
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
Royal Government of Bhutan

Thimphu, July 16 to 18, 2019

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Background

Cottage and small industries 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. Cottage industries developed mainly out of the need for an additional source of income, because of the need to use one's spare time gainfully and because of the relative ease of acquiring the necessary raw materials to set up such industries. Such industries also 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 Cottage and Small Industries (CSI) 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the country and contributing significantly to the national economy, Bhutan's CSI is characterized by challenges such as outdated technology, low economy of scale, supply chain inefficiencies, lack of adequate finance and competition from imported goods from other countries.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 CSI in Bhutan. Similarly, CSIs in countries such as Nepal and Bangladesh also face unique challenges that hampers their productivity and profitability.

Technology and innovation are key drivers of economic growth and also 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 cottage and small industries 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 cottage and small industries, 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 seeks to bring together international and national experts to deliberate on key challenges, opportunities, best practices as well as to share experiences related to promoting inclusive innovation and technology transfer for cottage and small industries. The workshop would assess policy frameworks and tools, institutional support systems, national/regional collaboration networks and platforms, innovative business models, case

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-aea8-16e4745de1cb&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)

studies and best practices in planning and managing technology transfer for cottage and small industries.

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 policy options 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 and experts from the Department of Cottage and Small Industries, enterprise and business development organizations, chambers of commerce as well as not-for-profit organizations involved in the promotion of cottage and small industries in Bhutan

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

9.00 – 9.30	Registration
9.30 – 10.00	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Welcome addresses by:</p> <p>Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</p> <p>Mr. Tandin Tshering, Director General, Department of Cottage and Small Industries (DCSI), Ministry of Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan</p>
10.00 – 10.15	Coffee Break
10.15 – 10.45	<p>Theme 1 Technology Transfer and Innovation for Inclusive Development</p> <p>Speaker: Ms. Michiko Enomoto, Head, APCTT ESCAP</p>
10.45 – 12.00	<p>Theme 2 Regional Perspectives on Technology Transfer for Cottage and Small Industries</p>

Speaker: Country Presentations (each 15 minutes)

- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- India
- Nepal
- Thailand

11.45 – 13.00 **Theme 3** Promoting Inclusive Technology Innovations for Cottage and Small Industries – Policy and Regulatory Issues

Speaker: APCTT-ESCAP
 DCSI, MoEA, Bhutan
 AGNli, Invest India
 CABI South Asia
 Expert from Thailand

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch
 Break

14.00 – 15.15 **Theme 4** Planning and Managing Technology Transfer Projects for Enterprises – Life Cycle Approach

Speaker: APCTT-ESCAP

15.15 – 15.30 Coffee Break

15.30 – 17.00 **Theme 5** Introduction to Innovative Technologies in Cottage and Small Scale Industries from India

Speaker: AGNli, Invest India

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

9.00 – 10.30 **Theme 6** Screening and Short-listing of Technologies including Technology Valuation

Speaker: APCTT-ESCAP

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 – 11.30	Theme 7	Demand-driven Approach for Delivering Innovative Solutions for Cottage and Small Industries Speaker: AGNli, Invest India
		Discussions
11.30 – 13.00	Theme 8	Self Help Group Based Business Models for Biological Control Products – A Case for Cottage Industry Speaker: CABI South Asia
13.00 – 14.00		Lunch
14.00 – 16.00	Theme 9	Technology Transfer Case Study from India Speaker: AGNli, Invest India
		Discussions
16.00 – 16.15		Coffee Break
16.15 – 17.30	Open Forum	Challenges in Technology Transfer – National Perspectives Moderator: APCTT-ESCAP Speakers: All participants
<u>Thursday, July 18, 2019</u>		
9.00 – 10.30	Theme 10	Policy Perspectives for Promoting Viable Small Industries – Case of Biological Control Products Speaker: CABI South Asia
10.30 – 10.45		Coffee Break
10.45 – 11.30	Theme 11	APCTT's Online Platforms and Networks for Promoting Technology Transfer for Cottage and Small Industries Speaker: APCTT-ESCAP
11.30 – 13.00	Theme 12	Presentation on the Blue Print of DCSI Technology Request Database Speakers: APCTT-ESCAP and DCSI, Bhutan

13.00 – 14.00	Lunch		
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14.00 – 15.00	Theme 13	Group Exercise on Technology-based Cooperation for Cottage and Small Industries	Business
	Discussions	Moderator: APCTT-ESCAP	

15.00 – 15.15	Coffee Break		
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15.15 – 16.15	Open Forum	Regional Cooperation on Promoting Inclusive Innovation and Technology Transfer for Cottage and Small Industries	
		Moderator: APCTT-ESCAP	
		Speakers: All participants	

16.15 – 17.00	Summary and way Forward	APCTT-ESCAP and DCSI	
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17.00 – 17.30	Feedback Evaluation and Closing		
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