

# Innovation Knowledge & Development

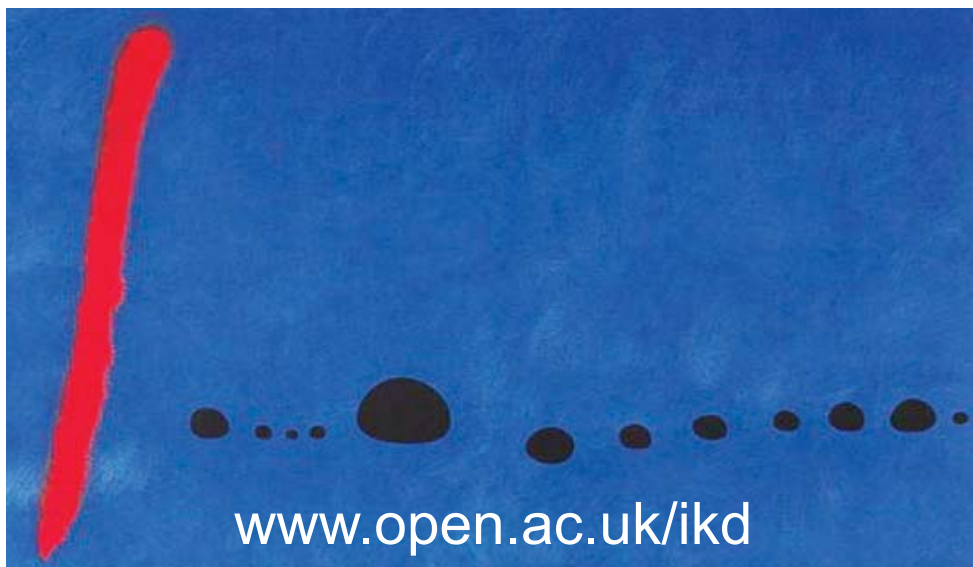


The Open University

Knowledge and innovation drive social and economic development, raising living standards for some but often leaving others behind. In education, health, the environment, enterprise development and other areas technological possibilities engage the hopes and ambitions of policymakers. However, translating the possibilities into concrete gains for target populations in industrially developed or developing countries proves enormously challenging.

**The Centre for Innovation, Knowledge and Development (IKD)** is the Open University's vibrant inter-faculty research centre. It brings together innovation research in the faculties of Social Sciences, Maths-Computing-Technology and the OU Business School to pool diverse areas of expertise and to do joint research.

IKD's research focuses on three major interlocking themes: Innovation and Industry Dynamics; Governance of Innovation and Development Policy; and Regional Innovation and Knowledge Management – allowing an innovative perspective on the interactions between technology creation and diffusion, business behaviour, government and non-governmental actors. A primary focus is on exploring ways that knowledge and innovation can contribute to inclusive and sustainable patterns of economic and social development.

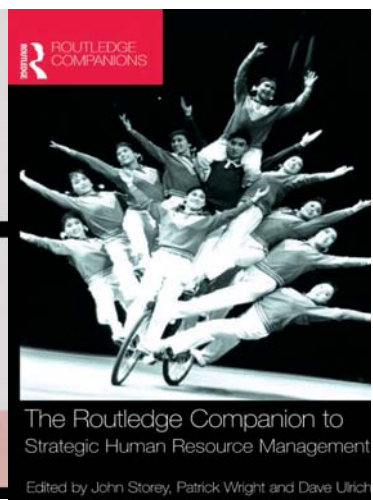
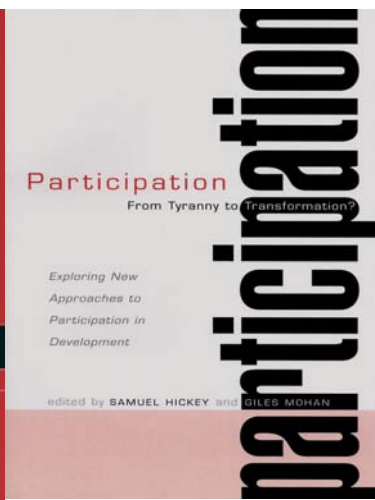
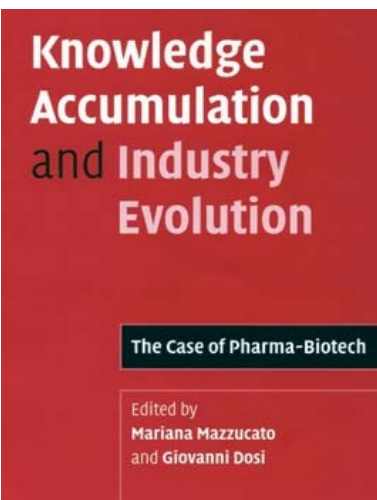


IKD's strength comes from its diversity and its ability to cross traditional discipline boundaries. This permits research relevant to that primary focus in the following cross cutting areas: for example, governance and politics of innovation; conflict; education; migration and diaspora; the Asian driver economies; health; the new life science economy; innovation over the industry life-cycle; capabilities and capacity development; public-private partnerships; regulatory frameworks; social justice, complexity and enterprise development and entrepreneurship.

**IKD research projects** focus on the dynamic links between technology creation and diffusion, entrepreneurial behaviour, industry dynamics and institutional change. Projects often have a sectoral focus, for example recent work has focussed on IT, Pharma, automobiles and construction. IKD research on the life-sciences sector (pharmaceutical, biotechnology and agrobusiness industries), has been conducted in collaboration with one of IKD's core research groups, the ESRC Innogen centre hosted at the Open University and the University of Edinburgh [www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/innogen](http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/innogen)

### All IKD projects are externally funded. These include:

- The Politics of Chinese Engagement with African Development
- Non-governmental Action to Improve the Access of the Poor to Good Quality Low Cost Drugs
- Co-operative Research on Environmental Problems in Europe (CREPE)
- Firm Growth Dynamics under Different Knowledge Regimes
- The Capabilities Measurement Project
- Innovation in Pharma and Equity in Health Systems
- Finance, Innovation and Inequality
- Culture and Innovation Dynamics: Explaining the uneven evolution of human knowledge
- Comparative Governance Arrangements and Comparative Performance: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study
- Regional Analysis, Innovation, Knowledge and Entrepreneurship (RAIKE)



IKD has an exciting [working paper series](#) and hosts a lively [seminar series](#), bringing international experts on the links between innovation, knowledge and development to the Open University's Walton Hall campus.

IKD [workshops and conferences](#) aim at bringing together leading academics, business leaders and policy officials to discuss the policy relevant interactions between the evolution of technological innovation, learning dynamics and the impacts on growth and development. Most workshops are co-funded externally, e.g. by the ESRC Innogen centre and the EU Network of Excellence: Dynamics for Institutions and Markets in Europe ([www.dime-eu.org](http://www.dime-eu.org)). For full details of all events and related working papers (pdf) please visit the workshop link on the IKD website.

## Recent IKD Events

Entrepreneurial Learning, Innovation and Development. [May 2008](#)

Institutions, Innovation and Industrial Dynamics in Emerging Economies. [Nov 2007](#)

Finance, Innovation and Inequality: questions and implications for future research. [Nov 2007](#)

Innovation and Equity in Health. [Jul 2007](#)

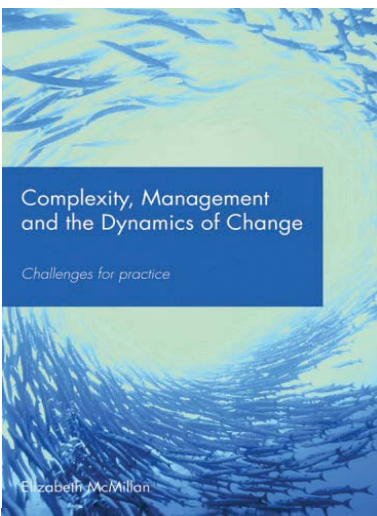
Policy Implications from Recent Advances in the Economics of Innovation and Industrial Dynamics. [Dec 2006](#)

Embedding entrepreneurship and innovation in Regional Development. [Jul 2006](#)

Governing technology for development: from theory to practice and back again. [April 2006](#)

Bridging the gulf between policies for innovation, productivity & industrial growth & policies to reduce poverty. [Nov 2005](#)

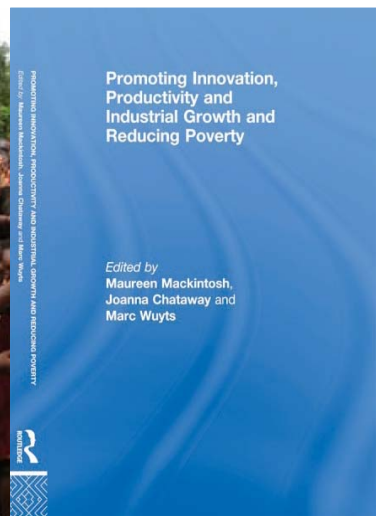
The [IKD annual lecture](#) is a high profile event, hosting a series of distinguished speakers in the area of innovation, knowledge and development. This event takes place at the Open University and is open to the public.



Complexity, Management  
and the Dynamics of Change

*Challenges for practice*

Elizabeth McMillan



Promoting Innovation,  
Productivity and  
Industrial Growth and  
Reducing Poverty

Edited by  
Maureen Mackintosh,  
Joanna Chataway and  
Marc Wuyts

PROMOTING INNOVATION, PRODUCTIVITY AND INDUSTRIAL GROWTH AND REDUCING POVERTY  
Edited by Maureen Mackintosh, Joanna Chataway and Marc Wuyts

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ROUTLEDGE

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The Open University

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For full details of all projects, events, working papers, seminars, activities and specific contact details please visit the IKD website at: [www.open.ac.uk/ikd](http://www.open.ac.uk/ikd)



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