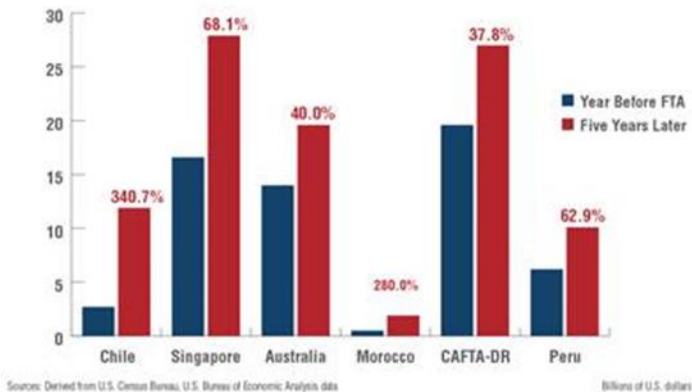


TRADE = Economic Development

One of our nation’s greatest opportunities for economic growth, increased wages, and job creation is through increasing exports and global trade. After all, outside our borders are markets that represent 80% of the world’s purchasing power, 92% of its economic growth, and 95% of its consumers.

Congress must approve the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). TPA is a critical tool to help Americans sell their goods and services to the 95% of the world’s customers living outside U.S. borders. Last month, the [Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015](#), legislation that will renew Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) was introduced.

U.S. Merchandise Exports Boom



Through TPA, the U.S. can negotiate and advance trade agreements that enable greater export growth. As the chart here shows, after trade agreements exports grow. The U.S. has a trade surplus with its 20 trade agreement partners as a group. This includes sizeable trade surpluses in manufactured goods, services, and agricultural products. . For those worried about the U.S. trade deficit, trade agreements are clearly the solution— not the problem.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

In addition to the passage of Trade Promotion Authority, the Export-Import Bank is an important part of increasing exports and global trade. We want to make sure you saw the letter below regarding our sign-on letter in support of reauthorization of the [Export-Import Bank \(Ex-Im\)](#). This important program helps U.S. companies, including small and medium-sized businesses, sell their products overseas. It is set to expire June 30 and we anticipate action on Capitol Hill in the coming weeks. For further information please call the Chamber office at 651.452.9872.