

Export of services through technology, information and communication technology (ICT) networks

Costa Rica experience

November 2022

Department of Macroeconomic Statistics (EMA).



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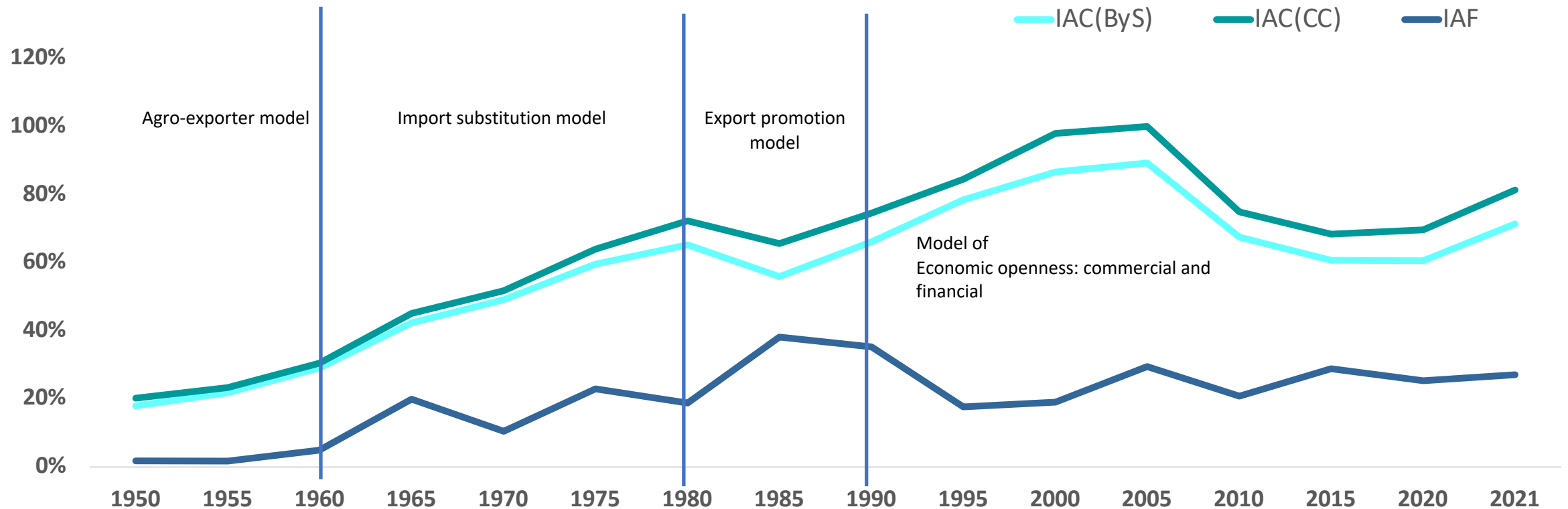
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1. General aspects

Costa Rica: Commercial and financial openness indices



Source: Central Bank of Costa Rica (BCCR).

Exports Percentage of GDP

Total exports

Exports of goods

Exports of services

Transport



Travel



Other



Of which: via ICT networks

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total exports	32.1	34.4	35.3	32.0	36.9
Exports of goods	17.9	18.8	18.4	19.3	23.1
Exports of services	14.2	15.6	16.9	12.7	13.8
Transport	0.8	1.4	1.4	0.8	0.8
Travel	6.0	6.0	6.2	2.1	2.5
Other	7.4	8.2	9.3	9.8	10.6
Of which: via ICT networks	5.9	6	6.1	6.8	N.d.

2. Information capture process

1

Survey "Export of services channeled through technological platforms" to the non-financial private sector (annual).

Adapted to international methodological recommendations.

2

administrative records (monthly and quarterly) :
Financial sector and public sector

3

Register of economic variables (REVEC)

“ICT Project”



Export of services: modes of supply

1

Mode 1: Cross-border supply

2

Mode 2: Consumption abroad

3

Mode 3: Commercial presence

4

Mode 4: Presence of natural personas

Services consulted

Telecommunications



Computing



Marketing and sales



Information



Insurances and financial services



Management, administration and back office



Licensing



Engineering, research and development



Education and training



Stages for the 2021 study

February-March 2022

Febrero – Marzo
2022

April-September

Abril –
Setiembre

October

Octubre

November

Noviembre

April 2023

Abril 2023



Contacto con
las empresas

Contact with the
companies



Aplicación de
la encuesta

Application of the
survey



Validación de
datos

Data validation



Creación del
documento
final

Creation of the final
document



Presentación
de resultados

Presentation of
results

Details of the company surveys and ISIC 2020 - 2021

Outline of companies 2020

Size	Sample	ISIC number	Answers (%)
Micro	12	8	50
Small	23	9	70
Medium	26	16	92
Large	159	54	84
Total	220	-	

Outline of companies 2021

Size	Sample	ISIC number
Micro	32	19
Small	32	19
Medium	40	25
Large	129	54
Total	233	-

3. Main results: 2016 - 2020

Response rate

77%

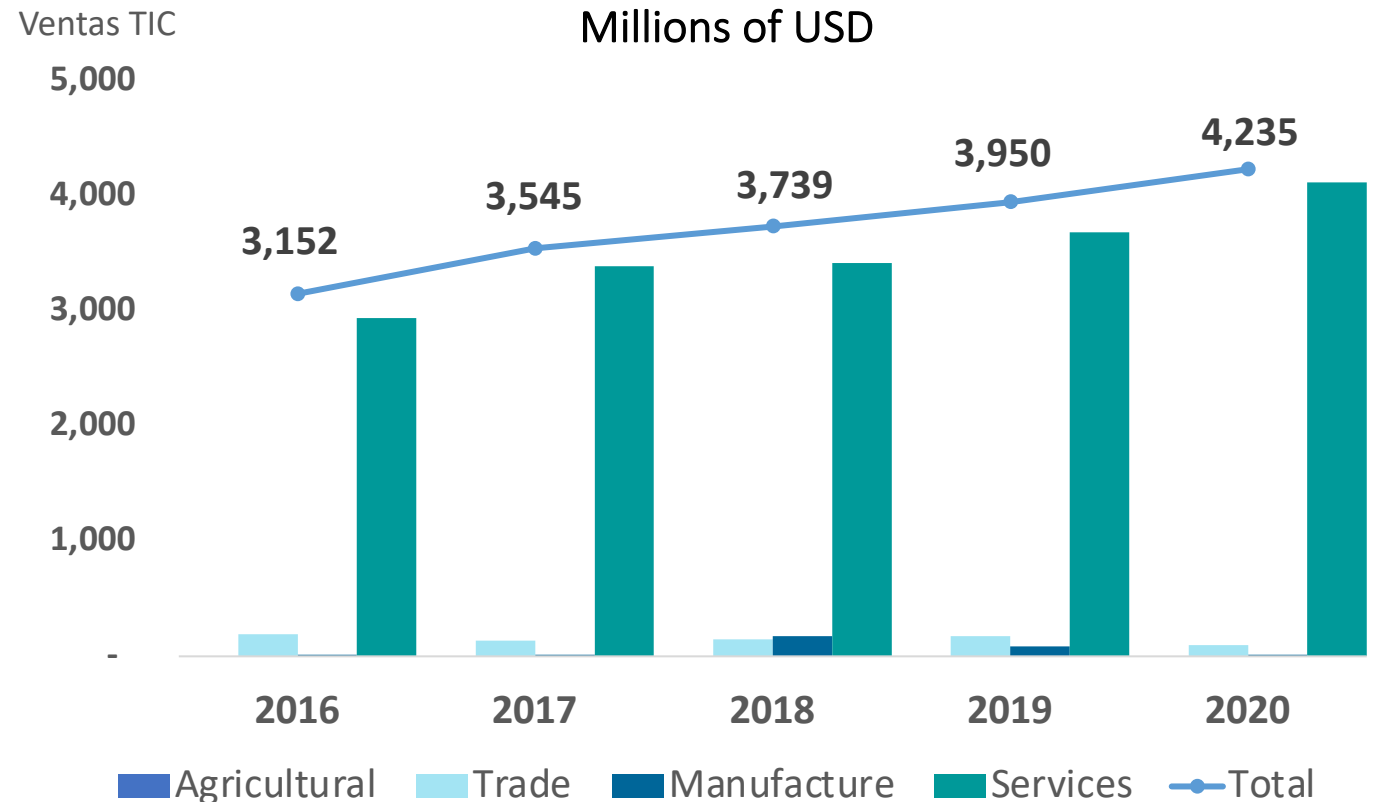
Size of the companies

For the period 2016-2020, size 4 companies (large) represented, on average, 94% of total exports of services via ICT networks.

Economic activity

On average, the economic activity of services represented 94% of exports of services via ICT networks.










Costa Rica: Export of services via ICT networks according to economic activity



Main results: 2016 - 2020

Services consulted

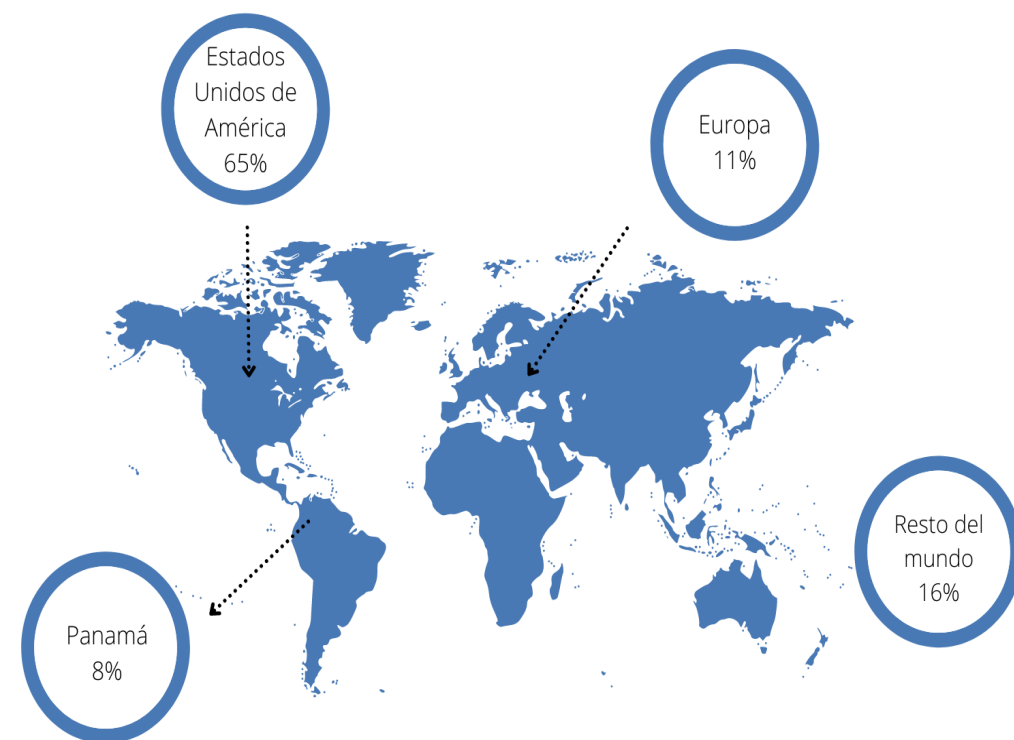
Costa Rica: Exports of services via ICT networks, by type of service consulted
Millions of USD

Types of services	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
 Telecommunications services	24	12	24	29	29
 Computer services (including software)	650	664	699	780	895
 Sales and marketing services	102	80	109	186	59
 Information services	20	15	15	8	11
 Insurance and financial services	30	242	92	87	72
 Administrative services and auxiliary service offices	2,158	2,398	2,599	2,737	2,982
 License services	-	0	2	-	3
 Engineering, research and development services	164	130	197	118	180
 Education and training services	3	4	2	5	5
Total	3,151	3,545	3,739	3,950	4,235

Source: Central Bank of Costa Rica (BCCR).

Destination

Costa Rica: Destination of services exports via ICT networks

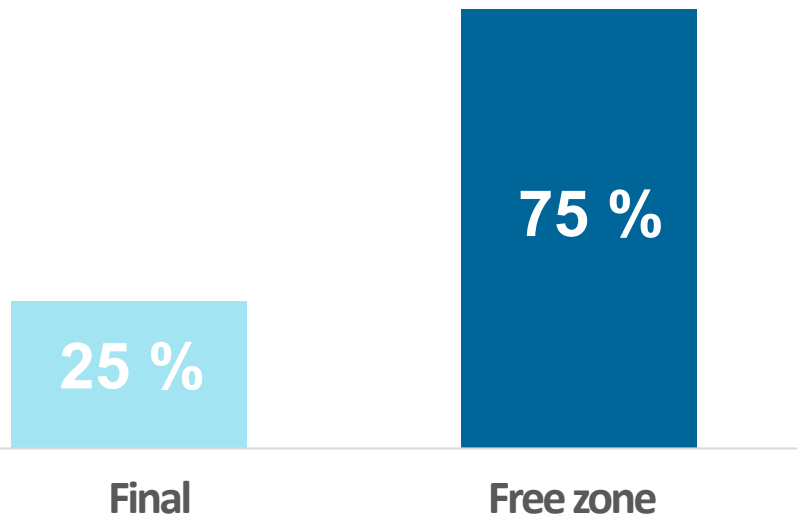


Source: Central Bank of Costa Rica (BCCR).

Main results: 2016 - 2020

Regimes

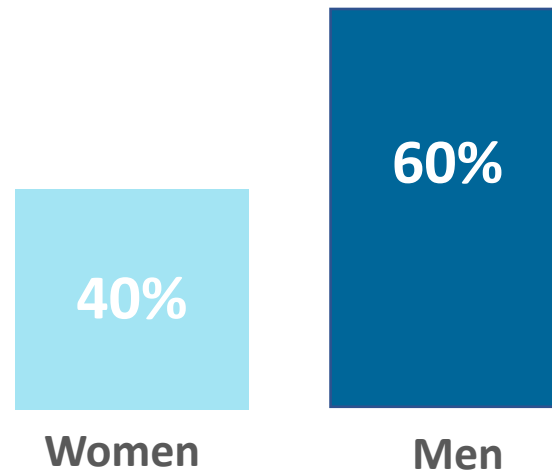
Costa Rica: Average percentage of exports of services via ICT networks by regime



Source: Central Bank of Costa Rica (BCCR).

Job opportunities

Costa Rica: Average percentage of job opportunities offered by exporting companies via ITC networks by gender



Source: Central Bank of Costa Rica (BCCR).

For the period 2016-2020, companies exporting services via ICT networks provided on average about 118 thousand jobs. Of these, 40% are occupied by women.

Costa Rica: Exports of services by mode of supply

Millions of USD

*	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Mode 1	3 672	4 600	5 328	5 109	5 386
Transport	455	851	929	593	539
Computing and information	894	891	958	1 021	1 125
Other business services	2 227	2 752	3 277	3 380	3 625
Rest	96	106	163	116	96
Mode 2	3 906	3 967	4 183	1 515	2 030
Transformation services	136	116	115	113	309
Maintenance and repair	82	58	49	49	86
Travel	3 656	3 769	3 988	1 328	1 605
Rest	32	24	31	25	29
Mode 3	-	1	-	-	-
Mode 4	1 020	1 184	1 396	1 443	1 554
Maintenance and repair	9	6	5	5	10
Computing and information	269	259	281	305	336
Other business services	742	917	1 092	1 127	1 208
Total	8 598	9 751	10 906	8 067	8 970

*Preliminary

Source: Graduation work (2020): exports of services from Costa Rica by mode of supply with BCCR data.

4. Conclusions

The production and export structure of the country has undergone changes in the last three decades with a greater relative importance of services and, particularly, more recently those channeled through ICT networks.

On average, exports of services, accounted for 45% of total exports in 2016 - 2020.

On average, travel accounted for 36% of service exports and 16% of total exports in 2016 - 2020.

Exports of ICT services represented, on average, 41% of total services exports in the period 2016 - 2020.

The value of exports of services via ICT networks represented, on average, 6% of GDP in the period 2016 - 2020.

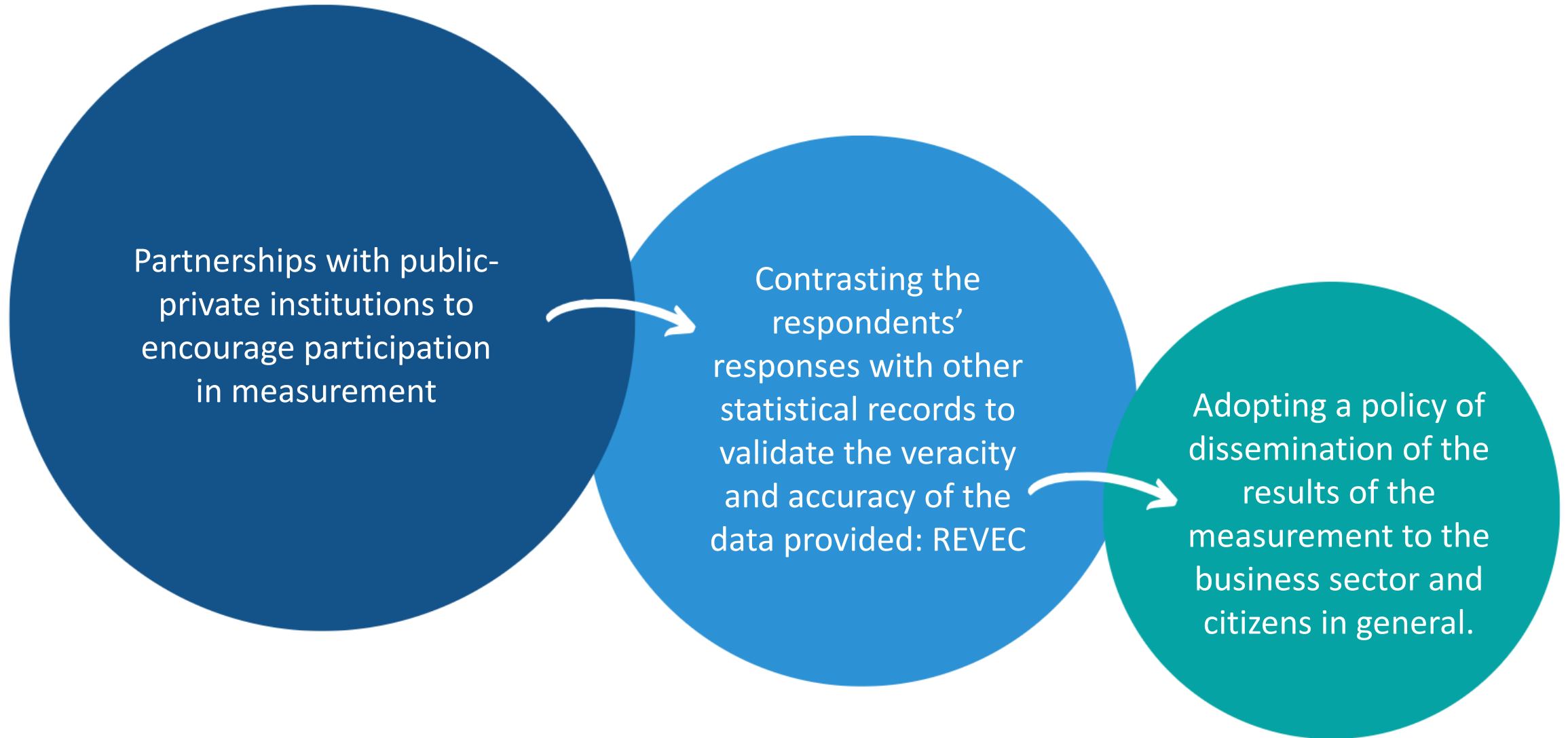
In general, the good performance of these activities in recent years stands out and, particularly, in 2020 - 2021 when the international context was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This evolution makes the national economy more resilient to exogenous events.

Sales of ICT services led to important job opportunities for both genders in the last six years.

In the activities of exports of ICT services, the contribution of companies attached to the special regime of free zones (75% of the total) stood out.

Sales of ICT services are concentrated in large companies and in two types of transactions with non-residents: Administration and auxiliary offices and those of informatics and software.

5. Recommendations



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