User-driven innovation and communications development (Inn

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User-driven innovation and communications development (Innovation and Growth: Chasing a Moving Frontier)

Improving access to communication networks in developing countries is a driver of their overall economic and social development. Over the past decade greater reliance on the market in many low-income countries has made owning and using a telephone increasingly affordable and accessible. This has helped create new sources of income and employment as well as encouraged innovation aimed at meeting local requirements. This chapter looks at some of the innovation surrounding wireless communications in developing countries and at how network effects and network externalities influence innovation in developing countries.

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