



Government of the Republic of Belarus

United Nations Development Programme

**STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL SYSTEM FOR
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

Brief description

The project facilitates the development of private enterprise based on technological innovation by working to (1) improve the legal framework for technology transfer and raise the status of intellectual property rights in the evaluation and transfer of technologies; (2) strengthen the institutional framework for technology transfer; (3) support innovation-driven enterprise among young people and (4) encouraging the development and conduct of technology foresight surveys in the Republic of Belarus.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Belarus

Country Programme Outcome: Business climate for investors and domestic private sector improved through developing public-private partnerships

Implementing Agency: The State Committee on Science and Technology

<p>Programme Period: <u>2006-2010</u> Programme Component: <u>Private Sector Development</u> Title: <u>Strengthening the National System for Technology Transfer in the Republic of Belarus on the Basis of Information and Communication Technologies (Phase 2)</u> Project ID: 00050965 Project Duration: <u>36 months</u> Management Arrangement: <u>NEX</u></p>	<p>BUDGET</p> <p>Budget TOTAL: US\$<u>240,000</u></p> <p>Cost-Sharing Contributions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government US\$180,000• UNDP US\$60,000 • Parallel Funding by UNIDO US\$180,000
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Agreed by

Signature:

Date:

Name/Title:

Government

N.P. Zaichenko,
Minister of Economy

Implementing Agency

V.I. Nedilko,
First Deputy Chairman
State Committee on Science and Technology

UNDP

Cihan Sultanoglu,
Resident Representative

Strategy

The project's goal is to strengthen the national system of technology transfer by improving the legal framework, applying information and communication technologies (ICT) and developing the infrastructure for the support of enterprise activity based on technological innovation.

The main goal is to be achieved through the pursuit of the following objectives:

1. Drafting laws and regulations aimed at (a) promoting technology transfer at private, state-owned and private sector enterprises; (b) increasing the weight of intellectual property rights in technology appraisal and transfer procedures; (c) recommending changes to the "Concept of Innovation Activity Development of in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises"; (d) organizing training sessions and workshops, authoring guides on intellectual asset appraisal, and implementing other capacity-building activities;
2. Strengthening the capacity of the Republican Centre for Technology Transfer: establishing two new branch offices of RCTT (with the national information social and cultural centre at the National Library of Belarus and with the National Park of High Technology); incorporating the newly-established interrelated offices into the common unified IT-based data network, along with RCTT and other innovation agents.
3. Increasing the participation of young entrepreneurs in innovation activity; establishing an integrated automated information and analytical system for the support of technology transfer activity, putting the elaborated system to action;
4. Creating a basis for technology foresight surveys for Belarus; training local experts to conduct such surveys.

The project will make a long-term contribution to national development by:

- Laying the groundwork for international cooperation in science and technology,
- Strengthening the institutional structure for innovation activity;
- Improving the legal environment for innovation activity.

This will be conducive to:

- commercialization of Belarusian R&D products,
- foundation of private innovation enterprises (as national entities and joint ventures);
- attraction of foreign investment;
- improving the quality and competitiveness of Belarusian products;
- integration of the country into the global economy;
- and, eventually, higher living standards for the citizens of Belarus.

Rationale for UNDP involvement

The Project is in compliance with the goals and objectives stated in the Country Programme Document for Belarus (2006 – 2010). In particular, it is aimed at "*(d) promotion of a better business climate for investment activity; and ... (e) support of SME development by removing excessive administrative barriers, developing business support institutions and financial mechanisms*".

Furthermore, the Project will contribute to achieving more effective and responsible governmental administration by "*...using ICT to build a knowledge-based society and stimulating policy dialogue....*"

The principle recipients of the assistance under the Project are:

- The State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus, the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, and the state on the whole (as a result of strengthening of the

national innovation policy and development of collaboration between the state and private sectors);

- research organizations and higher educational institutions (as a result of improving the mechanism of technology transfer that would facilitate commercialization of scientific development and promote their collaboration with the business sector);
- various sectors and industries in the national economy, small and medium-sized enterprises, individual businesses (as a result of an expanded network of technology transfer centres and broader scope of their services);
- RCTT, its regional offices and branches, as direct recipients of the assistance.

Management Arrangements

This Project will be implemented in the national execution modality, by the State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus, with the administrative support of the UNDP Office in Belarus.

The Project is to consolidate the activity, material resources and other capacities of the State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus (SCST), the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NANB), UNDP and UNIDO. These resources will be put to the area of the development of the infrastructure conducive to enhancement of the private innovation entrepreneurship in Belarus. The Project will be co-funded, with public and UNDP funds constituting the Project's consolidated budget.

RCTT will be the agency in charge of direct implementation of the Project and responsible of the project activities.

A Coordination Council (CC) of the Project will be formed to ensure efficient interaction of the SCST, NANB, UNDP, UNIDO, and other stakeholders in the project framework. The CC will act in compliance with the "Regulations of the Coordination Council".

The Project will be implemented nationally, in accordance with the binding provisions and recommendations of UN General Assembly Resolution 47/199 aimed to increase decentralization in the organization and implementation of events financed using UNDP funds. In addition to this resolution, in a letter dated 17 December 1993, the UNDP Administrator authorizes Permanent UN/UNDP Representatives to provide organizational, administrative or other technical assistance to national organizations implementing Programme events, if so requested by the Government. Instruction UNDP/ADM/93/46 gives Permanent UN/UNDP Representatives the right to purchase equipment, sign contracts with local consultants, experts and technical personnel, make sundry expenditures mentioned in the Project Budget, and keep account records for events held nationally according to the same procedures used in running the Administrative Budget of the UN/UNDP Office.

The State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus will be responsible for the implementation of the Project and will contribute in form of:

- the funds in Belarusian ruble, in the amount equivalent to US\$180,000;
- appointment of the National Project Coordinator (entitled to execute the Project);
- participation in preparation, promotion and dissemination of instructive materials and manuals related to Project activities; providing (jointly with the NANB) general publicity about the Project's achievements and its progress.

Republican Centre for Technology Transfer will carry out and fulfill the activities under the Project, in keeping with the annual project work plans, by quarterly advance funding and the relevant accountancy statements submitted to the UNDP office.

The contribution from the UNDP Office in Belarus will be as follows:

- allocating the funds in the amount of US\$60,000 for the Project activity;
- partaking in the proceedings of the Coordination Council;
- supporting the coordination and integration of the Project with other projects being run by UNDP;
- rendering the adequate administrative assistance and support for the Project's implementation;
- providing international-scale publicity about the Project, its progress and achievements.

UNIDO's contribution to the Project will include:

- co-funding of certain Project activities for the total amount of US\$180,000 (the complementary co-activity and coordination with UNIDO is to be done by drawing detailed annual work plans and project budget statements);
- providing its international consultancy, advice and expertise; subject-wise training and organizing trips for the training purposes (in compliance with the annual project work plans);
- publicizing and promoting the achievements of the Project; drawing additional donor funds for further expansion of the Project and better sustainability of its outputs.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation and progress of the Project will be subject to continuous monitoring, regular assessment and coverage by means of the Project Progress Reports drawn and submitted in accordance with the relevant UNDP and UNIDO procedures.

The RCTT is to prepare semiannual and annual reports on the project activity, to be regularly submitted to the CC for their consideration. Project reports (in the UNDP and UNIDO formats) are submitted annually to UNDP and UNIDO. Optional interim progress notes will be made upon special requests from these UN agencies. The Director of the RCTT will assist the SCST in preparing the relevant technical assistance project progress reports so that they accord with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

Financial reports will be prepared and presented to the donors, as required, according to the relevant Cost Sharing Agreement.

Monitoring of the project performance, vis-à-vis the Project Work Plan, will be entrusted to the National Project Coordinator and UNDP. Besides, RCTT will issue notes on the project activities, to be considered at regularly held meetings of the CC.