

**WTO/ESCAP/UPSE Regional Seminar on Trade  
in Agriculture And Agriculture Negotiations  
16-18 October 2012  
Quezon City, Philippines**

Improving market access for agricultural  
products: RTAs and  
other preferential treatments



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# Outline

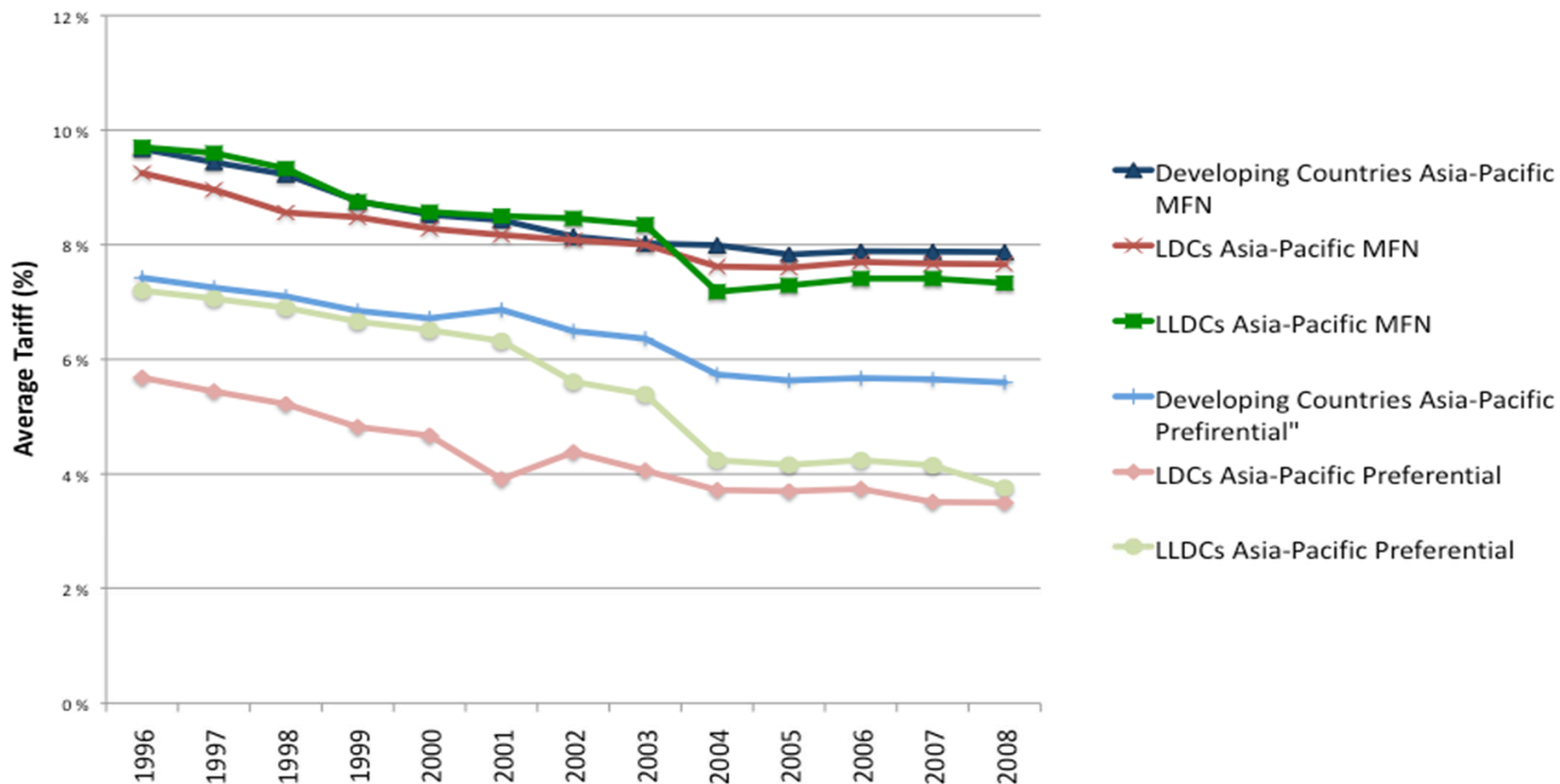
- MFN vs. preferential treatment
- Reciprocal preferential agreements in Asia-Pacific
  - Trends and developments with RTAs
  - Focus on agriculture
- Market access through preferential treatment granted by developed countries
  - MDG-8 Market access indicators for developing and LDCs (and LLDCs) of Asia-Pacific
- South-South non-reciprocal preferential market access

# MFN vs. Preferential Treatment



“Preferential liberalization implies both trade liberalisation and trade discrimination”

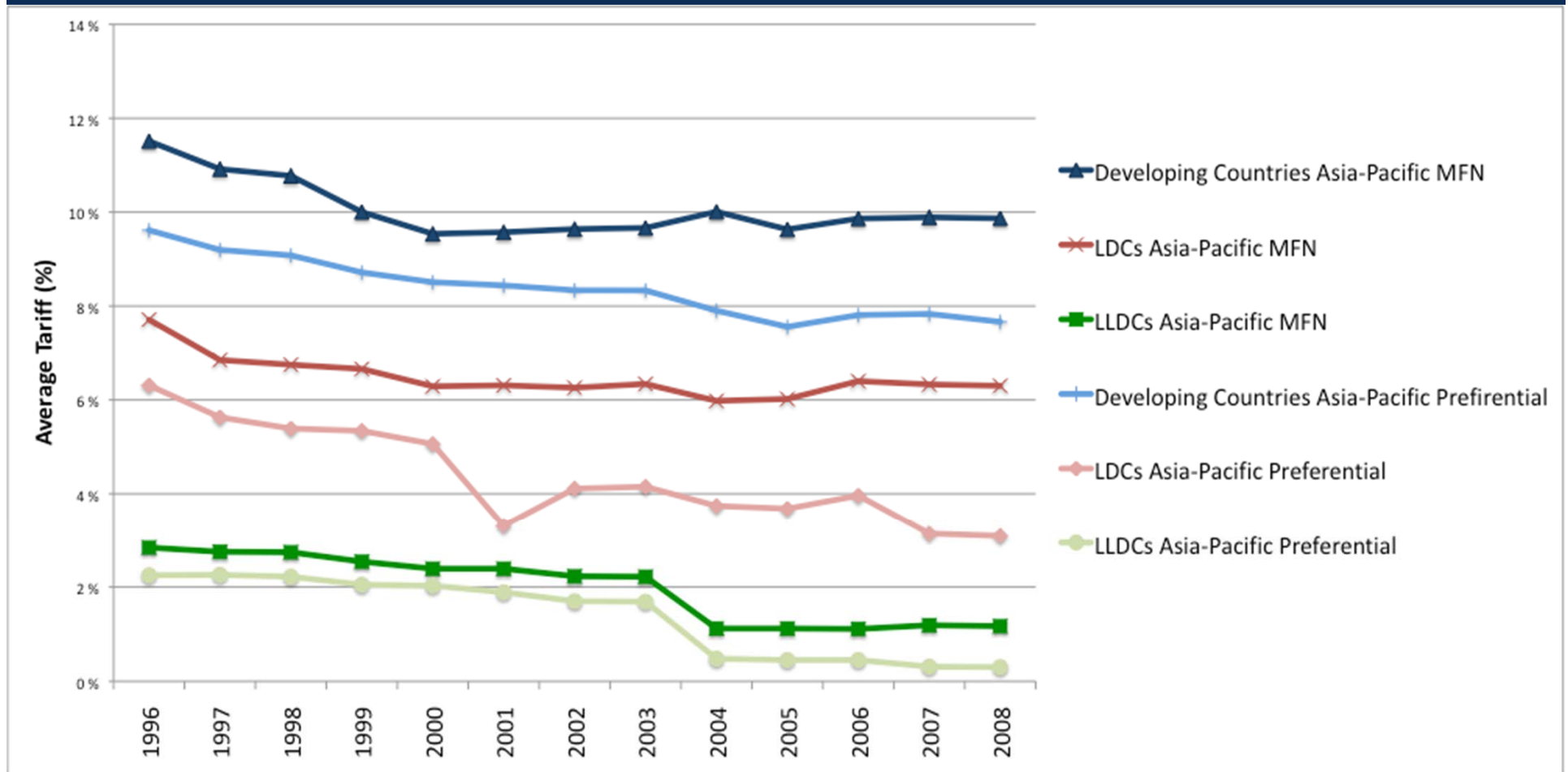
## Average MFN and preferential tariffs imposed by developed countries: All products



# Some observations based on data

- Large and persistent gap between MFN and preferential tariffs
- The benefits from preferential access are especially significant for LDCs and LLDCs
- The average tariffs charged by developed countries show a stronger downward trend before 2004

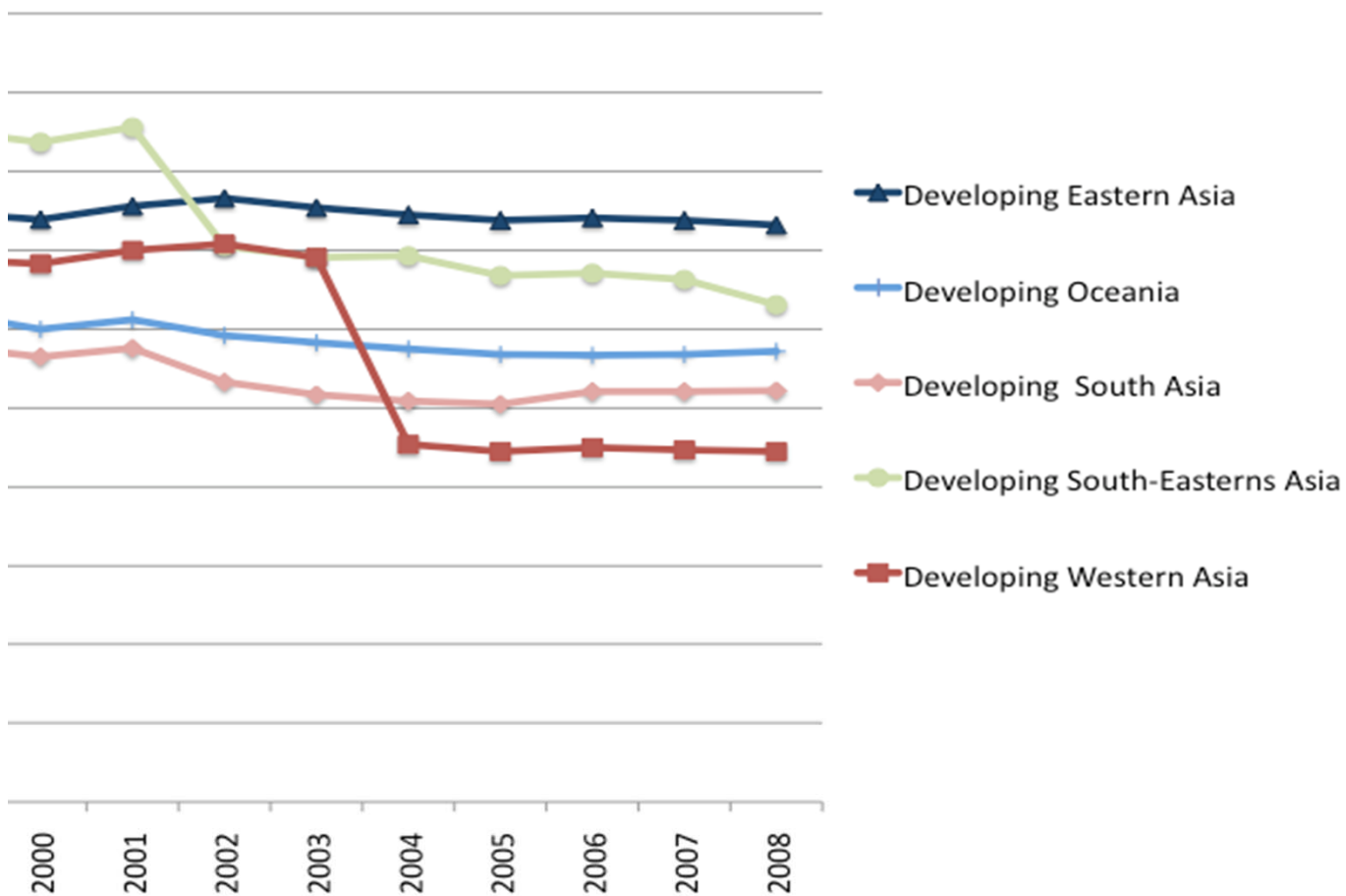
## Average MFN and preferential tariffs imposed by developed countries: Agricultural products



# Preferential access for ag. products

- The benefits from preferential tariffs are lower for agricultural products compared to all products
- Lower tariffs on agriculture when considering LDCs and LLDCs
- Based on tariffs, the LLDC are granted the most preferential access
- How much of the existent access (can be) used?

## Changes in preferential tariffs imposed by developed countries: Agricultural products



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[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_7401](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_7401)

