

Name of the Initiative:

Global Technology Transfer and Knowledge Management Partnership

Date of initiation: January 2002

Expected date of completion: open ended

Partners Involved in the Global Technology Transfer and Knowledge Management Partnership:

Governments:

Interested donor and recipient country government agencies are invited to contribute to, and to benefit from the Technology Transfer and Knowledge Management and replication support services, which are available in this partnership.

Lead Intergovernmental Organizations:

United Nations Environment Program,
Global Environment Facility through the UNEP-GEF Technology Transfer Networks (SANet)
UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
Energy and Environment Technology Information Centers of the International Energy Agency

Major groups:

Technology, engineering, business planning and financing experts

Represented by:

World Federation of Engineering Organizations – WFEO/ComTech (Committee on Technology), and
International Federation of Consulting Engineers – FIDIC as lead organizations.

Other professional and industry associations being approached to participate include:

Development Gateway of the World Bank
International Waste Management Association (ISWA)
International Waters Association (IWA)
Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)
World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
UNIDO Cleaner Production Centers
International Chamber of Commerce
Global Technology Transfer Networks of USAID
Pro-Natura international (PNI – Forestry)

Facilitating Partner:

UNEP-GEF Technology Transfer Network
United Nations Environment Programme
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Main objectives of the Partnership:

This partnership addresses the critical development issue of access to technology and knowledge by facilitating information exchange, finance and investment in sustainable products and services in the energy, agriculture, textile, waste, water and forestry sectors.

The partnership builds on the existing efforts and capacities of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)s programs for transfer of environmentally sound technology, and on the knowledge management networks of the UNEP-GEF Technology Transfer Networks (SANet). SANet is a Technology Transfer knowledge management support system, which aims to replicate successful application of technology. SANet cuts across country boundaries, economic sectors, and supports the implementation of international environmental agreements. The partnership builds on established communication channels of more than 150 national and regional member organizations of FIDIC, WFEO, and other international associations.

Engineers and consultants play significant roles in ensuring that sustainable solutions are available, considered, made bankable, and viably implemented. Developing countries face engineering problems that are, in many cases, different from those of developed countries. E.g. the rapid growth of megacities in developing countries requires technology for transportation and utilities with unprecedented capacity and flexibility. Tropical and desert conditions in very poor countries require engineering solutions that are both rugged and low cost. Engineers focus on the delivery and replication of proven near term solutions to the global environment. Typically, they use proven technologies that can be implemented in the one- to three-year time frame.

While engineering may have contributed to some of today's critical global environmental problems it offers the keys to viable solutions. Water, waste, energy, textile, forestry and food security require dependable technology solutions that help to address critical business and broader economic needs, and can be exchanged through knowledge networks.

To foster increased transfer of sustainable technologies, the partners work together to develop and provide the following services:

- An inventory of Technology Transfer (TT) cases stories that are known to be technically, economically and environmentally viable and can be broadly replicated in the developing world.
- A directory of experts with proven expertise in establishing sustainable solutions. The directory forms a global network of advisors with success experience. It also provides on-line referral to entrepreneurial expertise required for project implementation and replication.
- A directory of innovative national regulation and other successful policies that support technology transfer, and attract investments in cleaner solutions.
- A directory of planning and distance learning tools, financing instruments & resources; many of them eligible for SANet support.

These services provide strong and secure access to know-how and resources required for improved reproduction of successful solutions. Such solutions help to fight poverty by addressing economic and environmental problems.

In situations where the above services are not sufficient to facilitate implementation, SANet, and its network partners, may offer financing for incremental feasibility work to establish the bankability to potential investors.

The relationship of the Partnership with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and

objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

The partnership supports the Millennium Declaration by:

- development and implementation of sustainable Technology Transfer projects with governments and the private sector;
- sharing information and linking experts to address climate change, confront the water crisis, defend the soil, preserve forests, fisheries, food security, and biodiversity, etc., and build a new ethic of stewardship;
- assembling a directory to Technology Transfer success cases stories and experts with proven track record in establishing sustainable solutions.

The projects supported by the partnership are structured to demonstrate the bankability of investments in sustainable development to the satisfaction of public and private financiers.

Specific targets of the Partnership and timeframe for their achievement:

The partnership is targeting Technology Transfer practitioners: investment and policy planners as well as advisors, consultants and engineers in recipient countries.

Together the partners are striving to deliver the following in the initial two years:

- one hundred sustainable technology transfer success cases
- two hundred individual network member with success record
- fifty critical technology planning tools and resources registered
- 50 promising commercial technology transfer replication opportunities identified, and support to establish their bankability provided
- 5 interactive technology transfer planning tools and instruments developed, or customized to address the needs of practitioners who aim to establish the economic viability of specific sustainable solutions.

How the partnership will be coordinated and implemented:

WFEO and FIDIC, Cleaner production Centers, other international organisations, local entities will invite members, partners, and associated Technology Transfer practitioners to:

- register their best practice experience in SANet's directory of successful technology transfer reference cases stories;
- register available regulatory (tax, tariff etc.) incentives that promote clean technology transfer in SANet's directory of conducive national policies;
- register as specialists in the SANet expert directory with a proven track record in establishing sustainable solutions;
- provide links to SANet's Internet site on their homepages, and participate in the promotion of SANet's services to foster use of Technology Transfer knowledge management networks and replication support features;
- provide advice concerning specific technology transfer/investment planning issues through SANet's expert referral, and local help desk systems;
- identify promising clean Technology Transfer opportunities, influence their implementation by senior management by establishing their commercial viability;
- organize Technology Transfer networking sessions and training programs during annual membership meetings, expert seminars, local trade fairs;
- participate in the design and implementation of the UNEP-GEF "Technology Transfer Success Awards" Program.

Where the funding comes from:

The Global Environment Facility is providing a \$4 million start-up grant to SANet. Matching cash contributions are being provided for individual studies to establish the viability of cleaner Transfer Technology investments. Technical support, significantly exceeding the GEF contributions, is provided by the SANet knowledge management partners for the promotion, design, and implementation of specific knowledge management services.

While continued GEF co-financing support is expected for efforts to establish the bankability of specific clean technology solutions, the SANet Management team is striving to establish a fully self-supporting knowledge management system within five years.

Administrative support to SANet and its partners is offered by UNEP's Department of Industry, Technology, and Economics (DITE). The necessary information infrastructure is being developed and maintained by GRID-Arendal - UNEP's center of excellence in information management.

The partnership's objectives:

The partnership's strategic objective is help fully inform the decision making process concerning viable Technology Transfer choices and to build the required knowledge management capacities to facilitate broad project replication.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level:

UNEP and the GEF are both directly supporting the UN Millennium Declaration focused on poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

How the partnership will be monitored:

Monitoring of progress in implementing the partnership based on the objectives, results, and deliverables will be seamless. All aspects of SANet's work, including tracking and delivery of success cases, project replication, experts with track records, planning tools will be accomplished on-line and will be accessible to interested stakeholders at all times.

The following indicators corresponding to key deliverables are being proposed:

- number of SANet help desks in local organizations coached and established by end of 2002, 03, 04;
- number of Technology Transfer success cases, as well as experts registered by end of 2002, 03, 04;
- number of clean Technology Transfer planning tools and resources indexed and enhanced,
- number of sustainable investment, and policy decisions effectively helped through on-line advice, expert matchmaking, and provision of co-financing for feasibility work end of 2002, 03, 04.

Other relevant information: Web-site: www.Sustainablealternatives.net

Name and contact information of the person coordinating the partnership presentation at WSSD:

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