

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Centres of Excellence for Technological Innovation for Sustainability in Africa (CETISA)

Expected date of initiation:

Initial launch at the Johannesburg Summit. First workshop to be held in October/November 2002.

Expected date of completion:

Design phase to be completed in 2004

Design phase should lead to the development of a permanent network of centres of excellence

Partners Involved:

N.B. Partners marked in italics have expressed interest in becoming CETISA partners but have yet to give final confirmation of their participation in the network.

Governments:

(Botswana)

(Denmark)

Finland

Lesotho

Mozambique

(Namibia)

(South Africa)

(Tanzania)

United Kingdom

Zambia

African Universities and expert organizations

Botswana:

Botswana Technology Centre

Botswana Science & Technology Commission

University of Botswana

Kenya

African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS).

Lesotho

National University of Lesotho

Mozambique

National Council for Sustainable Development

Universidade Eduardo Mondlane

Namibia

University of Namibia (UNAM)- Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geography & Marine Fisheries.

South Africa

University of Cape Town - UCT Innovation & Graduate School of Business, which has ongoing partnership links with University of Cambridge, UK

University of South African - distance learning University, with close links to University of Jyvaskyla, Finland

(Advanced Technology Institute)

South Africa Research Innovation Management Association (SARIMA)

Council for Science and Industrial Research (CSIR).

(The Medical Research Council.)

(SchoolNetSouth-Africa.)

IThembaLABS - Laboratory for Accelerator Based Sciences. Developing a radiation medicine centre with Universities of Oulu and Jyvaskyla, Finland.

Tanzania

University of Dar es Salaam

(Tanzania Economic Social Research Foundation.)

Zambia

University of Zambia (UNZA).

Universities and other expert organizations outside Africa**Denmark**

Technical University of Denmark – coordinates DUCED, (Danish Universities for Sustainable Development), which has an ongoing network with universities in South Africa, Botswana, Thailand and Malaysia.

Finland

University of Helsinki

University of Jyvaskyla

Helsinki Technical University

Germany

University of Leipzig

Belgium

(Centre for Sustainable Development, University of Ghent.)

United Kingdom

Council for Industry and Higher Education.

University of Warwick - School of Engineering Development Technology Unit and Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises.

Imperial College of Science, Medicine and Technology (Department of Agricultural Sciences at Wye; expertise in Agricultural Economics and Business Management).

University of East Anglia (School of Environmental Sciences)

Institute of Water and Environment, Cranfield University.

Professor Norman Clark, Graduate School of Environmental Studies, University of Strathclyde
(Individual Participant)
University of Sussex - Science and Technology Policy Research Unit (SPRU) & Institute of
Development Studies (IDS)
UK National Commission for UNESCO – Science Committee

United States

University of California, Berkeley - Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory.

Regional and international organisations and NGOs

Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU).

*(Dr John Mugabe, Coordinator of the development process for the proposed Science and
Technology Commission of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD))*

Leading Partner:

Sustainable Development Programme, Royal Institute of International Affairs, UK
(Contact Fanny Calder or Bernice Lee)

Address: Chatham House, 10 St James Square, London SW1Y 4LE

Phone: +44 7970 647176, +44 7796 546 429

Fax: +44 20 7957 5710, +44 20 7372 0837

E-mail: fanny.calder@dial.pipex.com, bernicelee@bigfoot.com

Please note that The CETISA initiative remains open to additional partners.

Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

N.B. The objectives of the partnership will be discussed and agreed at the initial partnership workshop, to be held in the last quarter of 2002.

The overall objective of the partnership is to bring together universities and governments from Africa and other countries, along with intergovernmental organisations, businesses and civil society groups to design and establish a network of Centres of Excellence for Technological Innovation for Sustainability in Africa (CETISA).

The centres of excellence will be located within universities in Africa, and their work will be based on country-specific assessments of technology needs and opportunities. A key function of the centres will be to build strong linkages with the private sector and civil society organisations.

The work done by the centres is expected to include world-class sustainable development related scientific and technological research, collaborations with the private sector to bring technologies to market, and the development of integrated technological innovation strategies for meeting the needs of the poor. African stakeholders will lead the process of setting the specific objectives and identifying the priorities for the individual centres, with strong input and support from universities and other institutions with expertise in technological innovation from both Northern and Southern countries.

Building on existing initiatives and networks, the specific objectives of the partnership are to:

- Develop a shared analysis of the potential roles that African universities can play in supporting the development and implementation of effective strategies for technological

innovation to meet sustainable development needs;

- Develop a shared analysis of the current capacity of African universities to contribute to the development of such strategies;
- Develop proposals for strengthening the capacity of African universities to support the development and implementation of effective strategies for technological innovation to meet sustainable development needs, through establishing centres of excellence for technological innovation for sustainability in Africa, drawing on best practice models from around the world, and based on participative assessments of technology needs and opportunities;
- Improve African universities' access to world-class expertise and best practice on technology research and policy making through creating strong linkages with universities in both developed and developing countries;
- Facilitate the development of research partnerships and other collaborations (e.g. staff and student exchanges, joint implementation projects etc.) between African Universities and other universities and expert institutions in both developed and developing countries;
- Engage host and donor governments in the design of the centres of excellence, and encourage investment in building the technological capacity of African Universities.

Relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 and relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Technology has a crucial role to play both in the overall economic development of poor countries and in their strategies for eliminating poverty and protecting the environment. The capacity to develop and adapt technology is also of central importance to countries' abilities to benefit from globalisation. African universities have the potential to make real contributions to delivering on the Millennium Development Goals, on the commitments made at Rio, and on the commitments that will be made at Johannesburg, however at present they lack the capacity to do so. This lack of capacity in African Universities is a major barrier to the development of technical solutions to Africa's problems, and reinforces African countries' dependence on foreign aid and technical expertise. This partnership will play a key role in building lasting capacity in African universities to enable them to help their countries develop and implement the technological solutions they need to achieve sustainable development.

In particular the partnership will help implement the commitments in Paragraph 56 of the *The Draft Plan of Implementation for the WSSD* to '[p]romote technology development transfer and diffusion to Africa and further develop technology and knowledge available in African centres of excellence'; and to '[s]upport African countries to develop effective science and technology institutions as well as research activities capable of developing, and adapting to, world class technologies'.

The priorities of these centres of excellence will be closely linked to national and regional planning processes for sustainable development (including Poverty Reduction Strategies, National Strategies for Sustainable Development and NEPAD).

Expected results:

1. Detailed proposals for the institutional designs of centres of excellence for technological innovation for sustainability in Africa;

2. Increased collaborative efforts between universities in Africa and the rest of the world, particularly with those the North;
3. Higher flow of resources (financial and other) to universities in Africa;
4. Donor engagement in capacity building for stakeholders in Southern Africa;
5. Increased North-South and South-South collaboration on developing capacity for technological innovation in Africa.
6. A significant increase in the capacity of African Universities to contribute to the development and implementation of technology innovation strategies, both through carrying out world-class academic research, and through direct involvement in technological innovation “on the ground” (e.g. through supporting entrepreneurship, providing consultancy services, providing training, giving policy advice etc.).

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

N.B. All targets and timeframes are provisional and will be discussed and agreed at the initial partnership workshop

By October/November 2002

Hold initial workshop to explore potential partnership objectives, workstreams and process design.

By December 2002

Agree overall partnership objectives and process for design phase, and submit funding applications to donors.

By March 2003

Confirm funding for assessment and design phase

By July 2003

Carry out participatory assessment of existing technological capacity in partner universities in Africa

By July 2003

Develop database of relevant expertise in all partner universities (African and non-African)

By July 2003

Develop detailed shared analysis of the roles that universities can play in:

- assessing technology needs and opportunities;
- building private sector capacity to develop and market technologies;
- helping to develop and implement effective technology-related government policy;
- developing and implementing technology related training programmes.

Develop shared analysis of potential organizational design options for the proposed multidisciplinary centres of excellence for technological innovation in African Universities.

By December 2004

Carry out country specific assessments of technological priorities (both in terms of needs and opportunities), based on a participative process which will engage academic, government, business, and civil society stakeholders.

By July 2004

Develop detailed proposals for developing networked multidisciplinary centres of excellence in African partner Universities to address technological needs and opportunities. These proposals, which will be submitted to donors and funders, will include the detail workplan for each individual centres of excellence to coordinate activities (both within the universities, and with partners at a national and international level), including the following:

- high level technological research and development to meet technology needs, including research on new technologies, the adaptation of existing technologies, and the development of indigenous technologies;
- research and advice to governments and other stakeholders (e.g. private sector) on technology related national policy issues (including IPR, incentivisation, market and fiscal mechanisms etc.) and on technology related international policy issues;
- consultancy services (to national governments, donors, civil society groups, the private sector) for specific technology projects;
- the development and incubation of new businesses;
- the development of training/adult education programmes in technology-related skills.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

The overall coordination of the CETISA partnership will be provided by the Sustainable Development Programme of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA) in close consultation with the soon to be established NEPAD Commission on Science and Technology. During the design phase, RIIA will aim to pass on the facilitation and management of specific workstreams to other organizations with relevant expertise. The entire CETISA process will be strongly participatory, and its outcomes will largely be determined by priorities of the African partners.

Arrangements for funding

Seed-corn funding for the development of the CETISA partnership has been provided jointly by the UK Government's Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

Following the initial workshop in October/November 2002, the RIIA will work with partners to develop a full proposal for the design phase of the partnership. This will be submitted to the Finnish and UK governments, to the European Union's Framework VI R&D Programme, and to other donors with an interest in building capacity in African Universities.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

The main aim of the CETISA partnership is to build capacity in, and facilitate the transfer of technology to, African partner countries. A wide range of specific activities will be carried out by the partnership to this end (see above).

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

The work done by the CETISA partnership will be strongly coordinated with the work of NEPAD's planned Commission on Science and Technology. In addition, the partnership will seek to work with, and (where appropriate) build on, work done by existing technology-related partnerships and initiatives in Africa, in particular the work being done by the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA). Relevant UN and Bretton Woods organizations will be invited to participate in the partnership's activities.

CETISA will also seek to work closely with ongoing sustainable development processes at the national level, including National Strategies for Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction strategies.

Monitoring Arrangements

The progress made by the partnership in delivering on its objectives will be reported on at regular partnership meetings, and these reports will be made available on the internet.

Other relevant information:

A detailed list of CETISA partners, with contact names, is available from the RIIA. Please e-mail fanny.calder@dial.pipex.com or bernicelee@bigfoot.com.

A partnership web-site will be set up early in the partnership design phase. The web-site will include a diary of events, all partnership documentation, and research resources. Some of the website will be open access, whereas in order to maintain confidentiality, other areas of the website will only be available to CETISA partners.

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

Name: Fanny Calder and Bernice Lee:

Position: Facilitator, CETISA Partnership and Associate Fellow, Royal Institute of International Affairs.

Address: Chatham House, 10 St James' Square, London SW1Y 4LE

Phone: +44 7970 647176, +44 7796 546 429

Fax: +44 20 7957 5710

E-mail: fanny.calder@dial.pipex.com, bernicelee@bigfoot.com