Report of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on
Enterprise Development Policies and Capacity-building in Science, Technology and Innovation

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First cycle (2009-2012)

Terms of Reference (TD/B/55/9)

• “To highlight lessons of successful (and unsuccessful) experience (..),
• effective ways to apply science, technology and innovation (STI) capacity-building to development, and
• how countries (…) improve the productivity, innovation and competitiveness of their enterprises through transfer and diffusion of technology and the promotion of innovation,
• taking into account the results of UNCTAD’s STIP reviews.”
Participation

- 116 panellists contributed with their case studies, experiences and analysis to the interactive discussions

- Over 110 states participated in at least one of the sessions
Discussions

2009 Policies to promote productivity and competitiveness, reduce poverty and stimulate economic growth

Identified the fundamental elements for establishing an enabling STI environment

2010 Comprehensive STI policy frameworks and indicators

Encouraged UNCTAD to further its research and policy analysis on STI issues including through conducting reviews of national STI policies

2011 Policies and practices to reinforce science and technology education

Identified some best practices in cooperation between academia and enterprises

2012 Technology and innovation strategies relevant to poor regions and communities

Confirmed the suitability of national systems of innovation approaches to help ensure STI policy is part of national development strategies and relevant to local economic conditions
Overall outcome

Conclusions

- STI policy frameworks that correspond to the needs of developing countries are required.

- Importance of building all the elements of innovation systems.

- The cross-cutting, inter-sector and interdisciplinary nature of the STI demands the participation of all development stakeholders.

- To sustain national development strategies policy solutions require targeted yet concerted approaches.

- The lack of STI indicators remains a persistent problem for monitoring and assessing STI policy.
Overall outcome

- Formulation of a new, more articulated framework for the implementation of technical cooperation in the field of STI policy
  
  • A Framework for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews (UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/7)

A guide for UNCTAD’s technical assistance programme on building STI capacity
Member Governments have requested UNCTAD to provide technical cooperation support in STI policy.

- Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Reviews
- Ad-hoc, needs-based training workshops
Next?

- MYEM on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-Building and Sustainable Development


To focus on operational issues:
How to implement innovation policies in developing countries?

Draft Terms of Reference

- Continuation of pre-Doha multi-year expert meetings
- Expanding the scope of the expert deliberation to the new topics of the Doha mandate
- Applying the outcome tools of the previous multi-year expert meetings, including UNCTAD’s framework for science, technology and innovation policy

- Support network of STI policy makers in developing countries

- Collection of best practices
Thank you