Enabling Environment for Science, Technology & Innovation

Nebojsa Nakicenovic
Deputy Director General & Deputy CEO
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
Professor Emeritus of Energy Economics
Vienna University of Technology

Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, UN Headquarters, NYC – 6-7 June 2016
10-Member Group on Enabling Environment for STI

- STI central to human development
- STI comes from many sources
- Emergence of “knowledge societies”
- Primary mechanism for achieving SDGs

Transformational nature of STI central to all SDGs
The World In 2050

Transformational nature of STI central to all SDGs

UN President of the General Assembly High-level thematic debate on Achieving the SDG's
9-10am, 21 April 2016, GA Hall, UN

Statement by the PGA
Statement by the SG
Statement by Victoria Barrett (youth, climate action leader)
Statement by Forest Whitaker (actor and SDG advocate)
Statement by business leader
Ghida Fakhry moderated conversation with Prof. Nakicenovic and Prof. Sachs
Closing film
Sustainability Transformation

“Doing More with Less” within Planetary Boundaries

Vision: Sustainable Future

Growing number of actors of change:
- green businesses
- cities
- civil society
- science
- IGOs (UN etc.)

New values and norms

Legitimacy of BAU eroding

2050: Sustainability transformation

2030: Achievement of SDGs

Incremental
Radical
Transformational

Source: After WBGU, 2011
Sustainability Transformation

“Doing More with Less” within Planetary Boundaries

Vision: Sustainable Future

→ New values and norms

→ 2050: Sustainability transformation

→ 2030: Achievement of SDGs

Legitimacy of BAU eroding

Incremental
Radical
Transformational

Source: After WBGU, 2011
Societal Action Plans and Roadmaps

- Commit to develop national and international STI Action Plans and Roadmaps for achieving the SDGs
- Develop inclusive plans with input and participation from all sectors of society in every country
- Harness knowledge, insights, and advice from all sources.
- Assure periodic feedback and evaluation from the STI community
  - Check for policy coherence
  - Check for SDG coherence
- Create real “learning societies.”
Strengthening STI-Policy Interface

- Multiple-benefits from strengthening the STI-policy interface
- Use fact-based scientific advice to support decisions

How?

- Create a “science advisory system”:
  - use high quality, fact-based, and credible scientific advice from diverse sources,
  - free of politics and special interests, and
  - independent of (government) control.

International Network of Government Science Advice

STI Policy Coherence

Paradox of STI:
- cause of problems, e.g. as negative externalities
- but solution, if socially and environmentally sound

Key to
- Understand inter-relationships and interdependencies
- identify trade-offs and inherent in STI for SDGs (nationally and globally)
- leverage synergies among STI policies and SDGs

Tools to support policy coherence:
- integrated assessments
- systems thinking
THANK YOU

naki@iiasa.ac.at