

In the name of God

**Measuring Technology Indices
with a Comparative Study on International Ranking of IRAN**

By:
Fatemeh Movahedi

**Economic Research and Policy Department
Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran
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Abstract

Improving the social welfare, underpinning sustainable development and growth, is considered as the ultimate goal in each economy. In the past decades, several researches were carried out on the subject of economic growth based on factors of productivity. All pointed to the fact that economic growth is possible through rapid accumulation of factors of production. Nowadays, technological advances in most countries point to the place of knowledge and technology in modern economies, (knowledge-based economy), an approach whose ultimate goal is to reach a sustainable economic growth.

Knowledge revolution in tandem with ever increasing globalization, provided great opportunities to countries to improve their social and economic development. Countries which could not keep pace with this growing world might fall behind. This applies to Iran, which could not succeed unless it moves toward knowledge-based production and sustainable development.

Iran's economic growth and per capita income, as objective indicators for development in the region and the world, proved unsatisfactory. This is against various advantages and potentials the country is benefiting from such as high energy security, various mineral resources, and abundant and educated workforce.

Iran's ranking in the assessment of various indices for knowledge and technology indicates its unsatisfactory position, even in the MENA region. According to Technological Achievement Index, released by the UNDP, Iran's index indicated the lowest among the countries in "dynamic adopters" ⁽¹⁾ group.

(1) Countries which are dynamic in the use of new technology.

The present report tries to give a picture of Iran's status in terms of technological advancement in the world and its linkage to knowledge economy and its pillars. This picture opens the door to a comparative analysis of supply and demand shortages of technology in Iran with other rivals in the world.

Keywords: Pillars of Knowledge Economy, Learning, Technology Indices