

Vandana Chandra is an economist in the World Bank's Economic Policy and Debt Department of the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network. Her main areas of interest are development economics and international trade. She has worked on sources of growth and employment in several Sub-Saharan African countries. In the last four years, the main focus of her work has turned to technological change, export diversification, competitiveness, and tertiary education in the context of economic growth in developing countries. Her recent book *Technology, Adaptation and Exports: How Some Developing Countries Did It* uses 10 case studies from a range of sectors - agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, fishery, electronics and software - to unravel how technological adaptation helped to scale up successfully nascent export sectors in some countries and seed and foster them in others. The highlight is the role of government in enabling the private sector to compete in a fiercely competitive global market.