

### Capital Flow Management Measures and Trade and Investment Treaties

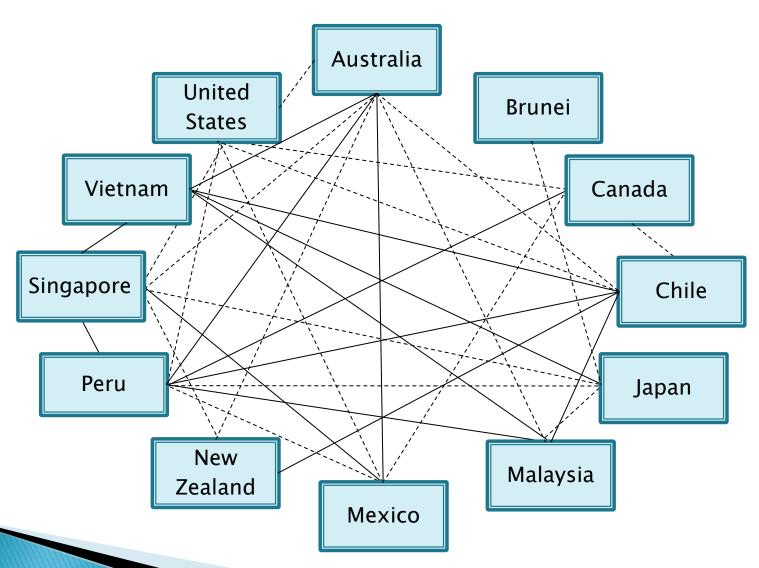
Existing Trans-Pacific Partnership Country Agreements and Options for Reform

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#### 32 Existing Agreements Between TPP Countries

(solid line = BIT, dashed line = FTA)



# Spectrum of Approaches to Capital Flow Management Measures (CFMs)





### 1. Capital account liberalization is encouraged, but the agreement <u>defers to national laws.</u>

#### Agreements between TPP countries: 12

(Malaysia BITs with Chile, Peru, and Vietnam; Singapore BITs with Peru and Vietnam; Chile BITs with New Zealand, Peru, and Vietnam; Australia-Chile FTA; Australia-Vietnam BIT; Canada-Chile and Japan-Chile BITs.)

Other: Brunei-China BIT



## 2. CFMs are prohibited, but there is <u>no</u> <u>investor-state</u> dispute settlement.

Agreements between TPP countries: 3 (Australia FTAs with New Zealand,\* Malaysia,\* and the United States.)

\*also include a safeguard



### 3. CFMs are prohibited, but there is a safeguard for times of crisis.

#### Agreements between TPP countries: 18

- Fairly standard in agreements among TPP countries except the United States.
- No safeguards in U.S. FTAs and BITs since the 1994 NAFTA.

4. CFMs are prohibited, but there are <u>special</u> <u>dispute procedures</u> related to certain types of CFMs. Foreign investors have to wait a bit longer before filing claims and have some limits on compensation.

Agreements between TPP countries: 3 (U.S. FTAs with Singapore, Chile, Peru)



5. CFMs are prohibited, with <u>no exceptions</u> for <u>crises</u>. Extremely <u>broad coverage</u>, including derivatives and other portfolio investments.

Agreements between TPP countries: 0

Other: 2012 U.S. Model BIT, CAFTA-DR

# What about the prudential measures exception?

#### US Model BIT Article 20

Governments "shall not be prevented from adopting or maintaining measures relating to financial services for prudential reasons."



### Limits of the Prudential Exception

Self-cancelling 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence:

Where such measures do not conform with the provisions of this Treaty, they shall not be used as a means of avoiding the Party's commitments or obligations under this Treaty.



### Narrow definition of "prudential"

The term "prudential reasons" includes the maintenance of the safety, soundness, integrity, or financial responsibility of individual financial institutions

(footnote 18, US Model BIT)



### What about the taxation exemption?

- Expropriation provisions still apply to all taxation measures. Even indirect expropriation is only allowed if it is carried out in a <u>nondiscriminatory</u> manner and with adequate compensation.
- Foreign investors could still file a claim for compensation by arguing that a tax-based CFM was discriminatory – especially if the tax is on the basis of residency.

### Hot Money a Hot Issue in TPP



Leaked Investment Chapter Draft Shows Resistance to U.S. Model



#### **Relevant Provisions in the Draft:**

- A balance of payments <u>safeguard</u>
- An <u>exemption for Chile</u>'s regulations on capital inflows
- Allows governments to require <u>domestic review</u> before claims go to international tribunals
- 4. An exemption for Australia from <u>investor-state</u> <u>dispute</u> settlement



### **Reform options:**

- 1. <u>Exclude short-term financial instruments</u> from covered investments.
- 2. Remove investor-state dispute settlement.
- 3. Expand <u>prudential measures exception</u> to cover "macroprudential" measures and remove "selfcanceling" language.
- 4. Strong balance of payments <u>safeguard</u> (no "necessity test" and allow for the need for longer-term measures that may have discriminatory impacts).

For a detailed paper based on this presentation, see: <a href="http://bit.ly/1hfl9L6">http://bit.ly/1hfl9L6</a>