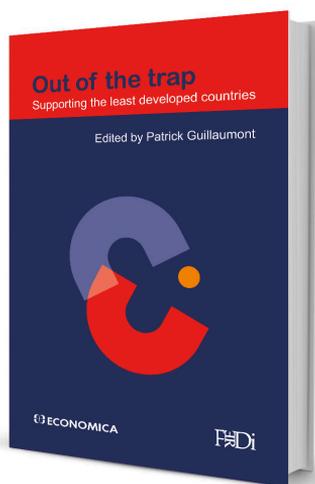


Annual meeting of the National Focal Points of LDCs

Book launch

14 November 2019, 12:30-14:30
UN Conference Room 11.



Launch event introduced by:

Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Perks Ligoya, Ambassador, and Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations, Chair of the LDCs Group at ECOSOC

Patrick Guillaumont, President of the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI)

Insights into the new book will be presented by several authors.

Comments by:

Debapriya Bhattacharya, Head of the LDC IV Monitor, and Distinguished Fellow of the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Dhaka

Ngueto Yambaye, Former Minister of the Economy and Development Planning of Chad, and former Africa Executive Director of IMF

Wenyan Yang, Chief, Social Perspective on Development Branch at the United Nations



Out of the trap

Supporting the least developed countries

The Least Developed Countries (LDCs), presently 47, a category of countries created at the United Nations in 1971, are identified as poor countries facing structural handicaps to growth and sustainable development. As such they deserve a special treatment from the international community, progressively implemented both through aid and trade. Every ten years a UN international conference designs a programme of action for these countries, the last one being that of Istanbul in 2011. A previous book *Caught in a trap. Identifying the least developed countries* scrutinized the rationale of the category and the criteria on which it relies. This new book *Out of the trap. Supporting the least developed countries* examines the effectiveness of the international measures taken to support the Least Developed Countries. Through the contributions of many experts, it is the first overall assessment of the five-decade aid and trade measures to help LDCs to move “out of the trap”. It aims to disentangle the outcome of the international special support from the structural handicaps faced by LDCs. It casts light on the international policy reforms needed for LDCs in the framework of the post-2015 agenda.

Authors: Jean-Louis Arcand, Cindy Audiguier, Matthieu Boussichas, Céline Carrère, Lisa Chauvet, Ana Cortez, Alassane Drabo, Michaël Goujon, Patrick Guillaumont, Sylviane Guillaumont Jeanneney, Teresa Lenzi, Jaime de Melo, Roland Mollerus, Laurent Wagner

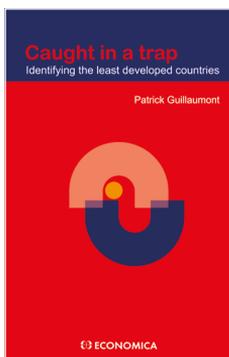
“The book is both important and timely, as it could contribute to the discussions on the content and contours of commitments towards the least developed countries for the next decade”. Fekita Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

“Poverty is a fact but not a fate in LDCs. The book explores the challenges and measures to help LDCs escape the poverty trap. A must read for development economists and practitioners”. Justin Yifu Lin, Dean, Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development, Peking University, Former Chief Economist, the World Bank .

“This book is a great contribution to our understanding of how the international community can support LDCs achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” . Jose Antonio Ocampo, Chair of the Committee for Development Policy at the UN, Professor at Columbia University.

“This book deeply assesses what international policies have done to tackle the vulnerability of poorest countries and what is to be done” . Michel Sidibé, Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Mali, former UN Under Secretary General.

A companion volume to



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