

Broadband as a platform for economic, social and cultural development: lessons from Asia (Innovation and Growth: Chasing a Moving Frontier)

Far from "playing catch-up", Asian economies have been setting the pace in the development of broadband networks, both on fixed and mobile networks. Korea was an early leader in fixed broadband, and Japan has been leading in the early stages of mobile broadband deployment. Singapore is one of the world leaders in urban fibre deployment while Hong Kong, China, is a pioneer in the provision of Internet Protocol Television (IPTV). Among the developing countries of the region, China now has the largest installed base of broadband users. India has recognised the critical importance of broadband for its burgeoning software outsourcing industry.

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