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# High-level Study Visit to China on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the SDGs

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## INTRODUCTION

- Online + Offline Components = Successful TFM (TFM Assessment)
- China keen to leverage STI to achieve sustainable development
- China does this through ***National Strategy for Innovation Driven Development***
- Konza Technology City in Kenya: green field with opportunities to save carbon credits & develop a solar farm





## KENYA ICT ACTION NETWORK (KICTANET)

Benefits of pooling together to form KICTANET:

1. A multi-stakeholder network allowed us to pool together limited resources towards a common goal.
2. The network provided social legitimacy from the process of communicative action across sectors.
3. The individual members of the network were drawn from different institutions



## KICTANET START-UP & PROCESS (1)

Group that started recognized need for:

A steering committee representing the cross-section of stakeholders

Committee identified activities and sourced for new members to ensure wide representation

Founding members agreed to engage in ongoing outreach throughout the process

All the above done online but there was a clear need for offline engagement



## KICTANET START-UP & PROCESS (2)

- KICTANET kept the stakeholders engaged with the right information, match-making people, collaborative initiatives were born from this online platform. What helped?  
**TRUST!**
- The donors through IDRC gave it **LEGITIMACY** by giving the first seed funding to keep the platform going and facilitate the work of the steering committee
- Need for **CLARITY** in structure and process. Engaged a mix of IT specialists and content developers



## KICTANET START-UP & PROCESS (3)

- Save resources and **COMPLEMENT** other forms of information sharing and dissemination where possible e.g. work of UNEP, Climate Change groups etc.
- Offline engagement for **ENDORSEMENT**, did through cocktails
- **POLICY MAKERS OWNERSHIP**: The government sponsored a bigger meeting due to the discussions generated on this platform
- **CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORTS** for those needed to ensure the success of such a platform is key



## RELEVANT LESSONS FROM TFM INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT

- The online platform should support actual technology transfers via matchmaking, not be simply an information repository for policy/scientific information.
- An online platform alone is insufficient, and must be linked to the provision of technology transfer services offline.
- A key group of platform users is public agencies and private suppliers of such services within country-based innovation ecosystem.





## RELEVANT LESSONS FROM TFM INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT

- The platform is best structured as a network of country-based networks, which will distribute effort, financial costs and service provision and also lower overall cost.
- The platform will need a small team once it is fully operative, but it is crucial that it be permanently ‘animated’.
- The skill set of the human resource should not be limited to the IT domain, but rather focus on service development, process management and facilitation of networks.







Thank you!

