The Trade and International Integration Research Program aims to improve understanding of the role of global economic integration in development and poverty reduction. We are also developing databases and analytic tools to analyze the impact of policy reforms.

FEATURED RESEARCH (2013–present)

October 2019

This report examines whether there is still a path to development through GVCs and trade. It concludes that technological change is at this stage more a boon than a curse. GVCs can continue to boost growth, create better jobs, and reduce poverty provided that developing countries implement deeper reforms to promote GVC participation, industrial countries pursue open, predictable policies, and all countries revive multilateral cooperation.

A Trade Data Revolution Is Uncovering Hidden Patterns in Global Export Markets
September 2018

Competition in export markets is brutal: only 43 percent of new exporters survive beyond one year. A trade data revolution is uncovering hidden patterns that can help countries and companies succeed in the global marketplace

Moving for Prosperity: Global Migration and Labor Markets
June 2018

Global labor mobility is a potent tool to end poverty, with migrants tripling their wages or more. Better labor market policies to manage short-run economic tensions can ensure that destination countries and migrants share the benefits of global labor mobility for generations to come.

Global Trade Watch 2018: Trade Amid Tensions
May 2019

Global trade growth slowed in 2018 amid a weakening of economic growth in China and the Euro Area and rising trade protectionism. The volume of trade grew by 3.8 percent, down from 5.4 percent in 2017, but has shown signs of reviving in the first quarter of 2019.
Global Trade Watch 2017: Trade Defies Policy Uncertainty - Will It Last?

May 2018
World trade rebounded in 2017, with trade volume growing at 4.3 percent in 2017—the fastest rate in 6 years. The recovery of trade is not limited to a few regions but is widespread, suggesting that we may be at a turning point.

Global Trade Watch: Trade Developments in 2016 (2017)
February 2017
World trade in 2016 posted its weakest performance since the Global Financial Crisis in 2008. Slow trade occurred in both high-income and developing countries, but growth in services trade has shown more resilience since the crisis.

Fifth IMF-World Bank-WTO Trade Research Workshop
November 2016
Trade experts reflected on long-standing questions in trade (e.g. global value chains; preferential trade agreements) as well as questions made more urgent by recent developments around the world (trade and wage inequality; migration).

Revving the Engine of Services Trade
April 2016
Trade in services has been steadily growing since 2010. In this talk, Aaditya Mattoo unveiled research and data that is advancing knowledge about services trade policies, and how best to reform them.

Counting the Costs of Tariff Evasion in Tunisia
June 2015
When Tunisia’s former president, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, fell from power during the Arab Spring in 2011, the authorities found themselves in possession of a rare archive of financial mischief, a unique paper trail of people (in power) using their clout to make more money than they should.

Seeing More Development, Less Fear in Migration
June 2015
“...when people move, many other wonderful things happen. People’s movements are closely related to education and gender issues, transfer of cultural norms, environment and crime, and almost every issue you can think of related to development.” Caglar Ozden, Conference Organizer.

Trade, Poverty, and Shared Prosperity
January 2015
Trade integration is a critical catalyst for development, but can generate unequal gains. Trade can
help achieve the twin goals provided that policy makers manage its distributional impact—ideally through appropriate domestic policies.

**Third IMF-World Bank-WTO Joint Trade Research Workshop**
November 2014
Participants discussed cutting-edge research in the field. Researchers presented new work on topics ranging from the quality of exported goods to trade finance and global value chains.

**Bringing opportunity, good jobs and greater wealth to all Tunisians**
May 2014
Tunisia meets of all the prerequisites to become a “Tiger of the Mediterranean”, yet this economic potential never seems to materialize. This report suggests possible solutions.

**Pushing the Limits of International Trade Policy**
April 2014
Tariffs in nearly all emerging economies have dropped. The average tariff rate applied by a given country has fallen below 10 percent. Despite this clear downward trend, non-tariff barriers have increased, partially offsetting the benefits of reduced tariffs.

**Debunking the Myths of Global Migration**
November 2013
Migrants make up less than 3 percent of the world’s population | South-North migration has grown the most of all corridors between 1960 and 2000 | The difference in real wages can vary between 4 and 10 times between developed and developing countries.

**Institutional Lessons on Trade Reform**
August 2013
This book draws useful lessons from the Peruvian and Argentine experience for governments that want to maintain an open trade regime. Peru has continued its liberalization whereas Argentina has imposed a number of new trade restrictions.

**Trade in Value Added: Developing New Measures of Cross-Border Trade**
June 2013
In this edited volume top experts present cutting-edge research on developing better measures of trade in a world of increasingly fragmented production and deepening international integration.

**A New Approach to Cooperation on Climate Change**
February 2013
This book argues that global negotiations on climate change have been hampered as much by a neglect of scientific facts as a lack of objective analysis.

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