

Expert Group International Workshop on STI Roadmaps for SDGs

LUDOVICO ALCORTA
RESEARCH FELLOW, UNU MERIT
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Making STI work for SDGs

- The Locus of STI

Activity	Locus
Science	University, Research Centres
Technology	Applied Research Centres, Firm Laboratories
Innovation	Firms

- Developing Technological and Innovation Capabilities at firm level is critical to achieve SDGs as it is to develop S & T.
- Process and incremental innovation takes place in production and hence engaging in making goods and services is also key to making STI work for SDGs
- Evidence shows lack of readiness, particularly by developing countries, to face the technological changes associated with the 4ir
- Unless efforts to upgrade capabilities at firm level are undertaken and firms engage in production, especially in developing countries, SDGs will not be met and many firms and countries will be left behind

Challenges to Building Technology and Innovation Capabilities

- The speed and relentlessness of technical change. Uncertainty.
- Heterogeneous/narrow productive structures, incomplete linkages and inadequate investment levels
- Poor access to knowledge and technology both locally and abroad
- Low rate of investment in R&D
- Limited managerial and organizational capabilities for innovation
- Lack of required skills at design, development and production levels
- Outdated capital stock despite existence of some islands of modernity
- Concentrated ownership forms

Strategic responses (Oman)

- Raising the profile of innovation as a key development enabler (Top 20)
- High-level political commitment to innovation
- Development of STI Plans or Roadmaps
- Preparation of long-term diversification strategy
- Large investments in education and scientific base
- Within government coordination
- Focus on implementation
- Close consultation, collaboration and partnership between public and private sectors

Policy Responses and Approach (Oman)

- Increasing awareness of civil society of the role of technological change and innovation through workshops, seminars, roundtables and awards
- Introduction of a range of programmes and incentives aimed at improving the research capacity:
 - Research awards
 - Commissioned Strategic Research
 - Research Grants
 - Research Incentives
 - Innovation Capacity building projects
- Engaging the private and public corporate sector to assess the impact of accelerated technical change over their industries and the potential responses required both by public and private sectors
- Engaging the private and public corporate sector in the identification of areas with potential for diversification
- Policies under consideration:
 - Technology and innovation support infrastructure
 - Technology transfer incentives
 - Attraction of FDI to specific activities
 - Demonstration of 4ir technologies
 - Fairs and study visits
- Consolidation of an existing Technology and Innovation Fund to support innovative projects

**Many thanks for your
attention!**

