BOOK REVIEW

Knowledge-Based Development for Cities and Societies: Integrated Multi-Level Approaches

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The book comprises 19 chapters categorised in three sections. It covers a wide range of topics on knowledge-based development at the organisational, industry and societal levels of analyses. The respective authors of each chapter presented different insights towards development implications of knowledge at these levels. These results were supported by empirical findings, rigorous methods and sound theoretical discourses.

The chapters in Section One sought to establish the tone of the book by discussing the concept of knowledge. While information- and information technology-based development have been widely explored in the literature, knowledge-based development is a fairly new concept. Scholars also have varying perspectives on the concept of knowledge, making it critical to discuss it in depth in the opening section.

The arguments presented in these chapters share two common threads. First, knowledge is more than information. The concept of knowledge-based development goes beyond information-based development, and therefore warrants consideration of more than just information technology-centred companies and industries. Second, humans are important ingredients in knowledge-based development. This is central to the socio-technical approach in understanding development where technologies are interpreted within the context they are deployed. Thus, innovation becomes a central theme in knowledge-based development.

Chapter Seven sums up this theme by theoretically proposing how knowledge and innovation can be harnessed for prosperity in a knowledge city, where collaboration and partnerships, as well as the context for innovation, are critical. Chapter Five comprises an empirical study that advocates the importance of the community in addition to a network of

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