SESSION 5: KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

Johanna von Toggenburg, Associate Expert, SDPD

Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia

Advancing Green Technologies through Science-Policy Interface 5-6 April 2017, UN House, Beirut





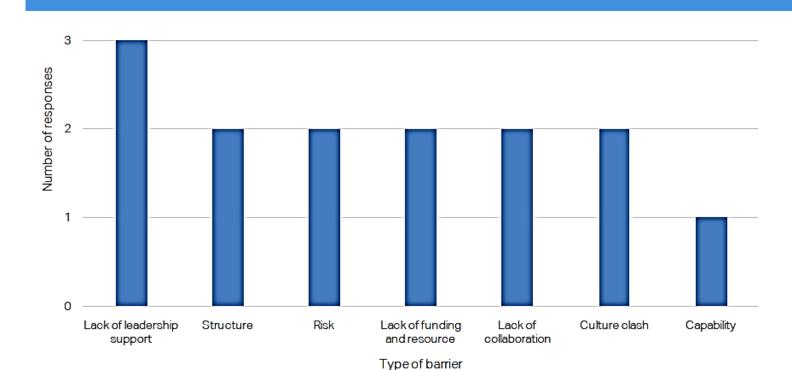
Bridges and barriers

Absorptive capacity of industry and businesses?

Start-ups vs. long established companies?



Major barriers to incubation



- 1. Lack of leadership support
- 2. Structure
- 3. Risk
- 4. Lack of funding and resource

- 5. Lack of collaboration
- 6. Culture clash
- 7. Capability

(World Business Council for Sustainable Development)

Changing attitudes



Science: Outcomes cannot be anticipated, science is uncertain,



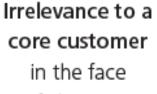
Business: Clear business case, profit, certainty





Competition requires innovation

The cost of inaction may be high...



of changing preferences Loss of purposedriven talent, particularly millennials Loss of market share in the face of competition or disruption by "born socials"

... and the potential is big.

Example: The global increase in middle income consumers4

Today



2030



4.9 billion

9 things best innovators do



Clear strategy

Focus on people (HR)

Listen to in-house knowledge

Use strengths across the whole business

Beyond R&D for products

Work with the right partners

Technology scouting

Dialogue with universities and research institutions

Inclusion of academic research in labs and technical units, cooperation programmes

(pwc and BESSE FP7)

Example: agriculture in the Arab region

• 83% of water withdrawals for agriculture but spending on agricultural water solutions is small (8% of global water market)

Technology opportunities

- Smart irrigation saves water, delivers it more efficiently, saves money
- biotechnology, precision agriculture → 20% yield increases

Barriers to adoption of more efficient irrigation technologies

- Lack of finance
- Education of farmers

Innovative farmers, niche companies with breakthrough technologies and investors backing them will be winners





Example: water and sanitation

Technology opportunities: monitoring, forecasts, organic nutrients and solids treatment, metal and organics removal

Barriers to adoption of more efficient water technologies

- Technological inertia: large investments and importance of continuity of service
- Community disengagement (sanitation not visible in most countries) and lack of social mobilization

Best practices:

Technological site visits, demonstrations, technology scouting, databases

© Copyright 2014 ESCWA. All rights reserved. No part of this presentation in all its property may be used or reproduced in any form without a written permission

Session 5: Knowledge Development for Industrial Green Technologies

- 1. How are scientific research institutions and industry connected in countries in the Arab region? What role does your institution play?
- 2. What are the barriers that prevent industry from testing, using and applying innovative green technologies?
- 3. What support do the scientists and the industry need to speed up the application of innovation in the industry? (i.e. collaboration at early stages, involvement of universities in finding solutions directly at the industry, scientists & industry collaborating on demonstration projects...)
- 4. How can open science contribute to innovation and what is the role of intellectual property rights?

THANK YOU!

Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia

