



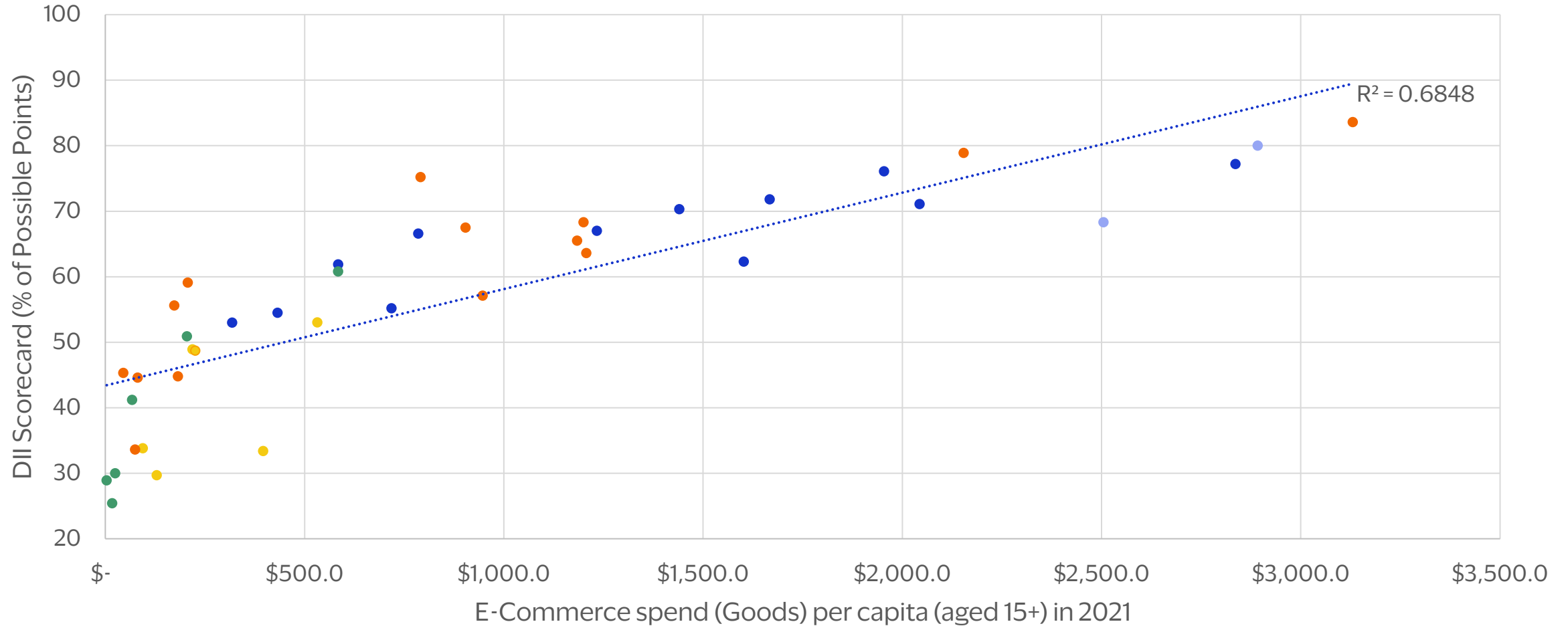
# Digitalization during the Covid-19 Crisis: Implications for Productivity and Labor Markets in Advanced Economies: *discussant remarks*

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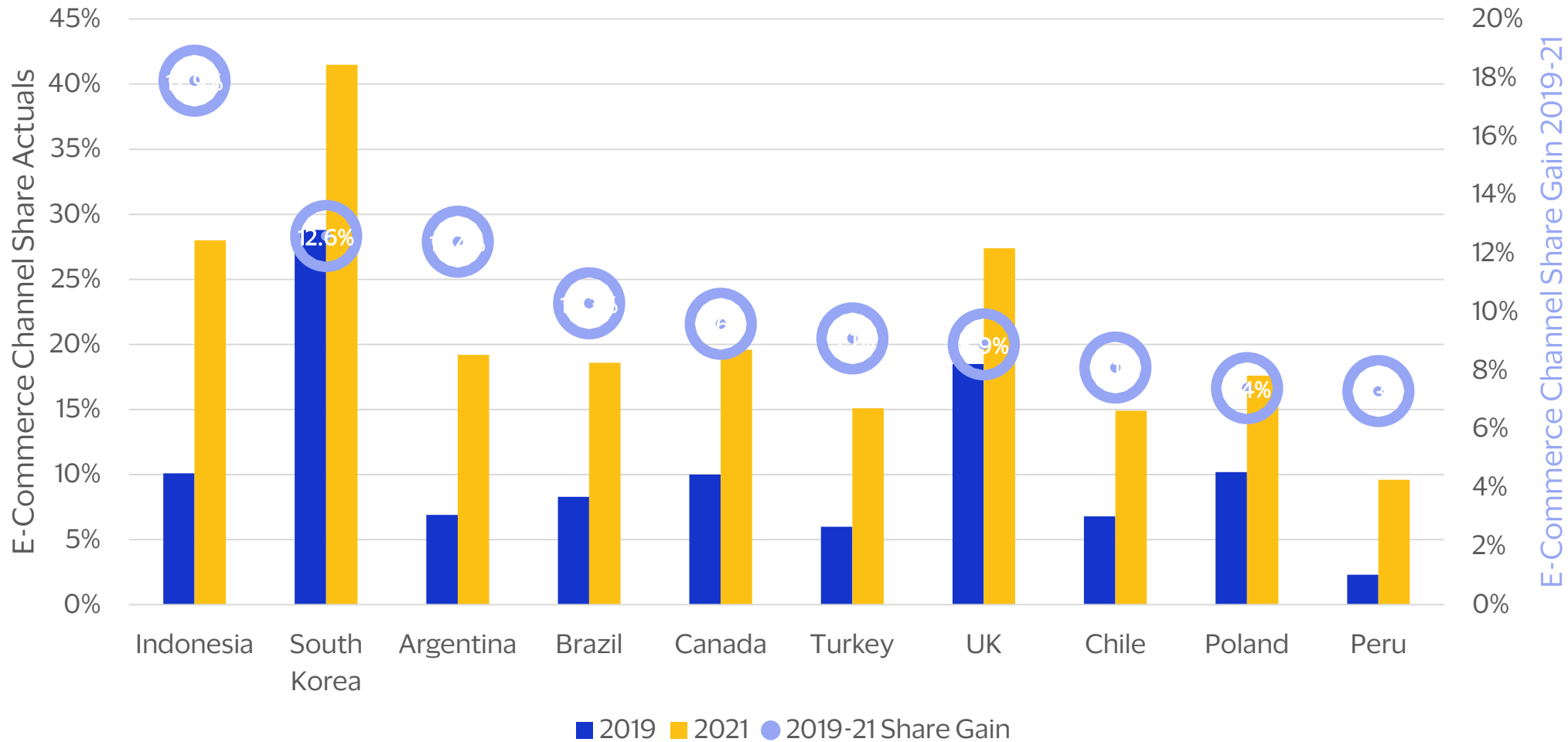
# Robust digital infrastructure fosters higher per capita e-commerce spend

higher e-commerce spend by consumers in a country linked to a more developed level of digital infrastructure being in place

## Digital infrastructure vs. Per Capita E-commerce Spend

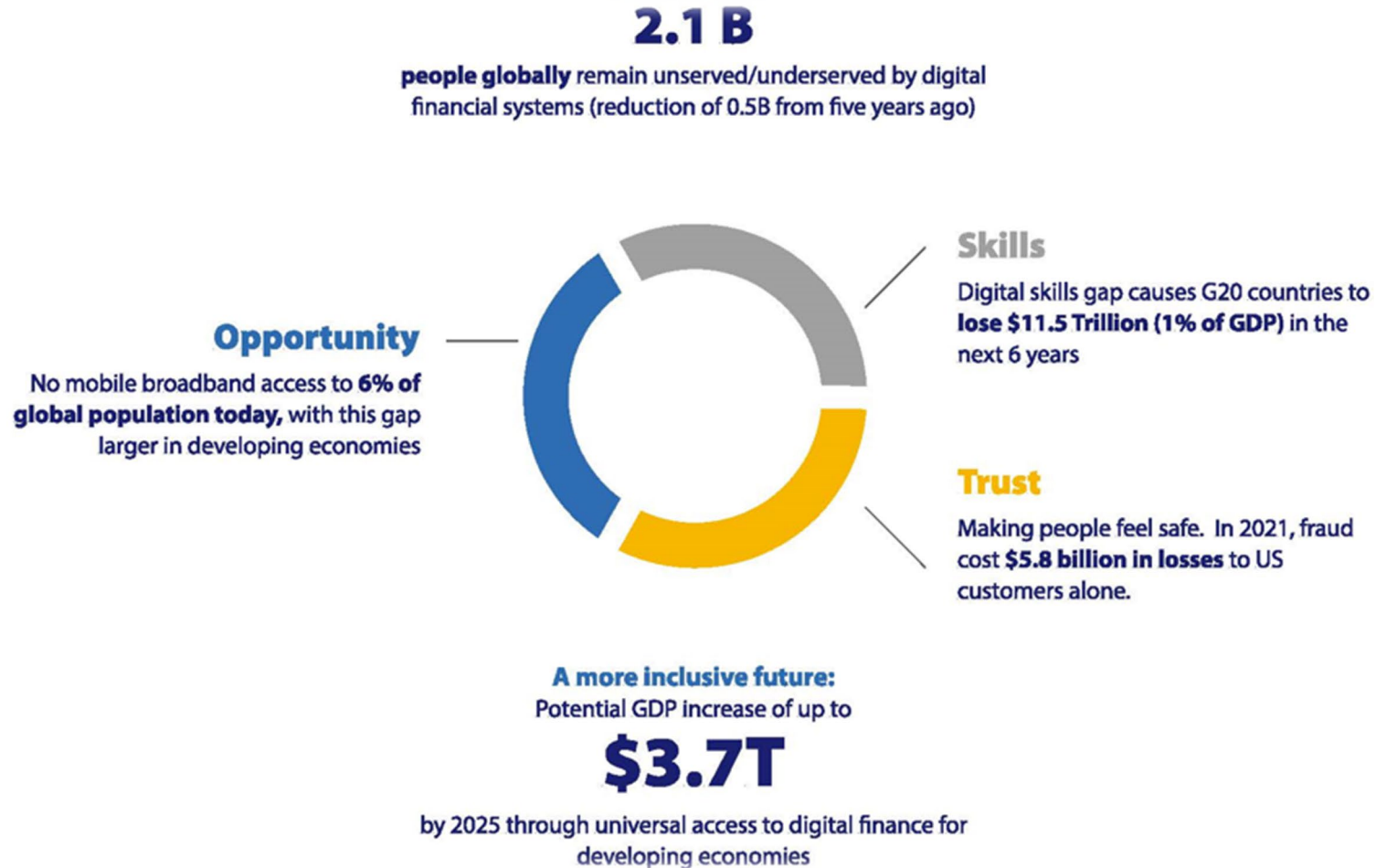


# Even in countries with weaker digital infrastructure, consumers shifted to online buying



# Infrastructure is important, but it is not everything

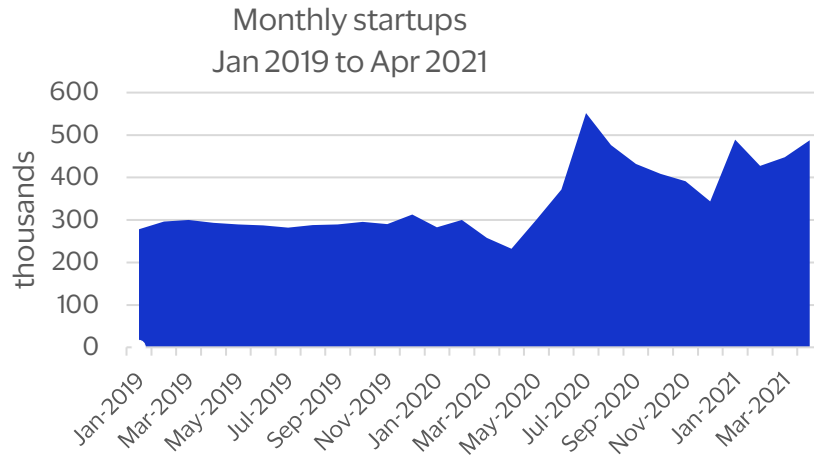
Digital skills – for individuals and businesses – and a trustworthy digital ecosystem are key



[Source: Building an inclusive, equitable digital economy](#)

# Digitalization can be a differentiator for small, women-led firms

We looked at the characteristics separating early-stage firms with revenue growth of 5 percent or more over the survey period and compared them to those whose revenue declined by 5 percent or more



# 20%

More likely to use digital payments

# 25%

More likely to use global marketplaces

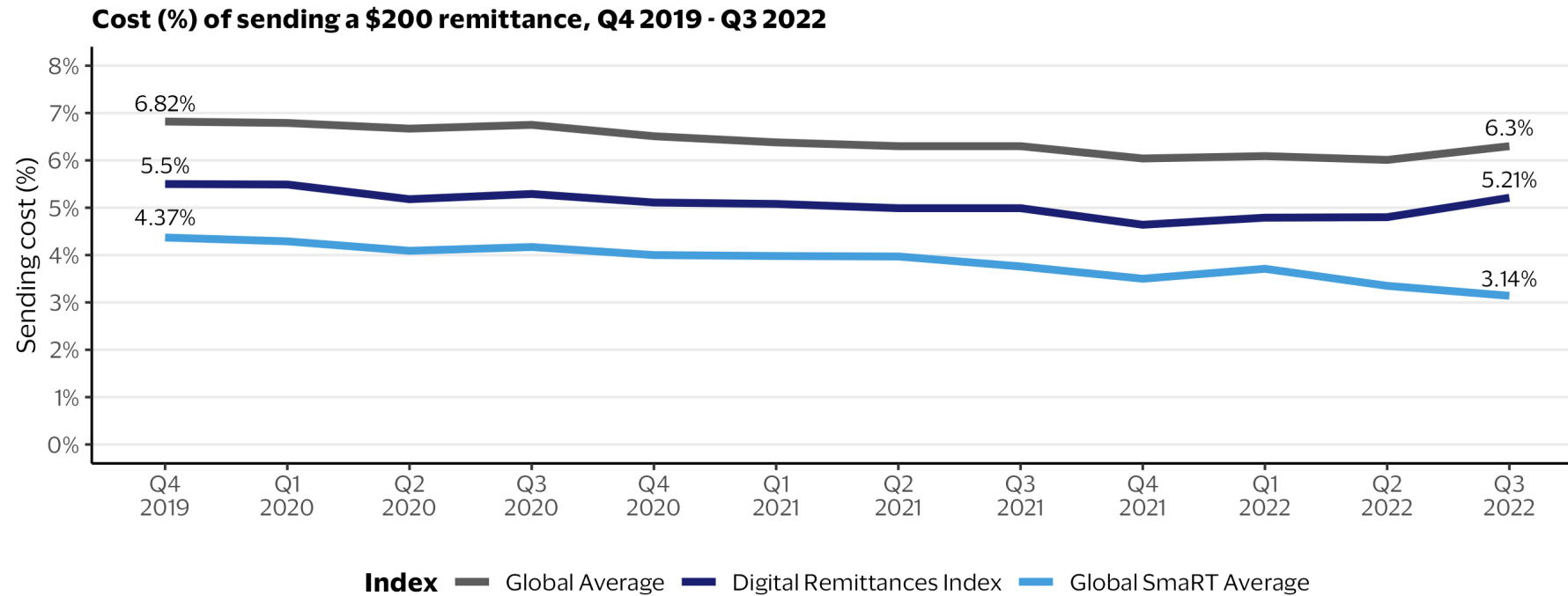
# 60%

More likely to export

[Source: Digital, diverse, and going global: A new dawn for women-led firms](#)

Can digitalization offer some green shoots of hope regarding the gender divide for small businesses?

# Digital remittances were key to the resilience of inflows during COVID



Source: World Bank Remittance Prices Worldwide database.

[Source: The economic empowerment of digital remittances: How to unlock the benefits of innovation and competition](#)

Costs are still high for the “average” remittance, which tends to be sent and received in cash, but are much lower for digital remittances and in cases where a migrant worker can compare multiple options.

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## Some policy recommendations

- ❑ Begin with digital infrastructure, if it does not already exist
- ❑ Focus on digital skills, keeping both consumers and businesses in mind
- ❑ Aim for an open, interoperable, digital ecosystem built on a foundation of resilience and security
- ❑ Streamline the compliance environment to reduce cross-border frictions

**VISA**

**Thank  
you**