



TECHNOLOGY BANK FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES



WHY I'M HERE – THE UNMET PROMISE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION IN AFRICA

- **Economic growth of the past few years has not impacted the lives of the majority – high social inequality;**
- **STI is not delivering a better life for the poor – much hope but low confidence in STI;**
- **All of SADC is concerned about the inclusion of the poor in innovation – Inclusive Innovation and Development;**
- **GSS promises solutions and we want to participate right from the beginning.**



SADC MEMBER STATES

- **The Southern African Development Community (SADC) comprises of Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.**



SOME TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT INITIATIVES IN SADC

► <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=UnsXW9v-vPw>



KEY CHALLENGES

- The throughput is too low to make an impact on the need;
 - Scale of implementation too limited to have significant impact;
 - The financial backing of the projects is too low and mainly dependent on others to be sustainable – limited endogenous investment;
 - Limited human capacity;
 - Political talk about STI is not matched by investment on it – ongoing struggle
- WE NEED A BOOST!



WHAT IF WE HAD A TECHNOLOGY BANK?

- ➔ **IT WOULD GIVE US THE BOOST WE NEED ON CONDITION THAT...**




CONDITIONS FOR THE BOOST

- **It doesn't stifle our creativity/innovativeness – support local promising technologies;**
- **We are not perceived solely as recipients or beneficiaries of other's technology solutions;**
- **Business models consider the technology capacity and enabling policies (e.g. procurement) of countries and ensure that the recipients develop their own capacity (HR, R&D, maintenance, etc.)**



CONDITIONS FOR THE BOOST

- **Opens up possibility of further innovation on technologies offered by the bank;**
 - **Opens up possibilities of co-investment with local entrepreneurs/businesses;**
 - **Includes a training/capacity building component.**
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If we had the Technology Bank...

Speaking as a South African...

- It would provide inbound technologies than can change people's lives;
- It would improve our financial investment in technology;
- It would immediately contribute to entrepreneurship and job creation;
- It would give our economy the boost it so desperately needs;
- It would make STI relevant to the needs of all South Africans;
- It would enhance the skills levels of our engineers and scientists;
- It would stimulate more innovation in the country.

ALL THE ABOVE ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL SADC MEMBER STATES



THANK YOU

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