

OPENING STATEMENTS

**Opening address by
Rob Adam
Director-General
Department of Science and Technology
Republic of South Africa**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to this South Africa-OECD workshop on International Science and Technology Co-operation for Sustainable Development. I gather from the organising committee that we have representatives from 31 countries. It is indeed a privilege for my country to host you here today.

South Africa is among many developing countries and economies in transition engaged in working relationships with the OECD. Through our official observer status in the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP), South Africa, through its Department of Science and Technology, participates in all aspects and working groups related to the CSTP. We are of course delighted that the CSTP has prioritised South Africa along with India, Brazil, China and the Russian Federation, the so-called BRICS, for engagement in its outreach strategy.

South Africa is quite candid that this has been a very productive partnership for us. We have made extensive use of OECD publications, such as the guidelines, best practices and working documents in a way that has strongly informed the development of our national system of innovation since 1994. An example that stands out is the development of South Africa's science and technology indicators. These have now become part of the official statistics reporting system in my country. This has had major implications for expanding the profile of science and technology issues and played a not insignificant role in the President's decision to create a discrete Science and Technology Ministry in 2004. Apart from this accreditation, the OECD has also endorsed South Africa's R&D survey which now forms part of its Science and Technology Indicators publication.

Further at its last meeting, the CSTP approved a work plan to review the South African National System of Innovation next year. This will make South Africa one of the three non-OECD members who are currently involved in OECD National Reviews of Innovation Policy exercise. The other two are the People's Republic of China and Chile.

I would now like to highlight the role played, in the view of South Africa, by the Global Science Forum (GSF) which is a subsidiary body of the CSTP, in promoting international science and technology co-operation. Whilst we of course recognise and underscore the immense value of initiatives in dealing with themes such as neuro-informatics and high-energy physics, we are convinced that the GSF, in co-operation with the CSTP, could and should also meaningfully engage with the themes of international science and technology co-operation for sustainable development.

I would like to urge that we, within the ambit of the work of the GSF, pay specific attention to the involvement of developing countries in large-scale science and technology infrastructure projects, as a critical enabling mechanism for promoting mutually beneficial international science and technology co-operation and capacity-building. The success of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility is a prime example of what can be achieved. The location of facilities such as the Square Kilometre Array radio astronomy facility in developing countries, with important concurrent human resource and capacity-building benefits, should further also receive specific consideration.

Our participation in the Global Science Forum has informed our thinking of South Africa's strategic priorities and thrusts together with our strategic planning instruments such as the foresight programme. In fact South Africa's thrust in astronomy that now includes SALT and the SKA bid has in no small measure been informed by South Africa's interactions with the OECD GSF.

South Africa is privileged to have chaired the CSTP group responsible for drafting the OECD Ministerial Declaration on International Science and Technology Co-operation for Sustainable Development adopted in January 2004 and now the process that has culminated in this workshop, an important milestone in implementing the declaration.

This workshop on the development of our knowledge for and application of science, technology and innovation to sustainable development happens in a milestone year in the global development discourse. 2005 marks the 5th anniversary of the Millennium Summit and in recognition of this landmark world leaders convened again in September to review progress made in fulfilment of the goals of the Millennium Declaration. There is global consensus on the pivotal role science and technology needs to play in the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals. There are many that say that innovation remains the key to the attainment of the MDGs in this timeframe.

The challenges are clearly huge. Very few countries are going to be able to meet their MDG targets on their own. International co-operation provides a platform for us to learn and find innovative ways of taking ownership of our development.

By its very mandate, the OECD is about building partnerships among its members. More recently, as I have indicated earlier, the partnership opportunities have been extended to non-OECD members as well. The comparative data, analyses and forecasts provided underpin multilateral co-operation yet creating space for national understanding of the rules of the game. Global partnerships must be built around enhancing human capabilities, stimulating business development and increasing participation in the global economy. These partnerships must be strategically aligned with government policy and the long-term technological needs of developing countries. We must of course ensure that this happens in a sustainable development paradigm. We must organise our efforts to have a net positive effect after considering the economic, social and environmental factors and considerations.

The extension of this partnership to include members of the developing world and economies in transition will help us develop a global resource network around science and technology for sustainable development and hopefully we have a sufficiently action orientated outcome from this meeting to develop a global community of practice in this field.

In addition to the potential of this initiative to draw our countries together into a global partnership, it should also draw our regional and sub-regional initiatives closer together. Africa has a vibrant continental science and technology platform that operates under the political guidance of African Ministers of Science and Technology with the support of the African Union Commission and the NePAD Secretariat. Minister Mangena will talk more about this. In addition there are similar initiatives around water, energy and agriculture in Africa. I choose these as they relate directly to the topics we will be considering in this workshop. These initiatives would welcome interactions with appropriate regional and sub-regional counterparts in the Americas, Australasia and Europe.

We have the privilege to have a wealth of expertise in this room today to interrogate these issues innovatively and deliver a set of concrete actions to take international science and technology co-operation for sustainable development to the next level.

**Opening address by
Richard Manning
Chair
OECD Development Assistance Committee
and
OECD Annual Meeting of Sustainable Development Experts**

I am very pleased to have been invited to participate in this workshop, which brings together two of my main interests – the development of poor countries and sustainable development for all.

In my role as Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), I work with OECD countries to co-ordinate and improve the effectiveness of bilateral assistance provided by OECD donors to developing countries. In my role as Chair of the OECD Annual Meeting of Sustainable Development Experts (AMSDE), I work with OECD countries to promote economic growth which is made more sustainable by giving full attention to environmental and social impacts.

And in representing the OECD, I also want to underline that Science and Technology Ministers, at their OECD Ministerial meeting in 2004, issued a Declaration on International Science and Technology Co-operation for Sustainable Development – which, among other things, stressed the need to strengthen the innovation capacities of developing countries.

OECD countries recognise that they have a special responsibility to reduce poverty and to shape globalisation to the benefit of non-OECD countries, particularly the least developed. They also realise that the focus on official development assistance (ODA) in monetary terms must be supplemented with increasing aid effectiveness through capacity-building in developing countries. And there is growing acknowledgement that greater consideration must be given to environmental and social aspects alongside the purely economic inputs to development.

Science and technology can play an important role in making the economic, environmental and social dimensions of the development process more sustainable. Economically, science and technology are the main drivers of productivity increases in all sectors, from manufacturing to agriculture, and the basis of economic growth. Environmentally, science and technology provide the answers for managing resources and reducing pollution, addressing climate change and preserving biodiversity. Socially, science and technology help reduce disease and safeguard our health and well-being while maintaining the general quality of life.

This workshop will address how international co-operation in science and technology can further these three inter-related aspects of the development process. I am pleased that this workshop has a very concrete focus in looking at good practices in international S&T co-operation and, more specifically, in the areas of water and energy.

In terms of good practices, we should at the end of the workshop have identified generally what works and what does not in terms of technology transfer, enhancing capacities to absorb technologies, and building networks and partnerships. I am interested, among other things, in how donor support in these areas is perceived, and how it might be made more effective. My own experience in a bilateral aid agency suggested to me that there is a large unfinished agenda here.

In the water and energy fields, I hope that the discussion will help to identify specific technologies and approaches which are effective in improving water management and increasing energy efficiency in the varied circumstances of developing countries. We have our work cut out for us. In addition to developing a list of cross-thematic and sector-specific good practices, we are tasked with trying to formulate indicators of good practice.

By bringing together international organisations, governments, business, academics and other stakeholders, this workshop should be able to develop a broad view of these issues and come up with some interesting and innovative approaches. International organisations such as the OECD have a special role in fostering international co-operation through making use of our ability to tap in to the knowledge and expertise of different policy communities. This is true in relation to S&T as it is for other areas. It is our mission to bring countries together to co-ordinate their activities in specific areas such as environment, development or science policy.

From the sustainable development perspective, we are now trying to promote more joint activities and decision making by different ministries of governments. For example, development and environment ministries are forging new synergies. In the OECD, we have a joint Environment/Development Ministerial Meeting in April 2006. The aim is to develop a Common Plan of Action to support the integration of environment and poverty reduction at country level.

In the future, we can envisage joint meetings between environment, development and science and technology policy communities or other combinations such as finance and environment or development and energy, at whatever level is most appropriate.

One good practice which is at the core of sustainable development is the need for policy coherence and for different agencies of government to work together. This workshop is a first step in that direction. I am looking forward to helping develop practical recommendations for co-operation which will have real impacts on policy making in both OECD and non-OECD countries.

**Keynote address by
Mosibudi Mangena
Minister of Science and Technology
Republic of South Africa**

We have come to accept that in this rapidly globalising world, those countries that have a higher level of investment in the knowledge economy will be the more successful ones both in their ability to compete internationally, and in meeting the needs of their peoples. We also accept that the knowledge economy is driven by innovation, science and technology. In many respects science, technology and innovation has become the key to breaking the codes that will enable us to move towards global sustainable development.

This workshop, hosted under the auspices of the OECD Committee for Science and Technology Policy, has an important contribution to make to further the global sustainable development agenda as enunciated in Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Therefore, I am deeply humbled that you have offered my country the opportunity to host this event. I am also impressed by the enthusiasm, commitment and the drive of the organisers, contributors and participants in the run-up to the event. This gathering will seek to bring out your creativity, as you seek to find new and innovative mechanisms for international co-operation and collaboration in science and technology for sustainable development. This gathering is also critical for the developing world to form new partnerships. These partnerships, both south-south and north-south, will assist those living in the developing world to find solutions for their basic needs such as sustainable access to clean water and energy, and strengthen country initiatives to meet other Millennium Development Goals through a sustainable development paradigm.

We must point out that the issues are no longer clearly North and South. Increasingly, there are pockets of poverty and under-development in the North as there are new pockets of affluence in the South. In this context, we will all become the net beneficiaries of sharing experiences, knowledge, and where appropriate, also resources. South Africa fully subscribes to the principles of international co-operation on science and technology. This is informed by the simple rationale that the nature of innovation, science and technology is collaborative, and is nurtured by constant dialogue and co-operation.

It was through the collective efforts of the majority of her people, in partnership with the international community, that South Africa was able to ring a death knell of apartheid. Through the goodwill and collective effort of the global community, it is equally possible to repeat a similar feat, and steer the world back on a course of sustainable development and prosperity. What is important is for individual governments to provide enabling environments for the various actors within the system of innovation to collaborate across the globe. We hope that the deliberations of this week will facilitate networks for international co-operation and collaboration, and provide case studies for good practices on thematic issues under discussion.

I now wish to comment briefly on the themes of this workshop – water and energy. I understand they have been chosen to coincide with the work programme of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development.

Water and Energy are core issues in every part of the world. For the developing world, the question of access and resource availability is paramount. For the developed world, it is issues of demand management and efficiency that are important. Your deliberations will possibly reveal that these are in fact two sides of the same coin. Usually named as the key catalysts for conflict, water and energy issues can, through constructive engagement, become the bridges for world peace and sustainable development.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development identified energy as a high priority. Access to energy, through conventional and alternative means and energy efficiency is the cornerstone to sustainable development. This issue has had increased prominence recently with the implementation of extraordinarily high crude oil prices. All of our economies have had rude reminders that we need to develop new, and accelerate the implementation of existing alternative energy and energy efficiency strategies. Failure to do this will inevitably launch us on a tragic pathway of global energy crisis. Other drivers towards the same end are the attendant issues of pollution and climate change. Therefore, the need for implementing better conservation and demand management measures of world resources has never been more compelling.

To this end, contributions that alternative sources such as hydro- (large and small), nuclear, solar, wind and biomass can make towards enhancing the energy mix of most global scenarios, can never be underestimated. Such initiatives as the International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy, are becoming increasingly prominent, and during the course of this week, my officials will share with you South Africa's plans in this regard.

The availability of clean water is another important theme under consideration by this gathering. Water is the source of life. Throughout history, in many parts of the world water has been both the driver of development and source of great conflicts. Despite the inordinate effort, usually put in by women and girls, to bring water into homes, in the African culture, not even an enemy could be denied water if he asked for it. And to this day, water is still linked to food security, health security, environmental security and trade in both the developing and the developed world.

This workshop will examine possibilities for co-operation along the entire water value chain, from better understanding of the water cycle, to smarter ways of ensuring, both in terms of quantity and quality, access for human and ecological needs.

A key challenge to scientists is to communicate ideas and outcomes in accessible ways. We need to simplify these concepts so that a person in the street can also understand how international co-operation can help solve the problems associated with the supply of basic needs and poverty eradication.

Perhaps our greatest challenge in the knowledge economy is the ability to develop and maintain sufficient scientific human capital. Issues of brain drain, aging research populations, and low interest in careers on scientific R&D among young people are sources of major concern, especially for developing countries such as South Africa.

To address some of the grave anomalies, especially in the research and development system inherited from our past dispensation, the South African government has developed an elaborate legislative and regulatory framework to encourage accelerated skills development. The challenge facing our young democracy to rapidly enlarge our science base through increasing the number of science, engineering and technology graduates, with a particular focus on the inclusion of women and Blacks. The National Research and

Development Strategy has been a key policy instrument aimed at unlocking the potential for Science and Technology skills.

My mission is to ensure that all our citizens are availed increased opportunities to acquire appropriate research and development skills to venture into all fields of scientific endeavour, especially in areas where South Africa has geographical advantage. My department is involved in several human capital development initiatives, including the development of the Youth into Science Strategy, funding of post-doctoral studies, professional development, as well as establishing Centres of Excellence. My department has entered into a collaborative relationship with the Department of Education to address the scarce SET skills.

This workshop should not only develop models for inter-country collaborations; it should also encourage mutually beneficial inter-regional co-operations.

Allow me, ladies and gentlemen, to spend a minute or two on some of the recent important developments on this continent. In response to an African Union Summit Resolution, two years ago, South Africa hosted the Inaugural meeting of the African Ministers of Science under the auspices of NePAD. This meeting launched the African Ministers' Council on Science and Technology (AMCOST), and adopted a framework for the development of a business plan for S&T on the continent. In September this year, at the second meeting of AMCOST in Senegal, Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action was adopted as the blueprint for Science and Technology in Africa. The plan was applauded by member states, as well as many of our international partners who attended the meeting. The meeting was also peppered with a series of side events, which dealt with issues relating to the progress being made in key initiatives under this banner. These included the African Laser Centre, The BioSciences Initiative, the Water Sciences Initiative, and the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences. This relatively young regional platform is already developing a history that is giving us great pride.

Inter-regional, country-to-country, institution-to-institution and people-to-people co-operation will ultimately constitute the foundations to successful global sustainable development.

This workshop will, I am sure, explore best practices of international science and technology co-operation for sustainable development and various science and technology initiatives, which could strengthen science and technology co-operation between the developing and the developed world.

During your next two days of deliberation, we hope that you will be able to develop sufficient momentum to significantly narrow the "science and technology divide" between the developing and the developed world. I also urge you, as many of you have come a long way, to take a little time to explore and experience some of the treasures of beautiful South Africa.

RAPPORTEUR'S SUMMARY

by

Candice Stevens

OECD Sustainable Development Advisor

Goals of the workshop

The goals of the Workshop on International Scientific and Technological Co-operation for Sustainable Development, held in South Africa on 21-22 November 2005 and jointly sponsored by the OECD and the South African Department of Science and Technology, were presented in the two opening sessions. The speakers included Mosibudi Mangena, South African Minister of Science and Technology; Calestous Juma, Professor at Harvard University and Co-ordinator of the UN Millennium Project Task Force on Science, Technology and Innovation; and Richard Manning, Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the OECD Annual Meeting of Sustainable Development Experts (AMSDE).

These goals were to:

- Identify good practices in international science and technology co-operation for sustainable development;
- Attempt to develop indicators of these good practices;
- Identify effective modes for S&T partnerships in the water and energy sectors with specific examples; and
- Recommend approaches for the fuller integration of science and technology dimensions in sustainable development policies.

As Yukiko Fukasaku, OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, explained, the workshop had its roots in the Declaration that Science and Technology Ministers adopted on International Science and Technology Co-operation for Sustainable Development at their Ministerial level meeting in 2004. The Declaration, among other things, stressed the need to strengthen the innovation capacities of developing countries to further sustainable growth. OECD countries recognise that they have a special responsibility to reduce poverty and to shape globalisation to the benefit of non-OECD countries, particularly the least developed, and that science and technology should play a greater role.

All speakers stressed the need to bring together the development community with science and technology experts and with those more broadly interested in operationalising sustainable development concepts. The focus on official development assistance (ODA) in monetary terms must be supplemented with increasing aid effectiveness through capacity-building in developing countries. There is growing acknowledgement that greater consideration must be given to environmental and social aspects alongside the purely economic inputs to development. Science and technology can play an important role in making the economic, environmental and social dimensions of the development process more sustainable.

Economically, science and technology are the main drivers of productivity increases in all sectors, from manufacturing to agriculture, and the basis of economic growth. Environmentally, science and technology provide the answers for managing resources and reducing pollution, addressing climate change and preserving biodiversity. Socially, science and technology help reduce disease and safeguard health and well-being while maintaining the general quality of life.

The workshop was intended to address how international co-operation in science and technology can further these three inter-related aspects of the development process. It had a concrete focus on good practices in international S&T partnerships, specifically in the areas of water and energy. In terms of good practices, participants examined what works and what doesn't in three areas: *i*) enhancing capacities to absorb technologies, *ii*) transferring technology, and *iii*) building knowledge networks. In breakout sessions, participants worked to identify specific technologies and approaches which are effective in improving water management and increasing energy efficiency in the varied circumstances of developing countries. In addition to developing a list of cross-thematic and sector-specific good practices, participants were tasked with formulating indicators of good practice.

Good practices in S&T partnerships

The primary theme of the workshop was the identification of good practices in international partnerships in science and technology for sustainable development, both generally and in the areas of capacity-building, technology transfer, and knowledge networks.

As Minister Mangena and Calestous Juma emphasised, S&T partnerships should generally aim at long-term development and not at short-term relief for developing countries. Partnerships should construct a process of collective learning rather than a one-way transfer of knowledge. They should be based on data and indicators which allow for learning, feedback and evaluation. An essential component is to include training for those involved in partnerships so as to develop long-lasting human skills. Incentives could be included to help reverse the brain drain from developing countries. Such partnerships, which can be both North-South and South-South, should also be public/private in nature and involve governments, business and other stakeholders. On the government side, strong political commitment and an all-of-government approach are needed to ensure policy coherence.

In terms of good practices in capacity-building in S&T partnerships, John Mugabe, from the Secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), emphasised a bottom-up approach. Partnerships should be linked to local communities and use indigenous small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as suppliers in an effort to develop entrepreneurial skills and support start-up firms. They should build on the practical experiences of communities and on indigenous technologies. Businesses, unions, non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders at the local level should be involved in the partnerships. A prominent role should be given to universities so as to ensure an intergenerational transfer of information and knowledge. In building capacity, S&T partnerships should above all take into consideration the effects on and costs and benefits for future generations.

Good practices in technology transfer in S&T partnerships were presented by two business representatives: Wendy Poulton of ESKOM, the South African electricity supply company, and Uwe Brekau of Bayer. They both stressed a demand-driven approach where consumers are educated on the benefits and use of technologies, and programmes are implemented to promote sustainable consumption. Without enlightened consumers, business investments in sustainable technologies will not yield useful results. Technologies transferred between countries should be appropriate to the locality in terms of costs, content and skills. Local technological content should be assured while existing, basic technologies are often most suitable for developing countries. Necessary infrastructure should be built for the appropriate use of the technology, and social and cultural aspects should be considered in adapting technology to local needs.

Building long-lasting knowledge networks is another good practice in S&T partnerships. This topic was addressed by Bob Hawkins of the World Bank and Shem Arungu-Olende of the African Academy of Science. Mr. Hawkins stressed the need to make maximum use of information technology, which would require improving the IT infrastructure in many African countries, increasing networking capacity and inter-linkages in the African region, and particularly augmenting bandwidth. As explained by Dr. Olende, such networks should build on local and national innovation systems which link business, universities and local actors in realising knowledge synergies. The integration of networked universities and centres of excellence is especially important. Knowledge networks must build on regional collaboration in Africa. With the increasing globalisation of industry, efforts should be made to integrate local African firms and suppliers into international industry supply chains.

Sectoral approaches: water and energy

Special breakout sessions were held to discuss effective approaches to S&T partnerships in the water and energy sectors. These included many technical presentations by a wide array of speakers.

As explained by the rapporteurs of the water session, Bruno Bordage and Teddie Muffels, S&T partnerships should generally aim at increasing access to safe drinking water and ensuring adequate water supplies for agriculture and industry. Many speakers stressed the need for integrated water management systems which treat national, regional and local water resources as ecosystems and consider technical, economic, environmental and social aspects in tandem. Technologies for water treatment and sanitation as well as for more efficient irrigation are particularly needed and should be affordable and suited to local conditions. Technologies for water recycling and increasing the reuse of wastewater are essential to enhancing water productivity in all sectors of the economy. National

water monitoring systems, including satellites, should be strengthened. In terms of local policies, appropriate water pricing and the removal of distorting subsidies would rationalise the distribution of water and increase access to a wider population.

The rapporteurs of the energy session, Alicia Mignone and Linda Manyuchi, concluded that a main aim of S&T partnerships should be to increase access to affordable energy supplies in developing countries based largely on existing technologies. Partnerships are needed to increase energy efficiency in end-use applications, including in appliances, buildings and housing, as well as in generation and transmission. Eco-labelling and consumer education are among the routes to achieving more efficient energy use. Greater application of clean energy technologies is needed in industrial sectors such as minerals, chemicals and construction. Competitive markets should be created for renewable energy sources such as solar, wind and biomass, although these are still relatively expensive for these countries. As in the case of water, ensuring appropriate energy pricing and reducing distorting subsidies would level the playing field for greater energy access.

Indicators of good practices

Developing indicators to measure the extent of good practices in S&T partnerships for sustainable development was among the tasks of the workshop. Fred Gault, Director at Statistics Canada and Chair of the OECD Group of National Experts on S&T Indicators (NESTI), and Michael Kahn, Director at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) of South Africa, suggested a number of avenues for thinking about such metrics. Qualitative and quantitative measures of the partnership good practices identified above (*e.g.* timeframe, actors, local links, technological content, etc.) would be difficult but not impossible to formulate. Lessons could also be learned from broader exercises aimed at evaluating and assessing the success of various types of partnerships.

A practical approach would be to develop case studies of the measurement of good partnership practices, perhaps selecting cases from the SD partnership inventory maintained by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). Techniques developed in the Community Innovation Survey (CIS), which surveys firms on the sources of their ideas for innovative products and processes, could be applied to identifying effective approaches to S&T partnerships. In this way, questionnaires to those involved in international S&T partnerships (*e.g.* in the water and energy areas) could develop indications of the structure, content and workings of these partnerships, including their relative impacts on capacity-building, technology transfer and networking.

Recommendations from the workshop

Two sets of recommendations emerged from the workshop: one set regarding the better integration of science and technology with development policy, and the other on improving the linkages between science and technology and sustainable development.

In an OECD context, linking S&T with development is a task for the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP) and the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The CSTP could expand its innovation policy reviews of non-member countries, which have been initiated for South Africa and China. The results of these country reviews, and concepts relating to national innovation systems, could be integrated in DAC country studies. The CSTP indicators group, NESTI, could devote more resources to developing S&T indicators for non-member countries and to exploring approaches for measuring good practices in S&T partnerships.

More broadly, the CSTEP and the DAC could jointly examine the role of science and technology in development co-operation and how technological aspects could be more fully factored into official development assistance and donor programmes. The DAC database on donor ex-post evaluation studies could be applied to developing donor views on good practice in funding S&T co-operation for development. Specific topics to be examined at the S&T/development interface include human resource issues such as fostering S&T skills in developing countries and approaches to stemming the brain drain from these countries. Generic CSTEP issues, such as the development of centres of excellence and increasing access to scientific data, are often relatively more important to non-OECD countries.

Science and technology concerns can also be more fully integrated into the work programme of the OECD Annual Meeting of Sustainable Development Experts (AMSDE) in the following ways:

- Including the workshop findings concerning good practices in S&T partnerships (and related indicators) in ongoing work on developing methodologies for evaluating sustainable development partnerships.
- Incorporating approaches to building national innovation systems in recommendations for good practices in national sustainable development strategies (NSDS).
- Including S&T indicators (*e.g.* for intellectual capital) in compilations of sustainable development statistics and indicators.
- Integrating the results of this workshop in the OECD submission to UNCSD-14 (May 2006) on the themes of energy, industry, climate change and air pollution.
- Sponsoring a follow-up conference on S&T and sustainable development in 2006–2007 to advance the work on identifying good practices in S&T partnerships for sustainable development (examining new topics such as biodiversity and natural resource management).

Conclusions

By bringing together international organisations, governments, business, academics and other stakeholders, this workshop succeeded in developing a broad view of the central issues in S&T partnerships for sustainable development and coming up with some interesting and innovative approaches to enumerating and measuring good practices. The many technical presentations (which are included in this volume) provide a practical foundation for the content of partnerships in the water and energy sectors.

International organisations such as the OECD have a special role in fostering international co-operation through making use of our ability to tap into the knowledge and expertise of different policy communities. It is the OECD mission to bring countries together to co-ordinate their activities in specific areas such as environment, development or science policy. From the sustainable development perspective, the OECD is trying to promote more joint activities and co-ordinated decision making by different government ministries and agencies. For example, development and environment ministries are forging new synergies and will have a joint OECD Environment/Development Ministerial Meeting in April 2006. The aim is to develop a Common Plan of Action to support the integration of environment and poverty reduction at country level.

A good practice which is at the core of sustainable development is the need for policy coherence and whole-of-government decision making to consider the combined economic, environmental and social impacts of policies and programmes. This workshop is one step forward in applying a sustainability perspective to the development process. In the future, joint sessions of different policy communities will act to advance sustainable development in OECD and non-OECD countries, *e.g.* dialogue between environment, development and science and technology delegates or other combinations such as finance and environment or development and energy, at whatever level is most appropriate.

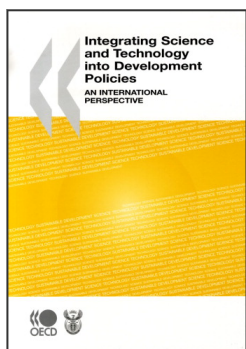
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