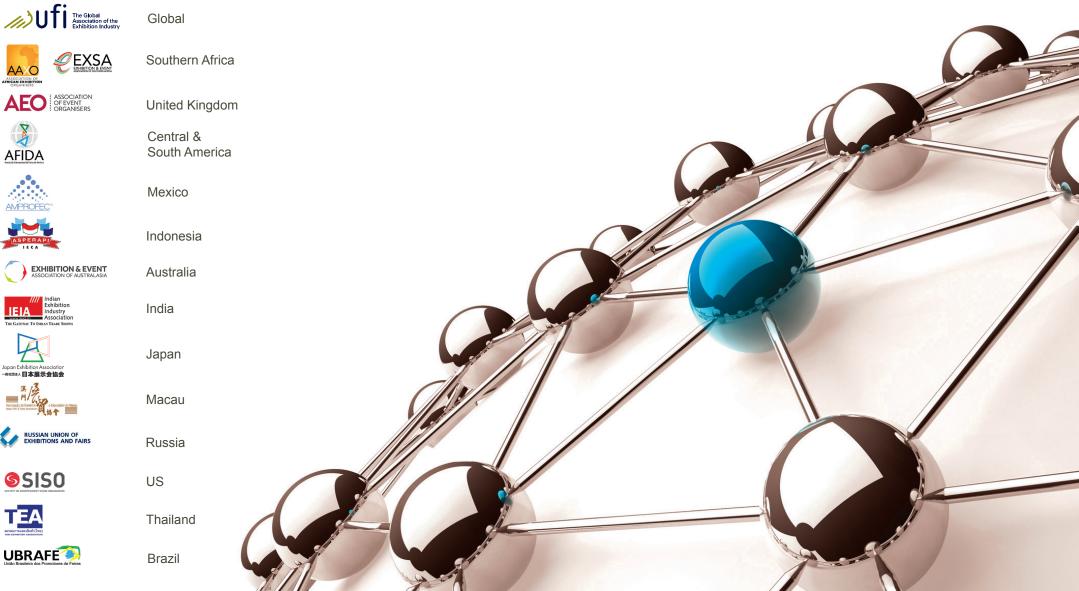
# UFI Global Exhibition Barometer





Report based on the results of a survey concluded in July 2019



## **UFI Research: An Overview**











Analysing the global exhibition industry with global comparisons.

**Global Barometer** – Bi-annual report on industry developments.

World Map of Venues – Report on trends in venue space and project developments globally. Economic Impact Study – Report on the value of exhibitions globally and regionally. Regular market overviews on UFI's chapter regions.

Euro Fair Statistics – Annual list of certified data for Europe by country. The Trade Fair Industry in Asia – Annual analysis of market developments for Asia/Pacific by country. The Exhibition Industry in MEA –

Overview of the exhibition market in the MEA region.

Focused reports on challenges and developments within the exhibition industry.

Global Visitor Insights & Global Exhibitor Insights – Data driven research reports on visitor feedback and exhibitor expectations. Best Practices Compendiums – Case studies of successful industry developments. Global Digitisation Index – An overview tracking digitisation developments within the industry.

## UFI Research Patron: **FREEMAN**<sup>®</sup>

Freeman is the world's leading brand experience company. They help their clients design, plan, and deliver immersive experiences for their most important audiences. Through comprehensive solutions including strategy, creative, logistics, digital solutions, and event technology, Freeman helps increase engagement and drive business results. What makes them different is their collaborative culture, intuitive knowledge, global perspective, and personalized approach.



UFI Research is available at www.ufi.org/research

## Conclusion Appendix

#### Answers per country/region

Introduction

Results by region			
1. Gross Turnover Development	05		
2. Development of Operating Profits	07		
3. Most Important Business Issues	09		
4. Actions Towards Digitisation	12		
Detailed results for selected countries or zones			
North America: Mexico, US	23 27		
North America: Mexico, US Central and South America: Argentina, Brazil, other countries in Central & South America	23 27 31		
North America: Mexico, US	27		
North America: Mexico, US Central and South America: Argentina, Brazil, other countries in Central & South America Europe: Germany, Italy, Russia, UK, other countries in Europe	27 31		



64

63

04

## Introduction



Welcome to the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the "UFI Global Exhibition Barometer" survey. This study is based on a global survey, concluded in July 2019. It represents up-to-date information on the development and outlook of the global exhibition industry as well as on 20 specific countries and zones.

UFI began assessing the impact of the global economic conditions on the exhibition industry twice a year in 2009. Since then, it has regularly grown in size and scope, as numerous industry associations around the world have joined the project.

In addition to RUEF (Russian Union of Exhibitions and Fairs), who joined as from this latest survey, these associations are AAXO (The Association of African Exhibition Organizers) and EXSA (Exhibition and Events Association of Southern Africa) in South Africa, AEO (Association of Event Organisers) in the UK, AFIDA (Asociación Internacional de Ferias de América) in Central and South America, AMPROFEC (Asociación Mexicana de Profesionales de Ferias y Exposiciones y Convenciones) in Mexico, EEAA (The Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia) in Australasia, IECA (Indonesia Exhibition Companies Association) in Indonesia, IEIA (Indian Exhibition Industry Association), in India, JEXA (Japan Exhibition Association) in Japan, MFTA (Macau Fair Trade Association) in Macau, SISO (Society of Independent Show Organizers) for the UK, TEA (Thai Exhibition Association) in Thailand and UBRAFE (União Brasileira dos Promotores Feiras) in Brazil.

#### Important remarks

It should be noted that the number of replies to the current survey (322 from 57 countries - see full list at the end of the document) provides representative results. However, the consolidated regional results may not reflect the situation of specific countries in that region. This is why the report also includes a set of detailed results for the 20 countries or zones where a significant number of answers were obtained.

Questions related to this survey can be addressed to Christian Druart, UFI Research Manager, at chris@ufi.org.

This research is available online at www.ufi.org/research.

## **Gross Turnover Development**



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Barometer surveyed the evolution of participants' gross turnover expectations for the two halves of 2019 and the first half of 2020 and compared to their turnover during the same period in the previous year (regardless of possible biennial effects).

The following chart presents, at regional level, the percentage of companies declaring an increase in their turnover. It combines these results with those of previous surveys since 2008 and it does not take into account the "unknown" or "not applicable" answers.

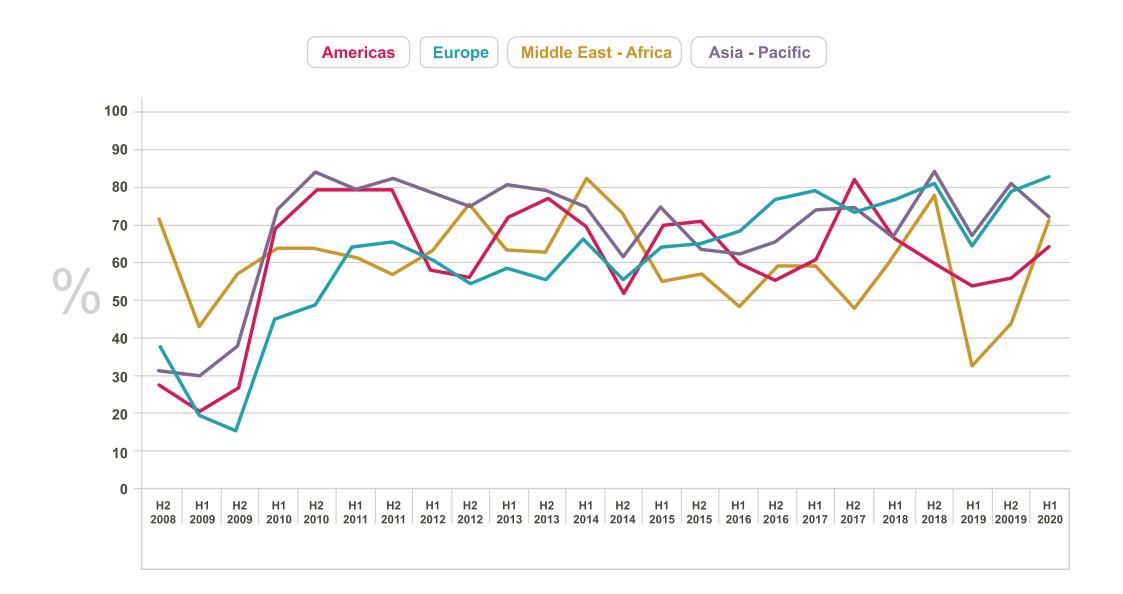
While a majority of companies in all regions – except Middle East / Africa - expect Gross Turnover increases for the two halves of 2019 and the first half of 2020, the first half of 2019 appears to be weaker compared with recent years. Having said that, current forecasts for the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020 show a return to robust levels.

The charts included in the second part of this report ("Detailed results for selected countries or zones") detail these regional results, adding the percentage of companies declaring decreases in their turnover and the percentage of "unknown" answers. As such, they provide better insights into the different situations:

- Eight of the surveyed countries and regions have, for all three periods surveyed, a majority of companies declaring turnover increases: Australia, Brazil, Italy, Japan, South Africa, Thailand, UK and USA.
- For the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020, this situation also applies to Germany, India, Indonesia, Macau and Russia.
- In Argentina, China, the Middle East and Mexico, a significant proportion of companies report a slowdown in their turnover.

% of companies declaring an increase in turnover when compared to their projections for the same period the year before (regardless of possible biennial effects)







The 23<sup>rd</sup> Global Barometer survey questioned the evolution of operating profits for 2018 and 2019 compared to the previous year.

The following chart combines these results with those of previous surveys, which track the development of operating profits since 2009.

It highlights the results of companies declaring an increase of more than 10% and those declaring a stable result (between -10% and +10%) – see footnote.

The results show that:

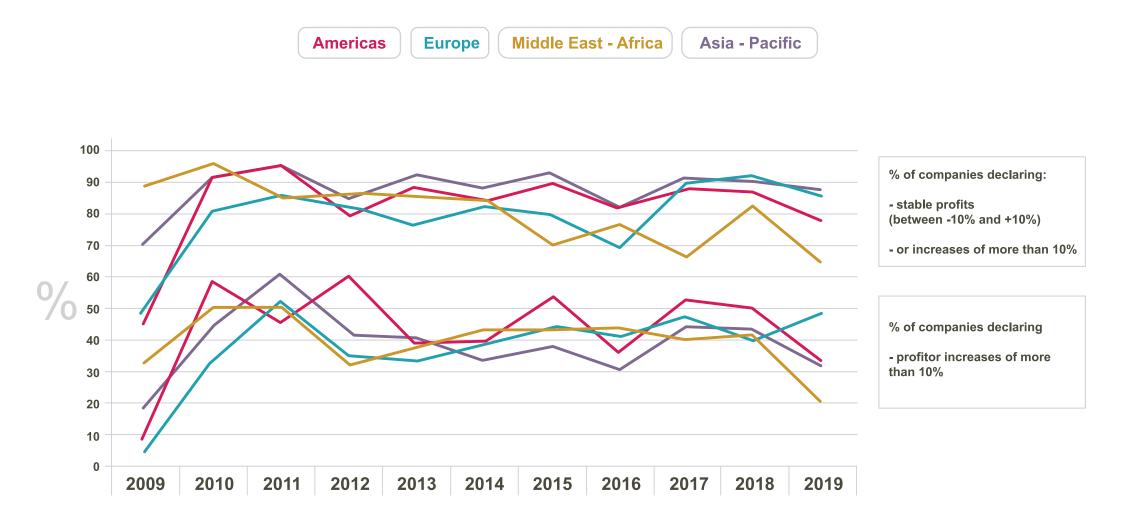
• In each of the four regions, 80% of companies maintained a good level of performance in 2018 and around 40 to 50% of them declared an increase of more than 10% compared to 2017.

The highest proportions of companies declaring such an increase in 2018 are observed in the UK (71%), Mexico (64%), Germany (62%), the USA (60%), Brazil and Italy (50%). On the opposite side, the lowest proportions are in Japan (27%), Russia (18%) and Macau (13%).

• For 2019, only Europe has, on average, an even higher proportion of companies expecting an increase of more than 10% of their operating profit. In all other regions, the share of companies projecting this decreases from 2018 to 2019.

The highest proportions of companies declaring such an increase in 2019 are observed in Russia (71%), UK (55%), India (53%) and the USA (45%). On the opposite side, the lowest proportions are in Thailand (20%), Argentina (14%) and the Middle East (9%).







Companies were asked to identify the three most important issues for their business in the coming year from a pre-defined list of seven issues. Multiple choices were provided to get further insights for some answers.

As in previous surveys, the clear majority of all answers relate to the following 4 issues:

- "State of the economy in home market" (24% in the current survey, down 1% compared to 6 months ago);
- "Competition from within the industry" (19% in the current survey, same as 6 months ago);
- "Global economic developments" (19% in the current survey, down 1% compared to 6 months ago);
- "Internal challenges" (16% in the current survey, up 1% compared to 6 months ago), where "Human resources" are named as the most important aspect.

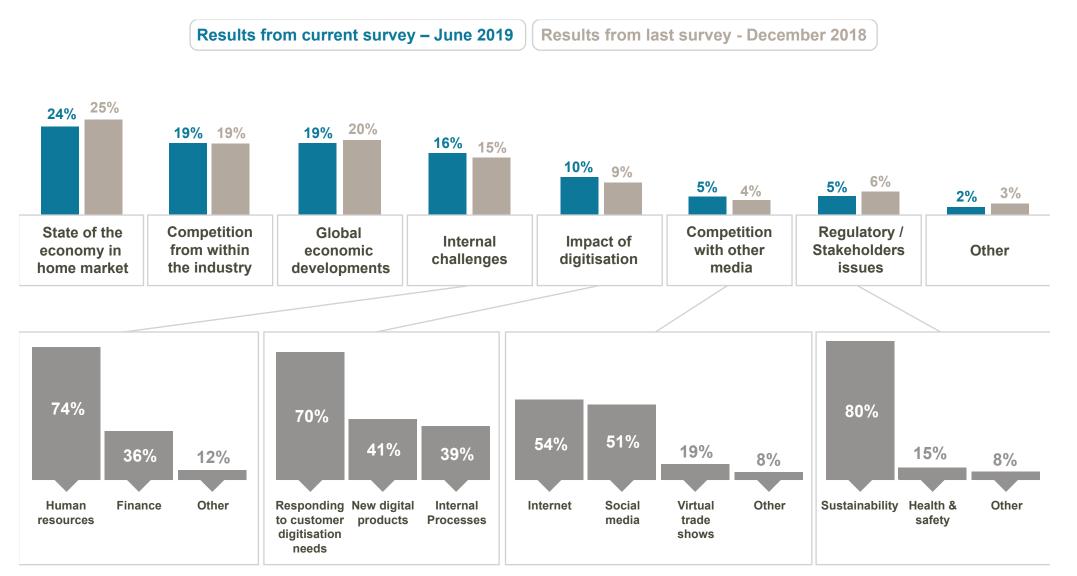
"Impact of digitisation" ("Responding to customer digitisation needs", "New digital products" or "Internal processes"), "Competition with other media" ("Internet", "Social media", "Virtual trade shows" or "Other") and "Regulatory / Stakeholders issues" ("Sustainability", "Health & safety" or "Other) keep similar levels to the last survey.

The following pages show the consolidated global results, including further insights. They also detail those results by region and by type of activity (for 3 main segments: "Organiser", "Venue only" and "Service provider only"). The results show some differences:

- "Global economic developments" appear as less of a concern in the Americas than in all other regions of the world.
- "Competition from within the industry" is less important for venues than for organisers and service providers.

## **Top Issues: Global Results**

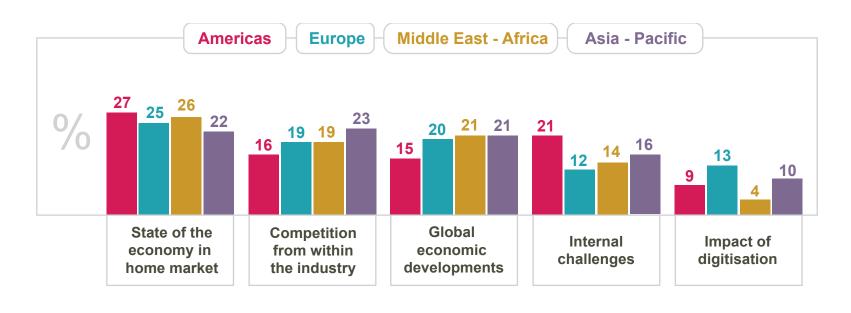


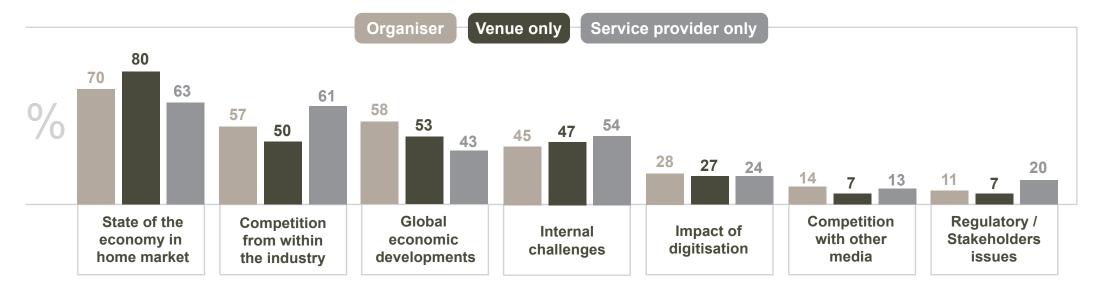


(multiple answers possible)

## Most important issues: detail by region and type of activity for the five top issues identified globally









With digitisation accelerating in businesses around the world, the Global Barometer developed to also focus on the state of digital activity in the exhibition industry. The results show that the majority of companies have responded to the accelerating process of digitisation in the exhibition industry. However, progress is limited.

The "digitisation Implementation Index" towards a "full digitisation" is 27 globally. China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, the UK and USA are identified as the exhibition markets who are currently most advanced in the digital transformation process.

- 58% of survey participants reported that they have added digital services/products (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage) around existing exhibitions. This is already widely established in Brazil (71%), China (72%), Italy (64%), Mexico (75%), UK (73%) and USA (62%)
- The companies in the exhibition industry are digitising themselves as well: globally, 48% stated that they have changed internal processes and workflows to be more digital. The most advanced exhibition markets here are Australia (55%), China (56%), India (55%), South Africa (53%) and the UK (91%)
- 28% of companies participating in the survey reported that they have developed a digital transformation strategy for the whole company, with Italy (55%), Mexico (50%), the UK (45%) and USA (46%) leading

- 18% have created a designated function (like a Chief Digital Officer) in the upper/top management – led here by Germany (50%), Indonesia (30%), Mexico (33%), and Russia (54%)
- Finally, 13% of survey participants stated that they have launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions a development especially visible in India (30%), Indonesia (30%), the UK (36%) and the USA (31%).

The following pages show the global results, followed by detailed results.

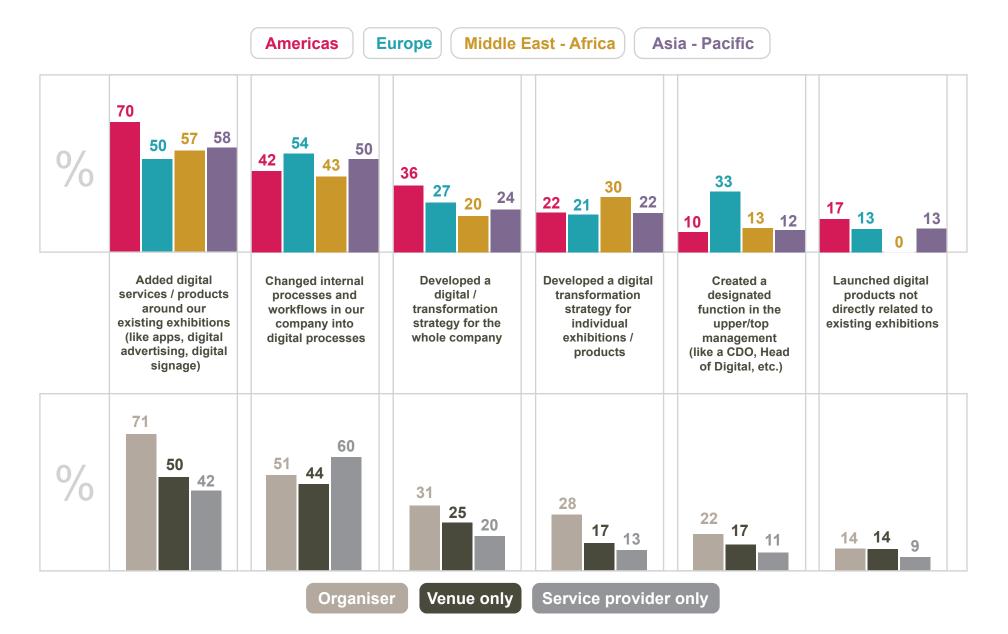
## **Digitisation: global results**



Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	58%	
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	48%	
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	28%	
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	22%	
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	18%	
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	13%	
Other	3%	

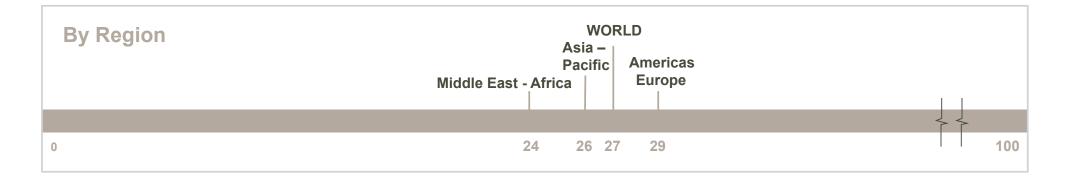
## Digitisation: detail by region and type of activity





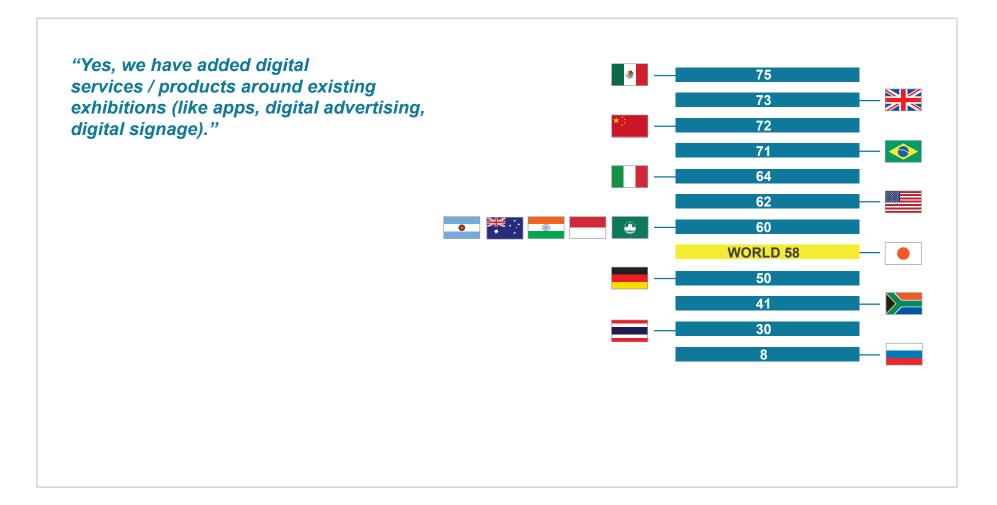


Aggregating the status of all digitisation activities, this index shows how far different exhibition industry markets around the world currently have progressed towards full digitisation.

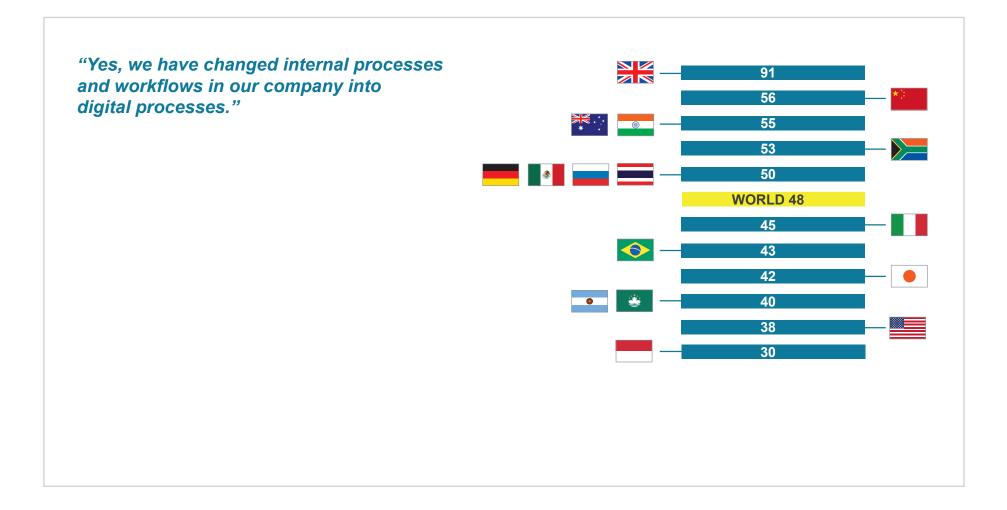




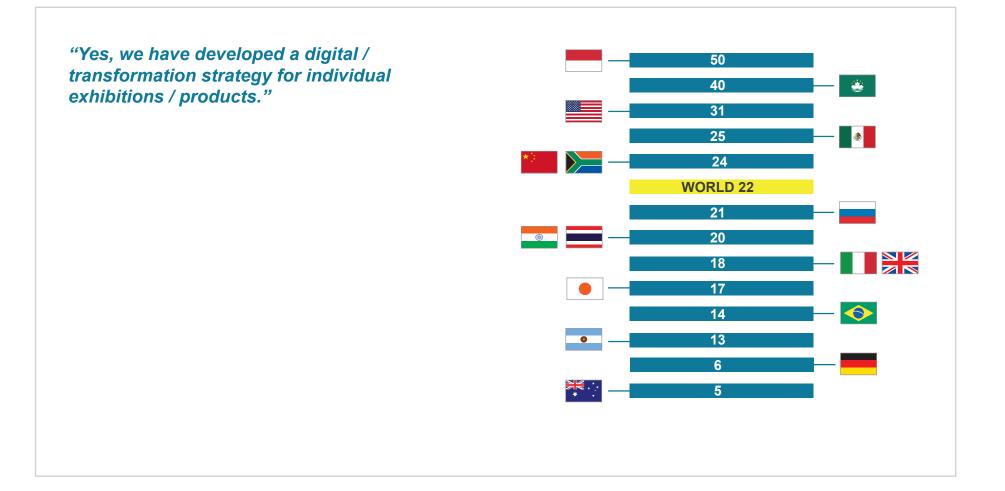




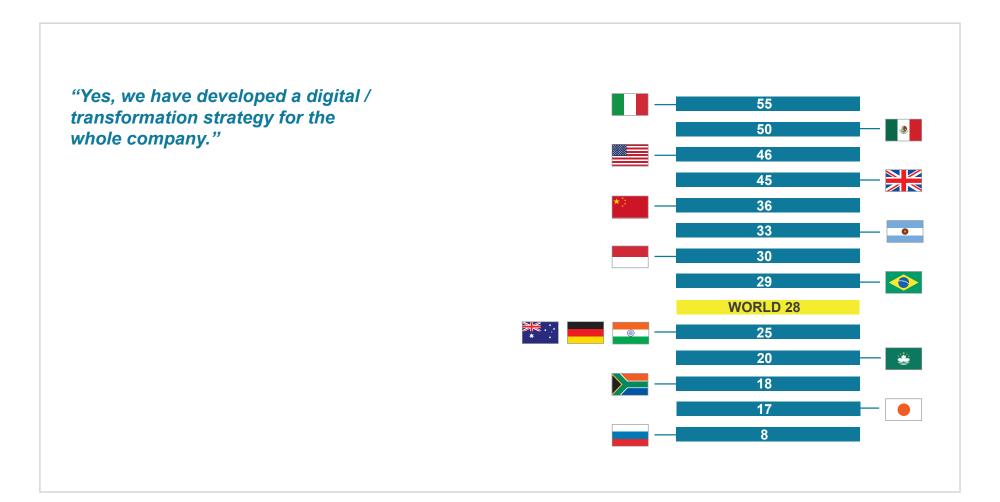




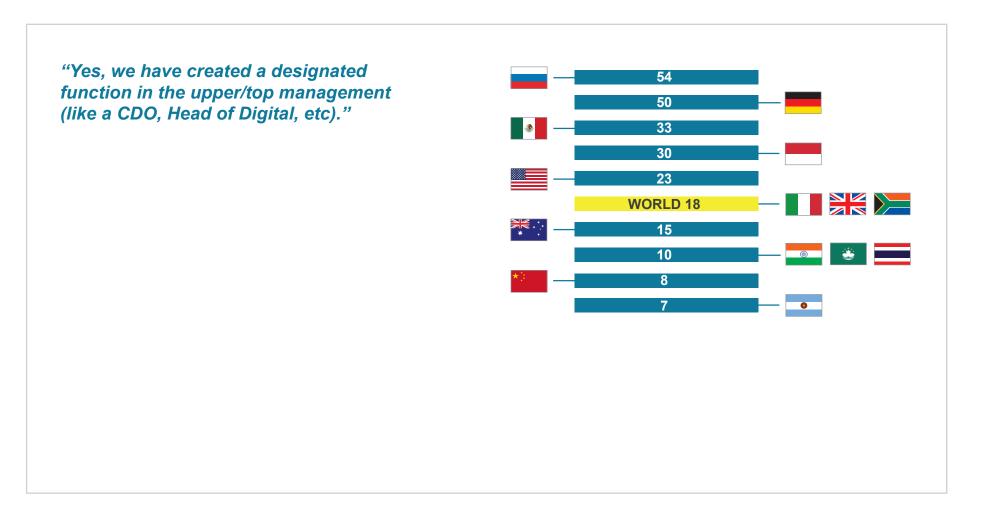




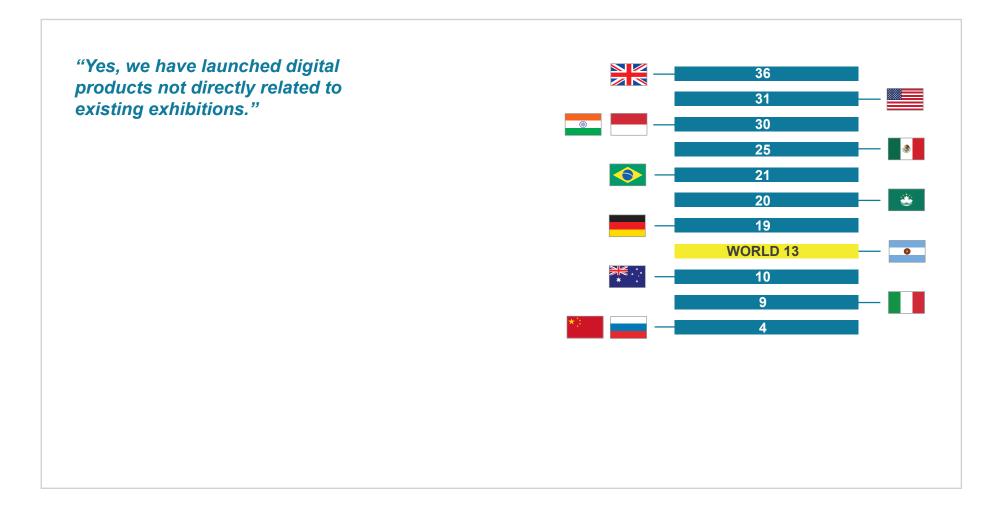












## Part 2: Detailed results

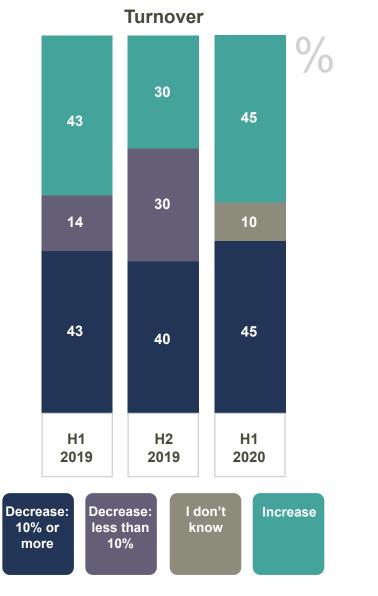


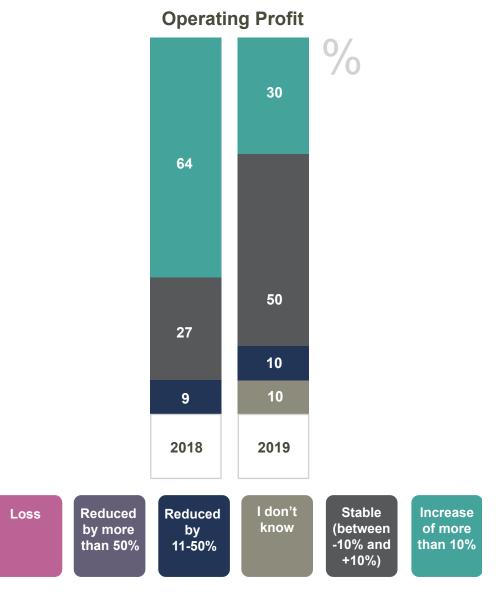
North America:	Mexico US
Central and South America:	Argentina Brazil Other countries in Central & South America
Europe:	Germany Italy Russia United Kingdom Other countries in Europe
Africa:	South Africa
Middle East:	Middle East
Asia - Pacific:	Australia China India Indonesia Japan Macau Thailand Other countries in Asia - Pacific

#### **Detailed results for MEXICO**

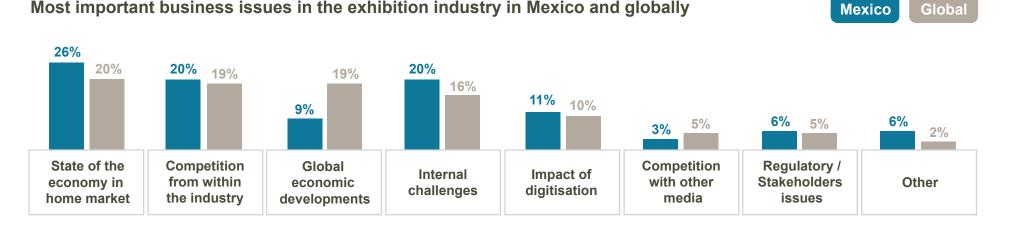
The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry

#### Financial expectations of Mexican exhibition companies compared to previous years





## **Detailed results for MEXICO**



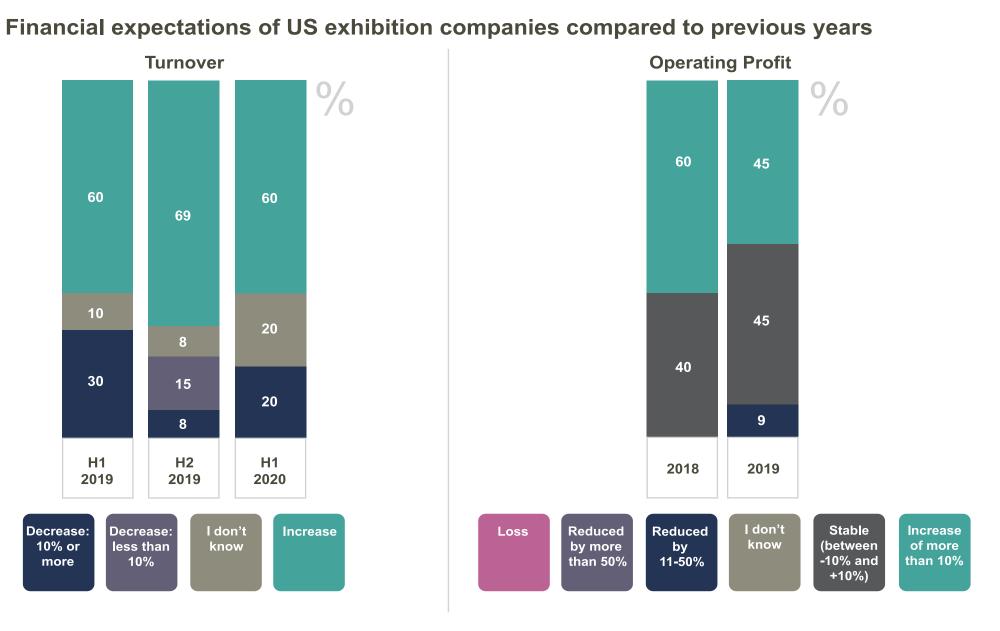
Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in Mexico and globally

#### Digitisation: implementation in Mexico and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	<b>75</b> %
Changed internal processes and workflows in our	50%
company into digital processes	48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	50%
	28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual	25%
exhibitions / products	22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	33%
	18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	25%
	13%
Other	0%
	3%

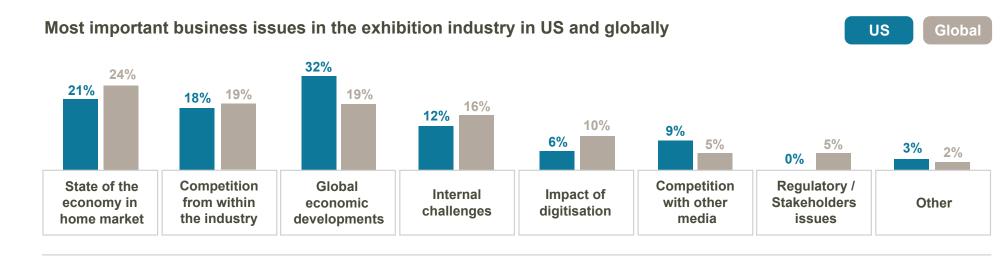
The Global Association of the Association of the

Global



The Global Association of the Association of the

## **Detailed results for US**



#### Digitisation: implementation in US and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	62% 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	<b>38%</b> 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	<b>46%</b> 28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>31%</b> 22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>23%</b> 18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	31% 13%
Other	<b>0%</b> <b>3</b> %

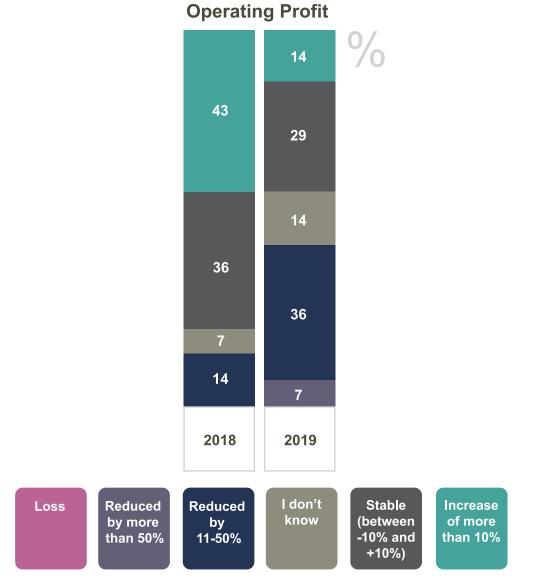
The Global Association of the Association of the

## **Detailed results for Argentina**

The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry

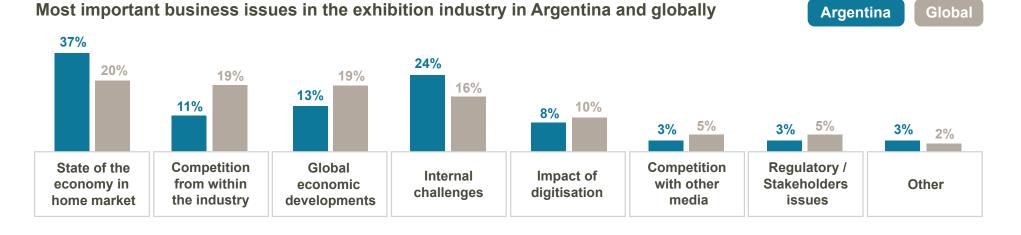
#### Financial expectations of Argentinian exhibition companies compared to previous years





23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

## **Detailed results for Argentina**



#### Digitisation: implementation in Argentina and globally

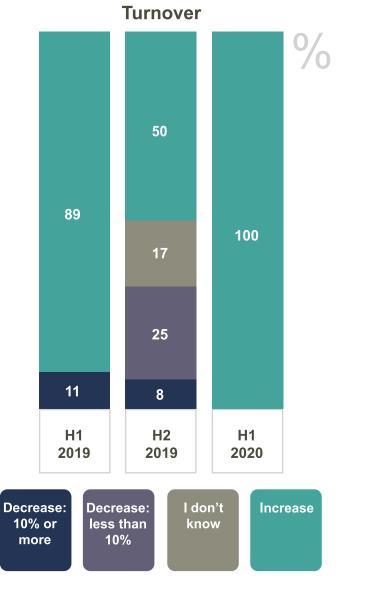
Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	<mark>6</mark> 58
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	40% 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	<b>33%</b> 28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>13%</b> 22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>7%</b> 18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	13% 13%
Other	13%

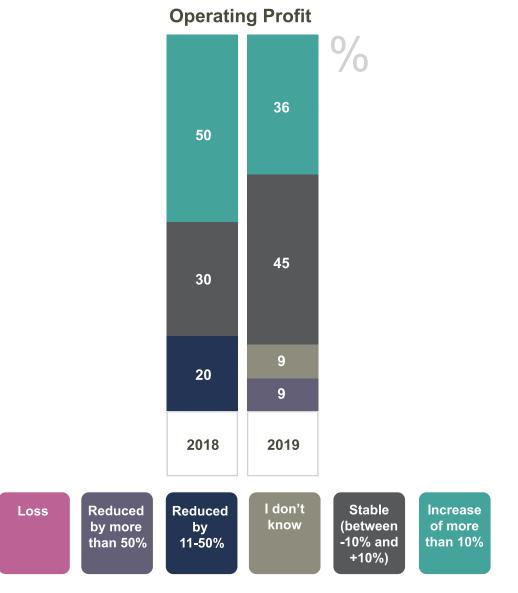
The Global Association of the Evolution of the

#### **Detailed results for Brazil**

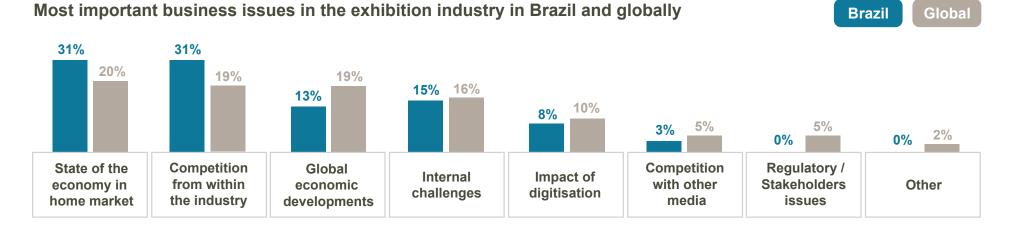


#### Financial expectations of Brazilian exhibition companies compared to previous years

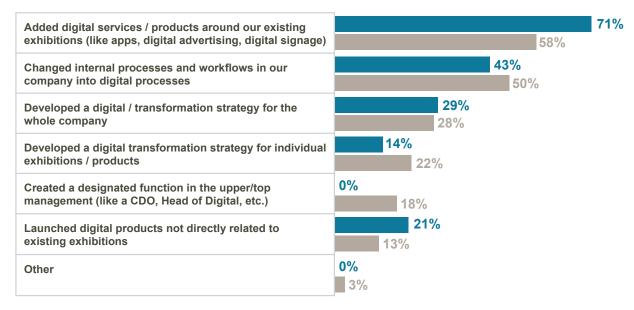




#### **Detailed results for Brazil**

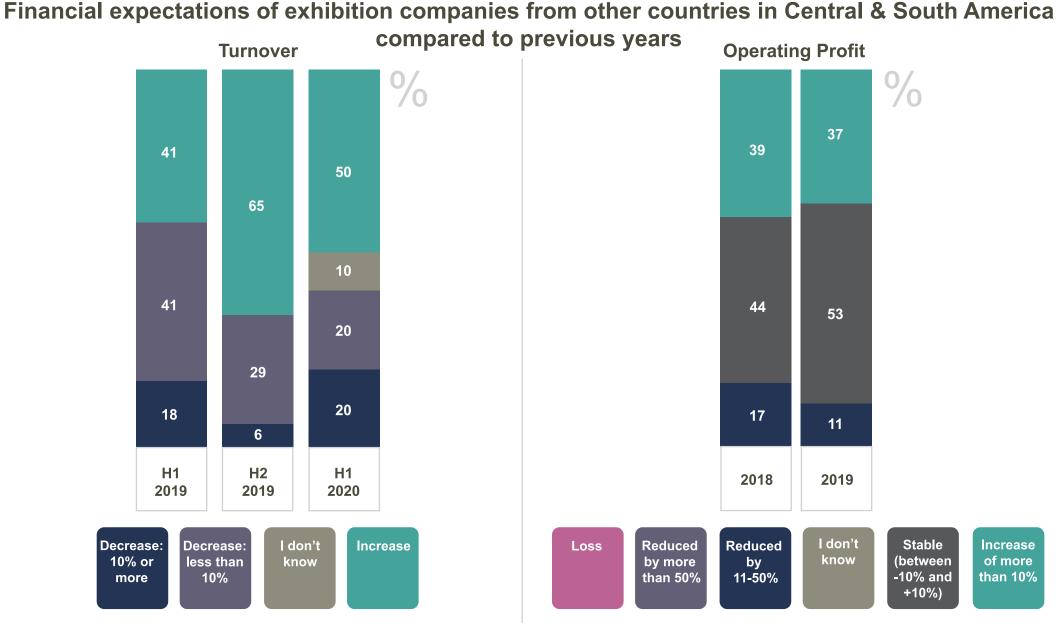


#### Digitisation: implementation in Brazil and globally



## Detailed results for other countries in Central & South America



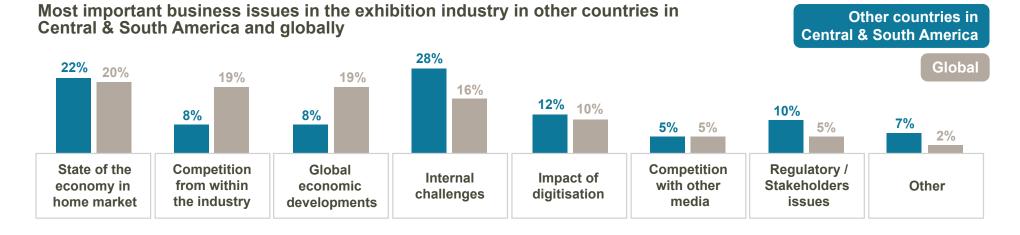


23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

(21 answers in total)

## Detailed results for other countries in Central & South America





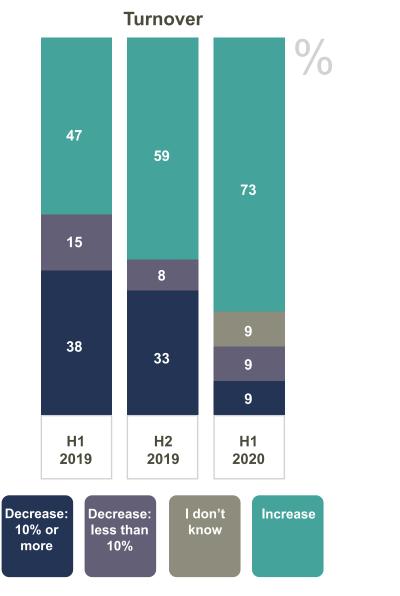
#### Digitisation: implementation in other countries in Central & South America and globally

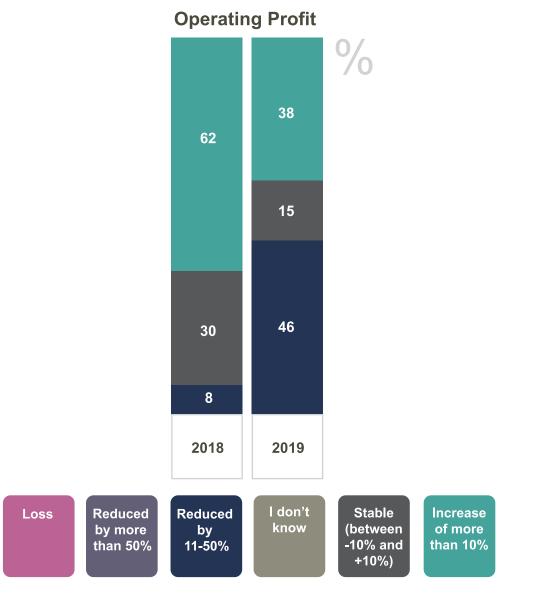
Added digital services / products around our existing	81%
exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our	43%
company into digital processes	48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the	29%
whole company	28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual	29%
exhibitions / products	22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top	0%
management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	18%
Launched digital products not directly related to	5%
existing exhibitions	13%
Other	0%
	3%

### **Detailed results for Germany**

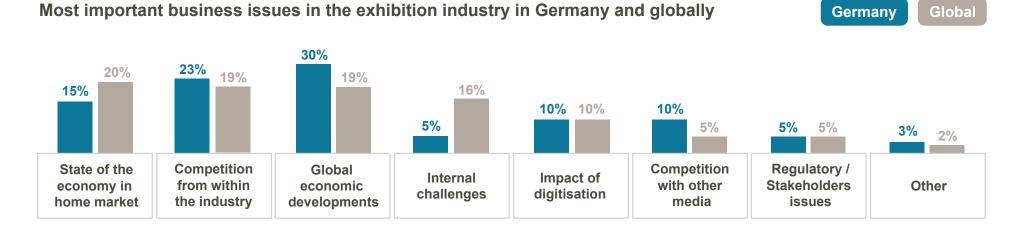


#### Financial expectations of German exhibition companies compared to previous years

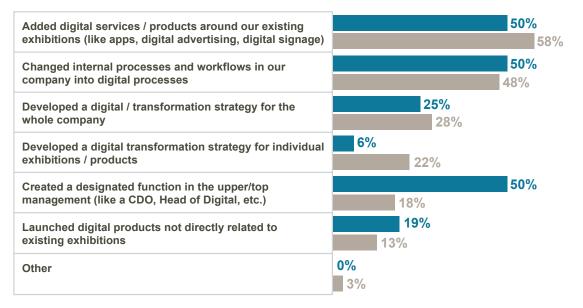




## **Detailed results for Germany**



#### Digitisation: implementation in Germany and globally

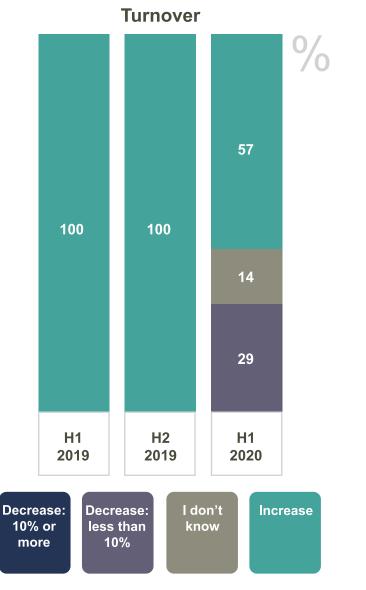


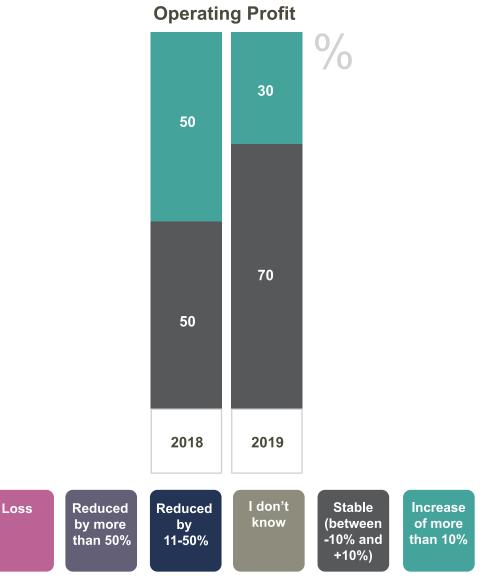
 $23^{\mbox{\tiny rd}}$  UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ 

#### **Detailed results for Italy**



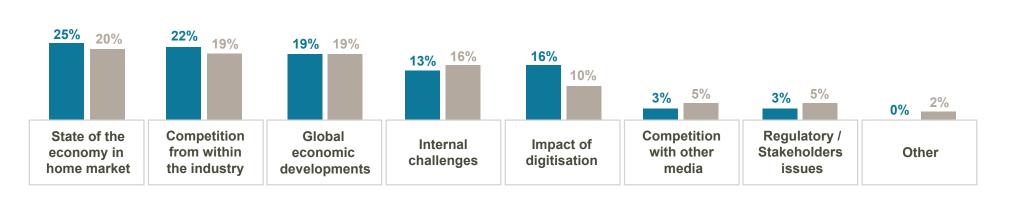
#### Financial expectations of Italian exhibition companies compared to previous years





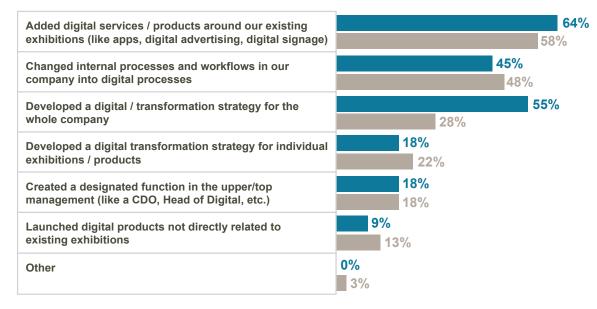
23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

### Detailed results for Italy



#### Digitisation: implementation in Italy and globally

Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in Italy and globally



23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

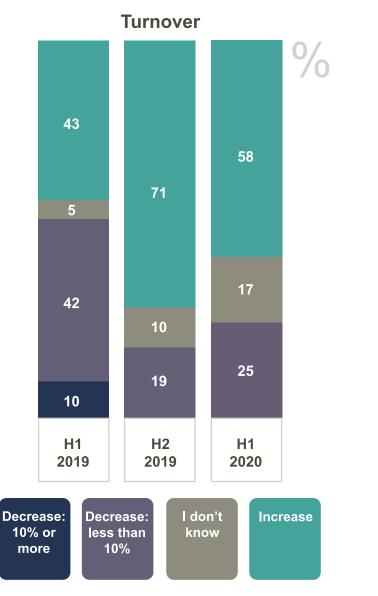
Global

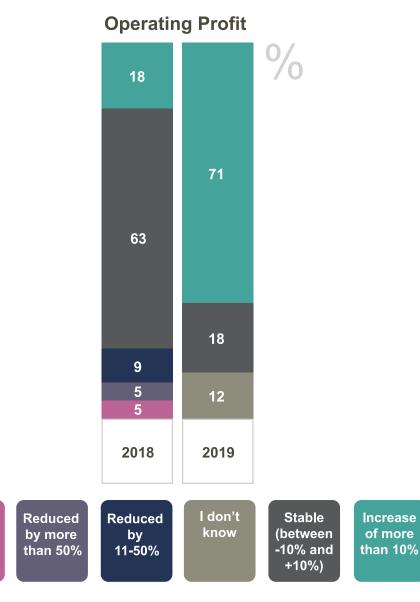
Italy

### **Detailed results for Russia**



#### Financial expectations of Russian exhibition companies compared to previous years





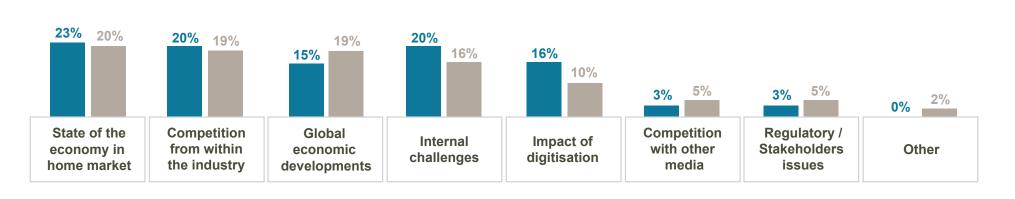
Loss

### **Detailed results for Russia**

The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry

Global

Russia



#### Digitisation: implementation in Russia and globally

Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in Russia and globally

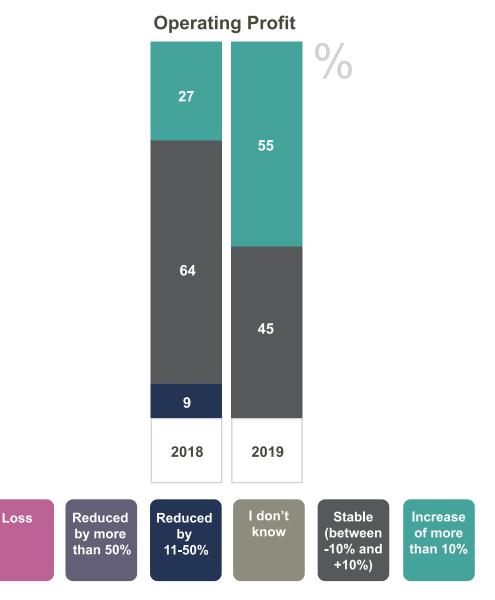
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes       50%         Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole companyD       8%         eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products       21%         Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)       18%	Added digital services / products around our existing	8%	_
company into digital processes       48%         Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole companyD       8%         eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products       21%         Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)       18%	exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)		58%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole companyD       8%         eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products       21%         Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)       18%	Changed internal processes and workflows in our	50	)%
beveloped a digital ransformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products     28%       Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)     54%	company into digital processes	48%	6
eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products       21%         Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)       54%	Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the	8%	
exhibitions / products     22%       Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)     18%	whole companyD	28%	
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.) 54%	eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual	21%	
management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	exhibitions / products	22%	
	Created a designated function in the upper/top		54%
	management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	18%	
Launched digital products not directly related to	Launched digital products not directly related to	4%	
existing exhibitions 13%	existing exhibitions	13%	
Other 8%	Other	8%	
3%		3%	

### **Detailed results for UK**



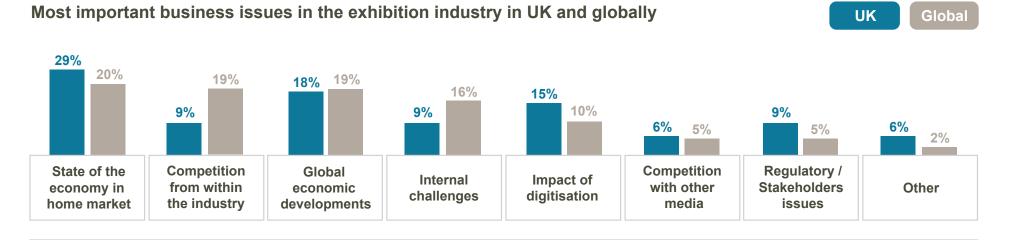
#### Financial expectations of UK exhibition companies compared to previous years



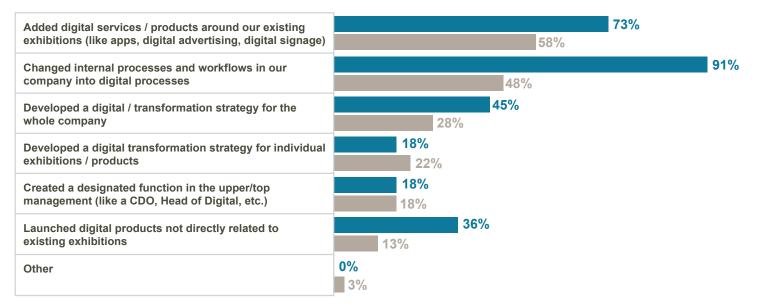


### **Detailed results for UK**



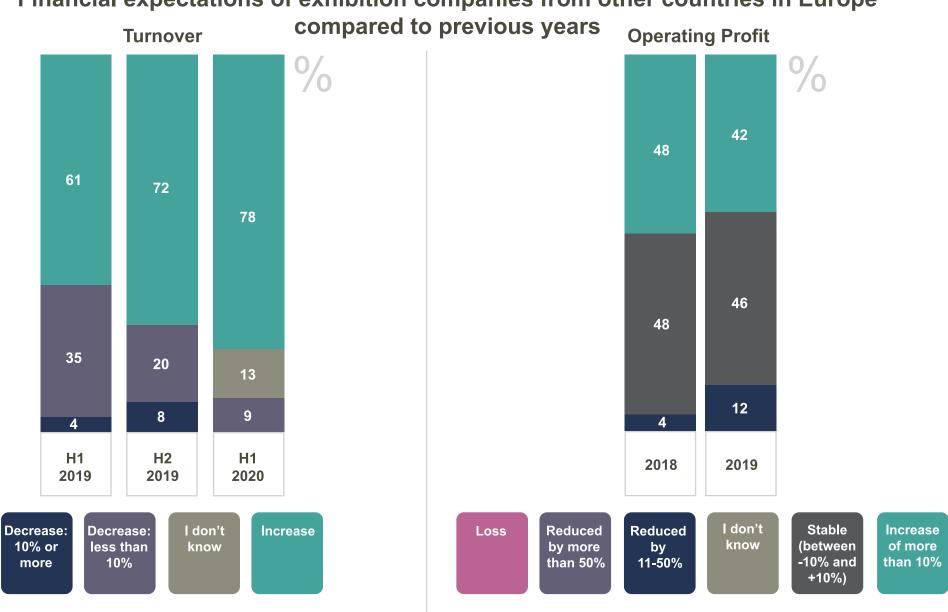


#### Digitisation: implementation in UK and globally



### **Detailed results for other countries** in Europe





## Financial expectations of exhibition companies from other countries in Europe

23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

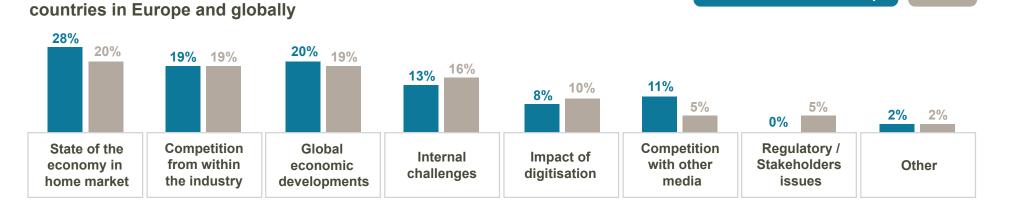
(30 answers in total)

# Detailed results for other countries in Europe



Global

Other Countries in Europe



#### Digitisation: implementation in other countries in Europe and globally

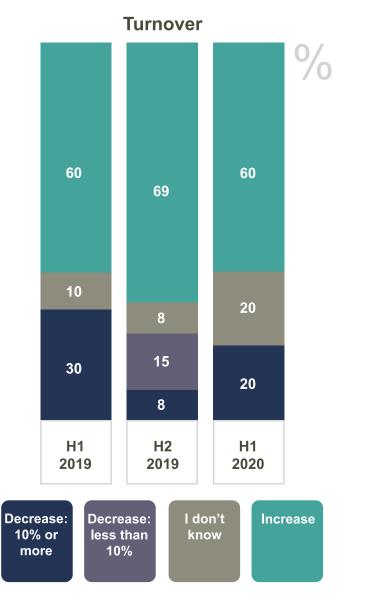
Most important business issues in the exhibition industry for other

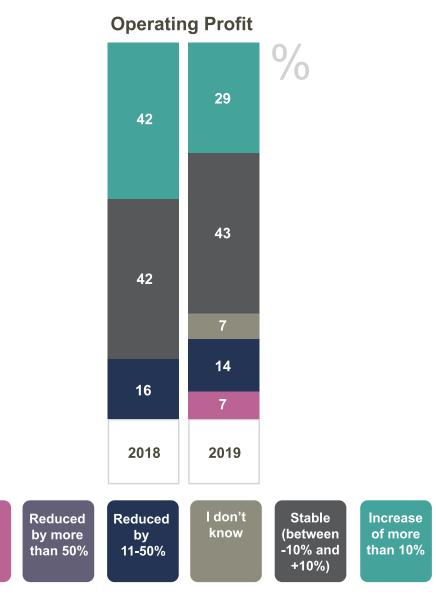
Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	<b>70%</b> 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	<b>50%</b> 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	27% 28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>30%</b> 22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>17%</b> 18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	<b>10%</b> 13%
Other	0% 3%

### **Detailed results for South Africa**



#### Financial expectations of South African exhibition companies compared to previous years

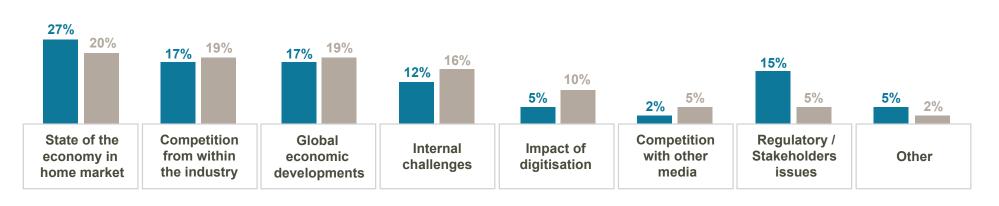




Loss

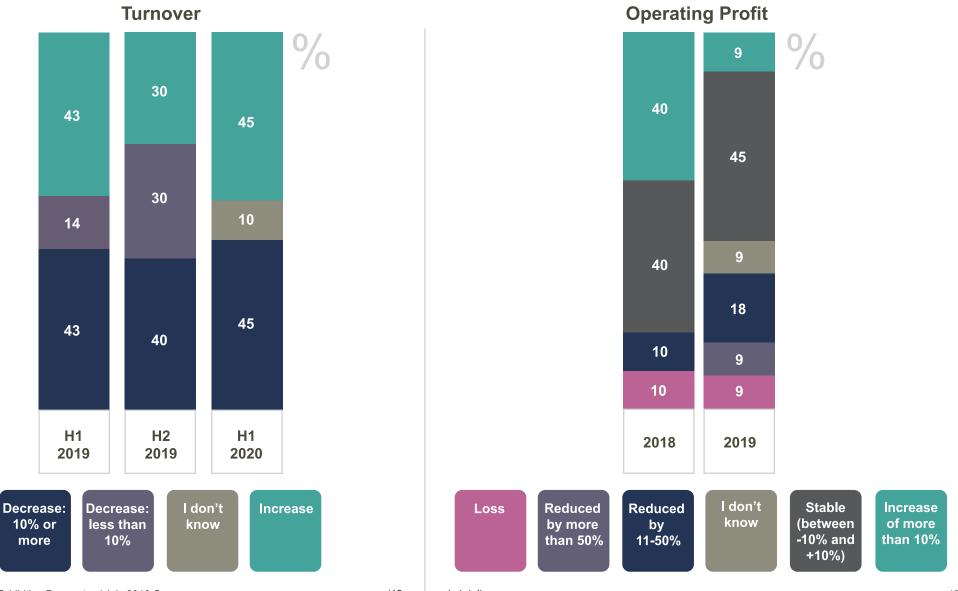
### **Detailed results for South Africa**





#### Digitisation: implementation in South Africa and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing	41%
exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our	53%
company into digital processes	48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the	18%
whole company	28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual	24%
exhibitions / products	22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top	18%
management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	18%
Launched digital products not directly related to	0%
existing exhibitions	13%
Other	6%
	3%

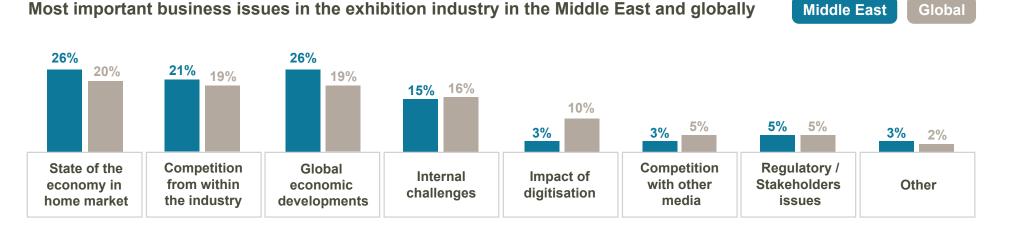


#### Financial expectations of Middle East exhibition companies compared to previous years

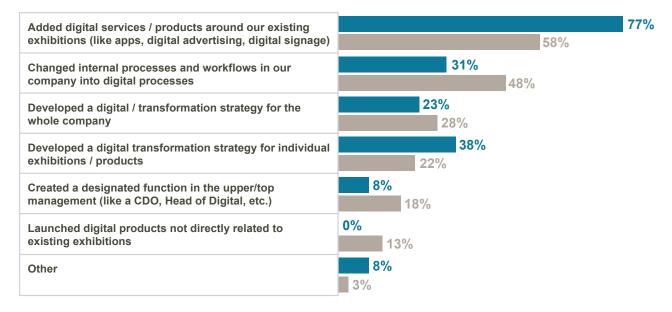
23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

The Global Association of the Evaluation

### **Detailed results the Middle East**



#### Digitisation: implementation in the Middle East and globally



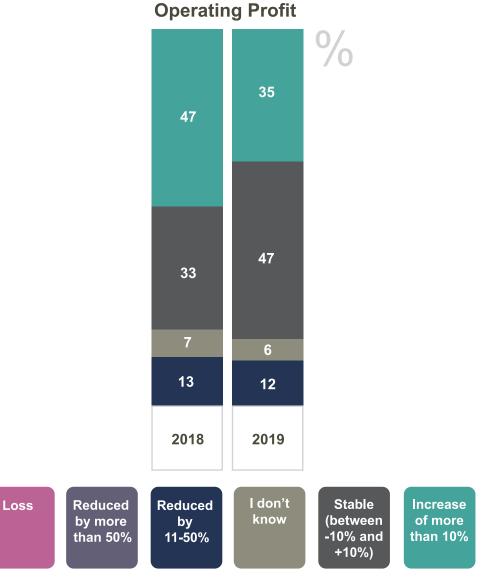
(13 answers in total)

### **Detailed results for Australia**



#### Financial expectations of Australian exhibition companies compared to previous years



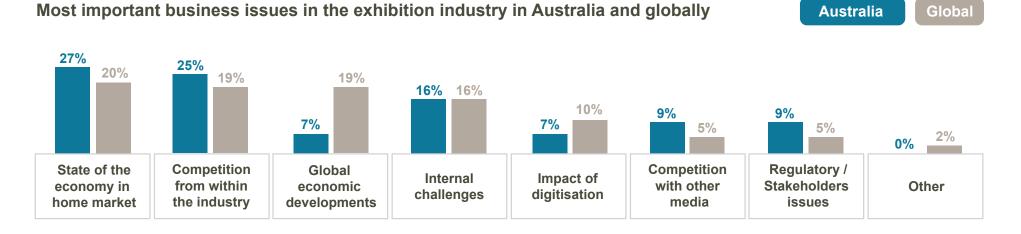


23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

### **Detailed results for Australia**







#### Digitisation: implementation in the Australia and globally

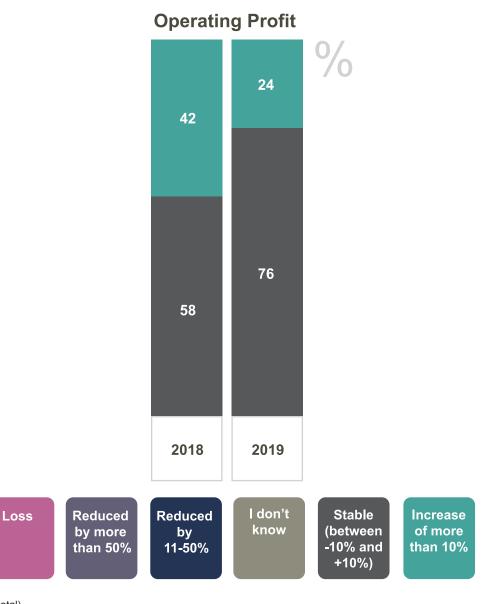
Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)		60% 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes		55% 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	25% 28%	
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>5%</b> 22%	
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>15%</b> 18%	
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	<b>10%</b> 13%	
Other	<b>5%</b> 3%	

### **Detailed results for China**



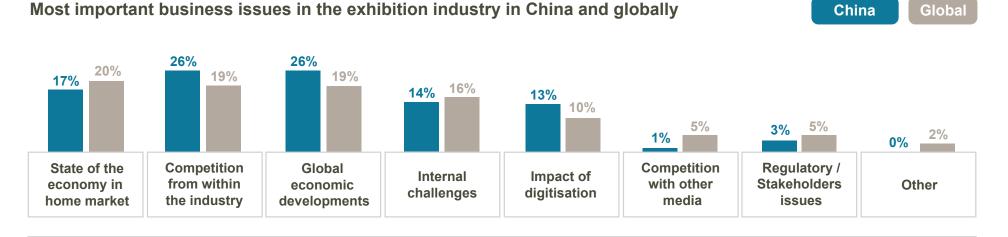
#### Financial expectations of Chinese exhibition companies compared to previous years



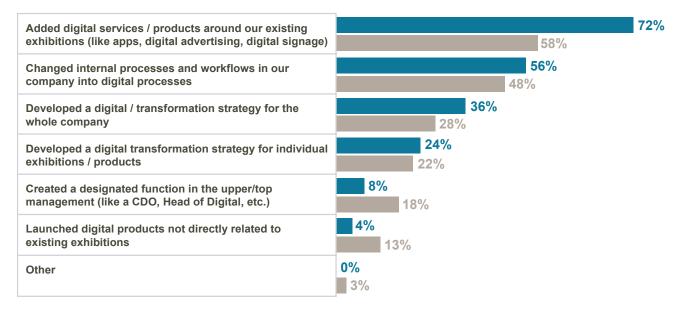


### **Detailed results for China**





#### Digitisation: implementation in China and globally

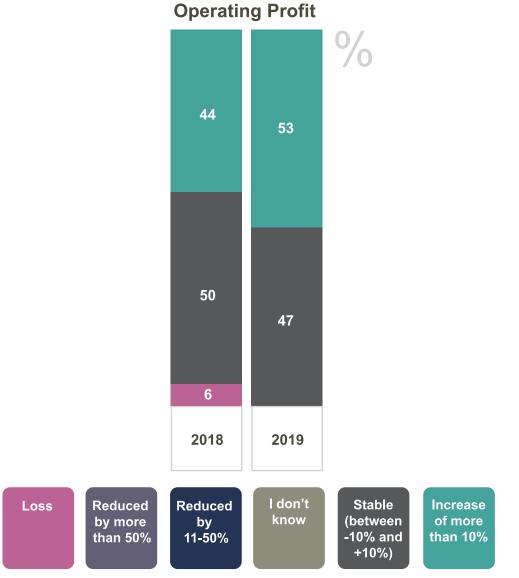


### **Detailed results for India**

Compared and the global Association of the Exhibition Industry

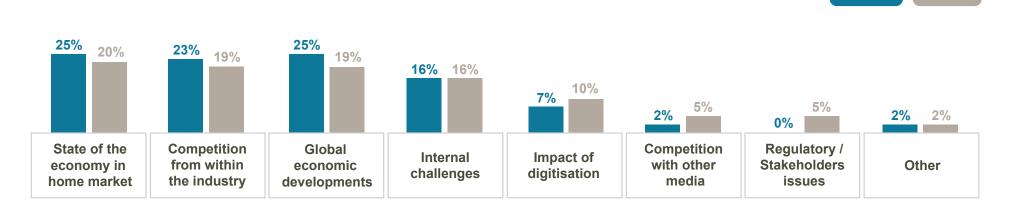
#### Financial expectations of Indian exhibition companies compared to previous years





23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

### **Detailed results for India**



#### Digitisation: implementation in India and globally

Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in India and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	60% 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	<mark>55%</mark> 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole companyD	<b>25%</b> 28%
eveloped a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>20%</b> 22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>10%</b> 18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	<b>30%</b> 13%
Other	<b>0%</b> 3%

The Global Association of the Association of the

Global

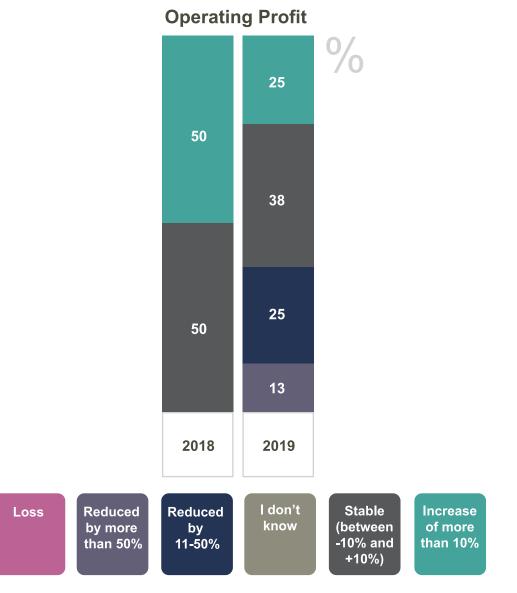
India

### **Detailed results for Indonesia**

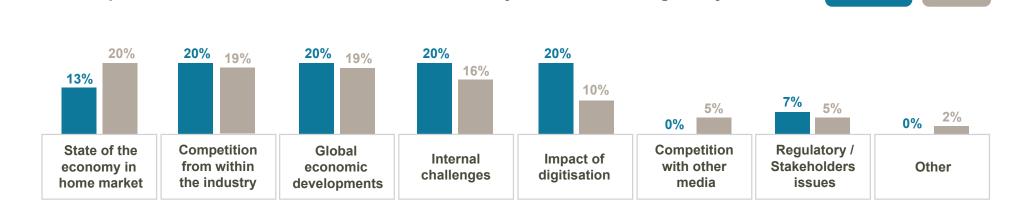


#### Financial expectations of Indonesian exhibition companies compared to previous years



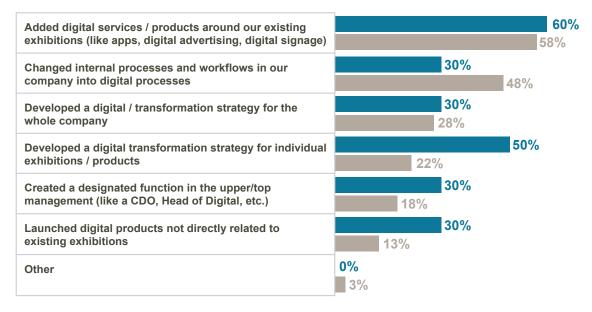


### **Detailed results for Indonesia**



Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in Indonesia and globally

#### Digitisation: implementation in Indonesia and globally



Indonesia

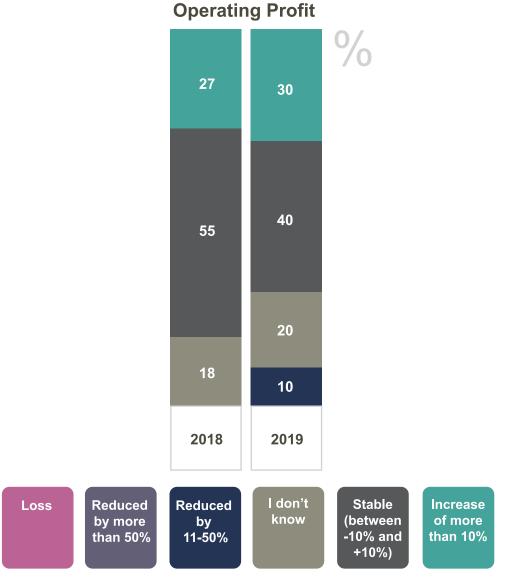
Global

### **Detailed results for Japan**



#### Financial expectations of Japanese exhibition companies compared to previous years

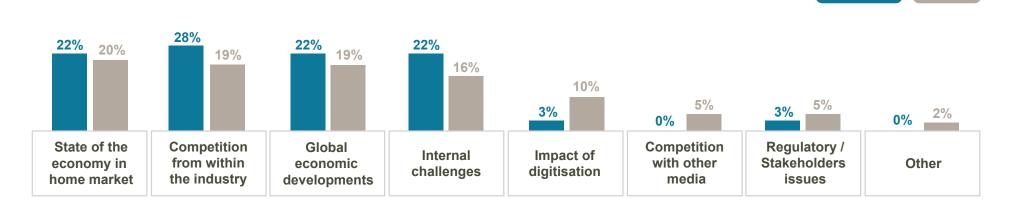




23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

(12 answers in total)

### **Detailed results for Japan**



#### Digitisation: implementation in Japan and globally

Most important business issues in the exhibition industry in Japan and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)		58% 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	<b>42%</b> 48%	
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	<b>17%</b> 28%	
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>17%</b> 22%	
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>0%</b> 18%	
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	<b>0%</b> 13%	
Other	<b>8%</b> 3%	

The Global Association of the

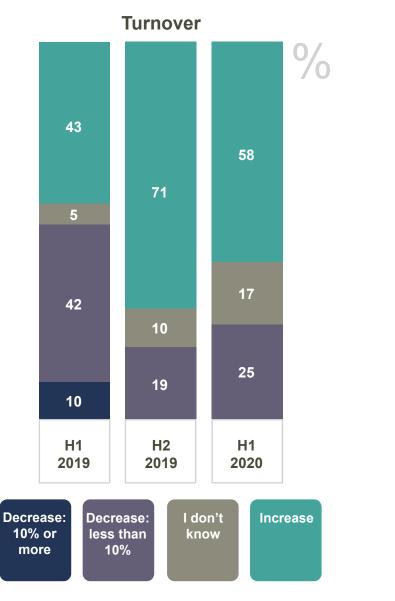
Global

Japan

### **Detailed results for Macau**



#### Financial expectations of exhibition companies in Macau compared to previous years

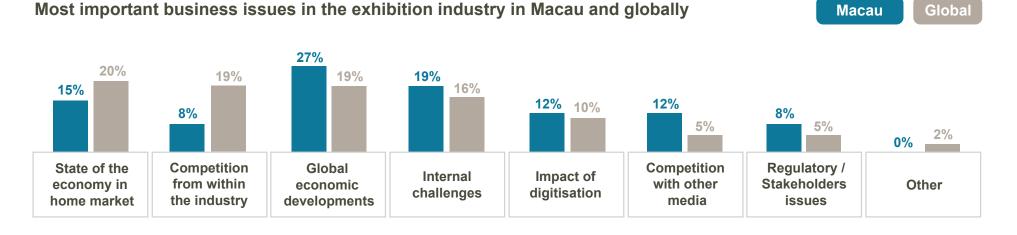




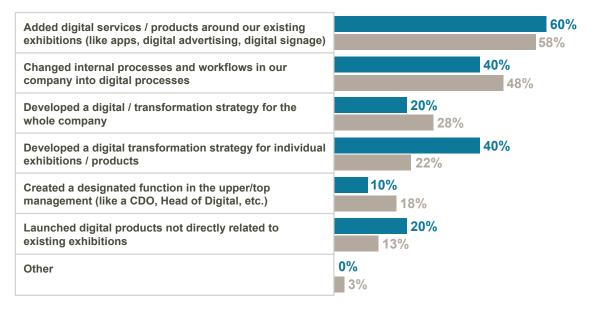
### **Detailed results for Macau**



The Global Association of the Exhibition Industr



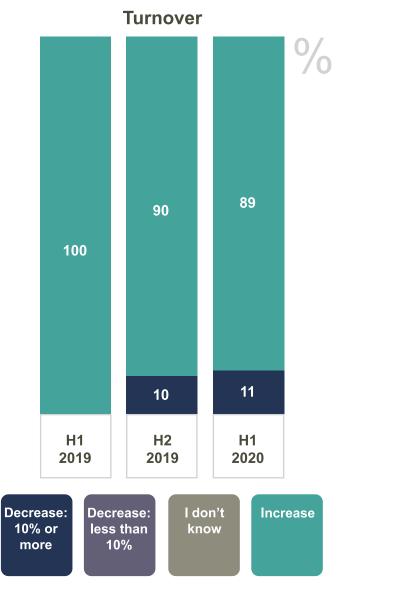
#### Digitisation: implementation in Macau and globally

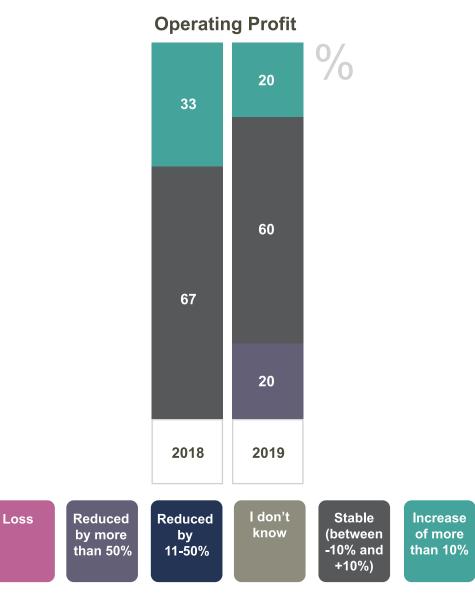


### **Detailed results for Thailand**



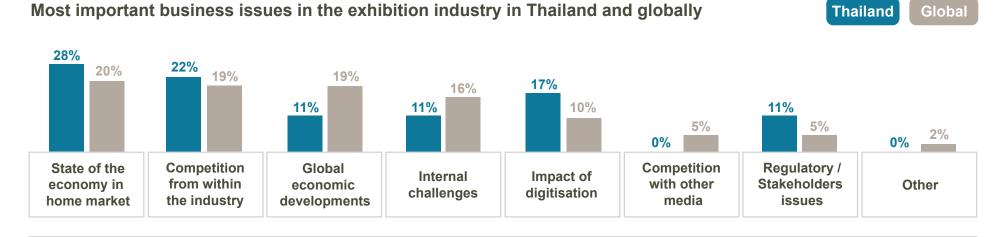
#### Financial expectations of Thai exhibition companies compared to previous years





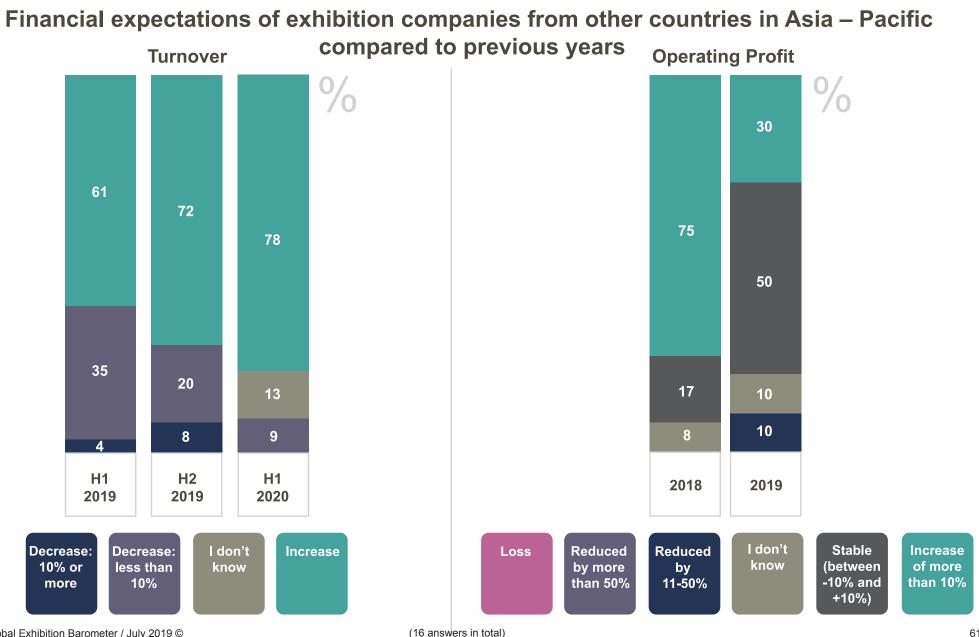
### **Detailed results for Thailand**





#### Digitisation: implementation in Thailand and globally

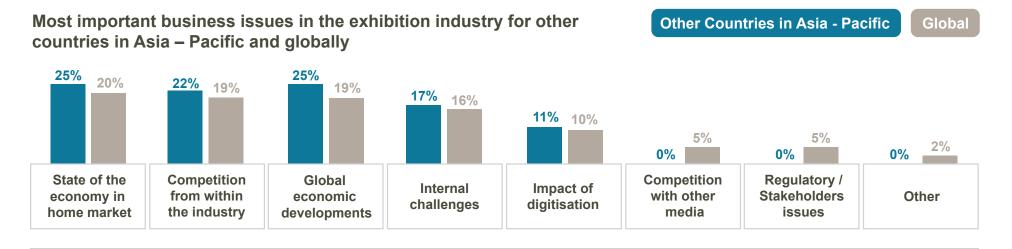
Added digital services / products around our existing	30%
exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our	50%
company into digital processes	48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the	0%
whole company	28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual	20%
exhibitions / products	22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top	10%
management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	18%
Launched digital products not directly related to	0%
existing exhibitions	13%
Other	0%
	3%



23rd UFI Global Exhibition Barometer / July 2019 ©

The Global Association of the





#### Digitisation: implementation in other countries in Asia - Pacific and globally

Added digital services / products around our existing exhibitions (like apps, digital advertising, digital signage)	44% 58%
Changed internal processes and workflows in our company into digital processes	50% 48%
Developed a digital / transformation strategy for the whole company	25% 28%
Developed a digital transformation strategy for individual exhibitions / products	<b>19%</b> 22%
Created a designated function in the upper/top management (like a CDO, Head of Digital, etc.)	<b>19%</b> 18%
Launched digital products not directly related to existing exhibitions	<b>13%</b> 13%
Other	<b>6%</b> 3%

### Conclusion



The Global Barometer survey has been measuring the pulse of the exhibition industry since 2008. This 23rd survey, concluded in July 2019, was answered by 322 companies from 57 countries. The results are detailed for 20 geographical zones, including 16 major countries and regions markets.

Survey results reveal a generally positive outlook in terms of financial expectations with, however, elements of slowdown noticed for the turnover during the first half of 2019 and also in terms of profit in 2019, when compared to 2018, reflecting the slowdown of global economic growth. More specifically:

- While a majority of companies in all regions except Middle East / Africa - expect Gross Turnover increases for the two halves of 2019 and the first half of 2020, the first half of 2019 appears to be weaker compared with recent years. Having said that, current forecasts for the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020 show a return to robust levels. Eight of the surveyed countries and regions have, for all three periods surveyed, a majority of companies declaring turnover increases: Australia, Brazil, Italy, Japan, South Africa, Thailand, UK and USA. For the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020, this situation also applies to India, Indonesia, Germany, Macau and Russia.
- In terms of **operating profit**, 80% of companies maintained a good level of performance in 2018 and around 40 to 50% of them declared an increase of more than 10% compared to 2017. The highest proportions of companies declaring such an increase in 2018 are observed in Brazil, Germany, Italy, Mexico, the UK and the USA. For 2019, only Europe has, on average, an even higher proportion of companies expecting an increase of more than 10% of their operating profit. In all other regions, the share of companies projecting this decreases from 2018 to 2019. The highest proportions of companies declaring such an

increase in 2018 are observed in Russia (71%), UK (55%), India (53%) and the USA (45%).

When asked about **the most important issues for their business** in the coming year, companies remain concerned about the following 4 topics: "State of the economy in home market" (24% in the current survey, down 1% compared to 6 months ago), "Competition from within the industry" (19%, unchanged), "Global economic developments" (19%, down 1%), "Internal challenges" (16%, up 1%).

Finally, the Global Barometer results show that the majority of companies respond to the accelerating process of **digitisation** in the exhibition industry. The "digitisation Implementation Index" towards a "full digitisation" is 27 globally. China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, the UK and USA are identified as the exhibition markets who are currently most advanced in the digital transformation process.

### THANK YOU TO ALL SURVEY PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

### THE NEXT GLOBAL BAROMETER SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED IN JUNE 2020 – PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

### Appendix: Number of survey replies per country Total = 322 (in 57 countries/regions)



North America	27	Europe	92	Middle East	13
Canada	2	Belgium	1	Iran	4
Mexico	12	Croatia	1	Jordan	1
USA	13	Czech Republic	1	Lebanon	1
		France	3	Qatar	1
		Georgia	1	Saudi Arabia	2
Central & South America	50	Germany	16	UAE	4
Argentina	15	Greece	4		
Bolivia	2	Hungary	1		
Brazil	14	Italy	11	Asia / Pacific	123
Chile	3	Moldavia	1	Australia	20
Colombia	8	Netherlands	1	China	25
Cuba	1	Poland	2	India	20
Honduras	1	Romania	1	Indonesia	10
Panama	1	Russian	24	Japan	12
Peru	3	federation	1	Macau	10
Uruguay	1	Slovenia	4	Malaysia	2
Venezuela	1	Spain	3	New Zealand	1
		Sweden	4	Pakistan	2
		Turkey	1	Philippines	1
Africa	17	Ukraine	11	Singapore	4
South Africa	17	United Kingdom		South Korea	4
		-		Thailand	10

2

Vietnam



UFI Headquarters / European Office

17, rue Louise Michel 92300 Levallois-Perret France

T: +33 1 46 39 75 00 F: +33 1 46 39 75 01 info@ufi.org UFI Asia/Pacific Regional Office

> Suite 4114, Hong Kong Plaza 188 Connaught Road West Hong Kong, China

T: +852 2525 6129 F: +852 2525 6171 asia@ufi.org

#### UFI Latin American Regional Office

Corferias, Cra 37 # 24-67 Auditorium Second Floor Bogota, Colombia

T: +571 3445486 anamaria@ufi.org

#### UFI Middle East / Africa Regional Office

Info Salons Middle East Office Sheikh Zayed Rd City Tower 2, Office 2001A PO Box 58580 Dubai United Arab Emirates

T: +971 (0)4 331 7180 nicks@ufi.org **Research** Patron

#### **FREEMAN**<sup>®</sup>

web www.ufi.org

blog www.ufilive.org

- 🥑 @UFILive
- f www.facebook.com/ufilive
- www.UFI.tv
- in www.linkedin.com/groups/4048434
- 🔊 UFI Official Account

#### **UFI** Diamond Sponsors







Shenzhen World Exhibition & Convention Center 流圳国际台展中则