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INNOVATION IN DEVELOPING AND TRANSITION COUNTRIES

Edited by **Alexandra Tsvetkova**, The Ohio State University, US, **Jana Schmutzler**, Universidad del Norte, Colombia, **Marcela Suarez**, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany and **Alessandra Faggian**, Gran Sasso Science Institute, Italy



'This book makes important contributions both to theory and public policy. It develops the understanding of the concept of national innovation systems by confronting it with the reality of nine developing and transition countries from four different continents. The case studies apply the concept to different sectors and technologies from mining in Nigeria to the health sector in Brazil. Common themes are the importance of informal institutions and the systemic interdependence between national patterns of innovation on the one hand and patterns of interaction among firms on the other. One lesson that policy makers can learn from this diversity of experiences is that getting to know the specificity of your own national innovation system, including how it is linked to the rest of the world, is a prerequisite for smart policy and necessary in order to overcome path-dependency and social exclusion.'

– Bengt-Åke Lundvall, Aalborg University, Denmark

This edited work offers a multidisciplinary perspective on innovation challenges and innovative practices in the context of developing and transition countries. The contributions mostly embrace a national innovation system approach in an attempt to understand innovation processes and their implications at both macro and micro levels.

The chapters in this book, taken as a whole, offer insights into a range of issues grouped around the following questions:

- What are the challenges for innovation at the macro (system) and micro (firm) levels according to the experiences of developing and transition countries?
- What is the role of public policies in the transformation of national innovation systems?
- What innovation practices allow to successfully overcome challenges to innovation?
- What is the role of collaboration and learning strategies in fostering innovation?

A variety of methods are presented including historical analysis, participatory action research, case studies, document analysis and survey-based quantitative research as well as triangulation to study innovation and adaptation strategies in developing and transition countries. It also provides ten case studies selected from developing and transition countries to offer a detailed and comprehensive perspective on innovation and innovation practices at macro and micro levels.

Students and researchers interested in innovation and innovation systems around the world will find this book an invaluable tool and reference.

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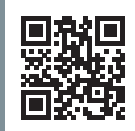
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