
REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Planning and Managing Technology Transfer for Inclusive Development

organized by
the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)

in cooperation with

Department of Cottage and Small Industries (DCSI)
Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA)
Royal Government of Bhutan

Thimphu, July 16 to 18, 2019

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

This Regional Workshop is part of the capacity building efforts of APCTT under the 11th Tranche of the United Nations Development Account (DA) project entitled, “Evidence-based innovation policy for Effective Implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region”.

Background

Cottage and small industries (CSIs) is the term used for small businesses carried on at home, community centre or some other convenient location involving very less number of people as workers. Such industries involve those traditional artisans and craftsmen who have inherited their work as an art form from their previous generations¹.

Traditional cottage industries such as weaving, handicraft, honey, tea products, herbal medicine are alternative income generating activities that contributes to the household income. The CSIs play a pivotal role in the overall industrial economy in several least developed countries as well as in developing countries. In Bhutan, the CSIs account for more than 95% of the total number of industrial enterprises in the country. Despite contributing to the major share of industrial output in the country and contributing significantly to the national economy, Bhutan's CSI is characterized by challenges such as outdated technology, low economy of scale, supply chain inefficiencies, lack of adequate finance and competition from imported goods from other countries. Majority of these enterprises are very similar in nature and technology. There is significant scope for innovation in terms of enhancing productivity and/or improving the overall quality of products and services offered by CSIs in Bhutan.

Technology and innovation are key drivers of economic growth and provide immense opportunities for society and the environment. The Asia-Pacific region hosts some of the more transformative efforts to use technology and innovation for inclusive development. However, not everyone has benefited from the opportunities offered by technology and innovation. Rural communities, women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable and low-income communities as well as CSIs are often unable to make full use of technologies and innovation. Harnessing technology and innovation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and leave no one behind requires promoting inclusive technologies and innovation approaches, that address the needs of lower-income and vulnerable groups.

In the context of CSIs inclusive innovation is critical to ensure sustainability and profitability of their operation. Inclusive innovation includes both technological innovations as well as non-technological innovations (process or strategy oriented). Most inclusive innovations are developed by firms, entrepreneurs, grass-roots innovators and development organizations. However, public policies are still required to address market, systemic and transformational failures that prevent the emergence and diffusion of inclusive technologies and innovations. Left on their own, valuable inclusive technologies and innovations may not flourish, reach scale or diffuse throughout society².

The Regional Workshop is part of the capacity building efforts of APCTT under the 11th Tranche of the United Nations Development Account (DA) project entitled, "Evidence-based innovation policy for Effective Implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region". The workshop specifically aims to enhance sub-regional, and regional sharing of best practices on evidence-based, integrated and inclusive innovation and technology policies that are of relevance to CSIs. During this regional workshop, international and national experts will deliberate on key challenges, opportunities, best practices and experiences related to promoting policies that foster inclusive innovation and technology transfer for CSIs. The workshop would assess policy frameworks and tools, institutional support systems, national/regional collaboration networks and platforms, innovative business models, case studies and best practices in planning and managing technology transfer for CSIs.

¹ Problems & Prospects of Agro-based Cottage Industries in North East India, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Source: https://asia.ifad.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=062203e3-a0db-4192-ae8-16e4745de1cb&groupId=27039

² Mainstreaming inclusive technology and innovation policies that leave no one behind, United Nations ESCAP (Source: https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/CICTSTI_2018_6%20Inclusive%20technology%20and%20innovation%20-English%20reissue%2020%20July.pdf)

Objectives

- To facilitate sharing of experiences and best practices towards promoting inclusive innovation among APCTT member countries' policy makers, representatives from cottage industry federations, and related stakeholders on access to technologies, technology transfer & commercialization, and leveraging technologies for productivity gains;
- To deliberate on activities for strengthening cottage and small industries through access to finance, technologies, mentoring and cross-border business partnerships;
- Enhance the skill and capability of stakeholders to use innovative tools and best practices for efficient technology transfer and commercialization; and
- To develop an action plan for establishing an online platform for facilitating technology transfer for cottage and small industries in Bhutan as an initial pilot.

Participants

- International resource persons, experts and stakeholders related to cottage and small industries from ESCAP member States; and
- Officials from Ministry of Economic Affairs, Colleges from the Royal University of Bhutan industries, business development organizations and Entrepreneurs, involved in the promotion of cottage and small industries in Bhutan.

Tuesday, July 16, 2019		
0900-1230	Bhutan Economic Forum for Innovative Transformation (BEFIT) - Inaugural Ceremony	Royal Thimphu College Auditorium
1230-1400	BEFIT Networking Lunch	
1400-1410	Welcome Remarks	Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APCTT-ESCAP)
1410-1420	Remarks	Mr. Gerald Daly, United Nations Resident Coordinator, Bhutan
1420-1430	Opening Remarks	Ms. Tshering Dem, Chief Industries Officer, Enterprise Development Division, Department of Cottage and Small Industries (DCSI), Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA), Bhutan
Session I	Regional Perspectives on Technology Transfer for Cottage and Small Industries	
	Moderator: Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	
1430-1550	<p>Bangladesh - Mr. Md. Rabiul Islam, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology, Bangladesh</p> <p>Bhutan - Ms. Karma Yanka, Dy. chief Industries Officer, Enterprise Development Division, DCSI, MoEA, Bhutan</p>	

	<p>India - Mr. Prakarsh Mishra, Consultant, Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations (AGNI), Invest India</p> <p>Nepal - Mr. Binod Dev Pant, Act. Joint Executive Director, Cottage and Small Industry Development Board, Nepal</p> <p>Thailand - Dr. Aparat Mahakhant, Deputy Governor, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR), Thailand</p>	
1550-1620	Group Photograph & Coffee/Tea	
Session-II	<p>Planning and Managing Technology Transfer - Support Mechanisms for Cottage and Small Industries</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Tempa Tshering, Chief Intellectual Property Officer, Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Bhutan</p>	
1620-1645	Harnessing Science, Technology and Innovation for Strengthening CSIs	Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, APCTT-ESCAP
1645-1710	National Intellectual Property Framework and CSIs	Mr. Tempa Tshering, Chief Intellectual Property Officer, Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Bhutan
17:10-17:25	Q & A	
<p>Wednesday, July 17, 2019</p> <p>Session-II: Planning and Managing Technology Transfer - Support Mechanisms for Cottage and Small Industries (Contd.)</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Tempa Tshering, Chief Intellectual Property Officer, Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Bhutan</p>		
0915-0940	Tools and Platforms for Facilitating Technology Transfer for CSIs	Dr. Krishnan Srinivasaraghavan, Coordinator, Technology Transfer, APCTT-ESCAP
0940-1005	Technology-based Business Cooperation for CSIs – Perspectives from Asia Pacific	Dr. Satyabrata Sahu, Coordinator, Technology Intelligence, APCTT-ESCAP
1005-1015	Q&A	
1015-1030	Coffee/Tea	
<p>Session-III: Promotion of Cottage and Small Industries – Learning from Cross-border Experiences and Best Practices</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Aparat Mahakhant, Deputy Governor, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR)</p>		
1030-1115	Women-led Cottage Industry for Boosting Sustainable Agriculture: A Case study from India	Dr. Malvika Chaudhary, Regional Coordinator, CABI South Asia
1115-1200	Commercializing Grassroots Innovations-Case Studies on Successful Technology Transfer	Mr. Prakarsh Mishra, Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations (AGNI), Invest India
1200-1245	Strengthening CSIs- Lessons from Smart Villages Project of TISTR	Dr. Aparat Mahakhant, Deputy Governor, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR)
1245-1300	Q&A	

1300-1400	Lunch	
Session-IV: Technology Transfer for Cottage and Small Industries – Opportunities and Challenges Moderator: Dr. Malvika Chaudhary, Regional Coordinator, CABI South Asia		
1400-14:40	Cottage and Small Industry Policy 2019 in Bhutan, opportunities and challenges	Ms. Sherab Zangmo, Offtg. Chief Industries Officer, Programming Division. Department of Cottage and Small Industry, MoEA, Bhutan
14:40- 15:10	Initiatives of supporting CSIs – National Technology Request Database for CSIs in Bhutan	Ms. Sherab Zangmo, Offtg. Chief Industries Officer, Programming Division. Department of Cottage and Small Industry, MoEA, Bhutan
1510-1520	Discussion	
1520-1545	Coffee/Tea	
1545-1630	Turning Problems into Opportunities for CSIs: Biological Control of Transboundary Agricultural Pests	Dr. Malvika Chaudhary, Regional Coordinator, CABI South Asia
1630-1700	Challenges in the Commercialization of Market-ready Indigenous Innovations	Mr. Prakarsh Mishra, Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations (AGNI), Invest India
1700-1715	Q&A	
Session V: Strategies for Facilitating Technology Transfer for CSIs Moderator: Mr. Binod Dev Pant, Act. Joint Executive Director, Cottage and Small Industry Development Board, Nepal		
0915-1000	Promoting Technology Transfer for CSIs – Ingredients for Success	Mr. Binod Dev Pant, Act. Joint Executive Director, Cottage and Small Industry Development Board, Nepal
1000-1030	Presentation on the Blue Print for Technology Request Database for CSIs in Bhutan	Dr. Krishnan Srinivasaraghavan, Coordinator, Technology Transfer, APCTT-ESCAP
1030-1045	Coffee/Tea	
1045-1130	Technology Transfer for Rural Industries – Strategies that Worked in Thailand	Dr. Aparat Mahakhant, Deputy Governor, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR)
1130-1200	Q&A	
1200-1215	Concluding Remarks	Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, APCTT-ESCAP
1215-1230	Vote of Thanks	Mr. Tandin Tshering, Director General, DCSI, MoEA, Bhutan
1230-1400	Lunch	
1400-1730	BEFIT Closing Ceremony	

