COMPETITIVENESS, LOCALISED LEARNING AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Specialisation and prosperity in small open economies

Peter Maskell, Heikki Eskelinen, Ingjaldur Hannibalsson, Anders Malmberg and Eirik Vatne



CONTENTS

	List of figures	A 111
	List of tables and cases	ix
	About the authors	x
	Foreword by Michael Storper	хi
	Preface	xv
1	Regional specialisation and localised learning -	
	An introduction	1
	Points of departure and agenda 1	
	Firms and competencies 4	
	Industry and industrial systems 6	
	Agglomeration, local milieu and localised capabilities 9	
	Regions and countries 10	
	Competitiveness and prosperity 12	
	Outline of the book 14	
P.A	ART I	
Ul	biquitification, knowledge and localised capabilites	17
2	Sustainable patterns of specialisation in a globalised	
	economy	19
	Internationalisation, 'ubiquitification' and the knowledge-based economy	19
	Convergence and stable patterns of regional and national specialisation	24

3	Firm competitiveness through knowledge creation	29
?	Knowledge creation 29 Tacit and codified forms of knowledge 34 Codification as a second process of ubiquitification 40 Protection of knowledge 42 Enhanced use and creation of knowledge through trustful relations 44 Conclusion: towards an understanding of interactive learning in localised industrial systems 48	
4	Localised capabilities and the competitiveness of regions and countries	50
:	The interaction between territory and economic development 50 The main elements of localised capabilities 53 The creation of localised capabilities 56 *Agglomeration and learning 58 Territorial life-cycles 64 Conclusion: knowledge creation and localised capabilities 69	
Sm	ART II nall countries, localised learning and lack of learning: e cases of furniture, fish and phones	73
5	Small nations: how to sustain prosperity in open, low-tech economies	75
	Small versus large economies – a question of openness 75 High-tech and low-tech trajectories 80 Six reasons for a small country to stay low-tech 84 Low-tech competitiveness in high-cost countries? 89 Shared trust: an alternative route to smooth knowledge exchange 92 Conclusion: shared trust and localised learning as a competitive advantage of small countries 97	
6	Comfort and competitiveness: the wooden furniture industry	98
	Furniture industry: structure and change 99	

CONTENTS

7	Natural resources and the institutional endowment: the fishing industry	120
	Setting the scene; or how to exercise property rights on self-propelled property 121	
	The seafood value chain 124	
	The geography of supply and demand in the fishing industry 130 Protecting both fish stocks and fishing communities: the case of Norway Liberalisation in order to regain competitiveness: the case of Iceland 1 Conclusion: learning and innovation in the fishing industry 146	
8	Footloose communications: the mobile phone industry	151
	The restructuring of telecommunications 151	
	The global framework and what telephony is all about 154 Telecommunications in the Nordic countries: regulations and market structures 157	
	The route to excellence in mobile telephony: actors, interactions and institutions 159	
	Preconditions for success 168	
	Conclusion: is there high-tech potential in small countries after all?	174
P.A	ART III	
Co	onclusions and policy implications	177
9	Towards a learning-based industrial and regional policy	179
	Human action, spatial context and economic development 180 Economic clustering, positive external effects and spatial agglomeration	182
	Summing up the main argument: ten conclusions 184	
	The learning perspective and public policy 185	
	Fields open for public intervention 190	
	Final words 193	
	Notes	195
	References	215
	Author index	246
	Subject index	251

: