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# China's New Development Strategies

Upgrading from Above and from Below in Global Value Chains

## Editors:

- [Gary Gereffi](#),
  - [Penny Bamber](#),
  - [Karina Fernandez-Stark](#)
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- Provides valuable insights into industrial policies, global industries, and logistics
- Explores how and why Chinese supply chains aren't easily replicable
- Forecasts how COVID-19 and digital transformations might change global economic structures

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## About this book

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“Chapters in this volume by a group of global value chain (GVC) experts provide a careful examination of the respective roles of central and local governments as well as entrepreneurs in China’s dynamic growth process, especially after 2010. A useful book for understanding China’s past performance, prospects for future growth, and lessons for developing countries in the uncertain globalized world.”

—**Justin Yifu Lin**, Dean of the Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University and former World Bank Chief Economist

“This edited volume provides a timely analysis of how China is upgrading along GVCs with concrete examples and valuable insights. It shows the Chinese economy is not simply the product of a master plan imposed by the State; the intense competitive forces that play out by various agents at the local levels are central for China’s success in GVCs. It should be of interest to every scholar and policy maker concerned with China’s future roles in GVCs.”

—**Zhi Wang**, Founding Director, Research Institute on GVCs, UIBE, Beijing, China

This book examines China’s new development policies, which seek to reposition the country from an export platform for an array of low-cost consumer goods to a technological leader in advanced manufacturing. Focusing on the post-2010 period, the book shows how China’s central

government programs and reforms (“upgrading from above”) are coupled with varying local government policies, firm strategies, and domestic economy shifts (“upgrading from below”) to drive this development. Understanding the goals and challenges of China’s multifaceted industrial policies could not be more important in the current context of global trade tensions and major disruptions in GVCs.

**Gary Gereffi** is Emeritus Professor of Sociology, Director of the Global Value Chains Center at Duke University, and an originator of the GVC framework. Together with leading Duke GVC Center researchers, **Penny Bamber** and **Karina Fernandez-Stark**, the trio has contributed extensively to promoting GVC analysis and its use in policy circles. They publish and consult broadly on competitiveness issues, industrial upgrading, and economic development.

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## Keywords

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- **Strategies**
- **Global Value Chains**
- **Economic Development**
- **Export**
- **Consumer Goods**

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## Reviews

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'The nature of modern economic growth is a process of continuous technological innovation and industrial upgrading. China is one of the few developing countries after the World War II to manage this process successfully. Chapters in this volume by a group of global value chain experts provide a careful examination of the respective roles of central and local governments as well as entrepreneurs in China's dynamic growth process, especially after 2010. A useful book for understanding China's past performance, prospect for future growth and lessons for other developing countries in the uncertain globalized world.' (Justin Yifu Lin, Dean of the Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University and Former Chief Economist of the World Bank)

'This edited volume provides a timely analysis of how China is upgrading along GVCs with concrete examples and valuable insights. It shows the Chinese economy is not simply the product of a master plan imposed by the State; the intense competitive forces that play out by various agents at the local levels are central for China's success in GVCs. It should be of interest to every scholar and policy maker concerned with China's future roles in GVCs.' (Zhi Wang, Founding Director, Research Institute on GVCs, UIBE, Beijing, China)

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- **Department of Sociology, Duke University, Durham, USA**  
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Penny Bamber, Karina Fernandez-Stark

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## About the editors

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**Gary Gereffi** is Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Director of the Global Value Chains Center at Duke University. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Notre Dame and his Ph.D. degree from Yale University. Gereffi has published over a dozen books and numerous articles on globalization, industrial upgrading, and social and economic development, and he is one of the originators of the global value chains framework. Recent books include: *Handbook on Global Value Chains* (Stefano Ponte, Gary Gereffi, and Gale Raj-Reichert, co-editors) (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2019); *Global Value Chains and Development: Redefining the Contours of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Capitalism* (Cambridge University Press, 2018); and *Global Value Chains in a Postcrisis World: A Development Perspective* (Olivier Cattaneo, Gary Gereffi, and Cornelia Staritz, co-editors) (The World Bank, 2010).

**Penny Bamber** is a global value chain specialist, with more than a decade of experience working at the Duke Global Value Chains Center. She has contributed significantly to the development of the global value chain framework, particularly with respect to the intersection between international business and country-level development policy. She has published extensively, contributing to numerous books, reports and journal articles on economic growth and development, technology and skills for the future and the role of gender amongst others. Penny has consulted and provided policy analysis widely for national and international organizations, including the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation, UNCTAD, ILO, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

**Karina Fernandez-Stark** is an international consultant and a Duke Global Value Chains Center Affiliate, who has led numerous research projects related to economic development and competitiveness around the world. She has consulted for the African Development Bank, ECLAC, Inter-American Development Bank, OECD, UNCTAD and the World Bank, amongst others. Together with Gary Gereffi, Karina authored the highly cited book *Global Value Chain Analysis: A Primer*. She has published several research reports and articles on industrial upgrading and social and economic development. Her research continuously brings a policy focus advising country governments in

different continents. Karina has conducted Global Value Chains workshops in Africa, Asia and the Americas.

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