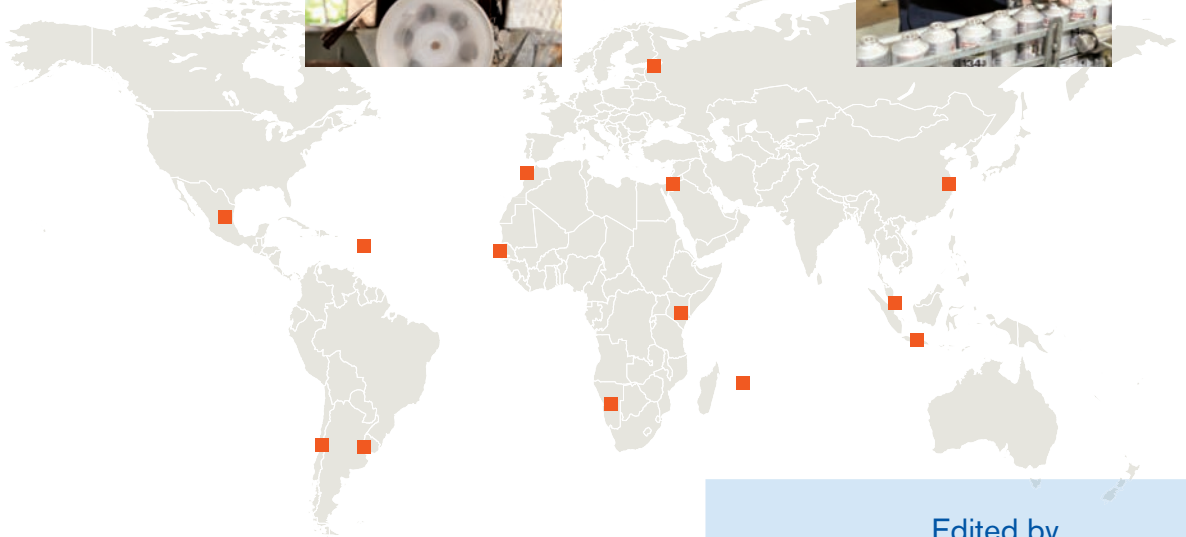
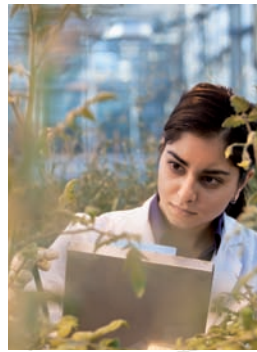


Connecting to global markets

Challenges and opportunities:
case studies presented by WTO chair-holders



Edited by
Marion Jansen
Mustapha Sadni Jallab
Maarten Smeets

About this publication

In recent decades, trade flows have become increasingly global, with developing countries and emerging economies playing an ever-expanding role.

However, these countries face a number of constraints in connecting to global markets. To obtain a better understanding of these constraints, the WTO invited the members of its academic network in developing countries – the WTO Chairs Programme – to identify major challenges in their respective countries and suggest ways to overcome them. In response, the WTO chair-holders contributed a set of papers to the WTO's Annual Conference of the Chairs Programme and to the Global Review of Aid for Trade in July 2013.

This volume brings together these contributions from the 14 WTO chair-holders. It is divided into four sections, focusing on export diversification, the role of non-tariff measures, the rule of law in connecting to global markets, and the role of the Aid for Trade initiative in building trade capacity and overcoming supply side constraints. The contributions provide some powerful arguments in support of using trade policy instruments as an engine for growth and provide valuable insights into how developing countries can increasingly integrate into the multilateral trading system.



"I believe this volume furthers our understanding of some of the major challenges that developing countries face in becoming part of global value chains and overcoming supply-side constraints. In addition, it reaffirms my sense that the WCP provides a mechanism not only to conduct research and analysis but also to strengthen the relationship between academics and policy-makers."

*Roberto Azevêdo
WTO Director-General*

What's inside?

The first section of this volume focuses on major challenges developing countries face to achieve a sustainable growth path in the context of open markets. The main themes that emerge from the three contributions to this section are related to diversification and the role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in global value chains.

Section II focuses on the role of non-tariff measures for export performance and policy-making in developing countries. One of the messages arising from this section is that non-tariff measures can represent major barriers to trade for developing countries.

The chapters in Section III look at the relationship between international economic law on the one hand, and export performance and national policy-making on the other.

The volume concludes with a section that focuses on another multilateral vehicle that can assist developing countries in overcoming supply-side constraints and that has, in fact, been explicitly created for this purpose: the Aid for Trade initiative.



WTO Chairs Programme Workshops

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About the WTO Chairs Programme



The WTO Chairs Programme (WCP) was launched in 2010 as a capacity-building project. It aims to enhance knowledge and understanding of the trading system among academics and policy makers in developing countries through curriculum development, research and outreach activities by universities and research institutions. Information on the WCP is available on www.wto.org/wcp. In the first phase of the WTO Chairs Programme (2010-2013), 14 academic institutions were awarded a WTO Chair. Each of them contributed a chapter to this volume.

In the second phase of the Programme (2014-2017), the WTO wishes to extend the network by an additional seven chairs. The programme will provide financial support of up to CHF 50,000 per annum per institution for a period of up to four years to each selected chair. A call for tenders was launched in October 2013. The chairs will be selected in early 2014.

WCP focal points: Marion Jansen of the Economic Research and Statistics Division and Mustapha Sadni Jallab of the Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation. For further information please contact wtochairs@wto.org.

The current chair-holders are:

- Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO)
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- University of the West Indies
Bridgetown, Barbados
- Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade (SIFT)
Shanghai, China
- University of Chile
Santiago, Chile
- Universitas Gadjah Mada
Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- University of Jordan
Amman, Jordan
- University of Nairobi
Nairobi, Kenya
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