



LAUNCH OF IEA'S NEET INITIATIVE

IEA ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DAY

NEW YORK, 3 MAY 2006

The International Energy Agency (IEA) held an "IEA Energy Technology Day" on Wednesday, 3 May 2006 at New York's UN Millennium Plaza Hotel. The event featured the very successful launch of IEA's "Networks of Expertise in Energy Technology" Initiative, the NEET Initiative.

The NEET initiative is the IEA's response to a request from G8 leaders at their meeting in 2005 in Gleneagles (United Kingdom). They invited the IEA to help activate dynamic worldwide networks for energy technology research and development, as part of their pledge of concerted action to secure a "clean, clever and competitive energy future".

Building on existing IEA collaborative technology R&D programmes (IEA "Implementing Agreements"), the NEET Initiative aims to forge stronger links with policy makers, the business community, researchers and other stakeholders from major energy-consuming emerging economies that are not members of the IEA. The NEET team will work to enhance awareness of existing technology research and deployment networks and facilitate wider participation of non-IEA countries, notably in IEA Implementing Agreement programmes, which bring together more than 5000 experts from governments, industry and the R&D community.

The NEET Initiative received very positive support in New York from key stakeholders such as the World Bank, the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), the International Science Panel on Renewable Energies (ISPRES), the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and IEA technology collaborative technology programmes present at the IEA Energy Technology Day. Valuable exchanges during the event opened up new paths for outreach to possible future partners in the NEET Initiative. It identified ways to raise the profile of existing networks and to enhance their collaboration.

The NEET Initiative's programme includes workshops, scheduled between now and end-2008, in major energy-consuming emerging economies. IEA's collaborative programmes will be presented, along with their technical and policy findings on topics such as clean coal, carbon capture and storage, renewable energy and end-use technologies. Stakeholders from government, industry, the research community and academia will have the opportunity to explore possible co-operation through IEA's international collaborative R&D programmes.

Participants in these programmes point to many advantages.

- Stronger links between the research, industrial and policy communities
- More productive information-sharing and networking
- Enhanced dialogues between countries with different economies
- Faster technology development and deployment
- Larger project scale and lower costs
- Harmonisation of technical standards

To learn more about the NEET Initiative: <http://www.iea.org/neet/> or contact Alexandra.Niez@iea.org.



IMPLEMENTING THE 2005 G8 GLENEAGLES PLAN OF ACTION

