



ASIA-PACIFIC RESEARCH AND TRAINING NETWORK ON TRADE

ARTNeT OVERVIEW

The **Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT)** is an open regional network composed of leading trade research institutions and think-tanks across the Asia-Pacific region. It was established in 2004 with the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

ARTNeT aims to increase the quality and the amount of relevant trade research in the region by more effectively harnessing the research capacity already available and developing additional capabilities. At present, ARTNeT has 61 member institutions and 14 core and associate partners working towards this aim. These members include leading national trade research and academic institutions in 23 developing countries from Central, East, South, and South-East Asia and the Pacific.

The activities of ARTNeT are focused on three pillars, namely:

- ***Production of demand-driven and home-grown research on trade-related policy issues***
Since its first publication in early 2005, ARTNeT has issued a total of 14 research-based books, 148 working papers, and 44 policy briefs. Recent working paper investigates the home-country effects of Outward foreign direct investment by Indian manufacturing firms during 2008/09 to 2011/12 using a quasi-experimental technique. ARTNeT research outputs feed into regional policy debates and are reprinted in journals and technical reports.
- ***Building of research capacity, particularly that of institutions in LDCs***
ARTNeT holds workshops to increase understanding on relevant policy issues and empirical tools for trade analysis. Moreover, ARTNeT builds and supports new datasets and research tools. Since 2005, more than 65 workshops have been held with more than 1500 individuals having received training. In collaboration with the WTO research division and other partners, ARTNeT has held 9 research capacity building workshops that also involved post-workshop mentoring and resulted in successful “learning by doing” and published research outputs including through post-workshop grants. 10th ARTNeT/WTO Capacity Workshop for Trade Research will be held 15-19 June 2015 in Bangkok.
- ***Dissemination of knowledge and information to key stakeholders***
ARTNeT research is efficiently disseminated by various means including a dedicated website facilitating more than 400,000 publication downloads, social media, and regular publications. More importantly, ARTNeT’s thematic multi-stakeholder consultative meetings provide research institutions and policymakers with an opportunity to exchange information and data, share ideas, and review and refine research findings and recommendations.

Recent achievements

ARTNeT has continued to grow and now reaches a community of more than 1,000 individual researchers. ARTNeT also provides access to databases and tools for trade research, as well as to over 2700 free-access publications on relevant topics. Through collaboration with universities, and via internships and fellowships, ARTNeT also works to develop the research capacity of young scholars. Since 2012, ARTNeT has engaged in awareness raising and capacity building on emerging trade related topics, including Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). With the support of stakeholders including national intellectual property rights offices, ARTNeT seminars and research outputs have focused on enhancing the positive contribution of regimes for IPRs to the overall economic and social development of ESCAP member states.

For more information, please visit: <http://artnet.unescap.org/>