

**FfD Side-Event Concept Note**  
**The Role of Science, Technology and Innovation in a Post-2015 World**  
*Revised: 2015-06-19*

**Event Abstract**

To meet the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we need to promote new ways of achieving development impact. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) are key enablers to meet this challenge. The landscape for development innovation is changing. Foundations and investors are seeking to invest in new technologies and innovations that have the potential to deliver both social impact and economic returns. Universities and regional research organisations are seeking to increase R&D cooperation to catalyze locally-driven development solutions. Given this changing landscape, what can donors, national governments, private industry, NGOs and civil society do to catalyze STI for more inclusive development?

**Theme:** Importance of STI in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

**Objectives:**

- Highlight innovative thinking and new models of investment to better leverage science, technology and innovation for development in a Post-2015 world.
- Announce a Joint Statement on an Innovation Approach, to be agreed on by key bilateral donors, foundations, and The World Bank.
- Raise the visibility of the role of science, technology and innovation as an enabler for the Post-2015 Agenda, building on new and exciting approaches to development.

**Sponsors:**

- USAID, DFID, DFAT (Australia), DFATD (Canada), Sida, Rockefeller Foundation, UNICEF, The World Bank, and other major development donors.

**Date:** 15 July 2015, 15:30-18:00

**Format:** Moderated discussion in Davos-style format with four panelists and one moderator, 90 minutes long

**Moderator:**

- [Michael Anderson](#), CEO of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF). He has previously been heavily involved on the Post-2015 Agenda and has an innovation angle given his role on the Board of the [Global Innovation Fund](#).

**Opening Remarks (TBC):**

Government

1. Alfonso Lenhardt, Acting Administrator, USAID

**Panel: The Private Sector's Role**

**Panelists (TBC):**

1. Torbjörn Pettersson, Assistant Director General, Sida

2. Ewen McDonald, DFAT Deputy Secretary, Australia
3. Ann Mei Chang, Executive Director, U.S. Global Development Lab, USAID
4. [Mamadou Biteye](#), Managing Director for Africa, The Rockefeller Foundation
5. [Peter Singer](#), Chief Executive Officer, Grand Challenges Canada
6. [Moses Engadu](#), U-report Global Coordinator, World Scout Bureau

### **Contributions to the Conference:**

- Based on the objectives, this panel discussion will provide a forum for interested parties to discuss and share ideas that can help achieve the Conference goals outlined in Section II (G) of the draft outcome document (The Addis Ababa Accord of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development), especially on how to catalyze STI for more inclusive development.
- Provide a forum to create a dialogue on how different institutions can come together to catalyze greater investments in STI to drive greater socio-economic change as a vital ingredient for realizing the goals set out in the outcome document.
- Set the stage for ongoing conversations around the importance of STI leading up to the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in September.

### **Proposed Questions**

- What are the current barriers preventing developing countries from participating in the knowledge economy and what can donor countries, national governments, private industry, foundations, NGOs and other civil society actors do to address these barriers?
- What examples have you [panelist] seen that gives you hope for how to close existing gaps?
- What are the top [3-5] policies and/or regulatory reforms that every government should be considering to drive greater investment in science, technology and innovation?
- Where are high potential examples of new economic opportunities and socio-economic development driven by innovation and technological change? What have you seen that should be inspiring us to greater action?
- Where should this stakeholder group focus its efforts to ensure STI is incorporated across all the SDGs? What has been missing from the debate to date?