



International collaborations in research and innovation for climate change mitigation: A preliminary user guide

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International R&I collaboration on mitigation technologies



Mapping of international climate change mitigation research and innovation collaboration between the **European Union and developing countries**

Initiatives:

Government-to-government initiatives

Industry-to-industry initiatives

Region-to-region initiatives

Selection criteria:

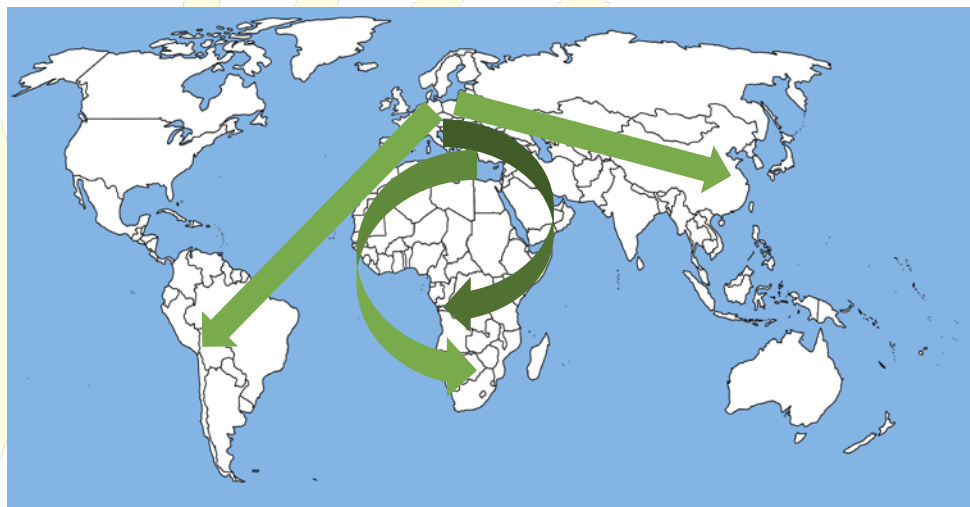
Large-scale, long-term R&I initiatives
(Flagship Initiatives)

R&I component

mutual technology cooperation and
mutual business interest



International R&I collaboration on mitigation technologies



Potential benefits to partners:

- Advance climate technology transfer across borders
- Deployment of climate technologies help to meet NDCs
- Collaborations strong driver of decarbonisation

Contribution of the report and policy briefs:

- Understand how international technology cooperation takes place
- Understand the drivers of depth and form of technology cooperation
- Increase awareness on bilateral collaborations and involvement of private sector

Key observations, issues and recommendations (1/4)

Observation:

“Additional objectives beyond the initiatives’ aim”

- Core objective may be climate mitigation, but focus or motivation of partners may differ
- At the political level projects are seen as opportunity to initiate dialogue and so specific goals may become less important

Issue:

Real drivers and motivations behind initiatives may not be as clear-cut as expressed in project proposals

Recommendation:

- Transparency: objective of both parties should be made explicit
- Clearly communicate project focus, roles and responsibilities

Key observations, issues and recommendations (2/4)

Observation:

- Focus on project measurable “output” instead of “outcome and impact” among project managers and sponsor

Issues:

- Outputs are measurable and often within control of project leaders, whereas outcomes reflect changes in policy, priorities or strategy and can therefore take time to come to effect

Recommendation:

- A stronger “outcome and impact focus” during project design, implementation, and follow-up so that regional collaboration projects move closer towards making a difference in policy and private sector decision making

Key observations, issues and recommendations (3/4)

Observation:

- Long-term projects run in several periods are more successful in transforming a technology from the innovation- to implementation and market diffusion stage
- Trust is often key to a successful collaboration

Issues:

- Projects need a “trust-building phase”, and often after this phase a sustained collaboration on technology innovation can begin.

Recommendation:

- Focus on trust building in which free knowledge exchange can occur.
- Stimulate prolonging collaboration beyond the projects first phase. A more formal framework allowing for long-term research may help.

Key observations, issues and recommendations (4/4)

Observations:

- Industries are often connected globally and have their own research units. They are well suited to participate in international collaborations for R&I
- Firms/industries are hesitant to engage in collaboration if profit gain is uncertain
- Firms are looking actively for new technology markets, developing economies may offer those

Issues:

- Opposing and conflicting ideas of potential project partners often hinder a successful engagement in mitigation collaboration

Recommendations:

- Find **mutual benefits**, highlight those and start building a relationship on what both partners have in common
- Focus on trust building in which free knowledge exchange can occur.

Thank you !

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