

(Ebook pdf) Economic and Environmental Impact of Free Trade in East and South East Asia

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Kakali Mukhopadhyay, Paul J. Thomassin : Economic and Environmental Impact of Free Trade in East and South East Asia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Economic and Environmental Impact of Free Trade in East and South East Asia:

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the results. By Julie Williams If you are looking for relaxing, easy to read book that will keep you on the edge of your seat from start to finish, this is not the book you are looking for. On the other hand, if you are looking for something packed full of trending data related to the diverse economies and environmental sustainability situations within the various countries of South East Asia, look no further. This book is packed full of statistics that will amaze your friends and make you an instant hit at that upcoming Economics Club cocktail party. This book provides a detailed analysis of the impact that regional free trade agreements will have on the economies and environments of the countries in South East Asia. The countries studied are the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries of the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Darussalam, Vietnam, Laos PDR, Myanmar and Cambodia. In addition, the East Asian countries of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are included in the studies. Collectively, these countries are referred to as ASEAN+3. The goal of the ASEAN countries is to establish the area as a Free Trade Area with economic integration by the year 2020. China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are included in the study because they have agreed to cooperate with ASEAN to strengthen and deepen free trade throughout the region. As defined in the book, a Regional Trade Agreement (RTA) is an "economic trade agreement" that reduces "tariffs and restrictions" (pg 2). As RTAs become freer, meaning fewer restrictions and tariffs, economic integration increases. "Deep" integration is rare, such as the EU Single Market, and this is the type of integration that is being strived for by the ASEAN+3 countries. Financial integration within ASEAN+3 countries is expected to make them stronger players in the global economy by 2020, resulting in economic growth, rapid technology enhancement and improved standards of living. Critics of "deep" economic integration in the ASEAN+3 countries are concerned about adverse environmental impact as a result of economic development. The study confirms that economic growth resulting from free trade is expected to be tremendous in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia by 2020. In particular, Vietnam would benefit the most, with exports (especially of wearing apparel) increasing significantly; however, Vietnam would also experience a significant increase in GHG emissions. Overall, the environmental impact that freer trade is expected to have on the countries studied does not appear to be too concerning, with the exception of Vietnam and Indonesia.

In recent years, the East and South East Asian region has witnessed a rapid expansion of regional economic cooperation through bilateral and plurilateral free trade agreements. The current book attempts to comprehensively analyze the economic and environmental impacts of regional economic integration in East and South East Asia to the year 2020. This region has some of the fastest growing economies of the world. A global economic model was used to undertake the analysis. A rare feature of the book is the detailed environmental implications of the Regional Trade Agreements focusing on air, water, and waste pollution. Economic integration among the East and South East Asian region has been an important agenda item for the academic and policy communities in recent years. The study provides insight into pursuing a concrete multilateral trade liberalization policy (combining ASEAN and other countries in East Asia) and throws more light on the on-going trade and environment debate. This book will be a good addition to the field of trade and the environment. The academic community ndash; primarily researchers and policy makers, and world bodies, such as the WTO, ADB and the World Bank, will benefit from the book.