Global Value Chains: Where Are You? The Missing Link in Sub-Saharan Africa's Trade Integration



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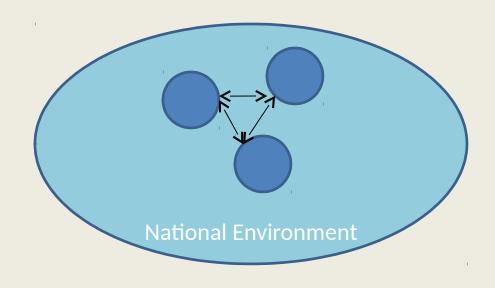
Integration Into Global Supply Chains

- Depends fundamentally on both trade <u>and investment</u>.
- On the investment side,
 - How do Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) choose investment locations?
 - Can MNE investments broaden the industrial base and not just "crowd out" local firms?
 - What kind of local entrepreneurship drives job and productivity growth?



Firms as Open Systems

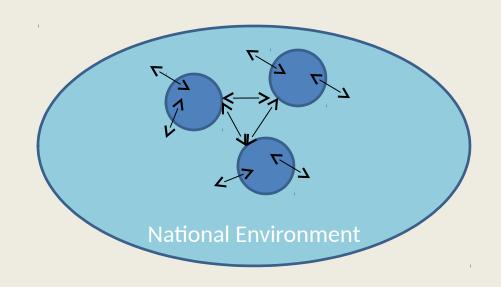
 Interactions, transactions, and competition among firms





Firms as Open Systems

- Interactions, transactions, and competition among firms
- Interactions with the external environment
- Labor Markets
- Financial Markets
- Regulatory Environment
- Etc.





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- Local resources and capabilities
 - Human capabilities
 - Depth of talent pool
 - Local/regional supply chains and infrastructure
 - Goes beyond core infrastructure per se
 - e.g., 75 checkpoints between Lome' and Ouagadougou
 - Specific needs that require scale, collective action
 - Local supporting industries
 - Environment supporting entrepreneurial investment
 - Regional trade openness



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 - 1. Unequal information between buyers and sellers
 - 2. Potential conflicts of interest between buyers and sellers



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- Among local enterprises, informal institutions arise as substitute, but this limits their ability to **scale-up**.



Impact of MNE Investment on Local Firm Productivity

• MNEs can:

- Serve as a conduit for global knowledge and technology
- Build an industry infrastructure
- Develop a pool of skilled employees
- Create intense rivalry in markets for products, labor, and finance ("crowding out")
- Effects may be more positive <u>vertically</u> than horizontally
- The most <u>advanced</u> local firms may benefit from foreign investment; least productive local firms crowded out
- <u>Long term</u> effect may be positive even while short term effect is negative



Local Firms: Employment and Productivity Growth

- Most "innovative" developing country firms are those with:
 - Exposure to foreign competition
 - Highly educated managers
 - Ownership by families and individuals (rather than ownership by financial institutions or state)



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- Productivity growth tends to be highest among *larger* firms, and young firms.



Recommendations

- Considering firm as open system places emphasis on:
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 - Spillover Effects
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- Demonstrates importance of
 - Strong institutions
 - Major investments in education and training
 - Policies to promote local entrepreneurship <u>and</u> creative destruction



THANK YOU

