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LEARNING,
CAPABILITY
BUILDING AND
INNOVATION FOR
DEVELOPMENT

GABRIELA DUTRÉNIT KEUN LEE RICHARD NELSON LUC SOETE ALEXANDRE O. VERA-CRUZ



EADI GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

EADI Global Development Series

Hardback Aug 2013 <u>£60.00</u> £30.00 9781137306920 312 pp. 216 mm x 138 mm

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Learning, Capability Building and Innovation for Development

Edited By Gabriela Dutrénit, Keun Lee, Richard Nelson, Luc Soete and Alexandre Vera-Cruz

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'This volume brings together excellent contributions by leading scholars in the field who follow Jorge Katz in his original approach to economic development where micro processes of industry specific learning are seen as shaped by and as shaping macroeconomic processes. This micro-macro perspective is especially important in Latin America where shifting and unstable macroeconomic regimes have set in a difficult context for industrial development. But it is a perspective offering important lessons for all academics studying innovation and development as well as for practitioners who try to promote innovation under adverse conditions.' - Bengt-Åke Lundvall, Aalborg University, Denmark

'This book is a worthy tribute to a towering figure in the modern understanding of the development process. It is all the more useful to both scholars and policy-makers for having gathered the work of some of the best researchers to have followed Jorge's trails. A must read for all those interested in explaining the current catching-up processes or participating in them.' - Carlota Perez, London School of Economics, U.K. and Technological University of Tallinn, Estonia

About the book

Today, a large number of scholars studying development understand this process as involving learning and capability building. Capability building is an active, not a passive, process. It requires a purposeful effort from the learner's side, with support and commitment on allocation of time and resources toward learning activities. This process implies the possibility of failure as well as success, as we also learn from failures. A global cast of academics and policy makers examines economic development as a process of learning and technological accumulation, showing how economic development is a process involving creative destruction. While markets and market competition play major roles in structuring the development process, non-market institutions and government policies matter.



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