

Role of IPRS in Technology Transfer- An Overview

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Nexus between IPRS and Tech Transfer

- A Controversial Issue
 - Do Stronger IPRS Facilitate/hinder Tech Transfer
 - IPRS as part of conditions on Tech Transfer
 - Tech Transfer as a larger process impacted by other factors also
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Evidence and Analysis

- Stronger IPRS encourage tech diffusion but not in all markets and in all circumstances
 - Market size, interests of transferor, transferee, govt. policies
 - Historical experience – South East Asia, India
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Korean Experience

- From imitation, to technology development through a process of learning and absorbing technology
 - Govt. policy to promote learning and diffusion
 - Interests of industry and capacity to innovate
 - Tech Transfer and development and economic development
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IPRS, Tech Transfer and Policy

- Despite weak IPRS China attracted FDI
 - Small markets and weak capacity to absorb technology – strong IPRS may not induce FDI or tech transfer
 - Crafting suitable policies balancing the interests of various stakeholders and national development
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IPRS and Competition

- Patents help in diffusion of knowledge but at a cost
 - The potential mismatch between enhanced IP protection and access to technology
 - Global Concentration of patents and question of technological dominance
 - Strong IPRS and Competition Policy
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WTO, IPRS and Tech Transfer

- WTO has not been a great source for tech transfer
 - The North-South divide and the differences in perceptions
 - Global Harmonization of IPRS and policy space
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Alternative Models of IPRS and Tech Transfer

- Patent Pools
 - Patent Commons
 - Patent Buyouts
 - Soft patents for some technologies
 - Solution similar to Doha Declaration on Public Health
 - CGIAR type institutions
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ESTS, IPRS and Tech Transfer

- IPRS as barrier for transfer of ESTS
 - Ownership pattern in ESTS
 - South not weak in all ESTS and is catching up in some
 - Montreal Protocol as a Model
 - Linking IPRS, Tech Transfer and provision of public goods
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Climate Change, Tech Transfer & IPRS

- Issues vary from technology to technology
 - IPRS constitute a barrier but to what extent is a question
 - Need for detailed studies on new technologies
 - Limits of patent analysis and data
 - Pro-active policy formulation
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IPRS, Tech Transfer

- ❑ Conclusion
 - ❑ IPRS and Tech Transfer – no positive correlation always
 - ❑ Viewed in a broad context
 - ❑ Public goods and global commons- should IPRS take precedent over human needs
 - ❑ Capacity building and capacity to adopt and learn
 - ❑ technological development – role of IPRS
 - ❑ Need to promote new models of innovation and tech transfer
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Thanks

- For RIS's work on tech transfer issues visit www.ris.org.in
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