

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

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Contribution by UNEP

**to the CSTD 2024-2025 priority theme on “Technology foresight and technology
assessment for sustainable development”**

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UNCTAD Responses OCS/Capacity Building EWAD Unit

1. What STI cooperative mechanism(s) at global or regional levels has your organization initiated or joined in?

UNEP is engaging informally with WHO, FAO and WOA on a Horizon scanning process for dual use research.

UNEP engages in the UN Futures Lab and UN 2.0 discussions and is part of the Foresight network

UNEP participates in the STI forums being hosted by UNDESA

UNEP is part of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda initiative

2. To what extent the existing cooperation programmes are aligned with the development priorities of participating developing countries?

Horizon scanning as part of the UN Common Agenda will assist developing countries in the application of Foresight to enable prioritisation issues and taking into account environmental issues in Programming.

UNEP is also ensuring that voices from the global south are heard during its foresight exercise by conducting regional contextualization workshops which will provide all regions the opportunity to prioritise which issues are most important to them.

The priorities for this initiative were developed with the direct participation of the AU, taking into account the joint priorities of the EU and the AU countries.

3. What are the main outcomes of such mechanism(s)? And what are the impacts of the resultant cooperation on participating countries? Pls. include the gender dimension.

None yet – work in progress

4. What are the main difficulties your organization has encountered or is facing when implementing the cooperation mechanisms?

Time and effort and Resource mobilization

5. In respect of achieving the objectives and goals, what are the factors contributing to the success or failure of the cooperation mechanism(s) in which your organization has joined?

Work is at initial stages, so we are yet to draw on lessons learned

6. What cooperation could your organization propose to CSTD in coordinating and imparting directionality to international STI collaboration and technology sharing?

Maintain a repository of STI initiatives including work on new technologies and innovations that all agencies can share.

Maintain a repository of experts in different disciplines that we can reach out to as needed.

Perhaps on behalf of the UN run regular Horizon scans and Foresight exercises on STI so we can all keep up and don't duplicate across agencies.