

# Experiences in the promotion and facilitation of environmental goods and services

Secretariat Note INF/TE/SSD/W/18

Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD)

31 March 2022



# Outline

Overview of EGS Initiatives

Environmental Goods

- Identification of EG

- Tariff treatment

- Non-tariff barriers and development issues

Environmental Services

- Identification of ES

- Environmental services in GATS and in RTAs

Research on potential benefits and challenges



# Overview of EGS initiatives

## Experiences in the WTO

### Multilateral negotiations

Special Session of the Committee for Trade and Environment (CTESS) – started in 2002

Special Session of the Council for Trade in Services (CTS-SS) – started in 2000

### Plurilateral negotiations

Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) (2014-2016)

## Experiences outside WTO

APEC

Regional trade agreements

# Environmental Goods: Identification of EG

Approaches in defining such "product coverage"

- Defining environmental goods (OECD/Eurostat, CTESS)

- Based on lists of goods or sectors (CTESS, EGA, APEC)

- Based on activities or projects (CTESS)

The Harmonized System (HS): common language for identification of products by trade negotiators and by customs administrations

- Use of "ex-outs" for defining subsets of HS subheadings

- Not static: Periodic amendments of the HS

- EGA: negotiations drew successfully on expertise of Customs Working Group

Addressing multiple uses of goods



# Environmental Goods: Tariff treatment

Tariff initiatives can differ in terms of types of duty being negotiated

Bound (CTESS, EGA) vs MFN applied (APEC) vs preferential (RTAs, PTAs)

Special and differential treatment

Lower levels of tariff cuts; on fewer goods; over a longer time period

Implementation of tariff reductions (staging)

Other considerations:

EGA discussed technical aspects of “critical mass” concept

Accounting for technological progress regarding environmental goods to ensure a living list or living agreement



# Environmental services: Identification of ES

Identification of environmental services for trade negotiation purposes

Services Sectoral Classification List (W/120 list) and UN Central Product Classification (CPC prov.) use for scheduling GATS commitments



# Environmental services in GATS and in RTAs

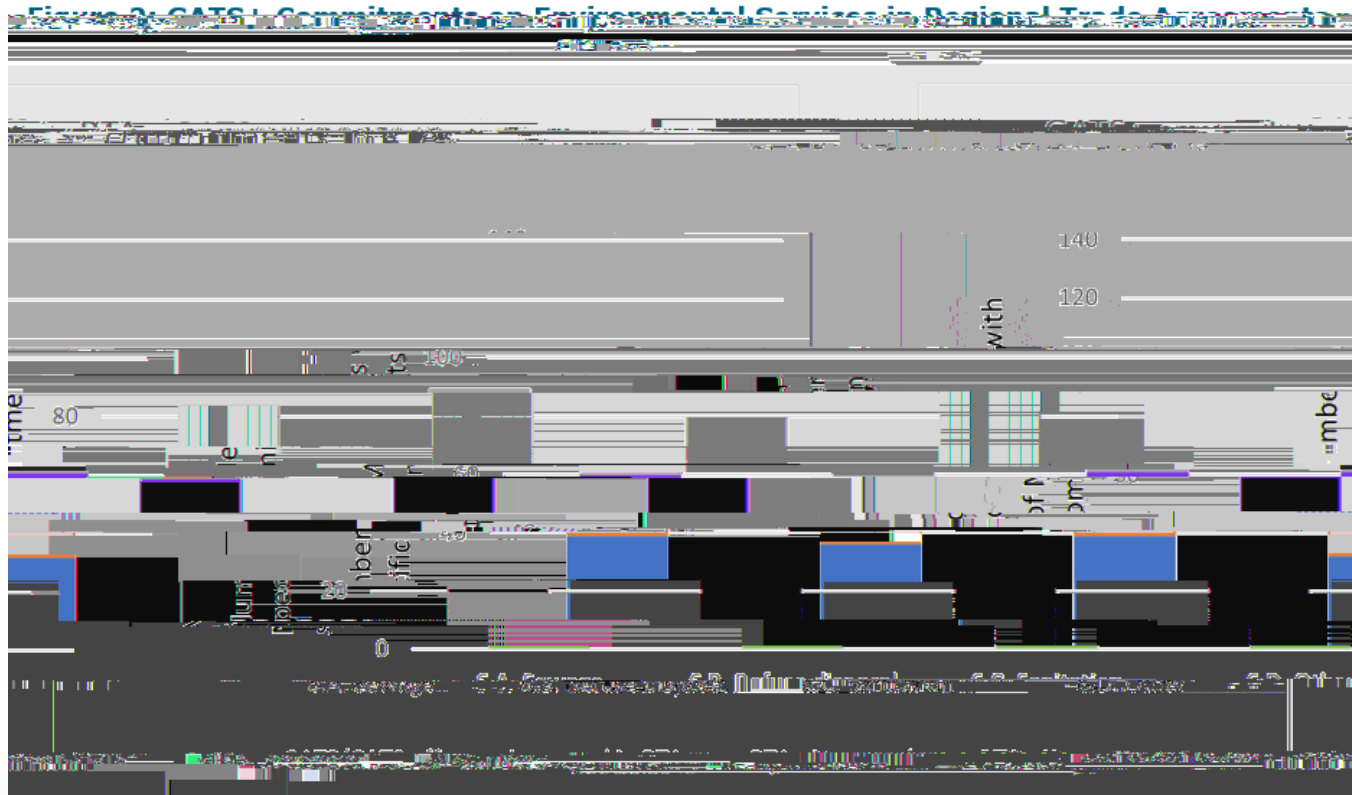
Environmental services in GATS schedules of commitments and offers during the multilateral services trade negotiations

59 schedules include specific commitments

Mode 3 (57% fully bound; no unbound); Mode 4 (mostly partially bound)

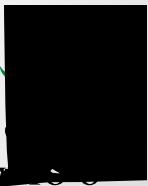
25 Members offered improved or new commitments during negotiations

Increasing number of GATS+ commitments on ES in RTAs





Research on potential benefits and



Thank you

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