

Future of developing countries lies in Technological accumulation

Ladies and gentlemen all protocol is observed

Technological invention and utilization capacity determine economic growth of a nation where developed countries have high capacity whereas the developing countries vis-versa. According to many scholars Sustainable growth is unthinkable without technological accumulation capabilities and capacities.

Ethiopia realized this and developed GTP that envisions to transform economic structure from agricultural to industrialization led economy and achieve a lower middle income category by 2025 through increasing productivity, quality and competitiveness of the productive sectors; enhancing the capacity, participation and equitable benefit of citizens through building democratic institutions. To this end, it aligned national development policies, strategies and programs with goals, targets and indicators of Agenda 2030 for SDGs and 2063 of “the Africa We Want” have been taken as the bases for the formulation of GTP of Ethiopia.

Ladies and gentlemen

Since 1991 Ethiopia has developed clear STI policy and strategies to support and sustain economic growth and alleviate poverty and achieve SDGs. Indeed, these policies helped to build national capacity to generate, select, import, learn, utilize and diffuse appropriate technologies, improve national quality infrastructure and ICT and strengthened innovation capabilities of stakeholders to realize broad based socio economic structural transformation. Moreover it also improved stakeholders cooperation, broaden societal scientific knowledge base and facilitated establishment of council, science café, digital library and incubation center that lay foundation for technological and innovation ecosystem and enhance digital economy as well.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Moreover, the government created conducive and enabling environments for private sector, FDI and skilled Diaspora as well as development partners to play their role in creation of technological capacity and innovation capabilities to boost international trade and investment. Above all, STI policies increased effectiveness and efficiency of different economic sectors, enhanced skilled human development, problem solving research, job creation, increase productivity and quality of products and services to compete in global competitive market.

Ladies and Gentlemen

After conducting Science, technology, Environment, economy and political need assessment and situation analysis, followed by thorough expertise, partners and stakeholders discussion, Ethiopia has developed technological roadmaps for agriculture, agro-processing, manufacturing and construction sectors etc in which appropriate technologies identified, selected, adapted and transferred accordingly. Indeed, these holistic and integrated technological accumulation capabilities approaches strongly contributed to Ethiopia's SDGs and GTP achievement and ameliorate structural economic transformation that we witnessed in the last two decades.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Finally I would like to recommend the establishment of international funding mechanism to support start up tech-SME, brighter and creative youth to realize their innovative and technological ideas and play active role in economic arena. Moreover, I suggest strengthening human development skill through establishment of fabrication laboratories and technological learning and adoption center where talented and gifted innovators commercialize their products and services. In same way, expand ICT infrastructure connectivity to boost digital economy, service delivery and income generation.

Let us galvanize and prioritize our effort in creating technological accumulation capabilities and capacities which are the magic bullet for developing countries to achieve rapid, sustainable and equitable economic growth to catch-up with developed nations.

I thank