**Online Appendix: Supplemental File**

**Robustness Tests**

**Map A:** China’s Belt and Road Initiative Participation by Country

Map

Description automatically generated

Figure A provides some stylized facts on Chinese vaccine delivery in BRI vis-à-vis non-BRI member countries. Notice that out of 54 countries in a total of 83 that have received vaccines from China, are BRI member states. Figure A also shows that on average, BRI member countries have received Chinese vaccines on multiple occasions compared to non-BRI countries. Of the 42 countries which have received Chinese vaccines multiple times, 72% of them are BRI countries.

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Likewise, in Figure B below we see that member states of BRI have received vaccination doses (purchases and donations) from China which are three times larger than non-BRI states. These simple stylized facts show that non-BRI countries lag in terms of receiving Chinese vaccines and BRI countries, which host a large number of Chinese FDI, receive preferential treatment.

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

**Table A:** FDI flows in BRI projects and Chinese vaccine distribution: IV estimations



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table B:** FDI flows in BRI projects and Chinese vaccine distribution: Alternative IV estimations



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table C:** FDI flows in BRI projects and Chinese vaccine distribution on multiple occasions: Poisson estimations



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table D:** FDI per capita flows in BRI projects and Chinese vaccine distribution



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table E:** FDI per capita flows in BRI projects and Chinese per capita vaccine distribution:

OLS estimation



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table F:** Chinese BRI FDI projects as a share of total FDI and Chinese vaccine distribution



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table G:** BRI membership and Chinese vaccine distribution



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1

**Table H:** FDI flows in BRI projects and Chinese vaccine distribution, control for other vaccines:

Kitchen Sink approach



**Notes:** Standard errors in parenthesis. Statistical significance: \*\*\*p<0.01, \*\*p<0.05, \*p<0.1