Production in Global Value Chains (Enhancing the Role of SMEs

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Production in Global Value Chains (Enhancing the Role of SMEs in Global Value Chains)

The globalisation of value chains has changed the way production is organised and has provoked important modifications in the relationships between partners along the value chain. This form of globalisation was determined mainly by the search for efficiency, which includes sourcing inputs from low cost or more efficient producers), the entry in new and growing markets, and the search for complementary and strategic assets. During the past two decades, the organisation of production has therefore undergone a dramatic evolution that has led to new forms of industrial and enterprise organisation on a worldwide basis. Despite the phenomenon being well acknowledged, it is still difficult to measure the extent of the globalisation of value chains. Evidence of this has been observed through indicators of economic globalisation, and notably in the increase of the share of intra-firm exports of affiliates under foreign control, the ratio of imported to domestic sourcing of inputs, and the export and import propensity of affiliates under foreign control in the manufacturing sector (OECD, 2007).

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