Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation

Item 4a. Mainstreaming inclusive technology and innovation policy approaches to leave no one behind

Outcomes of the Regional Consultation on Inclusive Technology and Innovation Policies

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Regional Consultation on Inclusive Technology and Innovation Policies

Tuesday 28 and morning Wednesday 29 August

Objectives:

• share experiences and lessons learnt regarding inclusive innovation policy
• explore emerging challenges and opportunities to encourage, enable and emulate more inclusive innovation; and
• identify priority policy issues

Participation:

42 participants, including government officials of 18 member States, academics, the regional civil society organisation engagement mechanism and practitioners from international organisations
The story so far

- Several policies/programmes in place
  - Funding R&D for social outcomes in The Philippines
  - Human centred super smart society, Society 5.0, of STI policy in Japan

- We are building on the existing inclusive innovation approaches here in the region

- “Inclusion: a right, not an afterthought”
Setting the context: leaving no one behind

Leaving no one behind
• Reducing inequalities between groups and between individuals
• Prioritizing those furthest behind
• Proactive policies are required

Leaving no one behind in Technology & Innovation Policy
• 3As: Accessibility, Appropriateness, Affordability
• Inclusion prior to, during implementation, and after roll out
• Engage everyone, target particularly disadvantaged/underrepresented groups
# Challenges for inclusive innovation in Asia-Pacific

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<th>Leadership</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Ensuring high-level support for inclusive technology and innovation policies</td>
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<td>• Working in short-term political cycles</td>
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<td>• Economic growth dominates the agenda over inclusion</td>
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<th>Understanding inclusive innovation</th>
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<td>• Lack of common definition of inclusive innovation</td>
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<td>• No one-size fits all</td>
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<td>• Different perspectives (e.g. bottom-up vs top-down; researcher vs. farmer)</td>
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Challenges for inclusive innovation in Asia-Pacific

Coordinating efforts
- Implementing whole of government approaches
- Multi-stakeholder buy-in (limited incentives for businesses to develop inclusive tech. and innovation)

Capacities and capabilities
- Financial resources to implement policies
- Skills (e.g. product development, market)
- Data (e.g. lack of relevant / disaggregated data to inform inclusive tech. & innovation policies)
- Assessments (effective consultations, pre and post impact assessments)
The way forward for inclusive innovation in Asia-Pacific

**Leadership**

- Generate alliances that support long-term inclusive innovation policies
- Make the business case for inclusive tech. & innovation

**Understanding inclusive innovation**

- Further analyse and share the variety of Asia Pacific experiences in promoting inclusive technologies & innovation (in different local contexts, with different groups)
- Assess socio-economic impact of technologies in different groups (including indirect/ unintended impacts)

Inclusive Technology and Innovation Policies
The way forward for inclusive innovation in Asia-Pacific

Coordinating efforts

- Explore different approaches to align action: Co-designing, co-creation, co-implementation
- Create structures & incentives that facilitate whole-of-government, multi-stakeholder approaches

Capacities and capabilities

- Build technological understanding among non-tech policy makers
- Build understanding on systemic and inclusive STI approaches among STI policy makers
- Build inclusive STI data collection and analysis capacities
- Build capacities to assess impact of STI policies
Recommendations to ESCAP for support to Member States

- Provide policy advice on inclusive technology and innovation policies to achieve the SDGs and leave no one behind
- Provide training on technological dimensions for non-tech policy makers
- Provide training on systemic and inclusive STI approaches for policy makers
- Develop / make available tool kits for promoting / assessing inclusive technology and innovation policies
- Analyze the inclusive dimension of national STI policies / strategies, including best practices, approaches and lessons learnt
- Facilitate the exchange of experiences and regional collaboration regarding inclusive innovation policies

Inclusive Technology and Innovation Policies
Thank you