

Preferential Trade Agreements Database in Asia and the Pacific (APPTAD)

*For
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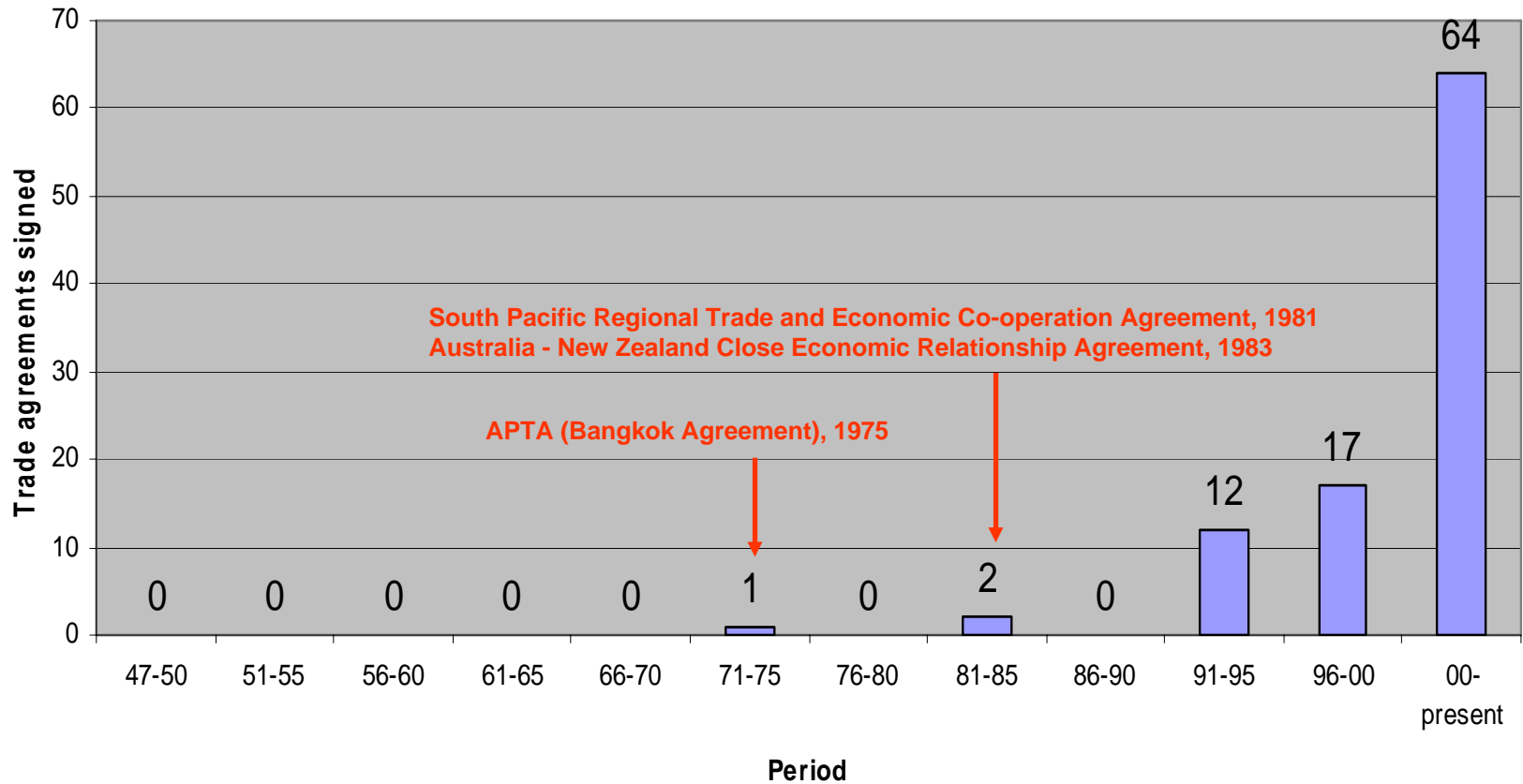
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Structure

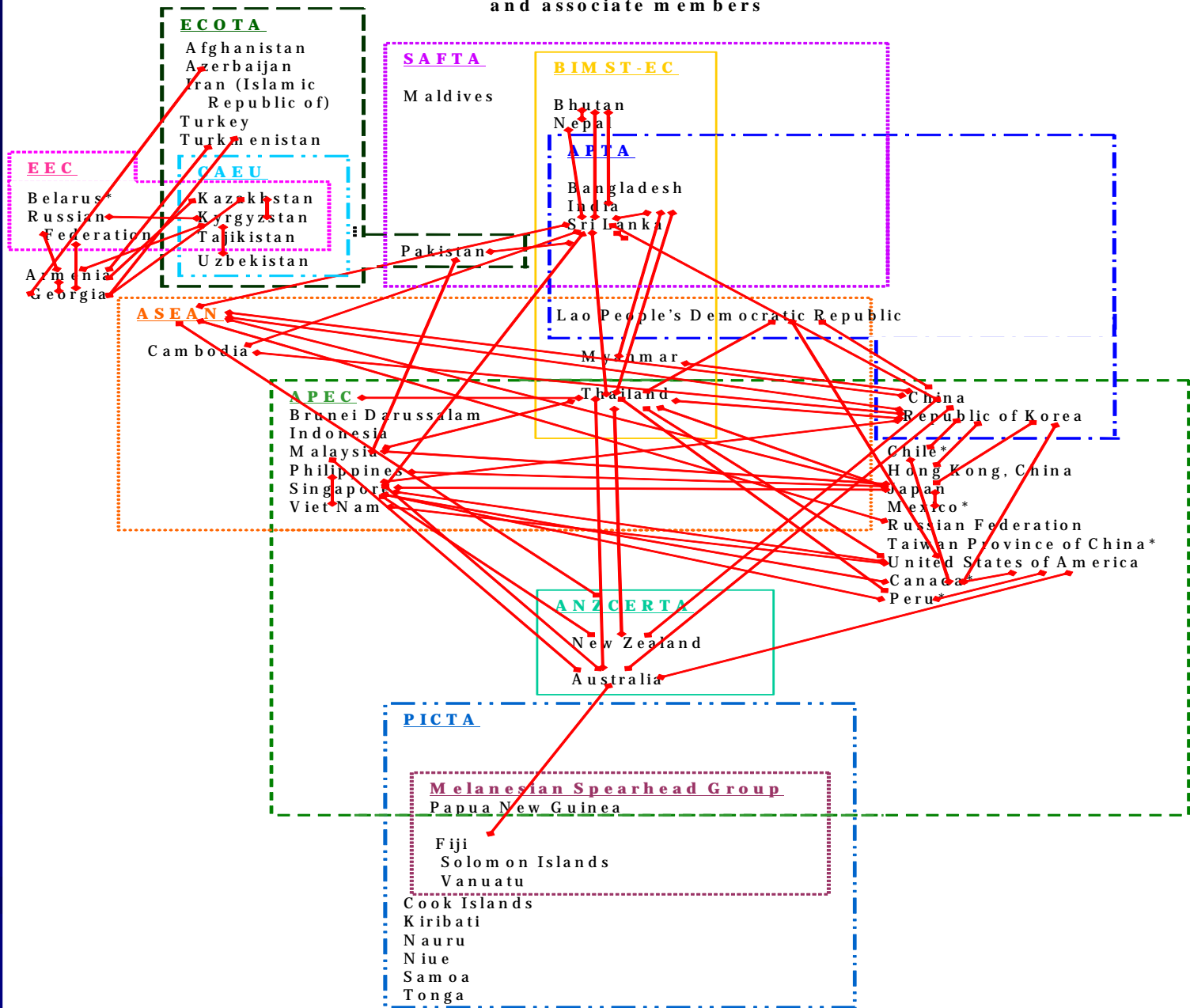
- Why having APPTAD?
- What is included in APPTAD?
- How to use APPTAD?
- Future development of APPTAD

Why having APPTAD?

Trade agreements signed in Asia and the Pacific



Main regional integration arrangements of UNESCAP members and associate members



Block refers to regional arrangements

Line refers to some of the major bilateral agreements (country-to-country or bloc-to-country) in force or under negotiation

* Belarus, Chile, Canada, Mexico and Peru are not ESCAP members or associated members

- Proliferation of RTAs/BTAs in the region with differing provisions and overlapping membership, makes it increasingly difficult for countries to effectively manage them all...
- A key task therefore is to draw out commonalities among agreements and promote their consolidation with a view to achieve a more rational process of Asia-Pacific wide regional integration.
- In order to provide a useful tool for observers and stakeholders (government, researchers and policy analysts) to monitor and analyze the development of trade agreements in this new environment, Trade Policy Section of Trade and Investment Division (TID) of ESCAP launched an Online Database of PTAs in Asia and the Pacific.

What is included in APPTAD?

- It provides detailed descriptive and updated information on the provision of regional trade Agreements (RTAs)/bilateral trade agreements (BTAs) applicable to the ESCAP region.
- The first version of the database covers all the agreements reported to the WTO to this date in which at least one party is in the ESCAP region.
- It also includes other agreements that have not been notified but for which there is official information readily available, and also those agreements under negotiation for which there has been at least a first formal negotiation round.
- In the development of this database several sources have been used: official, unofficial, and academic. Wherever possible, a link to the original source has been provided to allow users to check for the latest updates.

How to use APPTAD?

■ <http://www.unescap.org/tid/index.asp>



Future development of APPTAD

- Statistical data sets on trade flows, commodity composition and services trade by individual agreements;
- To assess the implications of RTAs/BTAs on trade flows;
- The database will provide the information and analytical basis for further work to be carried out on the design of a modal trade agreement for developing countries, using existing agreements including APTA.



Thank you!