

Investigating Globalisation

through the APEC experience

A guide to using the publication

***Open Economies Delivering to People:
APEC's Decade of Progress***
in the classroom

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A guide to using the publication *Open Economies Delivering to People: APEC's Decade of Progress* in the classroom

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Globalisation

Globalisation is an issue that has been much talked about. Yet it means different things to different people. Some consider trade and investment liberalisation as synonymous with globalisation, thereby ascribing all the changes inherent in globalisation to the opening of markets. Globalisation is more than that and is fundamentally about the increasing transfer of knowledge and culture due to rapid technological changes, particularly in information and communications technologies. Globalisation has significant economic, technological and social elements. Understanding the effects of trade and investment liberalisation is only one element in considering the overall impact of globalisation.



Open Economies, a report on the APEC experience of globalisation

The report, *Open Economies Delivering to People: APEC's Decade of Progress*, on which this study guide is based, looks at the experience of member economies of the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) forum in opening up trade and investment. Australia, which is also an APEC member, prepared the report for the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in November 2000. [An article in STUDIES1/2001 provides teachers with a unit on Australia and APEC, and teachers should consider using this as a brief but comprehensive introductory exercise before using the *Open Economies* report.]

The report brings together significant information on economic integration which will prove to be an invaluable resource for students considering the broader issue of globalisation.

The report finds that policies promoting open trade and investment contribute to economic growth and prosperity. It also finds, however, that such policies alone are not sufficient to achieve sustained economic growth. In addition, the report finds that an opening of markets often leads to economic and social changes that at times may prove difficult to adapt to for particular segments of the community. In such circumstances, it may be appropriate for authorities to put in place programs that would ease such adjustment. Adjustment packages might include phased changes in policies, assistance for skills development, job search and relocation, and job creation programs.

A copy is in each school library

A copy of this report has been sent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to the Librarian of each secondary school in Australia.

A guide to using this report in schools

The report was not produced for a student audience, and students may require help in extracting the key information and comments it contains. This guide has been designed to help students focus quickly on and consider key information in the report. The guide is structured and presented to allow students to make an objective assessment of the information on the impact of globalisation, especially policies that deliver open trade and investment. Such policies do deliver positive results for many people, but they also have negative impacts. Consequently, one challenge students will have to make is to balance the information and judge whether the benefits of globalisation outweigh the negatives.

Using this student guide

This guide can be used by teachers in several ways:

- With individual students as a way of helping them extract significant information and ideas about the APEC experience or economic integration as a case study of one aspect of globalisation
- With a whole class, to set a research exercise for students in gathering evidence
- As the basis of a classroom unit – teachers can photocopy the whole of the *Open Economies* book for student use in class, or they could photocopy the selected parts referred to in the Guide, and cut and paste these as Student Resource sheets.



Copies of Open Economies

A copy of the report is available for downloading on the DFAT web site at www.dfat.gov.au/apec/

More copies of the book may be available in print form on request from APEC Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Barton ACT 0221

TAPPING INTO THE KEY CONCEPTS

There is currently debate in Australia and overseas about the impact of globalisation. The debate is sometimes heated with strong views being expressed about what it is, how harmful or beneficial it is, as well as how it should be addressed. What is your view on globalisation?

- 1 **Brainstorm** the meanings and implications of globalisation. Record your ideas here.

- 2 From this, *write a short definition* of what you understand 'globalisation' to be.

- 3 Record what you think might be some *benefits* for Australia to be involved in it.

- 4 Record what you think might be some *disadvantages* for Australia to be involved in it.

Open Economies will enable you to test these ideas. You will be able to come back to this page at the end and see if your views have changed.

There are many abbreviations and economic terms used in the report *Open Economies Delivering to People: APEC's Decade of Progress*. Here are the main ones that you will need to understand at various points.

Globalisation

This refers to the increasing cross-border economic, social and technological exchange.

(See STUDIES 3/2000 and 1/2001)

Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC)

An informal grouping of economies in the Asia Pacific region which meets together to pursue and promote open trade and investment. Australia is one of the 21 member economies covering North and South America, East Asia and Oceania.

(See STUDIES 1/2001)

Bogor Declaration

A statement by APEC Leaders at their 1994 meeting in Bogor, Indonesia of their commitment to achieve free and open trade and investment in the Asia Pacific by 2010 for developed economies and 2020 for developing economies.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

GDP is the total value of final goods and services produced within an economy in a specified period of time.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Investment by a foreign resident which seeks to obtain a lasting interest in an enterprise and exercise significant influence in its management.

Tariffs

Taxes placed on imports and which are reflected in the prices paid by Australian consumers and industries that use foreign goods.

Microeconomic reform

Microeconomic reform is government policy directed at parts of the economy, such as industry sectors, to encourage more efficient operation and to become more competitive. It may involve deregulation and removing competitive barriers.

Open economy

An open economy is one where barriers to trade are low or are being significantly reduced. (See Globalisation)

(See STUDIES 3/2000)

General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT)

The name of both the world trade rules from 1947 to 1994 and the organisation that implemented them. It was the forum for negotiating lower customs duty rates and other trade barriers. The GATT rules are now administered by the WTO.

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

Consisting of 140 member countries, it is the body which took over from the GATT in 1995. It sets trade rules which impose disciplines on countries' policies on trade and provides mechanisms *to negotiate reductions in trade barriers* and to settle disputes over the rules. The rules are an outcome of negotiations among members. The WTO's main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible.

Gross National Product (GNP)

GNP is the total market value of goods and services produced by an economy in a specified period of time.

Uruguay Round of GATT

The round of negotiations from 1986 to 1994 which led to the creation of the WTO. The round also established new rules for dealing with trade in services, agriculture, relevant aspects of intellectual property, dispute settlement and trade policy reviews.

Non-tariff barriers

Measures other than tariffs that restrict imports – such as quantitative restrictions, restrictive import licences and voluntary restraint measures - which now mostly contravene WTO rules. One of the outcomes of the Uruguay Round was an obligation to convert all non-tariff barriers affecting agricultural trade into tariffs.

UNDERSTANDING OPEN ECONOMIES (1)

What is meant by 'open economies'?

Economies that impose few or minimal barriers to trade and investment are effectively *open economies*. The main reason for adopting policies that promote liberalisation or policies that deliver open trade and investment is to secure sustained economic growth for the benefit of the people.

Opening an economy therefore has impacts on trade, foreign investment, and national wealth.

How does the APEC experience illustrate this connection between these elements of the national economy?

See *Open Economies* page 4 paragraphs 2–3.

Chart 2.1 page 6

Look at Chart 2.1. It shows the average annual growth in **GNP** per person (%).

- 1 Describe the trends for each of the three periods shown.
- 2 If you were a country interested in growth, what type of economy would you want to have?

Chart 2.2 Page 7

Look at Chart 2.2. It shows the impact of each percentage point increase in the ratio of trade to **GDP** (that is, where there is an increase in exports rather than in domestic consumption of what is produced) on average income.

- 3 Describe the impact of this increase in trade on people's wealth.

Chart 2.3 Page 9

Look at Chart 2.3. It shows the movement in average **tariffs** in APEC economies between 1988 and 1998.

- 4 What does this chart suggest about the opening up of APEC economies?

Chart 2.4 Page 10

Look at Chart 2.4. It shows the movement in the frequency of **non-tariff barriers** to trade between 1995 and 1998.

- 5 What does this chart suggest about the opening up of APEC economies?

Chart 2.5 Page 11

Look at Chart 2.5. It shows two measures of the movement in trade in APEC countries.

- 6 What is happening to the volume of trade in APEC member economies?

Chart 2.6 Page 12

Look at Chart 2.6. It shows the amount of foreign direct investments, both into the APEC economies, and from the APEC economies into other countries, between 1989 and 1998.

- 7 What is happening to the amount of FDI into and out of APEC member economies?

Chart 2.7 Page 12

Look at Chart 2.7. It shows movement in foreign direct investment into the lower income APEC economies between 1989 and 1998.

- 8 What is happening to the amount of FDI into the lower income APEC economies during this period and how does that compare to non-APEC economies?

Chart 2.8 Page 13

Look at Chart 2.8. It shows two different measures of wealth in lower income APEC countries compared with non-APEC countries between 1989 and 1999.

- 9 What has happened to the wealth of these lower income APEC economies in comparison to comparable non-APEC economies?
- 10 Put this evidence together to create an 'equation' which summarises the relationship between the key factors above:

- openness of economies
- trade
- foreign direct investment
- economic growth
- jobs
- prosperity

Some useful symbols for your equation will be:

- causes or leads to
- + added to or plus
- ↑ increased
- ↓ decreased

UNDERSTANDING OPEN ECONOMIES (2)

The *Open Economies* report suggests that trade and investment liberalisation leads to economic growth for a number of reasons (as listed below). However, these factors might also have negative consequences. What do you think?

Reason: openness in an economy leads to economic growth by ...	How might this be a benefit?	Are there any negative impacts?
<p>page 4 paragraph 4 1 Facilitating access to foreign savings</p>		
<p>page 5 paragraph 1 2 Promoting efficiency and increased productivity</p>		
<p>page 5 paragraph 2 3 Increasing investment opportunities</p>		
<p>page 5 paragraph 3 4 Increasing business competitiveness</p>		
<p>page 5 paragraph 3 5 Providing them with access to up-to-date technology and equipment</p>		
<p>page 5 paragraph 3 6 Exposing them to world's best management and production practices</p>		
<p>page 6 paragraph 1 7 Encouraging good economic policies</p>		
<p>page 6 paragraph 1 8 Assisting risk management by diversification of markets and sources of supply</p>		

Here are some examples drawn from real life cases.

Match them to the appropriate element 1 – 8.

Situation: as a result of openness ...	This is an example or illustration of reason number ... (1 – 8)
Investment by a foreign company in a local company opens new markets to the local company	
FDI money is used to help a local company increase its production of goods	
A foreign company investing in a local company provides advice and experts to develop local production polices	
Barriers to FDI are removed and an overseas company is able to invest in a local company	
A local company has to improve its production to compete against new competitors overseas	
A foreign company investing in a local company makes changes to improve the local company's production practices	
A foreign company investing in a local company updates the local firm's equipment to make it more competitive	
Removal of barriers to FDI leads to an influx of investment in local companies	

While the lowering of trade and investment barriers are sound economic policies, they are by themselves not enough to sustain economic growth and social development. Open trade and investment policies need to be complemented by good governance practices and microeconomic reform.

What is 'good governance'?

Good governance means competent management of a country's resources and affairs – through good policies and capable institutions (both private and public sector) – in a manner that is open, transparent, accountable, equitable and responsive to people's needs.

Institutions such as regulatory agencies, banks and corporations that practice good governance are stable but dynamic, have people of ability and integrity, and implement policies that are of benefit to the nation or engender confidence in the marketplace or society broadly.

What evidence is given to suggest that 'good governance' is an important factor in helping achieve economic growth?

Chart 3.1 page 22

Look at Chart 3.1. It compares the rate of growth in GDP per person (%) in countries, looking at the variables of good economic policy and good governance.

- 1 Decide which of these statements best summaries that chart:**
 - A** The best rate of economic growth occurs in countries with good institutions of governance, regardless of their economic policies.
OR
 - B** The best rate of economic growth occurs in countries with good economic policies, regardless of their institutions of governance.
OR
 - C** The best rate of economic growth occurs in countries with good institutions of governance and good economic policies.

Chart 3.2 page 23

Look at Chart 3.2. It presents the reasons for difference in the rate of growth in GDP per person (%) between East Asian and African countries from 1964 – 1992, looking at the variables of good economic policy and good governance.

- 2 Decide which of these statements best summaries that chart:**
 - A** The increase in the gap between the two groups of countries can be best explained by the difference in their policies.
OR
 - B** The increase in the gap between the two groups of countries can be best explained by the difference in their institutions of governance.
OR
 - C** The increase in the gap between the two groups of countries can be best explained by a mixture of the two.
OR
 - D** The increase in the gap between the two groups of countries can be largely explained by a mixture of the two but there are some other factors as well.
- 3 Explain in your own words why 'good governance' would be a relevant factor in a country's economic growth. Is this process of improving governance actually happening in APEC countries?**

Chart 3.3 page 24

Look at Chart 3.3. It measures governance on a special scale of improvement.

- 4 What has happened to high and low income members in the period shown?**
- 5 Which group has improved by the greater rate?**
- 6 What does this suggest about these countries?**

Chart 3.4 page 25

Look at Chart 3.4. It measures a 'risk rating' – how likely nations are to be stable and a good risk to investors.

- 7 How does Chart 3.4 reinforce the evidence of the improvement in governance in lower-income APEC economies suggested in Chart 3.3?**
- 8 Conclusion:**
What is the overall connection between economic growth and good governance?

OPEN ECONOMIES AND MICROECONOMIC REFORM

What does microeconomic reform have to do with open economies?

'Microeconomics' deals with individuals, firms and industries or industry sectors.

Microeconomic reform is government policy directed at parts of the economy, such as industry sectors, to encourage more efficient operation and to become more competitive. It may involve deregulation and removing competitive barriers.







Microeconomic reform is likely to be part of a nation's response to economic globalisation and the opening of economies.

Does it help?

- 1 Consider how a reform or change in each of these areas of the economy might help promote economic growth:

Aspect	Effect on economic growth
Transportation	
Telecommunications	
Taxation	
Banking	

- 2 Now look at the explanation or listing of what is happening in APEC economies, and summarise the impacts in each case.

<p> page 25 paragraph 2 Financial sector</p>	
<p> page 26 paragraph 4 Taxation</p>	
<p> page 27 paragraph 1 Restructuring of utilities</p>	
<p> page 27 paragraph 2 Telecommunications</p>	
<p> page 27 paragraph 3 Regulatory reform</p>	
<p> page 28 paragraph 2 Industrial relations and workplace reforms</p>	

OPEN ECONOMIES AND LABOUR MARKET ADJUSTMENTS

How do APEC economies deal with the negative impacts of opening economies?

The move towards open economies creates many benefits for a nation, but there are also negative impacts on some local industries, and people. How are the APEC economies dealing with these negative impacts?

Here is a list of policies that are being undertaken in different APEC economies to deal with 'labour market adjustments' – that is, the loss of industries and jobs.

- 1 Read the explanation in the report of what is being done, and explain in your own words how these policies might help

page 31 paragraph 2 dot point 1

page 31 paragraph 2 dot point 2

page 31 paragraph 2 dot point 3

page 31 paragraph 2 dot point 4

Policies of ...	Will have the effect or impact of ...
Matching the unemployed to existing jobs	
Creating new jobs	
Providing for the needs of affected individuals	
Improving productivity, easing restructuring and enhancing abilities to respond to uncertainty	

OPEN ECONOMIES AND PREPARING FOR THE NEW ECONOMY

What is the 'new economy'?

The 'new economy' refers to the advances in information and communications technology that are transforming the global economy.

page 35 paragraph 1

- 1 Explain why this technology is important in economic growth.

Chart 3.6 page 34

Look at Chart 3.6. It shows the change in access to the internet in APEC economies between 1997 and 2000.

page 34 paragraph 1

- 2 Describe the trend that this chart shows for the rate of increase in most countries.
- 3 How do the figures for the percentage of population with internet access modify this picture?
- 4 Explain why these policies are significant if an economy is to participate effectively in the new economy:
 - Establishing competitive domestic telecommunications markets
 - Avoiding or removing barriers to electronic trade

 page 39

“The primary reason why economies pursue open trade and investment policies is to help secure sustainable economic growth.”

One of the great criticisms of globalisation is that it does not deliver improvements to the less privileged. Is this true of the APEC experience? Look at the evidence in five social areas and decide.

Index of Human Development

 Chart 4.1 page 39

Look at Chart 4.1. It shows changes in the Index of Human Development (a way of measuring changes to life expectancy, income and education) between 1985 and 1987.

- 1 **What is the overall experience of the APEC economies?**
- 2 **Which group, lower income economies or higher income economies, has the greater rate of improvement?**
- 3 **What does this suggest about whether open economies might benefit lower income economies?**

Poverty

Charts 4.2 and 4.3 provide information about open economies and the reduction of poverty among their citizens.

 Chart 4.2 page 40

Look at Chart 4.2. It shows changes in poverty among East Asian APEC members.

- 4 **What is happening to the number of people on or below the poverty line in the East Asian APEC economies?**

 Chart 4.3 page 41

Look at Chart 4.3. It shows the importance of growth as a factor behind poverty reduction in some low income APEC economies over time.

- 5 **What element of this improvement seems to be as a result of economic growth?**
- 6 **In which of the economies shown has this growth been greatest?**
- 7 **One of the arguments of critics of globalisation is that economic growth does not lessen the gap between rich and poor. What does this report say about that?**
- 8 **What would be needed to reduce this inequality?**
- 9 **What conclusion can you draw from the APEC example about the connection between open economies and health?**

 page 41 paragraph 2

Employment

 Chart 4.4 page 42

Look at Chart 4.4. It shows the changes in the number of jobs created between 1989 and 1998 in lower and higher income APEC and non-APEC economies.

- 10 **Comparing APEC economies where open economies are being developed with comparable non-APEC economies, what is the impact of economic growth in creating new jobs in:**
 - High income economies?
 - Lower income economies?
- 11 **What conclusion can you draw from the APEC example about the connection between open economies and employment?**

Health

Charts 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 provide information about several aspects of the impacts of open economies and health in APEC members.

 **Chart 4.5 page 43**

Look at Chart 4.5. It shows changes to infant mortality rates and life expectancy in lower income APEC economies between 1989 and 1999.

12 Complete these statements:

In lower income APEC economies life expectancy has

and infant mortality has

 **Chart 4.6 page 43**

Look at Chart 4.6. It shows changes to access to sanitation and safe water in some lower income APEC economies between 1985 and 1995.

13 Complete these statements:

In lower income APEC economies access to sanitation has

and access to safe water has

 **Chart 4.7 page 44**

Look at Chart 4.7. It shows the change in expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP of APEC economies in the 1990s.

14 Complete these statements:

APEC economies' expenditure on health has

and in most cases the proportion of GDP spent on health is

15 What conclusion can you draw from the APEC example about the connection between open economies and health?

Education

Charts 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 provide information about several aspects of education and the impact of open economies on it in APEC economies.

 **Chart 4.8 page 45**

Look at Chart 4.8. It shows changes in the percentage of the population enrolling for education between 1989 and 1997.

16 Complete these statements:

In APEC economies enrolment ratios in education have

and in lower income economies compared with high income economies that degree of increase has been

 **Chart 4.9 page 45**

Look at Chart 4.9. It shows the rates of enrolment for 1997 of women in education for both lower income and higher income APEC and other economies.

17 Complete this statement:

In lower income APEC economies women's enrolment in education has

 **Chart 4.10 page 46**

Look at Chart 4.10. It shows adult literacy rates for 1997 for both lower income and high income APEC and other economies.

18 Complete this statement:

In lower income APEC economies adult literacy rates have

 **Chart 4.11 page 46**

Look at Chart 4.11. It shows the change in expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP of APEC economies in the 1990s.

19 Complete these statements:

In APEC economies, expenditure on education has

and in most cases the proportion of GDP spent on education is

20 What conclusion can you draw from the APEC example about the connection between open economies and education?

21 From this evidence of the APEC economies, what is your overall conclusion about the impacts of economic globalisation on social advancement?

 pages 47 – 51

The publication *Open Economies Delivering to People: APEC's Decade of Progress* contains information about the issue of whether liberalisation and the opening of economies has an impact on environments.

Here is a summary of the main points made in this section:

There are concerns that trade and investment liberalisation increase or cause environment degradation through greater consumption and the so-called “race to the bottom”. Race to the bottom refers to the view that international competition by foreign firms creates a situation where the economy with the cheapest costs wins the investment, and that environmental standards are sacrificed in those economies to keep them attractive to the foreign investors.

Such concerns however do not take full account of the evidence. The evidence shows a complex relationship between trade and investment liberalisation and the environment.

Some of the worst environmental degradation has occurred in economies that have been relatively closed to international markets and investment. A 1998 study showed that across economies with similar income per person, pollution levels tend to be higher in those which are closed rather than open – with unequal income distribution, high levels of illiteracy and limited political and civil liberties.

Evidence also suggests that a major cause of environmental degradation in many economies is poverty rather than greater consumption, and as incomes rise economies are better able to afford environmental protection. There is also more awareness of the need for better policy responses to the environment. As economies become wealthier their expenditure on environmental protection increases significantly.

On the concern of the “race to the bottom”, the evidence show that developed economies are the preferred location for pollution-intensive industries, despite increasingly strict environmental standards and controls. This is because such industries are capital-intensive, and are more productive in wealthier economies, despite the added environmental protection costs involved.

Trade and investment liberalisation may also have positive effects on environmental outcomes by facilitating the spreading of environmental friendly technologies and by increasing awareness of problems that extend beyond national boundaries.

APEC economies are managing their natural resources more effectively as they have become better able to afford such management. The rate of natural resource depletion is declining in both lower and higher income APEC economies, and more importantly they are saving more national environmental assets than they were depleting.

- 1 What concerns are there about the impact of trade and investment liberalisation on the environment?**
- 2 What evidence has the *Open Economies* report put forward about the relationship between liberalisation and environmental degradation? How does this address any concerns raised in question 1.**

 **Box 4.1 page 50**
paragraphs 3 and 4

Look at Box 4.1. It describes a range of ‘win-win’ situations in APEC economies in which economic development and environmental gains are both achieved.

- 3 Explain how the involvement of foreign investment in environmental projects can be a win to both development and to the environment.**

OPEN ECONOMIES – WHY IS APEC SUCCEEDING?

What policies and approaches does APEC have?

APEC as a regional grouping is seeking to help its members achieve more open trade and investment policies and outcomes.

Look at this list of some of the ways APEC is doing this, and explain each of them in your own words.

Policies of ...	Will have the effect or impact of ...
Open regionalism	
Being an incubator of ideas	
Training and capacity building	
A Declaration of Common Resolve	
Individual Action Plans	
Collective Action Plans	
Technical assistance	

page 15 paragraph 2

page 15 paragraph 3

page 15 paragraph 4

page 17 paragraph 1

page 17 paragraph 2

page 18 paragraph 2

page 18 paragraph 4

OPEN ECONOMIES – SUMMARISING

What does the APEC experience tell us about economic globalisation?

The report *Open Economies Delivering to People: APEC's Decade of Progress* provides a case study of economic integration and its impact on the people living in the Asia-Pacific.

Using the APEC example, you will now be able to make a number of points based on evidence about significant aspects of one element of the overall globalisation process.

This will help to make sure that the opinions you develop about this significant issue are informed opinions.

- What has been the APEC experience of growth over the last decade under open economic policies?**
- How has microeconomic reform been part of this outcome?**
- How has improved governance been part of this process?**
- How have adjustments to labour market policies been part of this process?**
- What have the impacts of open economic policies been on social progress?**
- “Economic and social progress cannot be achieved without change. The challenge is to manage rather than fear change and to ensure that the benefits of change are enjoyed by all. This will be of increasing importance as the information and communication revolution inevitably accelerates the pace of change.”**

Explain why these two key elements identified in the report will be needed to successfully manage this change.

The achievement of ...	Will be essential because ...
High standards of education	
Helping those most affected by change	

page 52 paragraph 1

page 52 paragraph 3

page 52 paragraph 5

page 52 paragraph 6

page 53 paragraph 7

page 56 paragraph 4

APEC

For general APEC resources on the internet, see www.arts.monash.edu.au/ausapec/links.htm

Globalisation, a definition

Multinationals, Trade & Investment: The ingredients for Globalisation & Growth, Tim Harcourt speech: www.isr.gov.au/industry/research/globalc.pdf

See also DFAT's *Trade Outcomes and Objectives Statement 2001* www.dfat.gov.au/toos/

Historical process, of the globalisation of business

Changes from protectionism to free trade, role of technological change, communications developments – an excellent paper exploring this, and other issues relating to globalisation, is written by Mauro Guillen, at The Wharton School and Department of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania. The paper, *Is Globalization Civilizing, Destructive Or Feeble? A Critique Of Five Key Debates In The Social-Science Literature* can be downloaded from: http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/show_paper.cfm?id=938

Government role

Role of the Australian government in attracting foreign investment and promoting & developing international trade (treaties & multilateral agreements, trade negotiations, quarantine, customs). The influence of government policy, eg getting the product onto the wharf, its increase in productivity. *Multinationals, Trade & Investment* on www.isr.gov.au/industry/research/globalc.pdf + *10 Benefits of the WTO trading system* – www.wto.org/wto/10ben/10ben00/

Trading bodies

Activity & role of trading bodies, agreements and related agencies (such as IMF, World bank, GATT/WTO, APEC, EU, ASEAN, IOR-ARC, CER, NAFTA): There is a vast quantity of critiques of the WTO and free trade. These documents provide a succinct representation of the main arguments: *Asia-Europe Dialogue Resolution. Final Resolution of the Alternative Summit of the Bangkok Appeal, 22–24 June, 2000, Geneva/Switzerland* <http://www.ased.org/resources/appeals/global/bangkok.htm>

Anti-globalisation

Statement from members of international civil society opposing a millennium round or a new round of comprehensive trade negotiations. First circulated: 24 March 1999 <http://www.twinside.org.sg/title/wtomr-cn.htm>

Statement of the Top 10 reasons to oppose the WTO from the left NGO organisation, Global Exchange. <http://www.globalexchange.org/economy/rulemakers/topTenReasons.html>

An analysis of the impact of free trade on developing country agriculture http://www.wtowatch.org/library/admin/uploadedfiles/Trade_and_Hunger_An_Overview_of_Case_Studies_o.htm

Pro globalisation

One of the best documents on the benefits of free trade is the OECD paper, *Open Markets Matter: The Benefits of Trade and Liberalisation*. There is a summary <http://www.oecd.org//ech/special.htm> while the full report may also be downloaded from the OECD Policy Brief index page. http://www.oecd.org//publications/pol_brief/index.htm

The US Senate Joint Economic Committee presents a concise (two-page) summary of the myths about free trade. <http://www.senate.gov/~jec/trade2.html>

The US Alliance for Trade Expansion is an organisation devoted to answering some of the criticisms raised by critics of globalisation. <http://www.us-trade.org/>

The Institute for International Economics has a good page of articles and speeches on globalisation and the WTO, particularly a short paper on the benefits of globalisation. <http://207.238.152.36/TESTMONY/spchglob.htm>

The WTO www.wto.org and the World Bank www.worldbank.org have some good resources on globalisation. Particularly valuable at the world bank is a series of relatively short briefing papers on assessing globalisation. <http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/pb/globalization/index.htm>

Non partisan resources

Global Trade Negotiations Home Page founded by Harvard Professor Dani Rodrik is probably the best site for academic papers on the WTO. <http://www.cid.harvard.edu/cidtrade/>

A website that keeps a fairly balanced set of resources, and constantly updated news on globalisation is the WTO Watch. <http://www.wtwatch.org/>

The impact of technology

Communications, ECommerce – overcoming the barriers of time & distance. B2B, B2C. A report prepared for the International Federation of Library Associations by Alfred Kagan on the Electronic Information Gap outlines issues of information richness and information poverty. <http://www.ifla.org/VII/dg/srdg/srdg5.htm#6>

Roberto Verzola, who is coordinator of Interdoc, a network of non-government organisations tracking the impact of the internet in developing countries and secretary of the Philippine Greens has written extensively on the subject. <http://www.nettime.org/nettime.w3archive/199803/msg00079.html>

The African Development Forum conducted a conference in 1999 on the challenge to Africa of Globalisation and the Information Age. Full documentation is available online. <http://www.bellanet.org/partners/aisi/adf99docs/infoeconomy.htm>

A report in the online journal devoted to internet issues, *First Monday*, examines how Thai culture has been preserved on the internet. http://www.firstmonday.dk/issues/issue5_8/hongladarom/index.html

The World Bank has compiled a report on the role of the technology in development http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/hnp/hddflash/workp/wp_00053.html

The United Nations agency, Unctad, has published a report, *Globalization, technology transfer and skill accumulation in Low-income countries* that may be downloaded from its website. <http://www.unctad.org/en/pub/pubframe.htm>

Environment

Environmental impact & prevention (early problems and policies which now improve environmental protection – responsible global citizenship in global economies.) The World Trade Organisation has a section of its web-site devoted to materials on trade and the environment, including a major study on the relationship between the two. http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_e.htm

The US Alliance for Trade Expansion presents a comprehensive rebuttal of assertions from the Ralph Nader related organisation, Public Citizen, that WTO rules restrict the ability of countries to manage their environment. <http://www.us-trade.org/WTOCover.htm>

The web-site of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development contains many publications and speeches on the business response to environmental challenges and globalisation. <http://www.wbcsd.ch>

Exporting for the Future: Globalisation and Overseas Trade

Austrade and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade are currently producing curriculum resources for middle and senior secondary school classes in Economics, Business Studies, Geography and Studies of Society & the Environment (SOSE/HSIE). They will comprise a full teaching program with teacher advice, key knowledge, teaching and learning activities and assessment tasks and will be available free to teachers in semester 2. The printed resources will also be supplemented by professional development opportunities and updated data and extension material on the Austrade Online web site, www.austrade.gov.au.

The following topics are indicative of the areas to be covered in the resources.

1 Nature of the global economy

- Globalisation – definition
- Historical processes
- Economics of international trade

2 Productivity & Competitiveness

- Opening markets
- Multinationals & transnationals
- The Australian government's role
- Trading bodies, agreements, etc
- The role of technology.

3 Impact of globalisation

- Reasons for globalisation
- Australia's standard of living
- New economy versus old economy
- Cultural understandings
- Environmental impact & prevention

4 Exporting and Enterprise

- Marketing products & services
- Steps towards exporting
- Case studies

To receive a personal copy of the resources and information about related professional development opportunities send your contact details to:

Leigh Derigo, Manager Education Programs, Austrade, GPO Box 2386, Canberra, ACT 2601

Fax: (02) 6201 7304, Telephone: (02) 6201 7430, Email: leigh.derigo@austrade.gov.au

