

ESD.10 Introduction to Technology and Policy

Group Written Assignment: Comparison of National Innovation Systems

Due: Wednesday, Oct 11th, at the start of class

Task:

The class has been broken down into small groups to complete this assignment, as detailed on the attached sheet. Everyone will read Chapter 1 and Chapter 16 in *National Innovation Systems* (Richard Nelson, ed.), in addition to a third chapter that presents an innovation system for a particular country, and some introductory material for your group of countries that is located on the course website. For extra credit, your group may choose to seek out additional references on your countries that cover the period from 1990 onwards. We do not want you to look for additional historical documentation; only material that covers the modern period from 1990 onwards, including any formal plans the countries may have for future development and use of their national innovation system.

As you read, think about the following questions:

- What is the structure, history, and evolution of the country's innovation system?
- Why does it look the way it does?
- Has it been effective? In what way?

As you discuss and compare national innovation systems in your group, think about the following questions:

- What are the similarities and differences among countries in innovation system structures, historical drivers, and evolution?
- Why do these similarities and difference exist?
- Which do you think were more effective and why?

Deliverables:

Each group is collectively responsible for the following three deliverables

- A (maximum) 3 page paper, of 12 point Times font with 1-inch margins, comparing and contrasting the national innovation systems of the countries in your group. The paper is to be submitted in class on the due date, and posted to Stellar before class
- A 7-minute oral presentation summarizing your paper, with 1-2 group members presenting (no more).
- A set of viewgraphs to support the 7-minute presentation. Viewgraphs with visual representations, as opposed to text, are preferred. A hard copy of the viewgraphs should be submitted in class on the due date (attached behind your paper), and posted to Stellar before the class.

Notes on extra credit:

- You might consider spending an hour looking for additional resources. Spending more than an hour is more than is expected.
- If you find additional resources, please use and reference them in your paper. Also, please submit an electronic or hard copy of your reference material, if of a reasonable length to do so.
- If you do not find additional resources after spending time looking for them, please attach a small addendum to your assignment letting us know where you looked, what search terms you used, who you tried to contact, etc.