



Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable

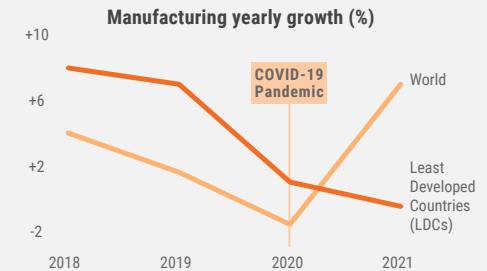
Manufacturing value added per capita (constant 2015 US dollars)

In 2021, global manufacturing rebounded from the pandemic, although the **recovery remains incomplete and uneven**. After **dropping 1.3 percentage** in 2020, global manufacturing production **grew by 7.2 percentage** in 2021, surpassing its pre-pandemic level. High-income countries benefited from massive policy support to firms and households and the rapid roll-out of effective vaccines.

In contrast, recovery in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) has been sluggish, due to subdued and volatile global demand, global trade disruption and tighter domestic economic policies.



▲ Ladies working in a textile and clothing industry in Bangladesh. Asian countries graduating from the LDC category need to bolster their textile and clothing sectors, particularly in the wake of COVID-19
ILO Photo - Marcel Crozet



▲ Manufacturing in more developed countries has rebounded, leaving least developed countries behind

The chart shows how LDCs consistently outperformed how LDCs consistently outperformed global manufacturing production growth every year, excepting in 2021

Manufacturing during pandemic (2020)

Manufacturing post pandemic (2021)

