



An exploration of the public policy issues required to stimulate innovation in developing countries

Global Trade & Innovation Policy Alliance Summit

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Free Market Foundation



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Institutions matter...

- Innovative countries establish an infrastructure that **enables** ideas
- Governments provide **certainty** through **institutions** such as private property rights, impartial courts and predictable laws & regulations
- These institutions provide the **incentive to innovate & invest**



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South Africa provides an example of what not to do!

- Traditionally, SA has a **proud record** of upholding IPRs
- Healthcare activists: “Fix the Patent Laws”
- **Decline** in the number of innovative pharma companies marketing drugs in SA
- IP Policy’s **inordinate focus** on pharma & patents to the **detriment** of all other manner of IP
- New IP policy makes it harder to **register** a patent and easier to **“break”** a patent



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...NO, BUT
AT LEAST THE
LAND IS MINE!



“Low hanging fruit”

- Approve medicines in a **timely** manner by adopting a **reference-based** review system
- “Fixing the patent laws” will not solve the stock-outs of essential medicines
- Remove **taxes & tariffs** on medicines
- Remove **price controls**
- Focus on the **real barriers** & put pressure on governments to improve their **regulatory environments**



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Thank You!

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