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# Preface

This book is a collective project. It was designed and debated in a workshop funded largely by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in London in December 2014. We are grateful to UNIDO and to Juergen Reinhardt in particular for his support and encouragement. We also would like to thank the Open University and the Economic and Social Research Council, UK, for providing the funding that allowed this book to be published in open access form.

The book draws extensively on original research and on direct experience of involvement in policy making. Several chapters – and some of the broader framing of the book – have their origins in a research project on *Industrial Productivity and Health Sector Performance*, funded by the DFID/ESRC Growth Research Programme. The findings, interpretations, conclusions and opinions expressed in the relevant chapters (identified in notes) are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of DFID or the UK ESRC. The views expressed throughout are the sole responsibility of the authors.

When a number of contributors to this book began to work on the *Industrial Productivity* project in 2012, it is fair to say that the international policy debates on access to medicines in African countries remained focussed on funding procurement of essential medicines from Asian manufacturers. The project aimed to explore the scope for local developmental synergy between industrial development of pharmaceutical production on the Sub-Saharan African subcontinent and improvement of the performance of health sectors suffering from chronic undersupply of essential medicines. As we have worked on the project, we have become part of a much wider movement to identify and generate these synergies. This book is an outcome of this networking, and we hope it will contribute to strengthening evidence, debate and policy making.

We have many people to thank. First, our extraordinary authors who have given their time and expertise to preparing the chapters and participating in the workshop debates. They have brought expertise in pharmaceutical research, manufacturing and policy making, as well as social science research. Among our African contributors, the editors would particularly like to thank Skhumbuzo Ngozwana and Tsige Gebre-Mariam for their commitment and for bringing in other

expert colleagues also. We are also grateful to Alastair West of UNIDO for contributing his breadth of knowledge of this policy field, and to our Indian and Brazilian colleagues whose depth of historical understanding of interactions between industrial change and health sector values helped to shape the book's themes and objectives.

Much more widely, we owe a great deal to all the many manufacturers, distributors, health facility staff, pharmacy and drug shop staff, policy makers, regulators, researchers and others who have patiently answered the questions of authors of these chapters and participated in workshop discussions of the findings.

At Palgrave Macmillan, we thank our supportive publisher, Christina Brian; also Judith Allan, and our enthusiastic series editor Tim Shaw. Many thanks also to Radha Ray, who administered the London workshop with such welcoming efficiency, and to Jim McGinlay who has patiently chased endless manuscript detail.

We hope this book can make a real contribution to the search for better access to essential medicines alongside industrial development in Sub-Saharan Africa.



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