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Trade-related employment for women in industry and services in developing countries

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Abstract:

In preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women, which was held in Beijing in September 1995, UNRISD initiated an Occasional Paper Series reflecting work carried out under the UNRISD/UNDP project, Technical Co-operation and Women's Lives: Integrating Gender into Development Policy. This paper is intended to contribute to the project's policy dialogues. It considers current changes in the international economic context as they affect the evolution of employment structures, and analyses their implications for women's employment in the trade-related manufacturing and services sectors.

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For developing countries, globalization would result in the decline of inefficient, heavy or capital intensive industries that are heavily protected by high tariffs services as the determinant of labor demand. [Impact of Trade on the Employment Structure, Occupational Structure, Changes in the Occupational Structure of the labor force](#). On the other hand, reduction in employment may be expected in industries involved in iron and steel, heavy machine tools, continuous process, chemical and pharmaceutical industries and electric generation equipment industries. [Sex and Age Structure](#). 5 [Figure 2. Share of Developing Countries in World Services Exports by Category, 2005 and 2015](#) . 6 [Figure 3. Share of Developing Countries in World Services Exports and Imports, 1990 and 2015](#) . We explore the employment potential of trade in services in comparison with merchandise trade and quantify the employment elasticity of services exports. Although findings indicate a greater percentage increase in employment in merchandise exports compared with services exports, in absolute terms services has the potential to create a higher number of jobs than the manufacturing sector. [Introduction](#). Despite the prominent position of industry in foreign trade flows, services exports have increasingly becoming an important source of external revenues. for some. Wage employment is linked to trade since women's integration into formal labour markets is often the result of job creation due to trade expansion. The other indicator within MDG 3 that refers to eliminating gender disparity at all levels of education is also indirectly linked to trade. Women who are more educated are in a better position to benefit from globalization and trade liberalization by having the skills sought by integrated markets. They are also in a better position to contribute to the economic growth of their countries. MDG 8 - "Develop a global partnership for development&qu... • Barriers to women's seizing employment opportunities related to trade.