



**Globalizing Singapore: One Global City,
Global Networks, and the
Developmental State**

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Globalizing Singapore

Presentation Outline

- ▶ Placing global cities
- ▶ Singapore – THE global city-state
- ▶ Global production networks and regional integration in Southeast Asia
- ▶ Singapore – towards a global innovative knowledge cluster

Placing global cities

- ▶ Connecting knowledge, creativity, and economic development at the urban scale: varieties of global cities
- ▶ Beyond the internal attributes of creative cities
 - Strategic coupling of creative cities and transnational networks
 - The role of global networks
 - Singapore – from THE global city-state to THE global knowledge cluster: territoriality and extra-territoriality in global flows

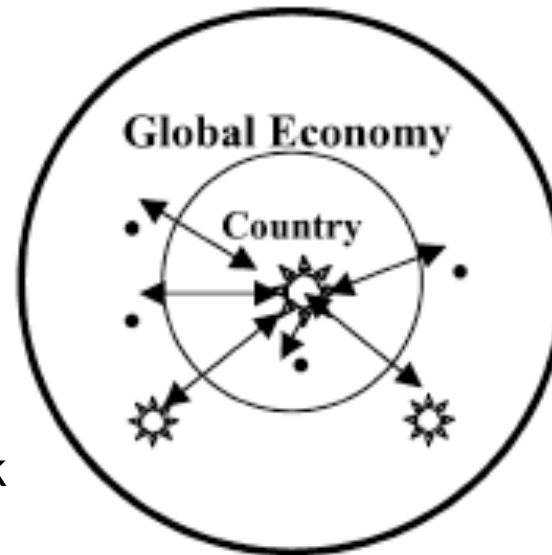
1. Hyper Global Cities

↔ Very well integrated into the global economy through both inward and outward flows

☀ Global city-regions

• Cities

e.g. London and New York



2. Emerging Global Cities

→ More reliance on inward flows from the global economy

☀ Global city-regions

A/B Emerging global cities

• Cities

e.g. Shanghai and Dubai



How does Singapore fit in as a global city state?



- a marker of the transition towards a knowledge based economy
- an indicator of the increasingly significant role of information technology in underlying global development processes
- a symbol of social control and surveillance in high-tech authoritarian times
- a celebratory icon of the new Millennium
- knowledge, innovation and talents?

Singapore – THE global city-state

▶ Characteristics

- National political capacity and legitimacy
- Avoidance of national-versus-urban politics
- Colonialism and post-colonial dynamics: outward orientation and cosmopolitanism



Singapore – THE global city-state

- ▶ Global reach: a globalizing city by default
 - Deliberate effort by strategic actors to extend their influence and relations beyond their limited geographic space: elites in private firms, social organizations, and state institutions
 - Global city-state – a powerful node in global networks AND an important window to extend our “spheres of influence” in the global economy

Singapore – THE global city-state

- ▶ Global reach: a global city by default
 - Developmentalism: state institutions and policy frameworks in **UrbaNational** developmental strategies

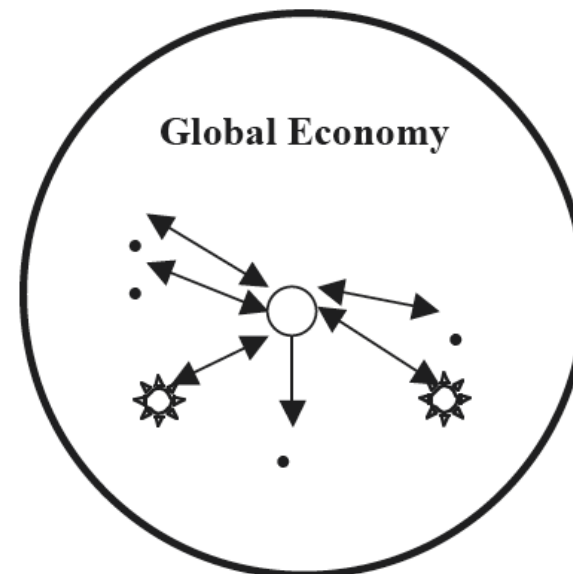
FIGURE 4. Singapore as a Global City-State

↔ Very well integrated into the global economy and experience direct influence

☀ Global city-regions

○ Global city-state

• Cities



Source: Adapted from Olds and Yeung (2004: Figure 2).

Global production networks and regional integration in Southeast Asia

Dynamics of global production networks

- ▶ What are lead firms? Market control through product and market definition
- ▶ Lead firms and partners in global production networks: OEMs, ODMs, EMS, and strategic partners
- ▶ Three competitive drivers in GPNs: cost (spatial fix), flexibility (organizational fix), and speed (technological fix)
- ▶ Technological upgrading and innovative knowledge development

FIGURE 1. A Stylized Example of Global Production Networks

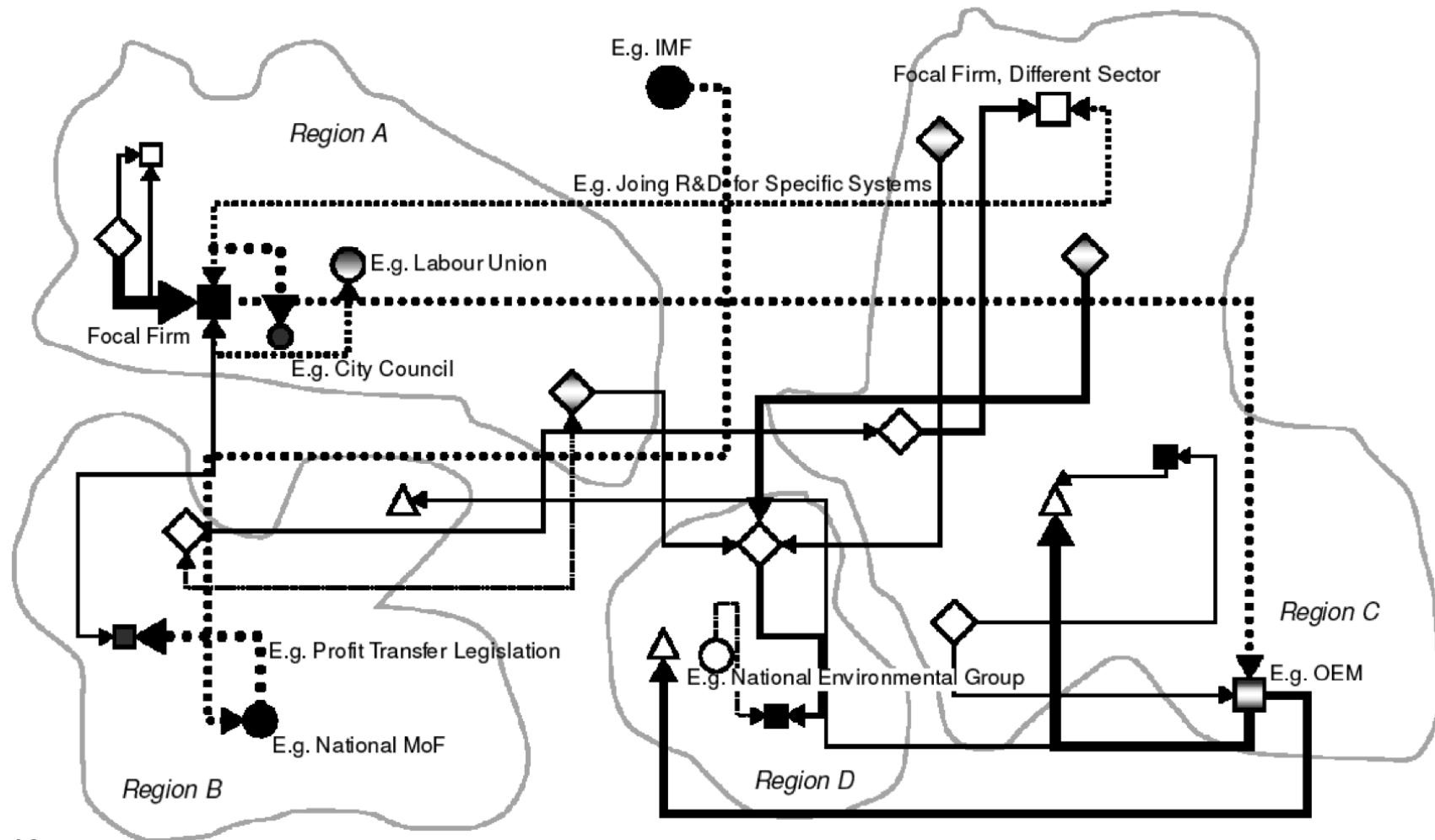
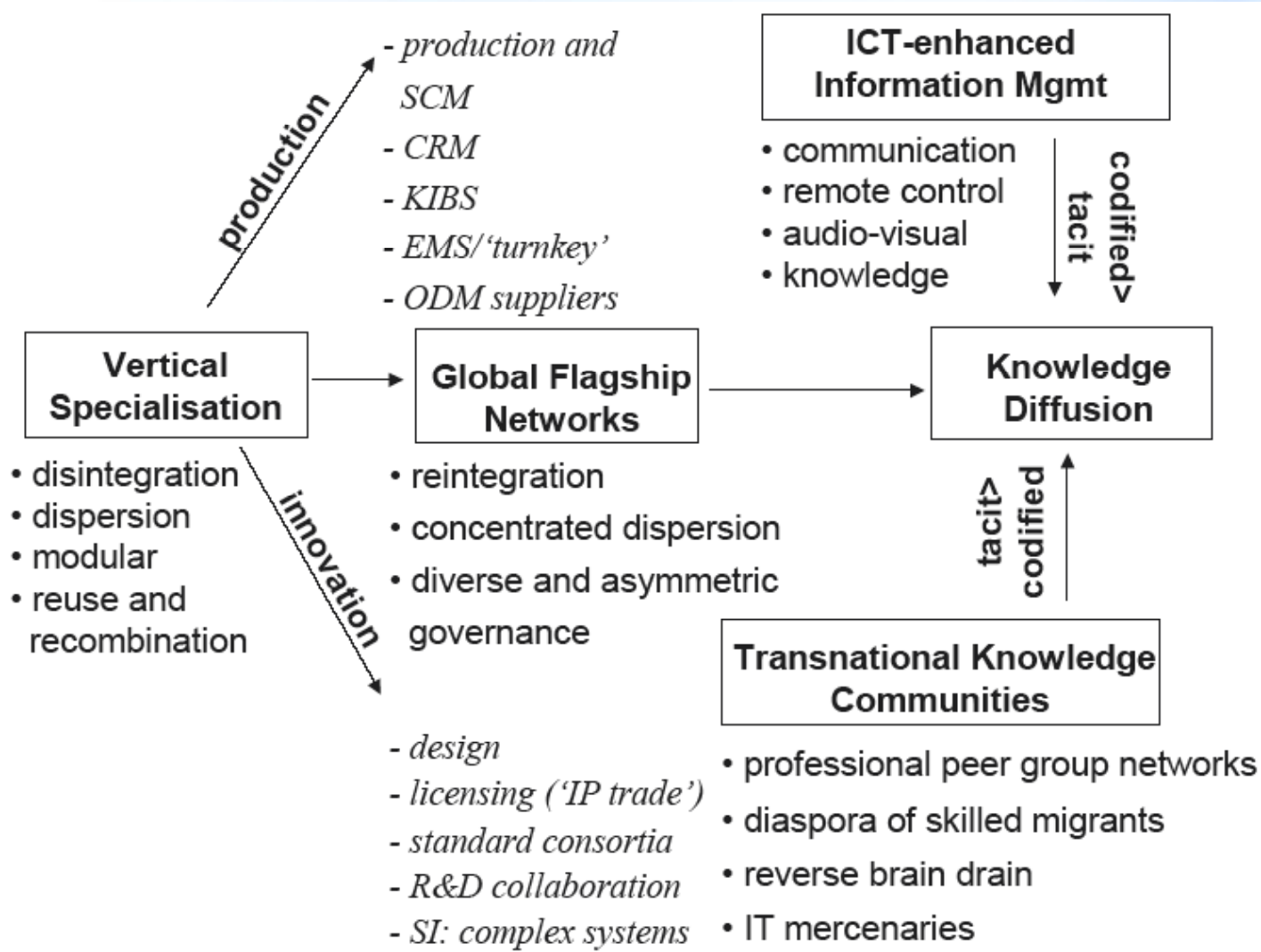


Figure 1. Changing industrial organization and global production networks and their impact on knowledge diffusion



Source: Ernst (2005: Figure 1, p.11).

Global production networks and regional integration in Southeast Asia

GPN dynamics and regional integration in Southeast Asia: processes of strategic coupling

- ▶ The emergence of transnational communities
- ▶ Changes in industrial organization
- ▶ Initiatives by states and institutions

Singapore – towards a global innovative knowledge cluster

- ▶ Economies of urbanization = economies of agglomeration
 - Clusters as deliberate state-driven attempt
 - Innovation and knowledge development
 - R&D activities in geographical clusters
 - Spatial contiguity in innovation processes

Singapore – towards a global innovative knowledge cluster

▶ Some examples:

- Financial services
- Electronics (e.g. HDD): Singapore and Penang-Greater Bangkok
- Petrochemicals and biomedical sector: Singapore's Jurong Island
- What next?? Cultural industries?

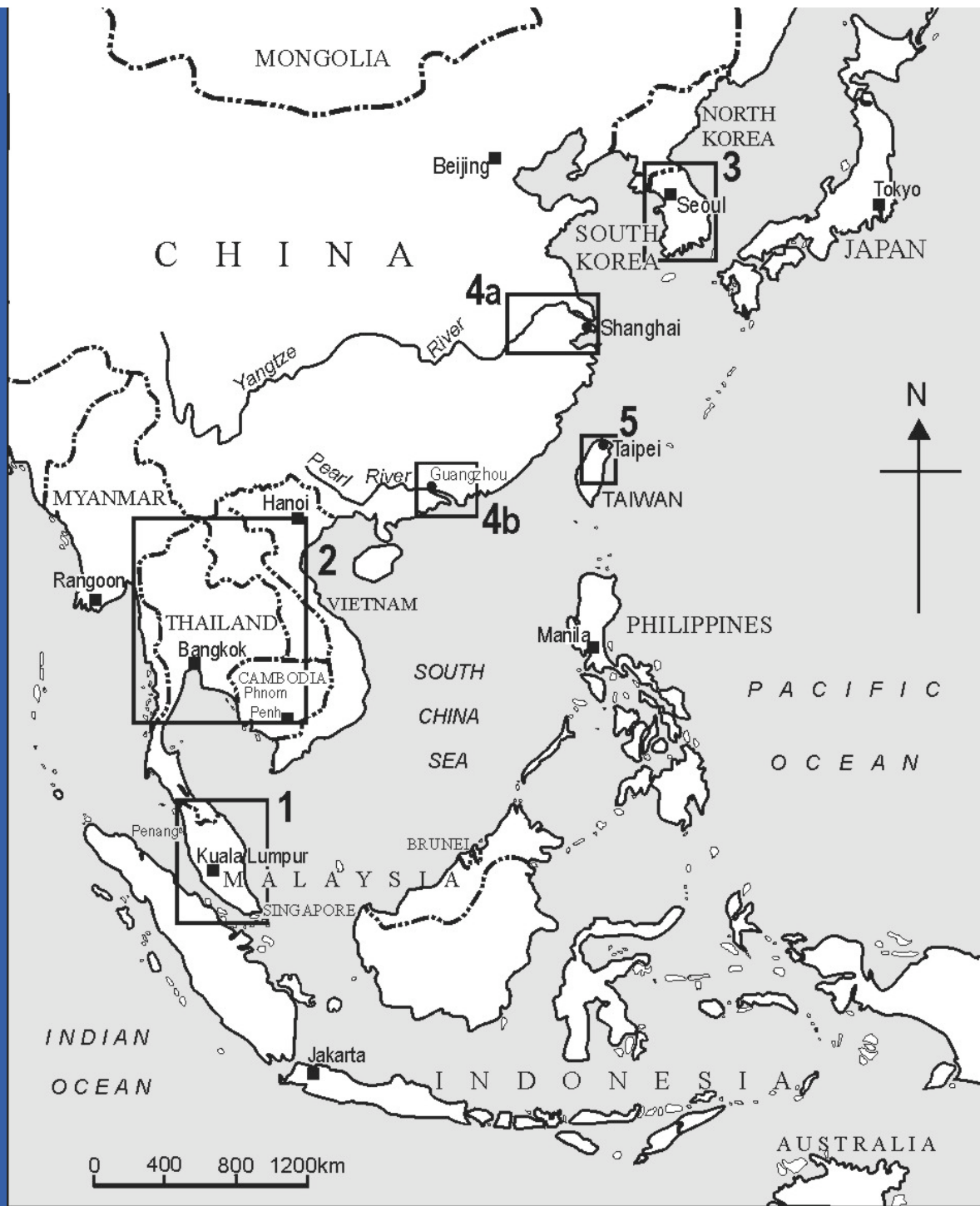
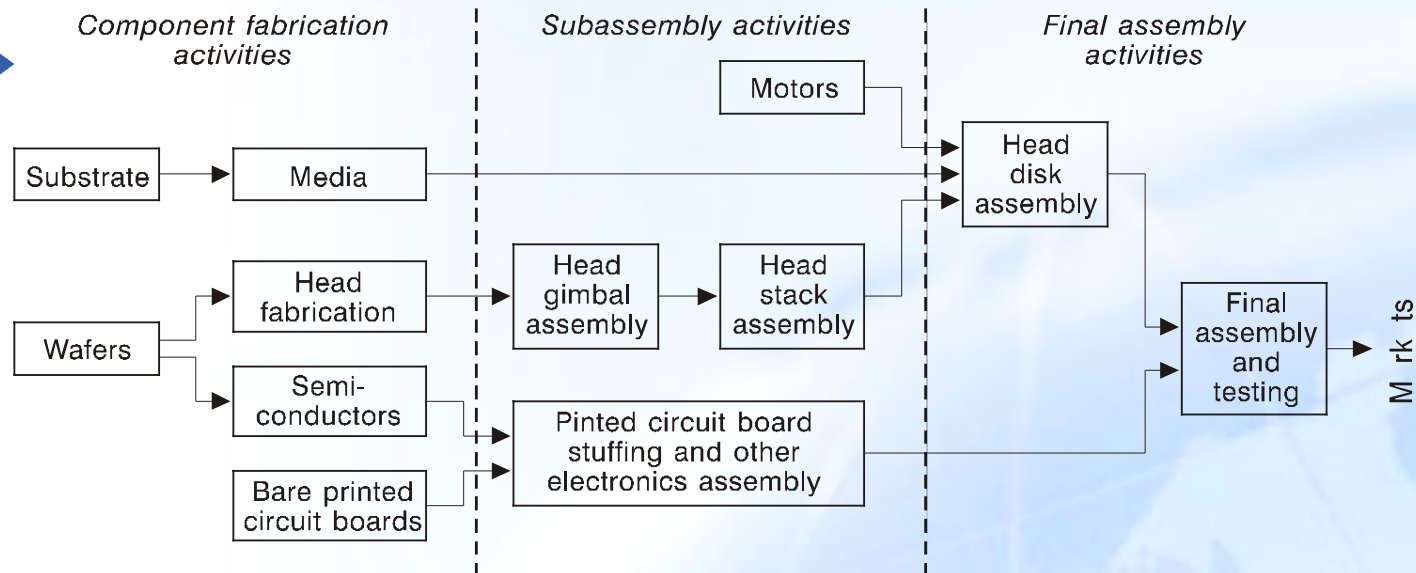


Figure 3. The role of Singapore in Seagate's hard disk drive production network

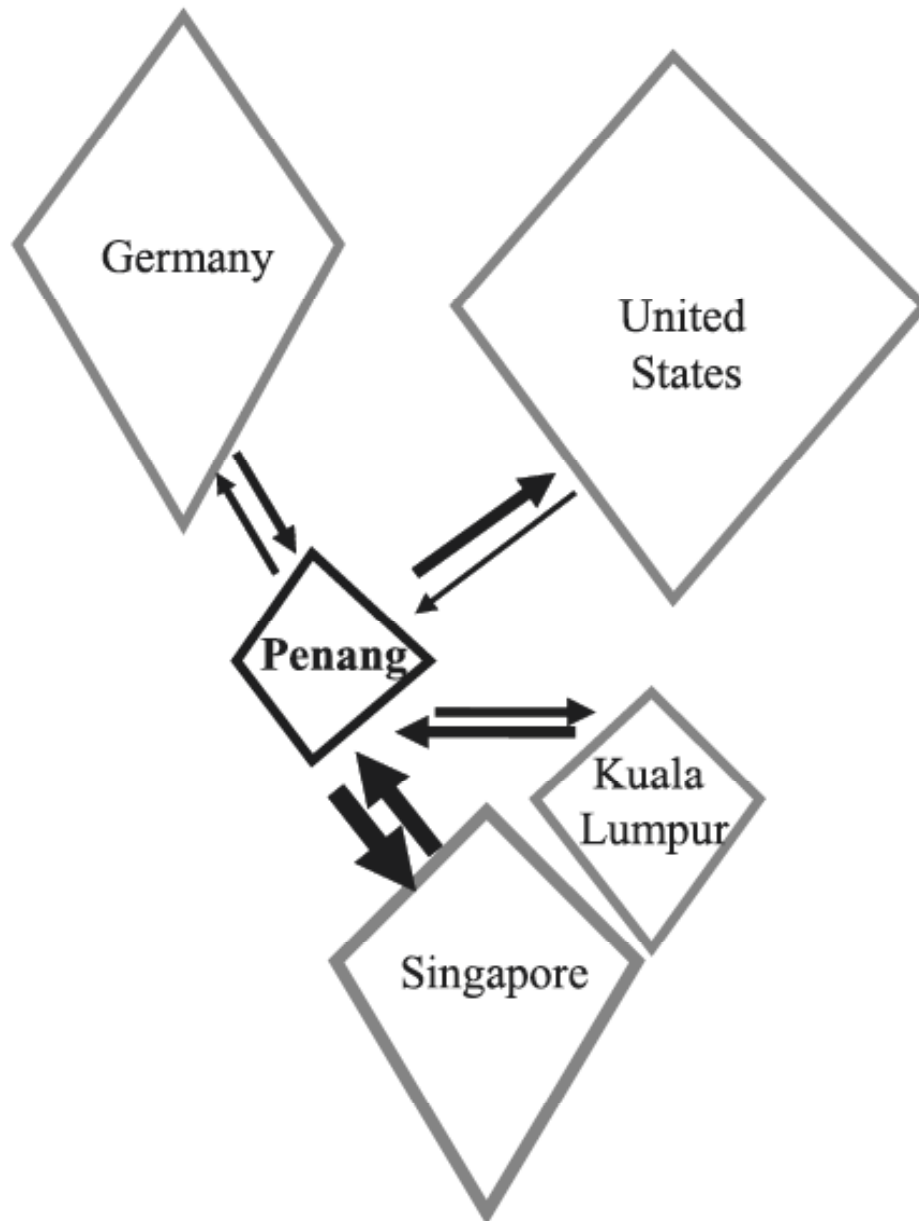


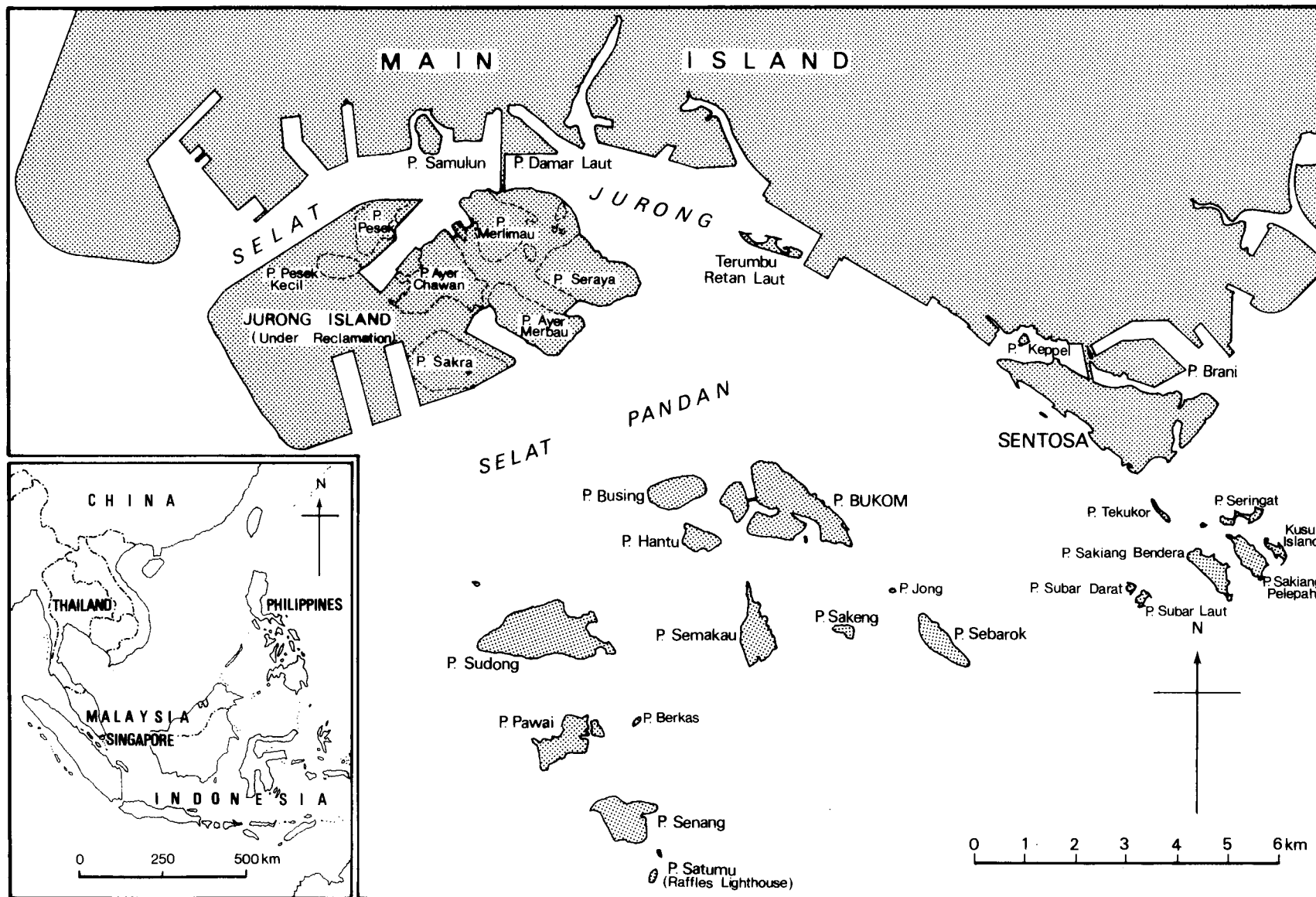
Worldwide locations: an example of Seagate Technology and its suppliers

<i>Component fabrication activities</i>	<i>Subassembly activities</i>	<i>Final assembly activities</i>
1. Media Manufacture: Japan (e.g. Komag) Malaysia (e.g. Komag) Thailand Singapore	China Indonesia Malaysia Philippines Singapore Thailand (e.g. Read-Rite)	China Malaysia Singapore Thailand
2. Wafers, Heads and Semiconductors Japan (e.g. Read-Rite) Northern Ireland (e.g. Read-Rite) USA (e.g. Read-Rite)		

Source: Adapted from Gourevitch et al. (2000: Figures 1 and 3).

Figure 4. DHL's global connectivity in the electronics production networks





Singapore – towards a global innovative knowledge cluster

- ▶ Implications for future pathway
 - Innovative clusters as intentional creation: both local and non-local flows of capital, people, knowledge
 - Less coordinated and managed national innovation and knowledge system: critical to creative cities
 - Continual importance of political credibility and policy consistency