

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-first session  
Geneva, 14-18 May 2018**

**High-level roundtable on “The role of science, technology and innovation in  
supporting sustainable and resilient societies”**

Statement submitted by

Islamic Development Bank

**Monday, 14 May 2018**

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## 1—intro

We have come here today to talk about Resilience

And how frontier technology can help

I'll start with our perspective on the type of disasters we face..

And introduce Frontier technology examples that can improve our resilience.

These bring alive policy plans

and provide a compass for the road ahead,

highlighting its craters ..As a result life-saving action is taken earlier.

And boosting the frontier technology by leveraging the STI ecosystem is what we want...

Im currently working with IsDB as senior STI advisor to HE to make this happen

2-Our starting point is looking at the type of disasters we face..

### **First Human disaster**

These stem from conflicts, and fragility, which have become more widespread.

For example approximately one third of IsDB member countries are in fragile situations.

### **3-Second natural disasters**

These explosive events are becoming frequent in recent years, affecting our lives and our eco-system.

We simply don't want

tsunamis, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, flood, fires and super-bug/ epidemic outbreaks.

For obvious reasons!

#### **4-Third climate disasters**

And with global temperature rising beyond any known period in human history...

This phenomenon has severe consequences

So we badly need better predictive tools, to act well beforehand.

5- In response, at IsDB, we have already set up a resilience and Climate Change unit to coordinate and implement climate-related initiatives

And we are mainstreaming climate change.. supporting a low-carbon development or green economy.

Targeting sustainable systems that are adaptive to changing climatic conditions.

Making them robust and resilient

IsDB is also dealing with “fragility” disaster in three ways:

**6-Relief assistance, support for education and health services, and training in member and non-member countries., and relief assistance operations**

**7-Finances for development projects, emergency response, recovery, and capacity-building) and addressing financial vulnerabilities.**

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**8-&** Strengthening regional and international cooperation to preserve lives and livelihoods.  
..On the path to succeed with the 2030 global development agenda.

**9—**For policies to work even better, opportunities for better predictions exist

Through knowledge

Through avoidance

Through strength

Through research

Lets start by strengthening infrastructure...

Concentrating on excellent predictions...and prevention.. as the most economical

Path to lower risk!

**10-** That's why we are conducting a policy heavy study with UNESCO

Called GOSPIN

To start strengthening and crosscut STI infrastructure within the whole institution

**11-**Also producing an excellent framework of the power of STI for our MCs prediction and preventative action.

As we are here today to integrate frontier technologies,

My favourite ones

That cross cut, and help side step disaster scenarios include the following;

**12-First “space technology”**



Our ability to operate outside the earth is leading to big advantages

One is called satellite geodesy

All the micro movements of the surface of planet earth are (can be) tracked..

Trends in human developments, vegetation, the green canopy of agriculture and food and tectonic plates can be seen with details are increasing each year, revealing powerful trends

We see how mountains move,

How the earth breathes

And what we are doing to it!

### **13-second community Artificial Intelligence,**

working at floor level in our lives

mobile camera data collecting pattern...

Seeing, and knowing

The eternal watchman tireless and unyielding,

Spotting changes

tracking rainforests, crime hot spots and

urban deviations

Seeing human trends and

tracking the progression of construction projects

### **14-finally the “Second Genome” (Biotechnology)**

It's recently been understood that virtually all diseases are being influenced by this!

We now realise human cells live alongside bacterial cells

Mixed populations of bacteria, many of them unknown

Work for health, or disease.

This has 100 times MORE genetic material, than human cells!

So we will be thinking about disease differently

And therefore how we treat and protect the human race

For example, antibiotics may be doing us damage..

For future resilience, altering treating the microbiome, could be a healthcare revolution.

Thus for resilience, our strategy is to support STI and the ecosystem to fuel our frontier technology.

15-To encourage this path we established STI department at IsDB to encourage high impact investment.

Creating a business environment for private capital, and building institutional capacity, where it can grow and develop.

IsDBs thrust is summarised by two initiatives, Engage and Transform.

16-“Engage”: a pioneering online digital platform designed to connect investors and inventors in the world’s developing communities with market opportunities and funding.

These help businesses and innovators to harness the potential of STI to drive economic growth.

17-Transform this is a \$500 million fund to ensure <sup>\*SMEs and start-ups</sup> members have access to financing for innovation (angel fund, VC fund, fund of the fund...)

**18-**Here IsDB will provide seed money for innovators, start-ups and SMEs for development solutions.

The Fund will also

support partnerships between entrepreneurs and researchers to

address development challenges in line with the SDGs.

**19**

Standing back we believe partnerships are key to resilience, frontier technology and STI.

Thus our core policy is to strengthen the ecosystem strengthening partnerships among donors dealing with the multifaceted resilience challenges facing the world

For example the “Partnerships Development Complex” has been created to revitalise global partnership.

This will leverage our regional/global footprint,

to mobilize the resources and technical expertise needed for resilience.

**20-**

So as a foundation to tackling disasters I definitely recommend including space, community artificial intelligence and the second genome. Then together with a nurturing ecosystem

we can create truly Innovative policy planning tools for building humanities protection

Thank you