

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative: Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (Phase 1)

Expected date of initiation: 1 January 2003

Expected date of completion: 31 December 2006 (Phase 1)

Partners Involved:

The proposed Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD) has been formed through a consultative process involving governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector energy companies, national/regional centers of excellence and networks (e.g. Energy and Development Research Center, Environmental and Development Action in the Third World, and the African Energy Policy Research Network).

Governments: Germany, France, Denmark, United Kingdom, USA and developing country governments interested in shaping a global energy for sustainable development agenda.

Intergovernmental organizations: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme (ESMAP), the World Bank.

Major groups: private sector energy companies and industry associations, non-governmental organizations, national/regional centers of excellence and knowledge networks.

Others: United Nations Foundation, E7

<i>Leading Partner:</i>	United Nations Environment Programme
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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

The initiative will establish a Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD), the objective of which is to make it easier for partners to *contribute to the provision of environmentally sound energy services underpinning sustainable development*. The Network will do so by supporting amongst its partners *information exchange, learning, analysis and study, policy support, and capacity building*.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Access to affordable, modern energy services is a pre-requisite for sustainable development and, more specifically, for achieving each of the Millennium Development Goals, including that of poverty reduction. Yet there are currently two billion people world-wide who lack access to electricity, and a further two billion depend on traditional fuels, such as wood and animal and crop waste, for cooking and heating. For one-third of the world's population, dependence on these fuels results in a significant number of hours being spent each day gathering wood, primarily by girl children and women. Limited access to adequate and appropriate energy, including electricity, means that value-adding income generating activities are constrained.

The consequences for the environment of present energy production and consumption patterns are significant, with implications at the local, regional, and global levels. In developing countries the widespread use of traditional fuels for cooking and heating indoors results in serious respiratory diseases and loss of life related to indoor air pollution, as well as a contribution to deforestation, particularly in arid and semi-arid areas. Fossil-fuel based power generation and industrial and transport applications cause significant air pollution and acid depositions. At the global level, studies of climate change strongly suggest that reductions of global greenhouse gas emissions are needed to stabilise the climate. All these issues related to energy have led to focused attention on the importance of increased energy efficiency, use of renewable energy and use of cleaner technologies.

Recognising the importance of these issues, the initiative builds directly on the recommendations of CSD 9, where the establishment of a network of centers of excellence in energy is proposed.

Expected results:

Results expected from the initiative include:

1. A network of energy/development/environment institutions in developing, transition, and industrialised countries that increases contact and co-operation between relevant institutions/agencies and financing bodies, and national and regional experts on a range of energy for sustainable development topics.
2. A general strengthening of all Partners in their ability to acquire, assimilate, and apply existing knowledge and experiences made available through the Network.
3. Provision of quality advisory services by Network partner institutions to public and private sector decision-makers on a range of energy for sustainable development issues, resulting in better, more informed energy policies and decisions that support the wider goals of sustainable development.
4. Improved understanding of the links between sustainable energy and other development and environment priorities, and technology and policy options, leading to better articulation of practical policies that can be adopted, so as to promote energy for sustainable development, and
5. Changes in policies and programmes of governments and their development co-operation partners, and private sector investments, so that these favour energy for sustainable development approaches.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

The Network will facilitate two broad categories of activities:

- ✓ **Regional & Global Activities:** Multi-country activities will be those that generally aim at raising awareness, increasing knowledge and learning, and disseminating good practices about policies, programmes, and approaches on energy for sustainable development. These activities will include establishing knowledge sharing mechanisms (such as seminars) and databases linking energy planners, policy makers, and investors; mainstreaming sustainable energy indicators; and developing guidelines and other tools that advance collective know-how. Proposals for these activities can originate from any partner of the Network.

- ✓ **Country-Specific Activities:** The GNESD will also provide support to country-specific activities. Proposals will typically originate from partner energy centres and be sponsored by at least one donor partner of the GNESD.

The following is a list of some of the activities that might be undertaken by Network Partners, and that would be strengthened by the Network:

- (a) **Building knowledge and sharing lessons learned:**
 - assist in analysis of energy policies and business models for sustainable development;
 - assist in evaluation of sustainable energy technologies;
 - promote activities that raise awareness, disseminate information, and create a global base of knowledge on "best practices"; and
 - build communities of practitioners on specific issue areas, such as power sector reform, policy and governance issues in energy, development, and environment, interdisciplinary policies on energy for rural development; application of information technology for promotion of sustainable energy, and climate change mitigation, by means of ad-hoc working groups.
- (b) **Improving capabilities (capacity building on multiple levels):**
 - provide thematic support to governments and the private sector, as requested, on sustainable energy policies, approaches, technologies, partners and programmes;
 - build capacity among all major stakeholders, and share the lessons and knowledge acquired in formulating and implementing sustainable energy approaches.
- (c) **Facilitating development of new approaches and projects:**
 - help developing-country governments, as requested, strengthen their policy frameworks as a necessary foundation for sustainable energy projects, programmes and investments;
 - help design or conduct national and sectoral energy planning studies;
 - assist energy authorities in outlining finance and investment strategies, including those involving partnerships with private sector investors
 - assist project developers and entrepreneurs in developing sound business models
 - assess and provide advice on renewable energy/energy efficiency policies and projects.
- (d) **Generating knowledge (through targeted energy policy research projects):**
 - identify key research/study activities to be commissioned and supported by the Network: It is anticipated that the participating institutions will gradually undertake interdisciplinary research activities in order to gain a better understanding of how

sustainable energy can be promoted, including but not limited to comparative studies of previous experiences. Through these efforts, the networking structure is expected to generate increased inter-regional experience exchange and learning; and

- collaborate on applied research studies that conceptualise and operationalize approaches to sustainable energy policies, and analyse experiences.

Specific targets and timelines for their achievement remain to be determined.

Coordination and implementation mechanism

The core of the Network will be developing-country institutions that work on energy and sustainable –development issues. Partner status will be given to those parties in both developing and industrialised countries that are able and willing to contribute substantively (as actors, beneficiaries or donors) to the goals of the Network. Partners will be expected to have:

- ✓ demonstrated expertise in energy for sustainable development issues
- ✓ policy-level focus and engagement
- ✓ an influence that extends to the sub-regional, regional and global level
- ✓ existing strong links to local, national, and international institutions, and
- ✓ willingness to contribute to the Network by providing in-kind goods or services.

UNEP will serve as the Network Secretariat. A Steering Committee will be established with representatives from multi- and bilateral institutions, governments, the private sector, NGOs, and centres in the Network. The Steering Committee will prepare an initial two-year strategic plan and work programme, and develop rules and procedures for the operation of the Network. Participation will be expanded gradually.

Working groups of partners interested in specific topics will be created on an ad- hoc basis and will communicate through teleconferencing or web discussion.

Arrangements for funding

The operations of the Network will be funded by both cash and in-kind contributions. Cash support is needed both for operational activities related to distinct projects or activities agreed by the Network members, and for a small core operational budget. Funding pledges have been received from a number of donor governments that will allow the initiative to start for an initial three year period.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Key capacity-building activities undertaken by members might include:

(a) Building knowledge and sharing lessons learned:

- Assisting in analysis of policies and business models for energy for sustainable development.
- Assisting in evaluation of sustainable energy technologies.
- Promoting activities that raise awareness, disseminate information, and create a global base of knowledge on "best practices", and
- Building communities of practitioners on specific issue areas, such as power sector

reform, policy and governance issues in energy, development, and environment, interdisciplinary policies for energy for rural development; application of information technology for promotion of sustainable energy, and climate change mitigation, by means of ad-hoc working groups.

(b) Improving capabilities (capacity building on multiple levels):

- Providing thematic support to governments and the private sector, as requested, on sustainable energy policies, approaches, technologies, partners and programmes, and
- Building capacity among all major stakeholders, and share the lessons and knowledge acquired in formulating and implementing sustainable energy approaches.

The Network will not provide a means for direct transfer of technology, but it will help strengthen the framework for effective transfer of sustainable energy technologies.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

This initiative complements a number of on-going activities of participating partners, including, for example, the World Bank/UNDP ESMAP programme, the Global Forum for Sustainable Energy, and the Knowledge Network for Sustainable Energy in Africa.

Monitoring arrangements

The Network Secretariat will produce regular updates regarding members' activities for electronic distribution. In addition, an annual conference will be held to discuss progress on various initiatives. It is expected that the Steering Committee will establish specific procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the Network.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available): A web site will be created but is not yet in operation.

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