

**United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
Twenty-seventh annual session**

Ministerial Roundtable on

“The role of science, technology, and innovation in reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions:

Contribution of the Commission to the 2024 theme of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development and the implementation of its 2023 Ministerial Declaration”

Monday, 15 April 2024, 12:00-13:00 (Geneva time)

Concept Note

1. Background

The theme for the 2024 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) to be held from 8 to 17 July 2024 will be "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions". The HLPF in 2024, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, will review in-depth: Goal 1 on ending poverty in all its forms; Goal 2 on zero hunger; Goal 13 on taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; and Goal 17 on global partnership for sustainable development.

As countries navigate the multi-crises world, inequalities and asymmetries within and among countries become increasingly evident, threatening to halt or reverse progress in realizing Agenda 2030. For most of the poor in the world, the promise of science, technology and innovation (STI) remains unfulfilled. International consensus-building and exchange of best-fit policies and practices have become all the more crucial to address various types of challenges through STI solutions. The Commission on Science and Technology Development (CSTD) provides a unique platform for countries to work together on an international agenda to harness STI in delivering sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

This Ministerial Roundtable is organized to discuss how a series of multiple crises are impacting the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and explore innovative, sustainable and resilient policy guidance for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs at all levels. It will also

contribute to the implementation of the recommendations provided in the Ministerial Declaration of the High-level Segment of the 2023 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/HLPF/2023/7). The outcome of the roundtable discussions should support the consideration of the important science, technology, and innovation (STI) dimensions of the programme of work of the 2024 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2024 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

Objectives

During the roundtable Ministers and other high-level policymakers will discuss national and global challenges in achieving sustainable development goals, particularly SDGs1, 2, 13, 16 and 17, share STI solutions that they have implemented in achieving these goals, and put forward recommendations for policies and actions that are needed to harness STI in delivering sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Questions for discussion

The following questions are proposed to guide the discussions of the roundtable around the theme of reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions:

- What STI could do in delivering sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDGs1, 2, 13 and 16?
- What lessons should be avoided in harnessing STI for sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to implement SDGs1, 2, 13, and 16?
- What actions could the CSTD take to strengthen global STI cooperation aimed securing faster progress on SDG 1, 2, 13, and 16?

2. Format of the roundtable

The Moderator will invite the high-level Ministerial speakers to share their insights and recommendations (maximum 7 minutes each). This will be followed by an interactive discussion (maximum 4 minutes each). The Co-Chairs of the 2024 STI Forum will also speak at the Roundtable.

3. Supporting documents

- Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2023 session, 12 August 2023, [E/HLS/2023/7](#).
- 8th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, 3-4 May 2023, Outcome document (Note by the Secretariat), [E/HLPF/2023/6](#).

- Information on the 2024 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development under the auspices of ECOSOC can be found [here](#).
- Information on the 9th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) can be found [here](#).
- Further documents are available on the website of the twenty-seventh session of the CSTD can be accessed [here](#).