

Mission Innovation: Information Sharing

Accelerating Energy Technology Innovation

A central tenet of Mission Innovation (MI) is information sharing by and among MI participating countries. Information sharing promotes transparency and integrity. It allows for broad stakeholder engagement. It gives rise to opportunities for collaboration. It can inspire and inform investment decisions by the private sector.

At the all MI country preparatory meeting on March 18, 2016, in Beijing, a consensus was reached for the purposes of Mission Innovation that each country would share information by June 1, 2016, on the amount of its Mission Innovation baseline; the year or years included in the baseline; the doubling amount; and the timeframe for doubling. It was also agreed that, in the interest of transparency, each country would provide a narrative describing the nature of its clean energy RD&D investments in the baseline and for future growth. This information, collectively, was intended to evidence progress on the Joint Statement's pledge to seek to double clean energy R&D investment in five years and share related and supporting information.

Countries also discussed the nature of more detailed information to be supplied going forward, perhaps on a yearly basis, including form, means, templates for submission, and schedules for sharing first a first round. After the June Ministerial, the countries agreed to follow through to create a longer-term plan for regular and sustained updates, through December 2021.

The MI preparatory group also discussed why an information sharing framework was critical to support other elements of MI, including Joint Research and Private Sector Engagement. The former identified the kinds of information believed to be helpful to enable cooperation between countries on research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) needs, priority-setting, collaborative opportunities, projects, best practices, and more. The latter identified the kinds of information believed to be helpful to facilitate engagement with and investment by the private sector through two-way communications and information sharing to support the needs of MI countries and clean energy businesses and investors.

Regarding these broader opportunities for engagement, information sharing can serve as an underlying base for many and potentially more leveraging international collaborations. In the near-term, it was felt useful for countries to identify the extent of existing bilateral, trilateral, multilateral cooperative engagements. In longer-term, countries may envision opportunities for expanded cooperation and business engagement; encourage information flow among prospective participants; convene workshops, webinars, and information exchanges; identify opportunities and mechanisms for realizing them; clarify constraints; assess availability of resources, time and personnel; and selectively establish action plans with milestones and executing agents.

The Information Sharing Sub-Group of MI will continue to pursue these ideas and work with all MI country representatives and other MI Sub-Groups to bring them to fruition.