

TF for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

Recent Research; Future Agenda

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Research on TF: RRL and RRP

- Recent review of quantitative studies on impact of TF on such concerns as trade flows and costs
- Determinants and geographic coverage have remained aggregative; wide variations in results
- Reviews and studies confirm impacts of better regulation, services/infrastructure, ICT, enabling trade (BAIN 2013; Portugal-Perez, Wilson 2012; Beher, Manners, Nelson 2012; Korinek, Sourdin 2012)
- Impacts also vary by location (e.g. Africa, LA, APEC)

- ARTNeT research covered spectrum of trade issues – also aggregative even at the country level (e.g. all firm sizes)
- Supply chain analysis removed from incidence of impact – poverty and SME
- Several workshops on way forward for research on specific trade-related topics (CV, IPR, SPS, BPA, subsidies)
- TF-specific projects yielded insights into their trade effects but not beyond

NSW Preoccupation

- On the way to TF, NSW was discovered after agonizing years of ASW (Benjolloun, Pantastico, Wong 2013)
- The ASEAN decision to focus on in-country NSW spread rapidly in interest and resources all through AP
- There is and remain great faith that applying electronic single window to country border would facilitate trade and lead to overall growth and welfare

- The number of vendors of NSW solutions has multiplied each one professing to be the best in system integration, inter-operable platforms, seamless process flows, and optimal TF
- Evidence of across-the-board improvement is spotty except outliers which were already there long before NSW was coined – depends also on how NSW defined
- Deviant case: changes in impact of Philippine customs automation in 7 years: nil (read: no statistical significance in TRS results)
- NSW will continue even under a new thrust and name: IOIS

TF and Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

- Past ARTNeT research, except occasionally, did not really focus on differential effects of TF
- By inclusive effect is meant impact of trade on the poor and on SME (defined more precisely)
- The route from trade to poverty reduction is more involved and circuitous – so far no solid technical resolution to the Dollar and Kraay *Growth is Good for the Poor* (2000) article and its severe criticism (Rodrik 2000; Winters et al 2004)

- Participation by SMEs in international trade is more directly measurable even attributable
- But Tulus (2013) RRL shows no evidence that MSMEs have increased their formal integration into international trading system or increased use of paperless trade irrespective of level of development
- Even if the trading system is fully automated its compliance is burdensome to MSME

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6718

