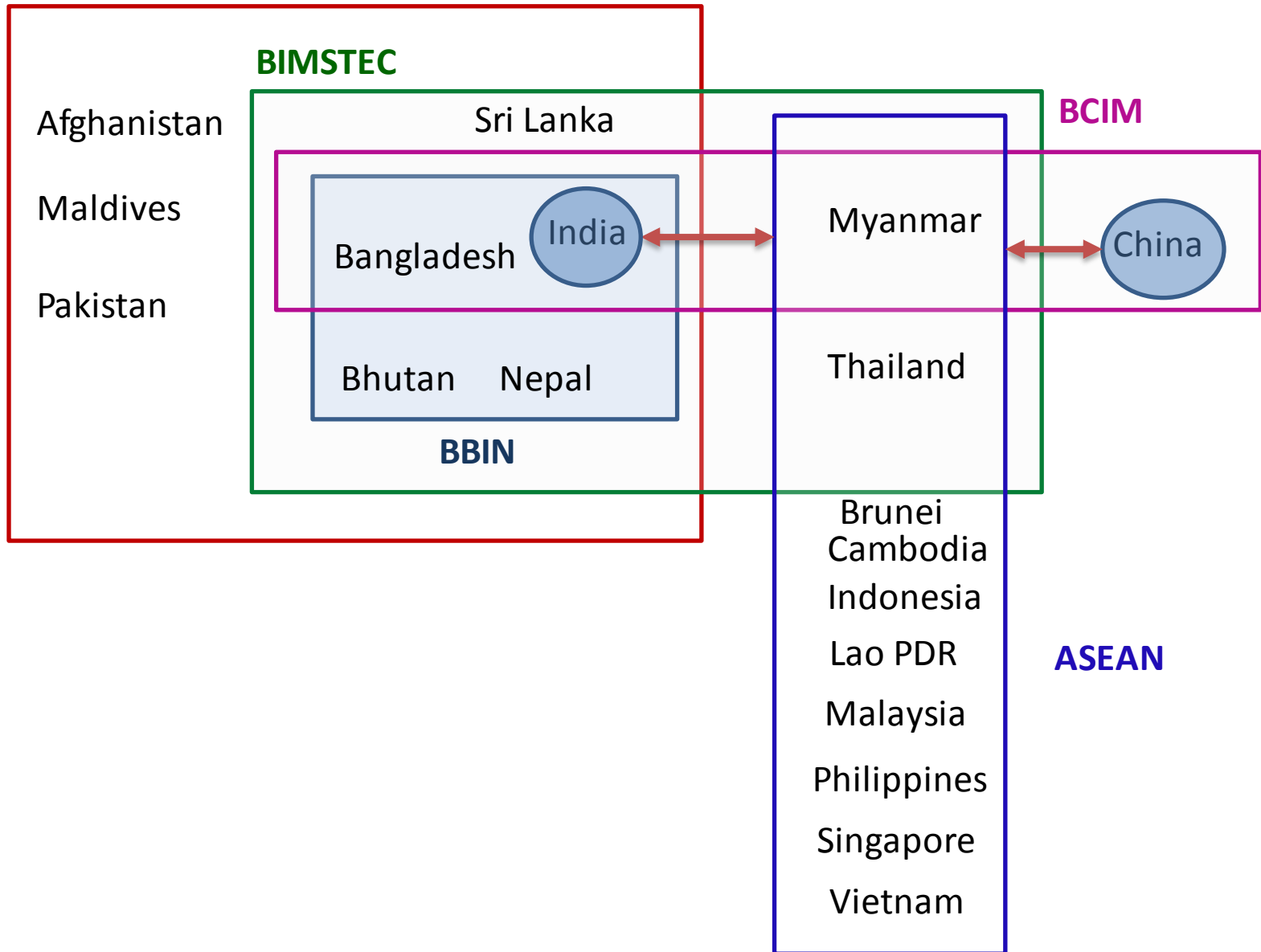


# **Myanmar in regional and subregional initiatives [ASEAN, BBIN, BCIM, BIMSTEC, SAARC]**

Prabir De  
RIS, New Delhi

10 May 2019

## SAARC



# Basic profile

	<b>BBIN</b>	<b>BCIM</b>	<b>BIMSTEC</b>	<b>SAARC</b>	<b>ASEAN</b>
<b>Location</b>	South Asia	South - South East Asia	South – South East Asia	South Asia	South East Asia
<b>Members</b>	4	4	7	8	10
<b>Year established</b>	1997	2013	1997	1985	1967
<b>FTA signed</b>	No	No	Yes*	Yes	Yes
<b>Investment agreement</b>	No	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Services Trade agreement</b>	No	No	Yes*	Yes**	Yes
<b>Connectivity projects</b>	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	Yes	Yes
<b>Energy exchange</b>	Yes*	No	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*
<b>Financial integration</b>	No	No	No	Yes*	Yes
<b>Secretariat</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

\*In part

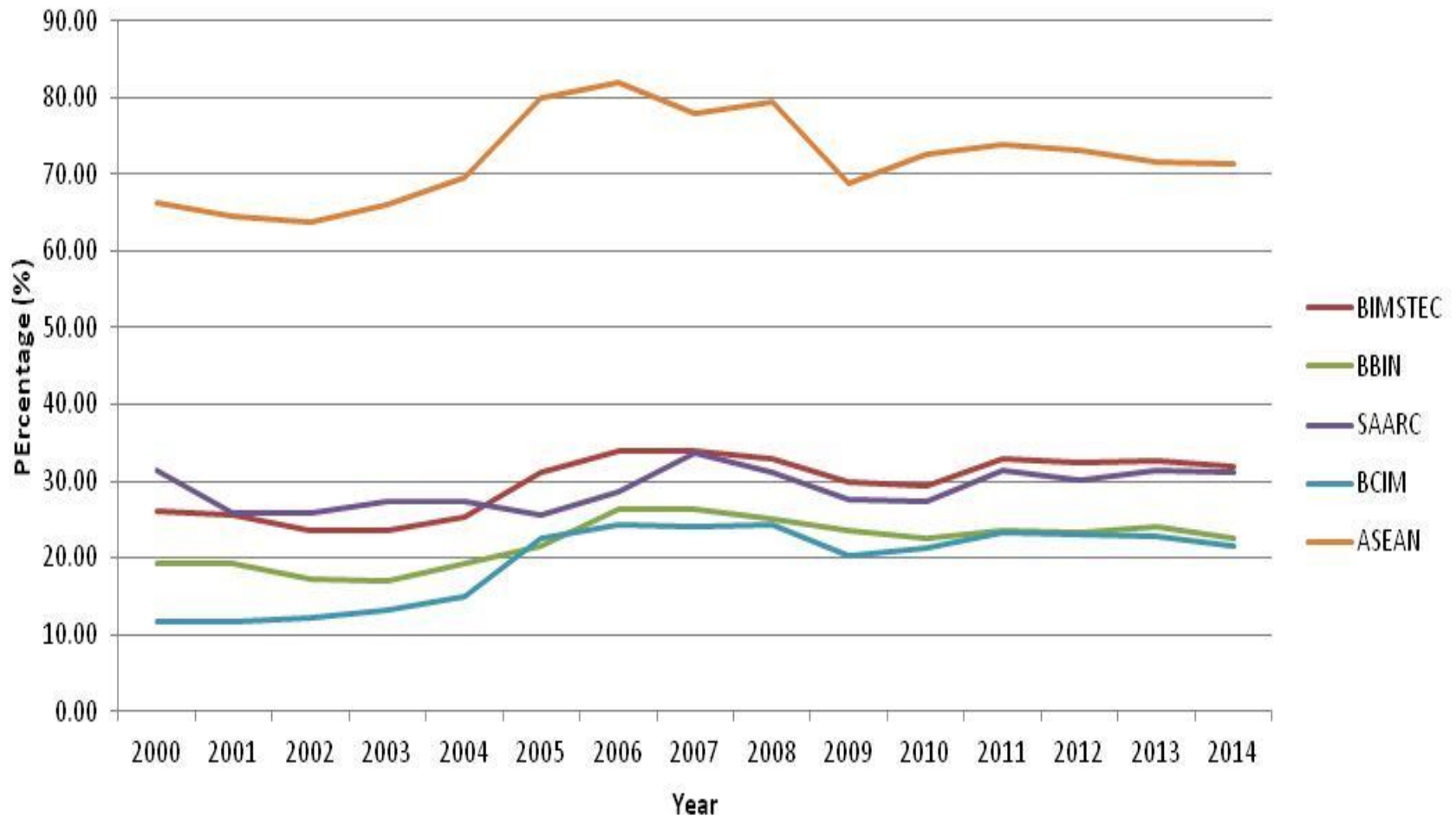
# Economic size, 2014

	<b>Total Population (billion)</b>	<b>GDP at Market Prices (Current trillion US\$)</b>	<b>GDP at PPP (trillion US\$)</b>	<b>FDI, net inflows (Current billion US\$)</b>	<b>FDI % of GDP</b>
<b>BIMSTEC</b>	1.625	2.791	9.250	42.444	7.845
<b>BBIN</b>	1.483	2.243	7.954	36.383	3.555
<b>SAARC</b>	1.721	2.589	9.141	39.517	17.591
<b>BCIM</b>	2.872	12.641	25.898	326.864	8.063
<b>ASEAN</b>	0.623	2.521	6.278	128.019	57.889

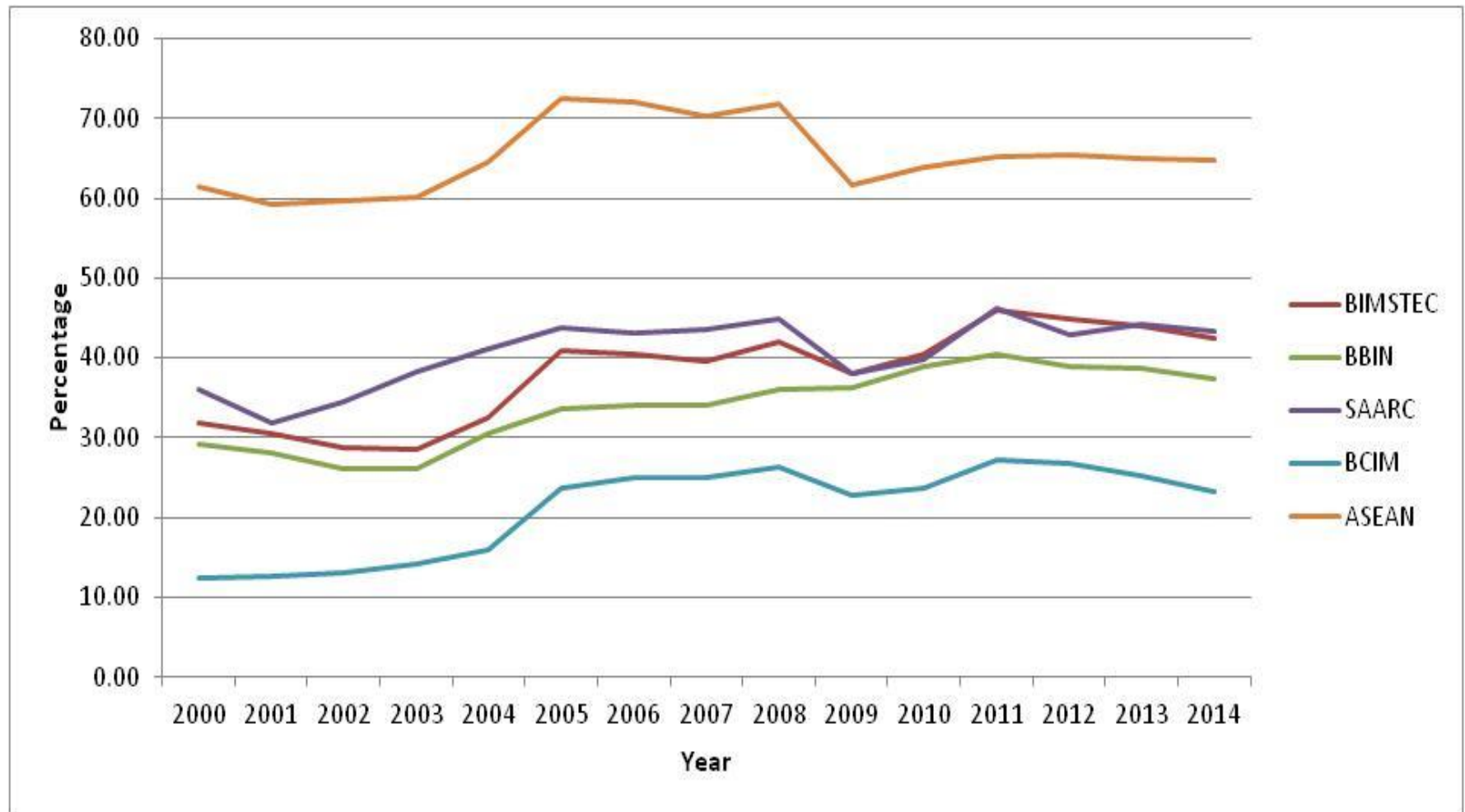
# Sectoral composition

	Agriculture	Industry	Services
	(% of GDP)		
BIMSTEC	17.36	30.52	52.12
BBIN	21.34	29.05	49.60
SAARC	18.21	26.11	55.68
BCIM	14.37	33.47	52.16
ASEAN	13.44	37.80	48.48

# Trends in exports of goods and services, % of GDP



# Trends in imports of goods and services, % of GDP



# SAFTA trade liberalization schedule

S. No.	FTA	Time	Tariff Reduction: 0-5%
1	NLDC to NLDC	3 Years	2015
2	Sri Lanka	6 Years	2018
3	LDC to all Contracting States	8 Years	2020
4	NLDC to LDC	3 Years	2015



# Myanmar's advantages

- Strategic position
- Coastline
- Being LDCs, higher scope of market access in developing and developed countries
- Linking two largest emerging economies, China and India

# Myanmar's disadvantages

- Smaller population size
- Missing institutions
- Inadequate capacity dealing binding commitments globally and regionally
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Narrow trade basket

# Conclusions

- Join SAARC as a member, access to growing South Asian market
- Build and strengthen institutions
- Facilitate cross-border production networks
- Encourage private sector investments in manufacturing and services trade
- Higher level of cooperation in education, tourism, transportation, etc.