Knowledge for Development and Public Service Delivery

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Our Mission

WBI’s Mission is to Enable Countries to:

- Acquire, share, and apply global and local knowledge to meet development challenges

- Develop capacity at the individual, organizational, and institutional levels
WBI at a Glance

- More than 800 learning activities annually
- More than 90,000 client participants worldwide
- 187 formal partner institutions
- 120 Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) affiliates
- 211 annually awarded scholarships through the Joint Japan / World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program and the Robert S. McNamara Fellowships Program
- WBI field representation in Burkina Faso, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France (Marseilles and Paris), Ghana, India, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey
- 45 Focus Countries
WBI Thematic Programs

Thematic Programs Include Focus Country and Regional/Global Activities

- Education
- Environment and Natural Resources Management
- Financial Sector Capacity Development
- Health and AIDS
- Knowledge for Development
- Poverty and Growth
- Private Sector Development (Business, Competitiveness, and Development; Investment Climate)
- Public-Private Partnerships in Infrastructure
- Public Sector Governance
- Social Protection and Risk Management
- Trade
- Urban and Local Government
- Water and Rural Development

Thematic Programs as of July 2006. To be updated as required.
Demand Driven Products & Services

- **Capacity Development Support Services:**
  Pedagogical advice, country capacity development strategies, and country program briefs that lay out the key entry points for capacity development at the country level

- **Thematic Learning Programs:**
  Courses, seminars, workshops, e-dialogues, technical assistance, awareness raising, and communities of practice using face-to-face, distance learning, digital radio, and blended approaches

- **Learning Products:**
  E-learning programs, websites, CD-ROM libraries, books, and training materials

- **Knowledge Services:**
  Online dialogues, advisory services, and a Capacity Development Resource Center

- **Diagnostic Tools:**
  Governance diagnostics and indicators, Capacity Development Needs Assessments, and Knowledge Economy Assessments

- **Technical Assistance (Policy Advisory Services):**
  Tailored to country needs

- **Evaluation and Certification Programs:**
  Evaluation of learning programs for clients and World Bank staff
Knowledge for Africa’s Development

- May 2006 conference
- September 2006 seminar
- [www.worldbank.org/wbi/k4d](http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/k4d)
- DST, Finnish Government, World Bank collaboration
- Participation of over 230 high level policy makers, private sector, academia, and civil society representatives
- First conference in Africa to bring spheres of education, ICT and innovation together.
Knowledge Economy Pillars

Economic and Institutional Regime

EIR provides incentives for the efficient creation, dissemination, and use of existing knowledge.

Information Infrastructure

To facilitate the effective communication, dissemination, and processing of information.

Education

An educated and skilled population that can use knowledge effectively.

Innovation

Innovation consisting of organizations that can tap into the stock of global knowledge, assimilate and adapt it and create local knowledge.
Knowledge Economy Index

The diagram illustrates the Knowledge Economy Index for various countries, with each bar representing different components: Economic Regime, Innovation, Education, and ICT. The countries are ranked based on their scores in these components.

- **Finland** leads with the highest score across all components.
- **South Africa**, **Mauritius**, and **Botswana** follow, with significant contributions in Innovation and Education.
- **Kenya** and **Africa** show moderate performance across all components.
- Countries like **Senegal**, **Uganda**, **Ghana**, and **Tanzania** have lower scores, indicating a need for improvement in the Knowledge Economy.
- **Nigeria**, **Zambia**, **Malawi**, **Burkina Faso**, **Mozambique**, **Angola**, and **Ethiopia** have the lowest scores, highlighting a significant gap in Knowledge Economy development.
Ten Priorities for Africa’s Knowledge Economy
1. Knowledge and Innovation: the lifeblood of development

[Graph showing the growth of economic indicators for Rep. of Korea and Ghana from 1958 to 1990, with annotations highlighting the difference attributed to knowledge and the difference due to physical and human capital.]
Finland’s Innovation and Funding System

Innovation and Funding System

Private
Public

Company R&D
Business Angels
Venture Funds
Technology Funding
Research Councils
Universities Research Institutes
Sectorial research
Basic research  Applied research  Business R&D  Business development Marketing Internationalisation
Relevance to Service Delivery

- Role of Tertiary Education Institutions in Service Delivery
- Bridge between university research and service delivery innovations
- To what extent are departments working together in a system of innovation?
- How are new ideas being disseminated throughout the system?
- What are the incentives in place to take risks and try new ideas?
2. Building integrated policies

- National policy on innovation helps support cross-sectoral policy making.
- Need to foster a culture of innovation and risk taking
- Facilitate private-public partnerships
- Address issues of global knowledge acquisition including issues of Foreign Direct Investment and Intellectual Property Rights
- Harness potential of indigenous knowledge and community-based innovation
3. Mobilising Leadership for the KE

- ICT and Education reform have not changed in 10 years.
- New culture -- Not top down but networked and empowering
- Encouragement of risk taking
- Identification and support of champions at all levels.
4. Innovation by local communities

- Innovation for the community by the community
- Innovation builds on existing knowledge → IK important to be captured to foster this innovation
- Need to reach the youth and create a culture of innovation
- More balance with regard to innovation for basic needs.
Innovation Deficit

Degree of Effort in Innovation vs. Level of Basic Needs

Affluent | Comfortable | Stressed, Impoverished

Societal Status

“Nice to have” Innovation

Innovation Deficit
5. Innovation aligned with domestic strengths and national needs

- African research and education needs to focus on African needs.
- Health education to western standards; over-reliance on expensive outside skills for projects; etc.
- Need to focus on comparative advantage – tourism, mineral resources, fishing, etc.
- Help academic research to focus and direct toward applications.
6. Education reform to respond to the demands of the KE

- Africa faces enormous challenges → less than 25% complete Junior Secondary school; less than 15% complete Senior Secondary school; employers find quality and relevance of graduates at secondary level to be unsatisfactory.
- Drivers of change include globalization, role of knowledge, need for life-long learning; technological change, etc.
- Focus on curricular and assessment reform.
- Skills include analytical capacity; critical reasoning; problem solving; communication and abilities to use new media/technologies.
- Active pedagogies, local languages, contextualized learning.
- Life long learning → incentives for continuous education?
7. ICTs: fundamental infrastructure and enabler of KE

- Disappointing progress over past 10-15 years
- Binding constraint 1 – critical mass of software engineers → FOSS as opportunity
- What are the ways to use ICT to foster greater transparency and accountability.
- To foster the short route of accountability.
- Rural access including ICT literacy to be addressed.
- Potential use of cell phones untapped.
8. Open development processes

- Communities of practice/interest such as open educational resources → WIKI phenomenon
- Open source software
- Collaboration and Cultural awareness as a key skills
- Aggregation of talent important for Africa
9. Building on the know-how of others

- International partnerships for technology transfer and role of FDI
- IPR considerations are key → need to insure that fair policies and frameworks are in place.
- Important for adaptation and adoption of technologies to local environment
- New knowledge industries building on success of “old” industries. Finnish example of Nokia and the pulp and paper industry.
- Opportunities in the diaspora community
10. Strategic monitoring and evaluation

- Essential for knowledge economy growth
- Learning by doing linked to continuous adaptation supported by robust M&E framework.
- Culture of learning and risk management, not to apportion blame.
- Knowledge Economy Index – www.worldbank.org/wbi
THANK YOU