



NEW FRONTIERS FOR BETTER REGULATION TO SUPPORT COVID-19 RECOVERY AND CRISIS PREPAREDNESS

3rd Session

6th ASEAN-OECD Good Regulatory Practices Network (GRPN)

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Broad resources available on the OECD Digital Hub

Tackling coronavirus (COVID-19)

Contributing to a global effort

What are the impacts and consequences of the coronavirus pandemic on our lives and our societies? And what are some of the solutions we can find to boost our healthcare systems, secure our businesses, maintain our jobs and education, and stabilise financial markets and economies? The OECD is compiling data, analysis and recommendations on a range of topics to address the emerging health, economic and societal crisis, facilitate co-ordination, and contribute to the necessary global action when confronting this enormous collective challenge.



LATEST HIGHLIGHTS

KEY IMPACTS

POLICY RESPONSES

DATA

COUNTRY TRACKER

MORE





Variety of policy papers on regulatory policy and COVID-19

Framing paper: [Regulatory Quality and Covid-19: Managing the Risks and Supporting the Recovery](#)

6 technical papers

1. [Removing administrative barriers, improving regulatory delivery](#)
2. [The international regulatory co-operation responses to the crisis](#)
3. The use of new technologies to expand regulatory capacity (forthcoming)
4. [Regulatory quality and COVID-19: The use of regulatory management tools in a time of crisis](#)
5. [Sector regulation during the COVID-19 crisis](#) (see also [blog post](#))
6. [Regulatory policy and COVID-19: Behavioural insights for fast-paced decision making](#)



A few core themes of these papers

- The role of regulation has fundamentally changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Legacy regulations, burdensome procedures and non-risk based approaches are often hurting – not helping – governments agility in responding to the pandemic
- Moving forward, countries around the world are looking to new frontiers to promote resiliency, including international regulatory cooperation, ex post review, and innovative approaches such as behaviourally-informed regulation



1. International regulatory cooperation (IRC)



TACKLING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19):
CONTRIBUTING TO A GLOBAL EFFORT

oecd.org/coronavirus



**No policy maker is an island: the
international regulatory co-operation
response to the COVID-19 crisis**

“The global pandemic highlights the need for collective action across policy fronts...and tackle transboundary challenges in the short and long term”



1. International regulatory cooperation (IRC)

- Problem: Many countries' initial policy responses to the pandemic were not coordinated and exposed weaknesses in regulatory co-operation → resulting in ineffective policies, delays, and even shortages
- An IRC approach can help managed cross-boarder risks, promote work-sharing and pool resources. Particularly on:
 - Exchanging information and dialogue on regulatory matters
 - Transparency of national regulations, common rules and using international standards
 - Cooperation and regulatory alignment to maintain interoperability of essential services
- Strong role for international and regional organisations to provide a framework for IRC and coordinate players



2. Improving regulatory delivery



When the going gets tough, the tough get going: how economic regulators bolster the resilience of network industries in response to the COVID-19 crisis

“despite significant changes in service usage and financial and operational stress, to continuity of operations attests to the resiliency of these markets and governance models”



Removing administrative barriers, improving regulatory delivery

“Response to the pandemic... involves regulatory issues at nearly every stage... [including] a number of regulatory delivery instruments – permits and approvals, inspections and enforcement, etc”



2. Improving regulatory delivery

- For independent economic regulators, the crisis illustrated their essential role and capacity for agile and innovative action
 - Short term: regulators led and took part in a suite of short-term emergency measures: operation of markets, continuity of service, increase in vulnerable customers, and financial security of operators
 - Longer term: Phasing out of emergency measures key to maintaining predictability of economic models, requiring strong ex-post reviews of rapidly implemented policies
- Moving forward, regulators will have a key role to play as economic policies affect markets and provide opportunities for important transitions, i.e. to low-carbon infrastructure



2. Improving regulatory delivery

- Regulatory delivery agencies also had broader impacts beyond maintaining critical utilities and touched on all parts of life including the production and delivery of food, essential services, etc.
- While better delivery supported crisis response, it will also be needed to support recovery. Including through:
 - Fostering compliance through targeted, proportionate enforcement and transparent communication
 - Facilitate availability of essential goods through revised, risk-based administrative procedures
 - Review ex post “legacy” regulations, procedures and systems to improve responsiveness and resiliency



3. Adopting innovative approaches



Regulatory policy and COVID-19: Behavioural insights for fast-paced decision making

“Government’s response to COVID-19 requires rapid and wide spread behaviour change to the way society and economies function at the macro and micro level”



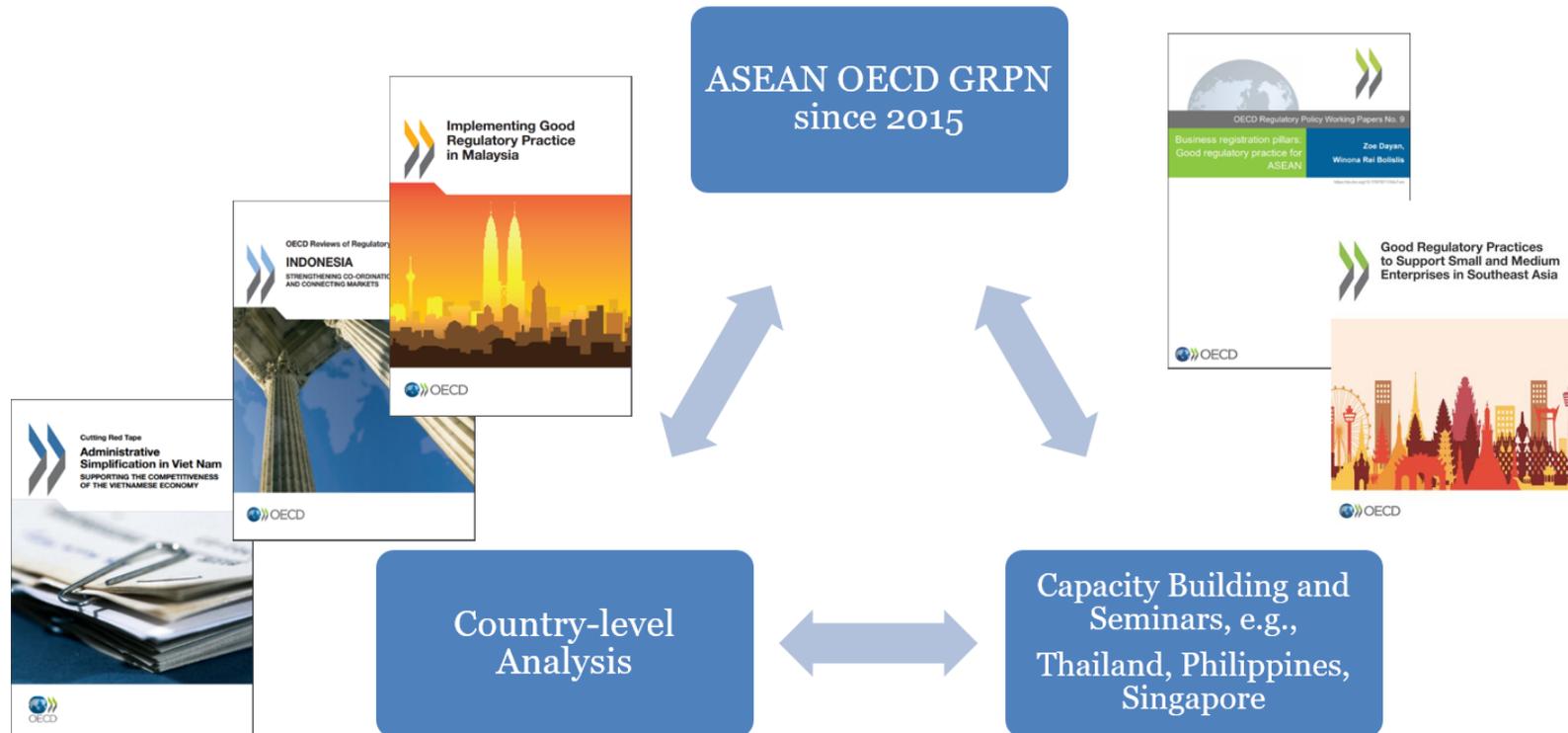
3. Adopting innovative approaches

- A central role for regulation is to promote behaviour change
 - COVID-19: Need to contain and mitigate the transmission of the virus, while minimising the impact
- However, behaviour change is hard → influence of barriers and biases
 - Need holistic response to regulating in response to COVID-19, including through BI
- Case studies demonstrate how behavioural experts around the world are supporting their government in their:
 - Immediate response – improving communication and digital apps
 - Support recovery – medium/long term effects, mental health, green recovery, etc.



Thank you!

OECD work on Regulatory policy in SEA: oe.cd/3bj



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