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The pros and cons of how LBTs like offsets impact the global innovation economy

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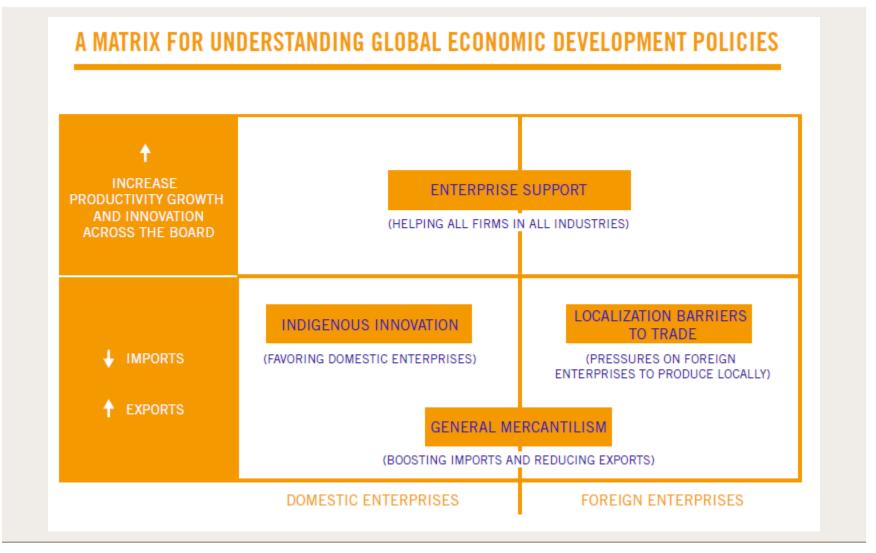
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- Innovation "verticals": energy, life sciences, telecom, manufacturing, and Internet and IT transformation
- Innovation "horizontals": trade, tax, talent, and tech policy
- "Innovation economics" as an alternative to mainstream economics

#### Today's Presentation

- 1 Contextualizing Economic Development Strategies
- The Impact of LBTs
- 3 How to Address Continued LBT Use

#### Contextualizing Countries' Economic Development Strategies



- Localization Barriers to Trade (LBTs)
- Pressure foreign enterprises to localize economic activity in order to compete in a country's marketplace.
- Force foreign enterprises to produce locally what they would otherwise produce elsewhere and export. Include:
  - Prescriptive offsets;
  - Local content requirements;
  - Forced local production or intellectual property/tech transfer as a condition of market access.

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LBTs, like prescriptive offsets, can benefit the countries receiving them and their domestic enterprises:

- Modernize the country's industrial production base.
- Foster knowledge transfer and skills development.
- Create jobs and improve current account position.

But while LBTs, like offsets, can deliver near-term gains, they come with costs and can harm several parties:

- 1. The foreign enterprises affected by them.
- 2. The nations on the receiving end of them.
- 3. The global innovation economy.
- 4. The countries that require them.

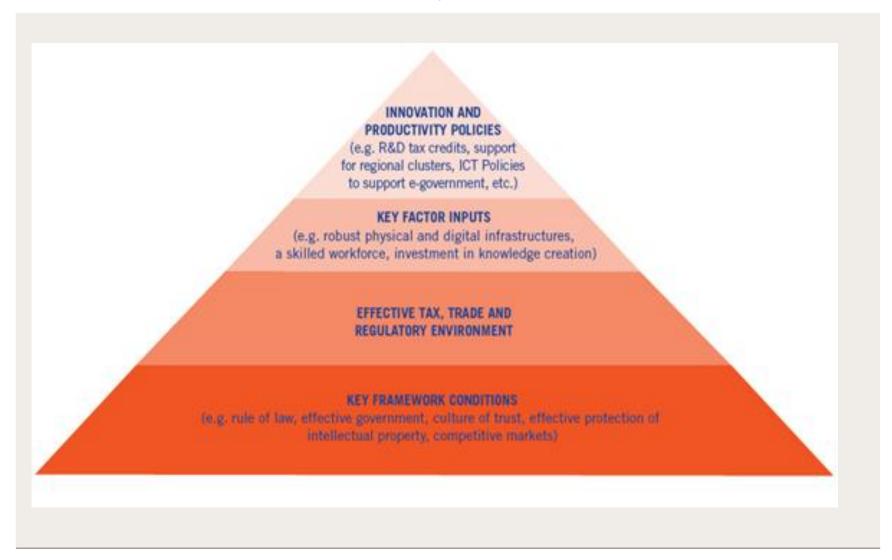
- 1. The foreign enterprises affected by them.
  - Raise firms' production costs.
  - Lead to reduced ability to invest in R&D/innovation.

- 2. The nations on the receiving end of them.
  - For an enterprise's home nation, may lead to facility closures, cutbacks, or diminished expansions, costing jobs and growth.
  - But they also hurt other third-party nations, who lose the opportunity to compete.

- 3. The global innovation economy, and innovative industries in particular.
  - Fail to increase the global stock of innovation.
  - Can disrupt the process of innovation in innovative industries.

- 4. The countries that implement them.
  - Inflict economic inefficiencies.
  - Can cause reputational harm.
  - Engender a slippery slope.
    - Countries would find similar policies enacted by the U.S. or EU intolerable.
  - They are a second-best option to winning on merits.
    - Distract countries from putting in place the right types of policies to grow their economies.

## ■ The Economic Growth Pyramid



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#### How to Address Countries' Continued Use of LBTs

- 1. Ensure that trade partners meet the trade commitments they have signed up to.
- 2. Complete high-standard free trade agreements that prohibit the use of prescriptive offsets.
- 3. Policymakers to need to work with enterprises to attract FDI to their countries, not to mandate it.



# Thank You

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