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SI657/757: Information Technology and Global Development (WI 10)

Wk 4: Investment, Technology Transfer, and Innovation
Group projects & other items:

- Group meetings at end of class
- Read S&T policy papers for your selected country / region
- Last week’s reading responses (+ FERPA waiver)
- Next week’s readings
- PhD meeting Feb 15th or 22nd, 12 pm; one-page sketch of possible 757 project
- 657 policy papers
Some background & terminology

- Growth theory revisited
- Static and dynamic comparative advantage
Long-term cycles in the world economy

Techno-economic paradigms

- Kondratieff, Schumpeter, and techno-economic paradigms

- ‘late-comer advantages’ [discuss!]
National Innovation Systems
Historical distributions of FDI

- See UNCTAD World Investment Reports
- Regional, sectoral, and sub-national patterns
Historical distributions of FDI

- Africa: 7.6%
- Other Developing Countries: 92.4%

Source Undetermined

PD-INEL
LDCs and the crisis

- UNCTAD LDC Report 2009:
  - Commodity cycles and terms of trade shocks
  - Impact of crisis on debt servicing
  - Short and long-term impacts on FDI
  - Impact on remittances
  - Impact on aid trends
Questions:

- What are the principal components or factors of an effective national (or sub-national) innovation system, according to Freeman, Metcalfe & Ramlogan, Ebner, or others? Do these (or should these) differ in developing country contexts?
- What are the principal barriers or limits on developing countries’ ability to attract and make use of FDI as an effective engine of technology transfer and growth?
- What specific steps or policy measures can national or regional decision-makers implement to encourage more effective systems of technology learning and national innovation?
- In resource-constrained environments, how should investments in tech transfer and innovation be balanced against other developmental priorities (e.g. poverty reduction, rural development, etc.)?
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Slide 8: Source undetermined, Source undetermined
Slide 10: Source undetermined