

Access to Experts



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Klaas de Vries is an economist with The Conference Board. He closely follows developments in the global economy and researches the structural drivers of global growth and competitiveness relating to productivity and trade. He develops and maintains several large-scale growth and productivity datasets with an international focus, relating to the aggregate economy and underlying industries. These include the [Total Economy Database™](#), the [International Comparisons of Manufacturing Productivity and Unit Labor Costs](#) dataset, and the forward looking [Global Economic Outlook](#).

Prior to joining The Conference Board, de Vries worked at the University of Groningen, where he studied economic development and structural growth issues. He has published articles on structural transformation in emerging markets in general and on the dynamics of structural change in Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular. Selected external publications by de Vries include:

- Bart van Ark, Abdul Erumban, and Klaas de Vries, “Productivity and Innovation Competencies in the Midst of the Digital Transformation Age: An EU-US Comparison,” European Commission Discussion Paper No. 119, October 2019.
- Abdul Erumban, Robert Inklaar, and Klaas de Vries, “Global Growth Accounting: The Role of Shifting Investment Patterns,” *In Productivity Dynamics in Emerging and Industrialized Countries* (New York: Routledge India, 2018), 154-174.
- Bart van Ark, Klaas de Vries, and Kirsten Jäger, “Is Europe’s Productivity Glass Half Full or Half Empty?” *Intereconomics* 53, no. 2, (March 2018): 53-58.

De Vries holds a master’s degree in history from the University of Groningen and continues his coursework in economics.

External Publications

- G. de Vries, M. Timmer, and K. de Vries, “Structural Transformation in Africa: Static Gains, Dynamic Losses,” *Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 51 (6) (2015).
- M. Timmer, G. de Vries, and K. de Vries, “Patterns of Structural Change in Developing Countries,” in: J. Weiss & M. Tribe (ed.) *Routledge Handbook of Industry and Development* (2016).

Datasets

- R. Gouma, K. de Vries, and A. van der Veen-Mooij, “EUKLEMS Growth and Productivity Accounts, Description of methodology and country notes,” Groningen Growth and Development Center (2011).
- K. de Vries, G. de Vries, R. Gouma, and M. Timmer, “Africa Sector Database: Contents, Sources, and Methods,” Groningen Growth and Development Center (2013).
- G. de Vries, K. de Vries, R. Gouma, S. Pahl, and M. Timmer, “GGDC 10-Sector Database: Contents, Sources and Methods,” Groningen Growth and Development Center (2015).