

Financing Sustainable Development and Technology Transfer and Assessment

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Means of Implementation (MoI)

- MoI: Finance, Technology, Capacity Building, Trade + Registry of Commitments
- Key bone of contention in the Rio+20 negotiations
- Developing countries strongly pushed for concrete commitments on delivering MoI to ensure realization of sustainable development, based on principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR)

What were agreed at Rio+20: FINANCE (1)

- No concrete figures on funds for SD, but a process:
- Para 255: established an intergovernmental process under the UNGA, with technical support from the UN system and in *open and broad consultation with relevant international and regional financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders*.
 - will assess financing needs, consider the effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks, and evaluate additional initiatives,
 - with a view to preparing a report proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to facilitate the mobilization of resources and their effective use in achieving sustainable development objectives

What were agreed at Rio+20: FINANCE (2)

- Para 256: established an intergovernmental committee, comprising 30 experts nominated by regional groups, with equitable geographical representation, will implement this process, concluding its work by 2014
- UNGA to consider the report and take appropriate actions
 - 30 member experts working group on sustainable development financing strategy
 - Not (yet) clear how the “*open and broad consultation with relevant international and regional financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders*” will be done

Post-Rio+20 status so far:

FINANCE

- The 30 member experts working group on sustainable development financing strategy has not been established
- Instead, an intergovernmental committee was established under UNGA-67 to look at options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy
- Unclear how the “*open and broad consultation with relevant international and regional financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders*” will be done

UNGA-67 Resolution on Rio+20 Implementation: FINANCE

- Calls for the work of the intergovernmental committee established with a view to proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to start as soon as possible, preferably in January 2013
- Requests the intergovernmental committee to update the General Assembly on the progress of its work before the beginning of the UNGA-68 in September 2014

What were agreed at Rio+20: TECHNOLOGY

- Reiterated earlier commitments at Rio, but very few concrete commitments on technology transfer
- Agreed on a process to address developing countries' demand for more access to technologies needed for SD
- IPR reference was side-stepped and merely reiterated the JPOI language: *...to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.*

What were agreed at Rio+20: TECH FACILITATION MECHANISM

- Para. 273: Requested relevant UN agencies *to identify options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies by, inter alia, assessing the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs and capacity-building.*
- Requested the UNSG, *on the basis of the options identified and taking into account existing models, to make recommendations regarding the facilitation mechanism to the UNGA-67*

What were agreed at Rio+20: Technology Assessment

- Para 275: Recognized the *importance of strengthening international, regional and national capacities in research and technology assessment, especially in view of the rapid development and possible deployment of new technologies that may also have unintended negative impacts, in particular on biodiversity and health, or other unforeseen consequences*

Post-Rio+20 status so far: Technology Facilitation Mechanism

- UN Secretary General's Report on Options for Technology Facilitation Mechanism: 31 August 2012
- UNSG's Recommended Process Forward:
 - Place the proposed Global Technology Facilitation Mechanism under the HLPF to be fully operational before the end of 2013
 - Creation of an intergovernmental preparatory working group, *supported by a pool of experts*, that will work out the institutional arrangements for the global technology facilitation mechanism

UNSG Report on Options for Technology Facilitation Mechanism

- Some Key Findings:

- We have failed to make use of our far greater scientific-technological possibilities and global wealth to effectively solve global SD challenges
- South-North technology flows are increasingly becoming important, as well as South-South flows
- UN commitments on technology since 1992 followed a technology-centric approach aimed at facilitating tech transfer, in particular from North to South, for which it is crucial to raise funds and build capacity

UNSG Report on Options for Technology Facilitation Mechanism

- Some Key Findings (2):

- ❑ There is no global framework, agreement, assessment or monitoring mechanism for S&T for SD
- ❑ There is no “silver bullet model” for tech transfer provisions in international agreements
- ❑ Technology policy in many countries emphasize market and price instruments as levers of choice
- ❑ IPR remains an unresolved debate

UNSG Report on Options for TFM

Lessons Learned for TFM

- There is a need for a technology mechanism that can accelerate technology progress at a global scale that is commensurate with the sustainable development challenge
- Presented 14 key elements to make a TFM effective
- Presented 9 key components of a Technology Facilitation Mechanism, including an *International network of technology assessment centres and/or national and global advisory groups on technology assessment and ethics*

Post-Rio+20 status so far: TECHNOLOGY @UNGA-67 Res.

- Took note of the UNSG's Report on Technology Facilitation Mechanism
- Decided to hold “a series of for one-day workshops on the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies and the connection between clean and environmentally sound technologies and sustainable development, taking into account the need to avoid duplication and promote synergies and coherence” , to be organized by the UNGA President supported by the Secretariat

Post-Rio+20 status so far: TECHNOLOGY @UNGA-67 Res.

- Decide that the workshops will discuss, inter alia, the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs, capacity-building and options for a technology facilitation mechanism, taking into account existing mechanisms,
- Decided that the workshops will be supported by the UN system and enable the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, and requests the Secretary-General to present a report on the discussions, options and recommendations from the workshops, including on the way forward, as well as on additional inputs from Member States and the UN system - for consideration by UNGA-68

Where are we now post-Rio+20: Finance and Technology

- Finance: on standstill
 - No independent experts group was created to look into options for SD financing strategies
 - Instead, an intergovernmental committee has been established to do the task
- Technology: took a step backwards
 - No Technology Facilitation Mechanism was established (most likely, there won't be any)
 - Instead, four one-day workshops to discuss Technology issues and recommendations for consideration by UNGA-68
 - Workshops might recommend the establishment of a TFM in the end

Looking forward to more
encouraging news post-Rio+20!