

Case study on enhancing the societal value of research infrastructures in KOREA

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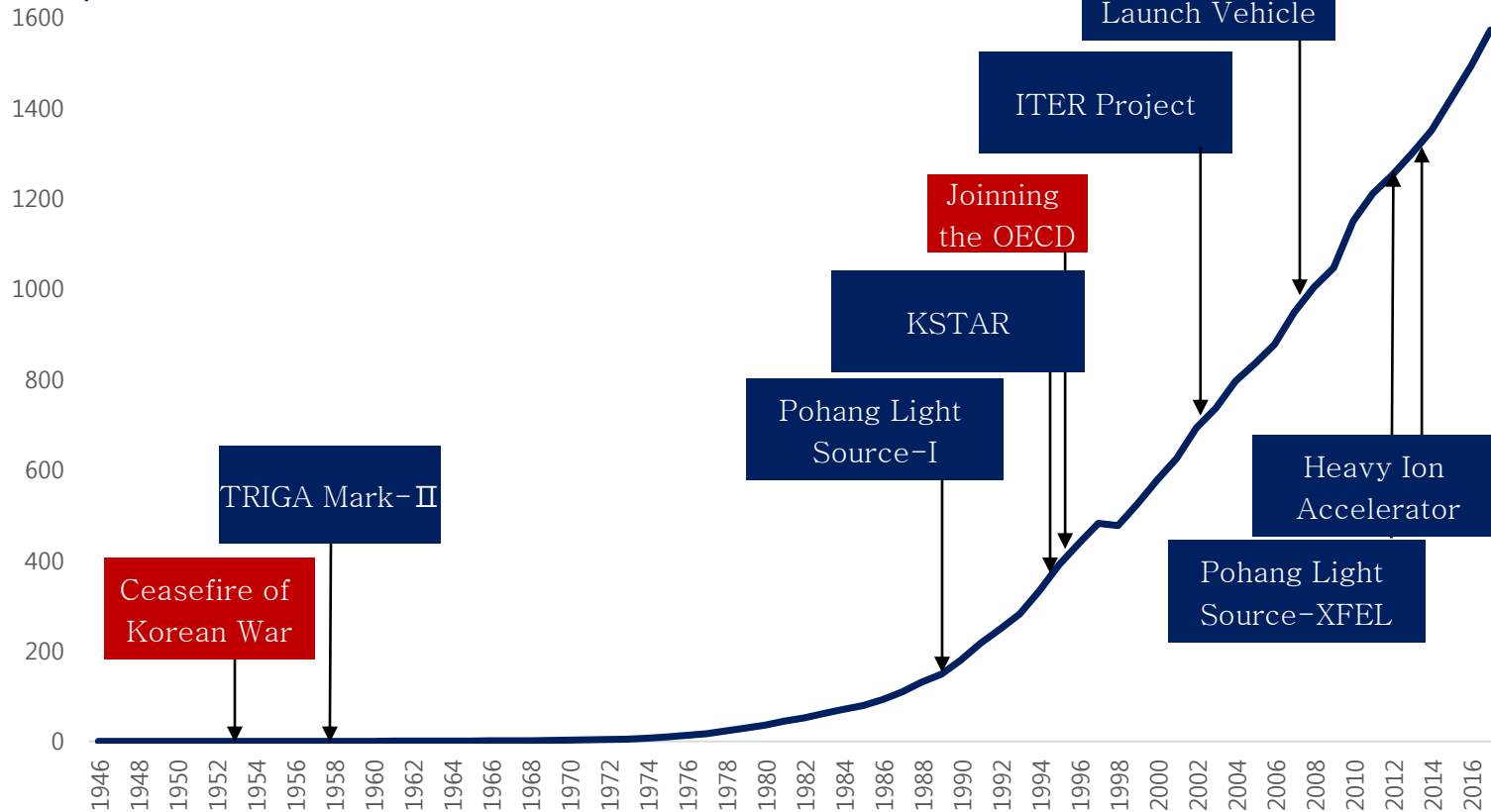
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Introduction

- Korea has relatively short but dynamic history of R&D in modern science and technology
 - “Imitator”
 - 1960s ~ 1970s
 - “Creative imitator (fast follower)”
 - 1980s ~ 1990s
 - “Innovator (first mover)”
 - 2000s ~

Republic of Korea, GDP growth

(Billion \$)



Introduction

- Even in late 1950s, first modern research infrastructure was constructed. It's societal impact was enormous.
 - Student training
 - R&D investment
 - New companies, new jobs
 - Change in energy market share
 - Network and knowledge spill-over
 - From importer to exporter

Progress in assessing societal impact of RIs in Korea

- Government-driven RI investment at the imitator phase
 - Top-down, uni-directional, state-controlled project gave large impact to the wide areas of Korean society.
 - Efficient way in the “imitator” stage for maximizing impact
- Systematic process required at the innovator stage

Progress in assessing societal impact of RIs in Korea

- Government-driven RI investment at the imitator phase
- Systematic process required at the innovator stage
 - Entering into innovator stage, demands of new RIs increased and a systematic decision-making process required.
 - Feasibility study becomes a mandatory process for any RI proposal. The CBA is an important tool.
 - Various aspects of societal value of RI evaluated and assessed.

Thoughts on enhancement of societal value of RIs for the future

- Become a networking hub
 - Challenges complex, multidisciplinary social facing problems
 - Collaborative works with different institutes, organizations and with other scientific workers
 - Play a role as a pool of human and knowledge resources
- Contribute to strengthen the social trust
- Participate proactively in activities for better society

Thoughts on enhancement of societal value of RIs for the future

- Become a networking hub
- Contribute to strengthen the social trust
 - Keep the accountability of researchers to the public
 - Take more strict ethics code
 - Applying transparent management tools such as PM system
- Participate proactively in activities for better society

Thoughts on enhancement of societal value of RIs for the future

- Become a networking hub
- Contribute to strengthen the social trust
- Participate proactively in activities for better society
 - Provide solutions for society facing problems of climate change, epidemic diseases and aging.
 - Collaborate with provincial government for balanced development between different regions

Summary

- Changes in roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and enormous impact on the society during the rapid growth in Korean economy at the developing stage
- Accountability, innovation system, and social trust should be challenged for maximizing societal value of research infrastructures.
- Some positive changes are expected to be seen in the government policy on RI investment and operations

Thank you for your attention!

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