

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

**Geneva, Switzerland
25-26 October 2022**

Contribution by ITC

to the CSTD 2022-2023 priority theme on “Technology and innovation for cleaner
and more productive and competitive production”

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

International Trade Centre inputs (below in Green)

PRIORITY THEME 1: Technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production

United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

To Whom it May Concern,

As you are aware, the [CSTD 25th annual session](#) selected “Technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production” as one of the priority themes for its 26th session (2022-23 period). This priority theme is directly relevant to SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure.

As highlighted by the [Technology and Innovation Report 2021](#), We live in a time of rapid technological change, at the height of the digital transformation and the early stages of the Industry 4.0 revolution. These technological waves have great potential to bring about the transformations needed to achieve the SDGs, reduce poverty, tackle climate change and put the world on a sustainable path. They also offer a window of opportunity for developing countries to catch up technologically and narrow global divides. Critical areas for innovation in this new technological revolution are renewable energy technologies and frontier technologies for sustainable production and consumption. Innovation in these areas could help diversify economies and create higher-wage jobs while protecting the planet.

This priority theme will examine national strategies and policies related to green technology and green innovation, and the role of international cooperation, including triangular and South-South cooperation, in supporting developing countries to benefit from windows of opportunity for developing, using, adopting and adapting these frontier technologies in production processes for catching up economically and technologically.

Questions to be addressed include: What countries should do to take advantage of this window of opportunity? How could the international community support developing countries in this regard?

The CSTD secretariat is in the process of drafting an issues paper on the theme to be presented at the CSTD inter-sessional panel meeting from 25 to 27 October 2022. In this context, we would like to solicit input from the CSTD members on this theme. We would be grateful if you could kindly answer the following questions based on your experience in your country or region.

1. What are some specific examples (from the public and private sectors) of green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production in your member countries? Please include contact, website, link to reports and any other relevant information concerning these projects and initiatives.
 - *Ghana’s Renewable Energy Act of 2011 (Act 832) provides for the development, management, use, sustainability, and adequate supply of renewable energy for generating heat and power. Act 832 provides a framework to support the development and use of renewable energy sources and to help attract investment in renewable energy sources.*
[http://energycom.gov.gh/files/RENEWABLE%20ENERGY%20ACT%202011%20\(ACT%20832\).pdf](http://energycom.gov.gh/files/RENEWABLE%20ENERGY%20ACT%202011%20(ACT%20832).pdf)
 - *The Ghana Energy Development Access Project launched the Improving Rural Energy Access through Solar Home Systems programme in 2010:*
https://www.qprba.org/sites/qprba/files/publication/downloads/LL12_GhanaSHS.pdf
 - The Uganda Green Enterprise Finance Accelerator (UGEFA) aims to facilitate the flow of green finance into the Ugandan SMEs sector through strengthening green SMEs and improving available financial mechanisms for SME debt financing.

<https://ugefa.eu/>

Contact: Eddie Sembatya: eddie.sembatya@findingxy.com

Our on-going tech entrepreneurship ecosystem mapping exercise has them a contributor – we interviewed them to best understand their service offering

2. What are the national strategies, policies, and laws concerning green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production in your member countries or region?
3. What are the key industries that are pioneering green innovation in your member countries or region? List the key actors in the national ecosystem of innovation related to green innovation in your member countries or region (firms, universities, financial institutions, regulators)? What are the key networks of the ecosystem in your region (including online networks, innovation hubs, forums, etc.)?
 - *The [Ghana Climate Innovation Centre](#) (hub for climate oriented entrepreneurs) is quite knowledgeable in this space. I have liaised with them before, but we don't actively work with them under our NTF V programme (yet). Rukayatu SANUSI ruka@ghanacic.org*
 - *Uganda:*
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d7fba1a7dc0f278f09832df/t/5f31bf2a52a6ce3afd7cb015/1597095729676/Green+Innovations+Catalogue+-+Small.pdf>
Response Innovation Lab is one of the Ecosystem enablers that were recently interviewed for an on-going ecosystem mapping work. We could talk to Charlene charlene@responseinnovationlab.com for a deep dive on this particular project
4. What are the challenges that governments in your region (or from your member countries) have faced or may face in promoting green technology and innovation in your country to contribute to national development priorities and accelerate the progress towards the SDGs?
5. What should governments, the private sector, organized civil society, and other stakeholders do so that developing countries can benefit from these technologies?
6. What are some examples of international cooperation mechanisms, projects, programmes or strategies, including triangular and South-South cooperation, in green technology and innovation that your organization contribute or is part of?
 - *ITC's NTF Programme – funded by the Netherlands – developed the Greening ICT training and delivered the training to 80 tech start-ups and IT companies in Africa, covering: 1. Energy efficiency, 2. Electronic Waste Management, and ICT Sustainability Standards. This programme has been rolled out in several African countries (including Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia), and ITC will continue to deliver the training to more companies.*
7. What actions can the international community, including the CSTD, take to help developing countries take advantage of green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production?
8. Could you suggest some contact persons of the nodal agency responsible for projects/policies and international collaboration in this context as well as any experts (from academia, private sector, civil society or government) dealing with projects in this area? We might contact them

directly for further input or invite some of them as speakers for the CSTD inter-sessional panel and annual session.

- *WEEE Centre in Kenya is very knowledgeable and supports many companies and the public sector on electronic waste management and processing in Kenya and other countries in the region . Bonnie Mbithi bonnie@cfsk.org*
- *A couple of entrepreneurs under our NTF V Programme that lead tech companies that have a sustainable or climate change mitigating business model who are therefore experts in their field: Mathias mathias@akofresh.com - [AkoFresh Ghana](#), Douglas Karugaba douglaskarugaba@innovex.org – [Innovex Uganda](#), Julie Reppeti julie.repetti@settic.sn - [SetTIC Senegal](#), Audrey audrey@sabonsake.com – [Sabon Sake Ghana](#), Lovans director@setechghana.com – [Sustainable Energy Technologies Ghana](#).*

9. Do you have any documentation, references, technological assessments, future studies or reports on the priority theme in your country or region?

Please send your responses and any further inputs on the theme to the CSTD secretariat (stdev@unctad.org) by 31 July 2022. We look forward to receiving your valuable input.

Sincere Regards,

CSTD secretariat