

## About the Authors

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Ben Shepherd is the Principal of Developing Trade Consultants. He is a trade economist and international development consultant. He has worked on a wide range of trade and development issues with organizations such as the World Bank, the OECD, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations, and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. He specializes in providing policy-relevant research, as well as capacity-building seminars for researchers working in trade and development.

He has published more than fifteen articles in peer-reviewed journals, and a similar number of book chapters. Ben's particular areas of expertise include:

- Trade Policy
- Global Value Chains
- Trade Facilitation and Logistics
- Trade in Services

Prior to starting DTC, Ben was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Princeton University's Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from France's leading public policy school, the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po). He has also completed graduate studies at Cambridge University in the UK, and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Anita Prakash is Senior Policy Advisor (Int. Economic Cooperation) in the Office of President of Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, Indonesia.

Her Key role at ERIA is policy research and policy development for leaders and senior officials of ASEAN, East Asia and Oceania, Europe and Africa. Her policy research is published across Asia and Europe. Her areas of expertise are international trade, multilateral governance and international relations with special focus on trade, regional value

chains, and connectivity in Asia, and between Asia-Europe and Asia-Africa. Her current research focus is on economic connectivity, trade agreements, and supply chains in the Indo-Pacific. Her important works include the vision documents for Asia-Africa Growth Corridor, and Asia-Europe Connectivity.

She provides policy and research support for bilateral and multilateral relations between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners, the Trade Ministers meetings in ASEAN, the East Asia Summit, Asia-Europe Meeting, and to the T 20 and sherpa process in G20.

Prior to her work at ERIA, she served as Director in the Government of India in the Department of Commerce, and later in NITI Aayog. She was a Visiting Research Associate at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland from 2016 to 2019.

Her latest work is the plenary study on multilateral cooperation, sustainable, and rules based future for Asia-Europe relations, commissioned for the 13th ASEM Summit in Cambodia in 2021. She is currently writing on 'Regional Integration in Indo-Pacific.'

She is an alumni of Delhi University (M.Phil) and Australian National University (MBA).