

STI FORUM

Science, Technology & Innovation for
the Sustainable Development Goals

Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs
New York, 5-6 June 2018

Meeting Summary for side event Building capacity on STI for the Sustainable Developments Goals

Conference Room CRA, New York, **5 June 2018, 18:30 – 20:00**

1. Objective of the side event (1 para)

The side event aimed at presenting the on-going UN-wide capacity-building work as part of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) and the outcomes of its first initiative, the UN-wide training on Innovation Policies for SDGs for the Arab region. Furthermore, the objective of the side event was to discuss views and ideas on the way forward of the IATT's work to strengthen capacities related to STI for SDGs together with the IATT members, countries' officials and representatives of regional commissions. The discussion was meant to enrich the debate of the Forum Session 6 on STI roadmaps and capacity-building.

2. Organizers & Participation

UNESCO and UNCTAD, in collaboration with the IATT workstream 6 on Capacity-Building for STI policies for SDGs have co-hosted the side event. The event was attended by near 30 participants including representatives from UN agencies, regional commissions, youth organizations and countries' officials.

3. Major issues discussed in the session (in bullet form)

- Need for capacity-building in STI policy for SDGs, notably in developing countries
- Ways of building synergies for capacity-building among UN agencies, benefits and opportunities in support of the STI policy work in the UN family
- Presentation of the work of the IATT group on Capacity-Building
- Outcomes of the 1st UN-wide training course in Jordan, April 2018, in collaboration with UN-ESCWA
- Way forward for strengthening capacities in STI policy

4. Main outcome

The meeting has stressed the critical importance of STI for SDGs and the need to pool together UN expertise for capacity-building at national and regional level, in collaboration with the UN regional commissions. The discussion highlighted the need for the TFM to support the capacity-building efforts in a sustainable manner. Contextualization of the trainings was also considered essential in further developing the UN Capacity-building initiative.

5. Key recommendations for action (in bullet form)

- Pursue UN collaborations for the implementation of future STI policy trainings with improved learning content, expanded number of trainers, as well as additional training tools, including for post-training.
- Continue to engage UN Regional Commissions in building capacity on STI for SDGs
- Engage youth and develop capacity-building activities for the scientific communities, related to the science-policy interfaces
- Explore opportunities for scaling the capacity-building activities, including through UNDAFs