

## **Resource 3.1 Supplementary: Understanding the Effects of Technology**

### **Society and Technological Development**

From as far back as the time of cavemen, technology has been fundamental in human development. The use of stone tools and the discovery of fire have radically changed human evolution. Current technologies, like mobile phones and Internet access are further examples of societal influences from technology. The need for being available to everyone, everywhere resulted in innovations of mobile phones and Internet access. These technologies influence the way we live our lives. As more and more reliance is placed on these technologies, more features are developed. Society influences change in technologies.

### **Economics and Technological Development**

Taking another look back in time, economic development may have had its start through the bartering of goods or services. For example, those who were good at making arrowheads might have realized bartering to be a way to obtain other needs. Regardless of the goods or services bartered, some type of technology was involved. It may be fair to assume that early beginnings of technology may have sparked the development of a more abounding economy.

In today's world, superior technologies, along with global communications, promote robust economies that, in turn, promote even greater developments of technology. The use of technology affects humanity and the environment and can be separated into intended effects and unintended effects. Unintended effects are usually unexpected and not known before the development of the new technology. Nonetheless, they can be as important, if not more important, than the intended effect.

### **Values and Technological Development**

Technology influences the values of a society, as it changes human expectations and realities. Technological inventions and innovations improve the life of the common man and make the unattainable attainable.

In the modern world, technology has capabilities to create a more informed society in terms of education, global networking, social circles, economics, and job specialization, to name a few. However, technology can have detrimental effects, such as pollution in various forms (exhaust, acid rain, oil spills, radiation leaks), increased probability of diseases and disorders (cancers, diabetes, obesity), social effects from video games or Internet access, climate change, and many more.