

Greening RTAs in the Americas



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Themes



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- **Environmental Trends in RTAs in the Americas**
- **Challenges**
 - **Difficulties and Asymmetries**
 - **Data & trade policy analysis**
 - **Analysis of impact in environmental performance**
 - **Coherence between regional and domestic perspectives**
 - **Main tensions between trade and environment**
- **Possible Next Steps**

Environmental Trends in RTAs in the Americas



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US-Chile

Canada-Chile NAAEC -CA

MERCOSUR CA-4

EU- CAN Chile
CACM(SIECA) EU

CARICOM PTPA

TPP ECA NAFTA CARIFORUM

DRCAFTA CARICOM

Canadá-CostaRica



US

- Environmental Provisions within RTAs
- Own establishment of levels of protection
- Effective Enforcement
- Citizen Submissions
- Monetary Sanctions
- Paralel ECAs
- Environmental Review Process Based on EO

EU

- Prior Cooperation Agreement
- Environmental Cooperation Chapter
 - IWRM
 - Conservation and Degradation prevention
 - Environmental Impact of Economic Activity
 - Environment and Poverty Relationship
 - Exchange of Experiences
 - Education and Capacity Building
- SIA

CA

- Paralel ECAs
- Own establishment of levels of protection and environmental development policies and priorities
- Effective Enforcement
- Due Process and Access to Justice Guarantees
- Non compliance Notifications amongst Parties
- Inquiry system



Synergies...

- **-protection and management of the environment, wild flora and fauna, biodiversity, and natural resources**
- **-development or strengthening of environmental laws, regulations, policies, institutions**
- **-enhance compliance with and enforcement of laws**
- **-transparency and public participation in decision-making**
- **-pollution prevention, waste-management**
- **-environmental business practices, clean production**
- **Early signs of promote trade and investment in environmental goods and services**
- **-sustainable agriculture/Tourism**
- **Risk Management**



– Difficulties and Asymmetries

- Data & trade policy analysis
- Analysis of impact in environmental performance

– Coherence between regional and domestic perspectives

- Trade policy Forums discussed
- WTO/RTAs/Integration Systems
- Domestic policy not always coherent within integration systems
- Coordination is key
- Different levels and different stakeholders

– Main tensions between trade and environment

Need 4 Integrated Policy Framework to Green RTAs



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- Economies of the Americas depend at large on natural resources. Highlights relevance of SD approach
- Trade negotiation interactive process, in the region common but differentiated responsibility. Achieving positive results requires coherent strategies based on market opportunities, risk mitigation and equity
- No eco dumping: Environmental Rule of Law including compliance and enforcement are enabling conditions for trade, investment business climate



Sustainable Development

- Reflecting the inter-dependent and mutually supportive linkages between the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection – of which trade is an integral component, they reinforce the objectives of sustainable development.
- Assessment/ exam of economic, social and environmental issues in Parties and in other countries likely to be affected.
- Consistency and policy coherence amongst WTO disciplines and topics such as: Market Access, Investment, Procurement, Ag, EGS, Trade and Climate Change)

Strengthening linkages



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- Trade and Env. Agenda + : Integral approach with or without environmental provisions:
 - Winners vs. Losers (Id. incentives vs. impacts)
 - Pro activity in streamlining or favoring market Access for EGS or environmentally friendly (Centralamerica vs. Andean FTAs)
 - Incentives beyond tariffs: value added in exports
 - Effects of subsidies in prodcuton-consumption patterns, land use change and chemicals.
 - Asimetrías and Tensions (investment)
 - Back to basics: Biodiversity and TK (ie. PTPA)
 - Coherence among RTAs and MEAs (concepts matter)
- Environment=Competitiveness
- Market Access to developing countries requires environmental and social performance and compliance (EU: PIP, GAP, etc),
- Policy planning

Greening RTA's: are the relevant questions being asked?



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- Better than other alternatives
- Satisfaction of environmental interest in acceptable and durable manner contributing to SD
- Best of multiple options
- Legitimacy further to standards
- Improvement –or at least not damaging-relationship
- Identification of specific, applicable and firm commitments



GRACIAS!
Obrigada
Merci
Thank you

www.oas.org/DSD