

Executive Summary

I. Background

Global climate change, caused in large part by anthropogenic factors such as increased levels of greenhouse gas emissions, has resulted in frequent anomalous weather patterns along with disasters such as unexpected floods, droughts and tropical storms resulting in significant adverse impacts on human populations, vegetation and biodiversity.

Unfortunately, countries that have contributed the least to global greenhouse emissions are the ones most vulnerable to such natural disasters and the countries that are least developed lack the institutional and technical capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change. To date, environmental technology seekers and providers still encounter significant challenges when assessing technology needs and opportunities, securing and offering quality technical support and accessing technologies that align with development priorities.

To overcome these challenges, the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Cancun established the Technology Mechanism to address these deficits and provide an operational platform and network to assist countries in securing environmental technologies to accelerate a low emission and climate resilient development pathway. The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTC +N), as one of the components of the Technology Mechanism, is designed to stimulate technology cooperation, including through South-South cooperation, to enhance the development and transfer of technology by engaging the private sector, public institutions, academia and research institutions.

The South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) was established in 2008 as a global technology transfer mechanism to enable member states, UN organizations and agencies, and entities from both the public and private sectors to mainstream South-South cooperation efforts and effectively disseminate and scale up successful South-South initiatives. Since its establishment by the United Nations Special Unit for South-South Cooperation supported by UNCTAD, UNIDO, G-77 and China, and many other global development partners, SS-GATE has played an important role in the developing world by serving as one of the only global exchange platforms of technology transfer leveraging South-South and triangular cooperation.

The SS-GATE platform includes both a web-based and on-the-ground network of currently 36 Workstations (country centres) throughout the global South and provides matching and value added support services to facilitate South-South and triangular exchanges of environmental technologies, services and financing. SS-GATE has been endorsed by the General Assembly on multiple occasions, including in the Outcome Document to the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (A/RES/64/222).

Based on three years' experience in technology transfer, country center network development and management, and capacity building in developing countries, SS-GATE has developed the operational capacity and sound technical approach to host the CTC.

II. Technical Approach

1. Vision and Mission

CTC will respond to requests for the identification, implementation and deployment of environmental technology solutions from developing country Parties. In carrying out this mandate, CTC will establish a strong network of national, regional, global and sectoral technology centers, organizations and initiatives to stimulate technology cooperation and enhance the development and transfer of environmental technology.

2. Strategy

To ensure that CTC is able to achieve its overall mission of responding to requests of developing country Parties, the following strategies should be undertaken:

- 1) Areas of operation will be focused on priority areas of environmental technology such as: Renewable energy technology (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, and biofuel); energy saving technology (transportation, building materials); and stress resilient plant technology (sustainable agriculture).

Three key component functions will be established in the CTC to ensure optimum operation:

- 2) Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) to assure the quality services: The Quality Assurance Committee will vet draft decisions made by staff and select the most appropriate solution for the client request. The QAC will then approve the draft Terms of Reference to be assigned to member institutions that will prepare and/or implement the solutions. It will also review the quality of solutions delivered to the requesting developing country Parties.
- 3) Resource Centre: A Resource Centre will be established to support CTC staff and strengthen their performance by providing necessary information and data on environmental technology, member institutions, and technical experts. The Resource Centre will maintain partnerships with global information networks to exchange information and data as needed.
- 4) CTC Web-System: A user-friendly web-system will be established to communicate with developing country Parties and member institutions for registration of the requests and response delivery.

Other strategies to perform the responsibilities efficiently and effectively include:

- 5) A transparent screening process for selecting the most appropriate member institutions to perform assignments.

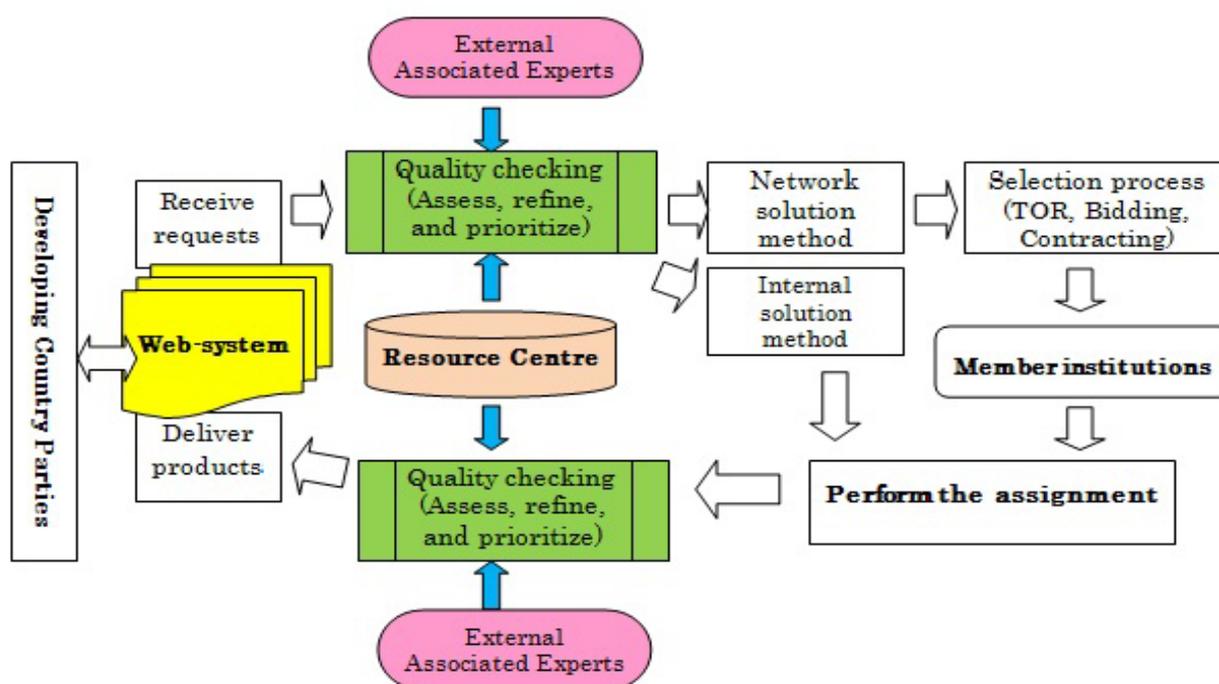
6) An efficient organization with a small number of core professional staff (from 11 to 15) in 4 Divisions: Administration, Climate Technology, Capacity Building and Resource Centre.

7) Required analyses of gender implications of every response to developing country Party by member institutions.

8) Knowledge accumulated through the CTC operations will be shared through the “Knowledge Sharing Convention” to be held by CTC in collaboration with other organizations.

3. Business Model

The CTC business model will consist of three components: the Quality Assurance Committee, Resource Centre and Web-system, supported by external associated experts whenever needed to strengthen the technical capacity to respond to developing country Party requests. The sequential work procedure is outlined as follows:



4. Climate Technology Centre and Network Management

The governance structure of the CTC will be as follows: The **Conference of Parties** will be the supreme guiding body to provide overall direction through the Advisory Board. **The Advisory Board** will determine the operational modalities and rules of procedure based on the functions outlined in decision 1/CP16, Paragraph 123. **The Advisory Board** will provide guidance on and approve the report, prioritization criteria and programme of work, the appointment of a Director, the budget and financial reports. **Developing Country Parties** are the clients/beneficiaries who will submit requests to the CTC. **The Climate**

Technology Centre will operate within its terms of reference and be accountable to, and under the guidance of the Conference of Parties through the Advisory Board. **A network of Member Institutions** will be organized to undertake the core work of responding to requests made to the CTC by developing country Parties.

III. Technical Capacity

SS-GATE's technical strengths include:

1. Competent professional staff (3 PhD and 19 MA degree holders)
2. Technical support from the network of 36 Workstations: 11 in Asia, 20 in Africa, 1 in Middle East, 1 in Latin America, and 3 in Europe and U.S., which include R&D institutions, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industrial Associations, government agencies, NGOs, etc.
3. Supporting team members mobilized from within and outside of China, including universities and research institutions.
4. Technical capacity in Web-system administration for transfer of technology and investment, including environmental technology.

IV. SS-GATE Governance Structure and Funding

The **UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation** provides policy guidance and seed funding that supports its operationalization in the form of a UNDP project that is implemented by the Government of China through the **China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE)**. The **SS-GATE Project Board** provides direct supervision of project operation. **Workstations** (country centres) perform specific tasks to support SMEs on the basis of the SS-GATE Operational Guidelines and the Management Principles.

In the past three years, seed funding of approximately \$2,000,000 has been provided by the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. SS-GATE has also mobilized resources from international partners such as: the Government of China (\$30,000,000); the Government of Nigeria (\$1,000,000); OFID (\$300,000); and in-kind contribution and support from other organizations including UNEP, UNIDO, UNCTAD/ITC, World Bank/IFC, FAO and IFAD.

V. Budget Proposal

It is assumed that the CTC will commence its full operations in October 2012 with 15 staff members and start receiving requests in December. The budget has been estimated on the assumptions that Scenario 1 will implement 106 Short-term, 61 Mid-term, 22 Long-term assignments during 2012-2017; Scenario 2 will implement 208 Short-term, 105 Mid-term and 38 Long-term assignments during the same period. SS-GATE will provide CTC with in-kind contribution of 400 m² office space free of charge, equivalent to US\$1.05 million (US\$200,000 for 2012~2017).