

Implementation of the Programme of Work

Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

16th session of the Committee on Innovation,
Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships
1 June 2023, Geneva

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**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

Strategy



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- ✓ International policy dialogue at expert level on selected policy issues on innovation for sustainable development
 - Promoting mutual learning
 - Identification and dissemination of international good policy practices
- ✓ On demand from Governments, analysis of national innovation systems and policies at national and sub-regional levels
 - Provision of policy recommendations grounded in international good practice
- ✓ On demand, capacity building to support implementation of selected policy reforms
 - Promoting improved innovation performance as a contribution to achieving sustainable development
- ✓ Learning from national and sub-regional policy analysis and reform processes
 - Providing feedback into international policy dialogue



Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

Highlights



- ✓ International policy dialogue
 - 14-15 November 2022: ToS-ICP 14th session “Digital and green transformations: Innovation for a sustainable future” => policy paper with good practices (ECE/CECI/2023/3)
 - CICPPP 2023 side event “Promoting women’s entrepreneurship in transition economies for sustainable development”
- ✓ Policy analysis:
 - Innovation for Sustainable Development Review (I4SDR) of Armenia (2023); ongoing work on Ukraine
 - Interim Sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook 2022: Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus
 - Policy Handbook: Supporting Innovative High-Growth Enterprises in the SPECA sub-region (2023)
- ✓ Capacity building, policy reforms & impact:
 - Roadmap for Innovation and Technology Transfer for Moldova, drawing on recommendations from I4SDRs
 - Handbook on Innovation-enhancing Procurement for Georgia and study tour => revised Georgian Public Procurement Law adopted in February 2023
 - Capacity building programme on innovation for circular economy for Uzbekistan
 - Capacity building programme on building a venture capital ecosystem for Azerbaijan
- ✓ Platforms for exchange of knowledge and experience:
 - UN-ECE Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN)
 - SPECA Network of Business Incubators and Accelerators for Sustainable Development

UNECE Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN)

Brief chronology and highlights



- ✓ UNECE Transformative Innovation Network (ETIN) established in 2022 is:
a strategic platform and meeting place for peer learning and a joint exploration of policies and practices to promote innovative processes that increase competitiveness and accelerate a sustainable transformation in the UNECE region
- ✓ Q1 – Q3 2022: Conceptualizing and launching (ToS-ICP)
- ✓ Q4 2022 – Q1 2023: Internal consolidation preparing for the ETIN roll-out
- ✓ Q1 – Q2 2023: Rolling out ETIN activities externally
 - ETIN initiated events
 - Hybrid seminar: “Platforms, circular economy, and transformative innovation: a cross-industry comparison” (3 March)
 - Virtual policy dialogues: “Path-ways to transformative innovation” (7 and 14 March)
 - ETIN initiated events back-to-back to UNECE flagship events
 - ETIN Innovation Days / RFSD (29-30 March)
 - Side-events / 70th Commission Session (4-5 April)
 - Other activities
 - 11 podcast episodes “Innovation Matters”
 - Policy Report: “Digital and green transformations for sustainable transformations in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe”



Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Armenia

- I4SDR of Armenia analysed the tools and mechanisms of innovation governance in Armenia
 - Two elective chapters: innovation governance and diaspora engagement for innovation
- Following a 12-month intensive research and consultation process, the report will be published on 7 June
- I4SDR of Armenia was conducted in cooperation with three ministries to create cooperation and coordination:
 - Ministry of High-tech Industry
 - Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports [including its Science Committee]
 - Ministry of economy
- Successes:
 - Process contributed to better inter-ministerial coordination
 - The publication received high-level patronage and interest
 - Follow-up capacity building activities are being planned



Innovation for Sustainable Development Review Ukraine

Progress report



- Innovation will have a key role to play in the economic, environmental and social reconstruction of Ukraine
- Gov't developing a new strategy and roadmap on STI and sustainable development by end 2023
- Review will identify options for effective innovation policy making under current circumstances and
- develop MT scenario for promoting innovations to build back better

Work so far

- Desk research on
 - Impact of the war on Ukraine's innovation system
 - Studies of post-conflict reconstruction cases and the role of innovation therein
 - Mapping of innovation policy stakeholders and key international partners
 - Policy monitoring and evaluation

Goal for 2023

- Provide analysis and recommendations as inputs to the Government's new strategy and roadmap

Goal for 2024

- Additional research and scenario development, with additional XB funding



- 17 April 2023: Joint SPECA Ministerial Statement highlighting goal to advance digitalization and green transformation in Central Asia

Activities in support of the SPECA Innovation Strategy for Sustainable Development:

- July 2022, Almaty: 3rd session of the SPECA Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development
 - Launch of the SPECA Network of Business Incubators and Accelerators for Sustainable Development:
 - 4 online trainings on technical aspects of running business incubators and accelerators
 - 2 policy dialogues on “Fostering innovation for the circular economy” and “Promoting women’s entrepreneurship”
- November 2022: UNECE fact-finding mission to Turkmenistan in view of joint review of innovation and trade policies
- March 2023: UNECE Policy Handbook on Supporting Innovative High-Growth Enterprises in the SPECA Sub-Region
- May-June 2023: Launch of two country-level capacity building programmes:
 - Uzbekistan: On innovation for the circular economy
 - Azerbaijan: On building a venture capital ecosystem



Capacity building follow-up to I4SDRs

Georgia and Republic of Moldova



Topics requested by the Governments:

- GEO: Innovation-enhancing procurement (IEP)
- MOL: Technology transfer

Beneficiaries:

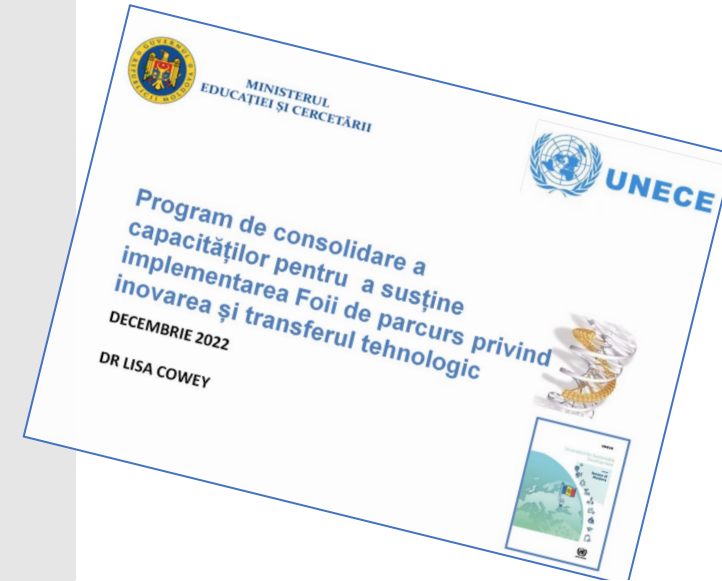
- State Procurement Agency of Georgia
- Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency
- Ministry of Education and Research of Moldova
- National Agency for Research and Development of Moldova, public research organizations

Activities:

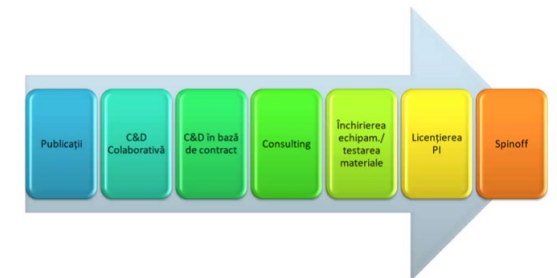
- Handbook on IEP for Georgia (also in Georgian)
- Sep 2022: Georgian policymakers study trip to Norway
- July-Oct 2022: Roadmap on Innovation and Technology Transfer for Moldova
- Dec 2022-Jan 2023: Online trainings to facilitate Roadmap implementation

Impact:

- New Georgian Public Procurement Law adopted Feb 2023
- Moldova Roadmap is informing the National Programme for Research and Innovation 2024-2027.



Spectrul de interacțiune TC/TT/SC





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Thank you!

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