

Better leveraging Science, Technology, Innovation and Engineering for Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals

STI Forum Side Event of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group (STC MG) Co-Organized by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and the International Science Council (ISC)

9 May, 13:15 to 14:30 Trusteeship Chamber UN Headquarters (in-person event open to all registered participants of the STI Forum)

The Scientific and Technological Community Major Group (STC MG) seeks to maximize the potential of scientific knowledge, engineering ingenuity and STI solutions to accelerate SDG implementation. This session, organized by the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group (co-chaired by WFEO and the ISC) will explore strategies for better leveraging STI across all levels while harnessing its transformative potential. This includes the need for closer collaboration between the scientific, engineering, and technological communities and all stakeholders including societal actors and policy-makers, to co-design science-based solutions to address context-specific sustainability challenges. The session will also highlight examples of impactful initiatives that can accelerate achievement while enabling synergies and multiple co-benefits across the different goals under review this year - SDG 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17.

Guiding Questions:

- How can closer collaboration between science, policy makers, societal and engineering communities be facilitated to co-develop sustainable solutions that effectively tackle challenges?
- What specific strategies/ frameworks can be implemented to facilitate meaningful engagement and partnership between scientists, engineers and local communities in the co-creation of sustainable development solutions?
- What are examples of successful co-designed STI initiatives that have demonstrated synergies and co-benefits across multiple SDGs (SDG1, 2, 13, 16 & 17)? What are best practices and lessons learned from their delivery?
- Digitalization and emerging technologies such as AI and biotechnology have the potential to accelerate SDGs achievement and address complex societal challenges. What do you see as the key opportunities and barriers for STI for SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 and what entities need to be engaged?

Chair and Moderator Dr. K.N. Gunalan, Senior Vice President of AECOM, Co-Chair, Science and Technological Community (STC) Major Group

Opening Remarks (5)

- H.E. Ms. Paula Narvaez

Introduction (5)

- H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King TBC

Program (35)

- Prof. Olubukola Oluranti BABALOLA. Vice President, TWAS & OWSD, Research Director, North-West University and ISC Fellow
- Dr. PENG Jing, Chair WFEO Committee on Engineering for Innovative Technologies
- Dr. Patrick Caron CGIAR System Board Vice Chair
- Mr. Thomas Smith, Executive Director ASCE

Discussants (6)

- Pulkit Kanotra WFEO YE/FL WG on SDG 13 Civil Engineer at Arcadis
- Dr. Selvaraju Ramasamy, Sr. Officer Science and Innovation, Office of Innovation
FAO

Moderated Discussion (15)**Closing Statements (5)**

- Ms. Joyeeta Gupta Co Chair of 10-Member-Group
- H.E. Ms. Christina Markus Lassen TBC