

AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(AJSTID)

Special Issue

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

TITLE

**“EMERGENCE OF TERRITORIAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS IN LATIN AMERICA
AND AFRICA”**

Edited by

Andrew Cummings and Abdelkader Djeflat

Innovation in the developing world and notably, the so-called latecomers, suffers from a real crisis, not a maturity crisis known in certain advanced countries but a crisis of birth in the framework of an innovation life cycle to be determined (Djeflat 2011). While the approach in terms of innovation systems is real and attracts a great deal of attention from policy makers, very little work has been done on Late-comers like African and Latin America Countries to understand how they could engage in a real Emergence policy of their innovation system in a sustainable manner. Analysis of the emergent phases of systems of innovation construction is thus becoming a key issue as the systems of innovation approach is being applied in developing country contexts throughout the world. Within this discussion of system of innovation emergence with the Globelics and other academic communities, significantly less attention has been paid to the emergence of territorial systems of innovation (TIS) in different types of developing country contexts, and even in the North's less developed regions (Cumming 2014, Djeflat 2012).

The objective is to take advantage of the learning opportunity as emergence and the initial configuration dynamics of this process are just now happening in some places throughout the diverse South. There are greater advances in the more developed southern countries, especially around significant metropolitan areas, it is still a relatively recent phenomenon and the TIS are in an early development phase.

This is a call to stimulate South – South collaboration between researchers from Africa and Latin-America to make a contribution to the understanding of **emergence of territorial – sub – national – innovation systems** in a diversity of developing country contexts. There is also an intention to use the comparative results of this research to develop policy proposals for national and sub – national governments for how and why to support these emergent processes with “gardening polities” (Sutz and Arocena).

The initiative to develop this Special Issue looks to bring together teams of scholars who are already working with a broad and developmentally oriented system of innovation approach, with an emphasis on territorial innovation dynamics.

The specific objectives of this initiative are:

1. Establish “state of the art” in theoretical development and empirical research on territorial (regional – local) sub – national, possibly cross border, innovation systems for African and Latin American countries.
2. Develop a shared **conceptual framework for emergence** in relation to TIS, building on the flexible conceptualization of innovation systems and ideas from complex systems analysis, applicable to a diversity of territorial contexts in African and Latin American countries and on the emergence/take off analytical framework.
3. Build on existing research to make novel contributions to our understanding of emergence of TIS as it is happening in a diversity of African and Latin American country contexts, developing a common conceptual framework and a comparative basis for robust policy recommendations.
4. Make cross-country and cross regional comparative analysis.
5. Develop a future research agenda for South – South and South – North research collaboration on TIS emergence in relation to territorial development.

The call is to invite submission following the review and reference procedures of the journal to submit full research papers that preferably address the main following themes:

General paper ideas – conceptualization

1. Critical synthesis of “state of the art” of TIS research, theoretical development and empirical studies, comparing Africa with Latin America and positioning these developments with respect to research advances.

2. Problem statement on territorial development dynamics on a country level. What is the need for the development of territorial innovation systems?
3. Characterization of TIS emergence system configuration and initial development in the context of the national innovation system and sectoral IS dynamics.
4. Public policy and general institutional and organizational framework for TIS emergence.
5. Territorialized case studies of most advanced - interesting TIS emergence processes.
6. Typology of TIS emergence. The generative mechanisms for emergence and the structural, organizational and institutional configurations of the TIS themselves and that facilitate or hinder their emergence and initial development (take off) phase
7. Analyzing, what were the key pre - existing conditions necessary for emergence and the specific triggering causal mechanisms that explain emergence. Similarities and differences in different country contexts.
8. Generalized policy learning and development agenda to promote TIS emergence as a contribution to sustainable, inclusive territorial development strategies in Africa and Latin America.

Expression of interest:

A short abstract of 150 words et the most to send no later than end March to the guest editors: Andrew Cumming (acummings@uca.edu.sv) and Abdelkader Djeflat (abdelkader.djeflat@univ-lille1).

Full paper:

Should be no longer than 4000 - 7000 words and sent to the guest editors no later than **end of May 2016** after acceptance of the abstract.