WORLD DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2019

THE CHANGING NATURE OF WORK
Technological Progress Can Expand Job Opportunities

- Lost employment in old sectors
- Remaining employment in old sectors
- New employment in new sectors

Sectors (ordered by susceptibility to automation)

Source: Authors’ analyses.
More than 1 million downloads
What is changing?
Industrial Jobs are Falling in the West and Rising in the East

Source: Authors’ analyses based on World Bank’s World Development Indicators (dataset)
Recent Technological Advances Accelerate Firm Growth

Source: Authors’ analyses based on Walmart Annual Reports, Statista.com, NetEase.com
Technology Is Disrupting the Nature of Firms Posing New Policy Challenges

New Superstar Firms: digital platforms operating globally, existing in the cloud

Source: Author’s analysis based on data from Safaricom, KCB Bank Group, AirBnb, Marriot International Inc., Financial Times.
Technology is Changing How People Work and the Terms on Which They Work

LESS standard long-term contract

MORE short-term work often via online work platforms
Advances in Technology Call for New Skills seemingly overnight: “Adaptability” is Increasingly in Demand

Source: Authors’ analyses.
What can governments do?
Three Areas For Policy Action:

1. Human Capital and Lifelong Learning
2. Social Protection and Labor Policies
3. Revenue Mobilization
The First 1,000 Days Lay A Lifelong Foundation

Source: Authors’ analyses.
151 Million Children Under 5 Are Stunted Worldwide

Source: Authors’ analysis
Re-adjustment is a Matter of Lifelong Learning: Tertiary Education Systems are Central

- Transferable Skills
- Lifelong learning
- Platform for innovation
Three Areas For Policy Action:

- Human Capital and Lifelong Learning
- Social Protection and Labor Policies
- Revenue Mobilization
Convergence in the nature of work? Persistent informality and more fluid labor markets

64.7% average informality in emerging economies
** Rethinking Social Protection: Protect People, Not Jobs

Source: Authors’ analysis.
Complementing Strong Social Protection with Labor Market Flexibility

Three Areas For Policy Action:

- Human Capital and Lifelong Learning
- Social Protection and Labor Policies
- Revenue Mobilization
Tax Revenues Have to Rise, Especially in Developing Economies

Source: Authors’ analysis based on International Centre for Tax and Development (ICTD) and UNU-WIDER Government Revenue Dataset 2017.
Social Inclusion Is Costly

Simulated cost of UBI for closing the poverty gap by country income group (% of GDP)

Source: Authors’ analysis based on World Bank World Development Indicators, World Bank PovcalNet, and United Nations World Population Prospects.
Some Countries Spend more on Energy Subsidies than on Social Assistance.

Source: Authors’ analysis based on World Bank (2018a) and IMF (2015) database on country-level estimates.
2019 World Development Report