



Why include environmental provisions in regional trade agreements – A Swiss Perspective





Survey

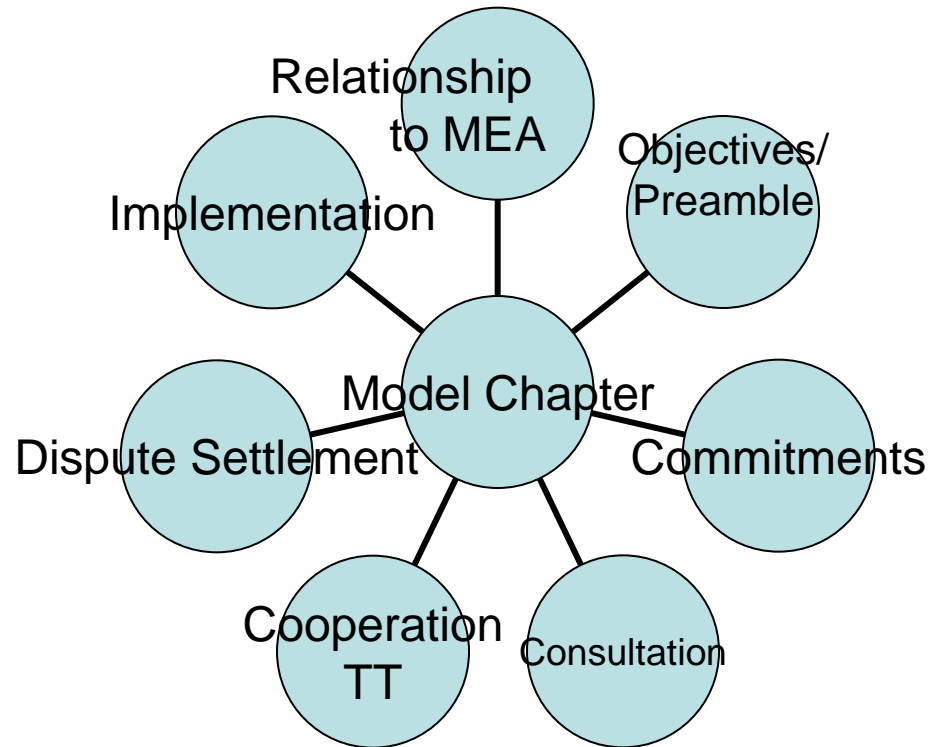
- Introduction: Environmental policy is policy of resources and therefore also policy of economics/trade



- Inter-Agency-Discussions in Switzerland
 - Study (CIEL)
 - EFTA Working Group
- Main questions to be resolved

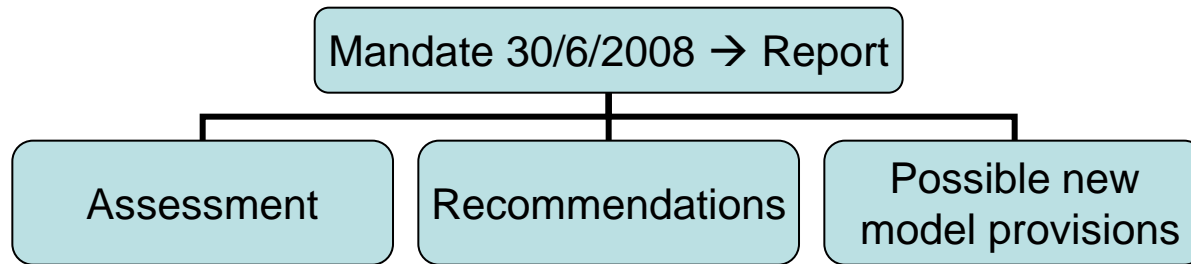


Study CIEL: Model environmental chapter for free trade agreements





EFTA-Working-Group





Main Questions

- Actual FTA do already include environmental provisions (f.ex. Exceptions clauses related to the environment [goods, services, investment, government procurement, SPS / TBT]) .
- It makes RTA-negotiations too cumbersome and time consuming.
- Potential RTA partners are scared off by it.
- You need bargaining power to force non-trade issues into a RTA.
- You must make concessions on the trade side.
- RTA are about trade.
- The WTO is already dealing with trade and environment.
- It's not up to the trade negotiators to make rules on environment.

