# BANKING ON ECO INNOVATION

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'Banking on Eco Innovation' initiative (2012-2016) aims to accelerate technology transfer and deploy new approaches to help small to medium size companies (SME) increase earnings and competitiveness, expand offerings, and gain access to new markets.

Each regional partner project is designed to transfer eco innovations linking national governments and other public and private-sector partners.

These projects will use public procurement demand in innovative ways to support the deployment of eco innovation to SMEs. This initiative is based on three critical components:

- Technology and knowledge transfer;
- Deployment and support through local partners;
- Learning, sharing and training.

The critical components will be the feature and function of Eco Commerce Hubs (ECH). The emerging ECHs will serve specific communication and knowledge needs of individuals, organizations, and corporations across industries and borders. Highlights of the program to launch the include:

Pilot Countries: USA, Canada, Russia, Europe, Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America.

Duration: August 2012- 2016

Beneficiaries: SMEs.

## **Connecting SMEs to Eco Innovation**

The SME community is vast; there are many organizations representing SMEs including Governments (ministries & other agencies), UN agencies, local and international NGOs have been identified.

## Optimizing Efficiency Flows and Deploying Eco Innovation In New Ways

Government agencies and NGOs buy technologies through large competitive tenders. Through our pilot projects, Eco Innovators and Investors can join specific partner projects to introduce their solutions and deploy new approaches best suited to SMEs. These partner projects and new forms of competitive purchases and direct contracting are available through emerging ECHs. These regional hubs will serve as platforms for government agencies, NGOs, and SMEs providing them easy access to eco innovations and expertise. We also pioneer forward contracting that commits government agencies and NGOs to buy new technology from eco innovators in the future at an agreed price.

## **Partnerships**

Having government agencies and NGOs as a committed buyer serves as an incentive for eco innovators to increase their offerings to SMEs. A critical factor to the success of these projects however, is the wide range of partners to support eco innovators and SMEs throughout the entire value chain to:

- Improve skills:
- Accelerate deployment of new approaches;
- Share best practices and success stories;
- Deliver training to enhance individual's knowledge;
- Provide local hands-on advice and support.

#### Learning and Sharing

CEC has established many ways to capture and share valuable information through web-based hubs to monitor and evaluate success. Surveys and case studies will provide a detailed understanding of how improved efficiency flows will affect all partners. Collaboration will help connect NGO's, partners, and innovators through local Hubs with global reach. CEC global is identifying mechanisms to develop and deploy new innovations. The best approaches identified will be mainstreamed into CEC practices. The lessons drawn will be shared with individuals and organizations across web-based hubs to serve as a model.

## Contact

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