Outcome of the MYEM on Entreprise Development Policies and Capacity-Building in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance

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Main feedback from participants:

The MYEM achieved its purpose of building partnerships and networks

- 2009 – 2012: 4 MYEMs
- on average 130 experts per year
- at least 30 from LDCs

It is because I am convinced of the importance of this work and your ability to make an effective contribution that I am enthusiastic about cooperating with you and your colleagues as you forward with your efforts to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship to meet global needs.

*Dr. Charles W. Wessner, Director, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, The National Academies, 2009*

“I am new in my current position. What I have learnt in the past 3 days is very useful. I believe that more interaction/collaboration with UNCTAD would be fruitful to my country especially at the time when my country is in the process of developing a national entrepreneurship policy.*

*Johnson Maiketso, Local Enterprise Authority, Botswana, jmaiketso@lea.co.bw, 2011*
Outcome of the 4-year MYEM cycle

- Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance
- Online Inventory of Good Practices with more than 150 cases from 50 developing countries, least developed countries, and countries in transition
- Launched in Doha in April 2012
- UNCTAD's *Entrepreneurship Policy Framework* has been endorsed in 2012 by:
  - Bill Clinton in his address to UNCTAD's World Investment Forum, together with UNCTAD's *Investment Policy Framework*
  - Over 40 ministers at UNCTAD's quadrennial ministerial conference, UNCTAD XIII in Doha, Qatar
- 4 pilot projects (Ghana, Panama, the Gambia, Zimbabwe)
Objectives & components of UNCTAD’s Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance

It aims to support policymakers in the design of policies and institutions for entrepreneurship with a focus on start-ups, job creation and innovation

- Identifies **policy objectives and options** in the form of recommended actions
- Proposes **checklists, case studies and good practices**
- Provides an **interactive online inventory of good practices**
- Offers a user guide and **methods for policy monitoring and evaluation**
- Provides a **set of indicators** to measure progress

www.unctad.org/epf
Promoting start ups and supporting entrepreneurship  www.unctad.org/epf

UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance

aims to support developing country policymakers in the design of initiatives, measures and institutions to promote entrepreneurship.

THE FRAMEWORK:

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Key Components of the UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework

1. Formulating National Entrepreneurship Strategy
2. Optimizing the Regulatory Environment
3. Enhancing Entrepreneurship Education and Skills
4. Facilitating Technology Exchange and Innovation
5. Improving Access to Finance
6. Promoting Awareness and Networking

The Framework has been endorsed in 2012 by:
- Bill Clinton in his address to UNCTAD’s World Investment Forum, together with UNCTAD’s Investment Policy Framework
- Over 40 ministers at UNCTAD’s quadrennial ministerial conference, UNCTAD XIII in Doha, Qatar
The UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework comprises 6 areas that have a direct impact on entrepreneurial activity.

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<th>Key components of the UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework</th>
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Policy Objectives:

- Identify country specific challenges
- Specify goals and set priorities
- Ensure coherence of entrepreneurship strategy with other national policies
- Strengthen the institutional framework
- Measure results, ensure policy learning

Example:

- **Costa Rica: National Entrepreneurship Policy (2010-2014)** The Policy drew heavily from results of the study « Diagnostic of the Current Situation of Entrepreneurship in Central America » conducted by Technology Park (Asocación Parque Tec), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), the Centre for the Promotion of the Micro and Small Enterprise in Central America (CENPROMYPE) and the Government of Germany.
Policy objectives:

• Examine regulatory requirements for start-ups
• Minimize regulatory hurdles for business start-ups where appropriate
• Build entrepreneurs’ confidence in the regulatory environment
• Guide entrepreneurs through the start-up administrative process and enhance the benefits of formalization

Example:

• Bangladesh: The Bangladesh Better Business Forum was established in 2007 in response to low business confidence, regulatory uncertainty, bureaucratic bottlenecks and barriers to businesses. With 41 members (20 public and 21 private) and chaired by the Prime Minister, the Forum has 5 working groups. To date, the Forum has organized more than 50 working sessions, proposed 249 recommendations of which 113 were approved.
Policy objectives:

- Embed entrepreneurship in formal and informal education
- Develop effective entrepreneurship curricula
- Train teachers
- Partner with the private sector

Example:

**Barbados: The Barbados Entrepreneurship Fund**

Dedicated to promoting entrepreneurship in the country. One of its key areas of work is “education and talent.” Among its diverse activities, an annual contest is organized in high schools in which young students need to start a company with only 20$. The Foundation is led by a prominent business leader and a group of local and international entrepreneurs and has broad political support.
Policy objectives:

• Support greater diffusion of ICTs to the private sector
• Promote inter-firm networks that help spread technology and innovation
• Build bridges between public bodies, research institutions, universities and the private sector
• Support high tech start-ups

Example:

Brazil: Innovation Law of 2004 which provides support and incentive mechanisms to foster alliances for cooperative projects between universities, technological institutes and local enterprises. The law enables businesses, including micro and small enterprises, to use laboratories, infrastructure and human resources of technological institutes for their research activities.
Policy objectives:

- Improve access to relevant financial services on appropriate terms
- Promote funding for innovation
- Build the capacity of the financial sector to serve start-ups
- Provide financial literacy training to entrepreneurs and encourage responsible borrowing and lending

Example:

**Egypt:** The Egyptian Credit Bureau "I-Score" maintains a database of credit information for SMEs and consumers. It is a public-private sector partnership by the Egyptian Central Bank. Recognizing its capacity limitations in credit reporting, the Central Bank decided to encourage more active participation from the private sector.
Policy objectives:

• Highlight the value of entrepreneurship to society and address negative cultural biases
• Raise awareness about entrepreneurship opportunities
• Stimulate private sector-led initiatives and strengthen networks among entrepreneurs

Example:

• Global: Global Entrepreneurship Week is a global campaign to raise awareness and promote entrepreneurship initiatives
To date, more than 240'000 empretecos have been trained all over the world, out of which 30% are women.

- Empretec centres collaborate with UNCTAD for policy advocacy and the implementation of EPF
Implementation of the EPF as of November 2012

- Pilot Workshop in Ghana, December 2011
- Stakeholders Forum in Panama, May 2012
- Presentation in The Gambia within the DTIS, October 2012
- Stakeholders Forum in Zimbabwe, November 2012
The Way Forward

• Making the EPF operational
• Carry out technical assistance
• Share good practices and lessons learned
• Set up a monitoring and evaluation mechanism that will serve as a practical and user-friendly guidance on the assessment of entrepreneurship development