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Instruments and institutions of the information economy in the industrial development of Russia

The paper reveals the essence, features, and characteristics of the information economy. The tendencies toward transformation in the economic development within industrial enterprises in the area of information and communication are demonstrated on the basis of this analysis. The specific features of the current state of industrial development in Russia are shown and the role of institutions in enabling innovative activity by enterprises in the real sector of the economy is described. Tools are proposed for the information economy, permitting the elimination of current limitations and enabling the functions of institutions of innovative industrial development in the conditions of considerable regional variation. Particular attention is paid to the potential for electronic government in the industrial development of the economy.

Keywords: information economy, institutions and tools of the information economy, information and communication technologies, industrial development.

Introduction

In recent years numerous studies have shown that the institutions exert a very large and often decisive influence on the industrial development of both developed and developing countries (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), setting the basic patterns of behavior, decision-making flow-charts and target vectors of enterprises, thereby largely determining the efficiency of their functioning. In addition, each national economy needs its own institutional system, adapted to the specific nature, the level, the key trends, and the strategic objectives of socio-economic and industrial development.

In Russia, in recent years the dynamics of industrial development have tended to decrease, and the production corresponding to the new technological structure, amounts to no more than 6–8%. At the same time the indices of in-

novative activity among industrial enterprises remain at a very low level (total innovative activity of enterprises and organizations does not exceed 10%), which testifies to the relatively low efficiency of management actions and regulatory measures at various levels of the economic hierarchy. At the same time, the resources of inertial development of industry have not only been exhausted, but they have lost their viability due to fundamental changes in the structure of the world economy, characterized by the fact that an ever increasing share of the GDP of developed and developing countries is devoted to the production of advanced technology. This requires systematic and effective management of the innovative potential of industry in order to achieve a balance of modernizing reforms at all levels (6). However, the institutional environment established in the industrial sector, does not provide favorable conditions for innovative