



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

2005/FTA-RTA/WKSP/004

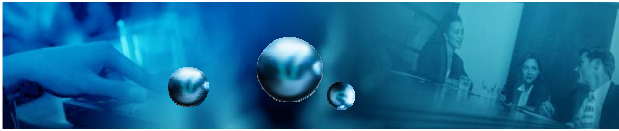
Economy Report - Thailand

Submitted by: Ms. Saithong Soiphet & Mr. Rutch Soratana, Thailand



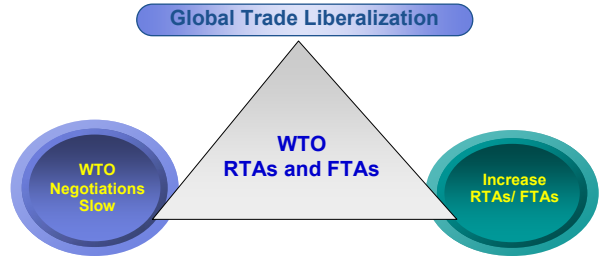
**Workshop on Identifying and Addressing
Possible Impacts of RTAs/FTAs Development on
APEC Developing Member Economies
Hanoi, Viet Nam
28-30 June 2005**

THAILAND

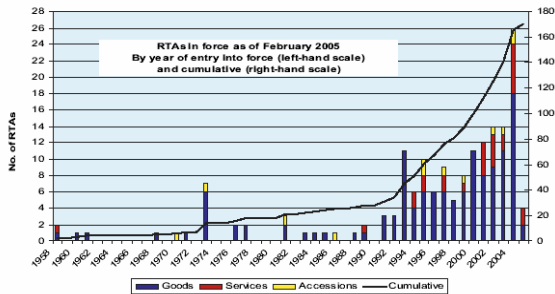


International Workshop
 on Identifying and addressing Possible Impacts of RTAs/FTAs
 Development on APEC Developing Member Economies
 28 – 30 June 2005
 Hanoi, Vietnam

Global Economic Situation

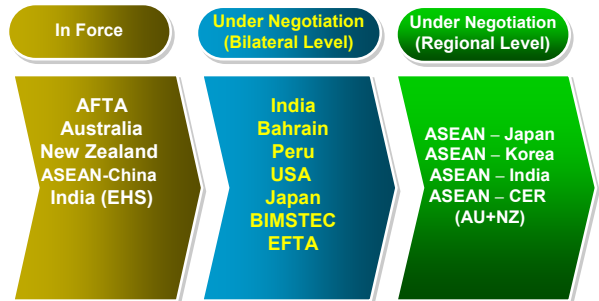


RTAs and FTAs



Source: WTO

Thailand's RTA/FTA Development



Benefits and Costs

Benefits

- Removal of trade obstacles (Tariffs and NTMs)
- Trade Opportunities
- Expand and diversify resource and production base
- Increase competitiveness and efficiency
- Attract Foreign Direct Investment
- Promote long-term relationship
- Raise International bargaining power
- Promote cooperation & networks

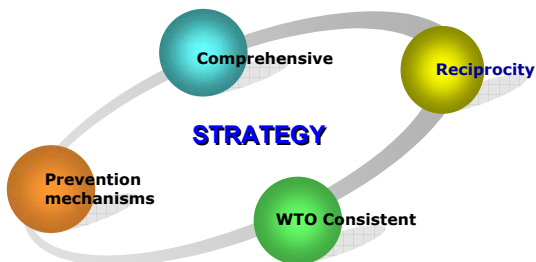
Benefits and Costs

Costs

- Increase vulnerability from outside forces
- Increase competitive level – crowding out effects
- Social and cultural repercussions

But Short-term and Adjustable
+
High Costs of Non-participation

FTA STRATEGY



Preparations & Adjustments

Establishment of Negotiation Committee

Reform and restructuring of public sector

Development of infrastructures

Strengthening SMEs

Promotion of trade & economic relations

Establishment of social safety nets

THANK YOU



**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
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