Innovation: Key to Africa s Industrialisation

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A first step to effectively promoting technology and innovation in Africa is for African governments to develop coherent STI policies. Over the past decade many African countries have either developed or revised their STI policies. However, there is often incoherence between STI policies and other development policies. For example, UNCTAD (2015) reviewed STI policies of three countries (Ethiopia, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania) and found that there was lack of coordination between STI and industrial development policies in these countries. Other areas where there is disconnect between STI and other development policies include gender and education.