



Technology Executive Committee

24 March 2020

Twentieth meeting

Virtual meeting, 1–3 April 2020

International RD&D partnerships and initiatives

Background note

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. As per activity 2 of the thematic area Innovation of its workplan for 2019–2022, the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) is to:

(a) Identify and analyse overview of international research, development and demonstration (RD&D) partnerships and initiatives, and approaches for collaborative RD&D available for countries to participate;

(b) Compile countries experiences, good practices and lessons learned, on RD&D policies & activities.

2. The final output of this activity is a compilation of good practices and lessons learned on countries RD&D, including international RD&D partnerships and various approaches for collaborative RD&D.

B. Scope of the note

3. This background note contained information on the work undertaken so far by the task force on innovation and provides in its annex the draft outline of the RD&D compilation.

C. Expected action by the Technology Executive Committee

4. The TEC will be invited to consider the draft outline of the compilation and provide guidance on further work of the task force for the development of the compilation.

II. Inter-sessional work by the task force

5. The task force on Innovation agreed on the following milestones and corresponding deliverables for this work:

(a) The submission of a **draft outline** of the compilation in March 2020 for comment and guidance by TEC at its 20th meeting;

(b) The submission of an **overview on international RD&D partnerships and initiatives** for comments and guidance by the TEC via email in April 2020;

(c) The submission of a **draft compilation of good practices and lessons learned** on countries RD&D for comment and guidance by the TEC at its 21st meeting;

(d) The finalization and **launch of the compilation** at COP 26.

6. The overview on international RD&D partnerships and initiatives will help the identification of case studies that will be elaborated and reported in the compilation. Good practices and lessons learned on RD&D will be derived from the analysis of the selected case studies.
7. As a first step, the task force discussed on **scope and focus of the good practice compilation**, including the overview of RD&D partnership and initiative.
8. The task force agreed that the overview should consider international RD&D partnerships and initiatives that focus on climate technologies, are in advance stage of implementation and/or already produced tangible results (i.e. usable/ deployed technologies). For each listed international RD&D partnership and initiative, the overview will highlight in tabular format the following key features:
- (a) Timeframe (e.g. duration);
 - (b) Substantive focus (e.g. mitigation/adaptation; sectoral/specific focus; technology cycle stage; objective; short description);
 - (c) Collaboration characteristics (e.g. type of collaboration; project or programme; performing organizations);
 - (d) Geographical scope (e.g. global, regional, bilateral, North-South, South-South, triangular; countries involved, region);
 - (e) Resourcing (e.g. funding sources; budget; research staff).
9. The task force also agreed that the scope of the compilation is to analyse identified case studies and extract good practices and lessons learned. A draft outline of the compilation is contained in the annex to this note. For each identified case study, the compilation will elaborate on the following elements, as applicable:
- (a) Collaborative/organisational design, including information on how partnerships are initiated and sustained;
 - (b) Policy, financial and commercial drivers, including handling and arrangement of intellectual property rights;
 - (c) Alignment with country needs (NDC, NAP and TNA);
 - (d) Inclusiveness (participation of all relevant stakeholders);
 - (e) Potential/requirement for replicability.
10. The compilation is expected to ensure balance in terms of regional distribution of case studies and of climate mitigation and adaptation.

III. Next steps

11. Once the TEC agrees on the outline of the compilation, the next steps will be as follows:
- (a) Finalize the draft overview on international RD&D partnership and initiatives;
 - (b) Share via email the draft overview for consideration and comments by TEC members;
 - (c) Identify the case studies to include and elaborate in the RD&D compilation;
 - (d) Finalize a draft of the RD&D compilation for submission to TEC 21.

Annex

Draft Outline for the compilation of good practices and lessons learned on international research, development and demonstration (RD&D)

1. Foreword(s) (*1 page*).
 2. Highlights (*1-2 pages*).
 3. Concepts, definitions, approach (*1-2 pages*).
 4. Introduction, including mapping of initiatives (*1-2 pages*).
 5. Case studies (6-8), for each (*2-3 pages*):
 - (a) Introduction, short description;
 - (b) Focus of initiative: mitigation/adaptation, sector/technology, technology stage, region;
 - (c) Organisation of initiative: countries, organisational set-up, processes, vehicles used for cooperation;
 - (d) Key actors - funders and performers (including private sector involvement);
 - (e) Key success/fail factors, lessons learned;
 - (f) Identified good practice(s).
 6. Good practices and lessons learned (across case studies), including e.g. regarding sustainability, replicability, scalability and private sector involvement (*3 pages*).
 7. Conclusions and recommendations (*2 pages*).
 8. Acknowledgments.
 9. References (*pages as needed*).
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