

Impacts of Non-Tariff Measures on Vietnam's Exports of Certain Agricultural and Aquatic Products

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Abstract: *With the robust development of free trade agreements, non-tariff measures now play an ever-increasing role in the trade policies of most nations, provided that tariff barriers are gradually eliminated. Using the gravity model, this article seeks to examine the impacts of non-tariff measures on the exports of some agricultural and aquatic products from Vietnam to several major markets, including the United States, the European Union, China, and Japan. Findings from a country-by-country analysis reveal that, non-tariff measures, particularly sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and countervailing (CV) measures, tend to exert a predominantly negative impact on agricultural exports. In terms of the effects on particular commodities, coffee and seafood are especially susceptible to non-tariff measures, while other key agricultural product groups are mostly affected by tariff measures.*

Keywords: *Non-tariff barriers, export of agricultural products, product-level data, gravity model, Vietnam*

1. Introduction

Vietnam has a substantial export advantage for agricultural and aquatic products. In fact, the country is currently ranked 15th in terms of export turnover among top global exporters of agricultural goods, exporting a diverse range of agricultural products to more than 180 nations and territories. It is noteworthy that, among them, Vietnamese agricultural products have

steadily penetrated markets with tighter and more restricted criteria, such as the EU, the United States, and Japan etc.

Dominating the total export turnover of Vietnam's agricultural and aquatic products in 2021 is the Asian market with an astounding export value of US\$ 15.4 billion (in which, exports to China achieved a record high of US\$ 7.55 billion, to ASEAN countries gained US\$ 2.89 billion, and to Japan reached US\$1.8 billion). America is the second largest market for

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