

TOWARDS A RETURN OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY? ARTNeT SYMPOSIUM 25-26 JULY 2011 ESCAP, BANGKOK

Do green state measures make import patterns climate-friendly? The case of the Asia-Pacic region.

Martin Wermelinger University of St. Gallen, martin.wermelinger@unisg.ch

Do "green" state measures make import patterns "climate-friendly"?

The case of the Asia-Pacific region.

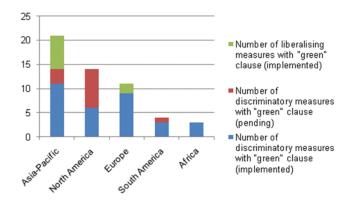
Martin Wermelinger

University of St. Gallen, martin.wermelinger@unisg.ch

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Asia-Pacific region used "green" clauses most often



Source: Global Trade Alert, June 2011

Some examples

	Measure title	Measure	Character	Main	ATP	ATL
		type				
China	Accreditation of	Local	Discrim	no	33	2
	suppliers of certain	content				
	high-tech products	requirement				
Japan	Green tax incentive	Non tariff	Discrim	yes	32	17
	on environmentally	barrier				
	friendly cars					
Thailand	Duty reduction for	Tariff	Liberal.	yes	37	7
	green cars and	measure				
	components					

Source: Global Trade Alert, June 2011



Skepticism in literature

- Whether state measures provided under the mask of "green growth" strategies indeed do target or promote "green" production, consumption or investment
- Or whether the use of such measures is just a consensual way to introduce new discrimination against trading partners - especially if climate change mitigation action is widely supported around the globe
- See, for example, Aggarwal and Evenett (2010), ESCAP (2011), or Avenir Suisse (2011)

Four channels and the effects on trade

Channels

- Fostering research and development of "green" goods and technologies
- ② Using "green" technologies for the production of other goods
- Using "green" inputs into production
- Consuming "green" goods

Effects on trade

Sequential effects on trade: imports affected before exports

Note: Comparative definition of "green" goods and technologies in this paper - goods not *per se* environmental friendly!



Hypothesis and results

Hypothesis:

• "Green" crisis-era measures associated with an increase in sourcing from more energy efficient countries

Key results:

- At the intensive margin:
 - Hypothesis generally rejected: increase of sourcing from more (rather than less) energy intensive countries
 - Hypothesis confirmed if per se expectations for climate benefits are most likely (e.g. "green" clause main purpose) - but low statistical significance
- At the extensive margin:
 - Hypothesis generally confirmed but low statistical significance



Outline

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