

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

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Contribution by Burundi

to the CSTD 2023-2024 priority theme on “Global cooperation in science,
technology and innovation for development”

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PRIORITY THEME 2: Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development

United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

Dear CSTD Member,

The [26th CSTD annual session](#) selected “Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development” as one of the priority themes for its 27th session (2023-24 period). This theme addresses SDG 17 “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development” at the 2030 Agenda.

Although the contribution of science, technology and innovation (STI) to the achievement of other sustainable development goals (SDGs) is discussed in every session of the CSTD, SDG 17 itself has not been specifically addressed for several years in the Commission. Interaction among CSTD members has resulted in several pilot programmes for international collaboration in STI. However, there is a need to consider from a broad strategic perspective the question of international collaboration in STI, including its digital dimensions. Under this priority theme the Commission could discuss the status of global STI cooperation (including coordination and funding) in knowledge creation and dissemination, the diffusion and sharing of technology and alternative modes of technology creation and distribution such as open-source approaches.

Under this theme, the Commission will examine how STI organizations at the global and regional levels collaborate better to scale up their impact on key development challenges; how to ensure that the international STI agenda is aligned with the development priorities of the Global South and includes adequate mechanisms for cooperation and sharing; and finally what could be the role of the CSTD in coordinating and imparting directionality to international STI collaboration and technology sharing.

The CSTD secretariat is in the process of drafting an issues paper on the theme to be presented at the CSTD inter-sessional panel meeting to be held in the second half of October 2023 in Portugal. In this context, we would like to solicit inputs from the CSTD member States on this theme. We would be grateful if you could kindly answer the following questions based on your experience in your country or region.

1. What STI cooperative mechanism(s) at global or regional levels has your country joined in?
[Burundi joined the following cooperative mechanisms :](#)
-the African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators Initiative (ASTII)-African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) (See [AUDA-NEPAD 2019. African Innovation Outlook 2019](#), AUDA-NEPAD, Johannesburg)
-the East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTEKO)
-The Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA)
2. To what extent the existing cooperation programmes are aligned with the development priorities of participating developing countries?
[The cooperation programmes are aligned with the key strategic areas in accordance with the East African STI Policy and Strategy, and Burundi STI Policy and Strategy.](#)
3. What are the main outcomes of such mechanism(s)? And what are the impacts of the resultant cooperation on your country? Pls. include the gender dimension.
[STI Statistics and indicators, Research-Development \(RD\) Statistics and Indicators, including the participation of women in STI and RD.](#)
4. What are the main difficulties member countries have encountered or are facing when implementing the cooperation mechanisms?
[The lack of reliable data](#)
[The funding mechanisms of data collection and analysis.](#)
[The lack of experts in STI and RD data collection and analysis.](#)
5. In respect of achieving the objectives and goals, what are the factors contributing to the success or failure of the cooperation mechanism(s) that your country has joined in?

Political will
Existence of institutions dealing with Science and Technology
Concurrent and changing domain
Dependence on external aid (technically or financially)

6. In your country's view, what role could CSTD play in coordinating and imparting directionality to international STI collaboration and technology sharing?
[Burundi National Commission for STI \(www.cnsti.bi\)](http://www.cnsti.bi) is the mandated agency to coordinate, regulate and promote the STI sector at country level. CSTD should therefore cooperate and build the human and technical capacities of that Commission.

Please indicate contact person(s) responsible for projects/policies and international collaboration in this context in case we need clarification on the inputs.

Please send your responses and any further inputs on the theme to the CSTD secretariat (stdev@unctad.org) by **15 August 2023**. We look forward to receiving your valuable inputs.

Sincere regards,
CSTD secretariat