

# DRAFT

EGTT/2005/3

## **Networking TT:CLEAR with technology information centres in developing countries.**

### **Scope of work**

#### **Informal note by the secretariat**

##### *Summary*

This document was prepared by the UNFCCC secretariat to facilitate the discussions of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) on item 2 of its programme of work for 2005, relating to technology information. It outlines the scope of the work for continuing the pilot project on networking between TT:CLEAR and national and regional technology information centres, in particular by extending the pilot network to cover three selected national/regional centres in developing countries.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 6/CP.10, encouraged the secretariat to continue its work on a pilot project on networking between TT:CLEAR and national and regional technology information centres that would provide Parties with a clear understanding of the technical feasibility and cost implications of the strengthening of technology centres in developing countries and to report on the outcome to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) at its twenty-third session<sup>1</sup>.

2. The work programme of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) for 2005, under the theme on the technology information, contains an activity on initiating a pilot network of national and regional technology information centres. As a concrete action, the secretariat was requested to prepare, in consultation with relevant organizations, a draft scope of work for consideration by EGTT at its seventh meeting, to address the concerns raised at EGTT its sixth meeting<sup>2</sup>.

### B. Scope of the note

3. This note describes the scope of work by the secretariat for continuing the pilot project on networking between TT:CLEAR and national and regional technology information centres. It contains a narrative and chronological description of the work to be accomplished with a view to defining the expectations and limitations of this work.

### C. Background

4. The EGTT, at its fifth meeting, considered the results of the TT:CLEAR survey carried out by the secretariat. It provided recommendations to the SBSTA at its twentieth session with regard to future work of the secretariat on TT:CLEAR. The SBSTA, at the same session, requested the secretariat to pursue its work on maintaining and improving TT:CLEAR, including on enhancing networking between national and regional centres working on the dissemination of technology information<sup>3</sup>, taking into account recommendations of the EGTT and the results of the TT:CLEAR survey.

5. The EGTT, at its sixth meeting, considered the document FCCC/SBSTA/2004/10, prepared by the secretariat, on resource implications for the maintenance and further development of TT:CLEAR. It recommended that the SBSTA encourage the secretariat, resources permitting, to pursue its work described therein. The task 3 presented in that document described the resource implications of networking TT:CLEAR with three selected technology centres in developing country Parties.

6. The EGTT, at the same meeting, considered an informal paper prepared by the secretariat on "Needs, logistical implications and institutional arrangements associated with networking international technology clearing houses and networks of regional and national technology centres".<sup>4</sup> The paper described a functioning pilot on information exchange in a network of national and international technology centres, referred to hereafter as the pilot network.

7. The pilot network was established between UNEP/SANet, Natural Resources Canada, Climate Technology Cooperation Gateway (United States of America) and TT:CLEAR to test the feasibility of the technical solution proposed to exchange information and to estimate the logistical implications, institutional arrangements and the costs associated with networking national technology centres. The

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2004/INF.17

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBTA/2005/6 paragraph 81a) ii)

<sup>4</sup> EGTT/2004/3

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EGTT had a lengthy discussion on the paper and raised some concerns regarding possible duplications of work carried out by other international organizations (e.g., UNIDO and its network of national cleaner production centres), the scope of the work on networking technology centres and potential resources implications. The EGTT therefore decided to seek more information on this topic and continue its discussion on this issue at its seventh meeting.

8. During the intersessional period, further work was carried out by the US Climate Technology Cooperation Gateway (US CTC Gateway), UNEP SANet and TT:CLEAR on sharing information relating to technology cooperation projects, programmes and case studies in the pilot network. Information searches can now be performed from TT:CLEAR and SANet web sites on technology cooperation programs and case studies from US CTC Gateway. TT:CLEAR projects can be searched also from CTC Gateway web site (two ways information exchange between TT:CLEAR and US CTC Gateway).

9. Additional information on the topic of networking technology centres can be found in the previous documents prepared by the secretariat on these issues: “Results of the survey on the effectiveness of the use of the UNFCCC technology information clearing house (TT:CLEAR)”<sup>5</sup> and “Resource implications for maintaining and further developing the UNFCCC technology information clearing house (TT:CLEAR)”<sup>6</sup>.

## II. Scope of work

10. The objectives of this work are two fold: (i) to test the feasibility of networking between national and regional centres in developing countries working on the dissemination of technology information, and (ii) to provide Parties with a clear understanding of the technical feasibility and cost implications of the strengthening of the technology centres in developing countries through enhancing their capabilities to access and exchange information on climate friendly technologies.

11. In order to meet these objectives, the following tasks are envisaged:

**Task 1:** Extend the pilot network to cover three selected national/regional technology information centres in developing countries.

**Task 2:** Exchange views on technical, organizational and financial aspects relating to the networking technology information centres.

**Task 3:** Assess the outcomes of the pilot project in terms of technical feasibility and cost implications of the networking technology centres in developing countries and report on our findings to SBSTA at its twenty-third session.

12. These tasks will be implemented in close collaboration with representatives of the organizations and regional/national centres participating in the network. A number of specific activities under these tasks are linked and may have to be developed in parallel.

### **Task 1 - Extend the pilot network to cover three selected national/regional technology information centres in developing countries**

13. The objective of this task is to test the technical feasibility of the network, as a pilot phase, and assess the resource requirements for joining the network by centres in developing countries. Specific activities under this task include:

(a) Extend the pilot network to include three existing national and regional technology centres in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific to the

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<sup>5</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2004/INF.8 and Add.1 Corr.1

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2004/10

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network between national and regional centres in developed countries, TT:CLEAR and the UNEP/SANet.

- (i) Prepare terms of reference for this activity, send requests for proposals to existing centres in developing countries including to UNIDO's national cleaner production centres, evaluate proposal received and award three contracts, one per region.
  - (ii) Provide guidance to national experts on enhancing their national technology information clearing houses or web sites by developing the information exchange web services needed to participate in the network.
  - (iii) Test and assess the feasibility of information exchange in the pilot network.
- (b) Based on the work carried out under paragraph 13a above, estimate the resource requirements for networking and assess the impact of networking on the costs of searching for information on technology transfer opportunities by prospective users and providers.

14. Technical specifications, options for information sharing and specific guidance, including examples of information exchange on technology cooperation projects, programmes and case studies and companies and organizations providing climate friendly technologies and technology development and transfer services, are provided in the previous informal paper on networking.<sup>7</sup> Cost estimates for activities relating to this task are also indicated in that paper.

15. The secretariat, in consultation with the EGTT, will prepare the terms of reference for performing this work and will request existing technology centres to submit proposals for joining the pilot network. This procedure will be undertaken based the UN practice. Preference will be given to centres actively involved in the transfer of climate friendly technologies that have the technical infrastructure and knowledge required to participate in the pilot network. The selection of three centres, one for each above-mentioned geographical regions, will be done baring in mind sectoral coverage, possibly from centres belonging to existing networks such as UNIDO's network of national cleaner production centres. Each centre will be requested to submit a report summarising the work done.

16. The expected outcome of this task is a pilot network of technology transfer centres, including centres from developing countries, developed among individual nodes that can make context-specific and language-relevant information available to their local audience groups.

## **Task 2 - Exchange views on technical, organizational and financial aspects relating to the networking technology information centres**

17. The objective of this task the is to discuss the lesson learned from the pilot exercise, to address issues relating to organizing and managing the network, and to discuss resource requirements and options for further development of the pilot network. The main activity will be to convene a meeting of experts to exchange views on these issues. Specific activities include:

- (a) Elaborate on the scope of information exchange and functional integration between the nodes of the network and discuss technical standards and good practices for data exchange.
- (b) Draft a partnership document (e.g., memorandum of understanding) between all the nodes of the network.

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<sup>7</sup> EGTT/2004/3

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- (c) Discuss the need to establish a loose informal advisory group composed of one representative from each node in the network. The tasks of the informal advisory group may include, inter alia:
  - (i) Reaching agreement(s) on, for example, a core set of data to describe an international cooperation project, classifications, the scope of the information exchange, and the needs to exchange users' profiles in order to provide them with tailored information, users' comments and feedbacks, etc.
  - (ii) Discussing sectoral and regional coverage of the network and seeking to engage in the network relevant technology centres.
  - (iii) Reviewing the web services developed and discussing new and changing needs, tracking information needs and gaps, priorities, lessons learned and best practices.
- (d) Assess the outcomes of the pilot project and prepare a proposal for a global network.

18. In addition to representatives of technology information centres, representatives of relevant international and regional organizations such as the GEF, OECD/DAC, and Greentia will be invited to attend the meeting and to consider joining the pilot network.

19. The secretariat will provide updates regularly to the EGTT with regard to the implementation of this activity. The EGTT is invited to provide feedback and advice on solutions to any particular problems that may emerge at the later stage.

### **Task 3 - Assess the outcomes of the pilot project and report its findings**

20. This task will deal with the preparation of the report to document the outcomes of the pilot project to be submitted to the SBSTA for its consideration at the twenty-third session. Specific activities include:

- (a) Assess the outcomes of the pilot project in terms of technical feasibility.
- (b) Assess the cost implications of networking technology centres in developing countries.
- (c) Prepare the report for the SBSTA taking into consideration the findings of the pilot project and recommendations of the above-mentioned meetings of experts and of the EGTT.

21. The section on networking on TT:CLEAR will be updated to include information on this pilot project. Interim reports presenting the status of the work and the final report will be made available in hard copy and html to facilitate consultations and comments via TT:CLEAR. The report of the above-mentioned expert meeting will be posted also on TT:CLEAR.

22. A summary of the scope of work, including the timeline for implementing the above-motivated tasks and activities is presented in Table 1 below.

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**Table 1. Summary of the scope of work for activities relating to expanding the pilot network of technology centres**

Objectives	Tasks	Activities	Timeline	Outcomes/Evaluation
A. Test the feasibility of networking between national and regional centres working on the dissemination of technology information	1. Exchange views on technical, organizational and financial aspects relating to the networking technology information centres	Organize bidding and select three national and/or regional centres and link them to the network Connect these centres to the pilot network and test the technical feasibility of including these centres to the pilot network. Estimate the resource requirements for networking Assess the impact of networking on the costs of searching for information on technology transfer opportunities by prospective users and providers	June 2005 - October 2005	A pilot network of technology transfer centres, including centres from developing countries  Better understanding of resource requirements
	2. Exchange views on technical, organizational and financial aspects relating to the networking technology information centres	Elaborate on the scope of information exchange and functional integration between the nodes of the network Discuss technical standards and good practices for data exchange Discuss the a management structure and partnership documents Prepare a proposal for a global network of national and regional technology centres	Beginning of September 2005	Common understanding of the scope of the information exchange, functions of the network. Good practices for data exchange. A management structure and a proposal for a global network
B. Provide Parties with a clear understanding of the technical feasibility and cost implications of the strengthening of the technology centres in developing countries	1. Consider the outcomes of the pilot project and of the expert meeting	Assess technical feasibility and the cost implications of networking technology centres in developing countries	End of August -	Report and recommendations for SBSTA
	2. Prepare the report for the SBSTA	Prepare draft report Circulate the report for comments finalize the report	Mid September 2005	

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