



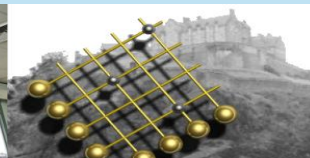
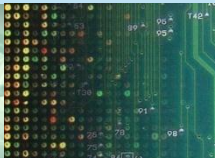
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Promoting a Culture of Innovation in the South: UNESCO's Strategy and Key Actions

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Overview

1. Introduction
2. Innovation issues and opportunities in developing countries
3. UNESCO's approach and action in promoting a culture of innovation
4. Potential cooperation with COMSATS



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1. Introduction



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UNESCO's strategy and actions in promoting a culture of innovation is part of the **UNESCO's integrated policy approach in STI for sustainable development.**

UNESCO Integrated policy approach in STI for sustainable development was established on 4 following pillars:

- First, **strengthening** national capacities in STI policy formulation, evaluation and implementation.
- Second, **promoting** a culture of innovation by facilitating appropriate innovation ecosystems for firm-based high technology innovation and grassroots innovation.
- Third, **enhancing** of human and institutional capacities in science and engineering.
- Forth, **improving** STI system monitoring and foresight – to support evidence-based policy making process.



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2. Innovation issues and opportunities in developing countries

Innovation issues

- Almost inexistent innovation policy
- Inexistence or a very limited R&D facilities
- Heterogeneous economy with a large number of micro-enterprises operating in the informal sector
- Poor system of governance
- Low education levels
- Lack of financial support system for innovation

Innovation opportunities

- Increased awareness on the importance of innovation
- Different types and degrees of innovation may take place across different stage of development, e.g. Doing, Utilizing and Interacting (DUI) approach.
- Several developing countries have experienced to absorb and to adapt technological knowledge to accelerate their economic growth, e.g. Republic of Korea, Chile, Singapore etc.
- Great potential of grass-root innovation that can be used to meet the need the poor people.



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3. UNESCO's approach and actions in promoting a culture of innovation

UNESCO's vision on the Innovation

- Innovation is a critical factor for enhancing economic growth and competitiveness.
- Innovation is crucial for social cohesion, equality and poverty alleviation.
- UNESCO supports both firm-based and grassroots innovation.

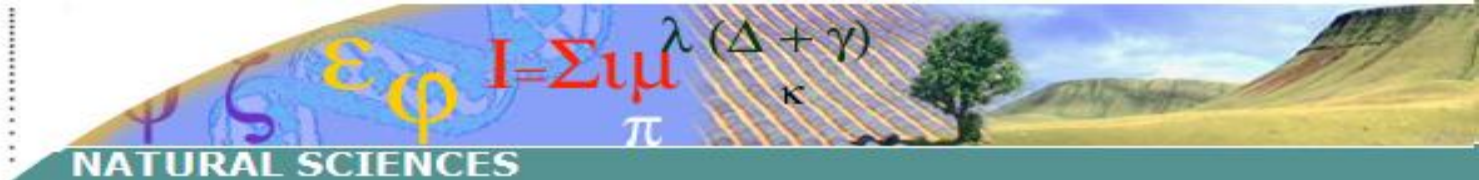
a. Facilitating the development of innovation ecosystem

- Building an innovation ecosystem in developing countries is complex, it involves the formal sector -- enterprises, universities, research institutes, the government and the financial system – along with non-governmental organisations and the informal sector, including grassroots inventors, local and indigenous knowledge.
- UNESCO provided policy advice and technical assistance in the development of innovation ecosystem in its member States.



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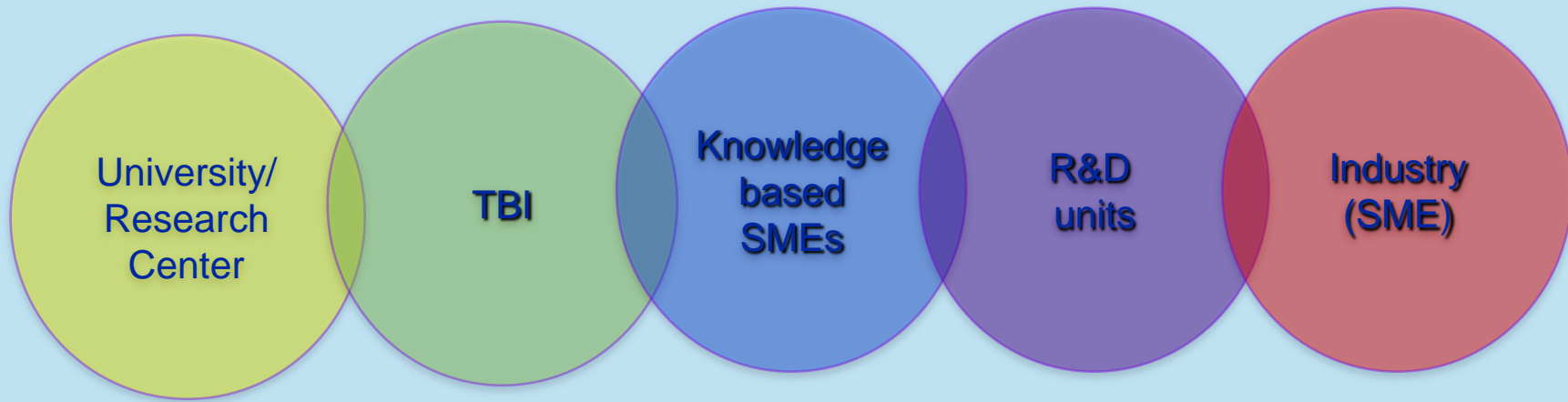


b. Encouraging the creation of knowledge-base SMEs by supporting science park & technology business incubator

- Science park and technology business incubator provide an appropriate innovation ecosystem to nurture and to host knowledge based SMEs.
- The ultimate goal is to develop national capacity in creating, nurturing and managing knowledge-based SMEs



Mechanism - creation knowledge-based SMEs



Science Park and Technology Business Incubator

Capacity building activities

- International training workshops and conferences
- Regional training workshops
- National training workshops



Policy advice and technical assistance

- preparation of feasibility studies
- elaboration business plan and master plan of SP and TBI
- technical assistance on networking, funding and promotion foreign investment.
- Review existing science park or other hi-tech clusters.



Pilot Projects

Project 1.

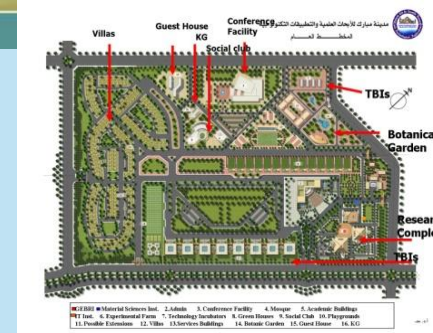
Arab States : Mubarak (Alexandria), Egypt
Mubarak City for Science and Technology

Project 2.

Africa : Nairobi, Kenya
Science and Technology Park of Nairobi University

Project 3.

Asia-Pacific : Jakarta, Indonesia
Indonesia Science and technology Park



Establish Category 2 Center under the auspices of UNESCO

Regional Center for Science Parks and
Tech Technology Business Incubator in
Isfahan, Islamic Republic of Iran





Global Innovation Forum

International platform to gather and to share innovative ideas, knowledge and experience and explore the possible cooperation among the innovation stakeholders





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c. Promoting inclusive innovation for sustainable development

- Innovation can be a critical tool to deal with poverty and promote social inclusion
- Grassroots innovation is primarily a bottom-up approach of pro-poor innovation
- UNESCO supports grassroots innovation by empowering people through popularization of science, technopreneurship development, engineering, and local and indigenous knowledge programmes.



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4. Potential cooperations: COMSATS - UNESCO



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- Supporting commercialization of research results of the center of excellences.



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Thank You