

An Overview of UN Technology Initiatives



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Facilitation Mechanism

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Objective

- Overview of the current landscape of UN technology related initiatives
- Assessment framework to view institutional arrangements, coverage, functions, and inter-linkages and possible coordination
- To inform the current inter-governmental processes in the context of post-2015 development agenda and FfD3.
- To support stakeholders' decisions on improving coordination.

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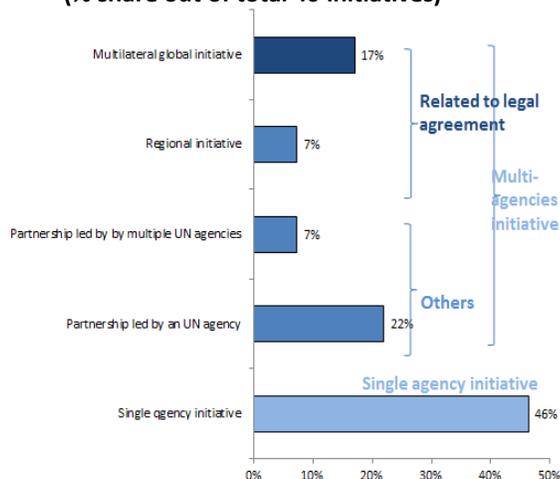
Scope, data and assessment framework

- Based on the 22 responses received and 70 initiatives submitted, this paper describes the landscape of technology related initiatives by referring to the following assessment framework:
 - Institutional arrangement
 - Coverage
 - Functions
 - Inter-linkages

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Institutional arrangement

**Chart 1: Typology of initiatives with respect to institutional arrangement
(% share out of total 40 initiatives)**

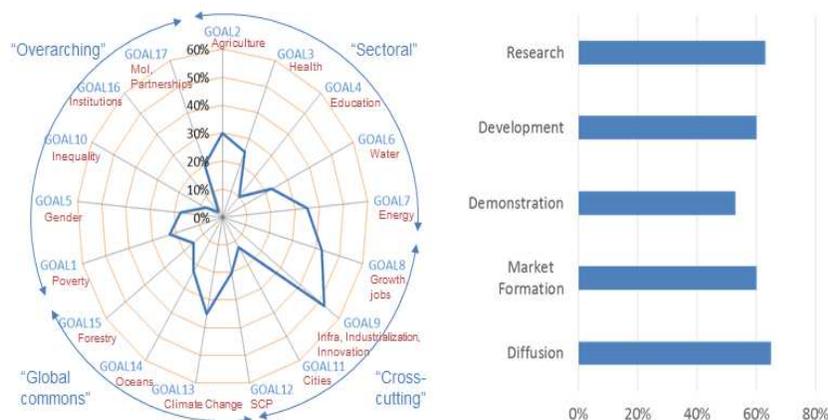


Source: IAWG Survey (2015).

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Coverage

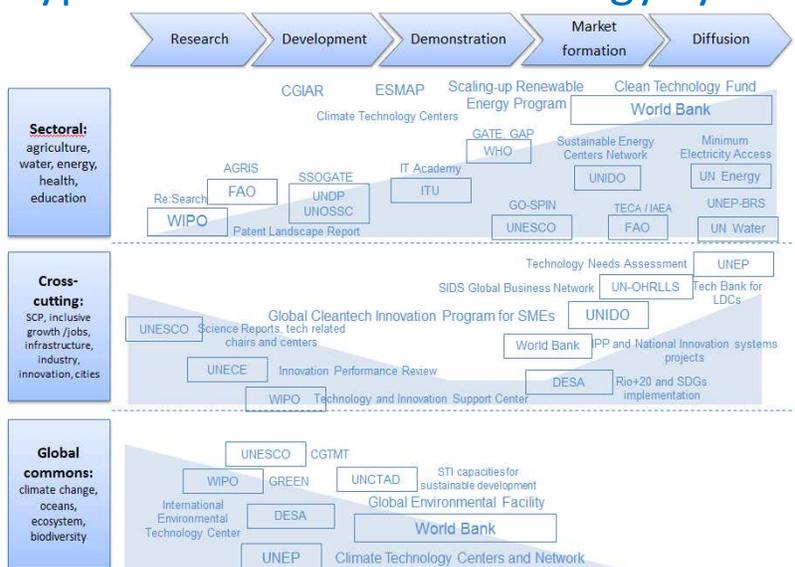
Chart 2: Coverage of SDGs and Technology Cycle



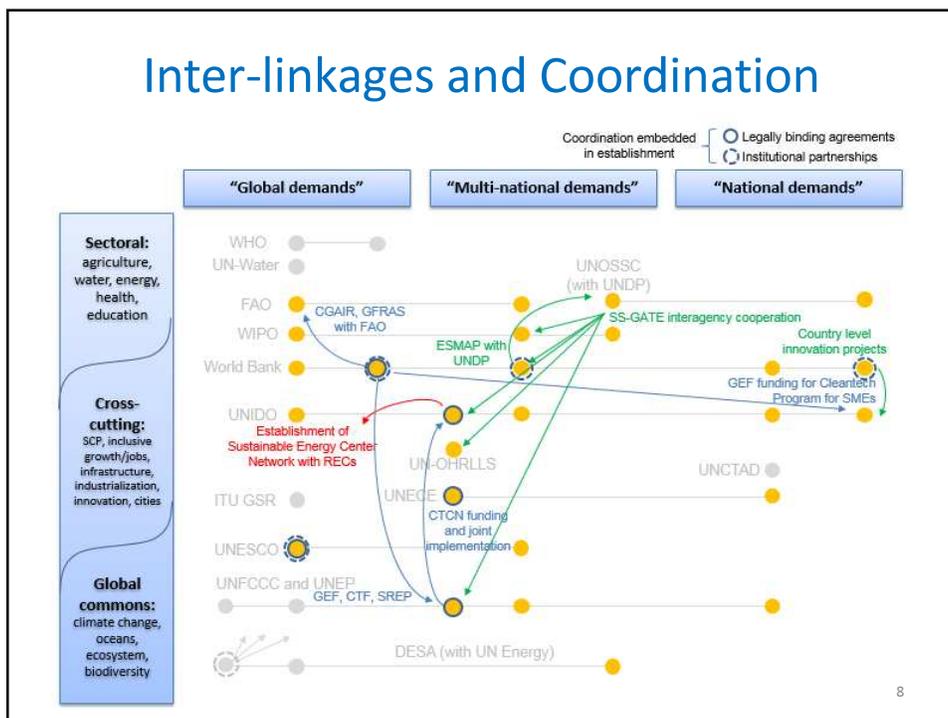
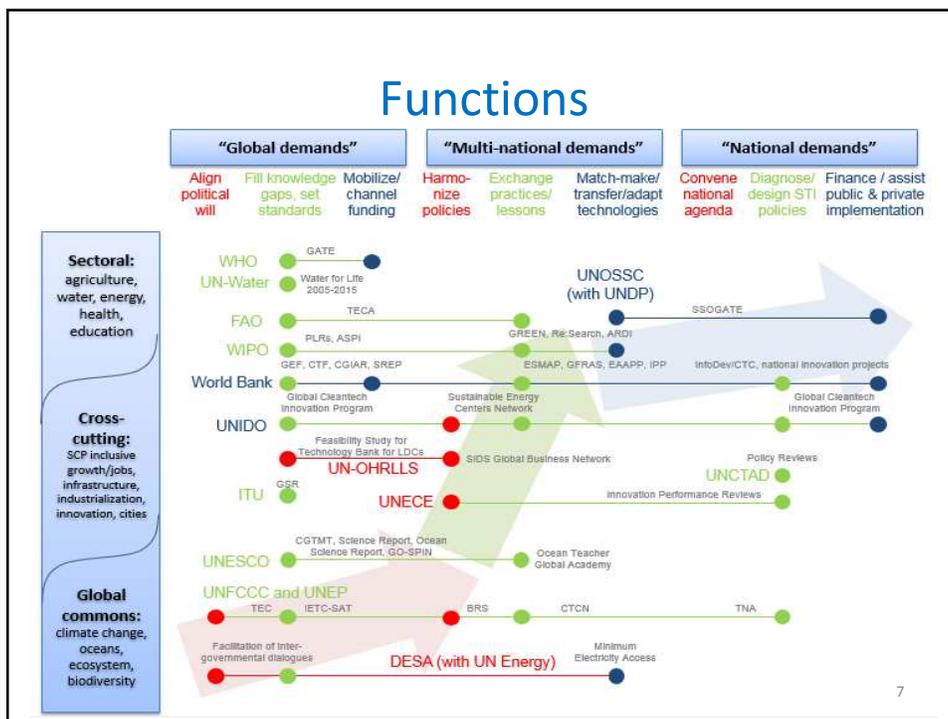
Source: IAWG Survey (2015).

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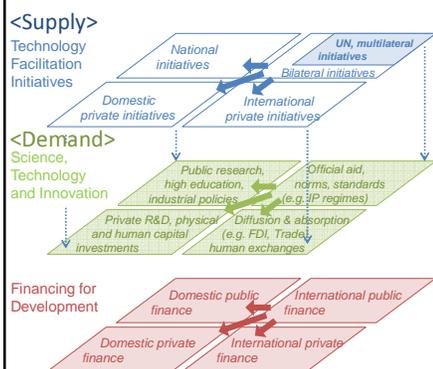
Distribution of resources across the types of SDGs and technology cycle



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Toward “comprehensive” mapping



Broader Views

- “Gap” = “Demand” – “Supply”
- “Supply” = Public + Private, Domestic + International
- UN System Comparative Advantage in complementing and supporting others (parallel with FfD)

Strengthening Mapping

- Representativeness of UN initiatives
- Bilateral, national, private initiatives
- Needs and Gaps

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Findings for discussion

Institutional arrangements

- When considering enhanced coordination between the UN technology related activities, the following points shall be considered in the assessment of synergies:
 - Scope and decision-making process
 - Key partners and stakeholders, nature of engagement, and coordination mechanisms(s)

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Findings for discussion

Coverage

- Surveyed STI initiatives differ greatly in terms of their approach, content focus, target groups, working methods, etc.
- Hence, when mapped against these dimensions, fragmentation and gaps in resource distribution become apparent.

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Findings for discussion

Functions

- Surveyed STI initiatives cover wide range of functions.
- Few initiatives address political will and policy frameworks across global, multi-national and national technology-related agendas.
- There appears to be room to synergize global knowledge; broaden exchanges of experience and expertise; and extend diagnostic work to support implementation.
- Funding and matchmaking channels may be too narrow/concentrated.

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Findings for discussion

Inter-linkages and Coordination

- There is a need to enhance the links between the different initiatives at global and national level and across functions and levels;
- Different UN initiatives need to be better coordinated in view of jointly achieving desired outcomes with specific measurable outcome indicators (and accountability to value for money);
- In particular, capacity building initiatives call for better coordination and M&E.

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The Way Forward

- Continue and complete mapping, including on needs and gaps
- Further guidance from the UN Member States, on the best way for the IAWG to support their deliberations and the implementation of the technology related decisions;
- Building partnerships across borders with academia consortia, national R&D labs and the technology sector to support science, technology and innovation capacity, especially in developing countries

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Thank you!

Comments are welcome!

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