



Principles of Environmental Reviews of Trade Agreements

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EPA Training Module for Trading Partner Environmental Reviews

- **Module is designed to build capacity of U.S. trading partners to undertake environmental assessments of trade liberalization**
 - **Testing of 3-day module is scheduled for May and June 2004**
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Training Module Objective

- Assist trading partners in understanding environmental provisions of trade agreements
 - Two common provisions of U.S. trade agreements:
 - ▶ Effective enforcement of environmental laws
 - ▶ Striving for high levels of environmental protection
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Training Module Objective

- Assist trading partners in identifying environmental capacity needs
 - Undertaking trade-related environmental obligations rests in part on:
 - ▶ Environmental legal regimes
 - ▶ Environmental enforcement mechanisms
 - ▶ Good governance (ensuring public participation and transparency)
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Training Module Objective

- Providing trading partners with the opportunity to undertake assessments of natural resource and environmental issues





U.S. Trading Partners

- Many U.S. trading partners have completed environmental assessments of trade
 - The U.S. government seeks to expand and support those assessments through the training module
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Examples of U.S. Trading Partner Environmental Assessments

Planned or undertaken by the Organization of American States

 Completed


- ▶ Argentina
- ▶ Brazil
- ▶ Costa Rica
- ▶ Guatemala
- ▶ Paraguay
- ▶ Uruguay

 Planned

- ▶ Colombia
 - ▶ Ecuador
 - ▶ El Salvador
 - ▶ Honduras
 - ▶ Nicaragua
 - ▶ Peru
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Examples of U.S. Trading Partner Environmental Assessments

 *With U.S. government financial or technical assistance*

- ▶ Dominican Republic
- ▶ Jordan

 *Without U.S. government assistance*

- ▶ Canada
 - ▶ Morocco
 - ▶ Singapore
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EPA Goals

- Raise awareness of the linkages between trade and the environment
 - Show importance of integrating international commercial and environmental policies
 - Demonstrate value of engaging civil society – industries, academia and NGOs – in addressing environmental issues
 - Assist trading partners in identifying capacity building needs
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Approaches to Environmental Assessment of Trade Liberalization

- **The EPA training module emphasizes marginal impact analysis**
 - **Sustainability impact assessment is discussed**
 - **Key sectoral analysis is discussed**
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Creating a Framework for Environmental Assessments

Managing the environmental review process:

- ▶ Properly timing the review
 - ▶ Engaging stakeholders across government and civil society
 - ▶ Ensuring transparency
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Getting Started: Scoping

- The scoping phase for an environmental review has 3 components:
 - ▶ Identification of environmental issues associated with a trade agreement
 - ▶ Identification of potential environmental effects associated with those issues
 - ▶ Selection and prioritization of issues for additional review
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Analyzing Environmental Issues

- After scoping, significant issues must be analyzed. This begins with:
 - ▶ Deciding on qualitative and quantitative techniques that can be used
 - ▶ Summarizing the magnitude and potential importance of environmental impacts
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Addressing Environmental Impacts

- Environmental issues can be addressed:
 - ▶ Within trade negotiations
 - ▶ Through policy or regulatory measures
 - ▶ By entering into multilateral agreements
 - ▶ By entering into transboundary agreements
 - ▶ Through capacity building in targeted areas
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Disseminating Information

- **Preparing the environmental review report**
 - ▶ Collecting individual briefs
 - ▶ Synthesizing and summarizing key findings
 - ▶ Communicating information to trade negotiators
 - ▶ Providing a public record
 - ▶ Establishing a basis for future environmental programs
 - ▶ Identifying capacity building opportunities
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