

Global Economic Prospects 2008: Technology Diffusion in the Developing World

Chaired by Paul Adamson, The Centre

**Friday January 11 from 13:00 to 14:30
A sandwich lunch will be served from 12:30**

The Centre and the World Bank are delighted to invite you to a lunchtime roundtable with **Uri Dadush**, Director of International Trade at the World Bank in Washington DC, to discuss the findings of the 2008 edition of *Global Economic Prospects*, which focuses on technology diffusion in the developing world.

The report observes that technology and technological advances have underpinned recent progress in the reduction of poverty and will continue to do so. The pace of technological progress has accelerated: whereas in the early 1900s it took more than 50 years for a technology to reach most countries, now it takes around 16 years. Technological progress has depended on countries' exposure to foreign technologies (through trade, FDI and diasporas). In developing countries technological achievement has increased between 40 and 60 percent more rapidly than in high-income countries. But the gap between rich and poor countries remains large, with low-income countries recording levels of achievement only 25 percent that of high-income countries.

However, the most important determinant of the level of technological achievement in developing countries is the speed with which technologies spread within countries – not between them. The report calls for policies to reinforce the capacity of the domestic economy to absorb technology at the subnational level and strengthen in-country dissemination channels, including domestic transportation infrastructure, and the outreach, testing, marketing, and dissemination activities of applied R&D agencies.

To register, please send an email with 'Global Economic Prospects 2008' in the subject field and stating clearly your name and organisation to: meet@thecentre.eu

Please note that this invitation is personal. Should you wish for another person from your organisation to attend, please send us their name and contact details.

For further information on The Centre, please visit www.thecentre.eu

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This event is part of The Centre's Competitiveness and Innovation

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