

# Establishing a science and technology park is no walk in the park

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## Establishing Science and Technology Parks: A Reference Guidebook for Policymakers in Asia and the Pacific



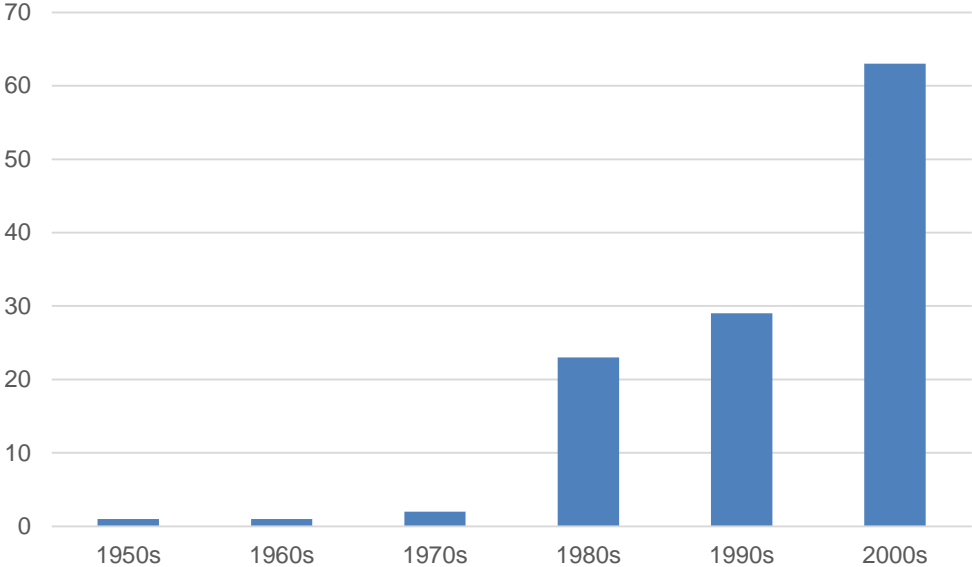
# Agenda

- Why do we need this guidebook?
- What is the structure of this guidebook?
- What are some key recommendations?



# Science and technology parks launched in each decade

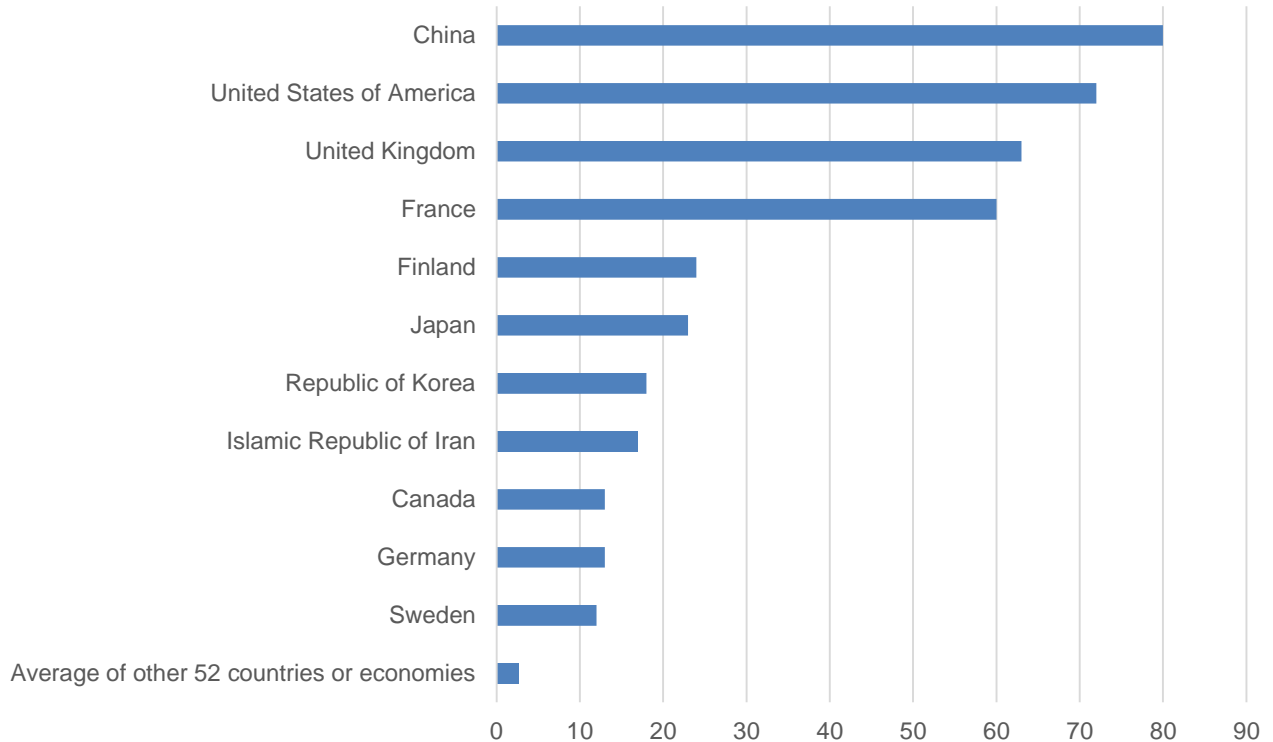
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*Source:* Derived from a survey conducted by the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation, 2012.

*Note:* The survey covers 119 parks from 38 countries.

# Number of Science Parks in a country or economy

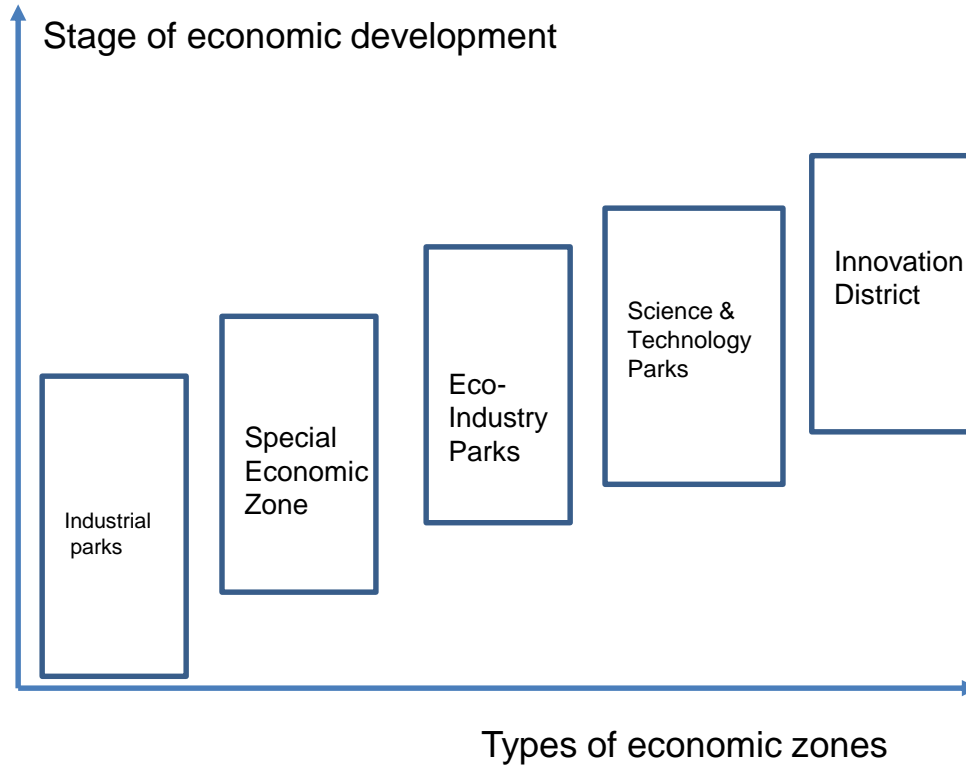


*Note:* the number of parks may vary according to different sources, mainly because there is no universally agreed definition of S&T parks

*Source:* UNESCO, <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/science-technology/university-industry-partnerships/science-parks-around-the-world/>

# Economic zones and stage of economic development

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Source: UNIDO country office in Viet Nam, 2015

# Not all science and tech parks are successful

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One study found that a large percentage of science parks in the United States either ended as outright failures or contributed little to economic objectives, reporting that

- only 25% of science parks achieved their goals (such as attracting and fostering research and development activity, contributing to job creation and economic growth);
- another 25% became purely real estate operations that contributed little to economic objectives; and
- 50% failed.

## Hong Kong Budget 2018-2019

### All eyes on Hong Kong's Science Park after massive HK\$40 billion budget handout

Critics suggest setting up various committees to hold the park accountable on its criteria for handing out funds and called on it to set up key performance indicators and benchmarks to measure its achievements

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COMMENTS:

Park in charge of a massive **HK\$40 billion (US\$5.1 billion)** slice an attempt to turn the city into an innovation and technology (I&T) hub, how it can spend the money wisely, will be able to churn out accountable to **a highly sceptical public**.

*Source:* South China Morning Post

## Objective of this guidebook

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This guidebook reviews the historical development of science and technology parks and discusses how they fit into the national policies in the region

It serves as a reference source for policymakers in charge of policy or planning related to the development of STPs in Asia and the Pacific.



# Structure of this guidebook

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Chapter 1 Introduction

Chapter 2 Nature and Characteristics of Science and Technology Parks

Chapter 3 Policies on Science and  
Technology Parks

Chapter 4 Case Studies of Science and Technology Parks

Chapter 5 Adjustment of Science and Technology Parks to the Digital World

Chapter 6 Conclusion

## Some (not all) recommendations from the Guidebook: The pre-conditions for success of a S&T park

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- The key tenants or the anchor tenants – such as national research institutes – are committed to staying in the science and technology park.
- A management team with all the skills necessary for managing the science and technology park can be identified and assembled.
- A strong science base in the surrounding areas of the science and technology park is already available.
- The city or area where a science and technology park will be built is attractive to talented researchers and entrepreneurs.;
- An entrepreneurial culture is available in the city or country where a science and technology park will be built.
- Finance, especially seed and venture capital, is available in the city or country where a science and technology park will be built.

# In a nutshell

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- The success of Silicon Valley has been inspirational. However, if the precursory conditions are not in place, a science and technology park could turn into a white elephant project.

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