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Policies for Promoting Technological Catch Up: Towards a Post-Washington Approach

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Abstract: This paper analyzes the evolution of policies for technology catch-up through three periods: the import substitution period, the (augmented) Washington Consensus period and the post-Washington period. We analyze the dominant policy models and practices in each of these periods as co-evolving with the dominant academic ideas, thereby changing the conditions for catching up. We develop several dimensions or building blocks that characterize the policies for technology catch-up. These dimensions are used to characterize each of the three policy periods with the objective of outlining the generic features of an emerging post-Washington approach to technology catch-up policies in relation to past approaches.

Keywords: technology, catch up, import-substitution, post-Washington consensus

JEL classifications: A13, B15, O38, O47

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