

On-line training on science, technology and innovation (STI) policy and policy instruments for SDGs for Africa

19, 21 and 26 May 2025

UN-IATT Work Stream 6 on Capacity-Building in STI for SDGs

Sessions times

08:00-11:00 GMT (e.g. Accra)
09:00-12:00 West Africa Time (e.g. Douala)
10:00-13:00 Central Africa Time (e.g. Kigali)
11:00-14:00 Eastern Africa Time (e.g. Nairobi)

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/ws64Africa2025>

Objectives

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and tackle urgent global challenges, regions and countries must strengthen their capacity to develop effective science, technology, and innovation (STI) systems and policies. This requires the development of STI policymaking competencies and capabilities.

In response to this growing need, the UN Interagency Task Team (UN-IATT) will host a series of three virtual training sessions focused on STI policy, policy instruments, and monitoring and evaluation for STI policy learning. The training sessions are designed for STI officials, policy analysts, and experts as well as broader STI policy stakeholders working in academia, civil society and the private sector.

The training aims to enhance participants' understanding of key aspects of STI policy-making. Drawing on the diverse expertise of participating UN agencies, the training will highlight how STI policies contribute to advancing the SDGs.

The sessions aim at engaging participants in interactive discussions and practical reflection on existing approaches, case studies and national experiences in establishing and managing STI in the context of the SDGs. Interactive tools, such as Mentimeter will be used during the sessions.

The proposed sessions have the following overall objectives:

1. Sharing knowledge on current approaches for the framing of STI policy, for the design and implementation of STI policies and policy instruments, as well as for monitoring, evaluation and policy learning;
2. Recognizing the importance of transparent, participatory, inclusive and evidence-based STI policymaking processes;
3. Understanding the importance of establishing an appropriate and well-balanced policy mix of instruments and actions that help address global challenges; and
4. Sensitizing the participants to the relationships between STI policies and the SDGs.

Content

Session 1: Current approaches to STI Policy making in the context of SDGs

19 May 2025

10:00-13:00 Central Africa Time

This session will explore current approaches and methodologies for the formulation and implementation of STI policies. It will illustrate how STI strategies are being shaped to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including real-world experiences from Africa and beyond. The session will also address gender equality in STI and open science, offering participants a comprehensive view of inclusive STI policymaking.

Session 2: STI policy instruments design and implementation

21 May 2025

09:30-10:00 Central Africa Time

The session prequel will open with a video broadcast at 9:30 CAT. The video screening is on Public policy and STI and is provided for participants that did not manage to view it prior to this webinar. The formal programme and presentations and discussions will commence at 10:00 am CAT.

10:00-13:00 Central Africa Time

The session will introduce key concepts concerning policy instruments and methodological approaches for the design of policy instruments and country experiences. The session will also focus on the challenges and good practices for effective implementation of policy instruments. These will be explored through the analysis of its key dimensions as well as the presentation of concrete country experiences.

Session 3: STI policy monitoring and evaluation

26 May 2025

10:00-13:00 Central Africa Time

The last session will introduce approaches, practices and methods for STI policy Monitoring and Evaluation with presentation and discussion on case studies and examples of current practices, challenges and lessons learnt. The session will discuss the need for energizing the policy learning process whereby lessons learned and expressed through monitoring and evaluation practice are used to improve the design and implementation of successive policies and policy instruments.

Participants

Eligible participants include STI policymakers, policy analysts and STI officials and managers from all countries in Africa. They are invited to register for this event and participate in the sessions, and are encouraged to bring examples of STI policies, instruments, activities and practices from their countries' experiences. Participants from other countries that share similar development challenges, or who study or are impacted by STI policy developments in Africa, will also be welcome subject to technical limits of the webinar platform (tbc).

Profile of Trainers

STI policy specialists from UN agencies and other entities will animate the discussion, deliver lectures and execute interactive exercises during the three sessions. These include UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNU-MERIT, UNIDO, UNEP, UNECA, EU-JRC, OACPS R&I, and CISTRAT.

Language

The training will be delivered in English.

About the UN TFM IATT Work Stream 6

The *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* highlight the importance of STI policies and actions for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. The *Technology Facilitation Mechanism* and its *UN Interagency Task Team on STI for the SDGs* were established in order to mobilize STI solutions to attain the SDGs.

IATT is composed of diverse entities, including UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNU MERIT, UNDESA, UNEP, UNESCWA, UNECA, UNECLAC, UNECE, and others. [IATT's Work Stream 6](#) is responsible for **capacity building for STI for SDGs** by designing and delivering training courses and workshops addressed to STI policymakers, experts and analysts as well as STI managers and practitioners from developing countries.

WS6 has delivered several regional and international training courses, online and in person, that benefited more than 1,600 officials from more than 110 countries. Resources and more information about the training could be found on the IATT WS6 website.¹

Contact

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¹ <https://sdgs.un.org/tfm/interagency-task-team/capacity>