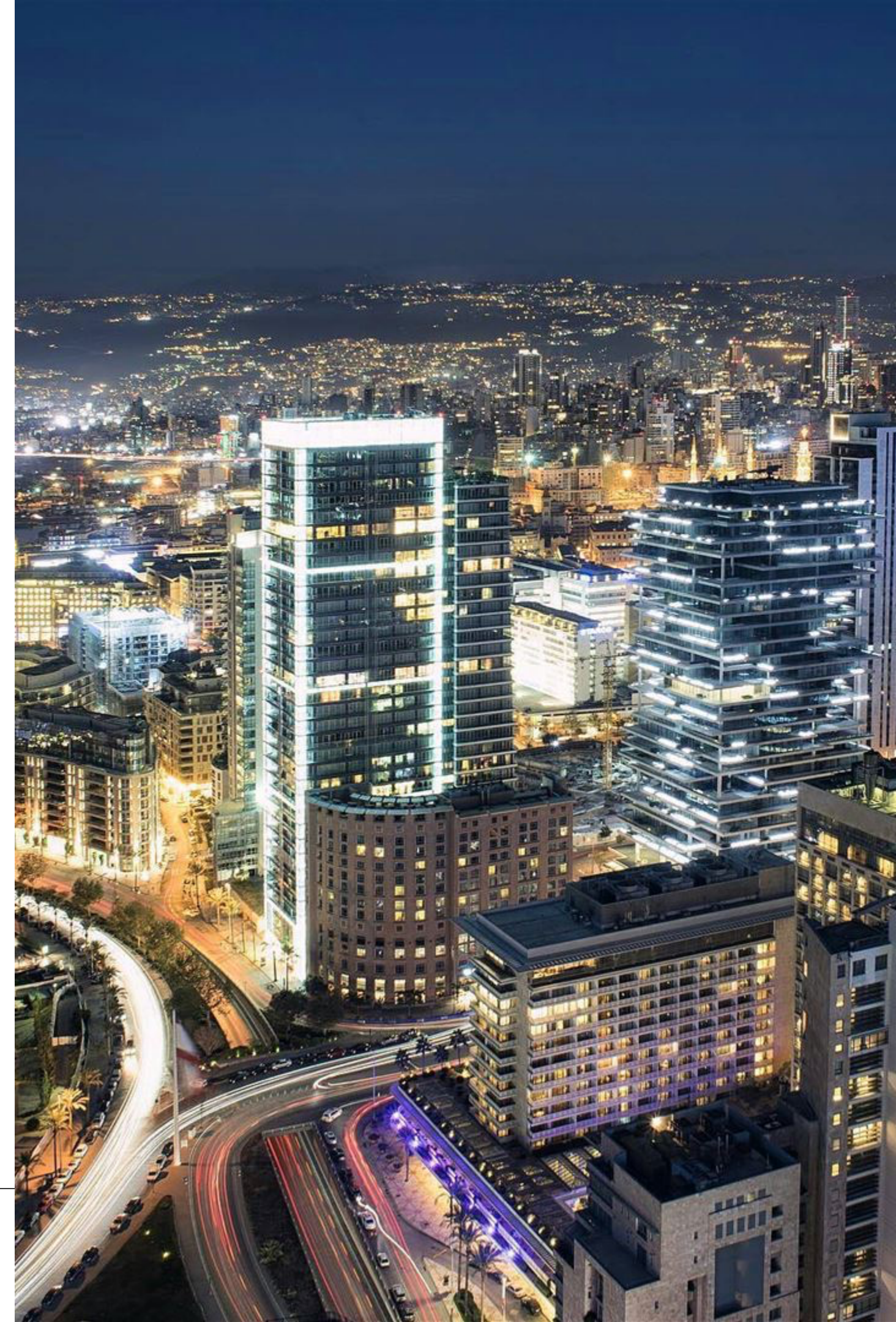
Tax policies during the Post-Covid era:

Moving back to normal and a bit more!

-Case of Arab Countries-

Manal Abdel Jamad

Civil Society Policy Forum — September 29, 2021

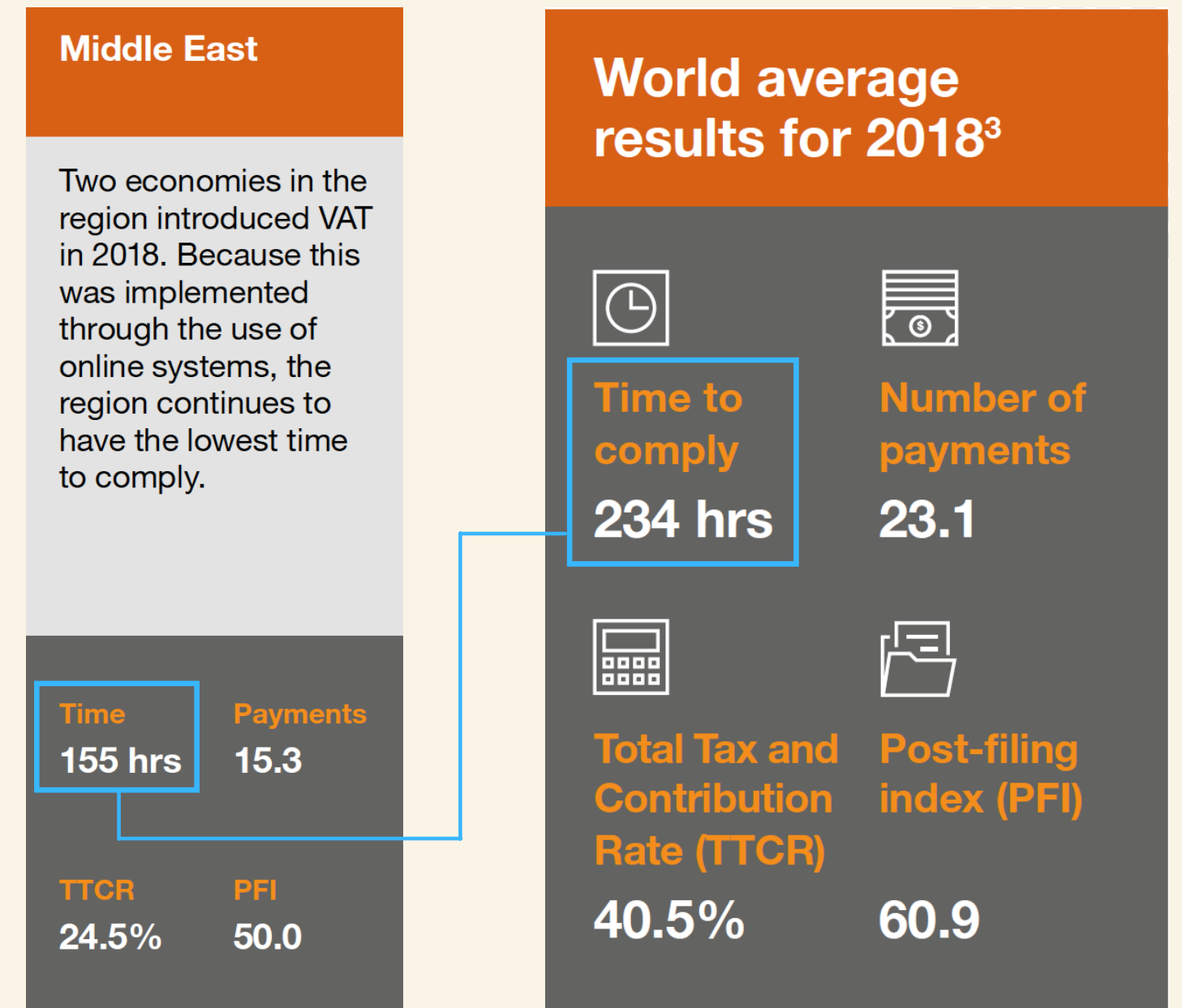


Paying Taxes Government Effectiveness

EASY + STRAIGHT FORWARD = GOVERNMENT IS EFFEVTIVE

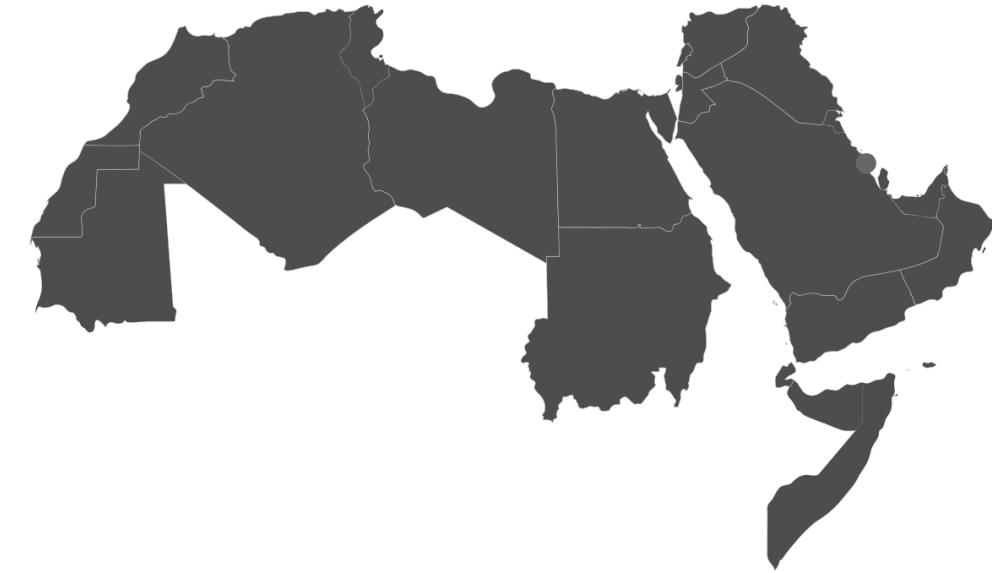
Taxpayers will tend to comply more with their tax obligations.

SO GOVERNMENTS ARE PERCEIVED BASED ON WHAT THEY ACHIEVE AND HOW.



Challenges

What are the challenges that are facing the Arab Countries?



1 COVID-19

2 Economic crisis

3 Severe social stress

4 Unsustainable public debt levels (Sudan, Yemen, Lebanon)

5 Escalating crises (Iraq, Tunisia, Jordan, Bahrain, Oman, Morocco, Egypt...)- IMF 2020

6 The Arab Spring in the early 2010 and its subsequent uprisings

PRE
COVID

What are the Challenges Facing Tax Revenues?

POST
COVID

- ✓ Economic Breakdowns
- ✓ Oil shocks & their spillover effect
- ✓ The Arab Spring in the early 2010
- ✓ Slowdown in businesses
- ✓ Less tax revenues
- ✓ Businesses not ready to work remotely

Measures taken by Arab Countries to tackle COVID problems

General Measures

- Lockdowns
- Shutting down: restaurants, schools, malls, airports, ...
- Restricting travel
- Remote work

Tax Measures

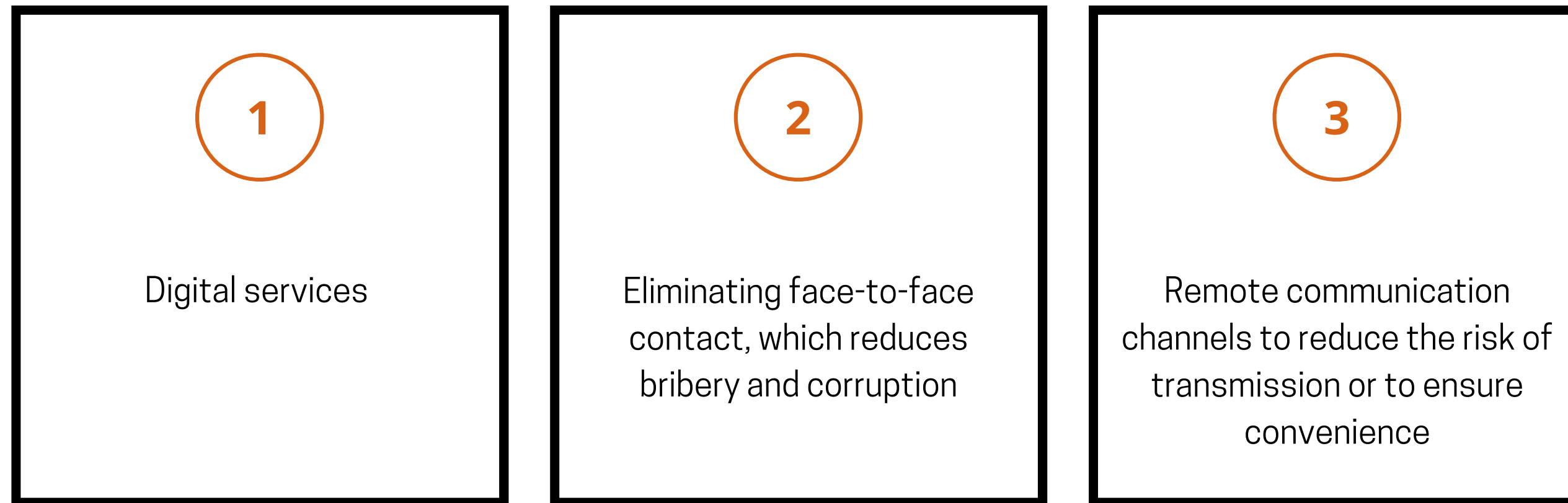
- Emergency procedures (postponing tax filing and payment, rearranging loan payment, ...)
- Subsidies
- Stimulus packages

Turning COVID-19 **challenges** into **opportunities**

Cutting Edge Solutions



What we were trying so hard to achieve for decades, COVID-19 has ensured in few months



Consequences

More transparency, more access to information, less bureaucracy, and therefore better governance

(OECD- April 2021)

At the short term

1. Austerity: Cutting cost for unnecessary expenditures
2. Strengthening social safety nets
3. Ensuring access to basic social services (health, education, food, ...)
4. Additional public services to their community
5. Adequate tax policies

At the medium and long term

1. Diversifying capital expenditure
2. Engaging the private sector
3. Encouraging Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs)
4. Turning e-taxation from a wish to a will
5. Taxing digital economy
6. Curbing tax evasion/ fraud
7. Enhancing trust in government



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Thank You!

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