

Clean Tech Session

Insights

- The world is currently consuming resources at 1.4 times the replenishment rate and on current trends this will be 2x by 2030
- Why clean tech for developing countries? Climate change and quality of life and health are the main drivers creating market opportunities for job and wealth creation
- Clean tech touches all sectors but especially water, energy and food

Finland

- Finland outperforms every other country in terms of BOTH competitiveness and sustainability, showing both can go hand in hand, break the link between economic growth and increased environmental load.
- Notably Finland invests more in R&D in terms of GDP than any other country other than Japan, 3.5% of GDP, 70% private and 30% government
- None the less in Finland there is an investment gap between start up and growth phase, where private equity comes in, so, without enough angel investors, the Government has introduced a new 4 year fund which looks promising but has just started.

infoDev Clean Tech program

- Linking technology, innovation and entrepreneurs, at the early stage to create later stage investment opportunities and leveraging the network of more than 300 incubators in 85 developing countries
- The process of business formation and growth in the clean tech sector is longer than general requiring more patience and flexible financing
- Other barriers include consumer education to grow markets, meaning the public sector needs to be involved.

IFC

- 90% of global clean tech investment, which is the largest asset class globally, is going towards China and India, mostly China, because of enlightened government policies
 - One of the reasons why China is attracting the largest share of venture capital is because the Government has adopted a policy of responsible growth implementing new regulations and enforcement, e.g. energy efficiency, creating a good market in the sector
- Government needs to help kick start markets, entrepreneurs need to focus on the emerging opportunities and then the challenge is how to scale up