Technology Facilitation Mechanism
UN Women Inputs

Potential functions, format and working methods of a technology facilitation mechanism

o **Potential functions**

1. Identification of what technology needs to be "facilitated", including their relevance to women and men's needs and priorities
2. Identification of gaps/needs on the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies for women and men

   o Priority sectors where development, transfer and facilitation of clean and environmentally sound technologies are most wanting: Water, energy, agriculture, transport, health, oceans (para 160, 166); disaster-risk reduction (para 187); climate change (para 191); forests (para 193); chemicals and waste management (217); to contribute to advancing/promoting green economy policies (para 57 (f) and (i))

3. Exploring modalities for enhanced access to environmentally sound and gender sensitive technologies by developing countries (para 270) and for promoting investments in science, innovation and technology for sustainable development
   • Including through FDIs, international trade and other forms of international cooperation

4. Documenting and sharing of best practices in development, transfer and facilitation of clean and environmentally sound technologies, benefiting men and women, boys and girls.

5. Promoting research and development, in clean and environmentally sound technologies including through:
   • Encouraging the integration of a gender perspective in the science and technology curricula throughout all stages of education and continuous learning, and the use of gender-based analysis and gender impact assessments in research and development of clean and environmentally sound technologies Promoting a user-driven approach to environmentally clean and sound technology development in order to increase the relevance and usefulness of advancements in science and technology for both women and men
   • Building science and technology capacity including through collaboration among research institutions, universities, the private sector, governments, NGOs and scientists (para 272).
     ▪ This should include promoting women's enrollment and retention in science and technology education at all levels, including in engineering and mathematics, and increasing retention and progression of women in science and technology employment
     ▪ This should also include recognition of women's traditional knowledge and innovation, and of the potential of rural and indigenous women to contribute to the production of science and technology and of new knowledge.

   • Strengthening international, regional and national capacities in research and technology assessment and monitoring (with representation and participation of men and women scientists and researchers) from developing and developed countries

6. Identifying roles for various stakeholders:
   - Identifying roles for government
     - Governments to create enabling frameworks that foster environmentally sound and gender sensitive technology, research and development, and innovation (para 72)
   - Identifying partnerships and cooperation mechanisms to operationalize the mechanism
     - Identification of possible opportunities to facilitate public and private sector investment and partnership in technology development
     - Role for UN System, IFIs, regional banks, major stakeholders, etc.
   - **Format**

     - Ensure adequate geographical representation and gender balance
     - Consideration of cross-cutting issues, including gender equality and the empowerment of women

Potential contributions of your organization

1. Ensuring that gender equality considerations and commitments are taken into account in this process as well as the outcome of this process, including through:
   - Gender balance/adequate representation of women in any body, especially decision-making body that will be formed/created by this technology facilitation mechanism, and consideration of women's experiences and contributions in the work of such a body
   - Documenting good practice examples on the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies that empower women and girls and reduce their workload.
   - Having women as equal contributors and beneficiaries of specific programmes/projects that any technology facilitation mechanism will create

2. Advocating for investment in technology innovations and the development and facilitation of clean and environmentally sound technologies that would mostly benefit women and girls, especially in rural areas

3. Partnering with relevant UN organisations such as UNESCO to promote women's education in science and technology
4. Partnering with relevant UN organisations to facilitate the establishment of dialogue mechanisms involving key government officials and actors in technology facilitation, networks of women scientists and gender equality advocates to influence the development and facilitation of clean and environmentally sound technologies from a gender perspective. Offering its expertise to strengthen the skills of key actors involved in the development and facilitation of clean and environmentally sound technologies to ensure the incorporation of gender perspectives.

A list of partner organizations that you consider essential to be involved

1. Networks of women scientists and/or networks dealing with gender, science and technology
2. Gendered Innovations in Science, Health and Medicine, and Engineering (http://genderedinnovations.stanford.edu/), and in particular Professor Londa Schiebinger
3. Barefoot College (http://www.barefootcollege.org/) and in particular its founder Bunker Roy

4. Gender Advisory Board of the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development
5. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (focus on gender equality issues in agricultural technologies, for instance)
6. Practical Action (NGO that make technology work for women and men living in poverty – see http://practicalaction.org/)
7. Prolinnova (a network promoting local innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management – see http://www.prolinnova.net/)