Culture, Innovation, Inclusiveness

Jean-Eric Aubert

Information and Knowledge for All: Towards an Inclusive Innovation

The World Conference on Intellectual Capital for Communities

UNESCO, July 3&4 2017
Innovation and Inclusiveness: Two approaches

• A narrow approach: innovation defined as the diffusion of new technologies or practices addressing the specific needs and capabilities of the poor/disfranchised.

• A broad approach: innovation as key factor of economic growth and social progress that benefit the society as a whole, including the poor.

• Focus of this presentation on the second approach: hence discussion of innovation systems/innovation policy in a broad sense.
Culture? How is it shaped?

The shaping of cultures

- Social practices
- World views
- Objective Conditions
Share of Global GDP
A Two Millennium Perspective

Share of Global GDP as a % of World Total 1990 PPP

Axis Title

- France
- Germany
- Italy
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Western Europe
- Japan
- China
- India
- Former USSR

0.00%
5.00%
10.00%
15.00%
20.00%
25.00%
30.00%
35.00%
40.00%

0
1000
1500
1600
1700
1820
1870
1913
1950
1973
1998
## Comparing innovation systems

### West/East Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>Drivers/specializations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Innovations “breakthrough”</td>
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<td>Science-driven</td>
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<td>Inventors/pioneers</td>
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<td>Start ups/LE (elite)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mass productions (high tech)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Technologists</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Imitators/followers</td>
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<td>Large entreprises/networked SME</td>
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## Comparing Western-Eastern Societies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transcendent Religion</th>
<th>Immanent Religion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individualistic Society</td>
<td>Communitarian Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>State separated from society</td>
<td>State integrated in society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phonetic language</td>
<td>ideographic language</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuation from the world</td>
<td>Immersion within the world</td>
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</table>
West vs East

Games: siege vs. infiltration
China

• Economic growth driven by mass productions, has benefited large segments of population (poverty reduction)

• Dynamic innovation spots and large scale initiatives (new Silk Road)

• Increasing inequality, risk of social unrest if economic crisis

Japan

• After high performing catching up process (1950-1980), slow growth, stagnation and a declining population

• Still a significant innovative capability

• Technical change for an ageing society (robots, etc)
## Innovation Systems -- Western societies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Finance</th>
<th>Education</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anglo-Saxon - Exposed individualists</strong></td>
<td>Highly Performing (university)</td>
<td>Start-ups; high tech/services/défense</td>
<td>VC/Stock exch.</td>
<td>Competi/inequalitarian/pragmatic</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Latin -- Protected individualists</strong></td>
<td>Unevenly performing (public labs)</td>
<td>LE/SME reg. Civil high tech, Trad. ind.</td>
<td>Banks/public bodies</td>
<td>Meritocrat/elitist/theoretical</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Rhine/German -- Cooperative individualists</strong></td>
<td>Highly performing Top U/I relations</td>
<td>Key role of ME/networked industry</td>
<td>Bank-industry system</td>
<td>Equalitarian/Dual/apprenticeship</td>
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**Research**
- Anglo-Saxon: Highly Performing (university)
- Latin: Unevenly performing (public labs)
- Rhine/German: Highly performing Top U/I relations

**Industry**
- Anglo-Saxon: Start-ups; high tech/services/défense
- Rhine/German: Key role of ME/networked industry

**Finance**
- Anglo-Saxon: VC/Stock exch.
- Latin: Banks/public bodies
- Rhine/German: Bank-industry system

**Education**
- Anglo-Saxon: Competitively/inequalitarian/pragmatic
- Latin: Meritocratic/elitist/theoretical
- Rhine/German: Equalitarian/Dual/apprenticeship
France: strengths and weaknesses
France

• Protected society: « grands corps », trade unions, local commerce chambers, etc.
• Resistances to reforms (labor markets, education, etc)
• Increasing inequalities (elite reproduction)
• Need to rebuild a trust-based and risk-oriented society,
• An opening with the new President (but with a very technocratic power system)
Our Bengaluru is the MOST DYNAMIC CITY IN THE WORLD
And also… FRUGAL INNOVATIONS
Innovations in Africa – A Patchwork
Africa: Persisting governance problems

Mo Ibrahim index of African governance
100 = best governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Change since 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cape Verde</td>
<td>74.5</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>74.2</td>
<td>-1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>70.4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>70.3</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>66.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>62.4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>61.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
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Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation
Rwanda

- Traumatism (genocide) then reconciliation: based on traditional practices
- Authoritarian Governance; large scale projects
- Major Investments in high tech – Neglecting the basics (agriculture)
Challenges ahead

• Demographics: Youth bulges in Africa and South Asia; migrations…

• Climate change: droughts, rising sea level, etc.

• Geopolitical tensions

• Financial crises

• Etc.
Global issues
Emerging youth and employment

Sub-Saharan Africa

North Africa

Middle East

South Asia
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Cultures et Systèmes d’Innovation

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http://www.pressesdesmines.com/libres-opinions/cultures-et-systemes-d-innovation.html

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