



# Climate negotiations and technology transfer

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**Presented in the International workshop**

**“Modeling Technology Oriented RD&D Strategic Cooperation for Climate Change Mitigation: Methodological Issues and Alternative Policy Scenarios”**

**Fondazione Giorgio Cini - Venice, Italy 17th-18th March 2008**

The UNFCCC calls on developed nations to assist developing nations through technology transfer. Article 4.5 states that:

*[t]he developed country Parties . . . shall take all practicable steps to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, the transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies and know-how to other Parties, particularly developing country Parties, to enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention. In this process, the developed country Parties shall support the development and enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies of developing country Parties.*

# Current patterns of technology transfer

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- **Global Environment Facility**
- Marrakech agreement: **Special Climate Change Fund** - additional assistance for adaptation, technology transfer, energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry...
- **Clean development Mechanism**
  - TT limited and concerns mainly (Dechezleprêtre et al., 2007)<sup>1</sup>
    - non CO2 emissions reductions or wind power
    - Mexico and China
    - Large projects
  - Analysis call for a reform in order that a new CDM allows the implementation of **broader programs able to impact more profoundly the technico-economic system of the host country**
  - But what about **diffusion**?

<sup>1</sup> Dechezleprêtre, A., Glachant, M., Ménière, Y. 2007. The Clean Development Mechanism and the International Diffusion of Technologies: An Empirical Study, FEEM, Nota di lavoro 105.2007.

# Bali conclusions on technology transfer

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- TT is recognized as much important for adaptation as for mitigation.
- TT on the agenda of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI).
  - Until now it had been debated in a methodological way but not on a practical way
  - role of China facing ICs
  - TT will certainly become a decisive issue in climate negotiations
- TT will be measured and evaluated (EGTT)

# What technologies have to be transferred?

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- **A push on existing technologies is needed**

Third Assessment Report ( 2001)

*“known technological options could achieve a broad range of atmospheric stabilisation levels, such as 550 ppm, 450 ppm or below over the next 100 years or more... Known technological options refer to technologies that exist in operation or pilot plant stage today. It does not include any new technologies that will require drastic technological breakthroughs...”*

- **EGTT, 2004: Emphasize demand-led aspects of technology transfer**

*“need to acknowledge technology ‘diffusion’ as an important process alongside innovation and development”*

# Propositions of actions

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- Risks of an approach based on R&D subsidy
- Internationally harmonized technology and performance standards
  - Many markets are regional – existence of market barriers (transport cost...)
  - Dispersion of thresholds may introduce confusion
- Intellectual property rights (IPR) and technology transfer
  - Are IPR rights weak in developing countries?
  - Is IPR really a barrier to technology transfer?
- The need for innovative options for financing the development and transfer of low-carbon alternative technologies
- How to ensure a large diffusion of technologies ?