

# Win-Win: How International Trade Can Help Meet the Sustainable Development Goals

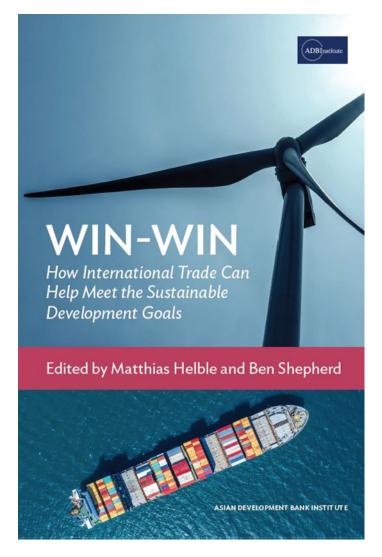
Matthias Helble, Senior Economist, Co-Chair, Research Department Asian Development Bank Institute International Trade and Health Conference 2017, Bangkok 29 November 2017



## **Motivation**

- SDG documents contain some references to trade, but few specifics.
- Trade mainly <u>means of implementation</u>
- Objective of this book is to reframe the debate so as to highlight trade's direct and indirect links with the development framework put in place by the SDGs.
- Important to move <u>beyond income arguments</u> to embrace a broader view of the ways trade can promote and pose risks for development.
- Key research question: How to maximimize benefits of trade opening while limiting risks?





Part I: <u>Poverty, Hunger, and Inclusive</u>

**Growth** 

Part II: Trade and Sustainable Growth

Part III: Trade and Education / Health

Part IV: Other Linkages between Trade and the SDGs



## Part I: Poverty, Hunger, and Inclusive Growth

### Trade and Poverty Reduction

Irene Brambilla & Guido Porto (University of La Plata, Argentina)



Will Martin (IFPRI, Washington, DC)

#### Trade and Women

Ben Shepherd (Developing Trade Consultants) & Susan Stone (UNESCAP)

#### Can Trade Benefit Employment?

Paul Vandenberg (ADB)

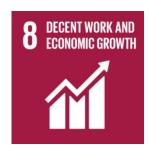
### Trade and Inequality

Shujiro Urata (Waseda University) & Dionisius A. Narjoko (ERIA)













## Part II: Sustainable Growth

#### Trade and Environment

Dale Andrew (Consultant, previously OECD)

### Trade and Climate Change

Andrew Prag (OECD)

#### Trade and Sustainable Fisheries

U. Rashi Samaila (University of British Columbia)

#### Trade and the Water Nexus

Alexandre le Vernoy (Groupe d'Econonomie Mondiale)

Trade, Labeling, and Food Safety

Norbert Wilson (Tufts University)















## Part III: Trade and Education / Health

#### Trade in Education Services and the SDGs

Aik Hoe Lim (WTO), Pamela Apaza (WTO) & Alin Horj (OECD)



#### Trade in Medical Products and Pharmaceuticals

Matthias Helble (ADBI) & Ben Shepherd (Developing Trade Consultants)

### Trade in Health Services

Rupa Chanda (Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore)





## Part IV: Other Linkages between Trade and the SDGs

Trade and Urbanization

Zhang Yuan (Fudan University) & Guanghua Wan (ADB)

Trade, Infrastructure, and Development

Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva)

Facilitating Trade for Development: Aid for Trade

Frans Lammersen (OECD) & William Hynes (OECD)







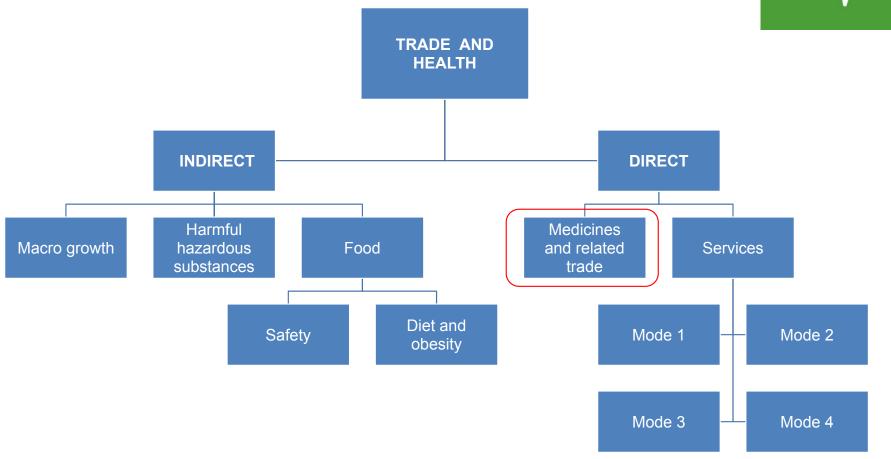
Conclusion: Directions for Future Research and Policy Making

Matthias Helble (ADBI) & Ben Shepherd (Developing Trade Consultants)



# The Trade and Health Linka







## The "Universe" of Health Products

207 HS subheadings based on Helble (2012)

#### **Public Health**

A1
Dosified Medicines

Chemical Inputs of General Purpose

A2

**Bulk Medicines** 

C1

Hospital and laboratory inputs

**A3** 

Inputs specific to the pharmaceutical industry

C2

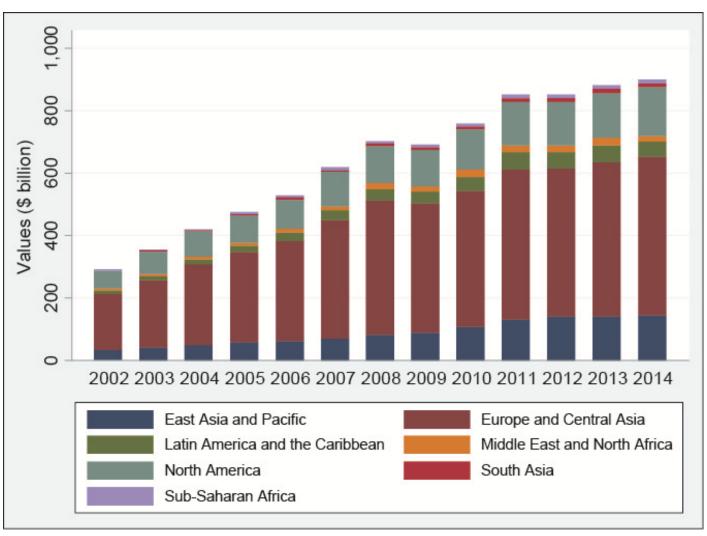
Medical technology equipment

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

**OTHER INDUSTRIES** 



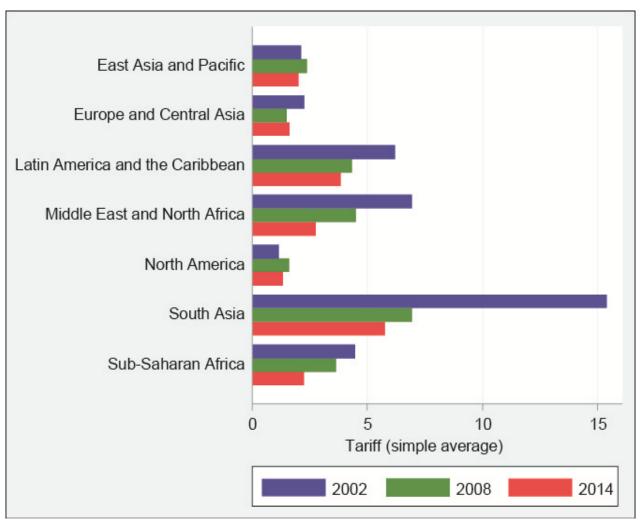
## Increasing world trade in health products



Source: Helble and Shepherd (2017).



# Applied tariffs on health products



Source: Helble and Shepherd (2017).



# Averages hide considerable variation...

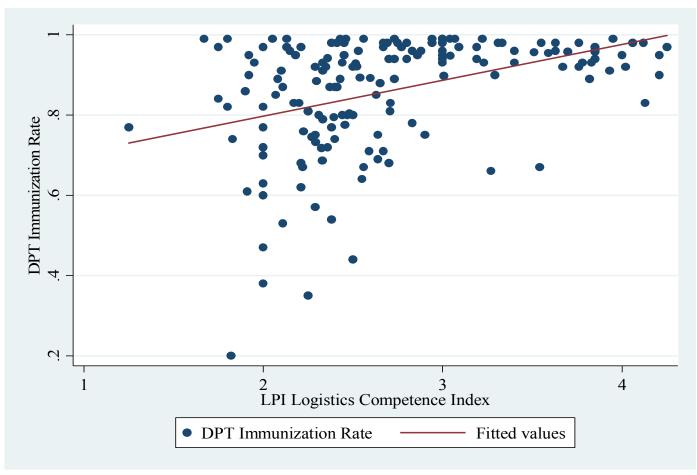
- Many developing countries provide duty free access for pharmaceuticals. But, other countries still apply substantial tariffs:
  - o India 10%, Pakistan 12%
  - o Tunisia and Djibouti 11%
  - o Ghana 9%
  - o Lao PDR 8%
- NTMs can also be important, e.g. Nigeria's import ban on some pharmaceuticals, including chloroquine, some antibiotics, and some deworming treatments.



# Case study: Trade logistics and vaccines

- Over past decade large roll-out of vaccination campaigns in developing countries
- Vaccination most <u>cost-effective</u> health intervention
- Massive funding provided by UNICEF, Global Alliance of Vaccines and Immunization, BMGF, and others
- Vaccines require consistent <u>cold chain</u> from production to usages
- Better trade logistics help to increase vaccination rates

# Higher trade logistics competence leads to higher DPT immunization rates...

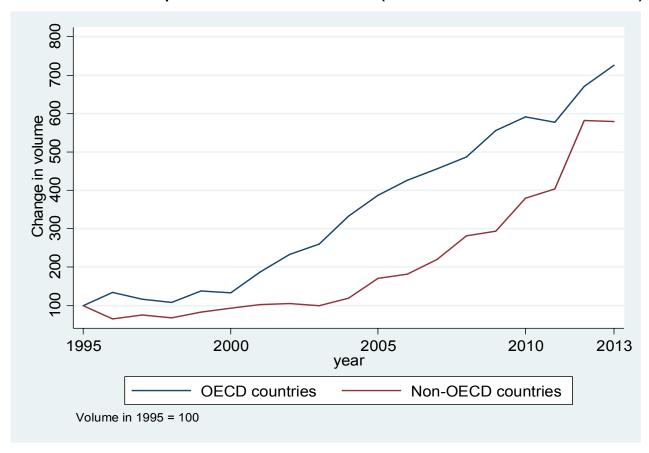


Source: Pasadilla and Shepherd (2012)



## Case study: Insulin Trade

Evolution of Imports of HS 300431 (\$, indexed to 1995=100)

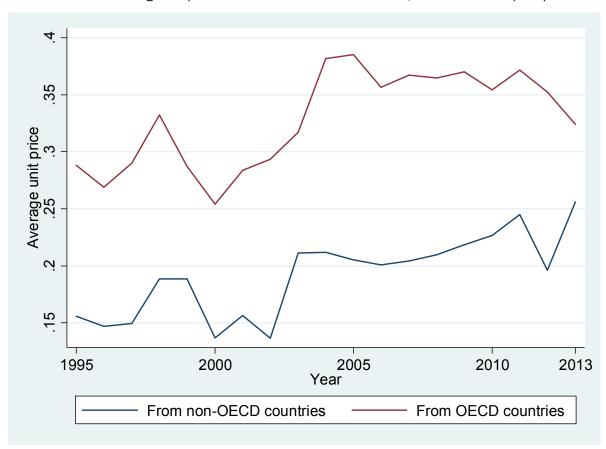


Source: Helble and Aizawa (2017).



# Price of insulin originating from OECD countries is systematically higher...

Evolution of Average Import Unit Prices of HS 300431, 1995–2013 (simple average)



Source: Helble and Aizawa (2017).



## Price determinants of insulin

- Price discrimination across countries
- Price higher in countries with higher OoP payments
- Higher volumes help to reduce prices
- Trade-related aspects: Trade openness can help to increase number of suppliers and thus reduce prices
- Trade opening is necessary, but not sufficient condition for lower prices
- Domestic regulations can be as important to improve access

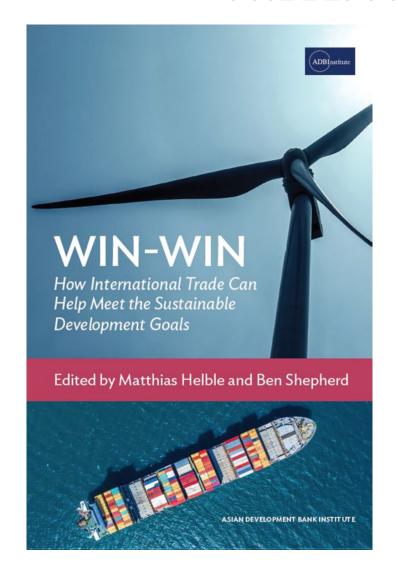


## Conclusion: Trade and Health

- International trade crucial for procurement of health products.
- Market dominated by developed countries.
- Tariffs are falling, but still substantive, especially in South Asia.
- Trade logistics facilitates delivery of health care services, especially vaccines.
- Price of health products can be lowered by sourcing from various producers and pooling purchases.
- Trade in health products necessary, but not sufficient condition to improve health systems and health outcomes.
- Video Blog



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