

# SET SUPPORTING ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

## Trade and Economic Transformation

**17 December 2015, 11:00-12:30, Hilton Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.**

Promoting quality growth and economic transformation is crucial for sustained progress and job creation. It is essential for sustained development that growth is accompanied by some form of productivity change within and between sectors, diversification into more complex products and structural change. Trade can be a powerful channel to mobilise resources from low to high productivity sectors, to improve productivity within sectors and upgrade within value chains. However the potential for trade is not always acknowledged in policy design or realised in practice.

The [Supporting Economic Transformation \(SET\)](#) programme has explored the links between [trade, trade policy and economic transformation](#). Trade helps to diversify production, discover and develop new productive capabilities and increase domestic value added. Services are becoming increasingly important in world trade and SET has focused on [the role of services in economic transformation](#).

The aim of this workshop is to examine the links between trade (in services) and economic transformation:

- How have countries been successful in using trade for economic transformation?
- What is the role of services trade in the process of economic transformation?
- What are the implications for trade policy?

### Provisional agenda for TDS session

#### Chair

**Dirk Willem te Velde** – Senior Research Fellow, ODI – Director, SET

#### Speakers (5-10 minutes)

**Chris Barton** – Director of International Affairs, Trade Policy & Export Control (ITEC) in the UK's Departments for Business (BIS)

**Max Mendez-Parra** – Research Fellow, ODI/SET

**Aranca Gonzalez** – Executive Director, ITC

**Bernard Hoekman** – Director of Global Economics, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

#### Discussant (3 minutes)

**Frank Matsaert** – CEO, Trademark East Africa

#### Q&A

