



UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



## GCIP Knowledge Sessions @ COP27

Advancing cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship  
for climate action

### Sector Dialogue: Designing Impactful Cleantech Innovation Challenges

8 November 2022 | 16:00 - 17:00 (Cairo Time) | South Africa/National Business  
Initiative Pavilion at COP27



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### Event partners

Network for Global  
Innovation

Cleantech Group

National  
Initiative

Business

Technology  
Innovation Agency



NETWORK  
FOR GLOBAL  
INNOVATION



Cleantech  
Group



NBI  
National Business Initiative



### Context

Cleantech innovations have the potential to impact the major challenges in the climate crisis and environmental degradation. Understanding this, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has established the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) for emerging markets and developing economies, to identify and foster high-impact innovations with a focus on sustainable industrial, economic and social development.

The programme combines business acceleration with a focus on developing supportive ecosystems, a transformative systems approach to the cleantech industry development.

The programme operates in emerging and developing economies and is now being implemented and developed in fifteen countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Namibia, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Viet Nam. It already has a track record of having supported approximately 1,250 companies, of which at least 35% are women-led enterprises in previous country projects over the past eight years.

Against this backdrop UNIDO is co-hosting a side event **“Sector Dialogue: Designing Impactful Cleantech Innovation Challenges”** as part of the GCIP Knowledge Sessions at COP27. The aim is to provide a platform for the exchange of cutting-edge knowledge and insights among sector and industry experts.

### Event Purpose

The **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**, through the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP), is co-organizing a sector dialogue on the design, best practices and design of successful Cleantech Innovation Challenges together with its partners - **the Network for Global Innovation (NGIN), the Cleantech Group (CTG)** and **Technology Innovation Agency of South Africa (TIA)** - and in cooperation with the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** of South Africa.

The purpose of the innovation challenges would be to find and foster high-impact cleantech innovations from around the world that find application and impact in developing countries. The challenges are to be defined in consultation with institutional and private sector partners that can support the identified innovations by immediately securing clients and investment for the solution, increasing efficiency and effectiveness in scale-up. To this end, partnerships with entities that can define and invest in the specific challenges are key for the challenges.

Through this knowledge sharing session, UNIDO, NGIN and other key stakeholders will have a dialogue discussion on how innovation challenges can be designed and executed with corporate partners to increase its impact.

### Expected event outcomes

- Identify promising programme models, frameworks, and public-private partnerships for innovation challenges that can ensure the adoption of innovative solutions
- Highlight areas in which institutions and the private sector can collaborate to increase the development, financing and uptake of high potential innovations
- Highlight to audiences how **a challenge approach** supports the development of game changing cleantech innovations in emerging and developing economies and is especially relevant to the African continent.
- Grow **the GCIP community** by inviting and engaging new **stakeholders into this global network**.

### Target audiences

- GCIP stakeholders and beneficiaries:
  - National Executing Entities of the GCIP Partner Countries
  - Global Executing Partners (Network for Global Innovation, Cleantech Group)
  - GCIP alumni from the previous cycles

- Prospective private sector and financing partners
- Cleantech ecosystem actors including international/regional/national institutions and organizations
- Civil society organizations and networks
- Current and prospective donors and partners
- Media representatives

### Moderators

Gerswynn Mckuur - United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Kevin Braithwaite - Network for Global Innovation (NGIN)

### Event Programme

Time	Agenda item	Leading speaker(s)
16:00-16:05	<b>Welcome remarks and session introduction</b>	<b>Gerswynn Mckuur</b> , UNIDO - Global Cleantech Innovation Programme
16:05-16:15	<b>Scene Setting: Framing the need for innovation challenges</b>	<b>Kevin Braithwaite</b> , Network for Global Innovation (NGIN) - <b>virtual participation</b>
16:15-16:55	<b>Dialogue</b> Designing Cleantech Innovation Challenges for impact following lessons learnt and past experiences from UNIDO and GCIP partners and networks	All panelists engaged in discussion: <b>National Business Initiative</b> (Speaker TBC) <b>Lucy Chatburn</b> , Cleantech Group (CTG) – <b>virtual participation</b> <b>Climatech Run/IAAI GloCha</b> (Speaker TBC) <b>Verena Adamheit</b> , Senior Business Developer, from the Swedish Energy Agency <b>Senisha Moonsamy</b> (Technology Innovation Agency) <b>Chris Thorpe</b> , Inseco <b>Sandiswa Qayi</b> , AET Africa
16:55-17:00	<b>Wrap-up and closing remarks</b>	<b>Gerswynn Mckuur</b> , UNIDO - Global Cleantech Innovation Programme

## Event Format

The event will take place on 8 November 2022, between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the COP27 Pavilion of the National Business Initiative/Government of South Africa. The event “**Sector Dialogue: Designing Impactful Cleantech Innovation Challenges**” will be held in a hybrid format via Zoom Events and will be livestreamed to the NBI YouTube Channel. **The event language is English.**

## Guiding questions

Panelist	Guiding questions
1. Industry Expert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Why is</u> there a need for setting industry- and sector-specific cleantech innovation challenges <u>and why?</u></li> <li>• In South Africa which sectors are currently in most need of innovative cleantech solutions, to realize a step change towards low-carbon operations?</li> <li>• How can industries, programmes (institutions) and innovators best collaborate to adopt and proliferate high impact cleantech solutions?</li> <li>• What kinds of processes, mechanisms and guarantees help moderate industrial partners risk appetite for the piloting and adoption of new technology?</li> </ul>
2. Lucy Chatburn (CTG), IAAI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are some of the main considerations when designing a cleantech innovation challenge</li> <li>• Have you seen key (environmental) impacts that have been achieved through the Innovation Challenges that you have conducted?</li> <li>• What were some success factors and how can these be replicable for cleantech innovation challenges to the benefit of developing countries? <b>and</b> What are some of the learnings?</li> </ul>
3. GCIP Alumni: Chris Thorpe, Inseco Sandiswa Qayi, AET Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>How important are corporate partners to the growth and scaling-up of your venture? If you could wish freely, W</u>what kind of support and collaboration would you like to have with multinational corporations to advance the development and impact of your businesses?</li> <li>• How important are corporate partners to scale up and widespread adoption of your innovative solutions?</li> <li>• How can industries, programmes (institutions) and innovators best collaborate to adopt and proliferate high impact cleantech solutions?</li> </ul>

4. **Senisha Moonsamy** (Technology Innovation Agency)

- How can innovative technology solutions tackle some of the biggest energy and challenges facing South Africa? How is TIA helping to ensure that indigenous innovations from across South Africa can tackle these challenges? What role could corporate partners play?
- How can collaboration between South African corporations, technology innovators and entrepreneurs spark solutions to key energy and climate challenges?
- What is the role of public sector financing vs. the private sector financing when ensuring the commercialisation, growth and scale up of innovations?
- How can industries, programmes (institutions) and innovators best collaborate to adopt and proliferate high impact cleantech solutions
- Do you see a progressive change in risk appetite of financiers towards cleantech? How is TIA

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Verena Adamheit (Sweden's Energy Agency)

- How can multinational corporations best support Green startups and SMEs in piloting and launching their products in new markets?
- What are the main obstacles faced when SMEs collaborate with multinationals for this cause? How can the startup - corporate collaboration for climate impact be facilitated?
- What are some of the key energy innovations that are currently needed and how could entrepreneurs fill the missing gaps with innovative solutions?

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