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## **Evaluating Korean Innovative Cluster Policies: Emerging a New Type of Asian Clusters?**

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This paper explores the innovative industrial cluster policies in Korea, from compact industrialization period (the 1960s ~ the 1970s) to deepening regional industrial development period (2008-2012). Most of the cluster policy specialists have theorized and case-studied that indigenous and spontaneous innovative industrial clusters can survive and evolve in the long-run, however, the Korean case showed that state's proactive role as a cluster creator, but that they have promoted innovative industrial clusters in different ways. Although Korea has unique ideological, political, and institutional configurations as a developmental state, its innovative industrial cluster policies have interacted with the market, local governments, and citizen groups. In the context of state restructuring, Korea has taken an endogenous approach by nurturing local talent and promoting local firms and institutions in cluster creation as well as state as cluster locators. This paper concludes that Korean innovative industrial cluster policies can be classified as a new type of clusters and the lessons of Korean case would be a good exemplar for designing innovative clusters in the developing countries as well as regional development strategies in the industrialized ones.

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