



Services Trade and Regulatory Reforms in Asia: In Search of a Comprehensive Approach

26-27 October 2016
International Management Institute (IMI), Kolkata, India

Services trade is an important backbone of a modern global trading system, particularly in developing countries. Services can be used as inputs to the production of goods or as outputs of networked production systems. Around 26 percent of manufactured exports by developing economies are now accounted for by services trade. Aside from the opportunities provided by services trade in deepening regional production networks, services trade generates positive spillover effects through the process of innovation and investment capital by foreign services providers. Evidence also suggests how services trade is linked to increase in both per capita income and productivity levels in many lower to middle income countries (World Bank 2012).

Although the share of developing countries in global trade in services has increased over the years (around 33 percent in gross value added terms), the fragmentation of services production still raises questions regarding the role of services trade in global value chains, the extent to which countries can take advantage of the opportunities provided by services trade, and the development potential of services in sustaining economic growth. Therefore, this workshop will try to better understand the barriers and challenges (e.g., policies, regulations and institutional frameworks) as well as the opportunities (e.g., role of trade liberalization) of services trade as catalyst for structural transformation in Asia. A key policy question is how to ensure a coherent approach to services policy and regulation, structural reforms, and trade liberalization.

Organizers	Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo ASEAN-India Center (AIC), Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi International Management Institute (IMI), Kolkata
Duration and date	Two days, 26-27 October 2016
Venue	International Management Institute (IMI), Kolkata, India
Language	English
Objective	The workshop is an opportunity to exchange views on the current state of services trade in Asia, including issues related to barriers to trade in services, domestic regulations, regulatory frameworks, services trade reforms and their impact on global value chains.
Participants	Workshop participants will include senior policymakers, international experts, and representatives from academia and the private sector involved in services trade.

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Agenda

DAY ONE: 26 October 2016 (Wednesday)	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arindam Banik, Director, International Management Institute (IMI) Kolkata • Bokwan Yu, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo • Prabir De, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), and Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC), New Delhi <p>Overview and introduction to the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aladdin D. Rillo, Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo
10:00 – 10:30	Tea/Coffee break and Group Photo
10:30 – 12:00	<p>SESSION 1: Understanding services trade and global value chains</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the importance of services trade in Asia and across other regions, global and regional cross-cutting issues, current trends in services value chains, challenges and way forward.</i></p>
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Moderator: Arindam Banik, Director, IMI Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Policy (ICRIER), New Delhi • Bokhwan Yu, Deputy Dean, ADBI
11:30– 12:00	Open Discussion
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	<p>SESSION 2: Addressing barriers to services trade and their impact on trade flows</p> <p><i>This session will discuss barriers to services trade with particular focus on services trade facilitation, cost of barriers to trade in services, etc.</i></p>
13:30– 14:30	<p>Moderator: Ajitava Raychaudhuri, Professor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arindam Banik, Director, IMI Kolkata • Prabir De, AIC-RIS, New Delhi

14:30– 15:00	Open Discussion
15:00– 15:30	Tea/Coffee break
15:30 – 17:00	<p>SESSION 3: Regulating services trade - does it matter?</p> <p><i>This session will try to address major issues related to regulations of services trade and services sector, including the need for regulatory best practices through specific case studies, increasing regulatory efficiency and heterogeneity, mitigating regulatory externalities, and matching policies to objectives of trade services liberalization.</i></p>
15:30 – 16:30	<p>Moderator: Ajitava Raychaudhuri, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arpita Mukherjee, ICRIER, New Delhi • Shintaro Hamanaka, Economist, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE), Tokyo
16:30 – 17:00	Open Discussion
18:00– 20:00	Dinner Reception hosted by IIM Kolkata
DAY TWO: 27 October 2016 (Thursday)	
09:00 – 10:30	<p>SESSION 4: Services and structural reforms</p> <p><i>This session will discuss issues related to services trade reforms including country experiences and case studies on reforms of services and their impact on global value chain.</i></p>
09:00– 10:00	<p>Moderator: Rajat Acharyya, Professor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andre Wirjo, Analyst, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Secretariat, Singapore • Paramita Mukherjee, Dean (Academics), IMI Kolkata and Sahana Roy Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, IMI Kolkata
10:00– 10:30	Open Discussion
10:30– 10:45	Tea/Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15	<p>SESSION 5: Services trade and regulatory reforms – country presentations</p> <p><i>This session will discuss country-specific challenges of regulating important services sectors including the implications of domestic regulations on access to services markets and the regulatory approaches and reforms that countries have implemented to push for liberalization of services.</i></p>
	<p>Moderator: Tirthankar Nag, Dean (Research), IMI Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India • Indonesia • Malaysia • Myanmar <p>Open Discussion</p>
12:15– 13:15	Lunch Break
13:15 – 14:45	<p>SESSION 5: Services trade and regulatory reforms – country presentations (continued)</p> <p><i>This session will discuss country-specific challenges of regulating important services sectors including the implications of domestic regulations on access to services markets and the regulatory approaches and reforms that countries have implemented to push for liberalization of services.</i></p>
	<p>Moderator: Tirthankar Nag, Dean (Research), IMI Kolkata</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nepal • Philippines • Sri Lanka • Thailand • Viet Nam <p>Open Discussion</p>
14:45 – 15:00	Tea/Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:00	<p>SESSION 6: Critical issues in services trade (1): movement of natural persons</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the movement of natural persons (Mode 4) in services trade and the challenges.</i></p>
15:00 – 15:30	<p>Moderator: Aladdin D. Rillo, ADBI, Tokyo</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shintaro Hamanaka, IDE, Tokyo
15:30 – 16:00	Open Discussion
16:00 – 17:00	<p>SESSION 7: Critical issues in services trade (2): digital services and e-commerce</p> <p><i>E-commerce is an integral part of services trade, and is often treated as Mode 1 services trade. This session will discuss the proliferation of e-commerce across the world, including its challenges and prospects.</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Moderator: Prabir De, AIC-RIS, New Delhi</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anupam Khanna, Former Director General, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), New Delhi

16:30 – 17:00	Open Discussion
17:00 – 17:30	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bokhwan Yu, Deputy Dean, ADBI, Tokyo• Arindam Banik, Director, IMI Kolkata• Prabir De, AIC-RIS, New Delhi
17:30	END OF THE WORKSHOP