

*Thematic Report on Transfer of Technology and Technology Cooperation*

*Please provide the following details on the origin of this report.*

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*Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report.*

This report was prepared by compiling existing relevant Australia Government statements related to technology transfer and consultative processes within Government. As context to Australia's thematic report on technology transfer the following information is provided:

In 2003-04, Australia will provide an estimated A\$95 million for activities to address environmental problems in developing countries. Australia will implement improved environment management guidelines developed to meet the overseas aid provisions of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Australian assistance works at numerous levels, including improving environmental resource management and governance. Australia's regional and multilateral support will include biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and phasing out of ozone depleting substances. Through support for the Pacific regional organizations, for example, Australia assists Pacific island countries to manage their natural resources sustainably, particularly tuna and coastal fish stocks, food crops and forests. In particular, Australia is contributing to taro protection and forestry management initiatives as well as promoting aquaculture and the conservation of priority plant species.

At the multilateral level, Australia will continue to support the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to address global environmental concerns including climate change, biodiversity loss, degradation of international waters, land degradation, ozone depletion and persistent organic pollutants. Australia has increased its financial commitment to the GEF by pledging to provide A\$68.16 million for the third replenishment period. This is a substantial increase of over 58% from the funding Australia provided in 1998 for the 2nd Replenishment. In 2003-04, Australia will also contribute to the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund to assist with global efforts to repair the ozone layer and to the United Nations Environment Programme in support of its work on sustainable development.

Further general information of Australia's approach to technology transfer and the environment can be found at:

<http://www.ausaid.gov.au/keyaid/envt.cfm>

**Transfer of Technology and Technology Cooperation**

**Inventory and assessment**

1. Has your country developed an inventory of existing technologies or category of technologies, including from indigenous and local communities, for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components, in all the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues addressed by the Convention?	
a) no	x
b) an inventory under development	
c) an inventory of some technologies available (please provide some details)	
d) yes, a comprehensive inventory available ( please provide details)	
2. Has your country assessed the potential impacts of relevant technologies on biological diversity and their requirements for successful application?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give some examples	x
3. Has your country carried out an assessment of the needs for relevant technologies?	
a) no (please specify the reasons)	x
b) yes, and please specify the needs met and the needs not met for existing technologies and for new technologies	

**Implementation of some relevant articles of the Convention, relevant decisions adopted at the previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties and recommendations of SBSTTA**

4. In implementing the thematic programmes of work adopted by previous meetings of COP, has your country achieved the outcomes identified in these programmes of work through technology transfer and technology cooperation? (Decisions II/10, III/11, IV/6, IV/7 and V/4)	
a) no	x
b) yes, but only a few activities in some programmes	
c) yes, and a wide range of activities in many programmes of work	
d) if yes, please specify these activities and programmes of work	
5. Has your country undertaken technology cooperation with other Contracting Parties that lack the expertise and resources to assess the risks and minimize the negative impacts of introducing alien species? (Decision V/8)	
a) no	
b) yes – please give details below (including types of technology transferred, actors involved, terms for transfer and means of access to technology)	x
6. Has your country taken any steps or measures to facilitate transfer of technology to and technology cooperation with other Parties to develop and/or strengthen their capacity to implement the policy, program and practice for sustainable use of biological diversity? (Decision V/24)	
a) no	
b) yes, please specify detailed measures and steps	x

7. Could you provide examples or illustrations of benefit-sharing contractual agreements which have included technology cooperation and technology transfer as benefits to be shared? (Article 15)	
a) no	x
b) yes	
8. Has your Government taken measures, as appropriate, to ensure, as set out in the Article 16(3) that Contracting Parties providing genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which makes use of those genetic resources? (Article 16)	
a) no	X
b) yes, please provide some details	
9. Have the taxonomic institutions in your country taken any initiatives in developing national priorities, both individually and regionally, in new technology? (Decision IV/1)	
a) no	
b) yes, in early stages of development	
c) yes, in advanced stages of development	
d) yes, some initiatives in place and some priorities identified	x
e) yes, comprehensive priorities identified	
10. Has your country been involved in technology development and/or transfer for the maintenance and utilization of ex situ collections? (Decision V/26)	
a) no	
b) yes – please give details below (including types of technology transferred, actors involved, terms for transfer and means of access to technology)	x
11. Has the clearing-house mechanism in your country been further developed in order to assist in obtaining access to information concerning access to and transfer of technologies? (Decision V/14)	
a) no	x
b) yes, please provide some examples	

***Role of public and private sectors in technology transfer and technology***

12. Do you know of any examples of technology partnerships between public R&D institutions from developing countries and private-sector firms from industrialized countries? If so, to what extent have these partnerships involved	
a) the training of developing country scientists in the application of new technologies for the conservation and utilization of genetic resources	x
b) information exchange on new scientific exchange and technological advances	x
c) providing various technology components to developing country partner institutions	x
d) engaging in joint R&D?	

13. Has your country taken any measures or developed any programmes to encourage the private sector or the public-private partnership to develop and transfer technologies for the benefit of governments and institutions of developing countries, including South-South cooperation?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give details	x
14. Have any type of incentives been established in your country to encourage the participation of the private sector in conservation and sustainable use activities as sources of new technologies and potential financiers of conservation programmes?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give details	x

***Impact of intellectual property rights on technology transfer and technology cooperation***

15. Are the technologies your country has accessed or wishes to access in the public domain or covered by intellectual property rights?	
a) public domain	
b) intellectual property rights	
c) both	x
16. Have intellectual property rights been a limiting factor in acquiring technologies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	x
b) yes, please provide an example and specify the following: the type of technology sought (hard or soft technology); the area to which it is to be applied (e.g. forest, marine, inland waters, agriculture, etc.)	

***Capacity-building for technology transfer and technology cooperation***

17. Have adequate institutional structures been established and/or is adequate human capacity available to access relevant technologies, in your country?	
a) no	
b) yes	x
18. What, if any, have been the limiting factors in implementing relevant technologies?	
a) institutional capacity	
b) human capacity	
c) others - please specify	x financial
19. Does your country consider that access to information and training or lack thereof has been a limiting factor in access to and transfer of technology?	
a) no	
b) yes, please provide some examples	x

20. Has your country been able to identify relevant technologies in specific areas for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in your country?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give details	X
21. Has your country developed national policy and established international and national institutions to promote technology cooperation, including through the development and strengthening of technical, human and institutional capabilities?	
a) no (please specify the reasons)	
b) yes, please give some details or examples	x
22. Has your country established joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give some details or examples	x

***Measures for facilitating access to and transfer of technology***

23. Has your country established the mechanisms and/or measures to encourage and facilitate the transfer of technology to and technology cooperation with other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes, please provide some details	x
24. Has your country established channels for access to the technologies developed and applied for attaining the objectives of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes, please provide detailed information	x

***Success stories of and constraints to technology transfer and technology cooperation***

25. Has your country identified any success stories and opportunities of and constraints to transfer of technology and technology cooperation?	
a) no	X but see further comments on question 3
b) yes, please provide detailed information	

### Further comments

Question 2: Australia's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* includes the requirement to undertake an environmental impact assessment of, actions that are likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance are subject to a rigorous assessment and approval process. An action includes a project, development, undertaking, activity, or series of activities. The Act currently identifies six matters of national environmental significance: World Heritage properties; Ramsar wetlands of international significance; listed threatened species and ecological communities; listed migratory species; Commonwealth marine areas; and nuclear actions (including uranium mining).

Further Australia's aid program will continue to implement environmental management guidance in accordance with the overseas aid provisions of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Question 3: Though Australia has, on a case-by-case basis, evaluated the need for specific technological transfers to address biodiversity conservation issue, it has not undertaken a generic assessment of technology transfer requirements. In general technical fixes are very case specific. For example addressing salinity issues in Australia has required considerable technical development see <http://www.napswq.gov.au/>). Australia does not see a clear benefit from a generic technology transfer assessment.

Question 4: However, Australia, through its Aid program has provided assistance to other countries.

Question 5: In places like Papua New Guinea, for example, Australia has supported a five-year project with PNG's National Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Authority. Australian overseas aid has helped reduce, and in some cases remove, the threat of pest and virus invasion.

Question 6: see <http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/international/index.html>

Question 10: Australia's Biological Resources Study The Australian Biological Resources Study contributes to and participates in international fora and projects including the: [Global Taxonomy Initiative](#), and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. The Australian Biological Resources Study also publishes a number of international publications including the series species plantarum see <http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/index.html#international> for examples.

Question 12, 13, 21 and 23: See the website: <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/keyaid/envt.cfm#achievements>

Question 14 and 24: Australia has provided incentives for private sector to conserve biodiversity in particular establishing protected areas on private land and biodiversity conservation activities on private land.

See: <http://www.nht.gov.au/programs/index.html> and <http://www.ea.gov.au/land/bushcare/publications/incent/index.html>

Question 22: For example the Coral Reefs Cooperative Research Centre is a participant in the Voluntary Coral Reefs Initiative.

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