

Key messages from
The Workshop on Developing STI Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India (PSA), Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan (CAO) and the United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the Sustainable Development Goals (UN-IATT) co-organized the Workshop on Developing STI Partnerships for Sustainable Development on June 29, 2020. The main theme of the workshop was “*Accelerating International Cooperation and Actions Through the Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps*”. The workshop built on the preparatory dialogues between India and Japan, and invited pilot countries and UN-IATT partner agencies participating in the Global Pilot Program, and other interested stakeholders. The workshop saw participation by senior policy makers and experts from the pilot countries including India, and Japan and other partner agencies.

The key messages and conclusions of the workshop are the following.

1) In order to operationalise the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) adopted as part of the Agenda 2030/ SDGs, the Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps initiated in 2019 is considered the most important vehicle, backed by evidence based and robust conceptual framework and is expected to evolve into a very useful tool to strengthen national efforts on STI for SDGs mapping and international cooperation on knowledge, technology transfer, governance, capacity-building, networks and finance for countries to better address global challenges including COVID-19 pandemics, by ensuring access, equity and inclusion leading to sustainability and wellness.

2) Based on the existing close partnership in science and technology between India and Japan, both sides have expressed strong interest in extending their collaboration in STI for SDGs, particularly in cooperating in formulating STI for SDGs Roadmaps on 4 specific goals (SDG 2, 3, 6 and 7) through the Global Pilot Programme. The two countries are willing to deepen their collaboration in applying frontier technologies in the above mentioned areas and in collaborating with the UN-IATT in supporting pilot countries from Africa in particular, and African and other LDCs in formulating and implementing their STI for SDGs Roadmaps by sharing of experience, knowledge and capacities with them, in the spirit of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as mandated under the TFM.

3) It was suggested that UN-IATT accelerate the Global Pilot Programme by launching “Partnership in Action” and by leveraging more dedicated and diversified financing resources through emerging partnerships among research organizations and leading think tanks as well as the private sector and foundations based in Japan, India and select African countries, as reflected in the collective expression of interest among those participating in the workshop.

4) The participants acknowledged the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement that includes academia, think tanks and private sector in formulating and implementing STI for SDGs roadmaps.