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

9:30 - 10:00  Keynote speaker: From MDGs to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Key challenges and opportunities
   o  Dave Griggs, Monash Sustainability Institute

10:00 - 11:20  Sustainability threats, irreversible events, societal impacts and responses
   o  Melissa Leach, STEPS Centre, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex
   o  Timothy Lenton, University of Exeter
   o  Mark Swilling, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa
   o  Open plenary discussion

11:20 - 11:45  Break

11:40 - 13:00  The role of science and scenario modeling in setting priorities for SDGs
   o  Youba Sokona, African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
   o  Mark Howells, KTH, Stockholm
   o  Claudia Ringler, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
   o  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
   o  Perspectives from the sciences: priority areas for SDGs
   o  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
   o  Drivers of environmental and social change: What are the key leverage points for government policy?
   o  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  
  o  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