

#### **Financial Inclusion**

Asli Demirguc-Kunt

Discussion by Miguel Ferreira Lubrafin 2014





### Role of Government

- Set up the "scene" for development of credit and capital markets
- Creating legal and regulatory framework
  - Protecting creditor rights
  - Protecting shareholder rights
  - Law enforcement
- Financial liberalization
  - Banking system
  - Capital markets



# Role of Foreigners

- Increase competition in credit makets
- Foreign direct investment (FDI) cross-border M&A
  - Economic nationalism protects private benefits of control of corporate insiders
  - Source of valuable technology and know-how transfer by promoting linkages with host country firms
  - Generate improvements in productivity and corporate governance
  - (Crowd-out effects and absorptive capacity in developing countries)



## FDI & Corporate Governance

Albuquerque, Ferreira, Marques and Matos (2013)

- FDI generates positive corporate governance spillover effects to local firms
  - Facing a cross-border M&A, rival local firms improve governance in response to competitive forces
- Spillover more pronounced when FDI originates from:
  - Country with strong investor protection
  - Product market competition is more intense in target firm's industry



# Foreign Portfolio Investment

- Conventional wisdom
  - Institutional investors seek short-term gains only
  - No concern on long term prospects of firms
  - Foreign portfolio flows are "hot money"
- Research agenda on foreign institutional ownership
  - Financial globalization is changing corporate ownership
  - Dispersed ownership structures
  - Rise of foreign institutions



# Foreign Portfolio Investment

- Foreign institutional investors are "agents of change"
  - Better monitoring of management as they are more independent than locals (impaired by business ties)
  - Improve corporate performance and value
  - Facilitate value-enhancing takeovers
  - Improve corporate governance
    - Board monitoring
    - Link executive compensation to performance

