Technological progress is essential for sustainable development but can also perpetuate inequalities or create new ones.

The task for governments is thus to maximise the potential benefits, while mitigating harmful outcomes.

Key policy areas need special attention:

1) Policy should direct technological change towards meeting societal needs and reducing inequalities

2) Developing countries should adopt frontier technologies while continuing to diversify their production bases by mastering existing technologies

3) Strengthen social protection systems to provide safety nets for workers who may lose their livelihoods

International cooperation should focus on:

1) Build stronger national capacities in STI

2) Smooth technology transfer

3) Increase women’s participation

4) Improve foresight and technological assessment

5) Promote inclusive debate

Countries at all stages of development should promote the use, adoption and adaptation of frontier technologies, preparing people and firms for what lies ahead.

The basic requirements are an effective national governance to guide technological change, international cooperation for strengthening a global framework for STI for development, and vigorous citizen activism to keep the SDGs as central guiding principles.