

6.2. From Catching-up to Forging Ahead – Lessons from China’s Experience

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1. China’s S&T policy has been based more or less on a linear model focusing on R&D institutions. Innovative capabilities of Chinese firms are still lagging behind. Considerable efforts are needed to transition from a pure S&T policy to a more market-oriented innovation policy?
2. In order to move from catching-up to forging ahead, China’s innovation policy requires much more than just R&D programs. Of critical importance are sophisticated policies on IPR, tax incentives, finance, human resources development, and promotion of entrepreneurship.
3. Policy coordination needs to be strengthened beyond the Ministry of Science and Technology, and involve key policy making bodies that cover education, trade, investment, etc.