

Greetings for the 5-year anniversary of IERI

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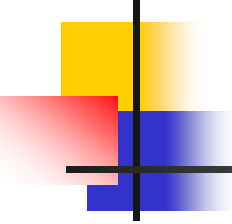
The task ahead for IERI

- I have followed the short history of IERI from the very beginning and I am impressed by
 - The scientific and policy related output
 - The international positioning in global networks
- Congratulations to Rasigan, Mario and Mammo!!
- Now a few words on evolutionary perspective on innovation



Toward a general Theory of Innovation 'Dynamizing Adam Smith'

- Innovation are new combinations: they combine diverse (distant!) elements of knowledge and innovation thrives when people with different background meet and interact.
- Innovation drives and shapes the division of labour. The evolution of the division of labour contributes to diversity and opens up new interfaces for interaction.
But Smith forgot to tell that the formation of 'tribes' establish communication problems.
- Short social distance and low cultural barriers facilitate interactive learning and promote innovation.



Innovation policy should aim at reducing distance and barriers between diverse agents!

- Contribute to specialisation but prepare the specialists for interaction with other specialists!
- Establish intermediators that cross disciplines and professions.
- Facilitate interaction between men of speculation and men of action.
- Reduce the social distance between elite and the rest.

Allow for diversity in the innovation system – co-existence of different kinds of education, financial institutions and cultures is a good thing. Different kinds of expertise equals more diversity in the labor force and gives a stronger basis for innovation.



New agenda for growth analysis

	Easy to reproduce	Difficult to reproduce
Tangible	Production capital	Natural capital
Non-tangible	Intellectual capital	Social capital



The most important challenge is the absence of sustainable global governance

- We are on Titanic 2 where we move towards the next icebergs with maximum speed (Financial Crises and Ecological Crises) without a Captain and with no agreement among passengers neither on slowing down nor on changing the course.



Implications for innovation

- Today the most important is **global governance innovation!**
- Building transnational government with global research and innovation efforts to develop a sustainable technological trajectory.
- International and intercultural dialogues that balance knowledge protection with knowledge sharing.
- Toward a global 'welfare state' where benefits and costs of change are shared at the global level
- Exploiting diversity at the global level by reducing distance and barriers.



Work Hard
And
Have Fun!