On-line Training Sessions on STI policy and Policy Instruments for SDGs

-Session 3: Innovation and entrepreneurship

Key messages

4 December 2020

By UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs
Innovative entrepreneurs are a special kind of actor in the innovation system. They have the power to transform society by transforming pressing development challenges in opportunities for economic growth and job creation.

Addressing the needs of innovative entrepreneurs illustrate the limits of science, technology and innovation policies, drawing attention onto additional interventions across multiple policy domains.

By Mr. Fernando Santiago on behalf of UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs
Intellectual property laws, policies at the national level as well as the institutional level and its management by enterprises is an important component of an innovation system.

IP creates the conditions for knowledge creation, allows for dealing with it like any other asset and facilitates a competitive marketplace.
Two central challenges in innovative entrepreneurship are:

(1). to stimulate the creation of innovative companies in the first place, and

(2). to scale up successful ones so they can make a significant contribution to productivity growth and job creation. Frequently innovative companies are unable to grow because they lack access to external risk capital.

Governments are generally not good at identifying promising individual companies meriting further investment. But governments can catalyse development of a market for private risk capital by co-investing with private venture capital firms.

By Mr. Ralph Heinrich on behalf of UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs
The designing of policy instruments is a continuous learning process, and one should not be afraid of trial and error.

The development of an entrepreneurship ecosystem is a systemic challenge, there is not a one silver bullet.

You need to bring in the right people for the right task. In the case of Start-Up Chile, they are entrepreneurs supporting entrepreneurs.

By Mr. Nicolo Gligo on behalf of UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs
Policymakers need to better understand the real-world challenges that innovative firms and entrepreneurs face to improve the balance in their STI policy mix so that it is more supportive.

Innovation has many elements, the sum of which can result in value for consumers and citizenry, and socio-economic growth and development for the country. Policy support should address as many of these elements as possible in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

By Mr. Dimo Calovski on behalf of UN-IATT Workstream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs