

19 March

**Expert Group Meeting on “Science and Sustainable Development Goals”  
UN Headquarters, 20-21 March 2013**

*Department of Economic & Social Affairs (DESA), International Council for Science (ICSU),  
International Social Science Council (ISSC)*

**Agenda**

**DAY 1**

**Morning Session**

**Chair: Susana Adamo**

9:00 - 9:30am                    *Introduction: opening and aims of the meeting*

- David O’Connor, Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, DSD/UNDESA
- Gisbert Glaser, ICSU

9:30 - 10:00                    *Keynote speaker: From MDGs to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Key challenges and opportunities*

- Dave Griggs, Monash Sustainability Institute

10:00 - 11:20                    *Sustainability threats, irreversible events, societal impacts and responses*

- Melissa Leach, STEPS Centre, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex
- Timothy Lenton, University of Exeter
- Mark Swilling, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa
- Open plenary discussion

11:20 - 11:45                    Break

11:40 - 13:00                    *The role of science and scenario modeling in setting priorities for SDGs*

- Youba Sokona, African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- Mark Howells, KTH, Stockholm
- Claudia Ringler, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- Open discussion led by Chair and speakers

**Afternoon Session**

14:00 - 15:20                    *Breakout group discussions: 2 mixed natural and social science groups*

**Break-out Group 1**

Chair: Youba Sokona

Rapporteur: Marc Levy

- Perspectives from the sciences: priority areas for SDGs
- Monitoring progress: What needs to be measured, and how best to measure? What is both feasible and useful in guiding policy?

**Break-out Group 2**

Chair: Oran Young

Rapporteur: Mark Pelling

- Drivers of environmental and social change: What are the key leverage points for government policy?
- How best to promote social change and institutional change to address environmental risks? What role for changes in technology, consumer preferences, behaviour, values?

15:20 - 15:40 Break

15:40 - 17:00 Discussions continues in break-out groups

**Plenary session - Chair: Melissa Leach**

17:00 – 17:30 Presentation on *Future Earth: Research for Global Sustainability*

- Stephen Zebiak, International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Columbia University

17:30– 18:00

- Report back from break-out groups (Rapporteurs)

**DAY 2**

**Morning Session – Chair: Mans Nilsson**

9:00- 9:40 *Strengthening the science-policy interface*

- Presentation on Global Sustainable Development Report, Richard A Roehrl, UN-DESA
- Discussant: Holger Rogner; discussion of concept, possible contributions of scientific community

9:40 - 10:20 *Plenary discussion: Key messages and recommendations for the OWG*

- Presentation of a summary of Day 1 and discussion
- Moderated session

10:20 – 10:40 Break

10:40 – 13:00 *Continuation of discussion on key messages*

**Afternoon Session**

15:00 - 18:00pm *Interactive dialogue with UN Membership (ECOCOC Chamber)*

Presentation of key ideas and recommendations from the EGM to Member States and other Stakeholders.

**Chair:** H.E. Permanent Representative of Hungary Mr. Csaba Kőrösi, Co-chair of the OWG on SDGs

- Welcome: Nikhil Seth, Director, Division for Sustainable Development
- Panel: Youba Sokona, Claudia Ringler, Charles Perrings, Norichika Kanie, David Griggs
- Open plenary discussion