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Why?

MEASUREMENT DIFFICULTIES
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NON-TRADABLE NATURE OF CERTAIN SERVICES ACTIVITIES
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SERVICES, DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

44% of world employment

2/3 of world output

1/5 of the world total trade

Why?

Why?

SERVICES ECONOMY

FACTS AND FIGURES ON
DEVELOPING economies account for:
37.2 % of total services imports
30.8 % of total services exports

DEVELOPED economies account for:
58.9 % of total services imports
66.3 % of total services exports

TRANSITION economies account for:
3.9 % of total services imports
2.9 % of total services exports
While developed countries continue to have a higher share of services trade than developing countries, the expansion of services exports in 2012 was led by developing economies of Asia (8%) and America (6%), and the transition economies (7%).

Northern American developed countries increased their services exports (4%) in 2012. Europe perceived a significant decline (-3%) in the same period.
As opposed to merchandise trade, developed countries increased their trade surplus in services between 1990 and 2011. DCs registered a $213 billion trade deficit in services trade (almost 8% of the normalized trade balance of their trade in services).

The services trade deficit reached up to half of the normalized services trade balance in the least developed countries (LDCs).

By contrast, DCs in Africa, the Americas, and Asia, and LDCs, registered trade surpluses in merchandise trade in 2011. Therefore, policies need to put special emphasis on services trade in order to achieve sustainable current account balances.

Services trade balance as a share of normalized services trade balance has been improving, but unevenly, across DCs. In particular, the balance has been improving in Asian DCs, but not in DCs in Africa or the Americas.
While other business services has perceived a significant growth in the last 11 years, travel and transport have experienced the contrary.

Travel, transportation and other business services are the main traded services activities.

While other business services has perceived a significant growth in the last 11 years, travel and transport have experienced the contrary.
## Developing Countries Services

**Share of Developing Countries in World Services Exports (Per Cent)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Category</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government services n.i.e.</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>27.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal, cultural and recreational</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other business services</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties and licence fees</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer and information</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial services</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>39.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>38.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>32.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total services</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>29.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In most categories, developing countries strengthened their world market share from 2000 to 2011.

Developing countries account for around 30% of world services exports.

Developing countries’ share of construction and travel services rises to almost 40% of world services exports of these categories.
Developing countries’ share of the global total of travel, construction and computer and information services exports perceived a noticeable increase from 2000 to 2011.

Despite developing countries’ shares increase, developed countries still dominate travel, construction and computer and information services exports.

Only some Asian developing countries managed to capture a significant market share in these services.
TOP EXPORTERS 2012 (US$ millions)

1. United States: 633,028
2. United Kingdom: 282,072
3. Germany: 258,860
4. France: 209,026
5. China: 190,939
6. India: 148,128
7. Japan: 142,855
8. Spain: 140,404
9. Singapore: 133,466
10. Netherlands: 128,855

TOP IMPORTERS 2012 (US$ millions)

1. United States: 436,459
2. Germany: 286,290
3. China: 282,098
4. United Kingdom: 181,882
5. Japan: 175,459
6. France: 171,523
7. India: 125,875
8. Singapore: 117,170
9. Netherlands: 115,888
10. Ireland: 110,430

Source: UNCTADStat database is used for all figures.
Note: 2012 values are estimated figures.