

OEET Seminar



Around the world, the process of delivering goods and services to consumers has become specialized to a degree no one could have ever imagined. Businesses focus on what they do best in their home markets and outsource the rest. Until 2008, global value chains (GVCs) expanded rapidly and many poorer countries boosted growth by joining a GVC, thereby eliminating the need to build whole industries from scratch.

The experience of the last 3 decades has proven that it pays to specialize. Yet GVCs are at a crossroads: their growth has leveled off since 2008, when GVCs peaked at 52% of global trade. The reasons are complex. Slowing global growth and investment are one factor. And value chains have matured, making further specialization more challenging. Meanwhile, the push toward international trade liberalization has stalled. The growth of automation and other labor-saving technologies may encourage countries to reduce production abroad. Unless trade liberalization is reinforced, value chains are unlikely to expand.

Under the circumstances, do GVCs still offer developing countries a clear path to progress? That's the main question explored in the 2020 World Development Report and in the seminar.

Daria Taglioni, the task team leader for the report, will give insights on the degree to which GVCs contribute to economic growth and poverty reduction, but also on the extent to which they lead to inequality and environmental degradation. We will discuss how new technologies are reshaping trade, the inadequacies in the global trading system that are fueling disagreements among nations, and what can be done by countries that have been largely left out of the GVC revolution.

Trading for Development in the Age of Global Value Chains: insights from World Development Report 2020

Daria Taglioni
The World Bank

Daria Taglioni is Research Manager, Trade and International Integration, Development Research Group. She joined the World Bank Group in 2011 as Senior Trade Economist in the International Trade Department of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network. Since then, she has held various positions and roles, including Principal Economist in the International Finance Corporation, and World Bank's Global Lead on Global Value Chains. Previously, she worked as Senior Economist at the European Central Bank and as Economist at the OECD. She has published in the American Economic Review, Journal of International Economics, and other scholarly journals. Her work has been featured in international media outlet such as the New York Times and Forbes. She authored various books on international trade. She is Italian and holds a PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute, Geneva.

Chair: Maurizio Bussolo

Friday 7th May 2021 2.30 PM (CET)

The seminar will be held online:

<https://unito.webex.com/unito/j.php?MTID=mdd49770757557590f3e0ec681066ff18>