



# **Linkages Non-Tariff Measures and SDGs**

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# Non-Tariff Measures

- **NTMs:** Policy measures, other than ordinary customs tariffs, that can *potentially* have an economic effect on international trade in goods, changing quantities traded, or prices or both
- Two broad categories:
  - Technical measures: SPS, TBT
  - Non-technical measures: Traditional trade policy measures: price and quantity measures, ...
- **Quality and safety effect:** certain NTMs protect human, animal and plant health, and environment
- **Trade effect:** NTMs impact trade and production costs and this has an impact on economic development, availability and affordability of products

# Potential positive links between trade and SDGs

Trade is an engine for economic growth and poverty reduction.	Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Trade is an engine for economic growth, income and agricultural production. Trade therefore affects access, availability and stability of food security.	Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Trade can provide opportunities for the economic empowerment of women.	Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Trade and global value chains are drivers for technological innovation and production of renewable energy sources.	Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Trade is an engine for economic growth and employment.	Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Trade is an engine for economic growth and industrialization.	Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Trade is an engine for economic growth. Trade-led growth in many developing countries has contributed to reduce inequality between countries.	Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
Trade is an engine for economic growth and key "means of implementation" for sustainable development.	Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

# Quality and safety effect

<p>NTMs in the shape of SPS measures and TBT are also directly linked to several pillars of food security. SPS measures protect the health of humans, animals and plants; including the protection of agricultural production from pests and diseases.</p>	<p>Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>
<p>NTMs/SPS measures are employed to protect human health from risks arising from additives, contaminants, toxins or disease causing organisms in food and drink. Codex Alimentarius provides recommendations for science-based SPS regulations. TBT also allow countries to regulate food for consumer protection, e.g. labelling of fat or sugar contents.</p> <p>Furthermore, NTMs/TBT regulate the safety of imported pharmaceutical products as well as any hazardous substances that may have an adverse effect on human health.</p>	<p>Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>
<p>NTMs apply to clean energy products in different ways. On the one hand, some countries use subsidies, often "feed-in tariffs", to promote the import and use of clean energy technologies. On the other hand, some apply local content requirements for these benefits, which may slow down the proliferation of clean energy sources. Furthermore, photovoltaic products have been subject to antidumping duties and WTO disputes.</p>	<p>Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p>
<p>NTMs/TBT enable countries to regulate production and imports of products that cause environmental damage.</p>	<p>Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p>

## *Protection effect, cont.*

<p>NTMs/TBT are employed to regulate production and trade with respect to carbon footprints, following the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. Trade restrictions of ozone-depleting substances and products through the Montreal Protocol also reduced global warming.</p>	<p>Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</p>
<p>A primary legitimate objective of NTMs/TBT is the protection of the environment. These measures comprise restrictions on the trade with hazardous substances or pollutants that could harm aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems. These trade restrictions are often related to multilateral agreements such as the London Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention or Stockholm Convention.</p> <p>Countries also restrict the trade of endangered flora and fauna through TBT, often following the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).</p> <p>SPS measures and TBT also protect ecosystems and biodiversity from pests and invasive species.</p>	<p>Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p>
	<p>Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p>

# *Coordination and global partnership*

All of the above direct linkages between NTMs and sustainable development show a strong need for global partnership and coordination.

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

# Non-Tariff Measures and SDGs

	Quality and safety effect	Trade effect	
	Social and environmental	Income / economic development	Product availability
Technical measures	Health protection, Food safety, Environment protection, ...  Intended effect	SPS, TBT can increase or decrease trade  Secondary effect (indirect, usually unintentional)	
Non-technical measures		Distorts trade by intention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normally negative</li> <li>• Subsidies can increase trade</li> <li>• Industrialisation (infant industry can be positive)</li> </ul>	

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# NTMs for Sustainable Development

