

Multi-Stakeholder Meeting on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for the Sustainable Development Goals

The Forum brought together stakeholders from governments, academia, the private sector, and civil society to discuss how STI can be used to address the SDGs and other world issues.

Main Ideas:

- **Advancing STI for sustainable development:** STI can be used to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some of the key issues discussed in regards to threats to the future included climate change, poverty, and inequality.
- **Promoting STI for peace:** Nuclear weapons, terrorism, and cyberwarfare are applications of STI that need to be considered and addressed. On the flipside, STI can be used for peace and justice in ways such as access to the internet for all.
- **STI for human rights and gender equality:** STI can be used to promote human rights and gender equality. STI access can result in improved access to education, healthcare, and employment, especially for women who may be located in the home more often or in need of “more modern” solutions to employment challenges.
- **Building inclusive and resilient societies through STI:** STI is critical to building inclusive and resilient societies. As the world faces migration, urbanization, and climate change, STI can help address these issues through means such as GIS mapping, meteorology devices, etc. This only works if everyone has access to the benefits of the technology.
- **Communication and transparency:** Communication and transparency about STI progress and developments are central to progressing forward with the SDGs. The world needs to see the benefits of STI, not just wealthy nations.

This meeting was largely based on panels and sessions of pre-selected speakers. Some stakeholders provided insight, but there was not as much of an NGO presence at this session as there was at the UHC/Pandemic Preparedness meetings. However, it was clear that the UN views STI in its broadest sense and understands the impact it can have across fields such as health, education, and urban planning. There were many pushes by participants to make sure that the conversations surrounding STI do not end after this hearing.