

## Uneven Paths of Development

*'Why have East Asian countries grown so fast and the African countries so slowly for the last quarter century, even though many in the two groups at the beginning of the period had similar income levels. The authors provide an original, thoughtful and extremely insightful approach to this question by considering the experience of the two groups of countries in relation to the development of the information hardware industry. The results of this investigation are fascinating and thoroughly convincing. This volume makes a brilliant path breaking contribution to development economics and thoroughly deserves to be and will be widely read.'*

– Ajit Singh, University of Cambridge and University of Birmingham Business School, UK

*'This book represents an important step forward towards understanding why some countries and regions are successful in catching-up with the rich part of the world while others tend to have great difficulties in doing so. It represents a very happy marriage between the literature on economic development and the literature on innovation and learning. At the end of the book a series of thoughtful recommendations for innovation policy are presented. This volume should be recommended to students and practitioners involved in understanding and promoting economic development.'*

– Bengt-Åke Lundvall, Aalborg University, Denmark

*'In recent years there has been a revolution in studies of economic development. The heart of successful development is seen as the growing mastery by firms of the technological, organizational, and managerial capabilities needed to be effective in a field of economic activity. In turn learning by firms is seen as strongly dependent upon the institutional structures that mold how they operate. And effective institutions are seen as often sectoral specific. The achievement of successful development thus requires that a nation put in place the appropriate institutions. This fine book is an important addition to this literature.'*

– Richard R. Nelson, Columbia University, USA

*'The authors demonstrate a good understanding of the theoretical scholarship which they have used competently in building up the intellectual foundations for analyzing the sources of uneven paths of development cross countries in Africa and Asia. Drawing on country data and experiences, the book offers evidence-based policy lessons relevant for learning to innovate and to catch-up in a complex process of industrial, technological and organizational changes at the firm- and sectoral-levels. This book deserves to be read by all those concerned with technology and development.'*

– Kande Yumkella, UNIDO

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