Evaluation of Cluster Competitiveness: Review, Framework and the Methodology

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ABSTRACT

Regional industry clusters have attracted the attention of international development agencies, national and local governments and corporations, as a means for of achieving competitiveness. In the literature, a considerable effort has gone into investigating linkages and the role of clusters in boosting economic success of regions or their member firms. Yet, unlike national, industry and firm levels, a holistic attempt to evaluate competitiveness at the level of clusters has remained inadequate. This paper, through a thorough review of extant literature, pulls together diverse insights on clusters and competitiveness to devise a framework and a methodology that can be utilized for evaluation and comparison of competitiveness across industry clusters.

Keywords: Industry Clusters, Competitiveness, Evaluation, Framework, Methodology