6th Session of the SPECA PWG on KBD

Ashgabat, 11 June 2014
Activities of the SPECA PWG on KBD since 5th session in Baku (4 December 2013)

- Completion of UN Development Account project “Building the capacity of SPECA countries to adopt and apply innovative green technologies for climate change adaptation”
  - Follow-up policy event held in Haifa, Israel: “Policy seminar on promoting the introduction of Green technologies”, 17-19 December 2013.
- Training materials in English and Russian also available.
Innovation Performance Reviews – implementation

Concept
Demand-driven, participatory policy advisory service (subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources)

Aims
Recommendations and policy options:
• stimulate innovation activity in the country
• enhance innovation capacity
• improve the overall efficiency of the national innovation system

Methods of work
• International team of experts
• Close collaboration with authorities and wide involvement of local experts
Innovation Performance Reviews - Structure

1. Recent economic and innovation performance
2. National innovation system and innovation governance
3. Framework conditions, innovation policies and instruments
4. Knowledge generation and absorption
5. Industry-science linkages and collaboration in the innovation process
6. Financing innovative entrepreneurs
7. The role of innovation in international economic integration

Annex. Prospective innovation-driven investment projects
Innovation Performance Reviews

Outputs

• Comprehensive assessment of current situation
• Detailed policy recommendations, elaborated in close collaboration with the countries’ public institutions
• Recommendations serve as a basis for further capacity-building activities, e.g. UNECE contributed to a seminar on a Methodology for the Development of Regional Innovation Systems in Kazakhstan, Astana, 19 April 2013 and organized a UNECE Policy Workshop on Public Support to Venture Capital, Astana, 28 May 2014
• A number of formal and informal expressions of interest from other countries for reviews in the future, e.g. Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan
• Support expressed by delegates at eighth session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, Geneva, 12-14 February 2014.
Other programme implementation since the fifth session

Implementation of the UNECE project “PPP Readiness Assessments in Selected Countries of Central Asia”

• Consultations and dialogue on the PPP Readiness Assessment of Kazakhstan were organized by UNECE and the PPP Centre of Kazakhstan in Astana, Kazakhstan, 9 April 2014.

• PPP Readiness Assessments now completed for Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

• Reports will be available online in English and Russian.

• Experts from SPECA countries contributed to other UNECE events, e.g. eighth session of the UNECE Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration, Geneva, Switzerland, 12-14 February 2014.
Upcoming activities

- Seventh session of the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies (TOS ICP), Geneva, 16-17 October 2014
- Innovation Performance Reviews in selected countries of the SPECA region, subject to:
  - Human resources
  - Extra-budgetary funding
- Sixth session of the Team of Specialists on Public-private partnerships (TOS PPP), Geneva, 23-24 June 2014.
- Substantive segment of the 6th session:
  - Developing international standards and best practices in PPPs: the activities of the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence, its Specialist Centres and the PPP Business Advisory Board
Thank you!

Christopher Athey
Economic Affairs Officer
Innovative Policies Development Section
E-mail: christopher.athey@unece.org
Telephone: +41(0)22 917 18 79