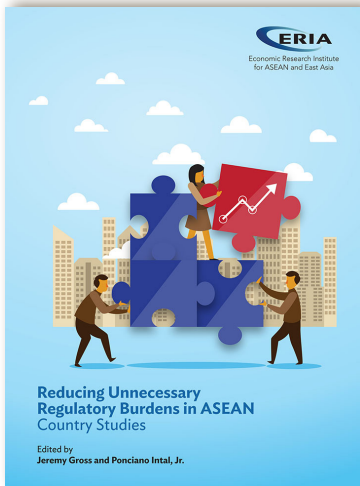# Regulatory Management and Governance

Reducing Unnecessary Regulatory Burdens in ASEAN: Country Studies

Edited by Jeremy Gross and Ponciano Intal, Jr.

Reducing the costly and unnecessary burden of regulations on businesses is a key way government can support business competitiveness as well as attract investment. Yet in most countries there is no systematic way to review regulations or assess whether the regulations are fulfilling their objective.

The Reducing Unnecessary Regulatory Burden (RURB) approach, as pioneered by the Malaysian Productivity Corporation, is one way to address this. This ERIA study looks to see how by applying RURB, problematic regulations can be identified, options to address regulations developed, and dialogue between regulators and business fostered. In this study of seven ASEAN Member States, each country report focuses on a priority growth sector for that country. The results, presented alongside a case history from the sewerage sector in Malaysia, shows the potential of RURB for reducing regulatory bottlenecks if adopted by ASEAN members.

Division of Labour Amongst Innovation Intermediaries in Agricultural Innovation Systems: The Case of Indonesia

ERIA Discussion Paper 2018-06

By Nobuya Fukugawa, Masahito Ambashi, and Yuanita Suhud

Innovation intermediaries are individuals and organisations that enhance connectivity amongst constituencies of national, sectoral, and regional systems of innovation, thereby facilitating knowledge spillover. This paper articulates the whole picture of Indonesia's agricultural innovation system, with a special focus on how different innovation intermediaries play different roles in technology transfer and knowledge dissemination. First, the public sector accounts for more than half of the actors involved in research and extension, but insufficient routes to transfer local needs to the public sector impede efficient feedback. Second, village unit cooperatives are closely associated with extension workers, suggesting the presence of a feedback mechanism, but many of them face serious financial distress. Third, private agricultural research and development and extension are organised and managed efficiently where they involve fewer internal actors working in an environment with minimal bureaucracy. However, a vague regulatory environment makes it difficult for multinational enterprises to hold a positive view towards agricultural research and development and extension from the public sector. Last, the changing governance system and the ensuing shift in political decision-making have introduced uncertainties to the arrangement of actors and resources in the system, which may take some time to resolve.

Regulatory Dissimilarity: A First Look at the Newly Collected Non-Tariff Measures Database

ERIA Discussion Paper 2018-12

By Kaoru Nabeshima and Ayako Obashi

In this paper we construct a dissimilarity indicator to measure the degree to which a product may face different sets of regulations in two countries (the export country and the import country). Since the indicator is highly scalable, we can also construct the difference in regulations applied at the sector or country levels. In this study, we mainly utilise country-level information to compare regulatory regimes across countries to see how much a country's set of regulations differs from the global norm. We also use this indicator to suggest a way to approach regulatory harmonisation in various regional integration efforts in East Asia. This allows us to identify which country can serve as a benchmark for regulatory harmonisation, by allowing countries to negotiate around a base set of regulations. This approach provides more concrete policy guidance on the issue of regulatory harmonisation compared to the tariff-equivalent approach.