

# Introduction to Innovation Policy for Developing Countries

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Room F

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

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## Course Objectives

The aim of this three hour course is to provide a basic introduction to innovation and innovation policy making. The course will discuss the concept and different aspects of Innovation Policy, such as Inclusive Innovation and role of social enterprises in service delivery to the bottom of the pyramid, as well as Innovation Policy instruments to support of green technology entrepreneurs and discuss the government's basic roles in innovation policy making.

The course is meant to provide a broad overview of innovation and explore different aspects innovation policy making. Some of the questions we will cover include: What roles does innovation play in modern economy, and why is this relevant to reaching SDGs; What are some of the key policy components of the innovation system; What does it take to provide a sufficient base for Innovation Policy.

By the end of this course participants will have:

- Gained a broad understanding of what innovation and innovation policy means, particularly for developing countries and understand why innovation policy matters, and what evidence exists for its importance
- Be introduced to the concept of inclusive innovation, role of social enterprises in its potential impact on the poor
- Gained a broad understanding of the major instruments and institutions of innovation policy, and in particular how these can support green technology entrepreneurs
- Gained overall understanding of Innovation Policy and how it relates to three interrelated dimensions (economic, social and environmental) of Sustainable Development

## Outcomes and Impact

- This SD-Learning will aim to advance: knowledge acquisition, networking, sharing of experiences, learning of best practices, capacity building in the area of Innovation Policy
- After completing this course, each participant should have a broad understanding of innovation and the major components of innovation policy, and be able to make policy recommendations for innovation policy reforms in his/her own country and how they relate to SDG.

## Target Audience

- The SD-Learning is open to registered HLPF participants, including policy makers, representatives from major groups and the UN system as well as other stakeholders
- Government officials from relevant ministries and development practitioners (international organizations, national development organizations, NGOs, etc.) involved in innovation projects.

## Organizer

The World Bank and UNDESA

## Instructors



**Adela Antic** is a Project Manager at the World Bank Group Innovation and Entrepreneurship Practice where she manages Innovation Policy Platform, a joint initiative between WBG and OECD which aims to provide support to policy practitioners around the world in the innovation policy-making process. Adela is development specialist with over ten years of experience. She is involved in the design and delivery aspects of several online learning platforms that support collective learning about innovation policy tailored to the needs of developing and developed countries. Her primary focus is on capacity building work for policy makers and development practitioner. Prior to joining the WBG Adela worked for the NGO sector and cooperated on various international development projects

in the Middle East, north Africa, Europe and Asia. She holds Master's degree in Political Science from FAU, LL.M. in Public International Law from the University of Leiden, the Netherlands, and bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Belgrade.



**Justine White** is Program officer at the World Bank Group Innovation and Entrepreneurship Practice. Justine has over ten years of experience in both the public and private sectors, focused on fostering entrepreneurship and innovation policy. She has worked on technical assistance programs on innovation & entrepreneurship in the Middle East, Africa and East Asia, and coordinated several World Bank publications on innovation policy, and authored several studies, and designed and delivered training on this topic. One current area of interest is "open innovation" policies and support to green technology entrepreneurs. Prior to joining the WBG, Justine worked for a consulting firm on the financing of large environmental and infrastructure projects in China and Africa. She

started her career at the French development agency, working on local economic development and entrepreneurship. She earned her post graduate degree in economics from Sciences-Po Paris, and has graduate degrees in Chinese from INALCO and a bachelor's degree from the University of Sydney.



**Natalia Agapitova** is Senior Program Officer at the World Bank Group Leadership, Learning and Innovation unit where she leads operational and analytical aspects of innovation and social entrepreneurship based programs. Natalia has worked in this field since 1997, including thirteen years at the World Bank. Natalia has first-hand experience in using science, technology and innovation as tools to bring growth to the developing world. During her work at the World Bank, Natalia has played a key role in advising countries in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, South America and South Asia on how to build science, technology and innovation capacity. Natalia also worked on a broad range of issues related

to capacity development and results agenda, and is one of the main authors of the Capacity Development and Results Framework that is used by World Bank teams and clients for design and M&E of capacity development programs. Before coming to the World Bank, Natalia worked as an associate researcher and assistant professor at the University of Poitiers in France, teaching economics and working on regional development projects. Natalia earned a Master (D.E.A.) and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Poitiers, and Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Mathematics from Perm State University (Russia). She has published numerous papers on economic development.



**Dr. Wei Liu** is a Sustainable Development Officer in the Policy and Analysis Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development, UN-DESA. Wei Liu is the coordinator and the focal point for the UN Interagency Working Group on a Technology Facilitation Mechanism, providing both substantive and organizational support to the implementation of the science, technology and innovation (STI)-related decisions contained in the Addis Ababa Accord, the post-2015 development agenda, and other related global agreements. Wei Liu joined the United Nations in 2005. He has mainly worked in the area of development policy and contributed to various United Nations publications including the Global Sustainable Development Report. His research areas cover from green economy and trade, technology facilitation, financing for a green economy transition, inequality and post 2015 development agenda, trade finance and aid in the context of global financial crisis, to food security and sustainable agriculture. Working in the Rio+20 Secretariat, he was extensively involved in the United Nations Rio + 20 process and provided technical support on green economy, trade and finance related issues for the Rio+20 negotiations. Before that, Wei Liu worked as an Associated Economic Affairs Officer in the Trade and Investment Division, UN-ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand, and as a Research Fellow at the University of Birmingham, the UK. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Birmingham.