



Enhancing MSME Participation in ASEAN Regional and International Trade

May 12, 2022



Funding Acknowledgement

This technical assistance is funded by Global Affairs Canada through the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development.



Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge that the places Canadians call home are the traditional territories of many First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

Agenda

- Context and Overview of Canada's Free Trade Agreements (25 mins)
- Overview of Canadian Policies and Programs (10 mins)
- Overview of Barriers for MSMEs Led by Underrepresented Groups (10 mins)

BREAK

- Review of Programs, Resources and Scene Setting for Discussion (5 mins)
- Question and Answer Period (20 mins)
- Closing Remarks (5 mins)

Context Setting on Canada's FTAs

Dr. Anastasia Ufimtseva

Program Manager, Business Asia
Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada

Factors Shaping Canada's Perspective

- Negotiating position of Canada comprised of:
 - Market conditions, national interests, and domestic politics
 - Diversify & strengthen global supply chains
- Goals of Free Trade Agreements:
 - Minimize business risks, reduce “red tape” for corporations, protect domestic firms (level playing field)

Factors Shaping Canada's Perspective

- SMEs integration into FTA:
 - Stand-alone chapter in FTA & inclusion across agreements
- Important provisions
 - Environment, labour, IP, governance, Indigenous peoples, and gender issues
- CPTPP (and other previous trade agreements)
 - Serve as a precedent for future negotiations
 - Goal to avoid inconsistency between trade agreements to harmonize standards and rules

Leadership sentiments about PT

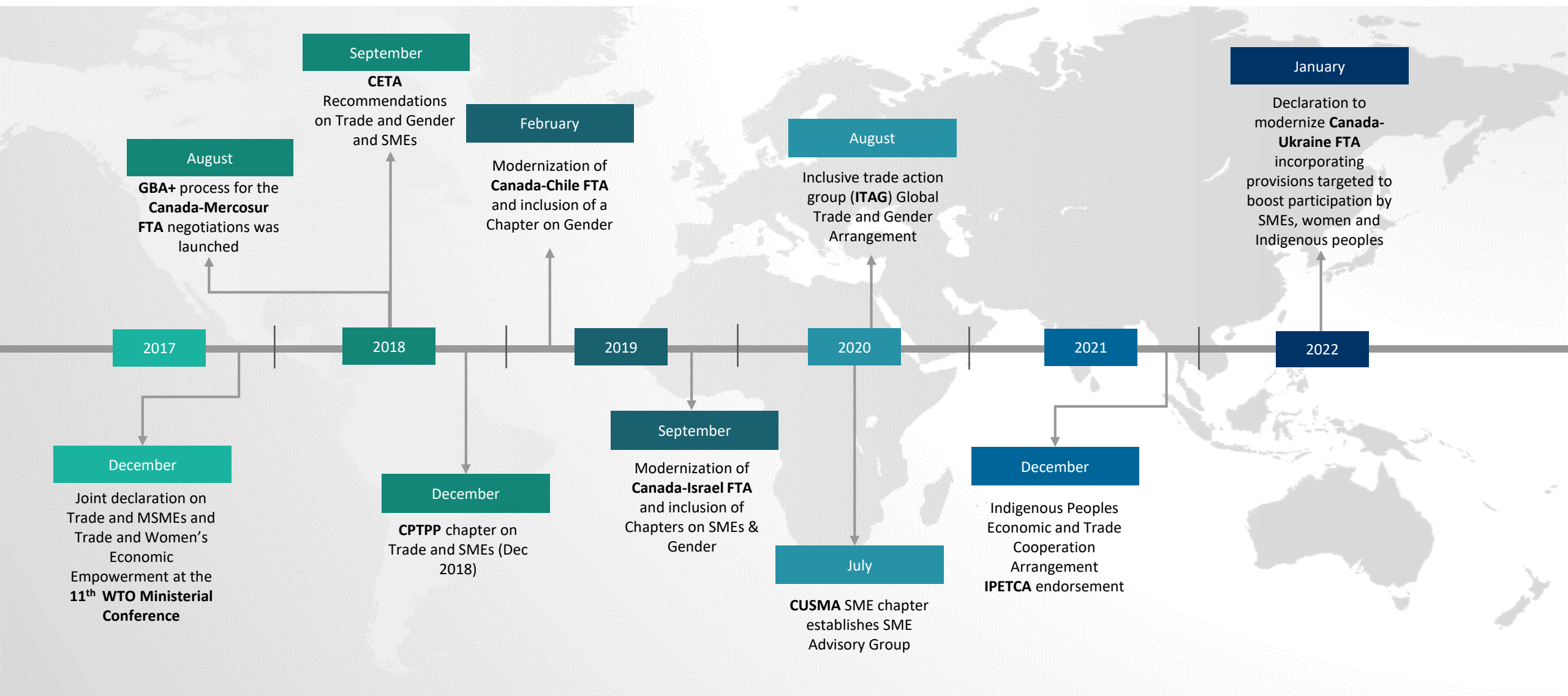
- Traditional
 - “priority...to strengthen and secure critical **supply chains** and advance Canada’s **export diversification** strategy.....**create new jobs**, and to seize the opportunities afforded by **economic diversification**.” PM Trudeau, 2021
- Novel:
 - “We must continue to *address the profound systemic inequities and disparities* that remain present in the core fabric of our society, including our core institutions...includes **women, Indigenous Peoples, Black and racialized Canadians, newcomers, faith-based communities, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2 Canadians**, and, in both official languages.” PM Trudeau, 2021
 - “progressive trade means helping ensure that all segments of society can take advantage of the opportunities that flow from trade and investment – with a particular focus **on women, Indigenous peoples, youth, and small and medium-sized businesses**....Progressive trade also means being **open and transparent** and maintaining an ongoing dialogue with civil society and a broad range of **stakeholders**.” Champagne, 2017
 - “tie between **free trade and equitable domestic policy**” Freeland, 2017

Overview of Canada's Free Trade Agreements (Part 1)

Ms. Silvia Rozario
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& Junior Research Scholar

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Canada's Journey Toward Inclusive and Progressive Trade

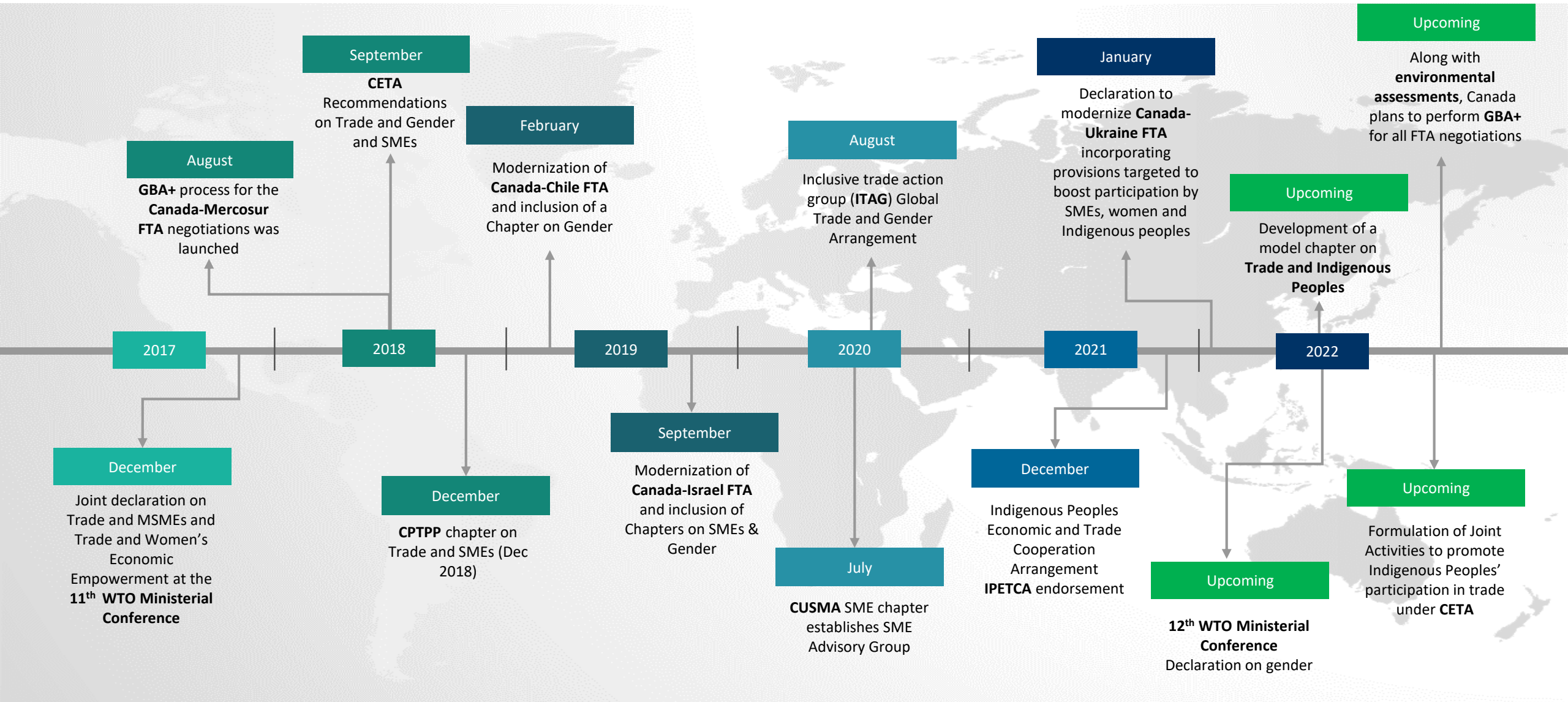


Polling Question 1

Can you please select some trade priorities which you think might be important for Canada in the future:

1. Application of Gender-based Analysis on FTA Negotiations
2. Incorporating Environmental Assessments in FTA Negotiations
3. Devising a Model Trade and Indigenous Peoples Chapter
4. Establishing Provisions on Climate Change
5. All of the Above
6. None of the Above

Canada's Journey Toward Inclusive and Progressive Trade



How Three Regional Trade Agreements Primarily Cater to MSMEs

	Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)	Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA)	Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
Dedicated MSME Chapter	✓	✓	
Information Sharing	✓	✓	✓
MSME Committee	✓	✓	
Sectoral Co-operation to Promote MSME Participation		✓	✓
Showcasing MSMEs Owned by Underrepresented Groups		✓	
COVID-19 Recovery Assistance to MSMEs			✓
Non-application of Dispute Settlement	✓	✓	

CPTPP Deep Dive: Inclusion of MSMEs



Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures

- Easier accumulation process
- Self-certification and simplification of paperwork



Government Procurement

- Transparent preferential measures for MSMEs
- Assistance to MSMEs



E-commerce

- Reduced barriers on digital trade
- Freer cross-border data flow



Customs Administration

- SME-friendly customs duties on express shipment

CPTPP Deep Dive: Inclusion of MSMEs (Cont.)



IP & Capacity Building

- Intellectual property and capacity-building training



Good Regulatory Practices

- Assessing impact of regulation on MSMEs



Development

- Policy measures and joint activities to boost MSME participation



Competitiveness & Business Facilitation

- Committee on competitiveness to help MSMEs explore regional supply chains

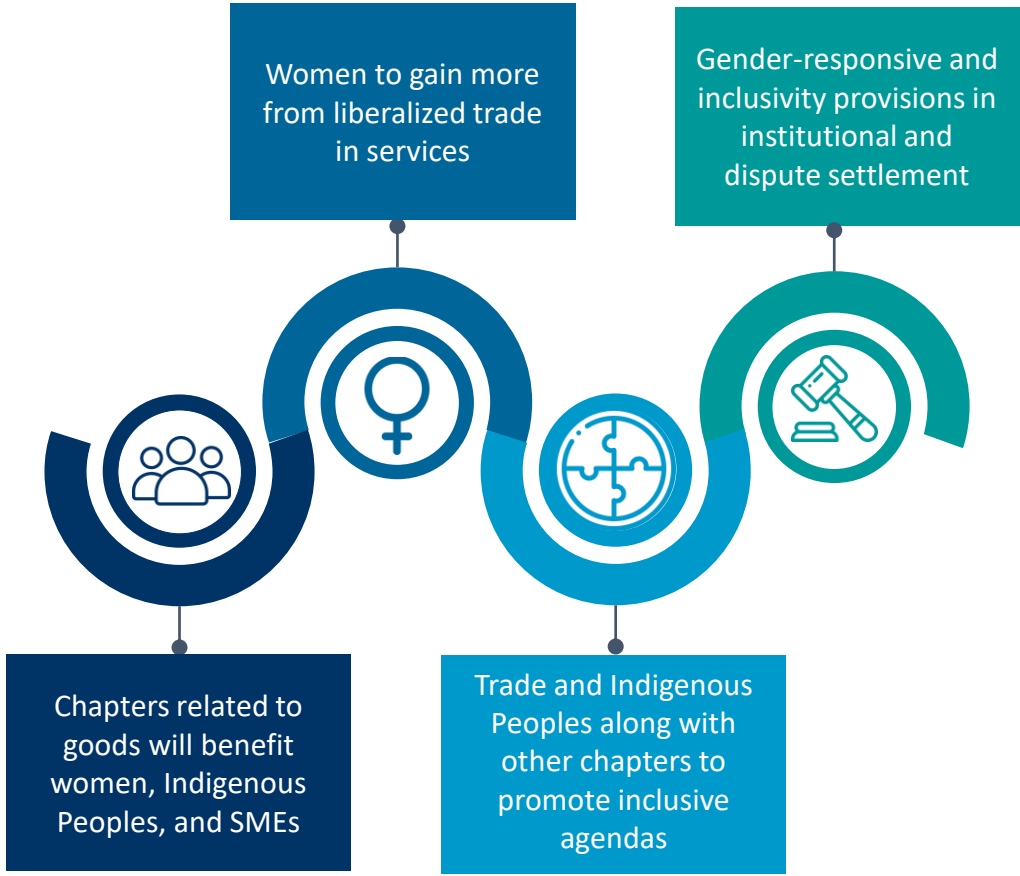
How Canada's RTAs Address Environmental Concerns

	CPTPP	CUSMA	CETA
Contains Provisions on Climate Change			✓
Has MSME-relevant Environmental Provisions			
Mentions Public Awareness and Participation for Tackling Environmental Issues	✓	✓	✓
Recommends Public-Private Partnership	✓	✓	
Emphasizes on Voluntary Mechanisms for Environmental Protection	✓	✓	
Mentions Conserving Small-scale Fisheries Sector	✓	✓	
Recognizes Traditional (Indigenous) Knowledge for Environmental Stewardship	✓	✓	

Key Features of FTAs: Comparing Select Bilateral FTAs

	Canada-Israel FTA (Modernized 2019)	Canada-Chile FTA (Modernized 2019)	Canada-Colombia FTA (In effect 2011)
Dedicated MSME Chapter	✓		
Dedicated Gender Chapter	✓	✓	
E-commerce Provisions for MSMEs	✓		✓
Intellectual Property Provisions for MSMEs	✓		
Government Procurement for MSMEs			✓
Trade-related Cooperation to Boost MSME Participation			✓
Assessing the Impact of the FTA on MSMEs			✓

Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) Application on Canada-Mercosur FTA Negotiation



Mercosur's Member Countries

● Associate members ● Full members



Polling Question 2

Please identify some common areas between Canada and ASEAN FTA negotiation frameworks:

1. Customs and Trade Facilitation
2. Electronic Commerce (E-Commerce)
3. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
4. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (SMEs)
5. Technical Barriers to Trade
6. All of the Above
7. None of the Above

Polling Question 3

Please identify the FTA Chapters which are often included in Canadian FTAs but are yet to be included in ASEAN FTAs:

1. Environment
2. Gender
3. Labour
4. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
5. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)
6. All of the Above
7. None of the Above

Canada vs ASEAN: More in Common than Differences

Commonalities

1. National Treatment and Market Access for Goods
2. Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures
3. Customs and Trade Facilitation
4. Technical Barriers to Trade
5. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
6. Cross-Border Trade in Services
7. Domestic Regulation and Transparency
8. Movement of Natural Persons
9. Financial Services
10. Telecommunications
11. Investment
12. Competition Policy
13. Intellectual Property
14. Electronic Commerce
15. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise
16. Dispute Settlement

Differences

1. Government Procurement
2. **Labour**
3. **Environment**
4. State-Owned Enterprise
5. **Gender**
6. Transparency and Anti-Corruption

Overview of Canada's Free Trade Agreements (Part 2)

David Hamilton
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Comparison Between Canada and ASEAN Trade Regimes

Country	Ease of Doing Business Rank	Single Ministry of Trade and Commerce	Single Public Incentive Agency	Business Network Promotion
Thailand	21	Yes	Yes	Not found
The Philippines	95	Yes	No	Yes
Malaysia	12	Yes	No	yes
Singapore	2	Yes	Yes	Not found
Indonesia	73	Yes	No	Yes
Brunei	66	No	Yes	Yes
Vietnam	70	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lao	154	Yes	Yes	Yes
Myanmar	165	No	Yes	Yes
Cambodia	144	Yes	Yes	Yes
Canada	23	No	No	Yes

Canada is the victim of its own success.

1. Speaks English
2. Common law
3. Shares a border with the US

Also important to remember that Canada is a Federation.

- Overall the ASEAN and Canada share the same inclusive views on trade as reflected in their trade agreements.
- Newer FTAs emphasize greater co-operation and seek to remove barriers for SMEs.
 - Example: ASEAN Australia-New Zealand agreement includes commitments for research and capacity building in this area.
- Provisions are evolving.

Data Table on MSMEs

- WTO Joint Initiative on MSMEs maintains a database of all RTA provisions. Updated annually.
- A Compendium report was written in 2018 on the provisions, publicly available on WTO under the MSME joint initiative label.
- APFC extracted the necessary data pertaining to ASEAN and Canadian RTAs.

Resource Document: Canada and ASEAN FTA provisions for MSMEs

Agreement	Reference	Text	Section	Themes
Canada-Chile	Canada-Chile Schedule	Access to small scale fishing activities (pesca artesanal) shall be subject to registration in the Registro de Pesca Artesanal. Registration for small scale fishing (pesca artesanal) is only granted to Chilean natural persons and foreign natural persons with permanent residency, or a Chilean juridical person constituted by the aforementioned persons.	Trade in Services	Registration limited to nationals or residents
Canada-Colombia	Canada-Colombia Chapter 15 Article 1507	Recognising the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties affirm the importance of: (a) working together to facilitate the use of electronic commerce by small- and medium-sized enterprises.	E-commerce	Facilitating the use of e-commerce by MSMEs

Themes on MSME Provisions in the Table



1. Cooperation, including establishing Committees



2. Facilitating use of e-commerce, IP, etc.



3. Access to information



4. Exceptions for MSMEs in Government procurement



5. Regulatory consideration, known as the Small Lens

- Canada's approach (like many countries and regions) is evolving.
- No universal definition of MSMEs or SMEs, but everyone has one.
- RTAs are not private property, they are pieces of public legislation.
- There is a need to ensure MSME benefit from trade agreements.
- There is a need to cooperate on facilitating MSMEs in trade.

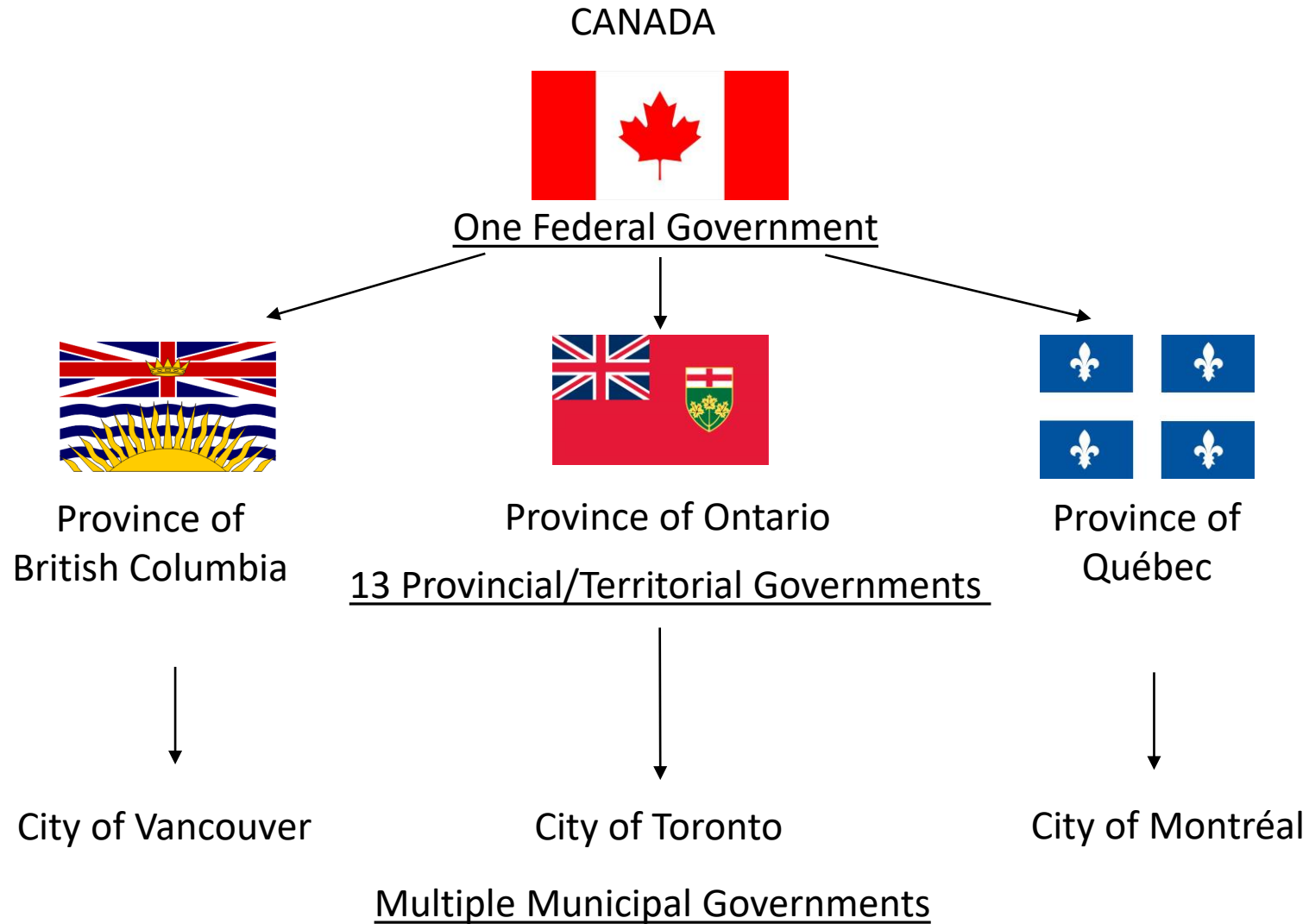
Overview of Canadian Policies and Programs

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1. Canadian government system
2. How Canada regulates and promotes business and trade interests
3. What types of programs offered in Canada
 - a. Federal programs
 - b. Provincial programs
 - c. Non-government organizations

Canada's System of Government



Canadian Trade and Business Promotion

Trade and commerce regulation – Federal government

- Provinces can encourage and promote their own trade, economic, and business development
- Each level of government has the power to respond to its trade interests by creating new ministries, departments, or parliamentary/legislative secretaries

	Federal Example	Provincial Example (e.g. British Columbia)
Current Title	Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development (2022)	Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation (2022)
Previous Title	Minister of International Trade Diversification (2019) Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion (2019)	Minister of Jobs, Economic Development, and Competitiveness (2020)

Federal Government Level Programs

Summary of programs features:

- Loans with flexible repayment plans
 - Ex. Business Development Canada's Small Business Loan
- Grant funding
 - Ex. Innovation, Science, and Economic Development (ISED) Canada's Digital Adoption Program
- Export preparation, education, and consultation services
 - Ex. Trade Commissioner Service's CanExport SME
- Risk assessment and management
 - Ex. Export Development Canada

Programs are administered by Crown Corporations or through federal government departments



Regional Development Agencies

Program examples:

- Business Scale-up and Productivity (BSP) – PacifiCan, PrairiesCan, CED
- Jobs and Growth Fund – CanNor, FedDev Ontario, FedNor

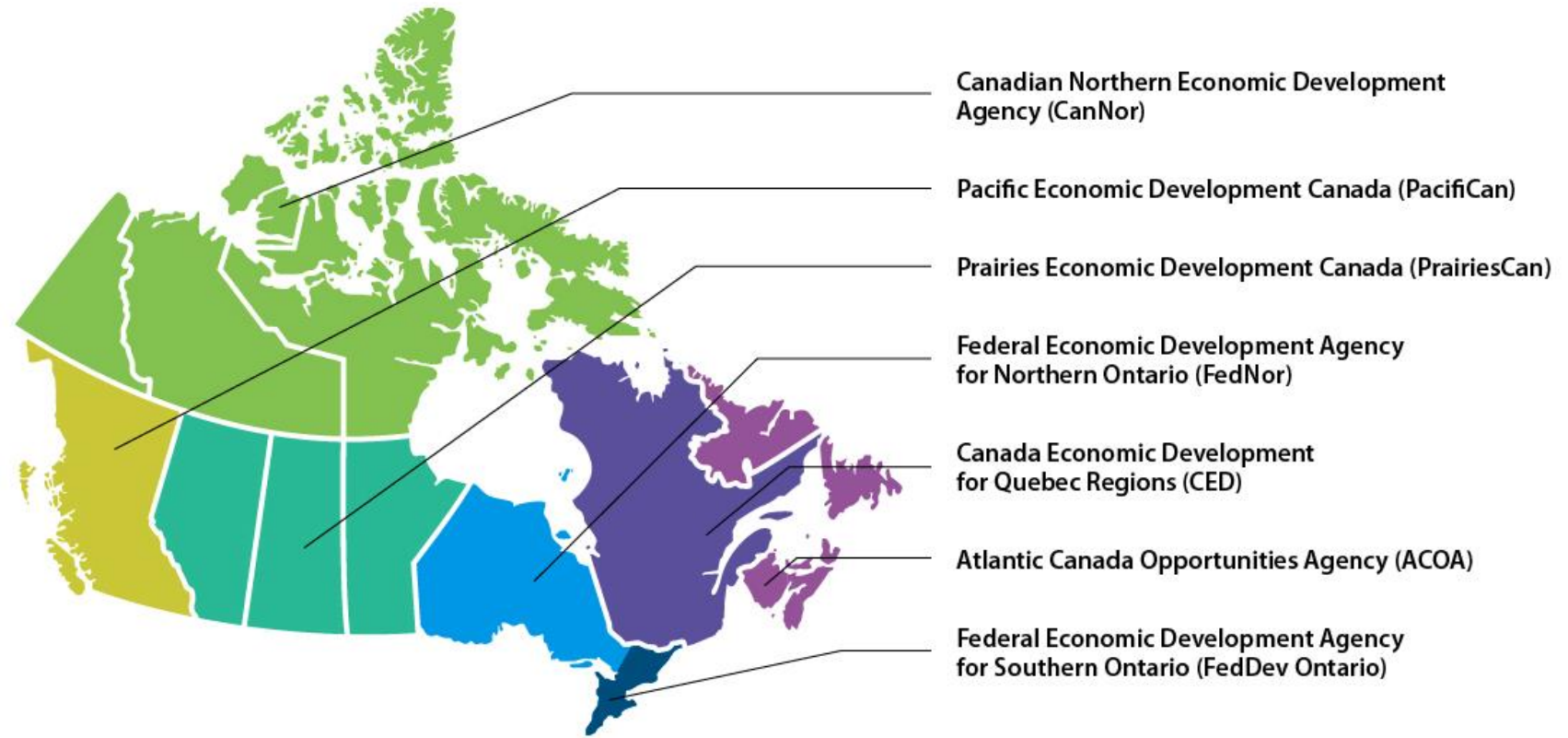


Image source: ISED Regional Development Agency

Provincial Government Level Programs

Provinces have a discretion to respond to their own economic interests

- Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery is a key focus

Most provinces have MSME mandates except for MB, NB, and QC

- MSMEs are either directly or indirectly referenced

Provincial programs provide tax credits/benefits, grants, and knowledge resources

- Alberta's Export Expansion Program
- BC's Small Business Support Branch
- Invest Ontario



Non-Government Organizations

Role of NGOs for MSME development

- Provide tools and resources to businesses, especially for marginalized groups
- Represent civil society partnerships between government, business, and the public
- Act as policy advocates to government
 - Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses (CFIB)

NGO Programs for MSMEs

Summary of NGO program features

- Funding opportunities for scaling up and expanding business
 - CFIB's member discount program
- Providing free or low-cost skill development workshops
 - StartUp Canada's StartUp Women
 - Trade Accelerator Program
- Providing businesses advising and counselling services for free or low-cost
 - Small Business BC



Summary

- MSME development requires collaborative effort for multiple levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and civil society
- MSMEs face barriers to start up and expansion
 - Access to funding
 - Risk adversity
 - Administrative costs
- Federal and provincial governments are expanding their focus on MSMEs

Barriers for MSMEs Led by Underrepresented Groups

Ms. Stephanie Perrin
Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Specialist

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Canada has endeavored to address barriers for underrepresented groups through two avenues:

1. National approach:

- Integration of 'trade and gender' and 'trade and Indigenous peoples' into Canada's inclusive trade agenda

2. Subnational approach:

- Provincial policies and programs to strengthen MSME participation in trade
- Programs from CSOs and NGOs targeted at underrepresented groups leading MSMEs

Canada's Approach: Trade and Gender

Tools used by the Government of Canada include:

- Gender Mainstreaming: A strategy to analyze the impacts and implications of actions, policies and programs on women and men
- Gender-based analysis plus (GBA+): A methodology used to assess the socioeconomic impacts of policies and programs of the Government of Canada on diverse groups of men and women

Actions taken on 'trade and gender':

- Standalone FTA chapters on trade and gender
 - e.g.: modernized Canada-Chile FTA, modernized Canada-Israel FTA
- Gender-related provisions throughout Canadian FTAs

Canada's Approach: Trade and Indigenous Peoples

Two track approach:

- Ensure that the Government of Canada's obligations to Indigenous Peoples in the Canadian Constitution cannot be superseded or undermined by its commitments in an FTA
- Propose FTA provisions to prioritize issues related to Indigenous Peoples, which:
 - Acknowledge the importance of promoting Indigenous participation in trade
 - Reaffirm international instruments such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
 - Recognize the important role of the environment in the economic, social, and cultural well-being of Indigenous Peoples
 - Facilitate co-operation activities between parties, such as establishing a dedicated website to provide Indigenous entrepreneurs and businesses with information on an agreement
 - Establish a mechanism under an agreement to determine and facilitate these co-operation activities.

Barriers for Women Entrepreneurs in Trade

The main barriers for women entrepreneurs and women-led MSMEs include:

- Restrictive gender roles
- Gendered discrimination in the private sector
- Violence and harassment
- Lack of access to finance
- Lack of access to education, knowledge and networks
- Unequal distribution of domestic labour

As a result of these barriers, women-led MSMEs tend to be:

- Smaller in size on average
- Concentrated in non-export facing sectors
- Lower-value-added firms



Barriers for Indigenous Entrepreneurs in Trade

The main barriers faced by Indigenous entrepreneurs in Canada include:

- Racism and discrimination
- Limited access to education
- Limited access to finance
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of infrastructure for those located in reserves and remote or rural communities



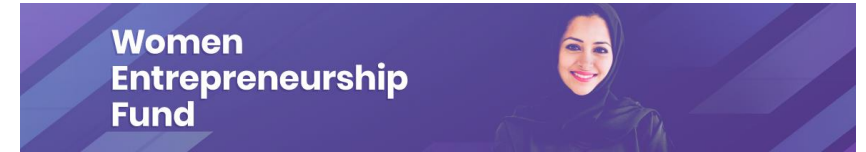
Canadian Programs: Women Entrepreneurs

Key programs provided by the Government of Canada include:

- Women Entrepreneurship Fund
- Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Ecosystem Fund
- The Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub

Other programs provided by business and non-governmental organizations include:

- StartUp Women by Startup Canada
- Women's Enterprise Initiative (BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba)
- Alberta Women Entrepreneurs
- CanWIN – The Canadian Women's International Network



Canadian Programs: Indigenous Entrepreneurs

Some of the main programs provided by the Government of Canada include:

- Indigenous Services Canada
- Indigenous Business Export Support (Trade Commissioner Service)
- Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program
- Indigenous business directory
- Strategic Partnerships Initiative



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Service des
Délégués
Commerciaux



Trade
Commissioner
Service

Additional programs and initiatives include:

- Indigi-X Exchange Program
- Guidebook for Doing Business in the Asia Pacific: A Resource for Indigenous Businesses



International Initiatives

Canada's participation in international forums and initiatives also contributes toward tackling barriers for underrepresented groups in trade.

Notable examples include:

- APEC: La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030)
- Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Cooperation Arrangement (IPETCA)
 - Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Taiwan
- Intersecting opportunities in ASEAN, APEC, and other forums



Please fill out the following short survey from the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development.

This information will assist EDM in understanding the range and diversity of individuals and organizations reached through EDM's technical assistance activities (e.g. training workshops, webinars, coaching, etc.)

Please complete the following survey at:
<https://bit.ly/SurveyCanadaASEAN>

BREAK (10 Minutes)

Please complete the following survey at:
<https://bit.ly/SurveyCanadaASEAN>



Review of Programs, Resources and Scene Setting for Discussion

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REPORT: Resources for Promoting MSMEs in Trade

Available now at:

<https://bit.ly/ResourcesCanadaASEAN>



EDM | Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development

Chapter One

- A comprehensive Review of Canada's Trade Agreements

Chapter Two

- Review of Canadian Policies and Programs for MSMEs in Trade

Chapter Three

- Barriers for MSMEs Led by Underrepresented Groups

Appendix

- Resources for policymakers on MSMEs in trade

Resources on MSMEs, the Environment, and Trade

Deeper analysis into areas such as MSME contributions to bilateral and regional trade agreements as well as environmental provisions and concerns for MSMEs.

TABLE 7

Summary of Variables that Affect MSMEs' Ability to Adapt to Environmental Concerns

HOW THESE VARIABLES AFFECT MSMEs	Industry	Location	Business Structure	Access to Capital
	• Goods vs. services	• Flood and drought risk	• Supply and value chain disruption	• Capital necessary for future-proofing and retrofitting business
	• Agriculture	• Rising sea levels	• Employee absenteeism	• Focus on short-term gain
	• Fishing	• Frequency of natural disasters	• Worker safety	• Difficult to change industries or relocate
	• Energy	• Inability to move locations	• Integration within communities	
	• Mining	• Infrastructure damage	• Rising insurance costs	
	• Construction			
	• Transportation			

Report Sources: Table 7 (pg. 55)

Learn more about the following topics:

- *Environmental Concerns for MSMEs*
- *Environmental Provisions with Canadian FTAs*
- *Multilateral Environmental Agreements signed by Canada*
- *SME Climate Hub*
- *Corporate Social Responsibility*
- *Voluntary Sustainability Standards*

Report Sources: pgs. 54-65.

Resources on Canadian MSME Programs

TABLE 9

Canadian Provincial Ministry MSME Mandates

Province	Ministry	MSME Focused Mandate
Alberta	Ministry of Jobs, Economy, and Innovation	<p>Yes – direct reference to MSMEs.¹¹⁹</p> <p>Alberta's Recovery Plan includes priorities related to MSMEs, such as investing in the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant, providing tax and utility payment deferrals, and providing \$15M to the Aboriginal Business Investment Fund.</p> <p>One of the ministry's priorities is "cutting red tape for businesses," which includes the reduction of costs and regulatory burdens on businesses, as well as making it easier for Albertans to access government services.</p>
BC	Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery, and Innovation	<p>Yes – direct reference to MSMEs.¹²⁰</p> <p>The minister is tasked with providing small businesses with COVID-19 recovery support, helping innovative BC businesses scale up through the RevUp program, and investing in high-potential BC businesses with the aim of building an innovative low-carbon economy.</p>

Overview of Canadian provinces and if their ministry or department focuses on economic development, job creation, and/or trade for MSMEs.

Report Source: Table 9 (pgs. 75-77).

Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Checklist

GESI Checklist:

STEP 1: DETERMINE WHO IS INCLUDED AND EXCLUDED

- ❑ Identify the specific groups of women, gender diverse people, people with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and other underrepresented groups that are excluded and vulnerable in international trade.
- ❑ Analyze the reasons for their exclusion/vulnerability regarding access to services and opportunities related to trade.

STEP 2: CONDUCT A SITUATIONAL AND INTERSECTIONAL ANALYSIS

- ❑ Identify the successes and challenges so far in ASEAN's efforts toward the inclusion of underrepresented groups in trade.
- ❑ Collect disaggregated intersectional data that captures the circumstances and barriers of women, gender diverse people, people with disabilities, and Indigenous Peoples in trade.
- ❑ Using data and secondary research, identify the barriers and facilitators the specific groups face in business and entrepreneurship within national contexts and in international trade.
- ❑ Determine how the barriers may reinforce one another for underrepresented groups.
- ❑ Whenever possible, consult with different groups to gain their input and perspectives on the implementation of project activities.

STEP 3: REVIEW POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

- ❑ Examine the national and regional policies and programs that might maintain or increase social exclusion and gender inequity in relation to international trade. Consider the different effects of policies and programs on the specific groups identified in Step 1.
- ❑ Examine the national and regional policies and programs that might encourage inclusion and gender equity in relation to international trade. Consider the different effects of policies and programs on the specific groups identified in Step 1.

STEP 4: MAINSTREAM GESI INTO FUTURE WORK AND PLANNING

- ❑ Ask whether the planned initiative meets the demonstrated needs of underrepresented groups.
- ❑ Assess the success of existing strategies in place at the multilateral (ASEAN) and national level for the inclusion of underrepresented groups in trade.
- ❑ Design responses that work to address the barriers that underrepresented groups face and that enhance any programs or policies that are succeeding at inclusion in relation to international trade.
- ❑ Monitor and evaluate the impact of the GESI framework process by determining how underrepresented groups have been impacted by project activities, how they participated in decision-making processes, and if they have been able to access equitable rights and opportunities.

This short resource guide provides some relevant definitions and concepts to further integrate gender equity and social inclusion into the participation of MSMEs in trade.

Report Source: pgs. 103-106

Excel Table: List of Canada-ASEAN FTA Provisions for MSMEs

Other additional resources included in this report and are available on our webpage include:

- A Summary of Key MSME Provisions in Canadian Bilateral Trade Agreements
- An Overview of MSME Provisions in ASEAN Trade Agreements
- Additional MSME Learning Resources
- Technical Definitions of MSMEs in ASEAN
- A working excel file of ASEAN and Canada's Free Trade Agreement provisions for MSMEs

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	SL No.	Agreement	Reference	Text	Section	Themes
2	1	Canada-Chile	Canada-Chile Schedule	Access to small scale fishing activities (pesca artesanal) shall be subject to registration in the Registro de Pesca Artesanal. Registration for small scale fishing (pesca artesanal) is only granted to Chilean natural persons and foreign natural persons with permanent residency, or a Chilean juridical person constituted by the aforementioned persons.	Trade in Services	Registration limited to nationals or residents
3	2	Canada-Colombia	Canada-Colombia Chapter 15 Article 1507	Recognising the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties affirm the importance of: (a) working together to facilitate the use of electronic commerce by small- and medium-sized enterprises.	E-commerce	Facilitating the use of e-commerce by MSMEs
4	3	Canada-Colombia	Canada-Colombia Chapter 20 Article 2001	The Parties hereby establish a Joint Commission, comprising cabinet-level representatives of the Parties, or their designees. The Commission may review the impacts, including any benefits, of this Agreement on the small and medium-size businesses of the Parties. Towards that end, the Commission may: Designate working groups to evaluate the effects of this Agreement on small and medium-size businesses and make relevant recommendations to the Commission, including working plans focused on the needs of small and medium-size businesses. Any working group recommendations with respect to trade capacity building shall be referred to the Committee on Trade-Related Cooperation for consideration; and Receive information, input and views from representatives of small and medium-size businesses and their business associations.	Administration of RTAs	Assessment of the impacts of the RTA on MSMEs including benefits
5	4	Canada-Colombia	Canada-Colombia Chapter 20 Article 1	The Parties hereby establish a Joint Commission, comprising cabinet-level representatives of the Parties, or their designees. The Commission may review the impacts, including any benefits, of this Agreement on the small and medium-size businesses of the Parties. Towards that end, the Commission may: Designate working groups to evaluate the effects of this Agreement on small and medium-size businesses and make relevant recommendations to the Commission, including working plans focused on the needs of small and medium-size businesses. Any working group recommendations with respect to trade capacity building shall be referred to the Committee on Trade-Related Cooperation for consideration; and Receive information, input and views from representatives of small and medium-size businesses and their business associations.	Administration of RTAs	Consideration of inputs received from MSMEs when assessing the MSME-impacts of an RTA

Available at: <https://bit.ly/ResourcesCanadaASEAN>

Defining Progressive Trade (PT)

- Progressive Trade
 - “**no single definition**” may include the following: labour rights, environmental commitments, gender issues, indigenous rights, and governance broadly defined (ex. Rule of law) (Stephens 2018)
 - **Canadian definition:** “Progressive trade means doing everything we can to ensure that *all segments of society can take advantage* of the opportunities that flow from trade and investment – with a particular focus on *women, Indigenous peoples, youth, and small- and medium-sized enterprises* (SMEs). It also means making sure the gains from trade are more sustainably and broadly shared.” (Government of Canada 2017)
 - Language will likely be **aspirational and non-binding** (ex. Gender Chapters across the agreements) (Stephens 2018)

Why PT Now?

- Global rise of **anti-globalization sentiment** (Cuiriak 2018)
 - PT to avoid **domestic opposition** to FTA
 - (US Trump; BREXIT, EU protests to FTA clauses leading to the loss of sovereign power)
 - Indigenous Reconciliation in Canada → reflected in PTA since 2015 PM Trudeau (Truth and Reconciliation Commission) (Free Prior and Informed Consent (UNDRIP))
 - Indigenous carveouts and protections in the recent treaties
- Parallels the concept of “**inclusive trade**” – WTO, G20, and WEF – close to EU’s “trade sustainability” = part of the "mainstream vision"
- Make trade “not only free but fair and inclusive”

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Please send your
questions in the chat box
or use the 'raise hand'
function to request to speak.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

To access the resources from today's workshop please visit:
<https://bit.ly/ResourcesCanadaASEAN>

For any additional questions, please contact us at:
info@asiapacific.ca