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8th Session of the SPECA TWG on KBD

Almaty, 22 September 2016



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Programme implementation since the seventh session

- The Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan was completed in 2015. It has been published as an official United Nations publication in English and Russian.
- An international conference was organized in November 2015 in Minsk, Belarus, to learn from the experience with the first five reviews, including those of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, to discuss the scope for methodological improvements, to prepare for the second round of reviews, and to adapt the reviews to generate insights and recommendations on innovation for sustainable development. First UNECE 2nd round review currently being undertaken in Belarus.
- At the 2015 SPECA Economic Forum in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in November 2015, a session was organized on innovation, in which findings and recommendations from the Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan were presented.



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Activities of SPECA PWG on KBD since its 7th session in Dushanbe (17 June 2015)

Innovation Performance Reviews - implementation



Concept

Demand-driven, participatory policy advisory service (subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources)

Aims

Recommendations and policy **options**:

- stimulate innovation activity in the country
- enhance innovation capacity
- improve the overall efficiency of the national innovation system

Methods of work

- International team of experts
- Close collaboration with authorities and wide involvement of local experts



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Innovation Performance Reviews – Structure of a first stage review

Provide a baseline assessment of national situation.

- 1. Recent economic and innovation performance**
- 2. National innovation system and innovation governance**
- 3. Framework conditions, innovation policies and instruments**
- 4. Knowledge transfer, generation and absorption**
- 5. Economy-science linkages and collaboration in the innovation process**
- 6. Entrepreneurship and the financing of innovative businesses**
- 7. Innovation and international economic integration**



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Innovation Performance Reviews implementation

Outputs

- Comprehensive assessment of current situation
- Detailed policy recommendations, elaborated in close collaboration with the countries' public institutions
- Innovation Performance Reviews of Kazakhstan carried out in 2011-2012, and Tajikistan in 2014-2015
- Recommendations have served as basis for range of capacity-building activities, including on Regional Innovation Systems, Public Support to Venture Capital, and International Cooperation in Science, Technology and Technology Transfer
- A number of expressions of interest from other countries for future reviews
- Scope for further first stage and second stage reviews in SPECA countries



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Innovation Performance Reviews - implementation

Outputs (continued)

- Innovation Performance Review of Tajikistan now complete.
 - Request from Tajikistan at eighth session UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration in Geneva, February 2014
 - Subsequent fund raising for Review implementation
 - Preliminary fact-finding mission in November 2014
 - Main fact finding mission with UNECE secretariat and team of six international experts in March 2015
 - Peer review in Dushanbe June 2015 to influence final report and policy recommendations
 - Findings presented during 2015 SPECA Economic Forum in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in November 2015
 - Now available as an official UN publication
 - Identifies priorities for future capacity-building activities



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From Innovation Performance Reviews to Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews

Established programme

- Based on int'l good practices
- On request from countries
- Repeat visits by int'l expert teams
- Tailored recommendations
- Peer review and gov't feedback





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From Innovation Performance Reviews to Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews

Economic growth is ONE pillar of sustainable development

The others are

- Environmental Sustainability**
- Social Inclusion**

⇒Need for additional policies to steer innovation efforts into areas critical for sustainable development

⇒Can become a valuable tool for follow-up and review within the framework of the 2030 Agenda



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“Innovation for Development” – Structure of a second stage review

1. Recent economic developments

2. Policy frameworks, programming and initiatives

- Innovation governance; innovation policies and instruments; international cooperation
- Knowledge generation and innovation support institutions; industry-science linkages; innovative entrepreneurship and financing

3. Measuring innovation performance – a scorecard

4. Innovation in the enterprise sector

- including analysis at the firm level

5. Role of innovation policy in achieving sustainable development

6. Implementation of policy recommendations from first UNECE Innovation Performance Review



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SPECA countries also participated in...

- Seventh session of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnerships, London, United Kingdom, 18 June 2015
- High-level International Conference on Unlocking the Economic Potential for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland, 2 September 2015
- Ninth session of the UNECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, Geneva, Switzerland, 3 and 4 September 2015
- Eighth session of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies, Geneva, Switzerland, 16 and 17 December 2015
- Tenth session of the UNECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, 23 and 24 May 2016
- International UNECE PPP Forum Implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda through effective, people-first Public-Private Partnerships, Geneva, Switzerland, 30 March and 1 April 2016



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Upcoming activities

- Implementation activities and first-/second-stage Innovation Performance Reviews in selected countries of the SPECA region, subject to:
 - Human resources
 - Extra-budgetary funding
- Eighth session of the Team of Specialists on Public-private partnerships (TOS PPP), Geneva, 20-21 October 2016.
 - People-first PPPs and the SDGs
- Ninth session of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (TOS ICP), Geneva, 3-4 November 2016
 - Substantive segment: Innovation for Sustainable Development: Entrepreneurship and Finance



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Work Plan 2016-2017

(UNECE 1) Capacity-building in policy options and practical instruments to promote knowledge-based development

- Help develop substantive skills, organizational capacity of institutions
- Promote regional cooperation
- Foster investment in modern infrastructure
- Subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources

Proposed activities:

- Organization of regional capacity-building event on knowledge-based development, possibly alongside PWG on KBD.
- Participation of experts from SPECA countries in relevant UNECE events.
- Policy advisory services and other events promoting knowledge-based development at the request of Governments of SPECA countries.



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Work Plan 2016-2017

(UNECE 2) Implementation of the UNECE project on innovation performance reviews of selected countries

- To increase the role of innovation in promoting further economic development of the SPECA countries
- Subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources

Proposed activities:

- Undertaking Innovation Performance Reviews and supporting implementation of policy recommendations in selected countries of the SPECA region (envisaged for 2016 and 2017).



Work Plan 2016-2017

(ESCAP 3) Implementation of ESCAP activities in support to the Asia-Pacific information superhighway initiative

- To strengthen the capacity of SPECA countries to contribute to regional discussions in the Working Group on the Asia-Pacific information superhighway
- Subject to availability of extra-budgetary resources

Proposed activities:

- Participation of experts from SPECA countries in a regional capacity-building event on the Asia-Pacific information superhighway's principle and norms, in parallel to one of the sessions of the Working Group on the Asia-Pacific information superhighway.
- Development of a repository of cross-border infrastructure projects susceptible to host fiber optic cables co-deployment.
- Preparation of a policy tool-kit on good practices in terms of co-deployment of fiber optic cables along other utilities infrastructure.



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Work Plan 2016-2017

(ESCAP 4) Enhancing national capacities to use ICT for socio-economic development

- To enhance the capacities of policymakers, government officials and other relevant stakeholders to promote, adopt and utilize ICT for achieving national sustainable development goals
- Activities funded through the extra-budgetary resources of APCICT and co-funding mobilized through national and sub-regional partners

Proposed activities:

- Capacity-building workshops on APCICT's flagship ICT for development programmes.
- Developing localized versions of APCICT training modules, targeted at SPECA countries.
- Sub-regional training-of-trainers workshops, with aim to strengthen the pool of national resource persons capable of delivering the various training modules.
- Provide advisory services to SPECA countries in areas related to ICT for socio-economic development, subject to funding and resource availability.
- Conduct capacity-building workshops on the application of ICT tools for renewable energy resource assessments at the national level in SPECA countries, subject to funding and resource availability (APCTT).



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Work Plan 2016-2017

(ESCAP 5) Capacity development on the utilization of ICT for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

- Develop Asia-Pacific Gateway for Disaster Risk Management and Development as a knowledge-based tool for disaster risk management, and build resilience into development policy and planning of SPECA countries
- Subject to availability of extra-budgetary resources

Proposed activities:

- Assist SPECA countries to access cooperation mechanisms such as RESAP and RIMES.
- Conduct activities on measuring resilience.
- ESCAP continued support on DRR and climate change adaptation in the context of the Ministerial Regional Conference on disaster risk reduction.



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Thank you!

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