

6th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

4-5 May 2021, UN HQ New York (virtual)

*"Science, technology and innovation for a sustainable and resilient
COVID-19 recovery, and effective pathways of inclusive action
towards the Sustainable Development Goals"*

Programme*

*All sessions/special events will be livestreamed on [UN webcast](#) and [Twitter](#),
virtual exhibition will be available on [livestream](#)

4 May 2021

Pre-Event: Opening of Virtual Innovation Exhibit ([livestream](#))

(7:30-8:30)

Opening Remarks

- H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council

Remarks:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations
- Mr. Alexander Trepelkov, Officer-in-Charge of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- Ms. Sweta Govani, Lead for Global Innovation Exchange at Results for Development

Welcome and Opening ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

(9:00-9:45)

Opening Remarks

- H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council
- H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir, President General Assembly
- Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (remarks delivered by Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UNDESA, and Officer-in-Charge, UN Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Technology)

Keynote Speakers

- Ms. Julie Makani, Professor and Principal Investigator for Sickle Cell Disease programme, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Tanzania
- Mr. Rajiv Shah, President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Session 1: STI Lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

(9:45-10:30)

This session will explore lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic for a better science-policy-society interface, a resilient, sustainable and inclusive recovery, and rapid solutions for global challenges. This will include reflections on the response of the scientific community to the pandemic, its impact on open science, building trust in science,

support for the economic and social recovery, including through the creative economy, advancement of gender equality as well as lessons-learned on how to better harness science and technology to resolve global challenges.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. Vaughan Turekian, Senior Director, US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Mr. Jeremy James Farrar, Director, The Wellcome Trust
- Ms. Nísia Verônica Trindade Lima, President, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), Brazil
- Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, Deputy Secretary-General, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Ms. Dina Dellyana, Coordinator, Global Center of Excellence and International Cooperation for Creative Economy (G-CINC), Indonesia

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (20 mins)

Ministerial session: STI policies and initiatives for sustainable development - best practices and lessons learned ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))
(10:30-11:00)

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Opening Remarks (Video):

- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Ministerial statements

Special event: Reflections by 10-Member Group members on next steps for the TFM*
(11:15 – 12:15; no interpretation) ([Webex](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

The Secretary-General's 10-Member Group is tasked with supporting the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, including the STI Forum. Group members work closely with the IATT and guide the work of the TFM. This session will feature reflections by 10-Member Group members on the next steps for the TFM.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Ms. Heide Hackmann, Chief Executive Director, International Science Council (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Mr. Vaughan Turekian, Senior Director, US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
- Mr. Michiharu Nakamura, Senior Advisor (Former President), Japan Science and Technology Agency
- Mr. Paulo Gadelha, Coordinator of the Fiocruz Strategy for the 2030 Agenda
- Mr. Elmer William Colglazier Jr, Senior Scholar, Visiting Scientist, Center for Science Diplomacy, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Ms. Myrna Cunningham, President, Center for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoples
- Ms. Xiaolan Fu, Director, Technology and Management Centre for Development, Oxford University

Lead discussants:

- Mr. José Ramón López-Portillo Romano, Chairman, Q Element Ltd.

- Mr. Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Member of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, European Commission; former Deputy Director General and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, International Institute for Applied System Analysis
- Ms. Špela Stres, Director, Innovation and Technology Transfer Center for Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia
- Mr. Romain Murenzi, Executive Director, TWAS

Lunch break

(12:15 – 15:00)

Virtual Innovation Exhibit ([livestream](#))

(12:30-14:30)

In this series of six panels, winners of the 2020 and 2021 UN Calls for Innovations will share their expertise around five development areas. Moderated by thought leaders, innovators will explain their cutting-edge initiatives and share insights from their experience implementing development solutions in a rapidly changing context around the pandemic.

Remarks

- H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Session 2: Effective paths towards the SDGs: STI for ending poverty and hunger, enhancing human well-being and building resilience ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

(15:00-16:00)

This is the first of two sessions dedicated to the SDGs in-focus at the HLPF 2021. This session would look specifically STI to advance SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 16, including through their interlinkages with the rest of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Discussions could include breakthroughs and new approaches to accelerate SDG progress through innovations, focused priorities for STI development and successful experiences from the pandemic that can be scaled up to have impact across multiple goals and targets as well as ways to improve the science-policy-society interface; increasing scientific collaboration globally for tackling major challenges.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. Huadong Guo, Chairman of Academic Committee, Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, Chinese Academy of Sciences (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Mr. Mohamed H. A. Hassan, President, World Academy of Sciences (TWAS); President, Sudanese National Academy of Sciences (SNAS)
- Ms. Carolina Botero Cabrera, Director, Karisma Foundation, Colombia; Member, UNESCO Advisory Committee on Open Science
- Mr. Peter Gluckman, President-elect, International Science Council

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Session 3: Effective paths towards the SDGs: STI for transforming economies toward equity, sustainability and climate action ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

(16:00-17:00)

This is the second session of two dedicated to the SDGs in-focus at the HLPF 2021. This session would look specifically at STI to advance SDGs 8, 10, 12 and 13, including through their interlinkages with the rest of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Discussions could include breakthroughs and new approaches to accelerate SDG progress through innovations, focused priorities for STI development and successful experiences from the pandemic that can be scaled up to have impact across multiple goals and targets as well as ways to improve the science-policy-society interface; increasing scientific collaboration globally for tackling major challenges.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Ms. Anne-Christine Ritschkoff, Senior Advisor, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd. (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Ms. Joyeeta Gupta, Professor, IHE Delft Institute; Scientific Advisor of “Making Peace with Nature” report
- Mr. William H. Lee, Coordinator of Scientific Research, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- Ms. Natsai Audrey Chieza, Founder and CEO, Faber Futures

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Special event: STI and harnessing global opportunities for transformations in 2021* (17:15 – 18:15; no interpretation) ([Webex](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

The year 2021 is set to be a landmark year with major global events, such as the Food Systems Summit, the High-level Dialogue on Energy, the second global Sustainable Transport Conference, the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) and UN Climate Change Conference (COP26). This roundtable will examine the most impactful STI applications- as well as the most significant unsolved problems- in these areas, with the potential to simultaneously influence multiple SDG targets. Several of these correspond closely to the ‘entry’ points advanced in the scientific assessment of the Global Sustainable Development Report, 2019.

Co-chair: H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. Manish Bapna, President and CEO (interim), World Resources Institute

Panelists:

- Ms. Ismahane Elouafi, Chief Scientist, Food and Agriculture Organization
- Ms. Carla Bailo, President and CEO, Center for Automotive Research, USA
- Mr. Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Member of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, European Commission; former Deputy Director General and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, International Institute for Applied System Analysis
- Mr. Amrit Chandan, Founder of Aceleron, UK

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

5 May 2021**Virtual Innovation Exhibit (continued) ([livestream](#)) (7:30-8:30)**

In this series of six panels, winners of the 2020 and 2021 UN Calls for Innovations will share their expertise around five development areas. Moderated by thought leaders, innovators will explain their cutting-edge initiatives and share insights from their experience implementing development solutions in a rapidly changing context around the pandemic.

Remarks:

- Ms. Špela Stres, Director, Innovation and Technology Transfer Center for Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia (TFM 10-Member Group)

Ministerial Session (continued): STI policies and initiatives for sustainable development - best practices and lessons learned¹ ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#)) (9:00-10:15)

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Ministerial statements

Session 5: Emerging science and technology trends, challenges and the SDGs (10:15-11:00) ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

This session will explore the latest developments in science and technology and their current and potential future impacts on sustainable development and the SDGs. As mandated by the GA, the session will include updated elements of “TFM findings on the impacts of rapid technology change on the SDGs”, bringing together views of experts from the UN system, 10-Member Group, scientist and engineers active in the TFM. The session will explore technology convergence and the multiple technology divides, including gender digital divide, and other challenges associated with these trends related to clusters such as blockchain, biotechnology, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence and quantum technologies.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Ms. Heide Hackmann, Chief Executive Director, International Science Council (TFM 10-Member Group)

Special Presentation:

- Mr. Elliott Harris, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and UN Chief Economist [*to present the “TFM findings on the impacts of rapid technology change”*]

Panelists:

- Mr. Peter Major, Chair, UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development
- Ms. Wilhelmina Quaye, Director, CSIR-Science and Technology Policy Research Institute, Ghana
- Mr. Hiroshi Matsumoto, President, Rikagaku Kenkyūjo (RIKEN), Japan

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (20 mins)

Special event: Digital Cooperation in the Decade of Action* (11:15 – 12:15; no interpretation) ([Webex](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

This special event will build on session 5, focusing specifically on how digital cooperation in the Decade of Action can accelerate progress to the SDGs. It will include discussions on artificial intelligence (AI), connect to the PGA’s high-level thematic debate on digital cooperation and connectivity, and seek TFM synergies with multiple stakeholders active in the follow-up to the SG’s roadmap on digital cooperation. The event will explore broader STI actions that are essential to close digital divides, including gender digital divides.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pilegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- H.E. Mr. Amandeep Gill, Director of Project “International Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative”, Global Health Centre, Graduate institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

¹ Previously numbered as session 4 in draft programme

Panelists:

- Ms. Nnenna Nwakanma, Chief Web Advocate, World Wide Web Foundation
- Ms. Anriette Estrehuysen, Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) chair, Internet Governance Forum
- Mr. John Frank, Vice President, UN Affairs at Microsoft
- Mr. Dominik Boesl, IEEE Tech Ethics Ambassador, and Professor for Digital Sciences, Automation and Leadership, Hochschule der Bayerischen Wirtschaft, Germany

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Lunch break

(12:15 – 14:45)

Special event: Promoting Inclusion to accelerate innovation*

(14:45-15:45; no interpretation) ([Webex](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))

This session will consider the advancement of the SDGs by building up an inclusive innovation ecosystem that nurtures and champions the contributions of all, including the poor, women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. Paulo Gadelha, Coordinator of the Fiocruz Strategy for the 2030 Agenda (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Ms. Gillian Marcelle, Managing Member, Resilience Capital Ventures, LLC
- Ms. Anna Andersone, CEO, Riga TechGirls
- Ms. Maxine Fassberg, Former Vice President, Intel Capital Group, Intel Corporation
- Ms. Utari Octavianty, Founder and Director General, Aruna Indonesia

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Session 6: Supporting national capacities through the TFM ([Interprefy](#))([UN webcast](#))([Twitter](#))

(16:00-16:50)

This session will present how the TFM can support national capacities, including through United Nations Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT)s joint work in supporting the development and roll-out of STI policy frameworks, STI action plans and the STI roadmaps; gender and STI efforts; and capacity-building for STI ministries. During this session the panelists will present national and regional initiatives related to design and review of STI for SDG roadmaps and related policy actions, including regarding gender and STI. The session will also discuss potential support to strengthen international partnerships in the area of STI capacity-building for SDGs achievement.

Co-chair:

- H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. Michiharu Nakamura, Senior Advisor (Former President), Japan Science and Technology Agency (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- Ms. Yuliia Bezvershenko, Director General, Directorate on Science and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Science, Ukraine
- Ms. Samia Charfi Kaddour, Director-General Scientific Research, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunisia
- Ms. Cynthia Asare Bediako, Chief Director, Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), Ghana

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Session 7: Delivering in Decade of Action for achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs: Next steps for the TFM and its partners ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))
(16:50-17:50)

This session will begin by presenting a number of initiatives from across the world that support the science-based, solution-oriented, multi-stakeholder and collaborative approach of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) including discussions on broadening their impacts and closer connection to the TFM. The session will also include the TFM's online platform 2030 Connect, which connects technology seekers with providers of technologies and other resources and aims to function as a hub for connecting different (open source) databases. It will conclude with a presentation of the way forward for the TFM.

Co-chair: H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations

Moderator:

- Mr. José Ramón López-Portillo Romano, Chairman, Q Element Ltd. (TFM 10-Member Group)

Panelists:

- HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, President, Royal Scientific Society of Jordan
- Mr. Dirk Fransaer, Managing Director, Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO)
- Mr. Joshua M. Pearce, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Michigan Technological University
- Ms. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

Interactive discussion (all stakeholders) (30 mins)

Closing remarks ([Interprefy](#)) ([UN webcast](#)) ([Twitter](#))
(17:50-18:00)

- H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council

*[*Organized by the Co-Chairs of the Forum, H.E. Mr. Andrejs Pildegovičs, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations]*