

28 September 2016 | Geneva, Switzerland

# Strengthening the “trade and” interface

# Stick to your knitting

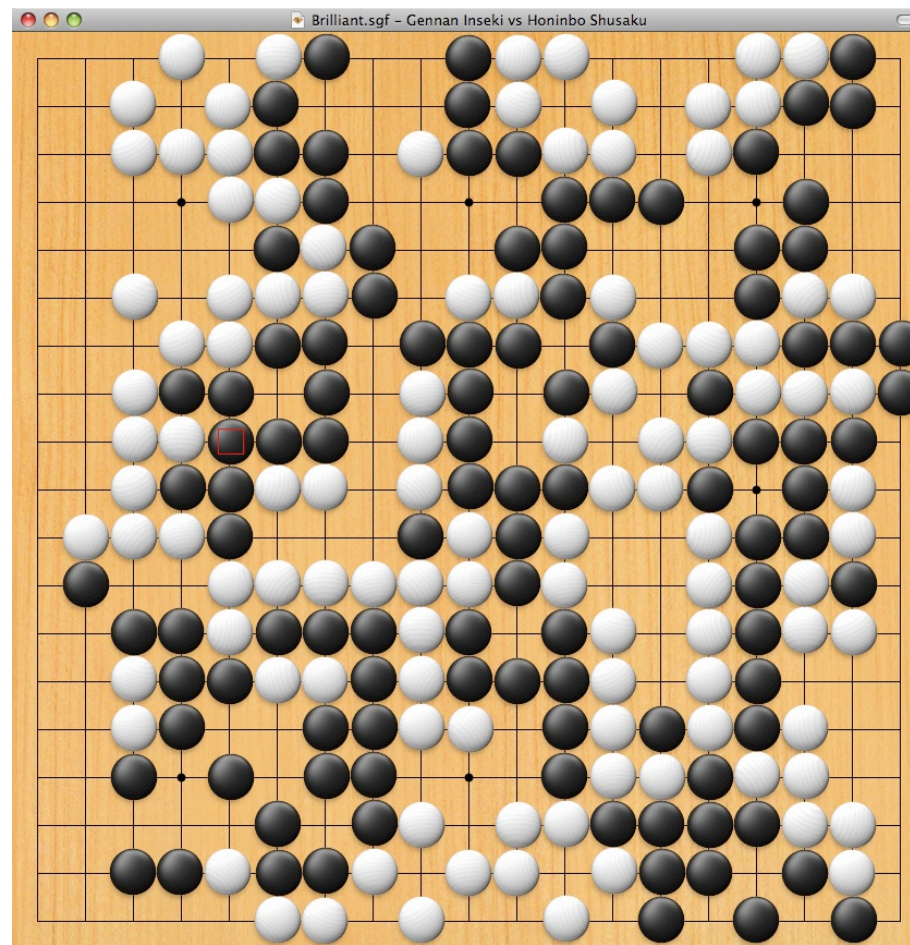


# ICTSD's experience as an interface organisation

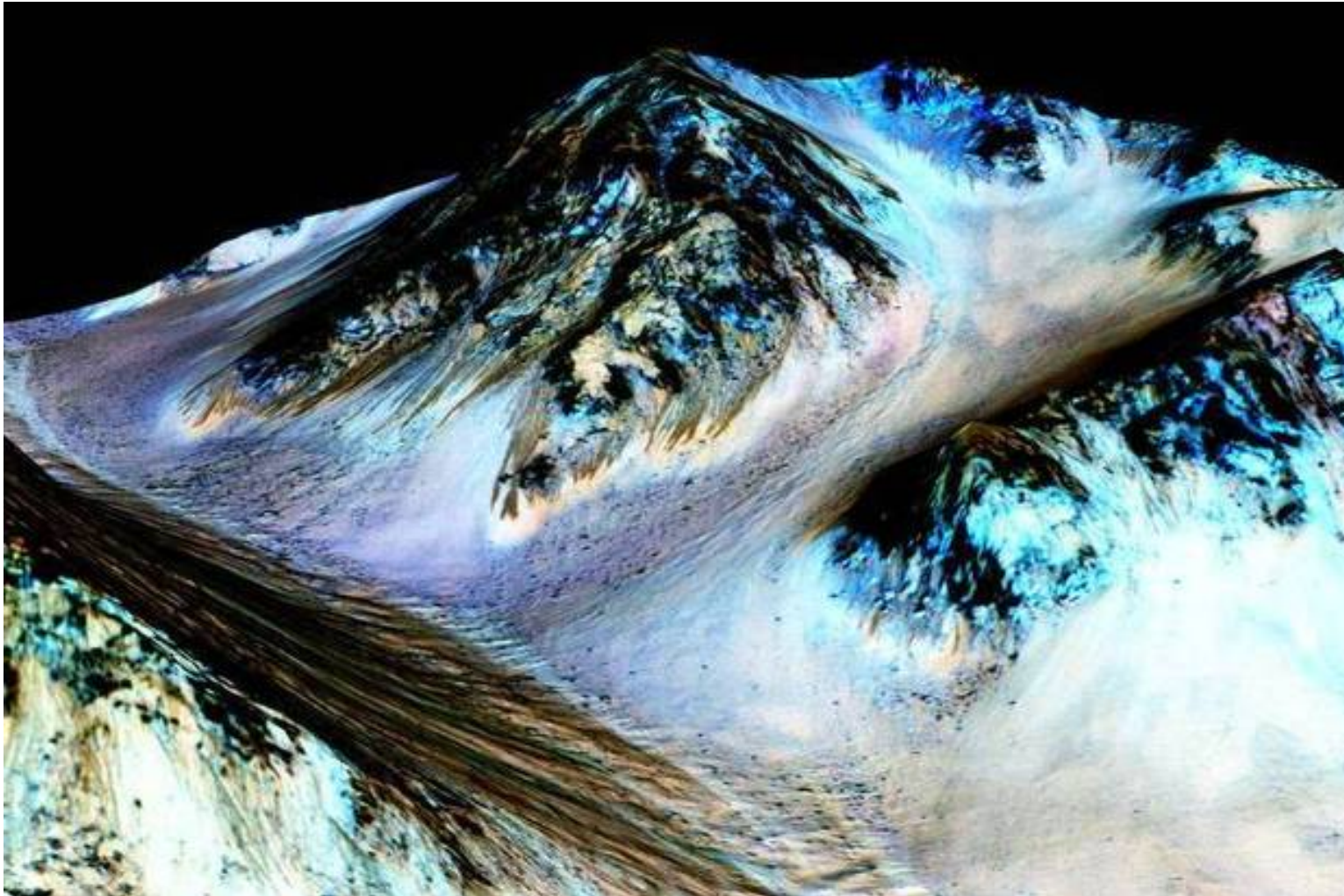
ICTSD: a multistakeholder led initiative to strengthen trade / SD

- 1) Extraordinarily helpful to convene actors in non-negotiating context
- 2) Extraordinarily helpful to have solid non-partisan, (issue and stakeholder relevant) empirical research.
- 3) What changed?
  - Communities of practice and expert communities deepened.
  - Public participation grew considerably and still growing.
  - New avenues of participation and influence, both at WTO, but also through proliferation of agreements.
  - In some countries harnessing of national level policies on trade for transformation, EX. China
- 4) Remaining tension between formal and informal inclusion and definition
  - Complexity of topics and trade offs deepened.
  - Public participation grew considerably and still; BRIDGES

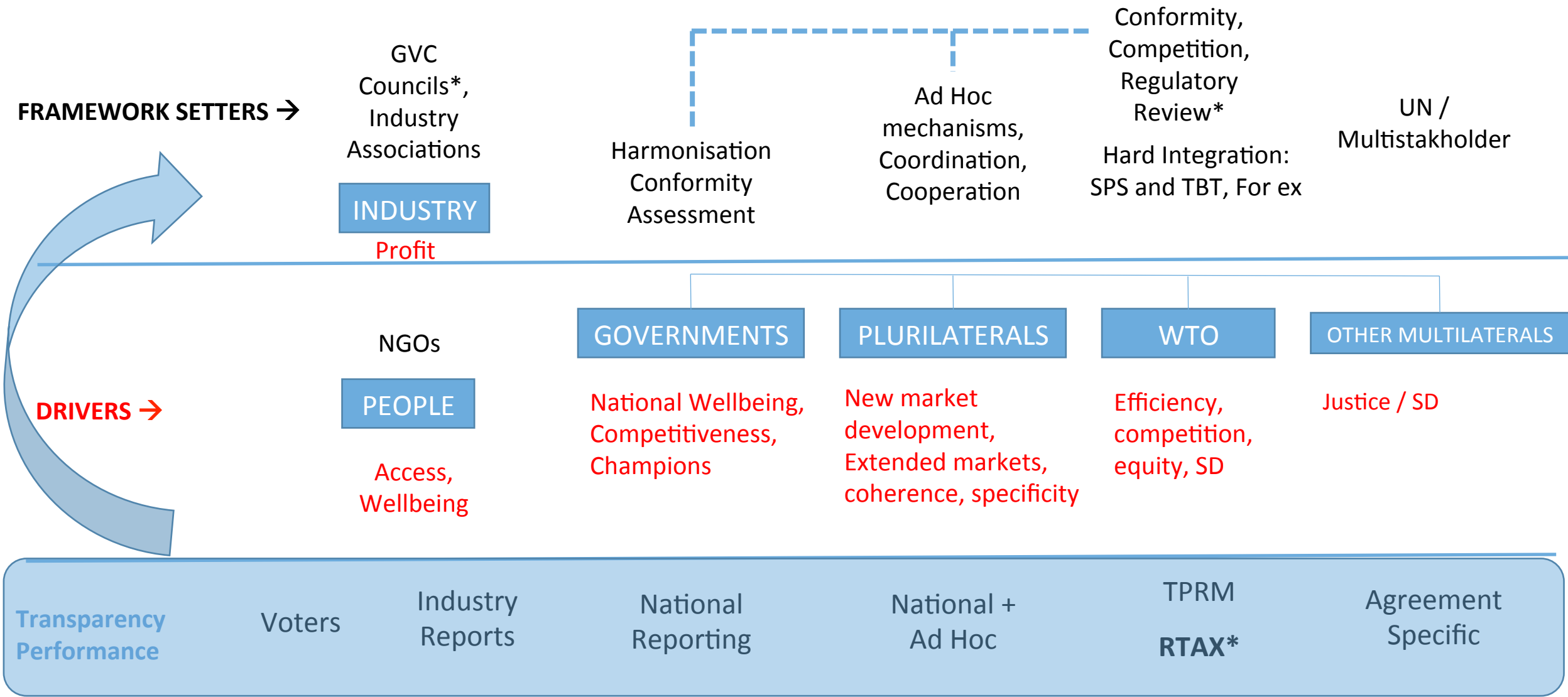
Along the way, the game changed; demanding stronger interface for better policy



How and where to strengthen interface:  
In an fluid, expanding, complex system?



# How to improve the Trade Interface? Different measures at levels



# E15 Interface Strengthening

- Transparency / Performance
  - RTAX
  - TPRM on Digital
  - Digital trade working group
  - Regulatory transparency, prior notification.
  - Improve the quality of exchange in committee work and create more space for deliberations (function wto)
- Participation
  - Business forum / advisory councils
  - Value chains councils
- External collaboration / benchmarking
  - Introduce in FTAs, Competition peer reviews, (competition agencies)
  - Fisheries . Build consultative, effective and coordinated unilateral import measures.
- Adoption
  - Common regulatory objectives of UNECE

## Versus what? What improvements, challenges, will emerge

- Just beginning to get a grip on higher coherence in global governance and policymaking. From state-centric to multistakeholder.
- There are other models that are emerging: Exo-governance mechanisms: private standards, market based governance, citizen juries, personal rights, permission based movements, Brandeis.
- Fundamental challenge: the pace of change in business, labor, finance is continuing to accelerate
  - the world will develop for good or bad in the absence of deliberative processes that are heavy, overly complex, and inflexible.
  - Innovation in business, will need to be matched by innovation in governance.





# Thank You

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