**Journal Autrepart – Call for paper – Book reviews**

**When companies from developing countries invest**

**in developing countries**

Géraud Magrin (Geographer, Cirad), Evelyne Mesclier (Geographer, IRD),

Alain Piveteau (Economist, IRD)

The emergence of a new world order during the last decades inaugurates a new phase of globalization. It causes important changes in the relationship between developing countries. While industrialised countries continue to supply the bulk of international investment, the expansion of investment flows within the developing world, highlighted by UNCTAD in its reports for 2004 and 2006 constitutes a major structural fact that the current crisis does not seem likely to question. Chinese investments are one of the best documented illustrations of a phenomenon that goes beyond this single case and results in a sharp increase and diversification of investment among developing countries.

These investments, little studied until now, will be addressed here through two main approaches. The first one proposes to focus on the practices and strategies of the companies from developing countries investing in developing countries, and on the context of these investments, such as the relationships between public and private stakeholders, the varying degrees of articulation between this type of investment and the diplomatic or cooperation relations among developing countries, the ideological and technical references legitimizing these investments, or even the regulatory and institutional frameworks organizing them. The second approach proposes to focus on the concrete impact of these practices and strategies on the host countries in different sectors such as industry, agriculture, extraction of mineral (ores, hydrocarbons) or renewable resources (wood, fishery products), or public infrastructure and communications. These effects can be addressed through the interactions between the States, the local companies, the workers, the civil society, and the populations living next to the investment sites as well as through the transformation of the territories and of their relationships with other geographical areas.

Included in the range of expected contributions are those dealing with investments from major emerging countries such as China, India, Brazil or South Africa. The analysis of investments from countries less prominent on the international scene such as Thailand, Malaysia, Colombia, Venezuela, Angola, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, etc., are also relevant. The different approaches adopted by various social sciences (economy, sociology, anthropology, political science, law, geography, etc.) will provide useful insights into the complexity of the recent dynamics of these investments.

The main questions the authors may address are the following:

* What is the quantitative importance of the investment flows from developing countries to a particular developing country or region? Do some sectors particularly attract these investments? If so, which sectors and why? What are the recent trends in the specialization of investment among developing countries?
* Are the location and hosting conditions of these investments specific to outward investment from developing countries or rooted in industrialised countries? This question can be addressed through a number of themes: the relationships with local companies, employees and subcontractors, the role of linguistic or historical proximity or conversely socio-cultural distances, the influence of debates, representations and associated discourse, the strategies of local actors, the social or environmental conflicts, the forms of territorial inscription, etc.
* Are there particular stakes involved in the technological, social and environmental standards of the companies from developing countries? If this is the case, how do they shape the outward investments from developing countries take (socio-environmental dumping, technical or institutional closeness, spill-over effects, etc.)?
* Are there specific competition or cooperation relationships between the new investors from developing countries and more traditional investors, national or international?
* Do bilateral or multilateral cooperation systems, which sometimes accompany investment, play a role comparable to that which they played for the investors from industrialised countries earlier or do they establish new models of partnership?
* Do these investments transform the political space of the host countries that face investors and donors from industrialised countries? Do they contribute to the creation of networks between developing countries, to a redefinition of regional and international geopolitical relations?

The proposed articles will allow us to understand whether investments among developing countries is an additional step in the circulation of economic, social and environmental standards produced in industrialised countries and transferred to emerging countries before being re-exported to other peripheries, or whether they produce unique dynamics carrying new development opportunities or inequalities.

**Proposal (title and abstract not exceeding 150 words) must be sent to the journal *Autrepart* before 15th september 2013**

**The articles selected have to be submitted by 15th november 2013**

**Book reviews on the topic of this issue must be sent to the journal *Autrepart* before 15th December 2013**

**Revue Autrepart —** 19 rue Jacob — 75006 Paris

<http://www.cairn.info/revue-autrepart.htm>

Merci d’envoyer vos messages à la revue à : [autrepart@ird.fr](mailto:autrepart@ird.fr) avec copie à [revue.autrepart@gmail.com](mailto:revue.autrepart@gmail.com)