

# What opportunities can Latin America bring to Asia? Issues on bilateral trade and investment

Alicia García-Herrero –

**Chief Economist Emerging Markets, BBVA** 

Economic Research Department BBVA Bali, ADB Annual Meetings, May 2009



#### **Contents**

- Asia & Latin America:
  - Both embarked into globalization: affected by same shocks
- China & Latin America
  - Two Complementary Strangers
- What Are the Opportunities for China and Latin America?
  - In Trade
  - In Foreign Direct Investment



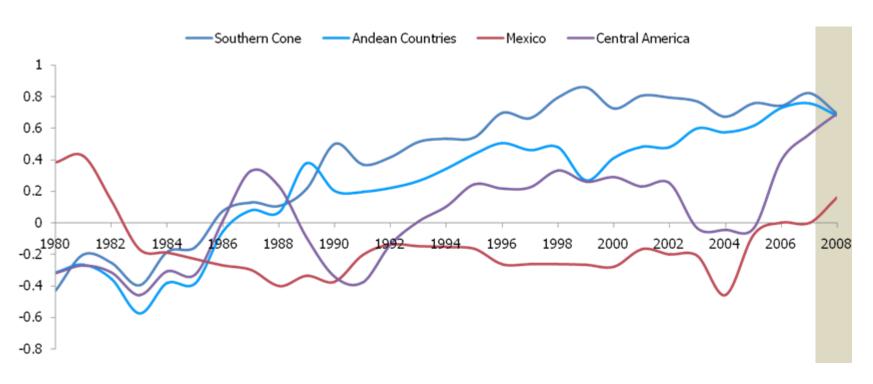
## Both embarked into globalization: affected by same shocks

- Closer co-movement between Asia and Latin America (specially with China)
- However, still mainly because of common external demand



### **Growing co movement with China for most of Latin America**

Growth in Output Correlation between Latin America and China, 1980-2007 (10 year window rolling correlations)

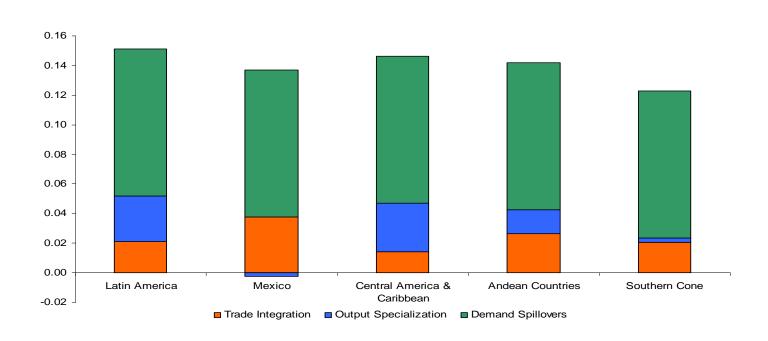


Source: WDI, WEO, Latin Focus



### 2/3 of the correlations explained by demand externalities

#### Explaining the rising output correlation between LAC and China





#### **Contents**

- Asia & Latin America:
  - Both embarked into globalization: affected by same shocks
- China & Latin America
  - Two Complementary Strangers
- What Are the Opportunities for China and Latin America?
  - In Trade
  - In Foreign Direct Investment



#### China and Latin America:

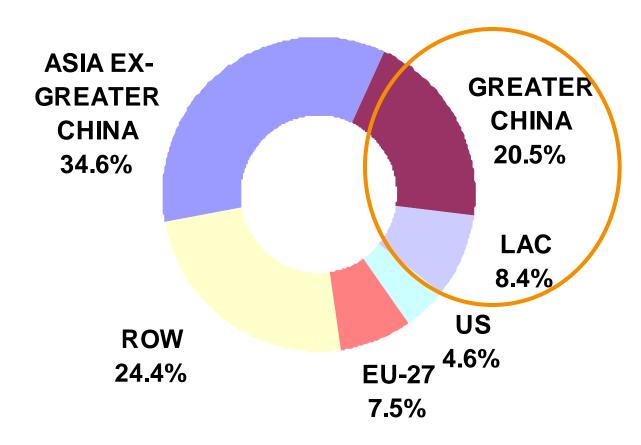
### Two Complementary Strangers

- China and Latin America:Two Heavyweights in the World
- ✓ The paradox of Latin America:Even if remote, very good partner for China



## China and Latin America: nearly one third of world's population

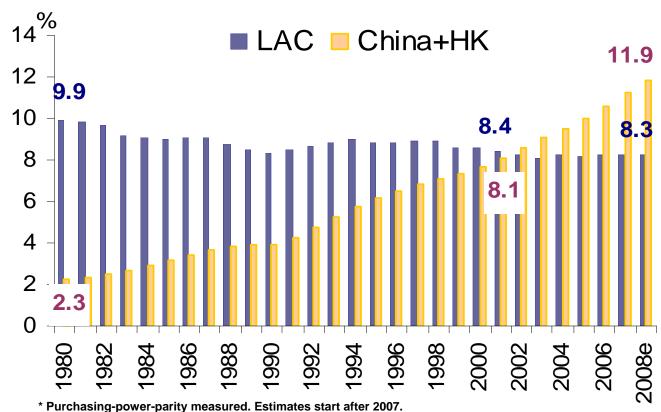
#### **Share of World Population, 2008e**





### Important economic blocs: 1/5 of world's GDP

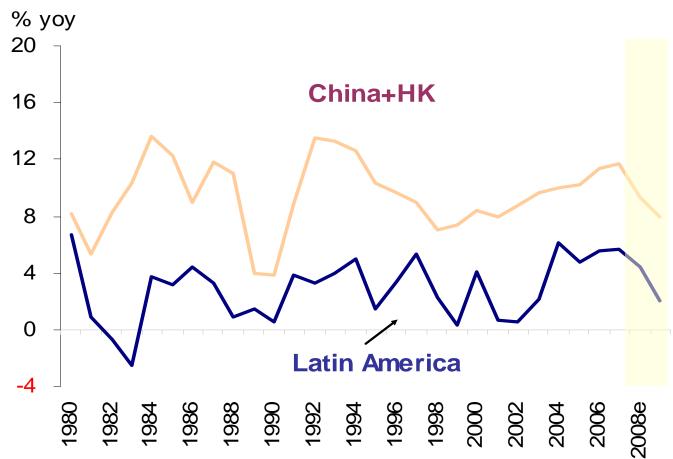
#### China/HK and Latin America's share of world GDP (PPP\*)





## China's economic growth spectacular Latin America's sharply accelerated in recent years

Real GDP growth in annual % change (2008-9 estimates)

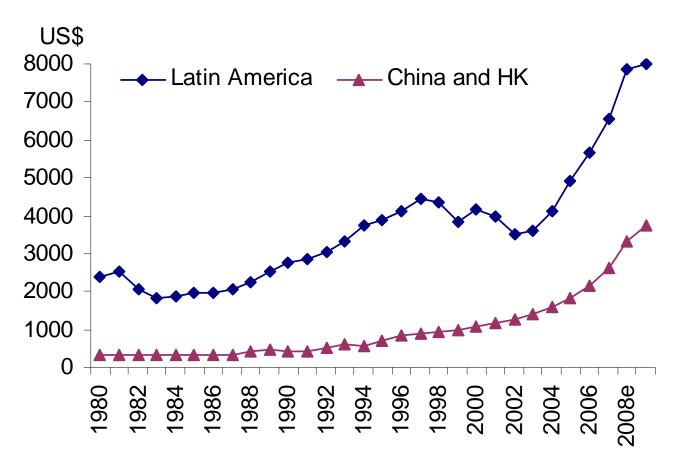


\* BBVA forecasts for 2008-2009 (baseline scenario). China and HK growth: PPP weighted.



### Yet, Latin America retains higher per capita income

### China and HK vs Latin America: GDP current per capita (in US dollars)

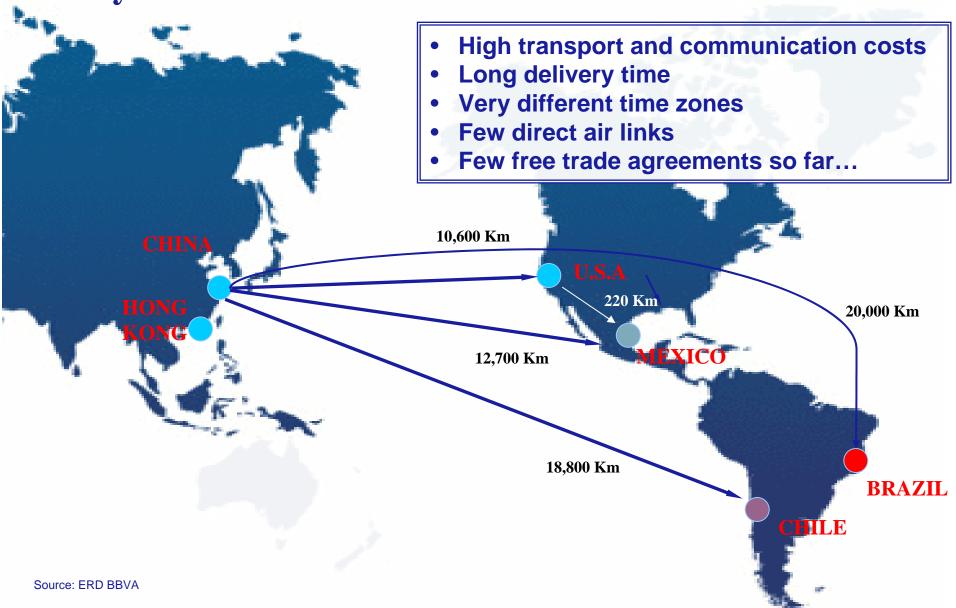


#### **BBVA**

#### **Contents**

- Asia & Latin America:
  - Both embarked into globalization: affected by same shocks
- China & Latin America
  - Two Complementary Strangers
- What Are the Opportunities?
  - In Trade
  - In Foreign Direct Investment

## The paradox of China-Latin American relations: **BBVA** clearly remote...





### But bilateral trade agreements increasing

Already two years ago with Chile (Oct 06)

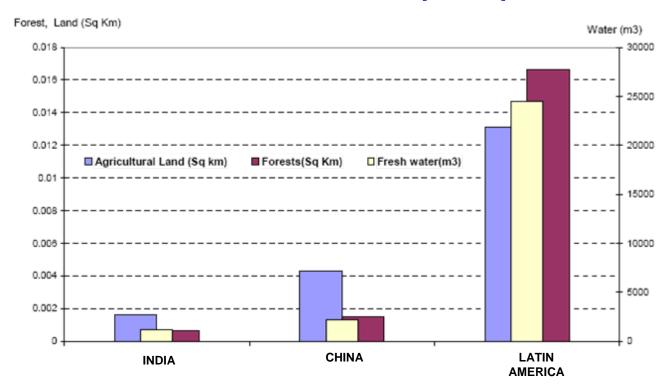
Very recently with Peru (signed April 09)

Negotiating with Costa Rica and Colombia

## Latin America is complementary to China due to BBVA a striking difference in natural endowments

China's agricultural land per capita is just 1/3 of that of Latin America!

#### Selected natural resources per capita, 2005

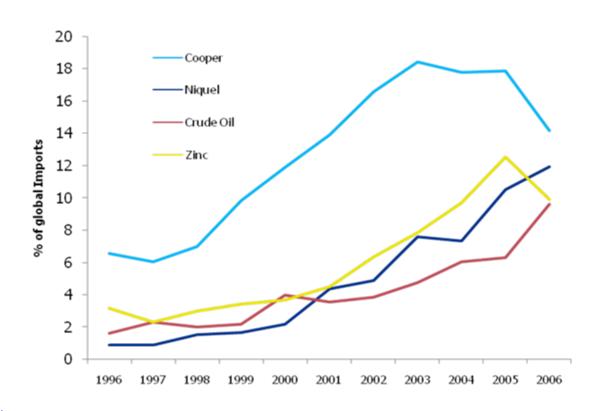


Source: WDI



### China's imports of commodities already very relevant at world scale

China's Imports as porcentage of World's Imports



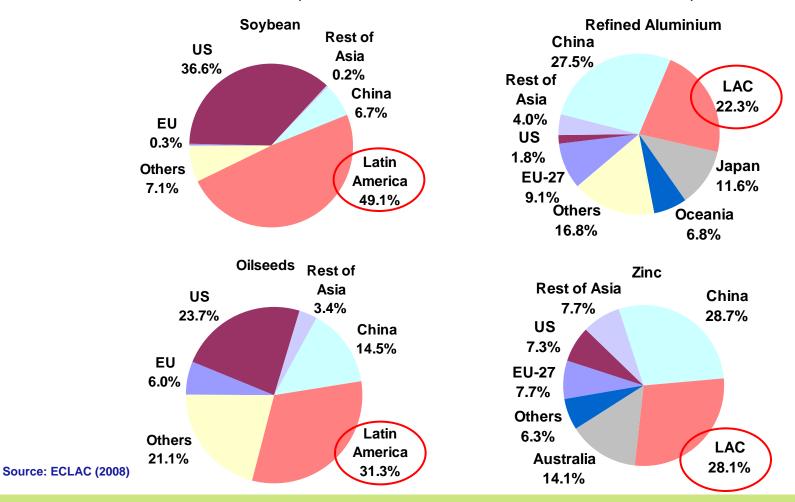
Source: UN Comtrade



### LAC is key supplier of agricultural products, minerals and metals to China/HK and rest of Asia

#### **Production Share by Region/Country, 2006-2008**

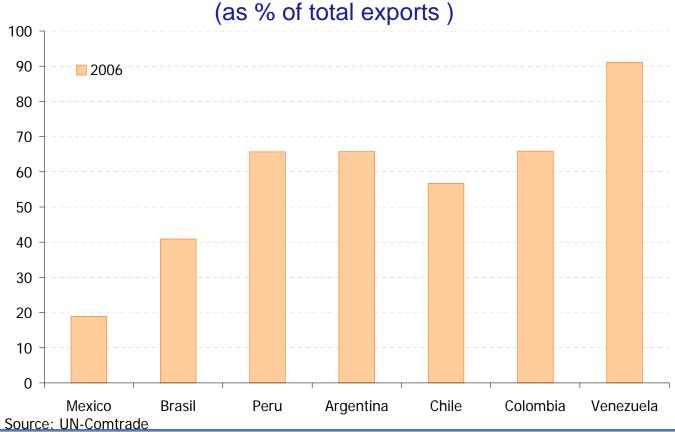
(as % of world, selected commodities)





## More generally, Latin America exports mostly commodities and primary products

#### **Exports of Commodities by Country**



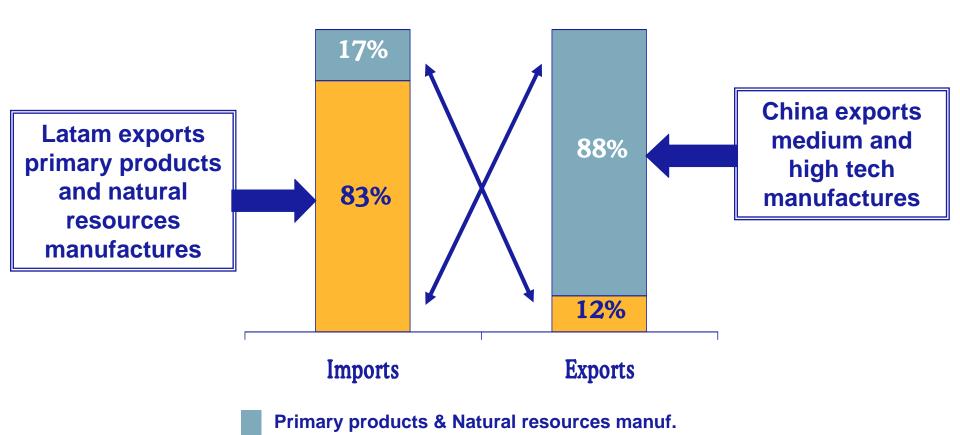
Major Latin American economies, except Mexico, are heavily dependent on exports of commodities.



### Structure of bilateral trade, thus, highly complementary

China: import/export structure with Latam, 2006

(% of imports/exports flows)



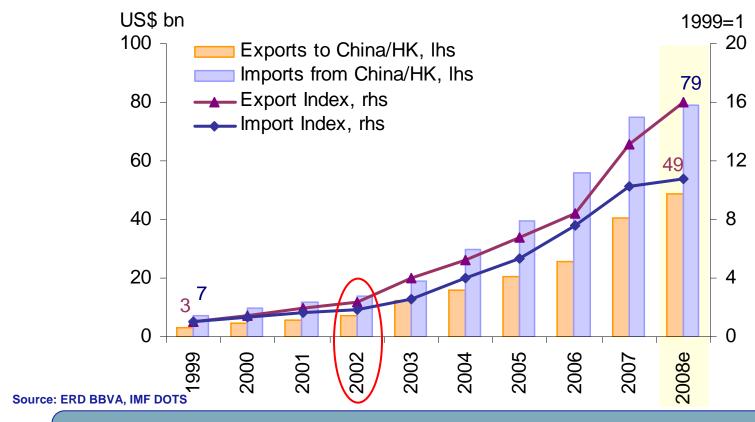
Source: ERD BBVA. ECLAC

Low, Mid and High-tech manuf.



## China's commodity hunger fueled the rapid expansion of trade with Latin America

LAC: trade with China and HK, 1999-2008e (USD billion current, index 1999=base)



Latin America's exports to China has grown 163% since 2000; imports from China 136%.



### China has emerged as a major trade partner

#### Exports to China at current prices, 2002 vs 2007

(as % of total exports and rank among destinations)

	2002 (% of total)		2007 (% of total)	
Argentina	4.31	5th	9.42	2nd
Bolivia	0.56	17th	1.16	15th
Brazil	4.25	4th	6.83	3rd
Chile	7.24	3rd	15.51	1st
Colombia	0.33	39th	2.62	7th
Mexico	0.28	12th	0.70	10th
Paraguay*	0.84	17th	1.03	15th
Peru	7.97	3rd	10.94	2nd
Uruguay	5.57	5th	3.59	↓ 7th
Venezuela	0.38	31st	0.16	<b>↓</b> 35th

\*2006 latest year available

Source: ERD BBVA on the basis of ALADI



## Most remarkable, China has become the 1st or 2nd supplier to most Latin American markets

Imports from China at current prices, 2002 vs 2007

(as % of total imports and rank among suppliers)

	2002 (% of total)		2007 (% of total)	
<b>Argentina</b>	3.70	4th	11.46	3rd
Bolivia	4.83	7th	7.74	5th
Brazil	3.41	7th	10.8	/2nd
Chile	7.16	4th	11.44	2nd
Colombia	4.2	6th	10.03	2nd
Mexico	3.72	3rd	10.49	2nd
Paraguay*	12.64	3rd	25.70	1st
Peru	6.19	4th	12.12	2nd
Uruguay	3.83	6th	9.61	4th
Venezuela	1.93	9th	9.68	3rd

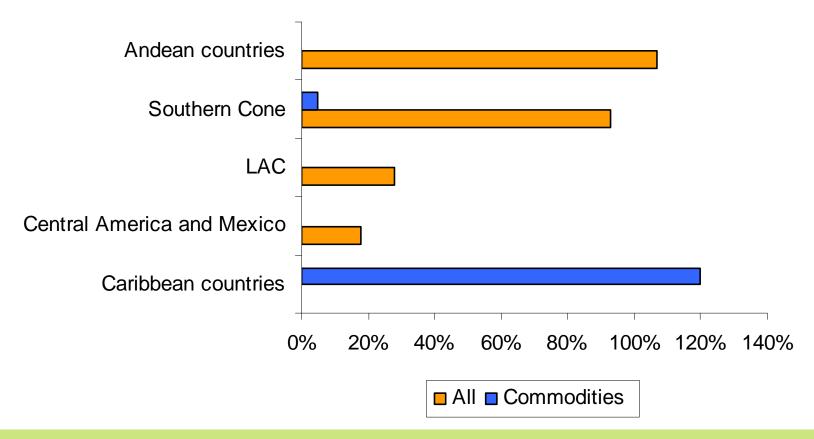
<sup>\*2006</sup> latest data available

Source: ERD BBVA on the basis of ALADI



## Though opportunities have not been fully tapped

Unsatisfied Chinese demand for LAC products, as share of bilateral LAC exports





### Still some Latin American sectors and countries may suffer

- 1. Regarding exports of goods,
- Negative impact of China's competition concentrated in
  - Textiles
  - Telecommunication equipment
  - Electronic equipment
- And also in a few countries
  - México
  - To a lesser extent, Central America



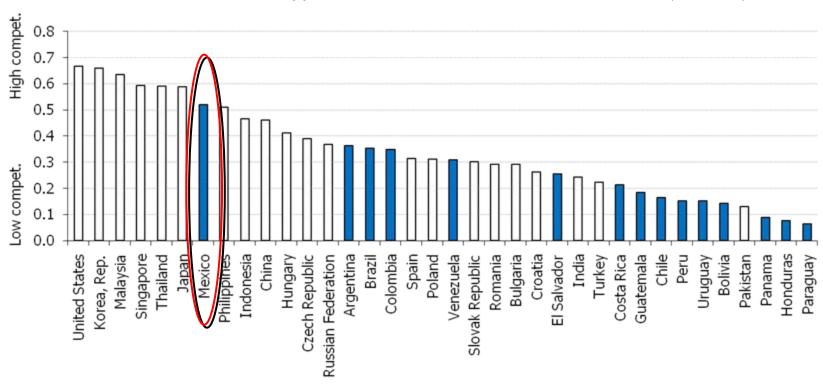
### Still some Latin American sectors and countries may suffer

- 2. Regarding exports of services,
- Not much impact of China's competition
- More coming from India and only in some sectors:
  - Industrial engineering
  - Other business, professional services
  - Legal services
  - Research & development and technical services
- LAC is performing relatively well on :
  - Tourism
  - Health



### Trade complementarities with China



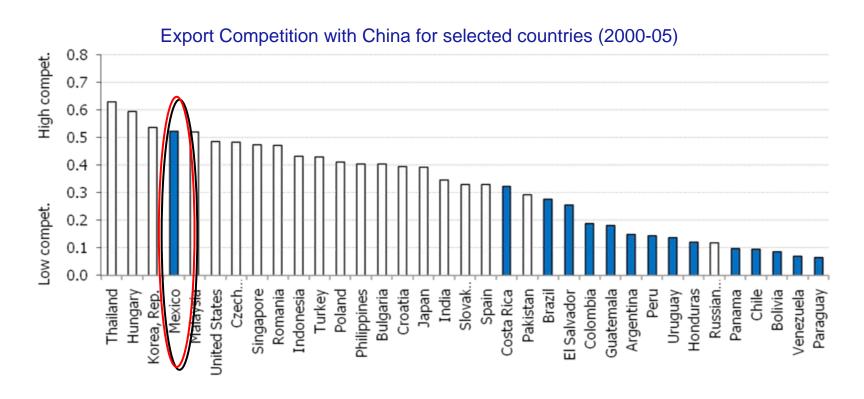


Note: Modified CS and CC coefficients calculated with exports of country *i* and <u>imports</u> of country *j* (China, India).

Sources: OECD Development Centre, 2008; based on WITS Database, 2007.



## Competition in third markets is low with China, except for Mexico



Note: CS and CC coefficients calculated with exports of country *i* and exports of country *j* (China, India).

Source: OECD Development Centre, 2008; based on WITS Database, 2007.

#### **BBVA**

#### **Contents**

- Asia & Latin America:
  - Both embarked into globalization: affected by same shocks
- China & Latin America
  - Two Complementary Strangers
- What Are the Opportunities for China and Latin America?
  - In Trade
  - In Foreign Direct Investment



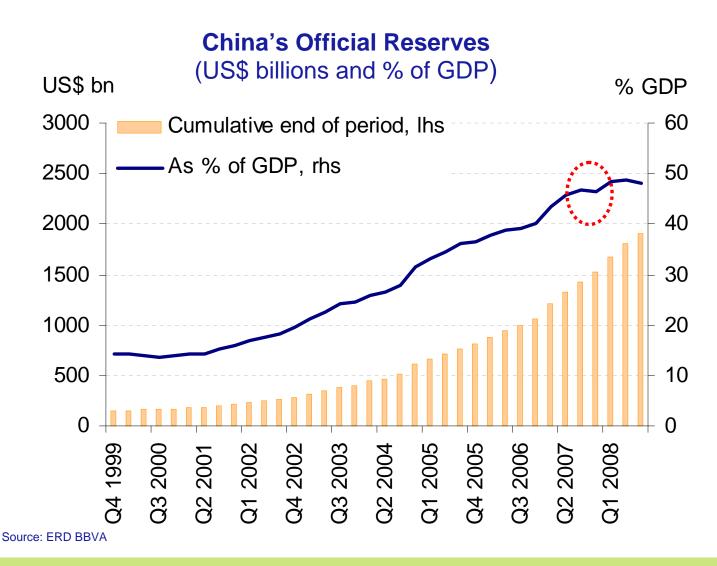
### The first thought is competition for inward FDI

 Not really much except for some countries, according to existing studies (Lederman, Perry and Oleorraga 2008), Garcia Herrero and Santabarbara (2007)

	China's Effect	India's Effect
Central American Countries	-0.33	0.86
	(0.03)**	(0.00)**
Andean Countries	0.07	-0.03
	(0.73)	(0.94)
Southern Cone's Countries	0.24	-0.37
	(0.12)	(0.13)



### China's huge and growing reserves have been a source of financial and direct investment abroad

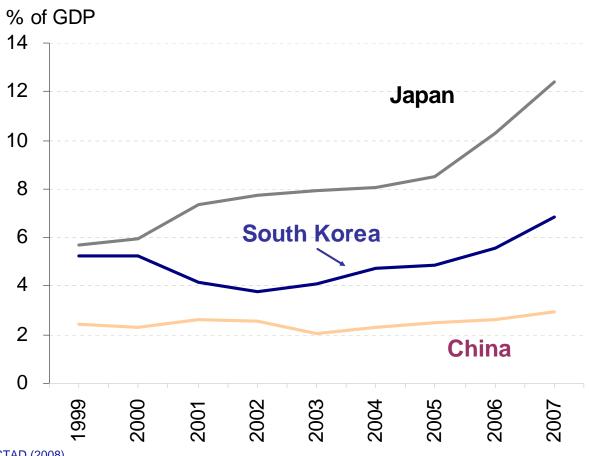






### Chinese FDI stock vs Selected Asian Peers

(outward FDI stock as % of GDP)

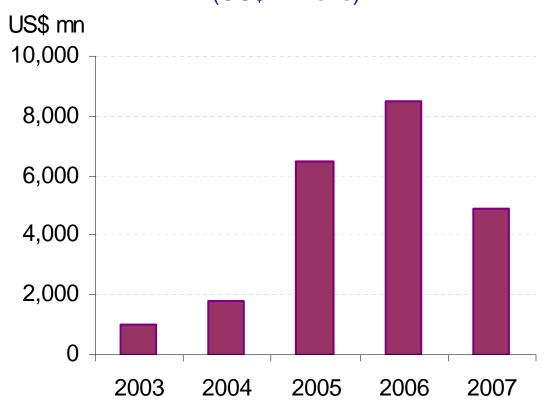


Source: ERD BBVA, UNCTAD (2008)

### China's FDI into Latin America grew 80% per year since 2003



Chinese FDI into Latin America (non-finance sector) (US\$ millions)

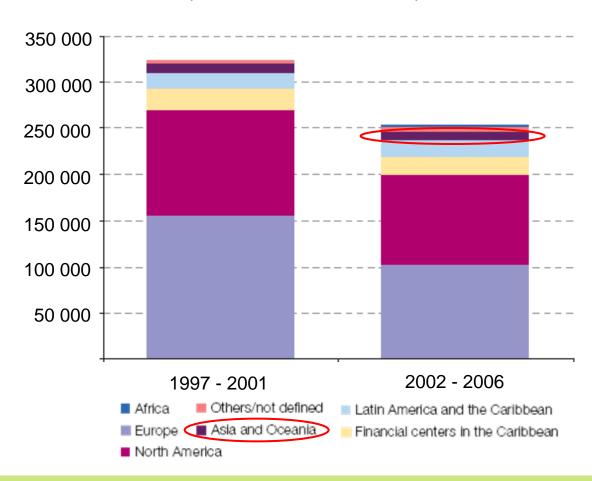


Source: ERD BBVA, CEIC

### But ample room to increase in view of a very low starting base



Latin America's inward FDI, 1997-2001 vs 2002-2006 (stock in US\$ millions)

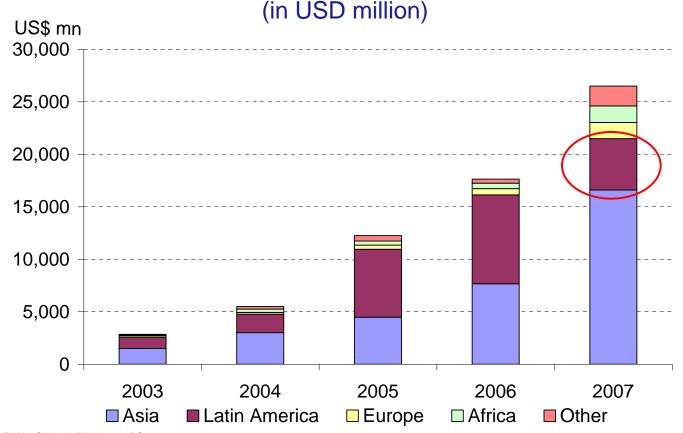


Source: ECLAC (2008)

### Moreover, Latin America is important for China's outward FDI



Chinese FDI flows by destination (non-finance sector), 2003-2007



Source: ERD BBVA, China's Ministry of Commerce

Latin America has become China's largest foreign investment destination outside the Asian region.



### **Key Chinese investments in Latin America**

YEAR	INVESTING CO.	RECIPIENT CO.	STAKE	SECTOR	COUNTRY	INVESTMENT AMOUNT (US\$ million)
2008	Jiangxi Copper - China Minmetals	Canadian miner Northern Peru Copper (NOC)	94%	Copper mines	Peru	356 (C\$ 436)
2007	Chinalco	Peru Copper	75%	Copper mines	Peru	860
2007	Zijing Mining Group Co.	Monterrico Metals Plc-listed in London	90%	Copper mines	Peru	186 (GBP 96)
2006	China Minmetals Non-ferrous Metals Co	Corporacion Nacional del Cobre de Chile	Joint Venture	Copper mines	Chile	550
2006	China National Petroleum Corp (CNPC)	PDVSA	Joint Venture	Crude oil exploration	Venezuela	10
2006	Minmetals	Government of Cuba	Joint Venture	Niquel	Cuba	500
2006	Sinopec (China) & ONGC	Omimex	50%	Crude oil	Colombia	55
2005	Minmetals	Noranda	44%	Copper mines	Chile	20
2005	Andes Petroleum, CNPC and Sinopec	Encana	100%	Crude oil	Ecuador	1,420
2005	Shengli International (SINOPEC)	YPFB	Joint Venture	Crude oil	Bolivia	1,500
2003	Sinochem	CRS Resources	14%	Crude oil	Ecuador	100

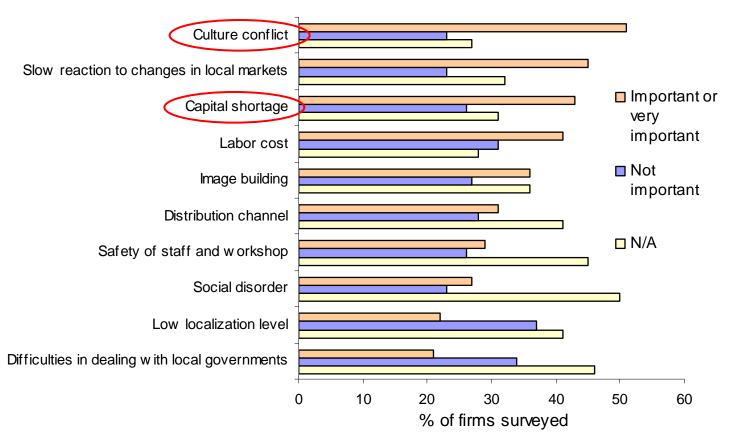
Source: ERD BBVA, press

### How is the Chinese investment experience overseas?



#### Main Challenges Faced in International Operations

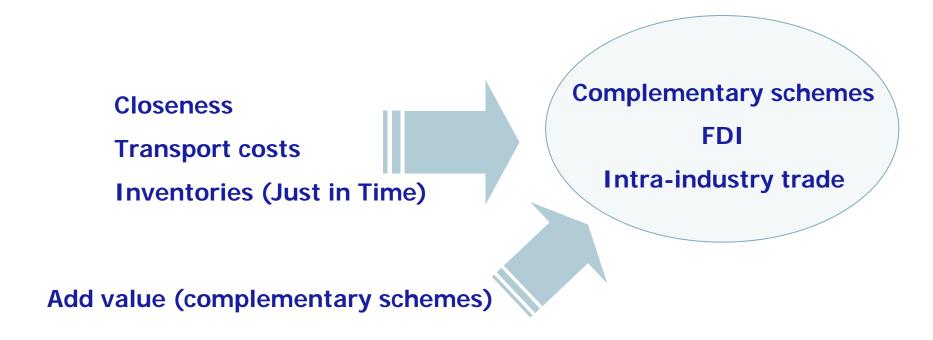
(in % of responses, firm survey)



Source: Battat, Joseph, FIAS/ MIGA Firm Survey (April 2006)

## Latin America should exploit geographical proximity to the US market to attract China's FDI





In order to attract FDI, Latin American countries still has much work to do in improving their institutions and infrastructure

Latin America is and will continue to be an important market for China/HK (export diversification and provision of services).

## Latin America needs also to strengthen its trade logistics in order to lower exporters' costs



#### **Logistics performance index**

(score in the range of 0-5)



Source: ERD BBVA, ECLAC (2008), World Bank (2007)



#### To conclude

- Asia offers many opportunities to Latin America as well as challenges
- This opportunities are more for South America and the challenges for Mexico and Central America based on pure comparative advantage criteria but even this is subject to test in the future. Geography may become key in the context of competitive forces.
- Intensifying Latin America's comparative advantage towards natural resources seems more warranted once Asia becomes a key player member of the global economy



#### To conclude

- In the particular case of China, it is quite obvious that the benefits of their natural complementary will be reaped in the next few years
- Ways to foster this process are:
- 1. Permanent alliances in trade (FTA) to secure commodities to China
- 2. Latin America's gradual shift from the current inter-industry trade pattern to vertically integrated trade with the help of HK and Chinese investors

In the current environment, financing will be key



## Thank you