



Nanotechnology and the Developing World

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DESCRIPTION

To Nanotechnology has the potential to address some of the world's most pressing development issues. Nonetheless, as far as anyone is concerned, there has been no systematic prioritisation of nanotechnology applications aimed at solving the problems faced by the 5 billion people who live in the developing world. We intend to convey three key messages in this article. To begin, we show how agricultural countries are now using nanotechnology to address some of their most pressing needs. Second, we identify and rank the ten nanotechnology applications that are most likely to benefit agricultural countries, and show how these applications can help achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

A few non-industrial countries have launched nanotechnology initiatives to improve their capabilities and support economic development. India's Department of Science and Technology will contribute \$20 million to the Nanomaterials Science and Technology Initiative over the next five years (2004-2009). The number of nanotechnology patent applications filed by China places third analysts in areas such as nanophase impetuses, nanofiltration, nanowires, nanotubes, and quantum specks. Other developing countries, such as Thailand, the Philippines, Chile, Argentina, and Mexico, are pursuing nanotechnology as well. Science and innovation by themselves are insufficient to address reasonable improvement challenges. Nanoscience and nanotechnology, like other science and innovation waves, are not "silver slugs" that will magically solve the relative multitude of issues that agricultural nations face. The social context of these countries should be considered at all times.

Science and innovation are, in general, an important part of improvement [6]. The UN Development Program's 2001 Human Development Report clearly demonstrates the importance of science and innovation in lowering death rates and advanc-

ing the future from 1960 to 1990, but it does not specifically mention nanotechnology. The UN Task Force on Science, Technology, and Innovation, in a report released in mid-2005 [8], ranked the world behind the United States and Japan in terms of science, technology, and innovation. In Brazil, the extended spending plan for nanoscience from 2004 to 2007 is around \$25 million, with three organisations, four organisations, and approximately 300 researchers working in the field. The South African Nanotechnology Initiative is a non-profit organisation made up of academic scientists from various regions in South Africa. Nanophase impetuses, nanofiltration, nanowires, nanotubes, and quantum dabs are just a few examples. Thailand, the Philippines, Chile, Argentina, and Mexico are among the developing countries that are pursuing nanotechnology.

Science and innovation aren't enough to solve practical improvement problems. Nanoscience and nanotechnology, like other science and innovation waves, are not "silver projectiles" that will magically solve the relative multitude of issues that non-industrial countries face; the social context of these countries should be considered all of the time. By the way, science and innovation are essential components of progress. Although the UN Development Program's 2001 Human Development Report clearly demonstrates the importance of science and innovation in reducing death rates and advancing the future from 1960 to 1990, it does not specifically mention nanotechnology. The UN Task Force on Science, Technology, and Innovation issued a report in mid-2005.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author has nothing to disclose and also state no conflict of interest in the submission of this manuscript.

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