



## **Establishing National Technology Development and Transfer Systems in Selected ESCWA Member States**

### **A1.2: National Study: Relevant Policies for Establishing an Effective System of Strategic Innovation and Technology Transfer” Consultant Terms of Reference**

#### **1. Background**

This study falls under the Development Account (DA) project on “Establishment of National Technology Transfer Offices (NTTO) in Selected ESCWA Countries (Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and Oman)”. The project aims to enhance national innovation system capacity through updating related policies and the establishment of National Technology Transfer Offices (NTTO) linked to universities and research institutions facilitating the partnership between the research community and economic development sector, the industry and relevant governmental and nongovernment actors. This is crucial for the development of a sustained and purposeful national technology sector. This sector can help to:

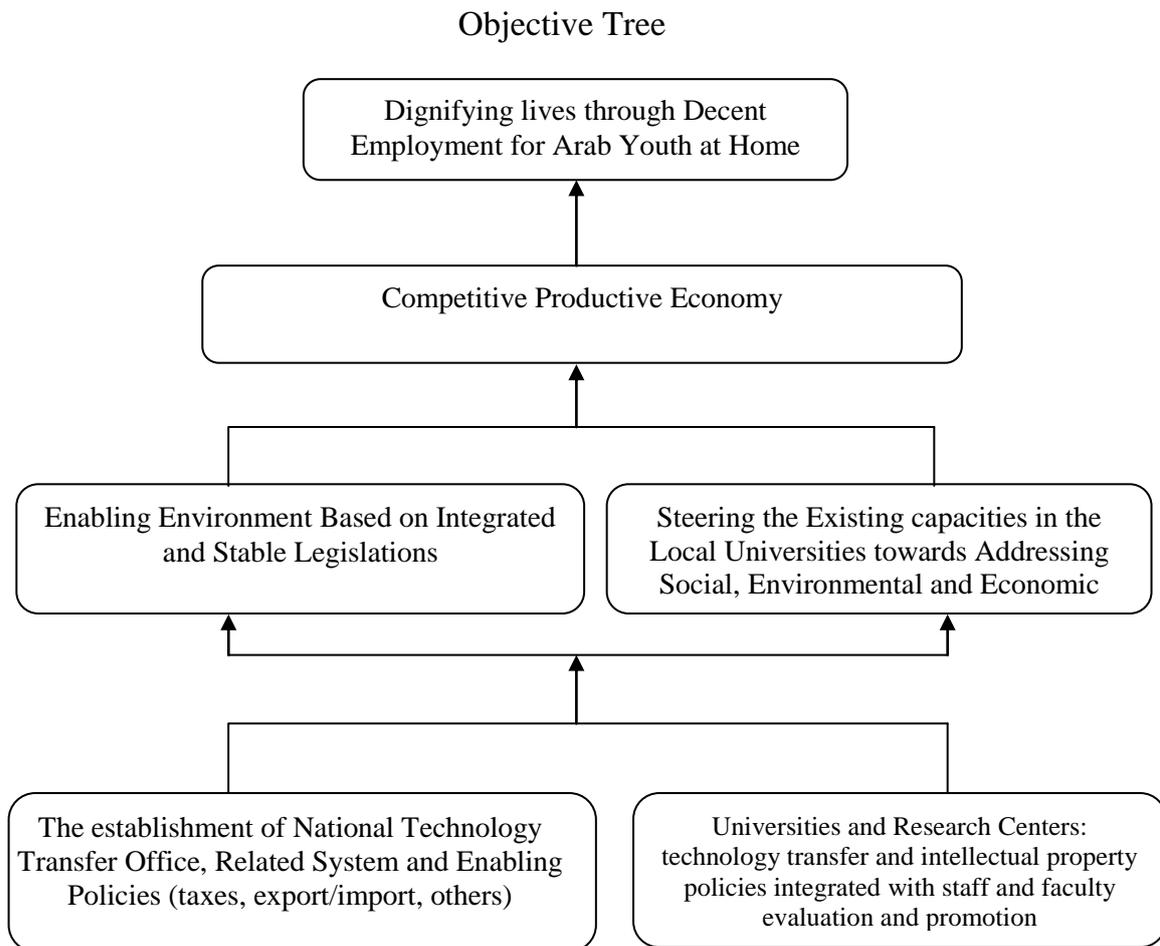
1. Delinking economic / industrial development from imported technologies in critical sectors thus reduce technological dependency;
2. Providing economic incentives to innovators;
3. Creating a new source of income for educational sector through proper licensing structures and property right structures;
4. Establish a productive R&D culture that can go beyond basic research and into industrial applications.

NTTOs will help to integrate capacity of innovators, investors, entrepreneurs and researchers who are developing new technological solutions to the sustainability challenges and strategic needs of the national economy. NTTOs can help provide services such as policy advice to relevant government ministries, scouting IP value in research through working closely with researchers highlighting potential economic values in their activities and showing ways to valorize these potentials, patent drafting and protection, valuation and evaluation, and a menu of other support activities in the field of technology commercialization and industrial consulting. The NTTO must also contribute to linking and matching local capacity with multinational corporations seeking local partnerships and shared development and production values.

The institutions coordinating the NTTO activities are expected to use their own resources (office and staff after engagement with this project) for establishing the new units.

## 2. Problem analysis

The readiness to accommodate technology transfer system was clearly displayed through conducted activities and advisory requests received from targeted countries (Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon and Oman). Identifying the gaps based on SWOT analysis conducted by ETC, relevant innovation table indicators highlighting High and Low rankings and data formulated the partial picture that justifies the SWOT analysis pillars which differ from one country to another in the project. However, common objective tree is valid for all 5 countries.



## 3. Objectives

Prepare national studies, in each target country, to determine gaps in relevant current government policies and institutional university counterparts that might hinder the establishment of an effective system of strategic innovation and technology transfer. R&D Incentives, IP protection, and other relevant policies impact directly the effectiveness of the national innovation system. The study will include recommendations on the way forward to identify policy gaps and make recommendations to the next steps.



#### **4. Tasks to be performed**

Based on the above objectives and to set up the basis of relevant structure for establishing an “effective system of strategic innovation and technology transfer”, the consultant shall perform the following tasks:

- Review all the relevant national and institutional existent policies relevant to the process of innovation and technology transfer systems;
- Analyze, and assess the current situation with regard to innovation and technology transfer involvement in the economy of the country.
- Explore planned policies with the representatives of governmental, non-governmental, and other public interest groups to evaluate the present and planned legislative system which will affect the technology transfer network in the future and its strategies
- Provide clear legislative and policies recommendations for enchanting innovation system in the country and roadmap for establish technology transfer system.
- Propose the foundation for supporting policies with sound economic management and solid infrastructure guidelines and other appropriate policies in the areas of innovation, scientific research and IP, public-private partnership, related universities and research institutions stakeholders policies, R&D funding, tax incentives, investment regulations, production and technical incentives etc.

#### **5. Methodology**

The study will propose legislative supporting infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer systems in the country at the national and institutional levels. The study will be conducted based on national and international best practices in order to formulate practical and operational recommendations to governments and institutions of the country. In doing so, the study will review the work of similar structures in the Arab countries and elsewhere, make use of available references and sources and seek necessary consultations with official sources and focal points.

The consultant will work closely with the designated ETC focal point, in order to ensure successful contract fulfillment. At the discretion of the ESCWA Technology Centre, the final output of the consultant may be subjected to a qualitative external review.

#### **6. Resources**

Official publications of national, regional and international organizations (public and private) in charge of relevant fields: Innovation, economic development, R&D, intellectual property, technology transfer, IP commercialization etc. in addition to project national partner institutional support and access.



## **7. Outputs to be delivered:**

Study should elaborate on the relevant policies for establishing an effective system of strategic innovation and Technology Transfer” in the country.

The following documents will be delivered to ESCWA Technology Centre by the consultant in a timely manner:

- The first draft report within 4 weeks from the start of the contract including research methodology and conclusions;
- The final report, within 2 weeks from the submission of the first draft report incorporating comments and feedback from ETC.
- Coordinate with the editing and printing counterpart of the outcome
- Presentation at the National Governmental workshop

The final report in Arabic should be delivered to ETC in Word format

The ownership and copyright of the final report will belong to ESCWA and its formal distribution will be undertaken through ESCWA.

## **8. Duration and timing**

The duration of the consultancy will be 1.5 Months. It could be extended by 2 weeks if conditions warrant such an extension, subject to the approval of the Director of ETC.

## **9. Qualifications**

The consultant should have proven experience in innovation management and policies at institutional, national, and international levels. Similar working experience at a national or international level is an asset.

## **10. Payment terms**

Payment for services rendered in compliance with the contract and the terms of reference (7000 US Dollars) will be initiated upon the acceptance of the final report by the Director of ETC upon the recommendation of the ETC focal point.