KNOWLEDGE FLOWS AND INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS – AN ANALYTICAL REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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Synopsis

The dynamism and persistence of competitiveness among industrial clusters, even in the wake of globalization and liberalization in the 1990s, has led researchers to explore the causes of dynamic efficiencies at the cluster level. The “knowledge focus” of cluster studies is of recent origin and we know very little about the nature of knowledge flows and their determinants.

This paper reviews the available literature to identify key processes at work and the gaps in understanding of these processes. It is suggested that the nature and quantum of knowledge flows in a cluster would depend upon its:

a) internal characteristics
b) external linkages
c) external policy and economic environment
d) Using available studies, the paper highlights the role of these characteristics in the generation and flows of knowledge within the cluster.