

Local System and Global Strategy – Japan's Regional Integration

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GIARI August 6 2009

2008 GIARI Summer Institute

- My presentation – Innovation and Regional Integration, focusing on a Sociology of Regionalism
- Basic concepts of knowledge (Nonaka), flows (Castells), Global Value Chains GVCs (Gereffi).
- Regionalism (Yoshimatsu) and techno-nationalism

Knowledge Societies (KS)

- KS = beyond energy, technology, or finance capital to recognition of knowledge as driver of economic growth
- Links to global knowledge flows critical for development (e.g., global standards, “best practice”)
- Comparative analysis of national innovation systems

Knowledge Networks (KN)

- Focus – structuring (Giddens) of flows in the acquisition and application of ideas.
- Hubs or nodes in global value chains as locus for knowledge creation and exchange
- Knowledge Nodes (McNamara) = strategic locations for innovation through exchange of codified and tacit knowledge.

Business Innovation in Asia - Knowledge and Technology Networks from Japan

- Focus – Japan’s production networks in East Asia (China, S. Korea, Thailand) in autos, electronics, and textiles.
- Question – role in regionalization and in global competition
- Answer – upgrade from production to knowledge networks for global competition and regional integration

System and Regional Strategy

- Question: Japan's role in East Asian Integration – from knowledge hub to knowledge networks
- Leadership Style: Soft power (Nye), Leadership from behind (Doner).
- Focus on local system of innovation in manufacture and new regional strategy

Local System

- Cooperative Learning between SMEs and Larger firms (Okada) – scale, state role, specialization.
- Technology Support Institutions – regional associations, government research institutes
- Context of Trust (Schaeede's cooperative capitalism)

Global Strategy

- Goal - Pan-Asian Market supporting production chains.
- New strategy - Open Innovation = tapping local knowledge resources abroad to adapt product for local market (METI *White Paper 2008*).
- Problem – Building a context of cooperation, and weakness of Technology Support Institutions

Regional Policy

- CEPEA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia, or ASEAN + 6) – formation of efficient production networks (Nishimura)
- ERIA (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia) // OECD – practical research to strengthen production networks
- Soft power through knowledge leadership