

The 106th GIST Seminar

Digital heterogeneities in developing countries: a comparative analysis

Speaker:

João Carlos Ferraz

Professor, Instituto de Economia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (IE/UFRJ), Brazil



- ◆ **Date:** 18:20-19:40, November 24, 2022 (Doors open at 17:50)
- ◆ **Venue:** 5th Floor, Lecture Room M, GRIPS
7-22-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo
<http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/about/access/>
- ◆ **Organizer:** GRIPS Innovation, Science and Technology Policy Program (GIST)
- ◆ **Language:** English
- ◆ **Outline**

At this seminar, Prof. Ferraz will present an article that investigates adaption patterns of digital technologies by firms of selected developing countries, namely: Argentina, Brazil, Ghana, Thailand, and Vietnam. The analysis is based on surveys carried out between 2017 and 2019 that covered a panel of 1,212 firms of varied sizes and industries. The evidence shows that most firms are currently adopting a low level of digitalization and have a positive expectation for the future even with a low level of readiness. The larger and technology intensive firms are, the higher the probability of firms being digitally progressive.

After Prof. Ferraz's presentation, we invite Prof. Patarapon of GRIPS to comment on how to interpret the result of analysis presented on policy context. We will then open discussion with the audience/participants. Based on the understanding on adaption of digital technology, it is interesting to discuss how can the effective policy be designed, especially to accelerate the digitalization process in sustainable and equitable manner.

◆ **Speaker's Short bio**

Prof. Joao Carlos Ferraz is a full professor at **Instituto de Economia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (IE/UFRJ), Brazil**, where he teaches, conducts research, publishes and advises on policy on subjects related to industrial organisation, economics of innovation and development finance. Prior to being a professor, he was a member of the Executive Board, the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), 2007-2016 and Director of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations (ECLAC/UN), Chile, 2003-2007.

◆ **Discussant's Short bio**

Patarapong Intarakumnerd, Professor at GRIPS



Prof. Patarapong is teaching Master and Ph.D. programs and conducting research in the area of economics of innovation and innovation policies at GRIPS. His research interests include national innovation systems in Thailand and newly-industrialising countries in Asia, industrial and knowledge-based clusters, Technological capabilities and evolution of latecomer firms, financial incentives for enhancing innovation capabilities and competitiveness, and roles of Research Technology Organisations (RTOs) in industrial clusters and national innovation systems.

◆ **Program**

- 18:20-18:25 Introduction by Prof. Michiko Iizuka (Moderator)
- 18:25-18:55 Presentation by Prof. Joao Carlos Ferraz (Presenter)
- 18:55-19:10 Discussion by Prof. Patarapong Intarakumnerd (Discussant)
followed by response from Prof. Ferraz
- 19:10-19:40 Open discussion and close

◆ **Moderator**

Michiko Iizuka, Professor at GRIPS

◆ **Warnings**

This is an in person seminar. Following precautionary measures for Covid19 are in place.

-Please wear mask inside of the lecture room.

-Please respect the max capacity of people in the lecture room and keep good distance when you are in the lecture room.

-The event is subject to cancelation due to the situation of Covid-19.