UN 75th General Assembly

Side Event on STI for SDGs Roadmaps

Science, Technology and Innovation Roadmaps for the SDGs – achievements and new opportunities

Date: 17 November 2020
Time: 10.00-13.00 EST
Venue: Virtual Meeting (Webex)

Registration: https://sdgs.un.org/events/un75th-ga-side-event-sti-sdgs-roadmaps-science-technology-and-innovation-roadmaps-sdgs **(before 11 November 2020)**

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda[1] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognise science, technology, and innovation as a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the context of implementing the Technology Facilitation Mechanism under the above named Agendas, the Global Pilot Programme on Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs Roadmaps was launched in 2019 with an initial group of five pilot countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya and Serbia), based on a newly developed "Guidebook for the Preparation of STI for SDGs Roadmaps". The joint work on the Guidebook and Global Pilot Programme has brought together different UN Agencies such as UN-DESA, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNCTAD and the World Bank, together with other international partners such as the Government of Japan, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and the OECD. The Guidebook is accompanied by two background papers: on available STI road-mapping methodologies and international partnerships.

Objective

In celebration of UN 75th anniversary, this event will focus on the preliminary results and the next steps for the finalization of the pilot roadmaps as part of the Global Pilot Programme for STI for the SDGs and will present proposals and ideas for the expansion of the Global Pilot Programme within the new initiative "Partnership in Action".

This will be a basis to discuss the potential application of the STI for SDGs roadmap to support the economic and social recovery post COVID-19and the implementation of greener development models based on the experience of

---

[1] https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf

IATT partners and the countries participating in- and applying to- the Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps.

Structure

A 3-hour session will be structured into two main parts with a break. The first part will give an overview of the context, state of play, recent developments and next steps within the Global Pilot Programme and STI for SDGs work stream, and the launch of the [Guidebook](#) for the Preparation of STI for SDGs Roadmaps. It will be followed by an interactive, moderated discussion with all participants. The second part will focus on the proposed future development of the work stream and Global Pilot Programme, including the potential partnership and financing options and new methodological developments. It will also be followed by an interactive, moderated discussion – between the panelists and with a wider audience.

Participation

The virtual event will bring together speakers from the EC, UN agencies and UN Member States. It is directed to the countries and organizations interested in applying science, technology and innovation in order to achieve the SDGs, respond to the development challenges and contribute to the post-crises recovery and resilience in a sustainable and knowledge-based manner. In particular, the event will welcome all countries that are interested in the next phrase of the Global Pilot Programme, as well as potential donors and partners in the implementation of the Global Pilto Programme.

Key issues to focus

- Launch of the Guidebook for the Preparation of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for SDGs Roadmaps.
- The role of STI for SDGs Roadmaps in the achievement of Agenda 2030 and sustainable post-COVID recovery and a common framework for sectoral or problem specific Roadmaps
- Concrete results from pilot countries and the major milestones of the work on STI Roadmaps so far and what are the planned next steps.
- International partnerships, voluntary commitments, and networks to promote and increase the development and implementation of STI for SDGs Roadmaps at the international, regional, and national levels, and proposals for scaling up the Global Pilot Programme through the new initiative "Partnership in Action".[2]

This event supports the work of the UN Inter-Agency Task Team Group on STI for SDGs Roadmaps. The Group is co-led by UN-DESA, the World Bank, UNESCO, UNCTAD. Its members also include UNIDO, UN-ESCAP, ESCWA, UNDP, and FAO, among others. Substantial support has been provided by international stakeholders, including the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Government of Japan.

---

[2] For details about "Partnership in Action", see https://sdgs.un.org/tfm

Deliverables

Better understanding on how to apply the experience of international organizations and UN Member States on using science, technology and innovation to achieve the SDGs to build pathways to sustainable recovery and future resilience. In particular, strengthening a community and expert network for further enhancing the work on:

- The Guidebook and associated publications and resource base
- Recognition by national governments of the crucial role STI roadmaps can play in forwarding the implementation of the SDGs at the national and local level
- Sharing of experiences with implementing the Guidebook, developing STI for SDG roadmaps at the national level and using STI roadmaps for assisting countries to recover post-COVID and build resilience.
- A one-stop-shop for UN expertise available in support of international, national and local STI for SDG roadmaps
- The establishment of a Partnership in Action process supported by a fundraising initiative to enable the development international, national and local STI for SDG roadmaps

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Moderator:

10.00 – 10.15   Welcome and opening remarks:

PART 1

Guiding Questions:
- What are your country's key achievements [expectations] through participation in the Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs roadmap?
- What challenges did you face [do you anticipate] - especially in the context of urgent needs and opportunities to apply STI for resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?
- What lessons and advice would you share with other countries for the next phase of the Global Pilot Programme?
- What should UN and international partners consider to further enhance support to countries to harness STI planning for achieving the SDGs?

Moderator:

Brief introduction to the Global Pilot Programme

10.15 – 11.15

Introduction:
The achievements of the UN Working Group for STI Roadmaps for the SDGs (5 minutes)

Ministerial Roundtable - National Achievements on STI for SDGs Roadmaps and the Global Pilot Programme on the subject

Q & A

Lead discussant:

11.15-11.20 Break

<u>Guiding Questions:</u>
- What key contributions or commitments can your agency or constituency make to support initial and future pilot countries in developing and implementing STI for SDGs roadmaps?
- What are key areas requiring additional collective efforts to promote effective national and international efforts on STI for the SDGs?
- What kind of activities (capacity building, roadmap design, implementation, monitoring etc. need support? Which are the good practice examples that can inspire the Partnership in Action?

Moderator:
Brief introduction of the Partnership in Action and Call for Voluntary Commitments

11.20-12.40

Introduction:

Stakeholder roundtable: Partnerships and resource mobilization for STI for SDGs Roadmaps

Q & A

Lead discussant:

Discussant:

Expected outcome of the session: common understanding on the need to continue and expand the Global Pilot Programmes and prepare to consider commitments for mobilizing more resources, including funding or otherwise supporting the expanded Global programme and contribute actively to the Partnership in Action

12.40-12.50 Closing remarks

12.50-13.00 Informal exchange and networking