

**THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE,  
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**14<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE  
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The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation states that the implementation of the development goals requires substantially improved partnerships between major stakeholders.

The JPOI called upon all of us at a country and the international level to make full and effective use of existing financial mechanisms and institutions, including through actions to encourage the private sector, including transnational corporations, private foundations to provide financial and technical assistance in order to meet the objectives of sustainable development.

The basis for this call is the general recognition and acceptance that the public and the private sector need to work in partnership to achieve the objectives of sustainable development. In the current work programme of CSD 14 dealing with Atmospheric pollution, Climate change, Energy for sustainable development and Industrial development, a number of constraints have been identified. The participation of the private sector in overcoming these challenges is key to achieving sustainable development goals.

**Constraints**

Whilst we acknowledged that the private sector have played a critical role in implementing the various international development, a number of constraints remain. These constraints include the following:

1. Lack of appropriate incentives to stimulate the private sector to invest more in technologies that support sustainable development.
2. Lack of transfer of sustainable development technologies between multinational companies and the SME sector.
3. Lack of risk appetite for sustainable energy production methods from both the public and the private sector.
4. Lack of widespread harmonization of energy efficiency standards and labelling.
5. Insufficient capital infrastructure to support sustainable development in both the private and the public sector.

There are various ways in which the private sector can drive and contribute to sustainable development.

Environmental performance is already emerging as a competitiveness driver and unless there are concerted efforts between governments and the private sector, this competence may not be easily harnessed for higher yield and impact.

### **Key Considerations for the Policy Session**

1. Development of incentives to reduce the risks associated with sustainable production methods.
2. Long term planning modalities for sustainable energy initiatives involving governments, the private sector and communities.
3. Integration of sustainable development principles into production processes that harness knowledge of multinational corporations for use by the SME sector.
4. The use of advertising to promote energy efficiency and demand for more environmentally friendly consumption.