

Determinants of chinese outward foreign direct investments in africa; sadc and non-sadc countries

Audria Philes Cosmas^a and Xi Aihua^{b,}*

^a*College of Economics and Management, China Agricultural University No.17, Qinghua East Road Haidian District, Beijing, People's Republic of China 100083*

^b*College of Economics and Management, China Agricultural University No.17, Qinghua East Road Haidian District, Beijing, People's Republic of China 100083*

ABSTRACT: As globalization has led to rapid increase in foreign direct investment, China's outward foreign direct investments has also been growing rapidly in the global economy. Recently, there have been rapid growing economic activities between China and Africa. Many African countries are trying their best to find ways to attract more Chinese foreign direct investment (OFDI). The performance of Southern Africa Developing Community (SADC) in attracting foreign direct investment if compared with other regions is poor. This paper aimed at identifying and analyzing the determinants of Chinese OFDI in Africa particularly in SADC and making a comparison between SADC and non-SADC countries. Using panel data analysis for a sample of 21 African countries over the period 2005 to 2012 the study showed that the main determinants identified and most significant in SADC were GDP per Capita, imports, openness to FDI, telephone lines (*per 100 people*) and being a SADC member.

Keywords: Determinants; China's Outward Foreign Direct Investment (OFDI); SADC; Africa..

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flow is one of the main dynamics of globalization phenomenon and has been regarded in the last decades as an effective channel to transfer technology and foster growth in developing countries. Globalization has led to rapid increase in foreign direct investment and this has not spared China in increasing its FDI.

Over the last decade China become one of the largest recipient of FDI and increased its outward FDI dramatically. According to the United Nations, China has become a significant source of global FDI outflows, which rose from US\$2.7 billion in 2002 to US\$84.2 billion in 2012. As of the end of 2013, China's outward FDI flow was US\$101 billion and accumulated outward FDI stock volume stood at US\$613.58 billion (UNCTAD, 2014) see figure 1. According to statistics from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Investment (UNCTAD), China again ranked third behind Japan and the US in terms of total outward investment flows in 2013 (up from sixth in 2011 to third in 2012).



Figure 1. China's OFDI: Stock and flow, 1990-2013

Source: UNCTAD, *FDI Statistics and Statistical Bulletin of China's Outward Foreign Direct Investment 2012*

Looking at regional distribution of Chinese FDI, Asia has been a number one recipient in attracting more Chinese outward FDI followed by Europe, Latin America, North America, and Africa comes on the sixth position and Oceania comes last. The distribution of Chinese outward FDI in 2012 was as is shown in figure 2 with Asia receiving 73.8% of Chinese outward FDI. In 2013 again Asia attracted over 70 percent of China's outward FDI.

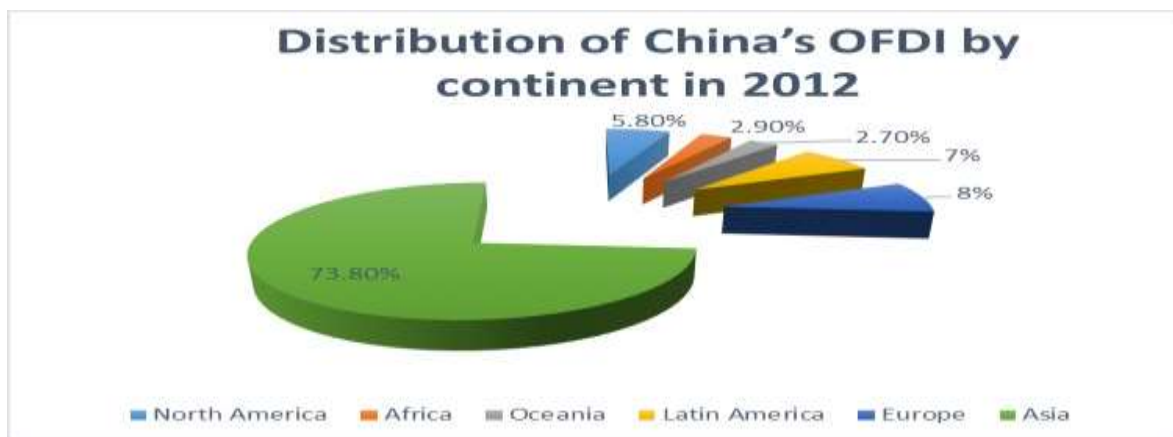


Figure 2. Distribution of China's OFDI by continent in 2012

Source: *Statistical Bulletin of China's Outward Foreign Direct Investment 2012 and own calculations.*

China's outward FDI in Africa has been accelerating rapidly, increasing from US\$1 billion in 2004 to US\$24.5 billion in 2013. Its distribution by sector in 2013, a large amount was invested in extractive industries such as mining and oil extraction, as shown in figure 3.

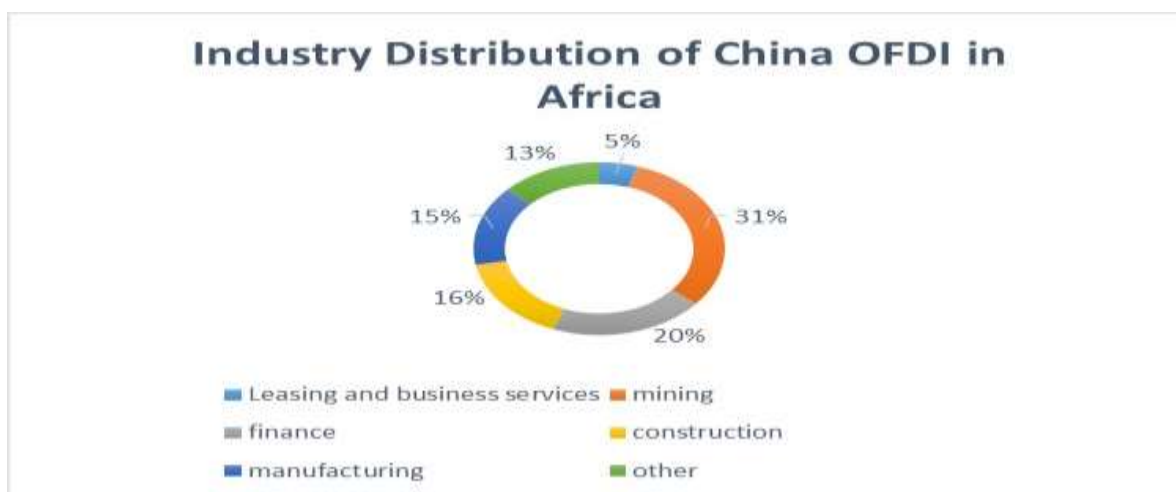


Figure 3. Industry distribution of China's outward FDI in Africa in 2013

Source: MOFCOM statistics

1.1. China – Africa relationship

The relationship between Africa and China; very little is known about ancient relations between China and the African continent, however, there is some evidence of early trade connections that existed. One of these connections was the formation of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) which was established in October 2000 as an official opportunity to make the relationship stronger.

The FOCAC has been working towards the establishment of a new global political and economic order between China and Africa, aiming at enhancing China-Africa economic cooperation. Some of the plans of FOCAC that were agreed upon in the first meeting in 2000 were to boost Sino-African trade and investments; cancel African countries debts to China; increase development aid to Africa; and encourage Chinese companies to invest in Africa.

Africa still lacks policies aiming to ensure that Chinese investments in the continent benefit Africans. The trade imbalances between China and Africa are enormous. This trend in Sino-African trade benefits China, which enters African markets to sell its manufactured goods and buy primary products with little added value for Africa. While there is an important presence of Chinese companies State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and private enterprise operating in Africa, China remains untapped for African companies, with the exception of a few South African companies.

This research intended to focus on China as a source of FDI to Africa knowing that China is the world's fastest-growing economy, with real annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth averaging 10% through 2013 annually. In recent years, China has emerged as one of the major global economic and trade power. It is currently the world's largest economy followed by the United States of America, China is also the largest merchandise exporter, second-largest merchandise importer, second-largest destination of FDI, largest manufacturer and largest holder of foreign exchange reserves. This has been the case since China decided to open up to foreign trade and investment and implement free market reforms in 1979. Prior to the initiation of economic reforms and trade liberalization, China maintained policies that kept the economy very poor, stagnant, centrally controlled, vastly inefficient, and relatively isolated from the global economy (Morrison, 2014). However the true expansion of investments started with the -go global policy, implemented in

1999. Apart from that China has also served as a development model for Africa and an alternative source of trade and finance from Africa's traditional development partners.

The impact of China on African economies has been diverse, partly depending on the sector composition of each country's production. Overall, China's increased engagement with Africa has potential to generate important gains for African economies. This has resulted in increased attention and debate for policy makers in Africa on the role of FDI in development. Many African economies are trying their best to attract more Chinese OFDI. Therefore, it's imperative that regional groups like Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries¹ attract Chinese FDI to ensure regional growth and economic prosperity of individual economies. SADC is one of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs).

RECs stands to benefit member countries in terms of transnational free trade regions, single customs unions, single markets, single currencies and other forms of political and economic integration. This is the case because economic cooperation among countries with shared borders help create larger markets for national producers and consumers and allow economies to scale by reducing barriers to trade, capital and labor. Cross-border cooperation also facilitates the development of regional infrastructure networks and permits the efficient management of cross-border spillovers. Regional cooperation is particularly important for land-locked countries, since they have neighbors on all sides with whom they must cooperate not only to increase integration with the region but also to permit integration with world-wide markets. Some of SADC countries are landlocked countries as well. African RECs lacks coherent policies on how to engage with external actors. Having a coordinated China policy, RECs would effectively foster regional integration through increased trade capacity and infrastructure development. Looking at China-SADC relation, there are many strategic bi-lateral relationships established between China and Southern Africa especially on Trade, however, there is no official SADC strategy policy on China, but then mechanisms have been put in place to develop a China policy (Centre for Chinese studies, 2014). Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) on the other hand influences the level of foreign direct investments particularly in developing countries. Through several existing channels RTAs influences the level of foreign direct investment. These can be categorized into investment rules, trade rules and other initiatives (e.g. Blomström and Kokko, 1997; Dunning, 1997). The argument in this research is to see whether being a SADC member leads to having different determinants from non-SADC members.

Chinese Foreign direct investments have over the years proved integral in shaping global development. Theoretically, there is a positive relationship between average income and FDI per capita, a pattern that holds for the world as a whole. However, for most African economies belonging to the SADC, the situation is different. SADC region is characterized by low per capita FDI inflows averaging \$37 per year, this is roughly 18% of the average for all other countries which is US\$202.8 and 58% of the average for countries with a similar income with SADC region countries, for which

¹ SADC COUNTRIES: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe,

FDI inflows per capita average 63.2 dollars². Apparently, huge differences in FDI per capita (in 2000 U.S. prices) within the SADC region exists. They range from single digits in countries like Malawi, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tanzania to 10 to 30 dollars for Mozambique, Zambia, Mauritius, and Swaziland, 50 to 100 dollars in Lesotho, South Africa, and Angola, and to 167 dollars in Botswana (World Bank, 2013). Thus unequal distribution of income, wealth, and opportunities, low average per capita income growth rates have all contributed to the relative unattractiveness of the SADC as a destination for investments, no wonder SADC region countries have been encountering obstacles in achieving greater investment levels (Lederman, D. and Xu L.C. 2010).

Against this background, the paper sought analyze the determinants of Chinese OFDI in the SADC region. The findings will provide policy direction on how best SADC can sustainably attract Chinese FDI that propels the regions much desired economic growth. The overall objective of the study was to analyze the determinants of Chinese OFDI in SADC and non-SADC countries. Specifically the paper was to identify the key determinants of Chinese OFDI to SADC and non-SADC countries and make a comparison of the determinants between SADC region and non-SADC region countries.

The rest of the paper is divided as follows: section two gives an overview of the literature reviewed. The third section highlights research methodology of this study where the empirical theoretical model is presented. The fourth section reports the empirical results and discussion. Finally, fifth section concludes and suggestions are made.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Types and Theories of FDI

As described by Dunning (1993) there are three types of FDI, these are market seeking FDI which aims at serving local and regional markets, resource-seeking FDI aims at obtaining resources which are not locally found in the home country, such as natural resources, raw materials and the efficiency-seeking FDI, which aims at searching for low cost locations for operations i.e. low-cost labor. Economists broadly classify FDI theories into two categories; macro-level and micro-level FDI theories. The macro-level FDI theories give the macroeconomic factors that determine the FDI and micro-level theories discuss the motivation of FDI associated with the firm level.

Under macro level there are capital market theory(FDI is determined by interest rates), Dynamic macroeconomic theory (investments depends on the changes in the macroeconomic environment for example changes in gross domestic product, domestic investment, real exchange rate, productivity and openness), FDI theories based on exchange rates (explain how FDI's flow affects the exchange rates), FDI theories based on economic geography which focuses on countries and explains why internationally successful industries emerge in particular countries, gravity approach to FDI (explains that if two countries are very close in terms of geography, economically, and culturally, then the FDI flows between the countries is the highest, and FDI theories based on institutional analysis which

² Similar income countries" are economies with less than \$4,600 GDP per capita.

explores the importance of institutional framework on the flows of FDI. The theory further explains that political stability is the key factor of a healthy institutional framework.

The Micro level FDI theories explain why Multinational Corporations (MNCs) prefer opening subsidiaries abroad rather than exporting or licensing their products, how MNCs choose their investment locations and why they invest where they do (Woldemeskel, 2008). At the micro-level, there are theories like existence of firm specific advantages developed by Hymer (1976) and it states that firms invest abroad because of certain firm specific advantages such as, access to raw materials, economies of scale, intangible assets such as trade names, patents, superior management, low transaction costs etc. Theory of internalization by Buckley and Casson (1976) and Hennart (1982) states that due to market imperfections, firms seek to make use of their monopolistic advantage themselves. Buckley and Casson (1976) propose that firms can defeat the market imperfections by internalizing their own markets. Internalization involves a vertical-integration by bringing new operations and activities under the governance of the firm. The other micro level FDI theory is eclectic theory.

Dunning 1977&1993 proposed an eclectic paradigm framework which is used to explain why investors invest in foreign countries. In his theory he also included the internalization theory. The framework says that investors invest abroad to look for three types of advantages: Ownership (O), Location (L), and Internalization (I) advantages; therefore it is called the OLI framework. Ownership advantage, investors need to gain property rights or patents, expertise so that they compete on the market regardless of being foreign firms. Location advantages make the chosen country an attractive site for FDI. The location advantages may arise from differences in country's quantitative and qualitative factors of production natural endowments, political advantages and government regulations that affect FDI flows, transport costs, telecommunications, macroeconomic stability, and cultural factors. Internalization advantages arise from exploiting imperfections in external markets, including reduction of uncertainty and transaction costs in order to generate knowledge more efficiently as well as the reduction of state-generated imperfections such as tariffs, foreign exchange controls, and subsidies. This traditional FDI theory is used to explain foreign investment from the perspective of a developed economy; therefore in the case of emerging economies such as in China, there is a need of more specialized applications of the theory. Even though this is the case, this theory would be relevant in one way or the other in explaining the determinants of Chinese outward FDI in SADC and non-SADC countries.

2.2. The Determinants of Chinese outward FDI

Review of determinants of FDI from literature and theory and how these determinants impact on distribution of Chinese Outwards FDI.

2.2.1 Market Seeking FDI

Market size of the host countries is generally recognized as a significant determinant of FDI flows. An increase in markets size increases opportunities for the efficient utilization of resources and the exploitation of economies of scale and scope through FDI; this entails that as the market-size grows to some critical value, FDI will start to increase thereafter with its further expansion (UNCTAD,

1998, Chakrabarti, 2001). Tsai (1994) and Asiedu (2002) argue that a higher GDP per capita implies better prospects for FDI in the host country. (Cuyvers, L. et al, 2011) wrote that some factors that are taken into account when investors consider locating in a foreign country are larger market size, increased market growth, higher degree of development, and higher per-capita GDP growth. We therefore included China's host countries market as a variable in our model and expect a positive relationship.

2.2.2. *Resource Seeking FDI*

Countries with natural resources endowment tend to attract resource-seeking FDI than those without. Companies establish foreign subsidiaries to exploit natural resources in order to acquire and secure a continual supply of raw materials for their own industrial operations (Deng, 2004). The growing strategic importance of natural resources owing to an increased demand and increased prices in the domestic market motivated emerging economies to intensify efforts to acquire oil assets and invest in mining (UNCTAD, 2007). For instance Chinese firms invest overseas to gain security over access to raw materials. Despite that China is well endowed with its own natural resources, but its per capita availability of resources is very low, especially iron ore, aluminum, copper, petroleum, timber, and fish which are in such growing demand (Deng, 2004). With the increased demand of natural resources in China and the growing economy, the Chinese government uses Outward FDI to ensure the supply of domestically scarce resources (Zhan, 1995). Hence host country's natural resource was included in our variables and a positive relationship expected.

2.2.3 *Political risk*

Grosse & Behrman, 1992, defined country risk as the probability that country-specific, governmental events or measures adversely alter the perceived value of the international firm. When investors in the home country decide to invest in a particular host country, they normally compare the economic, political and institutional factors between the home and potential host countries (Cuyvers, et al, 2011). High political risk is generally associated with low values of FDI inflow, (Chakrabarti, 2001). FDI flows are greatest to countries that have less political risk and better physical infrastructure Clarke and Logan (2008). Hence host country's political risk was added to our model and a negative relationship was expected.

2.2.4 *Host country inflation*

Buckley et al., 2007 described inflation as being used as an indicator of macroeconomic instability. A host country's economic instability can be a major deterrent to FDI inflow. Low inflation is seen as a sign of internal economic stability in the host country. High inflation indicates the inability of the government to balance its budget and the failure of the central bank to conduct appropriate monetary policy. Unstable and unpredictable inflation rates in host country discourage market seeking FDI by creating uncertainty and in price setting and profit expectations. High rates of inflation may lead to domestic currency devaluation, which may lead to reduction in local currency for market seeking inward investing firms. Therefore host country's inflation rate became one of our variables and negative relationship was expected between host country inflation and Chinese outward FDI.

2.2.5 Imports and Exports

Imports and exports express trade relationship between home and host country. There are links between international trade and FDI, particularly for resource seeking and market-seeking FDI United Nations (1993). To enter into a foreign market firms can use alternative modes of entry for example trade or foreign production facilities through FDI. Therefore in our model we included Chinese imports from host country and Chinese exports to the host country and in both scenarios a positive relationship was expected

2.2.6 Geographical distance from China

Geographic distance is regarded as an important determinant of the location choice of international production since market accessibility is one of the main motivations for firms to invest abroad (Wei & Liu, 2001). Proximity to the home country is empirically an important factor for explaining the volume of trade flows between countries. The gravity model predicts that the closer the country is to the home country, the more trade flows between the two countries (Kinoshita & Campos, 2002). Geographic proximity affects FDI by reducing informational and managerial uncertainty, lowering transportation and monitoring costs and allowing MNEs to be less exposed to risks (Wei, 2004). The flow of FDI is predicted to be greatest in to the nearby countries. Hence distance from China to the host country was included in our model and we expected a negative relationship.

2.2.7 Openness to FDI

The degree of openness of a host country to international investors determines attractiveness of FDI. Therefore the higher the degree of openness of a country to international investors, the more attractive it is likely to be as a destination for FDI (Chakrabarti, 2001). A positive relationship between Chinese outward FDI and host countries' openness was expected in this study, hence we included openness of the host country in our model.

2.2.8 Infrastructure

According to ODI (1997), infrastructure range from roads, ports, railways, telecommunication systems to institutional development. Poor infrastructure can be seen, however, as both an obstacle and an opportunity for foreign investment. For the majority of low-income countries, it is frequently quoted as one of the major constraints. Nevertheless, foreign investors also point to the potential for attracting important FDI if host governments allow more substantial foreign participation in the infrastructure sector. Good infrastructure is a necessary condition for foreign investors to operate successfully. Therefore the use of the availability of main telephone lines is necessary to facilitate communication between the home and host countries. A positive relationship is expected between Chinese outward FDI and host countries' telephone line, hence, included in our model.

3.0. THE MATERIALS, MODEL AND ANTICIPATED RESULTS

3.1. Data

The study utilized secondary data. Panel Data was used in this study. Data were from members of SADC and non-SADC countries. A total of twenty one (21) countries were purposively sampled over a period of 8 years 2005 to 2012 making one hundred sixty five (165) observations in total. These countries were chosen depending on the availability of data. From SADC region, data were from 11 countries which were selected purposively. This is a representative sample of the total

number of SADC region countries. From non-SADC countries, data were from 10 countries. We included non-SADC countries to be the control.

Table 1: Countries under study

SADC COUNTRIES	Non-SADC
Angola	Algeria
Botswana	Cameroon
Madagascar	Egypt
Malawi	Ethiopia
Mauritius	Ghana
Mozambique	Guinea
Namibia	Kenya
South Africa	Morocco
Tanzania	Nigeria
Zambia	Togo
Zimbabwe	

3.2. Model

The Econometric Model we used in this research was adapted from Buckley et al. 2007, who investigated the determinants of Chinese outward foreign direct investment: it is a log-linear model. We converted some data into natural logarithms because only linear relationships were being expected.

$$LFDI = \alpha + \beta_1 LGDPPP + \beta_2 ORE + \beta_3 POLI + \beta_4 INF + \beta_5 LEXP + \beta_6 LIMP + \beta_7 DIS + \beta_8 OPEN + \beta_9 TEL + \beta_9 SADC + \varepsilon$$

Table 2. The Determinants of Chinese OFDI in SADC and non-SADC countries

<i>Hypotheses and number</i>	<i>Proxy</i>	<i>Expected sign</i>	<i>Data Source</i>
FDI(dependent variable)	Annual outflow of Chinese FDI		UNCTAD, Statistical Bulletin of China's FDI.
Host Market characteristics (H1)	LGDPPPP: Host country GDP per capita	+	World Bank Development Indicator
Natural Resource endowment (H2)	ORE: the ratio of ore and metal exports to merchandize exports of host country	+	World Bank Development Indicator
Political risk (H3)	POLI: Host country's political rating(Higher Values indicate greater stability)	+	International country risk guide & Worldwide Governance indicators
Host Country Inflation (H4)	INF=Host country annual inflation	-	World Bank Development Indicator
Exports (H5)	LEXP: China's exports to the host country	+	UN COMTRADE (Trade Maps)
Imports (H6)	LIMP: China's imports from Host Country	+	UN COMTRADE (Trade Maps)
Geographical distance from China (H7)	DIS: Geographical distance between host and home country	-	http://www.geobytes.com
Openness to FDI (H8)	LOPEN: Ratio of inward FDI flow to host GDP	+	UNCTAD FDI database
Telephone line (per 100 people) (H9)	TEL: Fixed telephone lines per 100 people of the host country (Infrastructure)	+	World Bank Development Indicators
SADC	dummy variable taking the value 1 if FDI source is China and FDI recipient is one of the SADC region countries, and 0 (Non-SADC) otherwise	+/-	This research

Our model was estimated using both random effects (RE) generalized least squares (GLS) and fixed effects model (FE). After the estimation of the model, we performed a hausman test to decide between RE and FE, the null hypothesis was that the preferred model is random effects versus the alternative the fixed effects (see Green, 2008, chapter 9). It basically tests whether the unique errors (ui) are correlated with the regressors, the null hypothesis is they are not. The process involves running a fixed effects model and saving the estimates, then running a random model and saving the estimates, then perform the test.

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Results

Table 3 presents results of Hausman test. Since $\text{prob} > \chi^2$ 0.9024 > 0.05 (insignificant), RE was found more appropriate for our study.

From the correlation matrix between Chinese outward FDI and the variables that we used in the model table 4. The highest positive correlation was 0.15 which is between OFDI and inflation, the lowest positive correlation (0.04) is between outward FDI and distance. Highest negative correlation (-0.11) was on outward FDI and imports and the lowest was between OFDI and GDP per capita (-0.01).

Table 3: Hausman Fixed-Random test

	Coefficients		(b-B) Difference	sqrt(diag(V_b-V_B)) S.E.
	(b) fixed	(B) random		
LGDPPP	.2661655	.1863576	.0798079	.4922472
ores	-.000725	-.0018272	.0011022	.001795
polii	-.0129438	.0042388	-.0171826	.0166765
inflationn	.0027603	.0023181	.0004422	.0008515
LEXP	.0570446	.0024096	.054635	.214165
LIMP	-.282061	-.096658	-.185403	.1337878
openness	.4104542	.3173021	.0931521	.0868525
telephone	-.0266556	-.0264296	-.000226	.0843946

b = consistent under H_0 and H_a ; obtained from xtreg
 B = inconsistent under H_a , efficient under H_0 ; obtained from xtreg

Test: H_0 : difference in coefficients not systematic

$$\chi^2(8) = (b-B)' [(V_b-V_B)^{-1}] (b-B)$$

$$= 3.46$$

$$\text{Prob} > \chi^2 = 0.9024$$

Table 4: Correlation Matrix

	OFDI	GDPP	Resou rce	Politi cal	Inflat ion	Expo rts	Imp orts	Distan ce	Openn ess	Tel.Li nes	SAD C
OFDI	1.000 0										
GDPP	0.011 9	1.000 0									
Resour ce	0.103 9	0.151 9	1.000 0								
Politic al	0.032 8	0.512 9	0.271 3	1.00 00							
Inflati on	0.148 9	0.174 3	0.071 5	0.14 53	1.000 0						
Export s	0.082 8	0.351 7	0.078 5	0.03 76	0.007 2	1.000 0					
Import s	0.106 0	0.399 6	0.134 4	0.16 07	0.059 5	0.545 5	1.00 00				
Distan ce	0.044 0	0.074 5	0.046 9	0.16 55	0.113 7	0.027 6	0.22 40	1.000 0			
Openn ess	0.086 7	0.008 8	0.086 9	0.08 62	0.075 0	0.110 8	0.05 93	0.035 1	1.0000		
Tel.Li nes	0.038 6	0.711 8	0.119 2	0.33 50	0.170 9	0.138 8	0.00 00	0.361 3		1.000 0	
SADC	0.127 3	0.313 3	0.167 1	0.36 14	0.123 4	0.181 8	0.24 74	0.192 9		0.137 2	1.00 00

Table 5 presents the main findings of the study. Most of the variables included in the model are those of China's bilateral partners. The results shows both random effects (RE) and fixed effects (FE) results. Since RE indicates high values of significant than FE, hence only results from RE will be discussed. In the first regression of the full sample, a relationship is found between Chinese outward

FDI and GDP per capita, imports from host country to China, degree of openness in host country, telephone lines (*per 100 people*) and dummy variable for SADC, however for GDP per capita and openness, the relationship is positive while imports, telephone lines (*per 100 people*) and the dummy for SADC indicates a negative relationship. With regards to other independent variables, the research found insignificant relationship between Chinese OFDI and natural resources, political risk, inflation, exports and distance. In regression 2, only SADC countries (11 countries) were analyzed, the results indicated that GDP per capita, imports, openness and telephone lines (*per 100 people*) were significant, imports and telephone lines the sign was different as predicted in the hypotheses. Natural resources, political risk, inflation, distance and exports were insignificant. In regression 3, non-SADC countries (10 countries) were analyzed, only openness was statistically significant, however, it was not signed as predicted in our hypothesis.

Table 5. Results showing determinants of Chinese OFDI to SADC and non-SADC countries

VARIABLES	Regression 1 Full Sample		Regression 2 SADC		Regression 3 Non-SADC	
	RE	FE	RE	FE	RE	FE
GDP Per Capita	0.186** (0.0921)	0.266 (0.328)	0.403* (0.219)	1.161 (1.326)	-0.120 (0.109)	0.0288 (0.188)
Natural Resources	-0.00183 (0.00124)	- (0.00172)	-0.000959 (0.00222)	0.000392 (0.00344)	-0.00318 (0.00212)	-0.00372 (0.00295)
Political Risk	0.00424 (0.00510)	-0.0129 (0.0136)	-0.00790 (0.00688)	-0.0443* (0.0240)	0.00793 (0.00951)	0.0159 (0.0152)
Inflation	0.00232 (0.00169)	0.00276 (0.00189)	0.00255 (0.00314)	0.00276 (0.00330)	0.00221 (0.00181)	0.00252 (0.00192)
Exports	0.00241 (0.0608)	0.0570 (0.165)	0.145 (0.0943)	0.0632 (0.308)	-0.0102 (0.0448)	0.00435 (0.262)
Imports	-0.0967* (0.0493)	-0.282 (0.168)	-0.221** (0.0998)	-0.454 (0.268)	-0.0678 (0.0613)	-0.139 (0.150)
Distance	2.75e-06 (3.04e-05)		6.52e-05 (0.000147)		4.20e-05 (4.91e-05)	
Openness	0.317*** (0.0710)	0.410*** (0.117)	0.364*** (0.102)	0.412* (0.205)	- (0.202)	-0.774 (0.533)
Telephone lines (<i>per 100 people</i>)	- (0.0112)	-0.0267 (0.0425)	-0.0536** (0.0247)	0.198 (0.380)	0.00675 (0.0223)	-0.0634 (0.0446)
SADC	-					

	0.415***					
	(0.0944)					
Constant	4.664***	6.613*	1.932	2.677	6.111***	6.696*
	(1.169)	(3.554)	(1.243)	(7.178)	(1.016)	(3.111)
Observations	165	165	85	85	80	80
R-squared		0.090		0.160		0.113
Number of partner	21	21	11	11	10	10

*Robust standard errors in parentheses represent * significance at 10% level, ** significance at 5% level and ***significance at 1% level*

4.2. Discussion

From our regressions 1 and 2 in table 5 market size of the host country as measured by GDP per capita had a positive influence on Chinese OFDI to SADC. Positive and significant coefficient of the market-size variable suggests the importance of market-seeking FDI motive by China. 1% rise in GDP Per capita in the whole sample caused an increase of Chinese OFDI to these countries by 0.19% and for SADC region countries by 0.40%. This supports hypothesis 1. Therefore the larger the market size per capita a host country is, the more it attracts Chinese OFDI. The results are in line with Jordaan (2004) who says that FDI will move to countries with larger and expanding markets and greater purchasing power, where firms can potentially receive a higher return on their capital.

Imports from host countries to China was negatively associated to Chinese outward FDI for the whole sample and for SADC countries, this is contrary to what was predicated. China imports raw materials and intermediate products for further processing in China, so the more China imports from the host countries the more the Chinese outward FDI is reduced. In this research a 1% increase in China's imports from all the countries under this research (full sample) was associated with a 0.1% decrease in Chinese outward FDI flow to these countries. In SADC region, 1% increase In China's imports from SADC countries reduced Chinese outward FDI by 0.22%.

The degree of openness as predicted in the hypothesis was positive and strongly significant for the whole sample and for SADC countries (regression 1 and 2). In regression 3, openness is significant but negatively related to Chinese outward FDI, this implies that non-SADC countries were not open to Chinese outward FDI in the period under study.

Telephone line (per 100 people) which is a proxy for infrastructure was found to have a negative relationship with Chinese outward FDI flow. From literature and other researchers, the results shows a positive relationship, implying that an increase in infrastructure leads to attracting more FDI. This research did find evidence to support the results, perhaps the data used are not enough to show the effect of infrastructure in attracting FDI. On the other hand, it may be because of the increased use of mobile phones than ground line telephones.

The dummy for SADC was found significant and negatively related to Chinese OFDI. As mentioned earlier on that SADC region is one of the RECs, perhaps there are some policies which are not favorable in attracting FDI. This implies that being a member of SADC reduces the flow of Chinese outward FDI into the region. As a Free Trade Area, it implies that within the region, countries trade among themselves and trade barriers are relaxed making the investments from within the region cheap and making those from outside the region very expensive and unattractive, non-member countries are discriminated, therefore the SADC is negatively related to Chinese OFDI.

Comparing the determinants of SADC and non-SADC, it can be seen that in SADC, the determinants were GDP per capita, imports to China, openness to FDI and telephone line *per 100 people* depicting infrastructure, while in non-SADC the main determinant was openness to FDI. Though openness to FDI was significant in both SADC and non-SADC countries, but the relationship was different. In SADC it was a positive relationship while in non-SADC the relation was negative.

5.0. CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATION/ SUGGESTIONS

5.1. Conclusion

This research performed an empirical investigation into the determinants of Chinese OFDI to Africa (SADC and non-SADC) by using panel data from 21 (11 SADC and 10 non-SADC) countries. The main objective of the study was to analyze the determinants of Chinese OFDI in SADC and non-SADC countries. Specifically the paper was to identify the determinants of Chinese OFDI to SADC and non-SADC countries and make comparison of the determinants between SADC region and non-SADC region countries.

The study identified GDP per Capita, imports from host countries to China, degree of openness of the host country, telephone lines (per 100 people) of the host country and being a SADC member as the main determinants of Chinese OFDI. For SADC countries alone the main determinants that were significant were, GDP per capita, imports by China, degree of openness telephone lines (per 100 people). One result that shocked the researcher is the telephone lines, which is the proxy for infrastructure which in studies have shown to be determinant of FDI and positively related here it was found significant but the relationship was negative. In non-SADC countries, only degree of openness was significant but the relationship was negative.

5.2. Suggestions/ Policy Recommendation

Based on the results, SADC economies seem to have policies that hinder Chinese OFDI. SADC as a trading block it means there are policies which favor member countries and hinder non-member countries. SADC attract a significant Chinese OFDI, the percentage share is still small as evidenced from the literature. The region need to take up serious measures which would help it to improve its attraction and attract more investors. Here are some suggestions.

Currently SADC does not have any official policy on China. SADC region countries should put in place policies that will help to meet critical success factors in foreign investor's wish list including Chinese OFDI to the region. SADC as one of the African Regional Economic Communities (RECs), its major challenge like the other RECs in Africa is lack of adequate economic and political structures, institutions and policies. As the ability to strengthen many aspects of Regional Economic

Communities depend on member states in agreeing on a set of political and socio-economic strategic priorities at the core of regional integration, implementing mechanisms for co-operation and integration as well as ensuring compliance are all challenges which need to be negotiated internally by all SADC members. With a coordinated China policy, SADC can effectively foster regional integration through both increased trade capacity and infrastructural development. In doing so it would increase Chinese OFDI to the region. Hence SADC region should consider putting the policy into action.

REFERENCES

- [1] Asiedu, Elizabeth (2002). On the Determinants of Foreign Direct Investment to Developing Countries: Is Africa Different? *World Development*, Vol.30, No.1, pp.107-119. http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=280062
- [2] Blomström, Magnus and Ari Kokko (1997). -Regional integration and foreign direct investment, NBER Working Paper, No. 6019 (Cambridge, MA: NBER).
- [3] Buckley Peter J, Clegg L Jeremy, Cross Adam R, Liu Xin, Voss Hinrich and Zheng Ping (2007): The determinants of Chinese Outward foreign direct investment: *Journal of International Business Studies* 38.353–354.
- [4] Buckley, P.J. and Casson, M.C. (1976): -The Future of the Multinational Enterprise, Homes & Meier: London.
- [5] Chakrabarti, A. (2001): The Determinants of Foreign Direct Investments: Sensitivity Analyses of Cross-Country Regressions. *Kyklos*, 54: 89–114. doi: 10.1111/1467-6435.00142.
- [6] Clarke, R. and Logan, T-M. (2008), -Emerging FDI Patterns in the CARICOM Region, *Journal of International Business Research*, Volume 8, Number 1, January, 16-23.
- [7] Cuyvers Ludo, Soeng Reth, Plasmans Joseph, and Van Den Bulcke Daniel (2011) Determinants of foreign direct investment in Cambodia: *Journal of Asian Economics* 22(3) 222-234
- [8] Lederman, D. and Xu L.C. (2010). FDI in Southern Africa: Microeconomic Consequences and macro causes. <http://www.voxeu.org/article/foreign-investment-southern-africa-why-so-little>
- [9] Deng, P. (2004) Outward investment by Chinese MNCs: motivations and implications: *Business Horizons* 47(3):8-16.
- [10] Dunning, J.H. (1977) Trade, Location of Economic Activity and the MNE: A Search for an Eclectic Approach. In B. Ohlin, P.O. Hesselborn and P.M. Wijkman (eds.), *The International Allocation of Economic Activity*, London: Macmillan, 395-418.
- [11] Dunning, J.H., 1993. *Multinational Enterprises and the Global Economy*. Addison-Wesley, Wokingham..
- [12] Grosse, R., & Trevino, L. J. (1996). Foreign direct investment in the United States: An analysis by country of origin. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 27, 139–155.
- [13] Hennart J.F (1982). *A Theory of Multinational Enterprise*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- [14] Hymer, Stephen Herbert. 1976. *The International Operations of National Firms: A study of foreign direct investment*. The MIT Press: Cambridge, MA.

- [15] Jordaan, J. C. (2004), "Foreign Direct Investment and Neighbouring Influences." Unpublished doctoral thesis, University of Pretoria.
- [16] Kinoshita Yuko and Campos Nauro F. (2002). The location determinants of foreign direct investment in transition economies.
- [17] Morrison Wayne M. China's Economic Rise: History, Trends, Challenges, and Implications for the United States, Specialist in Asian Trade and Finance, February 2014.
- [18] ODI (1997), "Foreign Direct Investment Flows to Low-Income Countries: A Review of the Evidence." <http://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/2626.pdf>
- [19] 2012 Statistical Bulletin of China's Outward Foreign Direct Investment (2013). China Statistics press.
- [20] Tsai, K.S., (2002). Back-Alley Banking: Private Entrepreneurs in China. Cornell University Press, Ithaca.
- [21] UNCTAD (2010) Handbook of Statistics 2009. United Nations: Geneva.
- [22] UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) FDI Data base: <http://unctadstat.unctad.org/>.
- [23] UNCTAD (2014). <http://unctad.org/en/pages/DIAE/World%20Investment%20Report/Annex-Tables.aspx>
- [24] Wei, Y., & Liu, X. (2001). Foreign direct investment in China: Determinants and impact. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- [25] Wei, Y. A. (2004). Foreign direct investment in China. In Y. A. Wei & V. N. Balasubramanyam (Eds.), Foreign direct investment: Six country case studies (pp. 9–37). Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- [26] Woldemeskel, S. M. (2008). Determinants of Foreign Direct Investment in Ethiopia [Online] Available: <http://arno.unimaas.nl/show.cgi?fid=15195>.
- [27] World Bank (2012) World Development Indicators: <http://data.worldbank.org/>.
- [28] Zhan, J.X. (1995) 'Transnationalization and outward investment: the case of Chinese firms', Transnational Corporations 4(3): 67–100.
