

BUILDING AN ASIA-PACIFIC COMMUNITY TO PROSPER TOGETHER



OPENNESS, INNOVATION, AND COOPERATION

An aerial view of the Shanghai skyline at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, pink, and purple. The city's dense collection of skyscrapers and buildings is visible, with the Huangpu River winding through the center. The overall atmosphere is serene and modern.

SESSION 1: DEEPENING OPENNESS: THE KEY SPIRIT OF APEC AND THE ASIA PACIFIC COMMUNITY

The Spirit of Openness in a Shifting Climate

Remarks by Jonathan Fried, Chair, Canadian National Committee for Asia Pacific Cooperation to
the PECC 33rd General Meeting
Shanghai, 16 May 2026

SYSTEMIC HEADWINDS

A Rising Wave Rocks All Boats: Non-liberalizing Interventions in the Global Economy

Number of restrictive measures announced globally

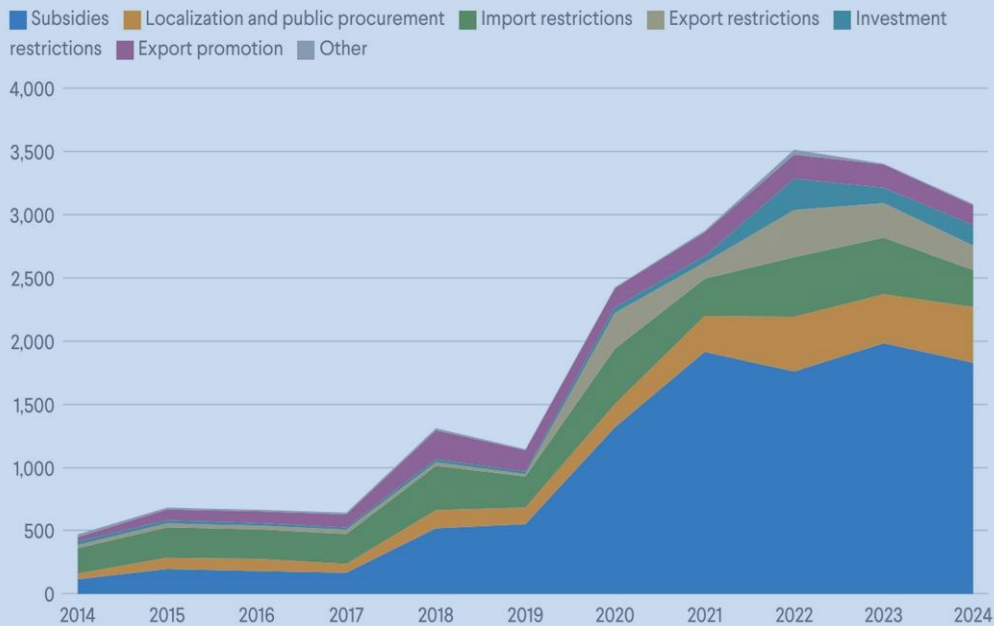
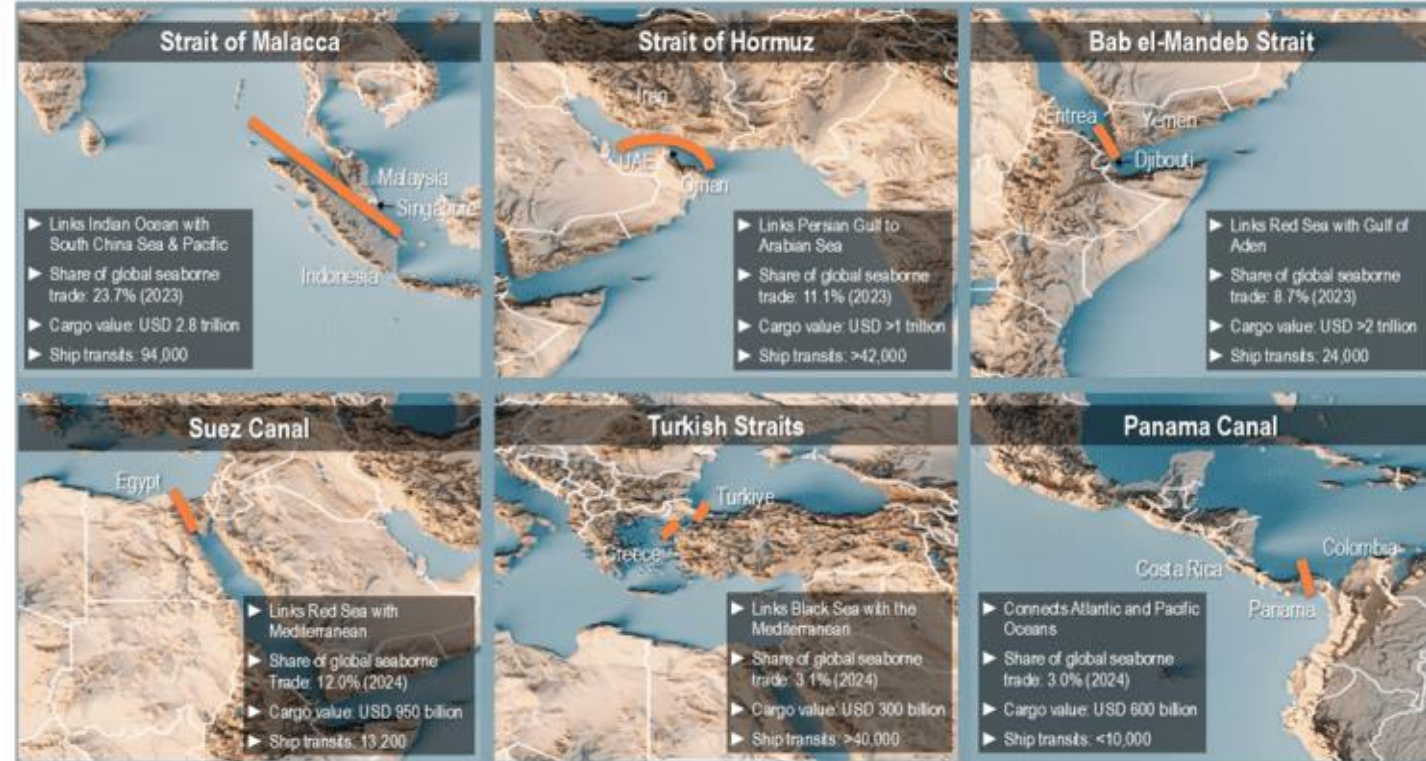


Chart: Andrew Huang and Ishaan Thakker • Source: Global Trade Alert

COUNCIL ON
FOREIGN
RELATIONS

The World's Six Most Important Trade Choke Points

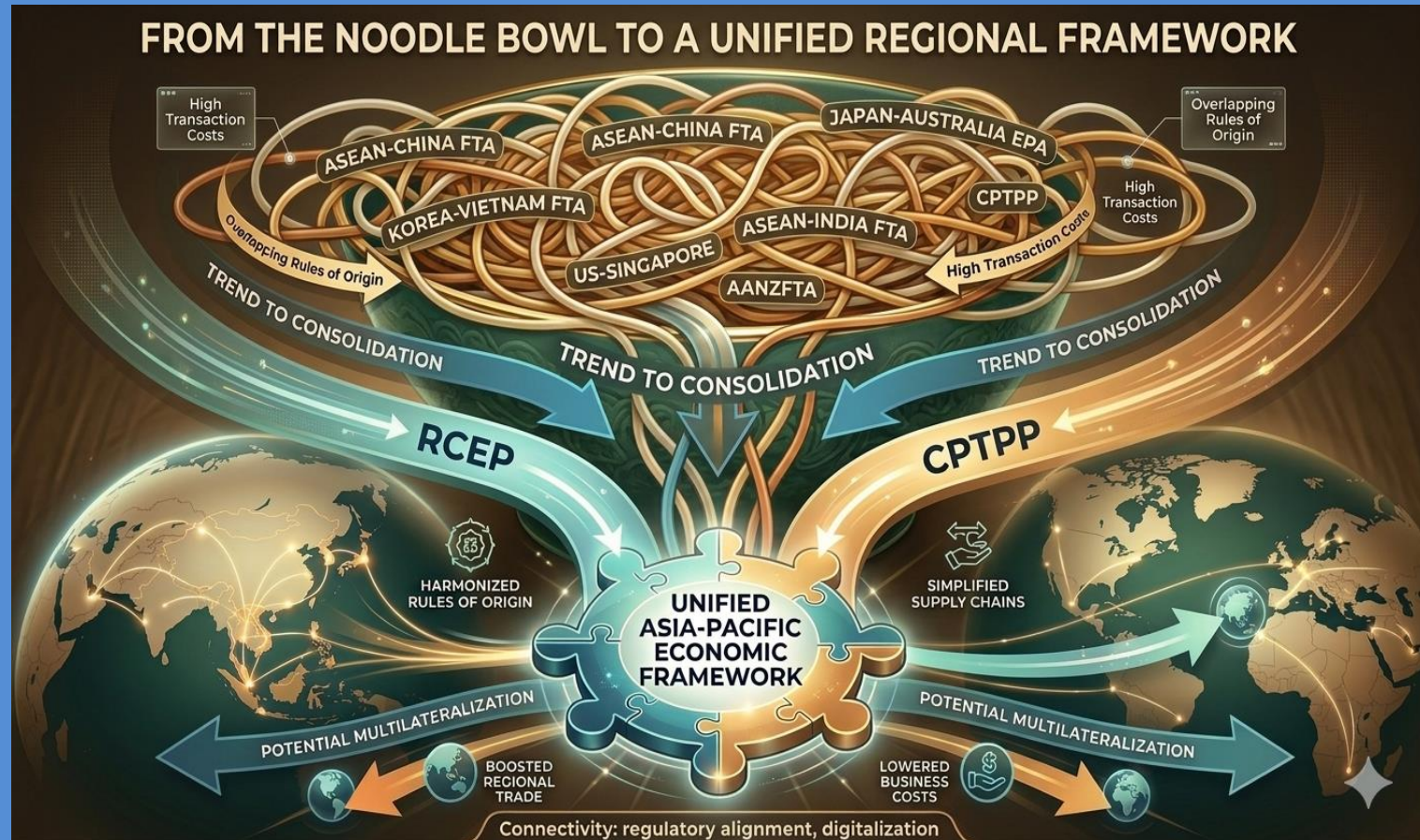


Source: UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport (2025); U.S. Energy Information Administration; Bloomberg; ANDAMAN PARTNERS Analysis

- The Industrial Policy “Paradox” and navigating subsidy competition
- Industrial “Involution”: Managing hyper-competitive domestic support
- Supply Chain Realities: 2026 Chokepoints
- WTO not keeping pace

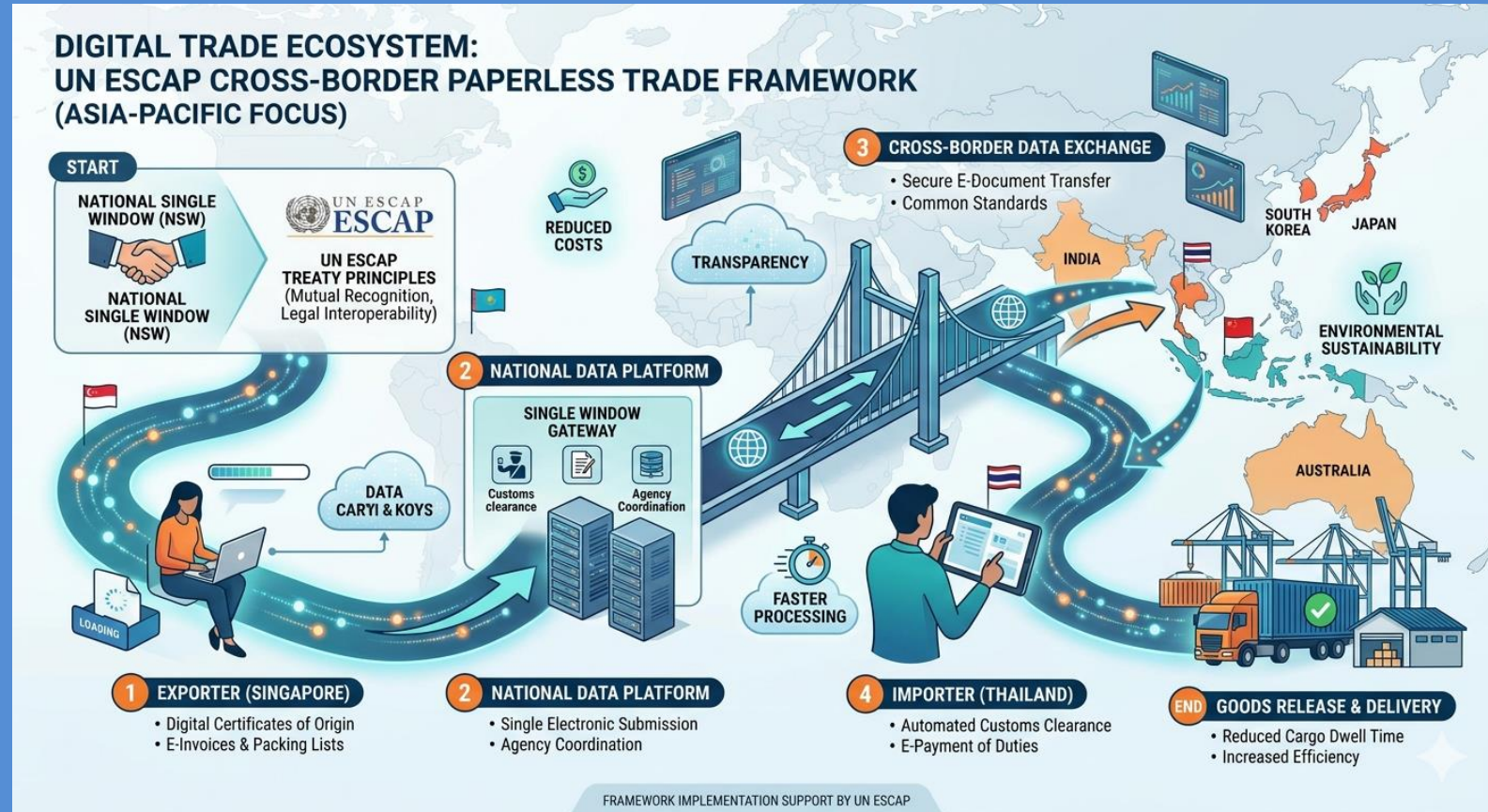
FOUNDATIONS OF RESILIENCE

- APEC Connectivity Blueprint: scaling interoperability beyond borders
- Regulatory Alignment: harmonizing food safety Standards (ASEAN FAF-SP 2026-2030)
- People-to-People: The evolution of the Virtual and Biometric ABTC
- Institutional Synergy: CPTPP as “Double Anchors”



INNOVATION AS A BRIDGE

- Digital Trade: UNESCAP Framework for Cross-Border Paperless Trade
- Sustainable AI: The 2026 Voluntary Statement and APEC AI Initiative
- Labs in Action: developing interoperability of carbon fees and digital standards



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THE SPIRIT OF OPENNESS
IN A SHIFTING CLIMATE

PECC

Pacific
Economic
Cooperation
Council

APEC
Asia-Pacific
Economic
Cooperation

ABAC
Asia Business
Association

