GHANA’s STI4SDGS ROADMAP: Experiences, Achievements and Lessons

PAVING THE PATHWAYS FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY AND FUTURE RESILIENCE

By

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• Given the importance of STI in solving societal, environmental and economic development challenges, a Global Pilot Programme on the preparation of STI4SDGs roadmaps was launched in July 2019 by the UN Inter-agency Task Team (UN-IATT)

• Ghana is one of the participating countries in the Global Pilot Programme on STI4SDGs roadmaps

STI4SDGs Roadmap is aimed at fast tracking the achievement of the SDGs with application of emerging STI

• We have used the joint UN guidebook as a toolkit for the national roadmap development exercise.

• We have also had inputs from Stakeholders, Knowledge resource from UCL Students and enjoyed commitment from high level policy makers
The Ghana STI4SDGs Preparation Process

December 2019
- A workshop to deliberate on the objectives of STI4SDGs roadmap was organized
- Tentative workplan and outline for STI4SDGs Roadmap developed for high level engagement

Mar-June 2020
- Constitution of Technical Task Team for the Development of STI Roadmap for the SDGs
- 1st face-to-face meeting, virtual meeting and participation in validation workshop

September 2020
- Resource Person identified for STI4SDGs Roadmap
- Situational Analysis done by CSIR-STEPRI Team led by Resource Person with technical guidance, inputs and support from MESTI, TTT and UNESCO

October 2020
- Developed a concept note for resource mobilization and operationalization of STI4SDGs roadmap
- Proposal for sensitization on STI4SDGs among stakeholders
- Development of Policy Briefs
Iterative Process of Developing The STI-SDGs Roadmap

- Introduction and Objectives
- Situational Analysis
- Vision, Goals and Targets
- Strategies/Programmes/Projects
- Budget and Funding arrangements
- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework & Communication Plan
- STI Interventions/catalysts for achieving SDGs
Key Achievements

• Situational Analysis of the extent of Integration of STI in Development Plans and Critical Contribution of STI to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in Ghana

• Critical sectors that would need the application of STI in creating jobs, solving developmental and environmental challenges in society

• Agric (SDGs 1&2), Industry (SDGs 9, 8 & 1), Education (SDG 4), Health particularly due to COVID-19 and significance of public health (SDG 3), Water and Sanitation (SDG 6) due to deficit in achieving targets

• Development of 5 Policy Briefs
Policy Briefs (5)

• Conceptualizing STI4SDGs Roadmaps: An Actionable Strategy aimed at accelerating the achievement of SDGs using STI in Ghana
• Review of the current STI Policy, SDGs and Development Plans and the Inter-linkages
• Assessment of STI Capabilities to meet prioritized SDGs
• Harnessing Innovation potential of the Ghanaian Youth for the attainment of the SDGs
• Fact Sheet on current situation with prioritized SDGs
Challenges in the Context of Urgent needs and Opportunities to apply STI for resilient Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic

Challenges in the health sector as captured in the National Health Policy (2020) are:

• Inadequate health facilities in terms of infrastructural and equipment including ICT and AI-powered healthcare services;

• Need for re-tooling of existing facilities and adoption of digital technologies for pandemic planning, surveillance, testing, contact tracing, quarantine, and health care

• Plans for the creation of 88 regional hospitals, Infectious Disease Center built to expand the country’s health infrastructure, and additional funds were made available to increase the testing centers.

• Medical education and training in various disciplines including herbal medicine, biomedical science, drone operations, e-health systems, hospital waste management and health tourism
COVID-19 Research Fund

• The Research and Grant Institute of Ghana (NGO dedicated to promoting the generation, dissemination, and utilization of research in Ghana) launched the COVID-19 Research Fund

• The Fund supports research projects underpinned by the WHO’s COVID-19 Global Research Roadmap and Global Coordinating Mechanism (GCM) for R&D in epidemics, the Global Infectious Disease Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) and national research needs

• Areas of attention include Transmission dynamics, COVID-19 Susceptibility and Severity, Clinical characterization and management, public health and media and communication
Proposal on Sub-TTT Committees

Chapter 1, 2, 3

- Head, Office of President SDG Unit (Co-Chair)
- Director STI, MESTI
- Rep from NDPC
- Director-CSIR-STEPRI
- Resource Person and Team

Chapter 4

- Chief Director, MESTI (Chairperson)
- Rep from Ministry of Business Development
- Rep From Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Rep from Ministry of Education
- Rep From Ministry of Health
- Rep From Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
- Rep From Ministry of Food and Agriculture
- Resource Person and Team

Chapter 5, 6

- Rep From Ministry of Finance
- Rep from Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation
- Rep Ghana Statistical Services
- Resource Person and Team

23/11/2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters /Activity</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>Timelines (October –Mid December, 2020)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction/Background, Objectives of STI4SDGs Roadmap and Scope</td>
<td>TTT Sub-committee</td>
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<td>2. Situational Analysis</td>
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<td>3. Vision, Goals, and Targets of the Roadmap</td>
<td>TTT Sub-committee</td>
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<td>4. Detailed STI4SDGs Strategies/Programmes/Projects/Activities</td>
<td>TTT led by Resource Person</td>
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<td>5. Budget and Funding arrangement for Implementation Activities/Projects</td>
<td>TTT led by consultant</td>
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<td>6. M &amp; E Framework and Communication Plan</td>
<td>TTT Sub-committee led by Rep from M&amp;E Ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sensitization &amp;Stakeholder Consultation</td>
<td>MESTI &amp; STEPRI</td>
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<td>one in-persons and two virtual sensitization workshops</td>
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<td>Validation Workshop</td>
<td>MESTI &amp; STEPRI</td>
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Lessons

• Shared responsibility and commitment at the highest level – MESTI’s Strategic role and guidance in the development of STI4SDGs Roadmap

• Involvement of critical actors and alignment to national development plans

• Intensive engagement with stakeholders – expert group discussions, validation workshop and virtual debriefing meeting with Technical Task Team

• A Team of resource persons involving STI experts and Development Practitioners

• Effective targeting of sectors to focus on based on developmental trajectory – agenda for jobs and inclusive sustainable development

• Strong cutting edge of STI and expected developmental outcomes
Considerations by UN and International Partners

• Partnerships and Collaborations for STI research
• Resource mobilization for finalization of the development of STI4SDGs Roadmap Process
• Sharing of knowledge resource and knowledge exchanges
• Regional STI Projects/Programmes for the implementation of STI4SDGs Roadmap tailored to the National Projects and Programmes
• Supporting STI institutions to deliver on their mandates
• Building strong M&E systems for effective management, communication and reporting
THANK YOU