

Side Event: Strengthening instruments for policy implementation in science, technology and innovation

(8:30 – 9:45 EST / 14:30 – 15:45 CET, May 10th, 2024)

Venue: Virtual Meeting on Teams

Registration link: <https://forms.office.com/e/JabuLAmkvy>

The event will be conducted in English only.

Concept Note

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises science, technology, and innovation (STI) as fundamental drivers for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Effective STI policy implementation plays a major role in unlocking the full potential of STI. This requires an adequate mix of policy instruments, which provide tools and mechanisms for countries to realise the goals set in their STI policies. However, many countries grapple with limited technical and financial capacity when it comes to the design and implementation of policy instruments.

International partnerships have been formed to join forces in building capacities in STI policy for developing countries, especially for Africa. Drawing on the statistics from the [Global Observatory of Science Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments \(GO-SPIN\)](#), which is an global resource platform for STI policy, UNESCO published the report, [Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments for the Sustainable Development Goals: A global outlook](#). This report discusses global trends, good practices and case studies concerning policy instruments, covering various topics and regions. Acknowledging the importance of Research and Innovation (R&I) policies and of knowledge sharing and peer-learning among countries, the Secretariat of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), in collaboration with the [UN Interagency Task Team on STI for the SDGs Work Stream 6 on Capacity Building \(IATT WS6\)](#), held a [Mutual Learning Exercise \(MLE\)](#) to support countries in their efforts to formulate and implement appropriate R&I policies. As a result of the MLE, the OACPS and IATT WS6 recently published the [Handbook on how to formulate and implement effective Research and Innovation \(R&I\) policies](#). This handbook emphasises the role of R&I policies in national development, identifies gaps in these areas, and is designed as a comprehensive guide to enhance R&I policy-making and policies.

To disseminate the findings of these two publications and to foster knowledge exchange on STI policy instruments, UNESCO, IATT-WS6 and the OACPS are collaboratively organising an event on the margin of the ninth annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum).

Objectives and structure

The virtual side event will discuss ways to strengthen policy implementation in the field of science, technology and innovation, using case studies and presenting key findings of two recent publications:

- OACPS/IATT [*Handbook on how to formulate and implement effective Research and Innovation \(R&I\) policies.*](#)
- UNESCO [*Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments for the Sustainable Development Goals: A Global Outlook*](#)

Representatives from the OACPS Secretariat, UNESCO, IATT-WS6 entities and country officials will share experience on designing and implementing policy instruments on science, technology and innovation for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.