

Session 2 on STI Policy instruments: Design and implementation for SDGs.

26 November 2020, 2-4pm CET

The second session of the Workstream 6 of the UN- Interagency Task Team (IATT), Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM), introduces the discussion of STI policy instruments, including legal frameworks, funding mechanisms etc., followed by methodological approaches for the design and implementation of policy instruments across UN agencies. The session will also illustrate how existing STI policy instruments can be used/adapted to try to find solutions in times of crisis such as COVID-19.

The introductory part of the session will aim at gauging the level of knowledge of participants through a series of questions which participants will vote on and their answers will be tabulated and projected on screen. This part of the session also serves as an icebreaker and to get participants interested in the upcoming topics.

Part 1 focuses on designing the set of science, technology and innovation policy instruments that will be required to achieve the SDGs, as well as the national development goals. This part of the session will include an introduction to the concepts of policy instruments, definitions, typology, policy mixes and focus on approaches in designing policy instruments. How to develop STI policy instruments that are in line with national objectives and the SDGs and what are the policy instruments, including in which combination, that help to achieve selected objectives, are other possible areas to be covered. Additional topics that could be covered in this section of the session include how to design a policy instrument process and which steps are necessary as well as the different tools and methodologies available to design successful instruments. This part of the session is accompanied by the discussion of specific policy instruments design experiences trying to focus on one specific aspect to provide depth to the discussion.

Part 2 addresses the key implementation challenges. This part can address the need for having a well elaborated set of realistic, yet ambitious, objectives and policy instruments accompanied by solid roadmaps and systemic implementation plans. It can address the role of different types and levels of leadership as well as sound governance structures and effective coordination inter-governmental and public-private mechanisms in ensuring timely and successful policy instruments. Achieving the commitment of all stakeholders involved to ensure implementation runs smoothly is another topic that this session part could examine. The importance of managerial and organizational capabilities could also be examined since, to a very large extent, implementation is about driving available human and financial resources in the desired direction. Whether these human and financial resources are available and how to procure them in the right amounts and qualities is yet another issue that this section could address. As with the previous part, the presentation of the generic issues needs to be supported by concrete experiences around the globe drawing on the accumulated knowledge of the different UN agencies involved in WS6.

The closing part of the session should try to focus on 2-3 key takeaways that participants should take with them for their daily works in designing and implementing STI policy instruments for SDGs. Agencies involved can also provide contact points should the participants want to follow up in any specific point or access the support of a specific agency.

Agenda Session 2. STI Policy instruments: Design and implementation for SDGs

Introduction 14:00 - 14:15	Welcome remarks (Moderator – UNU MERIT representative)	1 min	
	Overview and outline of the session (Moderator)	3 min	
	Mentimeter questions: participants’ regional profile and survey of views	10 min	
	Transition (Moderator)	1 min	
STI Policy instruments: Design and implementation for SDGs 14:15 – 15:50	Part 1. Presentation: Designing Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments (UNCTAD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy objectives - Policy instruments: definition, types, uses, comparisons, effectiveness - Policy instruments mix - Policy instrument design - Policy instruments examples and links to SDGs (UNESCO) 	12 min	
	Moderator transition including clarification questions	4 min	
	Presentation: Innovation Calls in Latin America: the immediate STI policy instruments response to Covid-19 (UNECLAC)	12 min	
	Moderated in-depth discussion with participants and IATT presenters and discussants, including questions and answers and questions/survey of views on Mentimeter	20 min	
	Part 2. Presentation: Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments: Implementation Challenges (UNU MERIT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning (objectives, roadmaps) - Systems approach - Leadership - Governance - Coordination - Commitment - Managerial and organizational capabilities - Resources - Learning and feedback loops 	12 min	
	Moderator transition including clarification questions	4 min	
	Presentation: Innovation policy instruments design & implementation – evidence from 6 middle income countries (UNECE)	12 min	
	Moderated in-depth discussion with participants and IATT presenters and discussants, including questions and answers and questions/survey of views on Mentimeter	20 min	
	Wrap up 15:50 – 16:00	Summary of session and take away messages (Moderator)	2 min
		Final take away survey – Mentimeter	6 min
Transition to session 3		1 min	