

# The Oslo Workshop on International Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation to Address Global Challenges

May 18 to 20, 2011, Preliminary Agenda

Hosted by The Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research in collaboration with OECD and the Research Council of Norway as part of the Year of Science



## THE NEED FOR EFFICIENT GOVERNANCE OF INTERNATIONAL STI COLLABORATION

The economic challenges of ensuring fiscal consolidation, economic restructuring and re-starting



growth coincides with increasing political pressure to meet various social challenges, such as climate change, energy supply, clean water, infectious and neglected diseases, ageing and demographic change and food security.

These challenges are typically global in nature and cannot be dealt with alone by any country. They need to be addressed at a global level, and science, technology and innovation (STI) are essential to do so effectively.

Current policy frameworks and governance mechanisms for international co-operation exist for specific purposes and for different settings, but they often fall short of adequately supporting broad-based collaborative action at the scale, intensity and multi-disciplinarity required. New approaches and models for international collaboration need to be developed.

The workshop is to provide input to the OECD project on Governance of International Co-operation on STI for Global Challenges (STIG). Prepared presentations and comments will be collected and rapporteurs will summarise discussions.

## **ORGANISATION**

The workshop is organized in two general sessions (introduction, summing up) and four thematic sessions. Each of the thematic sessions will be focusing on governance dimensions identified within STIG as key to the development of effective collaborative frameworks. Issue papers on each of the dimensions prepared by the STIG expert group will be made available in due time before the workshop. There will be two prepared introductory presentations in each thematic session, one by a STIG expert and one by an invited stakeholder, followed by 2-4 prepared comments by invited stakeholders. After a short break, a general discussion will take place under the lead of a moderator.

## **WEDNESDAY 18 MAY**

### **10.30 am – 12.00 am: Introductory session**

Welcome by the hosts.

Welcome by the OECD

Keynote speech [TBD]: Why is a new approach to international collaboration needed for bringing the resources and opportunities of science, technology and innovation to bear effectively on global challenges?

Questions, general discussion

### **12.00 am – 01.30 pm Lunch**

### **1.30 pm – 5.00 pm: Thematic session 1: Funding and spending**

*Efficient funding models that may lead to a significant up-scale of funds and the establishment of flexible and responsive spending arrangements.*

Questions that may be addressed under this topic include:

What funding schemes are effective for scaling up the resources available for STI to target global challenges? What is an adequate balance between long-term core funding and short-term project funding, and how can it be achieved? How to balance concerns with equity, efficiency and effectiveness? How to address and resolve the issues of “equitable returns” and asymmetries between contributors of funds and beneficiaries of outcomes? What is the role for capacity building in funding policies? How to organise monitoring and evaluation to ensure adequate impacts throughout the funding and spending cycle? Which of the global challenges are already covered by multilateral research funding activities?

- Presentations by STIG expert (15 min) and invited expert/stakeholder (25 min)
- Prepared comments (each 5 min) by invited expert/stakeholder (2-4)
- Break
- General discussion led by moderator.

**19.30 pm: Dinner hosted by the Norwegian Ministry of Research and Education.**

#### **THURSDAY 19 MAY**

##### **9.00 am – 12.30 pm: Thematic session 2: Agenda- and priority-setting**

*Developing strong and inclusive agenda and priority setting mechanisms and models that ensure optimal outreach and stakeholder involvement while keeping co-operation effective and efficient.*

Questions that may be addressed under this topic include:

What type of process is required to develop agendas for and arrive at consensus on STI opportunities, needs and to assessments the effectiveness of STI approaches? What are efficient procedures for arriving at decisions on priorities in terms of developing long-term, effective STI programmes? What forms of accountability (accounting, transparency, evaluation, debate etc) are appropriate to ensure legitimacy and flexibility?

- Presentations by STIG expert (15 min) and invited expert/stakeholder (25 min)
- Prepared comments (each 5 min) by invited expert/stakeholder (2-4)
- Break
- General discussion led by moderator.

##### **12.30 am – 1.30 pm Lunch**

##### **1.30 pm – 5.00 pm: Thematic session 3: Capacity building, technology transfer and access arrangements**

*Developing mechanisms that factor the different levels of STI capacity in countries into the conceptualisation of co-operation, including technology transfer, build-up of absorptive capacities, improved access to knowledge generated from international ST collaboration and sharing the , benefits .*

Questions that may be addressed under this topic include:

What are the promising models for strengthening STI capabilities in emerging economies and developing countries? What role for foreign direct investment (FDI)? How can technologies in the form of equipment and infrastructure be transferred to less advanced countries?

- Presentations by STIG expert (15 min) and invited expert/stakeholder (25 min)
- Prepared comments (each 5 min) by invited expert/stakeholder (2-4).
- Break
- General discussion led by moderator.

#### **FRIDAY 20 MAY**

##### **9.00 am – 12.30 pm: Thematic session 4: Delivering benefits – putting STI into practice**

*Developing arrangements to ensure that innovation is rolled-out in a timely and dynamic manner and that the outcomes of international collaborative STI efforts are delivered in practice.*

Question that may be addressed under this topic include:

What role for industry and Public-Private Partnerships? How to create effective mechanisms of commercialisation and distribution of products and services to fulfill essential needs in the absence of demand and established markets? What is the appropriate relative level of productive, distributive and absorptive-adaptive capacities in various types of STI programmes to address global challenges?

- Presentations by STIG expert (15 min) and invited expert/stakeholder (25 min)
- Prepared comments (each 5 min) by invited expert/stakeholder (2-4)
- Break
- General discussion led by moderator.

**12.30 am – 1.30 pm Lunch**

**1.30 pm – 3.00 Summing-up session**

Introduction by the four moderators and general discussion on lessons and conclusions

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information, including registering and information about hotels, please contact Ragnfrid Lie, The Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research (rml@kd.dep.no , phone +47 2247737).

For information regarding the OECD STIG project contact Jana Marie Mehrtens (JanaMarie.MEHRTENS@oecd.org , phone +33 145249396).

Venue: Håndverkeren Kurs- og Konferansesenter, Rosenkrantzgate 7, 0159 Oslo, Norway.

Map: <http://bit.ly/fDIVZw>

*The Norwegian Year of Science*



www.vitenskapsaret.no