



Building productive capacities in the Asia-Pacific LDCs: the role of economic diversification

HIGH-LEVEL ASIA-PACIFIC POLICY DIALOGUE ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISTANBUL PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE DECADE 2011-2020

4-6 March 2015
Siem Reap, Cambodia

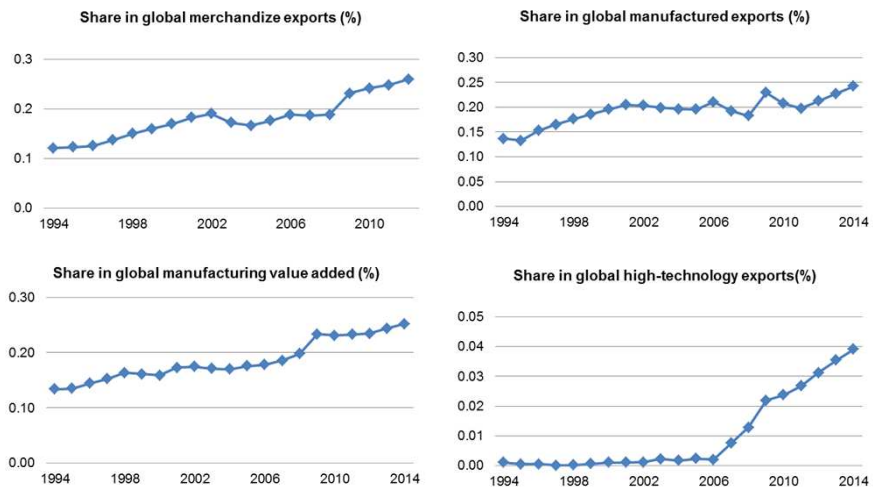
Clovis Freire
Economic Affairs Officer
Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division (MPDD)
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Outline

- Progress of Asia-Pacific LDCs in building their productive capacities
- Need for strategic diversification
- Policy recommendations to accelerate progress

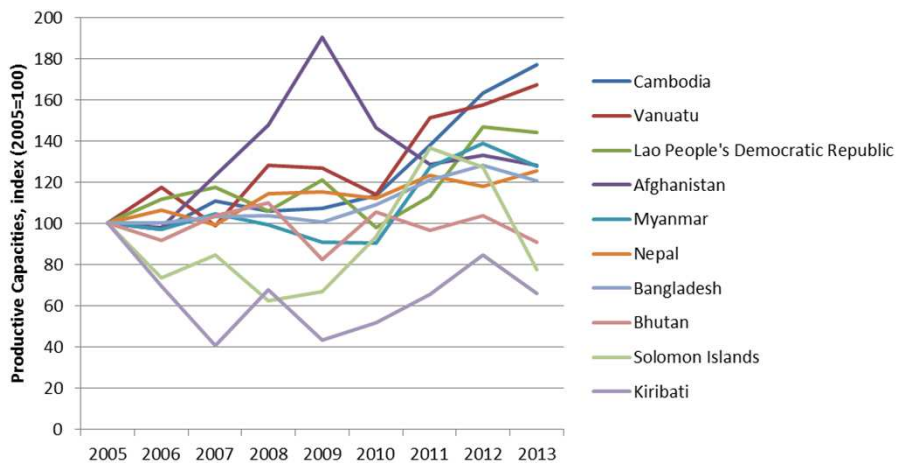
Productive capacities of Asia-Pacific LDCs have on average increased but remain low

Share of Asia-Pacific LDCs in global trade and production



Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from World Bank.
Note: Three-year averages in the period 2005-2013.

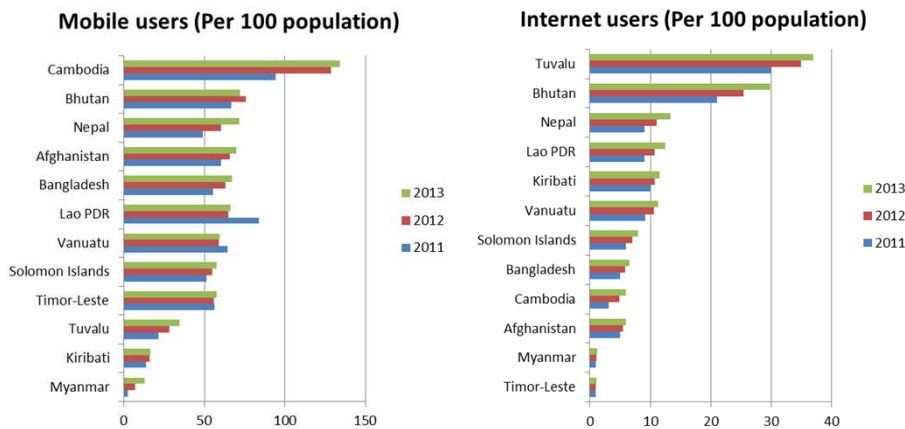
Economic diversification: Mix picture, half of Asia-Pacific LDCs have increased diversification and value addition



Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from UN COMTRADE.
Note: Three-year averages in the period 2005-2013.

Progress in ICT led by mobile telephony, and less in terms of Internet connectivity

(c) significantly increase access to telecommunication services and strive to provide 100 per cent access to the Internet by 2020



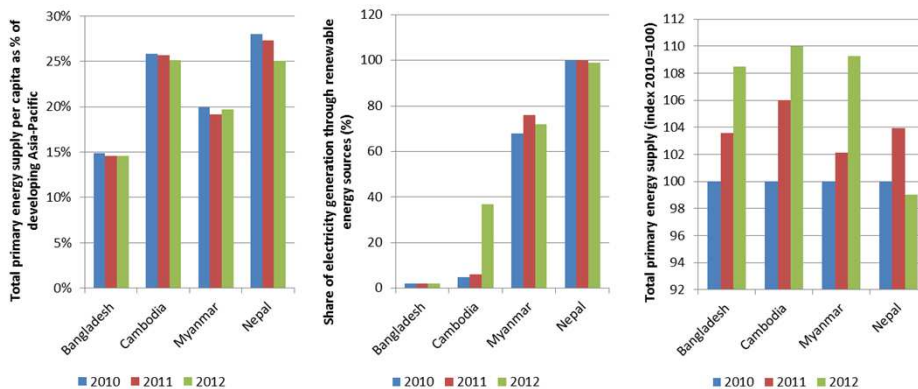
Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from UN COMTRADE.
Note: Three-year averages in the period 2005-2013.

Energy supply has increased but LDCs are still behind regional average in per capita terms

(d) strive to increase total primary energy supply per capita to the same level as other developing countries

(e) significantly increase the share of electricity generation through renewable energy sources by 2020

(f) enhance capacities in energy production, trade and distribution with the aim of ensuring access to energy for all by 2030



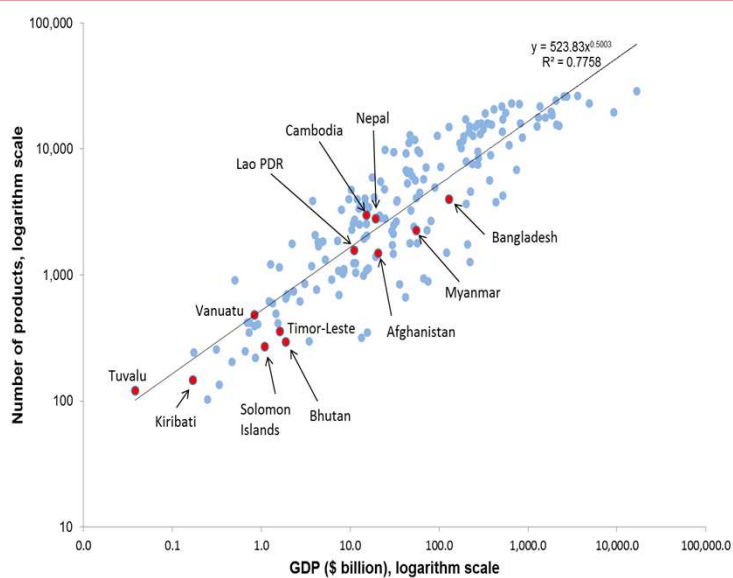
Source: ESCAP based on data from International Energy Agency (IEA) accessed at the ESCAP Online Database.

Transport: potential for greater use of regional transport networks

- Progress in transport facilitation
- Considerable efforts on improving land transport connectivity with neighbouring countries
- Efforts on improving and upgrading domestic road and rail networks
- Potential for greater utilization of regional transport networks through the development of intermodal facilities such as dry ports

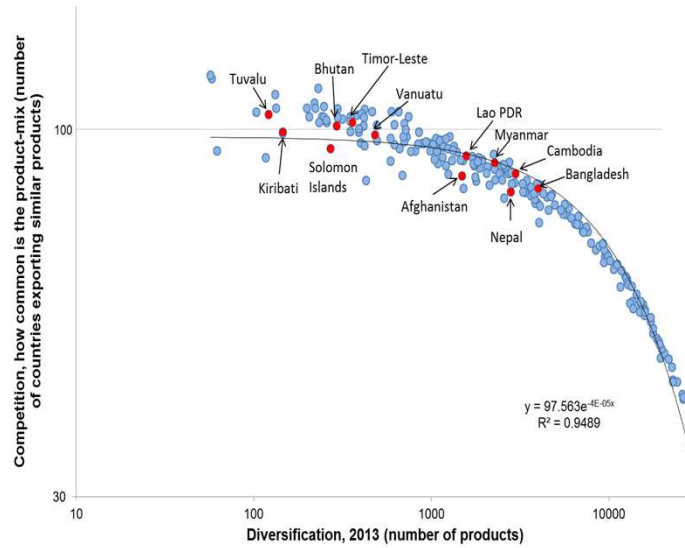
Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from UN COMTRADE.
Note: Three-year averages in the period 2005-2013.

Diversification is associated with higher GDP

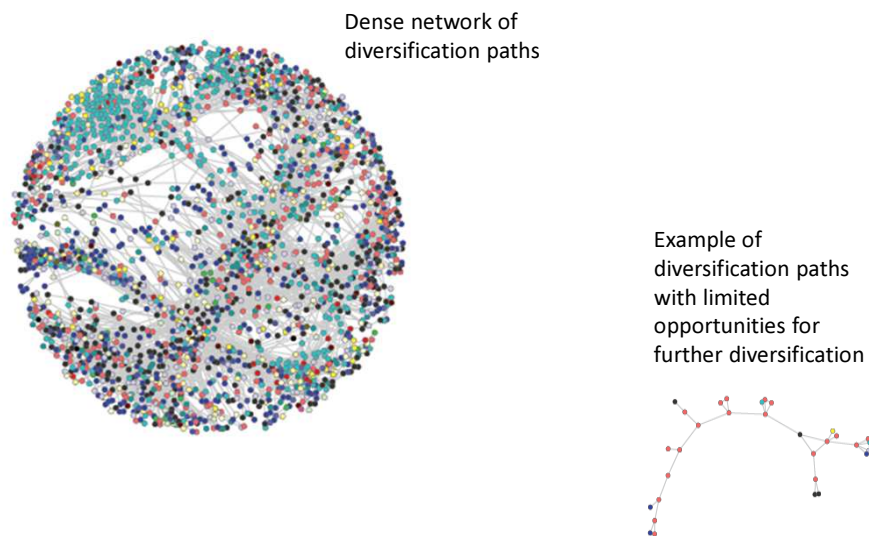


Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from UN COMTRADE, Year 2013.

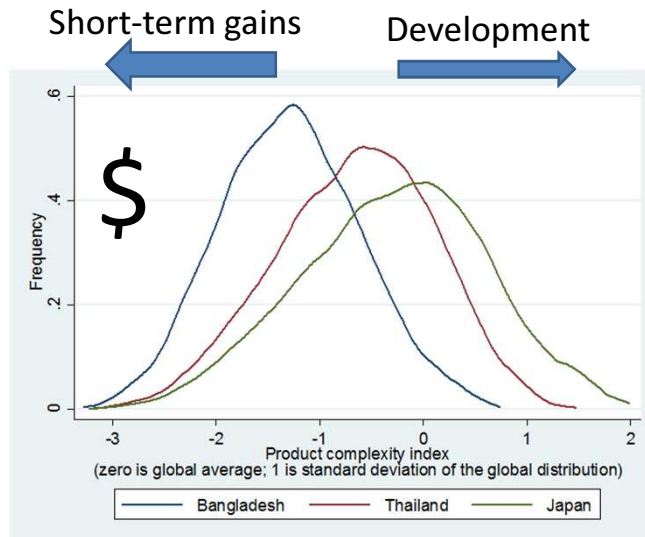
And the more diversified the economy the lower the competition for its products it faces in global markets



But what a country produces today affects what it can produce tomorrow

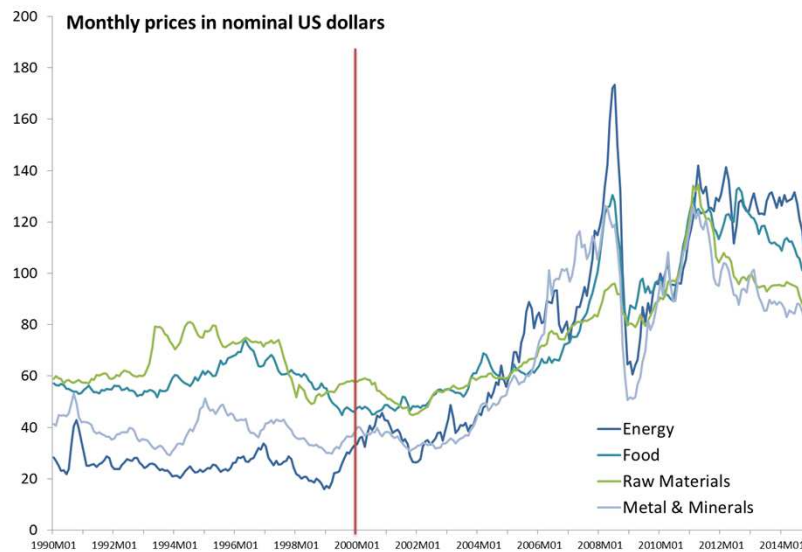


The more developed the country, the greater the complexity in terms of productive capacities required to produce

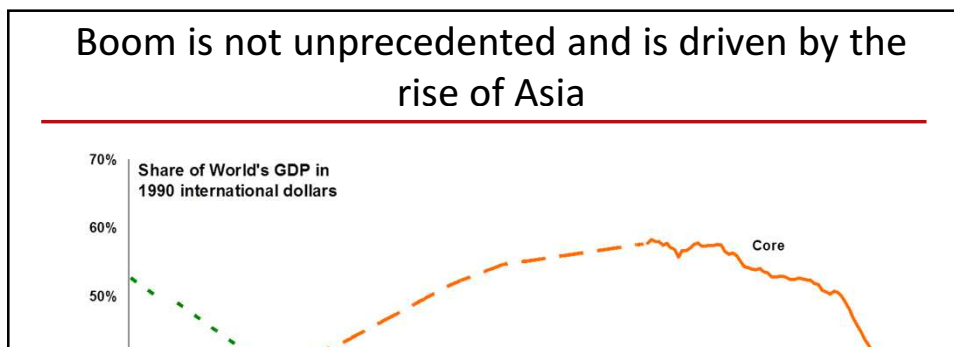
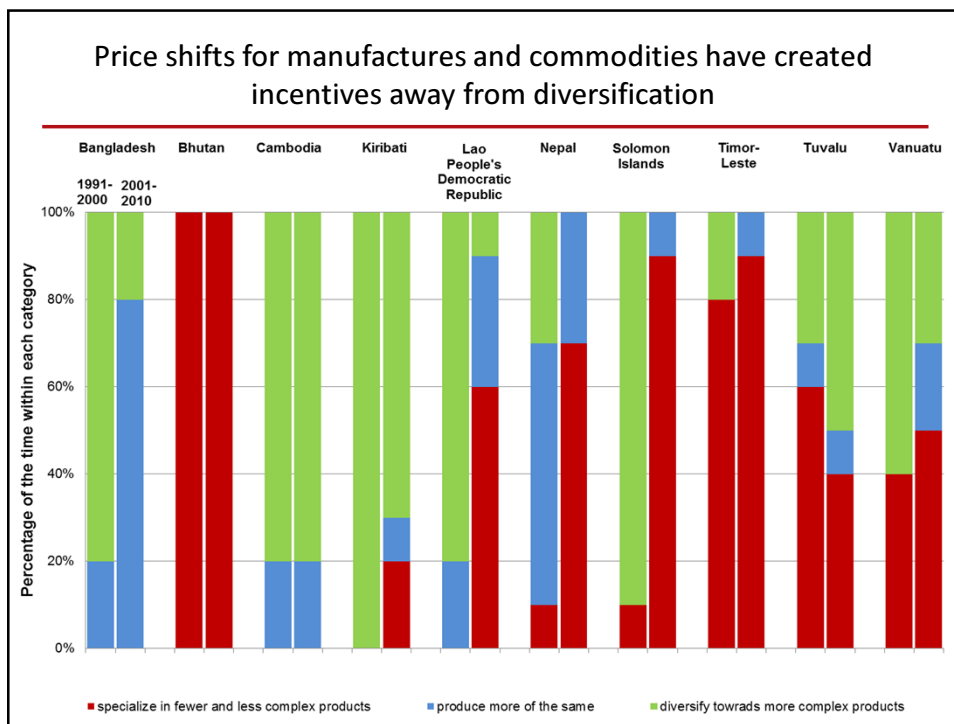


Source: ESCAP, based on trade data from UN COMTRADE.

Effect of demand: Prices of commodities and manufactures



Source: ESCAP based on data from World Bank Commodity Markets, Annual world prices of commodities and indices.



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