



Features of RTAs

In Asia and the Pacific

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Outline of this presentation

This presentation will cover:

- Trends and developments in RTAs in Asia and the Pacific:
 - Trends in the creation of new RTAs
 - Changes in the patterns and nature of the RTA landscape (contents of RTA and number of members)
 - The relevance of RTAs (in terms of share of imports or exports, etc.)
- Analysis of present RTAs, in terms of their approach to goods and services liberalization, IPRs, etc.

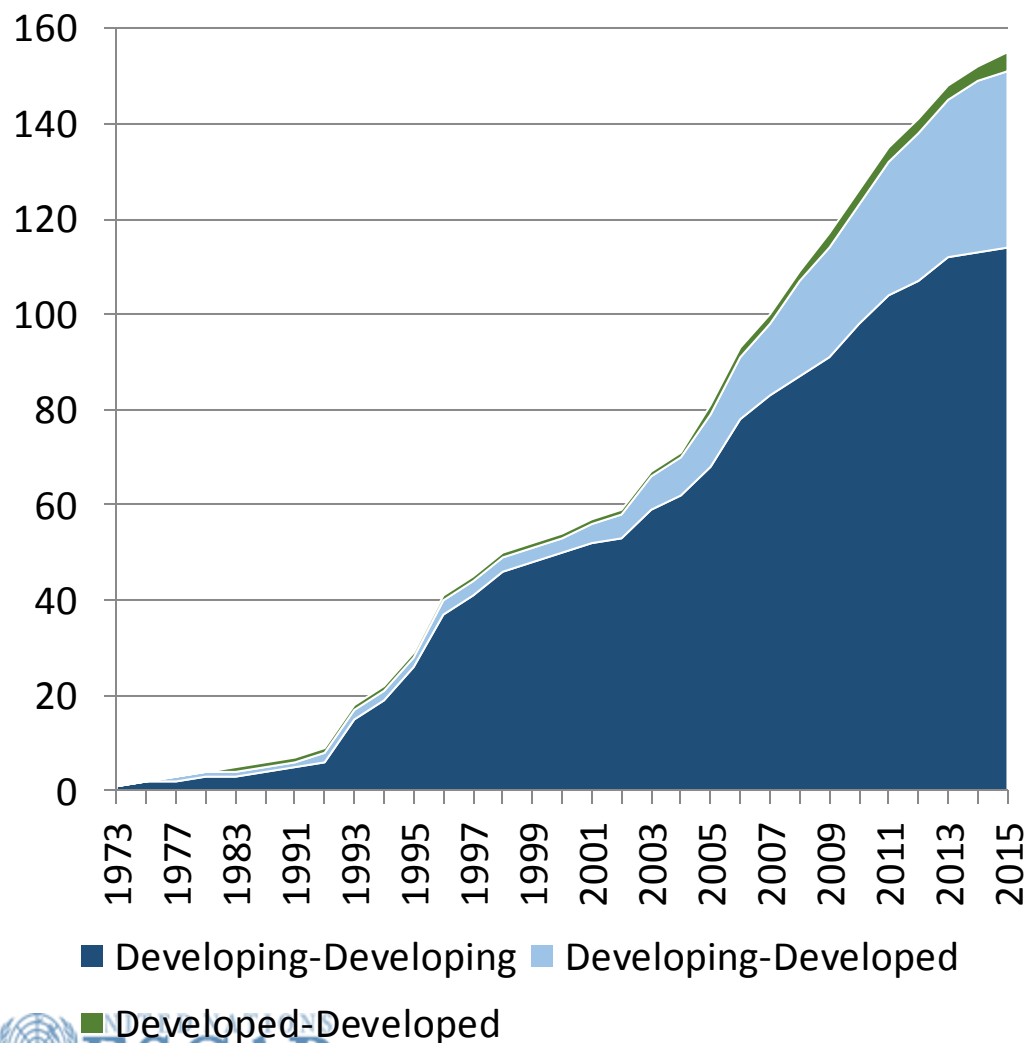
Trends and Development

RTAs in Asia: by the numbers

Asia-Pacific economies still lean in the global process of establishing new trade agreements:

- 156 out of 262 RTAs in implementation worldwide
- On average 7.1 RTAs in implementation per economy
- Out of the 231 agreements associated with Asia-Pacific economies, 156 are in force

Intra- and extra-regional deals



Many AP economies continue to pursue RTAs with partners:

- Most RTAs are among developing countries in the region
 - However, new S-S deals are growing at a diminishing rate
 - 9 agreements per year (2005-2009) → 6.5 trade agreements per year (2010-2014)
- AP economies are increasingly pursuing deals with extra-regional partners

Preference for bilateral agreements?

The preference among the Asia-Pacific economies has been to sign bilateral deals:

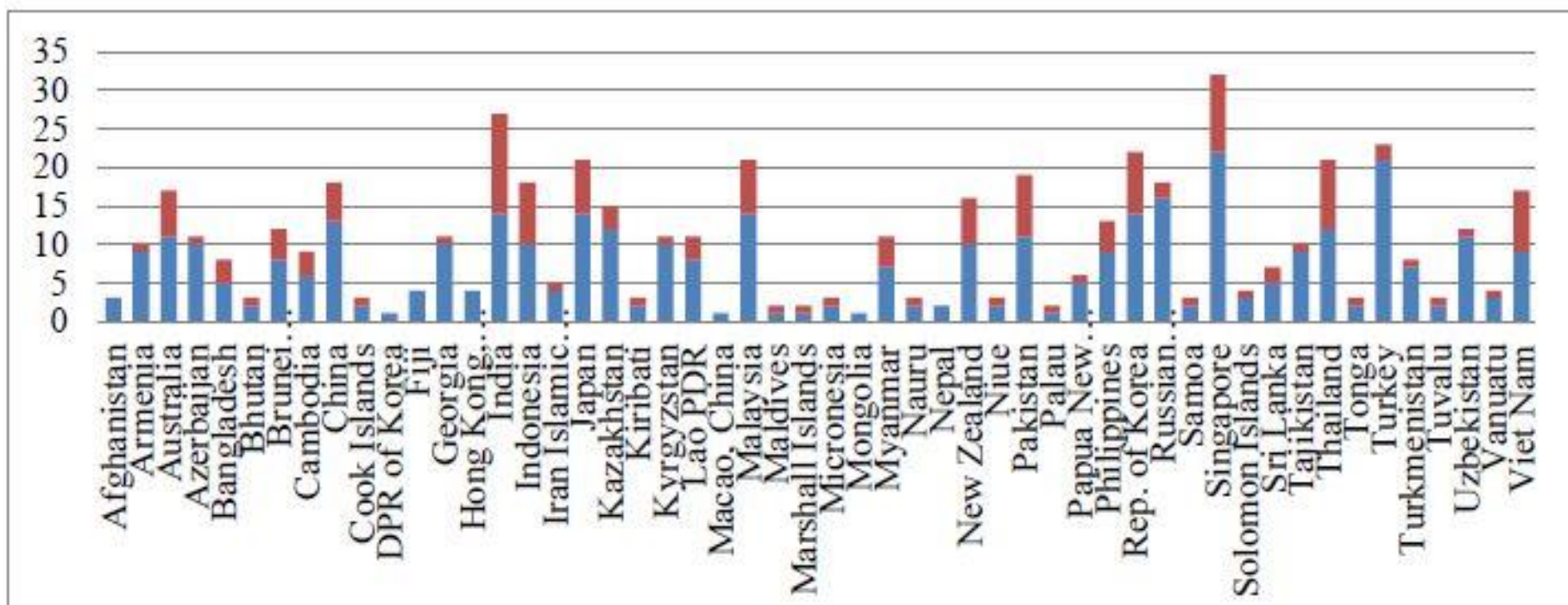
- 124 out of existing 156 agreements are bilateral
- 57 out of 124 are with economies outside of Asia-Pacific
- Even within plurilateral agreements, countries still continue to sign bilateral agreements. (e.g. India with members in the South Asian FTA)
- Among the agreements currently being negotiated by AP countries, the majority are bilateral (32)

What about plurilateral deals?

23 plurilateral trade agreements with an average of 9.7 members per agreement:

- In most cases these deals coincide with the sub-regional blocs, which tend to have broader goals than just trade expansion (ASEAN, PACER+, and SAARC)
- Min. 5 of them comprise basically the same economies but reflect the different stages of their attempt to establish regional blocs
 - Some are inactive or defunct because the lack of effort to annul bilateral agreements between the member states

RTAs: by countries



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_3255

