

Learning and innovation under changing market conditions : the auto parts industry in Mexico

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STELLINGEN

Accompanying the Ph.D. Thesis / Behorende bij het proefschrift

Learning and Innovation Under Changing Market Conditions: The Auto Parts Industry in Mexico

Bertha VALLEJO CARLOS

22nd SEPT 2010

1. *Changing market conditions can result in fundamental shifts in learning mechanisms and innovation patterns.*
2. *If sufficient capacity is not first built under a more protective framework in which the government can act more dynamically, it is much more difficult (and requires an extraordinary amount of explicit effort) to build capacity under a framework strongly influenced by foreign actors.*
3. *Breaking traditional habits and practices that prevent learning and innovation is much harder than one would expect, because it involves getting people to recognize that what they are doing is not taking them far enough.*
4. *Poor development of the supporting industry and low levels of technological efforts preceding structural market changes can result in exporting industries becoming highly dependent on foreign inputs.*
5. *“Learning is at the heart of a company’s ability to adapt to a rapidly changing environment.”* Prokesch, Steven E. “Unleashing the power of learning: An interview with British Petroleum’s John Browne.” Harvard Business Review, Vol.75, No.5 (Sept.-Oct. 1995): p. 148.
6. *Learning is a continuous process and not a one-time event.*
7. *The ability to handle processes of technological, organizational and technical change is a key difference between developed and developing economies.*
8. *Internationalization and Free Trade Agreements change market conditions and obligate firms to adapt their production and organization standards to international requirements.*
9. *The process of writing a Ph.D. dissertation brings about a deep transformation – influenced by many people -- that results in a very different person than the one that started it several years earlier.*
10. *“If you make an entrance and nobody turns to look at you, my dear, find a back door and leave, and then find a new dress.”* Giorgio Armani.
11. *If I survived my brothers ... there is absolutely no life challenge that I cannot survive!*