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Survey on MSME/MSME-Related Provisions in APEC Economies' FTAs/RTAs

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Survey on MSME/MSME-related Provisions in APEC Economies' FTAs/RTAs

The Philippines led a proposal¹ on a survey on MSME/MSME-related provisions in APEC economies' FTAs/RTAs. Endorsed at CTI1 2018, the proposal aims to contribute to the implementation of the FTAAP MSME Work Programme led by the Philippines and Malaysia which was agreed in November 2017.

The goal is to take stock of existing MSME/MSME-related provisions in trade agreements of APEC economies. This will be a contribution to identifying convergences and divergences in APEC RTAs/FTAs as set out in the Lima Declaration on FTAAP. Consultations with economies started in April 2018 to identify the trade agreements to be covered in the survey, with some economies providing advanced inputs to the survey.

At CTI2, a list of the nominated/confirmed agreements² was tabled for economies' information. The Philippines conducted a second round of internal consultations in July 2018 with those economies that did not voluntarily provide inputs.

In 2018, Australia also undertook a Stocktake on NGeTI Elements on FTAs/RTAs³ in response to the Lima Declaration on FTAAP. The document serves as reference and guide for CTI discussions on future work on NGeTI issues. Specifically on MSMEs, the stocktake highlights that a forward agenda would be essential as interest in SME negotiations will likely grow in the coming years. The stocktake suggests for APEC to develop model provisions, particularly those areas that would impact MSMEs. This survey complements the stocktake and aims to reinforce further discussions within CTI on how to take forward the results, including on recommendations for meaningful capacity building on SME negotiations, towards realizing an eventual FTAAP.

General Observations from the Survey

- Provisions included in the survey (Table 1) as contributed and/or agreed by economies directly or explicitly make reference to SMEs, including micro businesses. It is however recognized that aside from these specific MSME-related provisions, many provisions in FTAs/RTAs also have significance for MSMEs although these do not make explicit reference to them. While the survey does not aim to provide an extensive and holistic view of MSME-related provisions in various trade agreements of APEC economies, it is acknowledged that there are various typologies within the interface of such agreements that may affect MSMEs.
- The chapter on cooperation is where the most common form of MSME-related provisions can be found in the agreements covered in the survey⁴. Most of these cooperation chapters contain broad commitment to promote a favorable environment for the development of MSMEs. In particular, it is evident from the agreements included in the survey that much of the cooperation chapter provisions list MSMEs as an area of cooperation. As noted by Monteiro (2016), although language and structure may vary, these provisions range from Parties recognizing the important role of SMEs to a number

¹ 2018/SOM1/CTI/021

² 2018/SOM2/CTI/010

³ 2018/SOM3/CTI/018

⁴ A total of 33 FTAs/RTAs were included in the survey.

of cooperative activities between Parties and to more specific cooperation clauses or actions.

- The scope of these MSME-cooperation provisions vary but usually address issues which are not limited to MSMEs. For example, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) mentions that cooperation and capacity building should involve the private sector, particularly SMEs requiring assistance in participating in global markets. The ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA) similarly explains that economic and technical cooperation may involve the private sector, including SMEs engaged in trade.
- In certain cases, trade agreements identified in the survey do not provide further elaboration and only list MSMEs as a general area of cooperation. For example, the Viet Nam-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement and the Philippines-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (PJEPA) identify SMEs as a field of cooperation in their respective cooperation chapters. The FTA between Thailand and Australia also specifies that Parties will establish cooperation in sectors that are not covered by existing cooperation arrangements through *inter alia*, SMEs capacity enhancement. The Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) has a separate Protocol on Industrial Cooperation annexed to the treaty. It does not contain a specific chapter on SMEs but briefly lists the involvement of “small and medium business” under an article.
- In other cases, other cooperation chapters specify forms of activities related to SMEs. For instance, the China-South Korea FTA includes a chapter on economic cooperation and covers SME-specific areas such as capacity building, information exchange, trade promotion networking, training and exchange programs for SMEs, among others. Similar to other agreements included in the survey, a broad range of cooperation activities are identified in the provisions, comprising information exchange, visits and experts/professionals exchange, as well as trade fairs and workshops. Other cooperation activities broadly mention promoting and facilitating investments, including joint ventures, between Parties’ SMEs.
- A few trade agreements such as the China-Chile FTA and the Mexico-Japan FTA include financial and/or technological support, as well as programs for SMEs as joint cooperative activities. The Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation signed in 2017 under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement outlines cooperation in key areas that detail certain cooperation measures. These include, for instance, financial cooperation for SMEs (e.g. overseas listing) and cooperation of SMEs (e.g. visits and information exchanges). Another chapter focuses on sub-regional economic and trade cooperation and contains a provision which specifies encouraging SMEs and youth to start their businesses in Pilot Free Trade Zones.
- Other trade agreements have cooperation provisions or clauses in a specific context. For instance, the free trade agreement between Chinese Taipei and Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras includes detailed MSME-related provisions in the chapters on e-commerce, cooperation, administration of the treaty and annexes to the chapters on government procurement and cooperation. The RTAs to which Japan is a party with Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Viet Nam also incorporate a relatively detailed provisions on SMEs. These RTAs further establish a joint committee, sub-committee or working group on SMEs in charge of, *inter alia*, reviewing and discussing issues concerning the chapter on cooperation on SMEs, exchanging views and information on the promotion of SME cooperation, as well as identifying and recommending avenues of further cooperation. Similarly, the CPTPP has a standalone chapter on SMEs and establishes a committee on SMEs which is tasked to assist SMEs to take advantage of

commercial opportunities under the CPTPP, sharing best practices and encouraging capacity building.

- In some cases, these provisions only refer to MSMEs that are limited to one sector. For instance, the Guatemala-Chinese Taipei FTA has cooperation provisions that consider SMEs operating in the tourism and the environment and natural resources sectors. The Thailand-Australia FTA also has a cooperation provision in the context of trade in services where Parties shall develop cooperation in sectors that are not covered by existing cooperation arrangements, through *inter alia* SME capacity enhancement.
- Based on the survey, in addition to general provisions on cooperation, specific areas that mentioned MSME provisions also emerged. These are further highlighted in the section below.

Government procurement

- The most common form of SME-related provisions on government procurement have as objective facilitating access of MSMEs to the government procurement market. For example, the trade agreements between the United States and Chile and United States and Peru specify that Parties shall cooperate in “efforts to increase understanding of their respective government procurement systems, with a view to maximizing access to government procurement opportunities for small business suppliers”. In both agreements, Parties agree on providing trade-related technical assistance including training of government personnel or interested suppliers on specific elements of each Party’s government procurement system. Similar language is found in the Mexico-Japan EPA which stipulates developing concrete measures such as training and orientation programs for government personnel and suppliers, and where special attention should be given to small businesses in each Party.
- Relatedly, more specific language appears in a provision included in the government procurement chapter between Peru and Australia which mentions that Parties shall endeavor “exchanging experiences and information, such as regulatory frameworks, best practices and statistics and developing and expanding the use of electronic means in government procurement systems.”
- Another form of MSME-related provisions on government procurement is language on recognizing the importance of SME participation in government procurement. For example, such provision is included in a specific article on SMEs in the government procurement chapter of the CPTPP and the Additional Protocol of the Pacific Alliance (PA), recognizing “the important contribution that SMEs can make to economic growth and employment and the importance of facilitating the participation of SMEs in government procurement”. On the PA, many of the government procurement provisions in the Additional Protocol are relatively similar to the ones found in the CPTPP. It also specifies transparency in providing preferential treatment for SMEs. It also refers to MSMEs in relation to developing cooperation on government procurement.
- The EAEU-Viet Nam FTA also highlights cooperation in “facilitating participation of suppliers in government procurement” with respect to SMEs. A related provision highlights the importance of business alliances between suppliers, particularly SMEs, including the joint participation in tendering procedures. For instance, this is included in an article under the Protocol of the PA.
- Of note, in further exploration of the CPTPP, language is included on establishing an institutional body dedicated to SMEs with the objective of facilitating activities related to

the promotion of SME participation in procurement opportunities of each Party's territory. Similarly, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the EU establishes a specific committee that would meet to discuss the promotion of joint activities to facilitate access for suppliers to government procurement opportunities. These bodies aim to facilitate the implementation of the respective government procurement chapter.

- Lastly, the Singapore-Costa Rica FTA has language in its government procurement chapter that aims to support and benefit SMEs, specifying the obligation of Parties to use government procurement in promoting industry development including measures to assist SMEs to gain access to the government procurement market.

E-commerce

- Among the most common provisions on electronic commerce included in the survey are in reference to explicitly recognizing or affirming the importance of SMEs. For example, both the Canada-Peru and Canada-South Korea FTAs specify facilitating the use of electronic commerce of SMEs. Both also explicitly affirm “working together to facilitate the use of electronic commerce of micro, small and medium sized enterprises”. Similarly, in several agreements, e-commerce provisions state for Parties to cooperate in overcoming obstacles faced by SMEs in the use of e-commerce. Examples of such provisions are found in the Japan-Australia EPA, the Turkey-Singapore FTA, and the United States-Chile FTA.
- A similar provision is found in the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA), but further specifies cooperation through research and training activities. In another case, the FTA between Viet Nam and Korea further specifies that both Parties endeavor to share information and experiences on laws and regulations relating to electronic commerce. Even more detailed indicative activities on e-commerce cooperation are found in the ECOTECH Work Programme of the AHKFTA.

Trade facilitation

- A few economies included SME-related provisions on trade facilitation in the survey, noting that this area takes into account the interest of SMEs. An example that utilizes firm language in the survey is the provision in the interim agreement between the European Union and Fiji (Papua New Guinea) which stipulates that procedures guaranteeing the right of appeal against customs and other administrative actions, rulings and decisions affecting imports, exports or goods in transit shall be easily accessible, including to SMEs.
- The Turkey-Singapore FTA states that customs procedures, particularly on advance rulings, should be clear and transparent, and should take into account the specific needs of SMEs.
- SME-related provisions on trade facilitation are also included as a topic of cooperation. For instance, under a specific article of the China-Chile FTA in its cooperation chapter, Parties will promote a favorable environment for the development of SMEs. Although the agreement does not explicitly list trade facilitation as a topic of cooperation on SMEs, it outlines several areas related to trade facilitation such as knowledge and good practices sharing that would promote partnership and productive chain linkage development; development of capacities to increase SMEs access to markets; development of training programs with experts; and promoting contacts between economic operators, among others, as part of cooperation activities for SMEs.

- Similar SME-related provisions are found in the CPTPP under its Competitiveness and Business Facilitation chapter. For instance, it specifies for Parties to provide advice and recommendations aimed at enhancing SME participation in regional supply chains and to promote seminars, workshops or other capacity building activities with appropriate experts, including private sector and international donor organizations.
- The ROO Chapter under the AHKFTA also stipulates that the Sub-Committee on ROO shall review the ROO Chapter with a view to enhancing the Chapter to encourage the development of SMEs and narrow development gaps, make it responsive to dynamic change to facilitate trade and investment among Parties, and promote a regional production network⁵.

Investment

- Based on the survey, provisions focused on investments that directly mention SMEs may vary in language, but are included under cooperation efforts. For instance, the FTA between Thailand and New Zealand stipulates in a specific article under its investment chapter that both Parties endeavor to strengthen and develop cooperation efforts in investment including for SMEs, particularly through capacity building. The bilateral trade agreements Japan signed with Malaysia and Mexico also include some detail on investment under its bilateral cooperation chapter. The agreements specify that cooperation may include promoting and facilitating investments, including joint ventures, between SMEs of the Parties.
- In terms of newer provisions related to MSMEs, the CETA between Canada and the European Union contains new types of SME-related provisions that encourage preferable treatment of SMEs during disputes between investors (a Party, a natural person or an enterprise of a Party) and states. These include holding consultations between disputing Parties via videoconference, sympathetic consideration to a request from a SME claimant investor, and consideration of reducing financial burden on SME claimants.

Intellectual property

- From the various agreements surveyed, a few of these FTAs/RTAs have some form of SME-related intellectual property provisions. For instance, relating to cooperation, the trade agreement between Thailand and Australia encourage the creation and development of intellectual property by inventors, creators, including SMEs.
- There are cases when direct mention of SMEs is dependent on where the specific provision is located in the trade agreement. For instance, the Peru-Australia FTA makes reference to intellectual property in its SME chapter as a separate article on information sharing, wherein both Parties agree to make information available online as regards regulations and procedures concerning intellectual property rights.

Summary

With these results, it is observed that provisions specific to MSMEs and those that explicitly mention MSMEs refer mainly to cooperation and are commonly housed in chapters on

⁵ It is also worthy to note that the other trade agreements included in the survey usually do not explicitly mention MSMEs in their respective ROO provisions; however, it is understood that these potentially impact MSMEs.

cooperation. The trade agreements that present these provisions do not follow a specific format or structure. These could vary ranging from making reference to cooperation on SMEs in a general manner, or identifying more specific elements such as government procurement, e-commerce, intellectual property, and trade facilitation. Relatively unique are the more recent mega trade agreements such as the CPTPP and the CETA between the EU and Canada which provide for newer ways of thinking towards SMEs in relation to provisions on government procurement, investment and transparency.

It may be noted that majority of the MSME-related provisions are framed in terms of a best endeavor approach. In addition, the level of detail in cooperation provisions also vary, from simple provisions to explicit language on Parties' obligations under a particular chapter. Some agreements, in particular the more recent ones, incorporate more explicit provisions in dedicated articles or in chapters on SMEs. In general terms, it can also be noted that improving the capacity of MSMEs to trade remains to be an important issue in such provisions. These are provided in obligations which call for information exchange/sharing, technical assistance, workshops and seminars, as well as programs that supports the development of MSMEs.

The survey shows the range of options for policymakers and trade negotiators to incorporate MSME-related provisions in FTAs/RTAs. Whether explicitly or broadly stated, the provisions address a host of members' objectives for their MSMEs, such as seeking to level the playing field, reducing the constraints faced by MSME traders and/or fostering better participation in international trade. A useful follow-up to this survey would be to study the effectiveness of the MSME provisions and to identify what provisions are most effective in addressing members' particular objectives.

Table 1. Survey on MSME/MSME-related Provisions in APEC Economies' FTAs/RTAs

As of 26 April 2019

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
Australia	Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement	15 Jan 2015	Chapter 3. Rules of Origin	Allows declarations of origin. An Origin Certification Document may be completed by an importer, an exporter or a producer, whereas many other FTAs only allow certificate of origin issued by an authorized body. Declarations of origin can reduce the administrative costs to businesses, particularly MSMEs. [Art. 3.16, Origin Certification Document]	http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/in-force/jaepa/full-text/Pages/full-text-of-jaepa.aspx
			Chapter 13. Electronic Commerce (<i>Cooperation</i>)	"3. The Parties shall cooperate to overcome obstacles encountered by small and medium enterprises in the use of electronic commerce." [Art. 13.10]	
Brunei	CPTPP (<i>see Canada</i>)				
Canada	Canada-Peru FTA	01 Aug 2009	Chapter 15. Electronic Commerce	"facilitating the use of electronic commerce of micro, small and medium sized enterprises." [Art. 1502, (d)]	http://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/peru-perou/fta-ale/index.aspx?lang=eng
				"working together to facilitate the use of electronic commerce of	

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				micro, small and medium sized enterprises" [Art. 1508, (d)]	
			Chapter 18. Trade-related Cooperation	"to promote sustainable economic development, with an emphasis on small and medium sized enterprises, in order to contribute to the reduction of poverty through trade" [Art. 1801, (d)]	
	Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) (European Union)	21 Sep 2017 (provisional application)	Joint Interpretive Instrument on the CETA between Canada and the European Union and its Member States	CETA also provides benefits to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for whom trying to meet the cost requirements of customers is a constant challenge. CETA will address this issue by: allowing virtually all manufactured goods to be exported duty-free; reducing processing times at the border and making the movement of goods cheaper, faster, more predictable and efficient; reducing regulatory hurdles, in particular with the possibility of having their products tested and certified to Canadian standards within the EU and vice versa; facilitating the movement of service providers such as contract suppliers, independent professionals, and short-term business visitors, so that SMEs can more easily meet	21 Sep 2017 (provisional application)

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				with clients and offer after-sales servicing; and greatly expanding access to government procurement opportunities for SMEs at the central, sub-central and local government levels. Small farmers will equally benefit by easier access to markets and better selling opportunities, including for distinctive quality products.	
			Chapter 8. Investment	The CETA Investment Chapter contains provisions that encourage preferable treatment of SMEs during disputes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consultations between disputing parties via videoconference [Art. 8.19.3]; • sympathetic consideration to a request from a SME claimant investor [Arts. 8.23.5, 8.27.9]; and • consideration of reducing financial burden on SME claimants. 	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/08.aspx?lang=eng
			Chapter 16. Electronic Commerce	“Considering the potential of electronic commerce as a social and economic development tool, the Parties recognise the importance of ... facilitating the use of electronic commerce by	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/16.aspx?lang=eng

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				small and medium-sized enterprises." [Art. 16.5.a]	
			Chapter 19. Government Procurement	<p>"The Committee on Government Procurement shall meet, upon request of a Party, to: [...] (d) consider the promotion of coordinated activities to facilitate access for suppliers to facilitate access for suppliers to procurement opportunities in the territory of each Party. These activities may include information sessions, in particular with a view to improving electronic access to publicly-available information on each Party's procurement regime, and initiatives to facilitate access for small and medium-sized enterprises." [Art. 19.19.2]</p> <p>"Any procurement qualifying for a derogation pursuant to this Note shall: i) be of a total value estimated at CAD\$ one million, or less; and ii) support small firms or employment opportunities in non-urban areas. [Annex 19-A, General Notes, 4]</p>	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/19.aspx?lang=eng
	Comprehensive and Progressive	30 Dec 2018	Chapter 24. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises	Standalone chapter on SMEs that promotes information sharing between Parties, as well as	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
	Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) (Australia, Brunei, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam)			establishes committee on SMEs to assist SMEs to take advantage of commercial opportunities under the CPTPP Agreement, sharing best practices and encouraging capacity building.	accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tp/tp/text-texte/24.aspx?lang=eng
			Chapter 15. Government Procurement (<i>Facilitation of Participation by SMEs</i>)	<p>“The Parties recognise the important contribution that SMEs can make to economic growth and employment and the importance of facilitating the participation of SMEs in government procurement.</p> <p>2. If a Party maintains a measure that provides preferential treatment for SMEs, the Party shall ensure that the measure, including the criteria for eligibility, is transparent.</p> <p>3. To facilitate participation by SMEs in covered procurement, each Party shall, to the extent possible and if appropriate: (a) provide comprehensive procurement-related information that includes a definition of SMEs in a single electronic portal;</p>	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tp/tp/text-texte/15.aspx?lang=eng

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				(b) endeavour to make all tender documentation available free of charge; (c) conduct procurement by electronic means or through other new information and communication technologies; and (d) consider the size, design and structure of the procurement, including the use of subcontracting by SMEs." [Art. 15.21]	
			Chapter 21. Cooperation and Capacity Building	"The Parties also recognise that the involvement of the private sector is important in these activities, and that SMEs may require assistance in participating in global markets." [Art. 21.1 (3)]	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tppt/text-texte/21.aspx?lang=eng
			Chapter 22. Competitiveness and Business Facilitation	"provide advice and recommendations to the Commission on ways to further enhance the competitiveness of the Parties' economies, including recommendations aimed at enhancing the participation of SMEs in regional supply chains;" [Art. 22.2, (3c)] "The Committee shall develop recommendations and promote seminars, workshops or other	http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/tpp-tppt/text-texte/22.aspx?lang=eng

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				capacity building activities with appropriate experts, including private sector and international donor organisations, to assist participation by SMEs in supply chains in the free trade area.” [Art. 22.3.2]	
Chile	CPTPP (see <i>Canada</i>)				
	Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru) *Commercial Protocol	28 Apr 2011 (date established)	Chapter 8. Government Procurement	PA Additional Protocol does not include a specific chapter on SMEs. However, participation of SMEs in government procurement is covered as provided by Article 8.21 of such Protocol.	http://www.sice.oas.org/Trade/PAC_ALL/Pacific_Alliance_Text_s.asp#c8_a8_21
China	China-South Korea FTA	20 Dec 2015	Chapter 17. Economic Cooperation (Section C: Industrial Cooperation)	<p>“1. The Parties shall endeavor to promote a favorable environment for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (hereinafter referred to as the “SMEs”).</p> <p>2. The Parties will cooperate in the field of SMEs by encouraging relevant private and governmental bodies to build capacities of SMEs, including utilizing existing bilateral Small and Medium Business Policy Exchange</p>	http://fta.mofcom.gov.cn/korea/annex/xdzw_en.pdf

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				<p>Committee Mechanism, established by the relevant or competent authorities of the Parties.</p> <p>3. Areas of SMEs cooperation may include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <p>(a) facilitating the investment flows between SMEs of the Parties;</p> <p>(b) fostering more exchange of information on trade procedures, trade promotion networks, joint business fora, business cooperation instruments, and any other relevant statistics and information for traders who are SMEs;</p> <p>(c) promoting training and exchange programs for small and medium-sized enterprises traders of the Parties, and exploring promising fields suitable for inter-governmental cooperation on SMEs;</p> <p>(d) enhancing exchange of experiences between the public</p>	

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				<p>agencies of the Parties on initiatives and policy instruments for the development of enterprises, with a special focus on SMEs; and</p> <p>(e) enhancing competitiveness of micro enterprise through cooperation of private and governmental bodies and exchange of information related with micro enterprise.” [Art. 17.9; Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Cooperation]</p>	
	China-Chile FTA	01 Oct 2006 (upgraded FTA signed on 11 Nov 2017)	Chapter 13. Cooperation	<p>“1. The Parties will promote a favorable environment for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).</p> <p>2. Cooperation shall be oriented to share knowledge and good practices with SMEs. These practices should promote partnership and productive chain linkage development, downstream and upstream oriented, to improve SMEs productivity, development of capacities to increase SMEs access to markets, integrate</p>	http://fta.mofcom.gov.cn/chile/xieyi/freetradexieding2.pdf

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				<p>technology to labor intensive processes and human resources development to increase their knowledge about Chinese and Chilean markets.</p> <p>3. Co-operation shall be developed, among other activities, through: (a) information exchange; (b) conferences, seminars, experts dialogue and training programs with experts; and (c) promoting contacts between economic operators, encouraging prospecting for industrial and technical opportunities;</p> <p>4. Co-operation shall include, among other subjects: (a) designing and develop mechanisms to encourage partnership and productive chain linkage development; (b) defining and develop methods and strategies for clusters development; (c) increasing access to information regarding mandatory procedures and any other</p>	

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				<p>relevant information for an SME exporter;</p> <p>(d) defining technological transference: programs oriented to transfer technological innovation to SMEs and to improve their productivity;</p> <p>(e) increasing access to information on technological promotion programs for SMEs and financial support and encouragement programs for SMEs;</p> <p>(f) supporting new exporting SMEs (sponsorship, exporters club); and</p> <p>(g) identifying specific areas subject to potential improvement.”</p> <p>[Art. 109: Small and Medium-sized Enterprises]</p>	
Hong Kong, China	Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement	29 Jun 2003 (Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) signed on 28 Jun 2017)	Agreement on ECOTECH (Chapter 4. Cooperation in Key Areas)	“The Mainland shall further streamline the relevant requirements for overseas listing of Mainland enterprises, so as to support qualified Mainland enterprises that satisfy Hong Kong’s listing requirements to get listed in Hong Kong, and create favourable conditions for	https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/legaltext/files/cepa15_main.pdf

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				<p>Mainland enterprises, especially small and medium enterprises, to raise capital through direct listing in overseas markets." [Art. 5, 7]</p> <p>The two sides agree to adopt the following measures with a view to further strengthening exchanges and cooperation between small and medium enterprises of the two places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jointly explore the strategy and support policy for the development of small and medium enterprises through visits and exchanges. 2. Organise visits and exchanges on the organisational and operational modes of the intermediaries providing services to small and medium enterprises in the two places, and promote cooperation of the intermediaries. 3. Establish channels for providing information services to small and medium enterprises in the two places, exchange regularly relevant publications, implement progressively information interchange and the interconnection of information 	

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				<p>website databases of the two sides.</p> <p>4. Organise through different modes direct exchanges and communication between small and medium enterprises of the two places to promote their cooperation.</p> <p>5. Support and assist semi-official and non-official organisations to play a part in promoting cooperation between small and medium enterprises of the two places.” [Art. 15]</p>	
			Agreement on ECOTECH (Chapter 5. Sub-Regional Economic and Trade Cooperation)	“The two sides encourage Hong Kong micro, small and medium enterprises and youth to start their businesses in the Pilot Free Trade Zones.” [Art. 20, 3]	https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/legaltext/files/cepa15_main.pdf
	ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA)	12 Nov 2017	Chapter 3. Rules of Origin	<p>“The functions of the Sub-Committee on Rules of Origin shall be to:</p> <p>(a) monitor the implementation and operation of this Chapter;</p> <p>(b) review, as and when necessary, this Chapter to provide appropriate recommendations with the view to enhancing this Chapter to make it</p>	https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/ita/fta/hkasean/text_agreement.html

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				responsive to the dynamic changes in the regional and global production processes so as to facilitate trade and investment among Parties, promote a regional production network, encourage the development of Small and Medium Enterprises and narrow the development gaps;” [Art. 17, 2]	
			Chapter 9. Economic and Technical Co-operation	“2. The economic and technical co-operation under this Chapter shall aim, inter alia, at: [...] (b) creating new opportunities for trade and investment and promoting competitiveness and innovation through the involvement, where appropriate, of the private sector including the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by, inter alia, facilitating the integration of SMEs into Global Value Chains, and encouraging SMEs to organise or participate in trade promotion events;” [Art.1; 2(b)]	https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/ita/fta/hkasean/text_agreement.html
			ECOTECH Work Programme Pursuant to Chapter 9	“The Parties noted the discussions at the 4th SEOM Hong Kong, China Consultations conducted on 1 July 2016, and agreed to conduct the following	https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/ita/fta/hkasean/files/ECOTECH_Work_Programme.pdf

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				<p>ECOTECH activities in pursuit of their mutual benefits subject to their respective laws and regulations:</p> <p>... ..</p> <p>(c) Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Co-operation Programmes will be organized to facilitate networking and closer partnership with the business community.</p> <p>Indicative Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - exhibitions and thematic seminars and networking events for SMEs, including raising awareness of competition laws in the region, technical assistance on specific specialty; and - trade and investment promotion missions to ASEAN Member States and/or Hong Kong, China to identify investment, business and networking opportunities. <p>... ..</p> <p>e) E-commerce Co-operation Programmes will be organized to provide capacity building opportunities for SMEs as well as policymakers on SMEs on the benefits and latest development in e-commerce.</p>	

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				<p>Indicative Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - trade promotional activities on products and solutions in information, communication and technologies; - thematic symposiums and/or workshops on digital development and e-commerce; - workshop/seminar to share experiences on good practices with regard to e-commerce promotion, legislation and regulation, policies and guidelines; and - feasibility study on support to the SMEs and startup companies in e-commerce.” [Art. 7] 	
Indonesia	ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA)	01 Jan 2010	Chapter 10. Electronic Commerce	<p>Recognising the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties shall encourage co-operation in research and training activities that would enhance the development of electronic commerce. These co-operative research and training activities may include, but are not limited to: [...] (b) “assisting small and medium enterprises to overcome obstacles encountered in the use of electronic commerce” [Art. 9, (1b)]</p>	http://www.asean.org/wp-content/uploads/images/archive/22260.pdf

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Japan	CPTPP (<i>see Canada</i>)				
	Japan-Australia EPA (<i>see Australia</i>)				
	Japan-Vietnam EPA (<i>see Vietnam</i>)				
	Philippines-Japan EPA (<i>see the Philippines</i>)				
	Malaysia-Japan EPA (<i>see Malaysia</i>)				
	Mexico-Japan EPA (<i>see Mexico</i>)				
Korea	Vietnam-Korea FTA	20 Dec 2015	Chapter 10. Electronic Commerce	“The Parties shall endeavor to share information and experiences on laws and regulations relating to electronic commerce and to assist small and medium enterprises to overcome the obstacles encountered in the use of electronic commerce.” [Art. 10.8 (2)]	http://www.investkorea.org/en/fta/fta_vietnam02.do
			Chapter 13. Economic Cooperation	“The Parties, on the basis of mutual benefit, shall explore and undertake cooperative activities... 5. Other sectors may include:	

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				(a) supporting policy for small and medium-sized enterprises; [...]" [Art. 13.2, 5a]	
	China-South Korea FTA <i>(see China)</i>				
	Canada-South Korea FTA	01 Jan 2015	Chapter 13. Electronic Commerce	<p>"2. Considering the potential of electronic commerce as a social and economic development tool, the Parties recognise the importance of: [...] (e) facilitating the use of electronic commerce of small- and medium-sized enterprises and developing countries" ... [Art. 13.2, 2.(e)]</p> <p>"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 [...]" [Art. 13.7,(a)]</p>	http://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/korea-coree/fta-ale/13.aspx?lang=eng
Malaysia	Malaysia-Australia FTA	01 Jan 2013	Chapter 16. Economic and Technical Cooperation	"3. The Parties may include the following other areas of cooperation: [...] (j) small and medium enterprises" [Art. 16.2, 3j]	http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/in-force/mafta/Documents/Malaysia-Australia-Free-Trade-Agreement.pdf
	Malaysia-Japan EPA	13 Jul 2006	Chapter 12. Cooperation	"The fields of co-operation under this Chapter shall	http://fta.miti.gov.my/miti-fta/resources/auto%20download%20images/55894af110378.pdf

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				include: [...] (e) small and medium enterprises [...] [Art. 140, (e)]	
	CPTPP (see Canada)				
Mexico	Mexico-Japan EPA	01 Apr 2005	Chapter 11. Government Procurement	“3. The Parties shall cooperate, on mutually agreed terms, to increase understanding of their respective government procurement systems, with a view to maximizing for the suppliers of both Parties the access to their respective government procurement market. For this purpose, each Party shall develop and implement, within one year after the entry into force of this Agreement, concrete measures for the cooperation, which may include training and orientation programs for government personnel or interested suppliers regarding such aspects as how to identify government procurement opportunities and how to participate in the respective government procurement markets. In developing such measures, special attention should be given to small	http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/latin/mexico/agreement/agreement.pdf

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			Chapter 14. Bilateral Cooperation (Cooperation in the Field of Supporting Industries)	<p>businesses in each Party.” [Art. 127, 3]</p> <p>“The Parties shall cooperate in promoting the development of supporting industries of both Parties with a view to improving the business environment and to promoting bilateral trade and investment. Such cooperation includes encouraging appropriate entities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) assist private enterprises of either Party to enter supporting industries’ market of the other Party through direct investment or joint ventures; (b) assist private enterprises of supporting industries to establish their business ties with other private enterprises of supporting industries, as well as final goods suppliers; (c) assist actual or potential private enterprises of supporting industries through financial and technological support; and (d) Exchange experts and information on best practices and methodologies for the 	

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				development of supporting industries." [Art. 140]	
			Chapter 14. Bilateral Cooperation (Cooperation in the Field of Small and Medium Enterprises)	"The Parties shall cooperate in promoting the development of small and medium enterprises of both Parties (hereinafter referred to in this Article as "SMEs") in order to maintain the dynamism of their respective economies and promote favorable environment for bilateral trade and investment. Such cooperation may include: (a) exchange of information on SMEs policies for: (i) strengthening competitiveness of SMEs; (ii) assisting SMEs to startup businesses; and (iii) promoting entrepreneurial networks of SMEs; (b) encouragement of establishment of networks among appropriate entities of both Parties that provide assistance to SMEs; and (c) encouragement of the exchange of experts on the development of SMEs." [Art. 141]	
	Pacific Alliance (see Chile)				
	CPTPP (see Canada)				

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New Zealand	Malaysia-New Zealand FTA	01 Aug 2010	Chapter 13. Economic Cooperation	“[...] Other areas of cooperation for possible implementation can be identified and discussed by the Economic Cooperation Committee including, but not limited to: [...] (g) small and medium scale industries.” [Art. 13.2.1; (g)]	https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/FTAs-agreements-in-force/Malaysia/mnzfta-text-of-agreement.pdf
	AANZFTA (see <i>Indonesia</i>)				
	CPTPP (see <i>Canada</i>)				
Papua New Guinea	European Union - Fiji Interim EPA	20 Dec 2009	Chapter 4. Customs and Trade Facilitation	“5. In order to improve working methods, as well as to ensure non-discrimination, transparency, efficiency, integrity and accountability of operations, the Parties or the Pacific States, as the case may be, shall: (a) provide effective, prompt and non-discriminatory procedures enabling the right of appeal against customs and other agency administrative actions, rulings and decisions affecting imports, exports or goods in transit. Procedures for appeal shall be easily accessible, including to small or medium enterprises and any costs shall be	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1399391908038&uri=CELEX:22009A1016(01)

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				reasonable and commensurate with costs in providing for appeals” [Art. 28, 5a]	
Peru	Pacific Alliance (see Chile)				
	Peru-Australia FTA	12 February 2018	Chapter 23: Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises	<p>Note: SMEs, government procurement, regulatory coherence, cooperation, development and competitiveness and business facilitation chapters. Regarding the SMEs provisions, this agreement is similar to the CPTPP, but it includes even more provisions.</p> <p>1. The Parties acknowledge the importance of promoting an environment that facilitates and supports the development, growth and competitiveness of SMEs, recognising their participation in domestic markets as well as in international trade, and their contribution in achieving inclusive economic growth, sustainable development and enhanced productivity.</p> <p>2. The Parties recognise the importance of current initiatives, efforts and work on SMEs developed under the aegis of the OECD, WTO, APEC and any</p>	http://www.acuerdoscomerciales.gob.pe/images/stories/Australia/documentos/Capitulos/23_SMEs.pdf

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				<p>other relevant fora, and in taking into account their findings and recommendations, where appropriate.</p> <p>3. The Parties also recognise the relevance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. working cooperatively to achieve progress in reducing barriers to SMEs' access to international markets; b. considering the needs of SMEs when formulating new legislation, regulation and product standards; and c. assessing the effects of globalisation on SMEs and, in particular, examining issues related to SMEs' access to financing and to support for innovation. <p>[Art. 23.1 General Provision text]</p> <p>"1. Each Party shall establish or maintain its own publicly accessible website containing information regarding this Agreement, including:</p>	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the text of this Agreement, including all Annexes, tariff schedules and product specific rules of origin; b. a summary of this Agreement; and c. information designed for SMEs that contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. a description of the provisions in this Agreement that the Party considers to be relevant to SMEs; and ii. any additional information that the Party considers useful for SMEs interested in benefitting from the opportunities provided by this Agreement. <p>2. Each Party shall include in its website links to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the equivalent website of the other Party; and b. the websites of its government agencies and other appropriate entities that provide information the Party considers useful 	

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				<p>to any person interested in trading, investing or doing business in that Party's territory.</p> <p>3. Subject to each Party's laws and regulations, the information described in paragraph 2(b) may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. customs regulations and procedures; b. regulations and procedures concerning intellectual property rights; c. technical regulations, standards, and sanitary and phytosanitary measures relating to importation and exportation; d. foreign investment regulations; e. business registration procedures; f. employment regulations; and g. taxation information. <p>4. Each Party shall regularly review the information and links on the website referred to in</p>	

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				<p>paragraphs 1 and 2 to ensure that such information and links are up-to-date and accurate.” [Art. 23.2 Information Sharing]</p> <p>1. Each Party shall designate and notify a contact point on SMEs, to facilitate communications between the Parties on any matter covered by this Chapter.</p> <p>2. Where appropriate, the contact points shall facilitate the coordination of meetings between government representatives of each Party to address any matter covered by this Chapter.</p> <p>3. The Parties shall, to the extent possible:</p> <p>a. discuss ways to assist SMEs of the Parties to take advantage of the commercial opportunities under this Agreement, including but not limited to, considering ways to develop mechanisms in order to foster partnerships and the</p>	

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				<p>development of productive chains;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. exchange and discuss each Party's experiences and best practices in supporting and assisting SME exporters with respect to, among other things, training programmes, trade education, trade finance, identifying commercial partners between the Parties and establishing good business credentials; c. facilitate access to trade promotion networks, business fora, business cooperation instruments, and any other relevant information for SME exporters; d. promote seminars, workshops or other activities to inform SMEs of the benefits available to them under this Agreement; 	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. explore opportunities for capacity building to assist each Party in developing and enhancing SME export counselling, assistance and training programmes; f. explore opportunities for the development of programmes to assist SMEs to participate and integrate effectively into the global supply chain; g. exchange information to assist in monitoring the implementation of this Agreement as it relates to SMEs; h. facilitate provision of recommendations to the Joint Commission; and i. consider any other matter pertaining to SMEs, including any issues raised by SMEs regarding their ability to benefit from this Agreement. <p>4. The Parties may seek to collaborate with appropriate</p>	

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				experts and international donor organisations in carrying out their programmes and activities. [Art. 23.3, Activities and Contact Points on SMEs]	
				“Neither Party shall have recourse to dispute settlement under Chapter 27 (Dispute Settlement) for any matter arising under this Chapter.” [Art. 23.4, Non-Application of Dispute Settlement]	
	Peru-China FTA	01 Mar 2010	Chapter 12. Cooperation	<p>1. The Parties will promote a favourable environment for the development of the small and medium enterprises (SME) on the basis of strengthening of the relevant private and governmental bodies, as well as the exchange of experiences and good practices with the SME.</p> <p>2. Cooperation shall include, among other subjects:</p> <p>(a) the designing and development of mechanisms to encourage partnership and productive chain linkage development;</p> <p>(b) development of human resources and management skills</p>	http://www.acuerdoscomerciales.gob.pe/images/stories/china/ingles/12_Cooperacion_ingles.pdf

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				<p>to increase the knowledge of the Peruvian and Chinese markets;</p> <p>(c) defining and developing methods and strategies for clusters development;</p> <p>(d) increasing access to information regarding mandatory procedures and any other relevant information for an SME exporter;</p> <p>(e) defining technological transference: programs oriented to transfer technological innovation to SME and to improve their productivity;</p> <p>(f) increasing access to information on technological promotion programs for SME and financial support and encouragement programs for SME;</p> <p>(g) supporting new exporting SME (sponsorship, credits and guarantees, seed capital); and</p> <p>(h) encouraging partnership and information exchange for SME financing institutions (credits, banks, guarantee organizations, seed capital firms).</p>	

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				3. Cooperation shall be developed, among other activities, through: (a) information exchange; (b) conferences, seminars, experts dialogue and training programs with experts; and (c) promoting contacts between economic operators, encouraging opportunities for industrial and technical prospecting. [Art. 155]	
the Philippines	AANZFTA (see Indonesia)				
	Philippines-Japan EPA	11 Dec 2008	Chapter 14. Cooperation	“The Parties shall promote cooperation under this Agreement for their mutual benefits in order to facilitate and liberalize trade and investment between the Parties in order to assist development goals and to promote the wellbeing of the peoples of the Parties.” [Art. 144 (g)]	http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/philippine/epa0609/main.pdf
Russia	Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan,	01 Jan 2015	Regulation of Procurement	“In cases established by the procurement legislation of the member State for the procurement could be established benefits for institutions and enterprises of criminal-executive system,	https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/acc_e/kaz_e/WTACCKAZ85_LEG_1.pdf

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	Kyrgyzstan, Russia			<p>organizations of disabled persons, small and medium-sized businesses, as well as for socially-oriented non-profit organizations.</p> <p>[Annex 25 to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union/Protocol on Regulation of Procurement, V. Ensuring measures to improve the efficiency of procurement and implementation aimed at social functions, para. 40]</p>	
			Industrial Cooperation	<p>“Authorities of the <Eurasian Economic> Commission within the consultative assistance and coordination of member States’ activities by the main directions of industrial cooperation within the framework of the EAEU shall be consist in:</p> <p>1) assistance in: involvement in industrial cooperation of member States’ small and medium business [Annex 27 to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union/ Protocol on Industrial Cooperation, para.2]</p>	
	EAEU-Vietnam	05 Oct 2016	Chapter. 10 Government Procurement	<p>“The Parties shall endeavour to cooperate in the following: a) facilitating participation of</p>	http://www.eurasiancommission.org/ru/act/trade/dotp/sogl_torg/Documents/EAEU-VN_FTA.pdf

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				suppliers in government procurement, in particular, with respect to small and medium enterprises" [Art. 10.1, para. 5(a)]	
Singapore	Singapore-Turkey FTA	01 Oct 2017	Chapter 6. Customs and Trade Facilitation	"... To the extent possible, such requirements shall not restrict the categories of persons eligible to apply for advance rulings, with particular consideration for the specific needs of small and medium-sized enterprises. These requirements shall be clear and transparent and not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination." [Annex 6-A, Art. 3.9 (d); Advance Rulings]	https://ie.enterprisesg.gov.sg/Trade-From-Singapore/International-Agreements/free-trade-agreements/TRSFTA
				"Such criteria shall not to the extent possible, restrict the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises." [Annex 6-A, Art. 7.2 (b) (ii); Trade Facilitation Measures for Authorized Operators]	
			Chapter 9. Electronic Commerce	"Recognising the global and interconnected nature of electronic commerce, the Parties shall endeavour to: (a) work together to assist small and medium enterprises to overcome obstacles encountered in the use	

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				of electronic commerce.” [Art. 9.9, (a)]	
	Singapore-Costa Rica FTA	01 Jul 2013	Chapter 8. Government Procurement	“Nothing in this Chapter shall prevent the Parties from using government procurement to promote industry development including measures to assist small and medium enterprises (SMEs) within their territory to gain access to the government procurement market.” [Art. 8.3, 7]	https://www.iesingapore.gov.sg/~media/IE%20Singapore/Files/FTA/Non%20Priority%20FTAs/Singapore%20Coasta%20Rica%20FTA/Legal%20Text/Costa20Rica20SCRFTA20Legal20Text.pdf
Chapter 12. Electronic Commerce (Cooperation)			“Recognizing the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties shall encourage cooperative activities to promote it. The areas of cooperation may include the following: (a) promoting and facilitating the use of electronic commerce by small and medium sized enterprises [...]” [Art. 12.6 (a)]		
Chapter 14. Cooperation, Promotion and Enhancement of Trade Relations			“In this Chapter, priority shall be given to the following objectives: [...] (g) increasing the export capacity of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)” [Art. 14.2 (g)]		
			“1. The Parties shall support the enhancement of SMEs’ competitiveness and their		

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				<p>insertion in the international markets on the basis of strengthening their productive capabilities.</p> <p>2. Cooperation shall include, among others, activities to:</p> <p>(a) design and execute mechanisms to encourage partnerships and development of productive linkages; and</p> <p>(b) develop SMEs' competitiveness through the exchange of information between the relevant institutions of both Parties and such other mechanisms as may be agreed by these institutions." [Art. 14.3]</p>	
	CPTPP (see <i>Chile</i>)				
Chinese Taipei	El Salvador-Honduras-Chinese Taipei FTA	01 Mar 2008	Chapter 17. Cooperation (Specific Purposes)	"The specific purposes of this Chapter are the following: [...] (d) promote a propitious environment for the development of micro, small, and medium enterprises, and for the development of exportable offer." [Art. 17.02 (d)]	https://www.trade.gov.tw/english/Pages/Detail.aspx?nodeID=678&pid=321567&dl_DateRange=all&txt_SID=&txt_ED=&txt_Keyword=&Pageid=0

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			Chapter 17. Cooperation (Cooperation in the Micro, Small-and- Medium Enterprises Sector)	“2. This cooperation will focus on the following: [...] (b) support research and studies that extend, promote, and facilitate the financing and operating of programs and projects for the development of competitiveness of the micro, small-and-medium enterprises, with the purpose of increasing the commercial trade [...]” [Art. 17.06, 2(b)]	
			Chapter 17. Cooperation (Cooperation in the Matter of Tourism)	“2. For the purposes of this Article, the Parties will focus particularly on the following: [...] (h) support for the commercial promotion agreed by the Parties for the micro, small-and-medium enterprises in the tourism sector [...]” [Art. 17.08, 2 (h)]	
			Chapter 17. Cooperation (Cooperation in the Matter of Quality, Productivity, Innovation, and Technological Development)	“Each Party shall promote the cooperation to improve the institutional capacities and the competitiveness of the micro, small-and-medium enterprises in the fields of quality, productivity, innovation, and technological development, considering, but not limited to, the following topics:	

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				<p>(a) technological strengthening for testing laboratories and industrial metrology;</p> <p>(b) assistance for updating academic curricula of technical careers (middle level education, technical education, and higher education);</p> <p>(c) support with internships related to the fields of quality and productivity, technological innovation, and development, for private enterprises, academic and public sector employees; and</p> <p>(d) strengthen the capacities of human resources of the public sector, in fields related to quality, productivity, innovation, and technological development." [Art. 17.12]</p>	

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	Guatemala-Chinese Taipei FTA	01 Jul 2006	Chapter 20. Cooperation (Cooperation in the Small and Medium Enterprise Sector)	<p>“1. The Parties will promote a favorable environment for the development of the small and medium enterprises.</p> <p>2. This cooperation will consist of the following:</p> <p>a) to encourage contacts among economic agents, to promote joint venture investments and the establishment of alliances between enterprises and information networks that allow the Parties to foster financial cooperation among them, particularly those seeking to develop micro, small and medium enterprises; and</p> <p>b) to facilitate the administrative procedures in order to provide better financial access for the commercial, manufacturing and export sector. [Art. 20.09]</p>	https://www.trade.gov.tw/english/Pages/Detail.aspx?nodeID=676&pid=321547&dl_DateRange=all&txt_SD=&txt_ED=&txt_Keyword=&Pageid=0
			Chapter 20. Cooperation (Cooperation in the Area of Tourism)	<p>“h) support in commercial promotion agreed by the Parties for micro, small and medium enterprises in the tourism sector.” [Art. 20.11 (h)]</p>	

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			Chapter 20. Cooperation (Cooperation Regarding Environment and Natural Resources)	“3. The Parties will promote mutual access to programs in matters according to their specific characteristics, including cleaner production programs in micro, small and medium enterprises.” [Art. 20.12, 3]	
	Singapore-Chinese Taipei (ASTEP)	19 Apr 2014	Chapter 11. Electronic Commerce	“Recognising the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties affirm the importance of: (a) working together to promote the use of electronic commerce by small and medium enterprises [...]” [Art. 11.7 (a)]	https://www.iesingapore.gov.sg/Trade-From-Singapore/ASTEP/Legal-Text
			Chapter 13. Intellectual Property Cooperation	“2. Recalling the contributions achieved in the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, the areas of the cooperation may include: [...] (b) endeavouring to facilitate industrial property exploitation with each Party’s private sector industries, in particular small and medium enterprises [...]” [Art. 13.1, 2(b)]	
Thailand	Thailand-Chile FTA	05 Nov 2015	Chapter 11. Economic Cooperation	Fields of cooperation and capacity building under this Chapter may include, among others: (f) Small and Medium-	https://www.direcon.gob.cl/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/FTA-Chile-Thailand-english.pdf

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				<p>sized Enterprises [Art. 11.3, (f), Fields of Cooperation]</p> <p>1. Recognizing the global nature of electronic commerce, the Parties shall endeavour to: (a) work together to assist small and medium enterprises to overcome obstacles encountered in its use [Art. 11.7, 1(a), Electronic Commerce]</p>	
	Thailand-Australia FTA	01 Jan 2005	Chapter 8. Trade in Services (Cooperation)	<p>“1. The Parties shall strengthen and enhance existing cooperation efforts in service sectors and develop cooperation in sectors that are not covered by existing cooperation arrangements, through inter alia: [...] (d) small and medium enterprises capacity enhancement [...]” [Art. 808, 1 (d)]</p>	https://www.thaifita.com/english/fa_t hau.pdf
			Chapter 13. Intellectual Property (Other Cooperation)	<p>“(b) encourage and facilitate the development of contacts and cooperation between their respective government agencies, educational institutions, organisations and other entities concerning the protection and development of intellectual property rights with a view to: [...] ii) stimulating the creation and development of intellectual</p>	

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				property by persons of each Party, particularly individual inventors and creators as well as small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)" [Art. 1305, b (ii)]	
	Thailand-New Zealand EPA	01 Jul 2005	Chapter 9. Investment	"1. The Parties shall strengthen and develop cooperation efforts in investment including through [...] (e) capacity building, including for small and medium enterprises [...]" [Art. 9.4, 1 (e)]	https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/FTAs-agreements-in-force/Thailand-FTA/thainzcep-agreement.pdf
United States	United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement	Has not entered into force	Chapter 25. Small and Medium-sized Enterprises		https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/FTA/USMCA/Text/25_Small_and_Medium-Sized_Enterprises.pdf
	United States-Chile FTA	01 Jan 2004	Chapter 9. Government Procurement	"efforts to increase understanding of their respective government procurement systems, with a view to maximizing access to government procurement opportunities for small business suppliers" [Art. 9.18 (d)]	https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/chile-fta/final-text
			Chapter 15. Electronic Commerce (Cooperation)	"working together to overcome obstacles encountered by small and medium enterprises in the use of electronic commerce" [Art. 15.5, (a)]	
	Peru-United States Trade	01 Feb 2009	Chapter 9.	"(d) efforts to increase understanding of their respective	

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	Promotion Agreement		Government Procurement	government procurement systems, with a view to maximizing access to government procurement opportunities, especially for small business suppliers. To that end, a Party may ask the other Party to provide trade-related technical assistance, including training of government personnel or interested suppliers on specific elements of that Party's government procurement system, in coordination with the Committee on Trade Capacity Building, as appropriate." [Art. 9.15 (d)]	https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/peru-tpa/final-text
			Labor Cooperation and Capacity Building Mechanism (Annex 17.6)	"2. Cooperation and Capacity Building Priorities The Parties' contact points shall carry out the work of the Mechanism by developing and pursuing bilateral or regional cooperation activities on labor issues, which may include, but need not be limited to: [...] (p) issues related to small, medium, and micro-enterprises, and artisans: promotion of fundamental rights at work, improvement of working	

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				conditions, competitiveness, and productivity levels, and public awareness of relevant laws.” [Annex 17.6, 2 (p)]	
			Chapter 20. Administration of the Agreement and Trade Capacity Building	“5. The Commission may review the impacts, including any benefits, of the Agreement on the small and medium-size businesses of the Parties. Toward that end, the Commission may: (a) designate working groups to evaluate the effects of the 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 for Trade Capacity Building for consideration; and (b) receive information, input and views from representatives of small and medium-size businesses and their business associations.” [Art. 20.1, 5 (a) (b)]	
Vietnam	Vietnam-Chile FTA	04 Feb 2014	Chapter 9. Cooperation	“Fields of cooperation and capacity building under this	http://www.mof.gov.vn/webcenter/portal/mof/r/lvtc/htqt/hnhttc/ftas/vcfta

	Agreement	Date of EIF/Signing	Chapter/Provision/ Area of Cooperation/ Coverage	Description/ Language	Link/s to Actual Text
				Chapter shall include, inter alia: [...] (f) small and medium-sized enterprises [...]” [Art. 9.3 (f)]	?_afrLoop=32136320536085624#!%40%40%3F_afrLoop%3D32136320536085624%26centerWidth%3D670px%26leftWidth%3D286px%26rightWidth%3D0%26showFooter%3Dfalse%26showHeader%3Dfalse%26_adf.ctrl-state%3D7h0cwmd1k_172
	Japan-Vietnam EPA	01 Oct 2009	Chapter 12. Cooperation	“The Parties shall, in accordance with their respective applicable laws and regulations, promote cooperation under this Agreement for their mutual benefits in order to liberalize and facilitate trade and investment between the Parties and to promote the well-being of the peoples of the Parties. For this purpose, the Parties shall cooperate between the Governments of the Parties and, where necessary and appropriate, encourage and facilitate cooperation between the parties, one or both of whom are entities other than the Governments of the Parties, in the following fields [...] (c) small and medium enterprises [...]” [Art. 111 (c)]	http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/vietnam/epa0812/agreement.pdf
	CPTPP (see Canada)				

