

Workshop on STI for the SDGs – Preparatory meeting of IATT and 10-Member-Group
Virtual format, 7-9 March 2022

Introduction to the Workshop

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CHARTER of THE UNITED NATIONS

AND STATUTE of THE
INTERNATIONAL COURT
OF JUSTICE



“We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war...”

- Integrated approach to great global issues
- Changing role of scientists and engineers
- Dual-use



TECHNOLOGY FACILITATION MECHANISM



46 UN entities, 100+ staff volunteers, work streams



appointed by SG every two years

1

UNITED NATIONS INTERAGENCY TASK TEAM ON STI FOR THE SDGS (IATT)

2

10-MEMBER GROUP TO SUPPORT THE TECHNOLOGY FACILITATION MECHANISM

3

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE SDGS (STI FORUM)

1,000s of stakeholders have been involved, with many related events.

4

ONLINE PLATFORM (2030 Connect) - GATEWAY FOR INFORMATION ON EXISTING STI INITIATIVES, MECHANISMS AND PROGRAMS

Single entry point to STI solutions and information by many partners

→ A new one-UN, multi-stakeholder way of working?

7th STI Forum (Virtual, 5-6 May 2022)

Theme: “Science, technology and innovation for building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”



H.E. Mr. Kennedy Godfrey Gastorn

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Tanzania to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the 2022 STI Forum



H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the 2022 STI Forum

STI Forum conceived as a special entry point for science and technology communities to the UN deliberations.

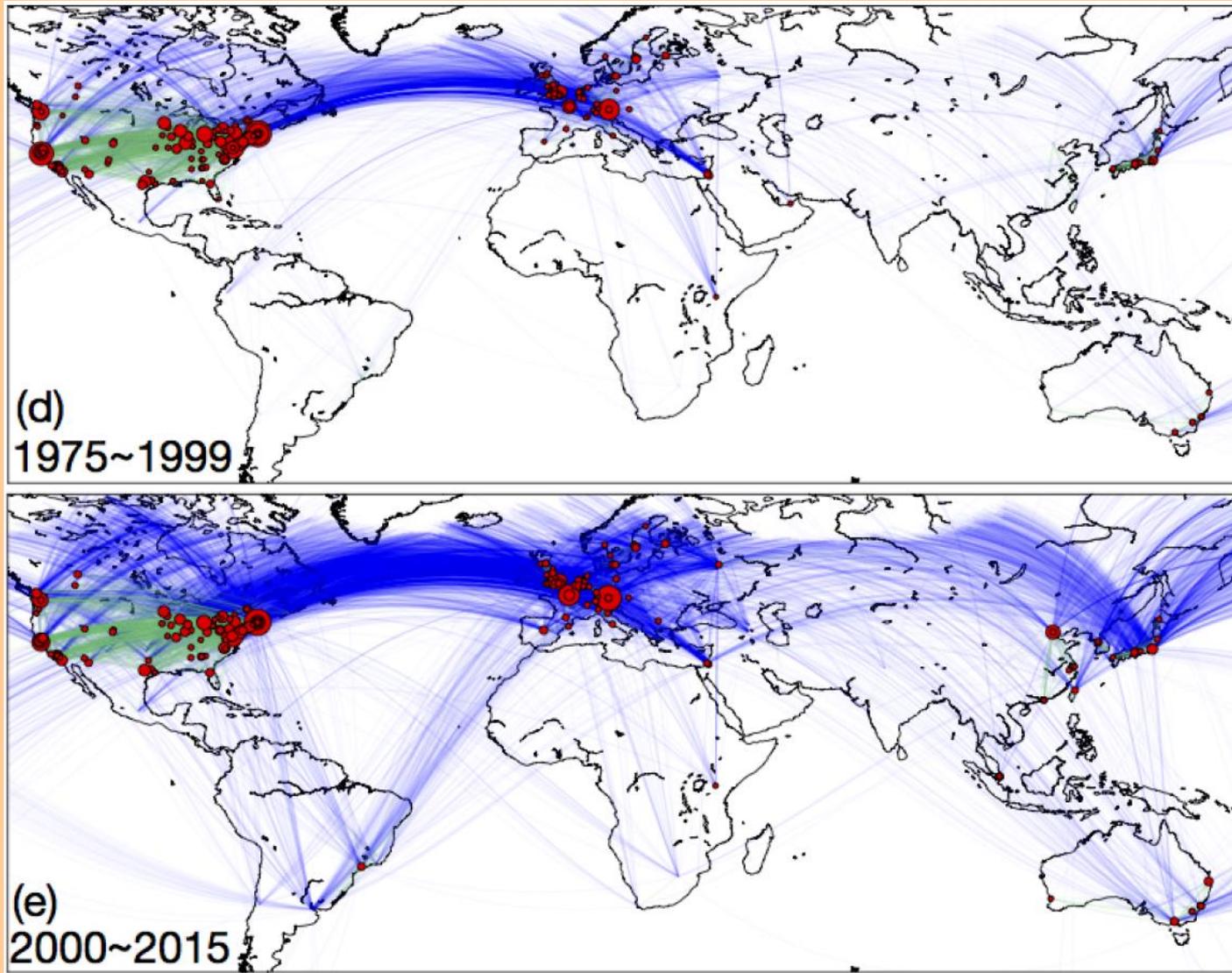
Output: Co-chairs summary is GA-mandated input to the HLPF and its SDG review.

<https://sdgs.un.org/tfm/STIForum2022>



Example call for inputs

Global science collaboration, 1975-2015



Lines: relative strength of cooperation between institutions

Circles: top 200 most-cited institutions

Source: KDD 2017, [h.p://dx.doi.org/10.1145/3097983.3098016](http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/3097983.3098016)

STI Forum is unique in the UN

- Brought STI debate back to UN headquarters after decades!
 - Recognizes special role of STI. Took 4 years of MS deliberations, 2011-2015
 - GA-mandated: Addis Ababa Action Agenda (§123), 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (§70), STI and rapid tech resolutions.
- But “Multi-stakeholder”:
 - Member States, civil society, private sector, scientific and technological communities, UN system,...
 - Beyond UN “major group” system: Engages many new stakeholders (not usually engaged with UN)
 - Speakers primarily scientists and engineers from academia, private sector and NGOs who engage with MS, including Ministers. No hierarchy between participants.
- 10-Member-Group has broad mandate on STI for SDGs. Not just *advisory* group, but directly engaged. Primary substantive responsibility for sessions, supported by Secretariat and IATT.

- IATT as a new one-UN way of working
 - Working-level cooperation among expert STI staff across the UN system – they self-organize their work.
 - Volunteer work, underfunded. IATT coordinators can rotate.
 - DESA as the SG's Department ultimately responsible to deliver.
- Political ownership:
 - Oversight through 2 co-chairs appointed by ECOSOC President (previously one PR, one national science advisor).
 - No negotiations, no need for consensus. Exchange on issues of concern and solutions suggested by STI stakeholders.
- Inclusive space and science-policy interface - what does it offer scientific and technological communities?
 - Good faith substantive engagement, not the place for institutional politics. Focus on policy solutions and tech solutions.
 - Anyone can submit science-policy brief or organize a side event (only subject to peer-review/quality control).

Science Our workshop!

- *Inherently uncertain and skeptical*
- *Universal*
- *Precise*
- *Rational*
- *Long-term*
- *Win-win*

Politics

- *100% certain, skepticism is heresy.*
- *National, regional*
- *Inclusive*
- *Emotional*
- *Short-term*
- *Zero-sum*

Preparations to-date

- 10-Member-Group:
 - Discussions since summer 2021
 - Broadly defined key thematic sessions and special events, proposed keynote speakers, and discussed vision and follow-up (Dec. 2021/Jan.2022 meetings)
 - Concept for Ministerial session. Policy briefs / reports.
- Forum Co-chairs (PRs and their teams):
 - Regular meetings with IATT coordinators since Dec.
 - Welcomed sessions proposed by 10-Members (20 Jan.)
 - 1st MS briefing in Jan; Invitations to SG and PGA.
- IATT
 - 30 Nov: First discussion of Forum. Call for inputs.
 - 22 Jan: outlined potential sessions, organizing teams/volunteers
 - 27 Jan: STI Forum briefing to 123 delegates
 - Whova platform, side event registration, draft concepts

Respective roles on session notes, speakers and program

- Co-chairs of 10-Members guide overall substance
- 10-Members assigned to each session finalize draft session concept notes and list of speakers (and back-ups) with inputs from IATT organizing team, or 10-Members delegate drafting of the notes to IATT teams (depends on session).
- Secretariat reviews and finalizes notes and speaker list, in order to make them consistent and balanced across sessions.
- Secretariat ultimately responsible for delivery and for filling of any remaining gaps. It produces revised editions of the program reflecting the status of discussions.
- Co-chairs of the STI Forum review and approve.

STI Forum sessions – format of thematic sessions and special events

- Virtual Forum, even though some of the high-level and possibly thematic sessions may have in-person participation from NY-based missions to the UN
- Whova platform integrates all sessions including side events
- Proposed format of most sessions:
 - 45-60 minutes, moderated by 10-Members
 - ~ 4 panelists record presentation of their ideas (5 min.) which is posted online to allow more interaction among panelists and moderator around key questions (plan “conversation” beforehand and take questions from online chat).
 - Then: “Interactive discussion” (all stakeholders)
 - Statements (without intervention) can be posted

Typical tasks for “organizing teams” of sessions

- Draft concept note for session
- Speakers and their contacts
- Outreach to mobilize participation
- Online interaction on platform with audience.
- Support session on the day
- Key messages for media outreach
- Session summary

Objective of our workshop

- Discuss scope of content, questions, and speakers for each of the sessions (except opening/closing, Ministerial and associated events)

Format of workshop sessions

- Status update by Secretariat (as needed)
- Presentation of ideas by 10-Members leading the discussions
- IATT and partner responses, first on scope of content and questions, then on speakers

Workshop plan

Day	Time (EST)	Focus of our discussions
7 March	7:00-10:30	Thematic sessions Platform, communications Innovation exhibit and women in STEM
8 March	7:00-10:10	Thematic sessions (continued) Special events Pre-event with IATT principals
9 March	7:00-9:00	IATT-related special events (breakouts) Next steps
	9:00-10:15	10-Member debrief (closed)

Next steps after the workshop

- By 13 March complete first draft programme with speakers (and backups). Start inviting speakers
- By 16 March: first complete set of draft concept notes for all sessions.
- 17 March: deadline for side event application
- By 22 March: all sessions notes completed
- 30 and 31 March: Briefings to MS and stakeholders
- By 31 March: hard deadline for all science-policy briefs; majority of speakers confirmed
- 2 May: IATT report ready to issue



“Creativity is contagious.

Pass it on!”

(Albert Einstein)

Thank you!

<https://sdgs.un.org/TFM/STIForum2022>