Catching up and global value chains in times of transformation - Final CatChain Symposium

19-20 February 2024, Maastricht, NL



19 February 2024

Word of Welcome

by Prof. Bartel Van de Walle, Director of UNU MERIT

Session 1 (13h30-15h15)

GVC participation and economic development

Jahan Ara Peerally (HEC Montreal): Upgrading-by-engaging in GVCs: Deeper insights from machine learning tools

Danilo Spinola (Brimingham City University): Is Global Value Chains integration a springboard to development? Conditions, opportunities, and threats of higher GVC integration on technology upgrading in emerging countries

Isabel Bodas Freitas (Grenoble Ecole de Management): Industry participation in the global value chain and foreign technology licensing in developing and transition economies

Lorenzo Cresti (Enrico Fermi Research Center): Investigating automotive in Europe: Input-Output analysis and economic fitness and complexity

Filippo Bontadini (LUISS, Rome): Nearshoring, global value chains structure and volatility

Keynote Speech: Jorge Katz (University of Chile)

"Quo Vadis Latin America? ´Isles of modernity´, poverty and social exclusion: The two faces of contemporary Latin American capitalism"

Comments by Luc Soete (UNU MERIT)















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Session 2A (17h00-18h30)

GVCs, Specialization and Diversification

Miguel Angel Santos (Escuela de Gobierno y Transformacion Publica, Tecnologico de Monterrey): Value chain vs. skill-based: Dead ends and steppingstones to productive diversification

Samuel Rosenow (International Finance Corporation IFC): Turning risks into rewards and resilience: Diversifying the global value chains of decarbonization technologies

Boram Lee (Korea Institute for International Economic Policy): Diversification, Specialization, or Dynamic specialization: Revisiting the linkage from international trade to economic growth

Ioanna Kastelli (National Technical University of Athens): Global Value Chains participation and export sophistication of european food sectors

Session 2B (17h00-18h30)

GVCs & Green Policies

Hluphi Constance Mafuwane (Tshwane University of Technology): Green Industrial Policies: North vs South comparative analysis

Roberto Mavilia (Bocconi University): How do green science parks foster tentative firms in the integration into green GVCs?

Federico Riccio (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna): Co2 Anatomy: GVCs participation, structural change and sustainability

Olman Segura (CINPE - UNA Costa Rica): The twin transition: from smart cities to smart and sustainable cities

Amir Lebdioui (University of Oxford): Multilateral dimensions of industrial policy: Regional level thinking in the era of green structural transformations















20 February 2024

Session 3 (9h00-10h30)

GVCs & Green Policies

Rasmus Lema (UNU MERIT): Upgrading-by-engaging in GVC: Green Tech Global Value Chains: Are there windows of opportunity for developing countries?

Vittoria Scalera (Amsterdam Business School, University of Amsterdam): A case of reverse catching up? On the emergence of China as powerhouse in green energy vehicles

Ulrich Elmer Hansen (DTU Wind and Energy Systems): Green industrial policy failure: creating a domestic solar PV module manufacturing industry in Indonesia

Jorge Valverde Carbonell (UNU MERIT): Does the energy transition open a green window of opportunity in the metallurgy industry? The cases of the copper and lithium industries.

Session 4A (11h00-12h30)

Technology, Knowledge & Structural Change

Mercedes Menendez (UNU MERIT): Latin America network knowledge under green and digital transition

Petros Dimas (National Technical University of Athens): Global value chains, intangible inputs, and manufacturing innovation in the EU and the UK

Valentina Mallamaci (Bocconi University): Emerging Economies and the Twin Transition: Navigating green and digital shifts in Global Value Chains

Antonio Andreoni (SOAS University of London): Seizing and Shaping: Opportunities for sustainable structural transformation in Morocco and South Africa

Session 4B (11h00-12h30)

Technology, Knowledge & Structural Change

Federico Colozza (Roma Tre University): Do Global Value Chains spread knowledge and pollution? Evidence from EU regions

Daria Taglioni (World Bank): Global diffusion of disruptive technologies: Understanding the role of multinational firms and Global Value Chains

Roberta Rabellotti (University of Pavia): Green FDI and technological spillovers in the host economies

Nicholas Vonortas (The George Washington University and Campinas University): Firm-level determinants of eco-innovation strategies in Colombia

Keynote Speech: Bart Verspagen (UNU MERIT)

"The state of global sustainable development: an interpretation of trade in global value chains"

Comments by Maria Savona (LUISS, Rome and SPRU, Sussex)















20 February 2024

Session 5 (14h45-16h15)

Critical Minerals and Green Windows of Opportunity

Clovis Freire Junior (UNCTAD): Diversification in critical minerals value chains: An economic complexity perspective

Carlo Pietrobelli (UNU MERIT and Roma Tre University): Avenues to maximizing value added from critical minerals

Beatriz Calzada Olvera (Erasmus University Rotterdam - IHS): Financing the energy transition: Investments in the lithium industry in Latin America

Anabel Marin (Institute of Development Studies, Sussex): Making green growth feasible. Lessons from critical minerals in Argentina and Chile

Session 6 (16h30-18h00)

GVCs & Innovation

Andrea Carrera (Institute for international Studies, Complutense University of Madrid): Space-black is the new green: Europe and India's GVC in laser technologies against space debris

Katherin Pinzon (Universidad Complutense de Madrid): Effects of national innovation systems on the insertion in Global Value Chains of high technology intensity industries: An analysis of the aeronautical industry in Ibero-America.

Jeffrey Orozco (CINPE-UNA Costa Rica): Innovation and catch up in pineapple production in Costa Rica: contributions from the global value chain and STI system

Mammo Muchie (Tshwane University of Technology): Catching–Up along the energy generation Value Chains using different resource– The case of the green energy sector in South Africa

Robert Bwana (University of Amsterdam): Catching up the role of technology in green extractive global value chains: An exploration of digital monitoring platforms for a just transition

Closing session (18h00-18h30)

Final thoughts on the Conference (Tilman Altenburg and Elisa Giuliani), on the Catchain project (Franco Malerba and Olman Segura Bonilla), from the convenors (Rasmus Lema and Carlo Pietrobelli)













