

Expert Group Meeting on Harnessing Technology for Enhanced Small  
and Medium-sized Enterprises Productivity and Competitiveness  
Cairo, 3-4 November 2007

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ESCWA TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

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## Regional Context

- R&D indicators - not promising
- STI policies - wanting
- Funding - limited
- Demand side - weak
- Joint activities and partnerships - developing
- Enabling environment – in transition
- But the region is evolving fast !!!!

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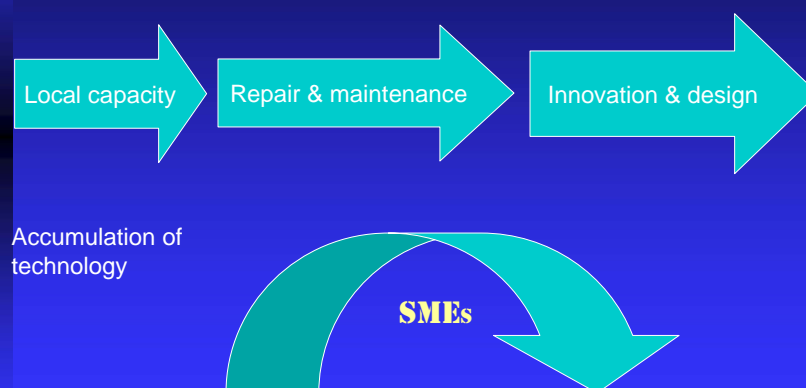
## Fundamental Needs of the Region

### Need to reverse lost opportunities:

- Promoting technology transfer, adaptation development and application
- Therefore, address the following core issues:
  - Competition
  - Transaction
  - Networking

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## Result Oriented



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## References to TC Needs in the ESCWA Region

- ECOSOC Resolutions: ST applications
- UNDP-HDR: Importance of STI Centres and Institutes
- UN Secretary General's Report 2004: Promoting STI
- MDG Goals: Importance of STI
- ESCWA 23<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Session 2005: Prepare for the establishment of the ESCWA TC
- ESCWA 24<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Session 2006: Establishment of ESCWA TC - Proceed

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## Objectives

- Harnessing modern technologies for socio-economic development of the EMCs-a clearing house
- Transfer and exchange of information-a broker
- To contribute to national STI systems - contributor
- Foster synergy and complementarity at the regional level in the application of technology-catalyst
- Group the assimilated experiences in the region-networker
- Support attainment of MDGs

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## **Anticipated major activities of the ESCWA TC**

### **1. STI POLICIES**

- Policy elaboration, guidelines and norms and practices
- Technology fore-sighting for the region
- New institutional forms for TT development

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## **Anticipated major activities of the ESCWA TC**

### **2. TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Technology transfer
- Technology development
- Technology upgrading
- Technology promotion
- Indigenize technology

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## Anticipated major activities of the ESCWA TC

### 3. INNOVATION MANAGEMENT

- Technology management: selection, acquisition, upgrading, innovation, absorption, monitoring, evaluation, promotion of intellectual rights etc.
- R&D in industry
- Knowledge management

*With The Support Units providing administrative support, information and data and capacity building, training and promotion*

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## Where to Start ?

- **4 track approach:** holistic, long term, high investment?
  - Information services
  - Systemic issues
  - Regional technology market
  - Self-organized critically

**OR**

Focus on sectors or cross-cutting issues:  
piece-meal, short-term, affordable?

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## Estimated Budget

- 10,000,000 US Dollars/Year
- *Where will funding be coming from?*

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## Suggested Financing

- Endowment Fund
- EMC contribution
- Host country contribution
- Beneficiary contribution
- Promotions
- Seed money

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Time-Line

Preliminary studies and major meetings	March 2006
ESCWA 24 <sup>th</sup> Session	May 2006
Feasibility study	November 2007
ESCWA 25 <sup>th</sup> Session	March/April 2008
Negotiation between host country and ESCWA	First quarter 2008
<b>Establishment</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008</b>
<b>Full operation</b>	<b>After 2 years</b>

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Thank you

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