



Regional Workshop on Mechanisms for Technical Cooperation on Green Innovation

19 October 2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan and Online (Hybrid)

[As part of *Innoweek 2022* – International week of Innovative Ideas,
17-21 October 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan]

Organizers

- Ministry of Innovative Development, Republic of Uzbekistan
 - Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
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Background

The growing threats and challenges of climate change and related environmental issues have made it imperative to explore and adopt new ways of production, consumption and living. Green innovations or new technologies, which aim at reducing environmental and climate change risks while enhancing cost-effectiveness, are increasingly playing a vital role in responding to the global challenges.

A recent study indicated that green innovation in Asia has increased to meet growing demand for sustainable economic development¹. However, there are disparities within the region indicating a need for strengthening technical cooperation to accelerate utilization of green innovations in countries including Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and countries with special needs. It is also essential that the cooperation facilitates green innovations, technologies and products that are low-cost and inclusive catering to the most vulnerable populations. Many innovations and technologies are not able to reach the market due to several factors such as weak university-industry linkage; lack of policy support, funding and incentives; and lack of entrepreneurship and incubation support for technology commercialization. Finding and implementing solutions to overcome these barriers needs to be an important aspect of technical cooperation.

Regional cooperation mechanisms play a vital role in facilitating development, transfer, adoption and diffusion of green innovations. Examples include joint R&D programmes, knowledge sharing, policy advocacy, and technical assistance by specialized technology and innovation networks/centers in collaboration with other leading organizations in the field. Some mechanisms such as public-private partnerships and involvement of private sector also have immense potential to advance green innovation. Sharing of best practices and strategies

¹ Tolliver et al., 2021. Green Innovation and Finance in Asia. Asian Economic Policy Review (2021) 16, 67–87.

to promote technical cooperation through regional platforms for nurturing green innovations is crucial for enhancing awareness of policymakers on available opportunities and ways to leverage them.

This regional workshop seeks to bring together international and national experts to deliberate on enabling mechanisms for technical cooperation to promote green innovations as well as opportunities, challenges and strategies for future cooperation. The workshop would assess new and emerging mechanisms and role of regional cooperation networks and platforms for green innovations. This workshop is being organized as part of International Week of Innovative Ideas 2022 (*Innoweek 2022*) from 17-21 October 2022 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on the theme of Green Innovations for Sustainable Development (<https://innoweek.uz/>).

Objectives

- Increase the knowledge and understanding of stakeholders on mechanisms for green innovations, their challenges and opportunities
- Identify new and emerging mechanisms which could be adopted for technical cooperation to strengthen the ecosystem for green innovation in member States
- Explore strategies to effectively utilize existing and new mechanisms for enhancing green innovation including their scaling up and replication

TARGET AUDIENCE

Policymakers, Government officials, technology and innovation centers/offices/networks, Universities, educational institutions, R&D institutions, academia, innovators, business entities and private sector representatives and other relevant stakeholders from member States of the Asia-Pacific region.