



TOWARDS A WORLD BANK GROUP TRADE STRATEGY

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Overview

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- Context
- World Bank Group and Trade
- Lessons Learned
- Proposed Approach
- Towards a Strategy
- Your Views



Context: International Trade

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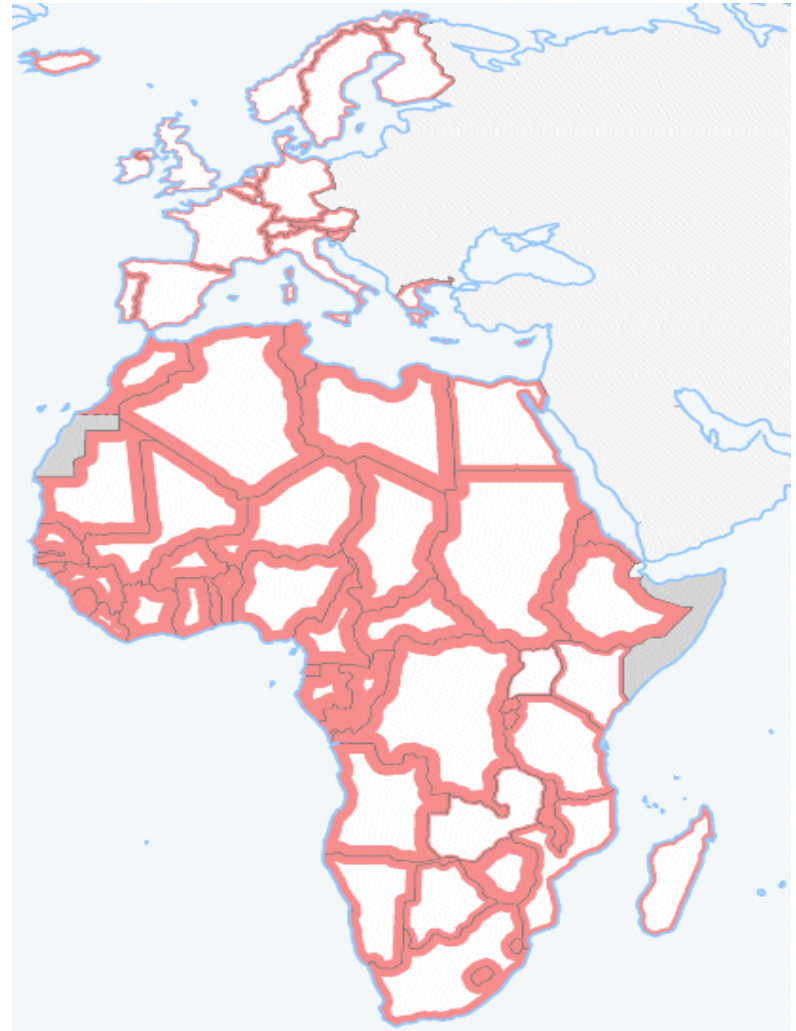
- ❑ World Trade has grown twice as fast as global domestic product
- ❑ Connecting people to international markets and building capacity can boost economic opportunities for all
- ❑ Integration brings new risks and vulnerabilities



Context: Thick Borders

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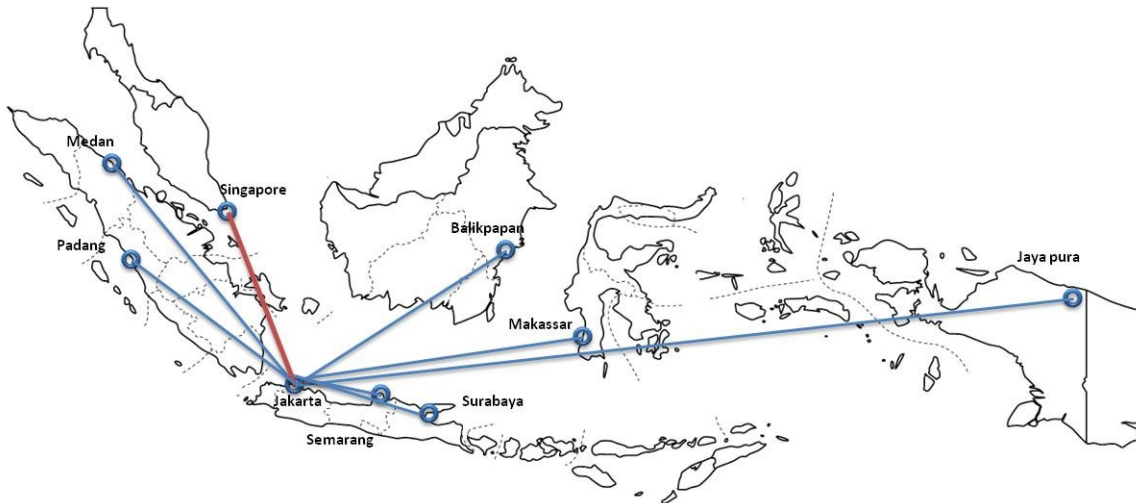
- High trade costs create “thick” borders
- These are a key barrier to regional and global integration



Context: Trade Costs add Distance

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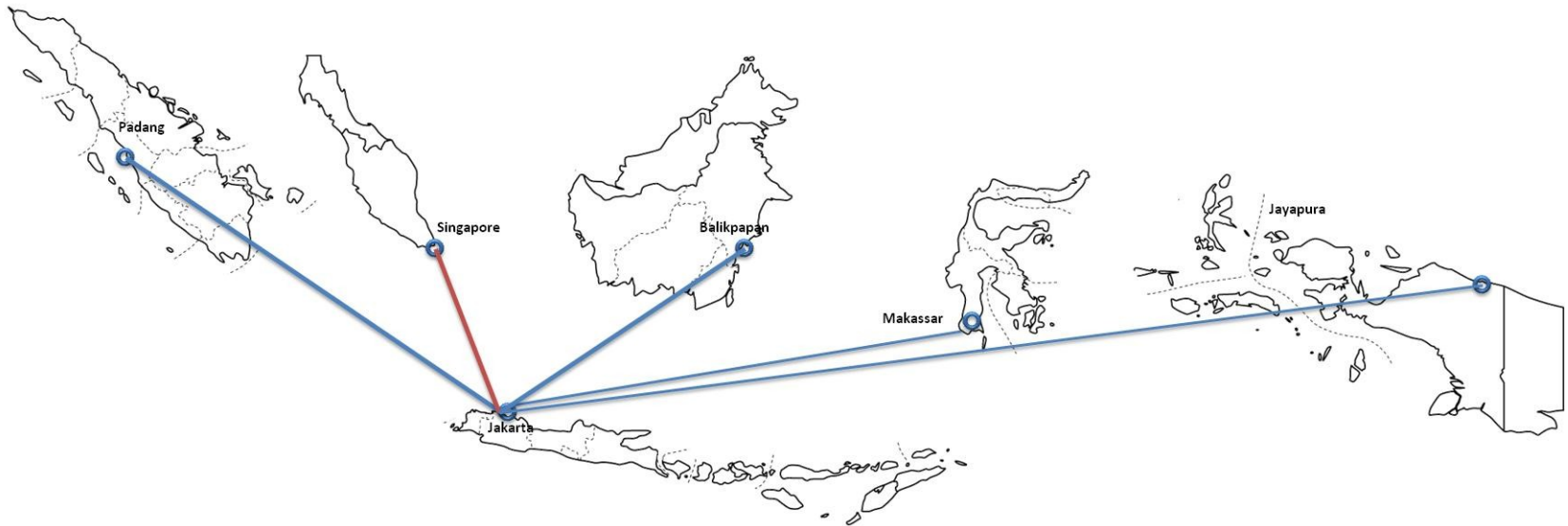
- Geographic distance between Singapore and major Indonesian cities



Context: Trade Costs add Distance

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- High sea transport costs make the economic distance greater.



Context: Complex Policy Agenda

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- Many constraints to international trade and competitiveness lie “behind the border”
 - ▣ high-cost services inputs
 - ▣ supply-chain bottlenecks
 - ▣ unreliable trade logistics
- International agreements increasingly cover domestic regulations, not just market access.
- Trade policy reform remains a priority in some countries, however.

Context: Economic Crisis

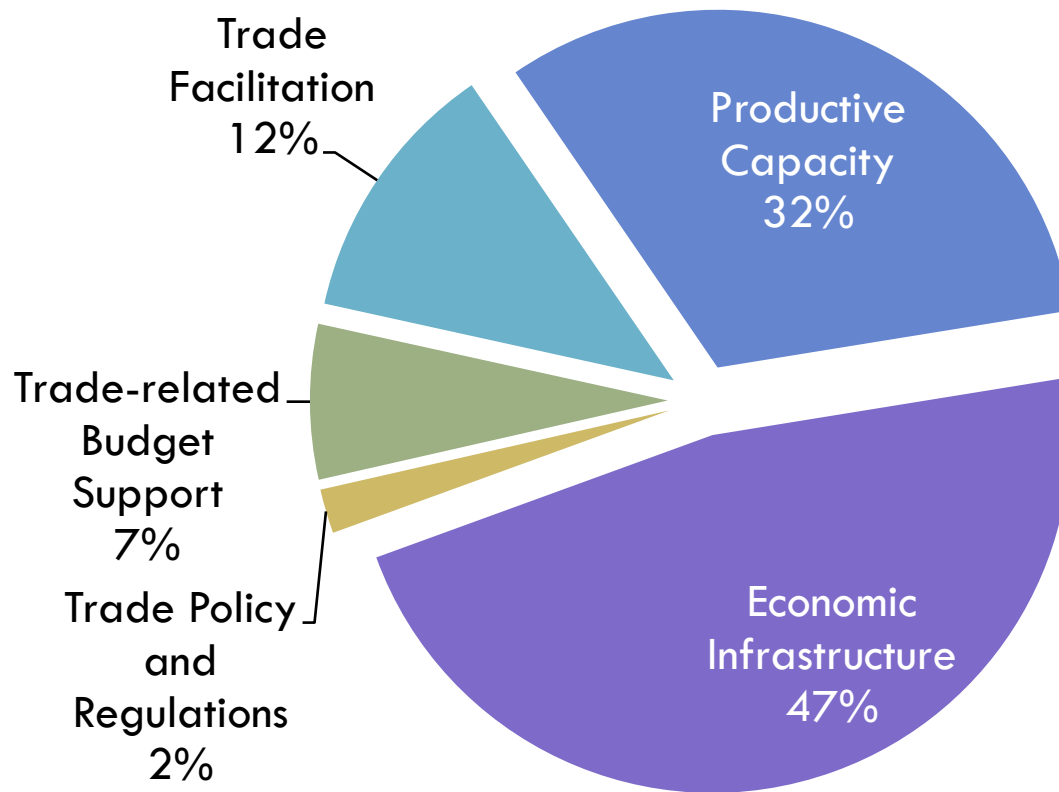
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- The crisis has disrupted trade and highlighted the need for countries to:
 - ▣ diversify markets, products and services;
 - ▣ cooperate with each other on trade;
 - ▣ make internal markets work better; and
 - ▣ strengthen social safety nets.



World Bank Group Trade Portfolio

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World Bank Group and Trade

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MULTIDIMENSIONAL AND CROSS-CUTTING

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building	36 projects per year WBI's new South-South knowledge transfer programs
Policy Analysis and Advice	70+ policy notes, country and regional studies per year
Financing, Loans and Credits	\$ 7.5bn concessional in 2007-2008, focusing on export competitiveness and trade facilitation IFC investments and trade finance facilities
Global Programs and Partnerships	Analysis to support developing countries' interests in global trade agreements Participation in the Aid for Trade initiative
Data, Indicators and Research	Logistics Performance Index, World Trade Indicators, Agricultural Distortions Database 50+ working papers, books and reports per year

World Bank Group and Trade

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- Country Level
 - ▣ Two-thirds of all Country Strategies include trade as a focus area
- Regional Level
 - ▣ Investments in regional infrastructure—both “hard” and “soft”
- Global Level
 - ▣ Research supports developing countries’ interests in trade agreements and analysis of policy options/impacts
- Private Sector
 - ▣ Around half of total Bank Group aid for trade supports the private sector directly (IFC)

Lessons

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- Trade can be a powerful tool to support economic growth and poverty reduction
 - The world market provides economic opportunities for households, firms and farms
 - Openness promotes growth through scale economies, and transfers of people and ideas
 - Bolstering capacity to harness these opportunities is key
 - Complementary policies are needed to bring benefits
- Agenda goes far beyond tariff liberalization

Proposed Approach: Focus

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TRADE COMPETITIVENESS

- In Country
 - Trade policy reform
 - Reduce costs
 - Improve value chain
- Export Markets
 - Access/entry constraints
 - Analysis



TRADE FACILITATION & LOGISTICS

- Customs and border management
- Logistics services
- Transit corridors
- Trade transport infrastructure



TRADE FINANCE

- IFC trade finance facilities
- Export credit agencies
- Trade insurance
- Working capital for SME exporters



TRADE COOPERATION

- Collective actions to use trade for development
- WTO-Doha Round
- Research, capacity building and advocacy
- Aid for Trade initiative



TRADE DATA AND SYSTEMS

- National statistical capacity building
- Data are a global public good
- Monitoring and evaluation

Cross-cutting activities: research; gender equality; environment/climate change ...

Proposed Approach: Internal Coordination

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- Trade is multi-sectoral
 - Trade activities are pursued in many parts of the WBG
 - Infrastructure; finance & private sector development; IFC (collaboration with private sector), agriculture, transport, etc.
 - Coordination mechanisms that cut across countries/sectors do not exist for trade
- The strategy will propose new coordination arrangements within the WBG
 - Premise: create positive incentives – avoid new layers of bureaucracy

Proposed Approach: Partnerships

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- International Organizations
 - ▣ WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, WCO, OECD, Regional Development Banks
- Development Partners
 - ▣ Donors, global partnerships
- Global initiatives
 - ▣ Enhanced Integrated Framework
- Private Sector and CSOs
 - ▣ Regional policy research networks

Proposed Approach: Leverage Strengths

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- The strategy will make the best use of the strengths of the World Bank Group
 - Country presence
 - Cross-country transfer of knowledge
 - Multi-sectoral expertise
 - Global public goods and research capacity

Proposed Approach: Results Focused

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- Monitoring and evaluation on WBG activities
 - Operational Monitoring
 - Tracking of outcomes of trade projects
 - Impact Evaluations
 - Global Indicators
 - Cross-country benchmarking indicators to assess success of policy reforms and aid for trade
- Implications for data collection

Timeline

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Consultations to get input into the strategy

- Online
- Face-to-face

Public comment on the draft strategy

We want your input!

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1. Are we focusing on the right issues?
2. Do we offer the right mix of activities?
3. Is the World Bank Group playing the right role relative to other providers of aid for trade?



Visit the world bank's website
to share your views, stay updated,
and get more information.

<http://www.worldbank.org/tradestrategy>

Thank you for participating