



Fifth ARTNeT Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee Meeting

01 November 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Background document for the Agenda item: Report on ARTNeT activities in Phase III (April 2011 – November 2012)

Overview of Project Implementation

- 1. Summary statistics on the activities and outputs so far in the ARTNeT Phase III (April 2011-November 2012).**
- 2. Report on ARTNeT activities and outputs so far in Phase III (April 2011-November 2012).**

Annex

1. Summary statistics on the activities and outputs in the ARTNeT Phase III up to date (April 2011- November 2012)

Research grants awarded in ARTNeT Phase III:

- 25 research grants awarded, with amounts ranging from \$1,000 for post-workshop grant or short policy briefs to \$9,000 for in-depth research studies; the average grant award amount is US\$ 5,782
- Total research awards granted in ARTNeT Phase III so far, including the regional study on “Trade Facilitation for Poverty Reduction in Developing Asian Countries”: US\$144,000.
- 36% of research grants were awarded to researchers in least developed countries.
- 72% of research grants were awarded to male researchers; 28% were awarded to female researchers.

Capacity building:

- 7 capacity building workshops were delivered between April 2011 and November 2012 on a variety of topics, including gravity modeling (2), use of micro-level data in trade research (2), CGE modeling (1), and evidence-based policymaking in trade (2).
- An average amount of ARTNeT funding spent on capacity building (travel and DSA components) so far in this phase is US\$ 1,248 (calculated based on 91 participants in three major capacity building activities in 2011 and 2012, that is 7th and 8th Capacity Building Workshop and ARTNeT/RIS Capacity building workshop on use of gravity modeling). This amount does not include fees for resource persons, training materials, venues, local transport and often some meals) and these are shouldered by ARTNeT partners and local organizers.
- 3 workshops were held in collaboration with WTO.
- 1 workshop was held in collaboration with UNCTAD and 1 with ADBI.
- 3 workshops were held in collaboration with ARTNeT members (RIS, India; Centre for World Trade Study, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia University of South Pacific, Fiji).

ARTNeT Publications in ARTNeT Phase III so far:

- 16 Working Papers related to new phase (120 in total since 2005).
- 4 Policy Briefs (34 in total since 2005).
- 2 Alerts on Emerging Policy Changes (9 in total since 2005).
- 8 Online Book Reviews
- 2 Newsletters.
- Three ARTNeT publications disseminating research findings of ARTNeT Phase II were published in 2011 (Fighting Irrelevance: The Role of Regional Trade

Agreements in International Production Networks in Asia; The Development Impact of Information Technology in Trade Facilitation and a volume compiling the papers presented at the ARTNeT Anniversary Conference entitled Trade-led growth: A sound strategy for Asia. Two more volumes were published from a current research programme (Service Sector Reforms: Asia-Pacific Perspectives; and India: A New Player in Asian Production Networks?).

Dissemination meetings:

- 5 dissemination events held (including current conference of 2012).
- 2 dissemination events were co-hosted with ARTNeT partners (the RIS, India; and IPS, Colombo, Sri Lanka).

Breakdown of ARTNeT Phase III Expenditures so far

- 31% on research grants.
- 27% on capacity building workshops.
- 20% on dissemination meetings and printing of publications.
- 22% on programme management and evaluation, personnel.

Note: these numbers are approximations based on expenditure up to end of October 2012.

2. Report on ARTNeT activities and outputs so far in Phase III (April 2011-November 2012).

I. ARTNeT Research Programme

The Theme of the ARTNeT Phase III research programme is *Drivers of Competitiveness and Strategies for Economic Diversification for Developing Countries*.

1. Grants in response to ARTNeT call for research proposals (2011) and other sponsored studies

A call for Research papers/ studies was launched in May 2011. Twelve studies were selected for ARTNeT funding, as follows:

	<i>Country</i>	<i>Researcher(s)</i>	<i>Research title</i>
1	Nepal	Dilli Raj Khanal	Sources of Growth, Factor Returns and Sustained Growth: A Comparative Study of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors in Nepal
2	Fiji	Dibyendu Maiti	Competitiveness, Technological Innovation and Exportability of Firm in Asia-Pacific Region: The role of Innovation and Finance
3	Nepal	Dilli Ram Upreti and Bishnu Prasad Bhattarai	Competitiveness of Agricultural Export and their Impact on Inclusive Growth
4	Sri Lanka	Jeevika Weraheewa	Determinants of Export Performance of Agro Food Enterprises in Sri Lanka: A Comparative Analysis using World Bank Enterprise Survey Data
6	Thailand	Nathapompan Piyaarekul Uttama	The welfare effects of foreign direct investment liberalisation under ASEAN Economic Community
7	Nepal	Paras Kharel	Nature of structural change and role of trade policy in structural transformation in Nepal
8	India	Prabir De	Logistics services efficiency and Industrial Fragmentation: A case study of Southeast and South Asia
9	Cambodia	Saing Chang Hang	What Are the Constraints to Inclusive Growth in Cambodia?
10	Bangladesh	Syed Uddin Al-Helal	Sources of manufacturing growth and its distribution implications: Comparative analyses for South and Southeast Asian countries
11	Viet Nam	Long Quang Trinh	Investment Climate, Technical Efficiency and Export Intensity in Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam: an Empirical Analysis Using Firm Level Data

12	Cambodia	Vathana Roth	Industrial Clusters, Business Associations, and SMEs' Productivity: Evidence from Enterprise Survey of Cambodia
13	Thailand	Aekapol Chongvilaivan	Thailand's 2011 flooding: its impacts on direct exports and global supply-chain disruptions

The final studies, if not already published, are expected to be issued as ARTNeT Working Papers before the end of the ARTNeT Phase III in March 2013.

In addition, ARTNeT awarded 5 Post-workshop Research Grants for participants of the WTO/ESCAP 7th and 8th ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research during in 2011 and 2012 as well as in connection with gravity modeling training, with the following titles:

	<i>Country</i>	<i>Researche(s)</i>	<i>Research Title</i>
1	India	Jayeeta Deshmuksh	Labor Productivity and Export Performance Firm Level Evidence of Indian Manufacturing Industries Since 1991
2	Sri Lanka	Jeevika Werahewa	Determinants and Paths of Export Diversification: A Case Study on Export Diversification in Sri Lanka
3	Philippines	Dennis J. Serrano	A Gravity Approach on Estimating the Efficiency of ASEAN Free Trade Area on CLMV's Individual Trade Performance
4	Indonesia	Amzul Rifin	Testing Linder Effect among ASEAN Countries
5	Bangladesh	Masudur Rahman	The Role of Trade Facilitation on Textiles and Clothing Trade in South Asia

These post-workshop studies are also expected to be completed by March 2013 and published as ARTNeT working papers.

2. Other research grants in 2011-2012

ARTNeT researchers have been given opportunity to collaborate in implementation of the ESCAP project "Trade Facilitation for Poverty Reduction: Building Capacity for the Implementation of Pro-Poor Trade Facilitation Policies and Measures in Developing

Asian Countries” funded by the Government of China. A regional study under topic “Trade Facilitation for Poverty Reduction in Developing Asian Countries” was initiated at a consultative research meeting in March 2012 and seven papers have been selected, as follows:

	<i>Country</i>	<i>Researcher(s)</i>	<i>Research title</i>
1	Bangladesh	Abu Hena Reza Hasan	Barriers to international entrepreneurship in agricultural sector of Bangladesh: Focus on Vegetable Production
2	India	Prabir De	Economic Corridors and their Impact on Trade Facilitation and Poverty Reduction: An Empirical Analysis of Selected Corridors of South Asia
3	Indonesia	Ir. Masyhuri	The impact of agricultural trade facilitation for agricultural food exports in Indonesia and Southeast Asia
4	Indonesia	Tulus T.H.Tambunan	The Impact of ongoing Trade Facilitation Improvement on export-oriented small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Indonesia
5	Sri Lanka	Ashani Abayasekara	Export processing zones (EPZs) and their impact on Trade Facilitation and poverty reduction in Sri Lanka
6	Thailand	Kornkarun Cheewatrakoolpong	Trade facilitation and microfinance for poverty reduction in the GMS: The case study of Thailand
7	Viet Nam	Cuong Viet Nguyen	Trade Facilitation at the Provincial Level and Employments in Rural Viet Nam

Moreover, Researchers at institutions which are ARTNeT members and associate partners were given opportunity to compete for grants linked to other regional or international studies including a call for proposals from Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) on “Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment” (PAGE) initiative by DFID and the IDRC; call from The Trade Knowledge Network (TKN) for research consultants to implement research project on *“Investment Incentives for Renewable Energy in Southeast Asia”*; as well as a call for Expressions of Interest in contributing to ADB/ESCAP joint publication on “Enhancing Public-Private Partnerships for Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific”

II. Capacity Building Activities

ARTNeT organized the following capacity building events since the last MSC was held, namely:

- WTO/ESCAP Eighth ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research, 23-27 July 2012, Bangkok, Thailand
- Capacity Building Workshop on CGE Modelling for Trade Policy Analysis, 23-27 July 2012, UPS, Suva, Fiji
- ARTNeT/RIS Capacity Building Workshop on Use of Gravity Modelling, 9-11 November 2011, RIS, New Delhi, India
- WTO/ESCAP Seventh ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research, 12-16 September 2011, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- Training on Evidence-based Policy-making in Trade and Investment, 26-29 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- ARTNeT Online Interactive Gravity Tool and Database, 26 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- ARTNeT/ADB Seminar on Selected outstanding issues in services trade and development, 3-5 May 2011, Manila, Philippines

In 2010, the ARTNeT Secretariat initiated the ARTNeT Seminar Series (special lectures) at ESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand. The ARTNeT seminar series is aimed to share resources and new knowledge with ARTNeT members in the region as well as ESCAP staff. Since start of Phase III, ARTNeT seminar series involved the following speakers:

- Special lecture: "From Rio to Rio - hydrocarbon status quo and sustainable development" by Prof. Dr. Anis Bajrektarevic, University of Applied Sciences IMC-Krems, Austria, 21 September 2012, Bangkok
- Special lecture: "Impediments to Trade Across the Cyprus Green Line: The Role of Classic Barriers and Trust" by Professor Omer Gokcekus, Seton Hall University, 4 July 2012, Bangkok
- Special lecture: "Growing with Global Production Sharing: The Tale of Penang Export Hub" by Professor Prema-chandra Athukorala, ARTNeT advisor, 6 June 2012, Bangkok
- Special lecture: "Connecting foreign direct investment, technology diffusion and liberalization in developing economies" by Prof. Reza Oladi, ARTNeT visiting fellow, 14 March 2012, Bangkok.

III. Dissemination Activities

The following ARTNeT dissemination events were held in Phase III so far:

- ARTNeT Conference on Empirical and Policy Issues of Integration, 1-2 November 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- The 6th China-ASEAN Forum on Social Development, 26-27 September 2012, Liuzhou City, China

- ARTNeT Symposium: Towards a return of industrial policy?, 25-26 July 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- International Conference on Facilitating Trade in South Asia: Challenges and the Way Forward, with RIS, New Delhi, 28 May 2012
- ARTNeT/WTO Research Workshop on Emerging Trade Issues in Asia and the Pacific: Meeting contemporary policy challenges, 4-5 April 2012, Nakorn Pathom, Thailand

The following ARTNeT publications were issued since the start of ARTNeT Phase III. All publications are available in as full text publications at www.artnetontrade.org:

Printed volumes and dedicated issue volumes (print and online publications)

- Trade-led growth: A sound strategy for Asia (ST/ESCAP/2618). 2011.
- India: A New Player in Asian Production Networks?, Studies in Trade and Investment No. 75 (ST/ESCAP/2624) 2011
- Service Sector Reforms: Asia-Pacific Perspectives (ST/ESCAP/2613). 2011
- Fighting Irrelevance: The Role of Regional Trade Agreements in International Production Networks in Asia (ST/ESCAP/2597) 2011
- The Development Impact of Information Technology in Trade Facilitation, Studies in Trade and Investment No. 69 (ST/ESCAP/2584) 2011

ARTNeT Policy Briefs

- Thailand's 2011 flooding: Its impacts on direct exports and global supply chain disruptions, by Aekapol Chongvilaivan, Brief No. 34, April 2012
- It's Not All About Trade: Preferential Trading Agreements Induce Economic Reforms in Developing Countries, by Leonardo Baccini and Johannes Urpelainen, Brief No. 33, February 2012
- What Role for Industrial Policy in the Asia-Pacific after the Crisis? by Simon J. Evenett, Brief No. 32, November 2011
- Recent "green" policies – limited environmental benefits and distorted imports: What should trade policymakers do? by Martin Wermelinger, Brief No. 31, October 2011

So far, under the research programme of Phase III, ARTNeT issued the following Working Papers:

- Challenges resulting from the global economic crisis, and responses by Vietnamese woman-led, export-oriented enterprises: A preliminary inquiry by Nguyen Manh Hung, Truong Thi Kim Anh and Vu Thanh Huong, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 120, October 2012
- Import tariffs and export subsidies in the World Trade Organization: A small-country approach by Tanapong Potipiti, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 119, September 2012
- Asia's international production networks: Will India be the next assembly centre? by Rahul Sen and Sadhana Srivastava, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 118, August 2012
- The role of developing countries in global economic governance by Peter Lloyd,

- ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 117, August 2012
- SPS measures and possible market access implications for agricultural trade in the Doha Round: An analysis of systemic issues by Murali Kallummal, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 116, July 2012
 - The impacts of natural disasters on global supply chains by Linghe Ye and Masato Abe, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 115, June 2012
 - Multilateralism in Crisis by Peter Lloyd, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 114, June 2012
 - Thailand's 2011 flooding: Its impact on direct exports and global supply chains by Aekapol Chongvilaivan, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 113, May 2012
 - Trade concentration and crisis spillover: Case study of transmission of the subprime crisis to Thailand by Kornkarun Cheewatrakoolpong and Somprawin Manprasert, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 112, March 2012
 - Can India become an export platform for global operations of Japanese and American multinational corporations affiliates? by Nobuaki Yamashita, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 111, February 2012
 - Ethical Distance and Difference in Bilateral Trade by Bala Ramasamy and Matthew C.H. Yeung, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 110, January 2012
 - Regional cooperation for improvement of trade procedures: The Case of Japan by Naoko Shinkai and Zenebe Bashaw, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 109, December 2011
 - Achieving a sustainable automotive sector in Asia and the Pacific: Challenges and opportunities for the reduction of vehicle CO2 emissions by Masato Abe, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 108, December 2011
 - Impact of India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement: A cross-country analysis using applied general equilibrium modelling by Chandrima Sikdar and Biswajit Nag, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 107, November 2011
 - Does the Data Support the Neo-Mercantilist Preoccupation with Protecting Manufacturing? by Edward Tower and Alecia Waite, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 106, October 2011
 - The rich keep getting richer in India! Says who? by Nilanjan Banik and Anurag Banerjee, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 105, September 2011

During 2012, ARTNeT issued the following Alerts on Emerging Policy Changes:

- "Harnessing Trade for Inclusive Development and Resilient Growth" by Neema Paresh Majmudar, Issue 9, October 2012.
- "An Assessment of the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement and Its Effects in the Asia-Pacific Region" by Teemu Puttio, Issue 8, March 2012

In addition, eight ARTNeT online Book reviews and two ARTNeT newsletters were issued during since April 2011.

III. Collaboration with ESCAP and other international organizations in delivering capacity building programme and in dissemination analytical work

ARTNeT secretariat was able to engage ARTNeT institutional members and associate partners in implementation of ESCAP/WTO Technical Assistance focused on building capacity in trade related areas for government officials and other relevant stakeholders. ARTNeT institutional members and associate partners have been called upon to assist in

implementation of this programme by providing resource persons and when appropriate training venues. More recent examples include collaboration with ITD, Thailand; University of the Philippines, International Islamic University of Malaysia, etc, (for further details please see the TID/ESCAP Calendar of events).

Moreover, ESCAP/TID collaborated with institutional members of ARTNeT in second half of 2011 to deliver a series of country-level launches of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Reports across the Asia-Pacific region, through special workshops and panel discussions, as follows:

- 24 October 2011: Beijing, China [in collaboration with APCAEM with contribution from UIBE, Beijing an ARTNeT member]
- 19 October 2011: Suva, Fiji [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: The University of South Pacific (USP)]
- 5 October 2011: Islamabad, Pakistan [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)]
- 21 September 2011: Dhaka, Bangladesh [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Bangladesh Tariff Commission]
- 14 September 2011: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)]
- 12 September 2011: Colombo, Sri Lanka [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS)]
- 9 September 2011: Kathmandu, Nepal [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Institute for Policy Research and Development (IPRAD)]
- 8 September 2011: Manila, Philippines [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Philippine Institute for Development Studies(PIDS)]
- 25 August 2011: Hanoi, Viet Nam [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Foreign Trade University]
- 11 August 2011: New Delhi, India [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Center for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)]
- 4 August 2011: Jakarta, Indonesia [in collaboration with ARTNeT member: Center for Strategic and International Studies]

IV. New initiatives and knowledge platforms

ARTNeT Aid for Trade knowledge sharing platform is designed to provide conceptual understanding of what is Aid for Trade and its importance towards development and to disseminate comprehensive information on the work done by various unilateral/multilateral agencies and other stakeholders. It is expected that this platform would also contribute towards supporting greater regional cooperation and coordination among the actors of Aid for Trade in Asia and the Pacific; and towards advancing the discussion on effective monitoring of results and evaluation of impacts of Aid for Trade programmes.

ARTNeT CENSUS is a knowledge sharing initiative in the area of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). It is designed to bring together regional stakeholders to build support to policymaking necessary for growth of the innovation economy by offering the Asia-Pacific region. CENSUS strives to provide a multitude of dynamic capacity-building possibilities such as workshops and trainings. It will work for raising awareness on

intellectual property rights issues and to provide access to knowledge and information on intellectual property rights through various means, including a periodic publication. CENSUS will also provide a unique platform for enabling research and related output dissemination. It includes a searchable database of individuals be they policy makers, academics or intellectual property lawyers from within and outside the region with the interests in IPRs.

CENSUS has attracted over 150 new members from within and outside the region. In 2012 the initiative has already held one workshop and has issued two newsletters (available at the ARTNeT website). Further projects and workshops are planned for 2013.

V. Development of databanks and databases

ARTNeT continued to expand and update its online tools. The **ARTNeT database of trade and investment publications** now contains some 2,650 searchable entries. The **Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database (APTIAD)** is continually updated to include new regional trade agreements and to cover information on new categories such as services and intellectual property. The **ARTNeT Gravity** tools has been expanded so that researchers can now also use it to perform modeling relating to aid for trade and a new guide is being published to assist users in using this tool. In collaboration with UNNExT and ESCAP, ARTNeT is hosting a **Comprehensive trade costs database**. The purpose of the trade cost database is to increase understanding of the cost of trading between countries in Asia and the Pacific and beyond. The trade cost measure is a comprehensive all-inclusive measure based on micro-theory and calculated using macro-economic data, providing an alternative measure of trade facilitation performance.

VI. Network development

ARTNeT continued to expand with new applications for membership as well as new researchers and advisers joining the ARTNeT family. The network currently comprises 36 members and 18 associate partners. ARTNeT's activities have also involved a number of international organizations, including its core partners, IDRC, UNDP, UNCTAD and the WTO, and other research and training networks, such as the Global Trade Alert (GTA), the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP), Latin American Trade Network (LATN), the Southeast Asia Training Network (SEATRANET), the Poverty and Economic Policy Network (PEP), the Trade Knowledge Network (TKN) and the Virtual Institute (Vi) of UNCTAD.

ARTNeT's emailing list now comprises some 1,180 individual addresses, and the website continues to generate significant interest. In addition, ARTNeT is now using the social networking tools Facebook, Twitter and an ARTNeT Group on LinkedIn to enable researchers to networks amongst each other as well as to share personal informal and photos that ARTNeT does not post on its public website to protect privacy.

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ARTNeT Advisors

<http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/advisors.pdf>

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	2. Bangladesh Tariff Commission	Mr. Md. Mozimur Rahman	http://www.bdtariffcom.org/
	3. Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh	Mr. Mustafizur Rahman	http://www.cpd.org.bd /index.asp
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ARTNeT Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee

A Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee (MSC) has been established, as part of the efforts to evolve ARTNeT into a multi-stakeholder framework. Its purpose will be to provide inputs and suggestions to the Secretariat on the development of ARTNeT-linked projects and regional studies, to assist in the selection of short-term proposals, as well as to ensure that ARTNeT research and related activities are approved by a group of stakeholders that reflect more widely societal concerns and interests.

The MSC is therefore composed not only of four IAB Member institutions (at least one from each of the East Asian, South East Asia and South Asian subregions) and ARTNeT developing country government focal points (or their representatives) on a rotating basis, but also from one civil society representative, and one private sector representative, as well as representatives of IDRC and ARTNeT Core Partners (WTO, UNDP, UNCTAD).

A. Composition

The composition of the MSC for 2009/2010 is as follows:

- Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh (focal point: Mustafizur Rahman, Research Director)
- Philippines Institute of Development Studies (focal point: Rafaelita Aldaba, Senior Research Fellow)
- Cambodia Development Research Institute (focal point: Larry Strange, Executive Director, Cambodia Development Research Institute)
- Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka (focal point: Saman Kelegama, Executive Director)
- Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines (focal point: H.E. Thomas G. Aquino, Senior Undersecretary)
- Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia (focal point: H.E. Pan Sorasak, Secretary of State)
- Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Supplies, Nepal (focal point: Purushottam Ojha, Joint Secretary)
- Ministry of Commerce, India (focal point: Kantha Rao, Director)
- South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and the Environment (focal point: Posh Raj Pandey, Chairman)
- Jingjai Hanchnlash, Executive Director, Thai Chamber of Commerce and ESCAP Business Advisory Council.
- IDRC, Canada (focal point: Evan Due, Senior Regional Programme Specialist)
- WTO (focal point: Patrick Low, Director, Research and Statistics)
- Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Initiative, UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo (focal point: Biplove Choudhary)
- UNCTAD (focal point: Alessandro Nicita)

B. Terms of Reference (Indicative)

(i) The ARTNeT Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee, composed of representatives from ARTNeT stakeholders (members, partners, governments, civil society and the private sector), shall have the following functions:

1. To facilitate cooperation and consultation between the Secretariat of the network and the full range of stakeholders.

2. To advise and assist the Secretariat in developing and implementing a research programme based on inputs from policy makers and other ARTNeT stakeholders.
3. To provide guidance to the Secretariat in the implementation of ARTNeT activities, in particular dissemination activities.
4. To recommend mechanisms for long-term sustainability and development of ARTNeT, including through providing feedback and guidance on the development of ARTNeT linked projects.
5. To recommend topics of short-term research studies and contribute to the review and selection of proposals and research project concepts received.

(ii) The ARTNeT Steering Committee will meet annually, in particular to discuss and approve the research programme and other major ARTNeT activities to be undertaken over the following 12 months. The meeting will be open to all ARTNeT government, research institution, and partner focal points to ensure transparency and the design of consensus based demand driven research programme.

(iii) Communications between the Secretariat and the Committee will take place on a regular basis mainly via email or other internet-based facilities.