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FTAs as an Effective Driver of Regional Integration: Sri Lankan Experience -- Chapter 11. Supporting Sri Lanka's Free Trade Agreements -- Chapter 12. Facilitating Trade between India and Sri Lanka -- Chapter 13. Bilateral FTAs for Bangladesh: Identifying the 'Natural Partners' -- Chapter 14. Informality in Bangladesh's Agricultural Trade with SAARC Addressing the Emerging Concerns -- Chapter 15. Informal Trade in the SAARC Region -- Chapter 16. A Bay of Bengal Digital Eco System.

Sommario/riassunto

Gathering contributions from leading academics and international trade experts from South Asia, this book is dedicated to the late Dr. Saman Kelegma, whose untimely death in June 2017 left a huge void in the field of regional economic cooperation. Keeping in mind his enduring legacy regarding regional cooperation in South Asia, it covers issues related to the challenges of deeper regional integration in South Asia and proposes strategies to address these challenges. It also offers an up-to-date, rigorous academic analysis of various issues related to low intra-regional trade in South Asia; prevalence of tariff barriers; incidence of a range of non-tariff measures; challenges of weak-trade-related infrastructure and the need for trade facilitation; the political economics of regional integration, highlighting how bilateral political relations affect the integration process; low level of intra-regional investment; South Asia's pattern of integration with the global and regional value chains; pattern and dominance of informal trade; and alternative regional integration initiatives in South Asia, such as the bilateral, regional, and sub-regional trade agreements within and countries outside this region. Intended primarily for researchers and students of international trade, and policymakers from South Asia and beyond, the book is also a valuable supplementary reference resource for researchers and students. Furthermore, the pragmatic analysis of the policy options presented offers guidance for policymakers in South Asia wanting to implement effective policies and strategies for deeper regional integration. .
