



## UNCTAD15 pre-event

Date **September 10 2021**

# Reclaiming Industrial Policy – Putting Policymaking Theory into Practice

Event co-organized with the OECD Development Centre

This webinar is the fourth of a four-part webinar series aimed at assessing what the emerging new consensus around industrial policymaking means and involves, particularly for developing countries. Tapping into the expertise of the recently launched Oxford Handbook on Industrial Policy and using the case studies offered by the Productive Transformation Policy Reviews (PTPRs), this fourth webinar will explore how the key principles that characterize the “new consensus” enshrined in the handbook shall be put into practice in countries that differ along several economic, political and social dimensions, and that face very different constraints.

### Background

It is of primary importance supporting developing countries in the formulation and implementation of industrial policy. This is why, in the framework of the OECD Initiative for Policy Dialogue on Global Value Chains (GVCs) Production Transformation and Development, UNCTAD has participated to the development of a policy assessment and guidance tool, the Production Transformation Policy Reviews (PTPRs), that provides a framework to identify options and actionable policy responses to promote structural transformation and upgrading, based on comparative assessment of countries’ assets, potential and priorities. To the date four PTPRS have been carried out by the OECD, UNCTAD and UNIDO in Latin American and African countries, with the participation of the respective UN-Regional Commissions. UNCTAD has also assisted several development economies in crafting innovative and up to date industrial policy. Informed by the vision on the primacy of industrial policy for structural transformation and development proposed in the Oxford Handbook on Industrial Policy, the PTPRs and other UNCTAD cooperation initiatives have tried to put into practice the key theoretical precepts of effective industrial policy policymaking (both in terms of policy process and specific toolset).

### Purpose and key objectives

The purpose of this event is to discuss how the key principles that characterize the “new consensus” around industrial policymaking enshrined in the Oxford Handbook on Industrial Policy shall be put into practice in countries that differ along several economic, political and social dimensions, and that face very different constraints. The case studies offered by the UNCTAD initiatives such as the PTPRs will serve as an anchor for the more general debate. The event will also represent the closure of a series of webinars that, tapping into the expertise of the recently



launched Oxford Handbook on Industrial Policy, explore some of the challenges and areas of debate around industrial policy making.

### Questions for discussion

The key objectives and expected outcomes of the event are the following:

- To emphasize what is new in the “new consensus” around industrial policy and assess the different challenges in the design and application of industrial policy in different economic, political and social circumstances.
- To discuss the experiences of the different countries that went through the policy review exercise and the role played in this context by enhanced interagency cooperation.
- To create an open dialogue in which member states can learn from different experiences of industrialization including challenges in the current difficult historical juncture.

### Programme :

#### 14.30–15.30 : Welcome and Introductory Remarks

##### Introduction:

**Richard Kozul-Wright**, Director, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, (UNCTAD)

##### Moderator:

**Annalisa Primi**, Head of the Division on Economic Transformation and Development of the OECD Development Centre

##### Roundtable:

- ❖ Patrizio Bianchi, Minister of Education, Italy
- ❖ Celeste Drake, director of Made in America Office at the Office of Management and Budget at the White House, United States of America
- ❖ Ephraim Patel, Minister of Trade and Industry, Republic of South Africa
- ❖ Arvind Gupta, Head and Co-Founder of Digital India Foundation, India

#### 15.30–16.00 : Question & Answer Session

##### Closing remarks:





- ❖ Annalisa Primi, Head of the Division on Economic Transformation and Development of the OECD Development Centre
- ❖ Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, (UNCTAD)

The discussion will be moderated and take place through zoom. Online registration is required.  
Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_4wJBII2oR8iiN1vMKMDMrg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4wJBII2oR8iiN1vMKMDMrg)

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