

The treatment of government procurement in regional trade agreements (RTAs)

Jianning Chen, Legal Affairs Officer World Trade Organization

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GPA and RTAs: complementary role in filling the gap in the multilateral trading system.





- A gap in the multilateral trading system: the exemption of government procurement from the major principles of the GATT and the GATS.
- **GPA** fills the gap to some extent, as it currently covers:
 - only 46 of the WTO's 162 member governments; and
 - only a part of the procurement of each participating government.
- RTAs with disciplines on government procurement also play an important role in filling the gap to some extent.
- Compared with the existence of the gap, both GPA and RTAs are net trade-creating and global welfare-enhancing.

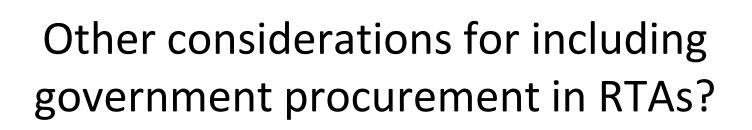


Similar role of GPA and RTAs in achieving economic and governance purposes

RTAs play a similar role as the GPA does in helping governments: oobtain **best value for money** in the provision of essential public goods and services;

stimulate economic growth by creating market access
opportunities for the private sector; and

 achieve increased integrity and good governance via establishing and promoting principles of non-discrimination, transparency, and procedural fairness.





Apart from **benefits of broader liberalization**, the inclusion of government procurement in RTAs may

- o create a point of comparison with the GPA; and
- facilitate future GPA accessions by acclimatizing procurement officials to relevant procedures and catalyzing related legislative and policy reforms.





II. How government procurement is treated in the RTAs? - an analytical study.



Participation in trade liberalization in trade liberalization in trade liberalization in the area of GP: an overview

Around **80 WTO Members** have undertaken trade liberalization in the area of GP, including:

OGPA Parties (46)

Armenia; Canada; the EU and its 28 member states; Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Israel; Japan; Korea; Liechtenstein; Montenegro; the Netherlands with respect to Aruba; New Zealand; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; Chinese Taipei; Ukraine; United States.

Other WTO Members with GP commitments in RTAs (35, up to 2014)



https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_3210

