



UN STI Forum 2021

Side Event on Capacity Building in STI for SDGs

Draft Concept note

By UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs

Date and Time: 4 May at 8:00 – 9:00 Eastern NY time / 14:00 – 15:00 CET

Venue: Virtual Meeting on MS Teams

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/WdvMFEzGpr>

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda¹ highlight the importance of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policies and actions for achieving the SDGs and launched the [Technology Facilitation Mechanism \(TFM\)](#) to support the implementation of these activities. The [UN Interagency Task Team on STI for SDGs \(IATT\)](#) is one of the several mechanisms to operationalize TFM.

Regions and countries need to build capacities to create robust STI systems for achieving SDGs and addressing the pressing environmental, health, economic and social challenges of the global crisis such as the current pandemic. The **IATT's Work Stream 6 (WS6)** was formed in 2017, to design and deliver joint training courses and workshops on STI policy for SDGs, particularly for developing countries. The goal is to strengthen capacities of policy-makers, public service experts and key STI stakeholders by keeping abreast of most current approaches to STI policy design, and to enhance their ability to mobilize STI as part of strategies to achieve the SDGs.

The IATT WS6 has designed a joint training programme and has so far delivered two pilot regional trainings in presence and a series of six online training sessions:

- 2018 April, Jordan: Workshop on Innovation Policies for SDGs in the Arab Region, in collaboration with UN-ESCWA
- 2019 May, Panama, Workshop on STI policies for SDGs for Central American countries, in collaboration with SENACYT Panama
- 2020 November/December, Virtual Workshops on STI Policy instruments for SDGs
 - Session 1 Current approaches to STI Policy making in the context of SDGs
 - Session 2 STI Policy instruments: Design and implementation
 - Session 3 Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- 2021 April, Virtual Regional Workshops on STI Policy instruments for SDGs (Latin America)

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

Session 1 Enfoques actuales en formulación de políticas CTI en el contexto ODS
Session 2 Instrumentos de política de CTI
Session 3 Fomento de la innovación y emprendimiento

In view of the global pandemic and the difficulty to convene training activities in presence, additional online sessions at regional level have also being planned in the upcoming months. With the successful delivery of these sessions and more requests raised by countries and regions, it is a critical time to present the IATT WS6's training activities and discuss plans to scale up the pilot trainings to meet the countries' and regions' needs as the margin of the STI forum.

Objectives

The side event will discuss the importance of capacity building in STI policies for SDGs and will present IATT WS6's training activities, achievements, findings from the training sessions, and plans. The event will also discuss new partnerships and views of development partners and government officials on their expectations and recommendations for the future work of IATT WS6 to expand the pilot sessions.

Structure

The session will last 1 hour and be structured into two parts:

- The first part will give an overview of the importance of strengthening knowledge and skills of policy-makers, public service experts and key STI stakeholders to foster and use STI for solving pressing health, economic and social challenges and achieving SDGs. This part will also present IATT WS6's work focused on design and delivery of joint UN trainings and workshops on STI policies for the SDGs at regional and international level, findings from pilot training activities and plans.
- The second part will invite participants of the pilot training sessions and partners to share their experience and perspectives, which will feed the scaling-up of the pilot sessions.

Participation

The virtual event is directed to the countries and organizations interested in building capacity in STI for the SDGs. It is also targeted at Member States and stakeholders who will follow the discussion on STI in the STI forum. The event will also welcome potential partners willing to support the work on capacity building in STI for SDGs.

AGENDA	
Event Moderator, IATT member	
8:00-8:05	Welcome and opening remarks WS6 IATT coordinator agency

8:05-8:25	The need for capacity building in STI for SDGs WS6 IATT Representative WS6 training programme, pilot sessions and future plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS6 IATT member : WS6 training programmes and activities • WS6 IATT member : next steps and future trainings • WS6 IATT member (JRC) : MOOC development
8:25-8:50	Intervention from previous participants and partners: sharing experience and recommendations Government officials from previous trainings (3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative from LAC sessions • Representative from the Arab region • Representative from Africa Partners (3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADC representative • Germany GIZ • University representative: University College London Summary by moderator
8:50-8:55	Q&A session with the public
8:55-9:00	Closing remarks IATT coordinator agency



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