



Africa Regional Review in Preparation of the 5th UN Conference on LDCs

22-26 FEBRUARY 2021, LILONGWE, MALAWI

"EMPOWERING LDCS THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION - LESSONS LEARNED"

SIDE EVENT
24 FEBRUARY 2021
10:00 - 12:00 LILONGWE, MALAWI

THE UN TECHNOLOGY BANK PROVIDES
 LDCS WITH A VOICE TO CHART THEIR
 OWN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH:

WHO WE ARE

The UN Technology Bank for the LDCs (UN Tech Bank) is a global organization dedicated to enhancing the contribution of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development in the world's least developed countries.

OUR MANDATE

is to strengthen the capacities of least developed countries in science, technology and innovation, including their capacity to identify, absorb, develop, integrate and scale up the deployment of technologies and innovations.

OUR GOAL

is to achieve our mandate through partnership with all stakeholders involved in science, technology and innovation, including researchers, research institutions and public and private sector entities, so that least developed countries promote the structural transformation of their economies, eradicate poverty and foster sustainable development.


- * Supporting LDCs to assess and articulate their needs through country-led technology needs assessments;
- * Strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation capacity in LDCs to respond to challenges and opportunities towards achieving the SDGs;
- * Facilitating access to appropriate technologies through technology transfer and provide access to research and technical knowledge;
- * Strengthening partnerships and coordination of STI between LDCs and relevant STI stakeholders.

Photo: UN Technology Bank empowering women and girls and creating stronger STI ecosystem to respond to climate change.
 Credit: EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, Flickr

Organized jointly with:



United Nations
 Economic Commission for Africa

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Since the end of 2018, the UN Technology Bank has directly implemented projects and activities in the LDCs. It also serves as a knowledge hub connecting LDCs' STI needs, available resources, and key STI actors who can respond to these needs. It facilitates LDCs access to existing technologies and fosters joint initiatives with relevant partners within and outside the UN system, including the private sector.

All UN Technology Bank activities are designed to complement, rather than duplicate, projects already undertaken by other UN agencies or development partners. The UN Technology Bank leverages existing initiatives within the UN system and beyond to implement its programmes of work and promote STI in the LDCs.

THE AFRICA REGIONAL REVIEW MEETING

The Africa Regional Review meeting will take place from 22 to 26 February 2021 and is being jointly organised by UN-OHRLLS, UNECA, and the Government of the Republic of Malawi. The Africa Regional Review meeting is expected to review the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) in the region, as 33 out of 46 LDCs are located in Africa. They face multiple challenges in achieving the goals and targets of the IPoA, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Agenda 2063. Their structural constraints are compounded by new and emerging challenges, including those posed by ongoing conflict, the climate crisis, COVID-19 and their devastating impacts.

SPECIAL SESSION: "EMPOWERING LDCS THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION"

OBJECTIVES:

The UN Technology Bank will organise a special session during the conference to reflect on the shaping of the UN Technology Bank including, showcasing activities and early results in selected African LDCs. The session will also discuss the impact of potential partnerships with regional organizations to leverage the effectiveness of the Technology Bank's interventions in supporting the LDCs. In the midst of the pandemic, the LDCs will also outline the challenges they faced as a result COVID-19 as well as how to build back better in the post-COVID-19 recovery.

OUTCOMES:

Showcase the contribution of the UN Technology Bank to supporting LDCs in enhancing their science, technology and innovation capacity to build sustainable and productive capacities and promote structural economic transformation. The contribution will highlight:

- * the importance of access to knowledge, information, technology, and know-how and to support the LDCs in improving their scientific and innovative capacity needed for their structural transformation;
- * the role of cooperation and collaboration between research institutions and the private sector, to promote research and development and innovation in the field of science and technology;
- * the importance of enhancing financial and technical support to least developed country research and development, science and technology, including strengthening national and regional institutions, as appropriate and in line with the LDCs' national development priorities.

MORE INFO:

Event Page: <https://bit.ly/3d0OxgY>

General Registration: Please use the following link for the general registration: <https://bit.ly/3aGousG>

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