

Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs

Convened by the President of ECOSOC

Supported by the 10-Member Advisory Group and the UN Inter-Agency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the SDGs

15-16 May 2017

Conference Room 4, UN Headquarters
(unless noted otherwise)

Programme

Note: All sessions will include interactive discussions. Member States are encouraged to submit their written statements to the Secretariat for posting on the UN Website.

Day 1, 15 May 2017

10:00 – 10:30 Welcome address and opening segment

Opening of the Forum and introductory remarks by H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of ECOSOC

Opening statements:

- H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the General Assembly
- Mr. Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs

10:35 – 10:40 Video message from Mr. Bill Gates, Co-Chair, Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation

10:40 – 11:50 Session 1: Harnessing STI for the SDGs –the key to unlocking STI potentials

This session will set the scene for the overall STI Forum and provide elements of a vision on harnessing the potential of STI for sustainable development.

Brief remarks: Co-Chairs of STI Forum (3-minute each)

- H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Co-Chair of STI Forum
- Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Moderator:

- Ms. Elenita Daño, Asia Director, Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration, the Philippines (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Prof. Indira Nath, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, National Academy of Sciences, India
- Prof. Taikan Oki, Senior Vice-Rector, United Nations University

11:50 – 13:00 Session 2: STI challenges and solutions for the six selected SDGs

These sessions will address key SDG challenges and potential STI solutions –for each of the six goals (1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14) that will be on the agenda of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017 (e.g., five biggest challenges whose resolution could have a transformative impact on the SDGs, and for which technology does/can offer viable options).

Sessions for the 6 SDGs will be held in parallel in Conference Room 4 and the Trusteeship Council Room, and they will also consider issues that connect to other SDGs as appropriate. These sessions will also feature innovators whose exhibits feature at the Forum.

Conference Room 4:

11:50 – 13:00 Session 2(a): Key priorities for engaging STI for ending poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG 1)

Chair: Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Innovation pitch “Babajob in India” by Mr. John Gibbons

Moderator:

- Ms. Gillian Tett, US Managing Editor, Financial Times, UK

Speakers:

- Dr. Dirk Fransaer, Managing Director, Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO), Belgium
- Ms. Priyanthi Fernando, Executive Director, International Women's Rights Action watch, Asia Pacific in Malaysia
- Dr. Anne Kingiri, Senior Research Fellow, STI Policy, African Centre for Technology Studies, Kenya

Trusteeship Council Chamber (*without interpretation*):

11:50 – 13:00 Session 2(b): Key priorities for engaging STI for ending hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2)

Chair: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Innovation pitch “Farmer Query System in Bangladesh” by Mr. Mridul Chowdhury
Innovation pitch “Virtual Farmers Market in Zambia”, by Ms. Ahnna Gudmunds

Moderator:

- Dr. George Essegbey, Director, Science and Technology Policy Research Institute, Council of Science and Industrial Research, Ghana (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Dr. Wang Ruijun, Ministry of Science and Technology, China, and Chair of the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development
- Dr. Nemo Semret, Chief Technology Officer, Gro Intelligence
- Dr. Jim Gaffney, Regulatory Product Strategy Lead, DuPont Pioneer, USA

13:15 – 14:30 Launch of exhibition for innovative solutions to the SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14

This session will launch a poster exhibition of innovators from different parts of the world who are contributing towards accelerating progress towards the SDGs. The exhibition will also serve as a networking hub for innovators and other participants. It will serve to showcase innovations that, along with other examples discussed in the sessions, provide practical examples of concrete progress on the ground. A special feature will be a ‘walk-through’ showcase by Microsoft demonstrating multiple technologies.

Moderator:

- Ms. Stephanie Kimber, innovationXchange team, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's, Global Innovation Exchange, Australia.

Speakers:

- Dr. Hayat Sindi, President, Institute for Imagination and Ingenuity, Saudi Arabia
- Ms. Mary Snapp, Corporate Vice President of Microsoft Philanthropy, Corporate, External, and Legal Affairs Department, Microsoft corporation, USA
- Two representatives of the innovators:
 - “Ignitia in West Africa”, presented by Ms. Lizzie Merrill
 - “WaterQuest Hydroresources Management”, presented by Mr. Akash Bhavar

15:00 – 18:00 Session 2 (cont.): STI challenges and solutions for the six selected SDGs

Conference Room 4:

15:00 – 16:30 Session 2(c): Key priorities for engaging STI for ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (SDG 3)

Chair: Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Innovation pitch “doctHERs in Pakistan” by Mr. Asher Hasan

Innovation pitch “JokkoSante in Senegal” by Mr. Adama Kane

Introductory remarks: Ms. Rachel Kyte, Chief Executive Officer and Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

Moderator:

- Dr. Paulo Gadelha, Senior Advisor, FIOCRUZ, Brazil (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Dr. Livio Valenti, Co-Founder, VP of Policy and Strategy, Vaxess Technologies; and Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, USA
- Dr. Sarah Marniesse, Director, Mobilization of Research and Innovation, the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, France

Conference Room 4:

16:30 – 18:00 Session 2(d): Key priorities for engaging STI for achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls (SDG 5)

Chair: Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Innovation pitch “OMOMI in Nigeria” by Mr. Emmanuel Owobu

Moderator:

- Dr. Myrna Cunningham, President, Center for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoples, Nicaragua (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research, Sri Lanka
- H.E. Ms. Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations in New York
- Ms. Dalia Francheska Marquez, "Women's Leaders Committee of OAS Youth United In Action", Venezuela

Trusteeship Council Chamber (*without interpretation*):

15:00 – 16:30 Session 2(e): Key priorities for engaging STI for conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (SDG 14)

Chair: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Moderator:

- Dr. Hayat Sindi, President, Institute for Imagination and Ingenuity, Saudi Arabia (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Dr. Arjoon Suddhoo, Executive Director, Mauritius Research Council, Mauritius
- Prof. Dr. Martin Visbeck, University of Kiel, Head of the Research Unit, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research, Germany
- Mr. Matthew Merighi, Blue Water Metrics, USA

Trusteeship Council Chamber (*without interpretation*):

16:30 – 18:00 Session 2(f): Key priorities for engaging STI for building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (SDG 9)

Chair: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Innovation pitch “Mobilized Construction in Africa” by Mr. Kevin Lee

Moderator:

- Prof. Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Deputy Director General, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Dr. Robert Pepper, Head, Global Connectivity and Technology Policy, Facebook, USA
- Ms. Joy Tan, President, Corporate Communications, Huawei Company, China
- Dr. Kamau Gachigi, Gearbox and University of Nairobi, Kenya

UN Foundation:

18:30 – 20:30 Reception (by invitation)

Day 2, 16 May 2017

10:00 – 11:00 Session 3: Lessons learned in improving the impact of STI on the SDGs – highlighting the cross cutting nature of STI

This session will take stock of the key messages and recommendations highlighted in the first day and discuss the common elements and ways to improve STI support for the SDGs. Focus areas of discussion might include science advisory systems for the SDGs, resolving barriers to scaling up proven solutions, innovative solutions to minimize or resolve trade-offs between SDGs, progress in reaching those left behind by other advances, etc..

Chair: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Moderator:

- Dr. Heide Hackmann, Executive Director, ICSU (and TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Augustin Jianu, Minister of Communications and Information Society, Romania
- Dr. Peter Gluckman, Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister, New Zealand
- Ms. Mary Snapp, Corporate Vice President of Microsoft Philanthropy, Corporate, External, and Legal Affairs Department, Microsoft Corporation, USA

11:00 – 12:00 Session 4: National STI plans and policies for achieving the SDGs

This session will highlight the existing state of knowledge on how STI features in current national (and sub-national, if appropriate) plans for the SDGs, identify key technology gaps and needs, including those for scaling up viable solutions.

Chair: Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Innovation pitch “Missing Maps” by Ms. Rebecca Firth

Moderator:

- Dr. Bill Colglazier, Senior Scholar, Center for Science Diplomacy, American Association for Advancement of Science, USA (and 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Abdullah Lootah, Director General of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, United Arab Emirates
- Dr. Michiharu Nakamura, Counsellor to the President of Japan Science and Technology Agency, Japan
- Dr. Marcia McNutt, President, National Academy of Sciences, USA

12:00 – 13:00 Session 5: STI capacity building for achieving the SDGs

This session will build upon the previous one to explore existing STI policies for capacity building and science advisory systems, and discuss ways and means to bridge the gaps. The session will also review what it takes to be able to provide STI based advice effectively to shape policy, building on country experiences.

Chairs: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Innovation pitch “CodePhil in the Philippines” by Ms. Jiwon Park and Ms. Amanda Wu
Innovation pitch “Paper Airplanes” by Ms. Bailey Ulbricht

Moderator:

- Dr. Romain Murenzi, Director, UNESCO (formerly 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Prof. Geoffrey S. Boulton, President, CODATA
- Dr. Bitrina Diyamett, Executive Director, Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organization, Tanzania
- Prof. James Querry, Philadelphia University, ICGC, USA

13:15 – 14:30 Special event on Scaling up STI for SDGs: Impact Investing and Other Innovative Instruments

Innovative financiers to discuss issues on financing technologies and new types of financial instruments, investment funds and funding platforms, in order to foster and scale up commercial deployment of proven technologies for SDGs.

Moderator:

- Dr. Alfred Watkins, Chairman, Global Solutions Summit; Senior Advisor, Global Technology Deployment Initiative; Senior Director, P80 Group Foundation.

Speakers:

- Dr. Jeremy Farrar, Director, Wellcome Trust, UK
- Ms. Julie McBride, Senior Social Franchise Consultant, MSA Worldwide, USA
- Mr. Tang Ning, Founder of CreditEase Holding, Chairman of the Beijing P2P Association, China
- Dr. Peter Adriaens, CEO of Equarius Risk Analytics LLC, the co-founder and CEO of the KeyStone Compact Group Ltd., the Director and Head Judge of the Global CleanTech Cluster Association (GCCA), USA

15:00 – 16:00 Session 6: Emerging frontiers: evolving STI developments with implications for SDGs

This session will recognize the cross cutting nature of emerging issues associated with STI, and their implications across SDGs, including potential solutions. Issues to be discussed include automation, artificial intelligence and biotechnology.

Chair: Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Moderator:

- H.E. Mr. Miguel Ruíz Cabañas, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico

Speakers:

- Prof. Xiaolan Fu, University of Oxford, UK
- Dr. Ellen Jorgensen, Founder, GenSpace, New York
- Dr. Jose Ramon Lopez-Portillo R., Co-founder, Center for Mexican Studies

16:00 – 17:30 Session 7: Supporting the implementation of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism

This session will take stock of progress made in implementing the TFM and aim to rally financial and technological support for the TFM. It will discuss work on mapping of STI capacity building work and discuss the way forward in developing and maintaining the TFM online platform. It will also report on the outcomes of a meeting of funders of integrated research for the SDGs

Chair: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Moderator:

- Dr. Heide Hackmann, Executive Director, ICSU (and co-chair, TFM 10-Member Group)

Speakers:

- Mr. Shantanu Mukherjee, Chief, Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Mr. Klaus Tilmes, Director, Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank
- Ms. Nina Harjula, GCCA Board Member, Nia Ltd. President, Finland
- Mr. Kurt Vandenberghe, Director, Climate Action and Resource Efficiency, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

17:30 – 18:00 Conclusions and way forward

This session will take stock of the main areas for actions highlighted during the forum where STI could help achieve the SDGs, including messages from the Exhibition and the Special Event. It will also look at how the forum might further develop over the next 14 years to better serve the needs of its stakeholders. This will include:

- Report of key messages and action items:
 - Dr. Bill Colglazier, Co-Chair of the TFM 10-Member Group
- Recommendations to be taken forward to the next HLPF

Closing remarks:

- H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Co-Chair of STI Forum
- Dr. Vaughan Turekian, Co-Chair of STI Forum

Closing of the Forum

- H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of ECOSOC