



2009 GLOBAL FORUM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION CAPACITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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The World Bank
Washington, DC



Preliminary Program Description

The past few years have seen a renewed emphasis on establishing partnerships to help developing countries build the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity they need to reduce poverty, achieve the Millennium Development Goals, generate wealth, create better paying jobs, and foster sustainable development. Some of these proposals focus on strengthening science and engineering faculties by fostering university-to-university partnerships. Others focus on building developing country research capacity by promoting partnerships between R&D institutes in developed and developing countries. Still others focus on promoting entrepreneurship and technology transfer in developing countries and supply chain links between emerging market enterprises and multinational corporations.

These initiatives all revolve around a common theme: promoting knowledge and capacity flows from development partners – in both the North and South - who have an abundance of technical expertise and capacity building prowess to developing country clients who are striving to augment their STI capacity. An overarching question is how to design and implement these partnerships so that developing countries build and sustain the STI capacity **they need** to address **their** high priority development needs.

The objectives of the Global Forum are to review case-studies of science, technology and innovation partnership initiatives and to see what good-practice lessons of experience can be gleaned from this review. If there is a gap between the lessons of experience generated by successful initiatives and the structure of recent STI capacity building partnership programs, the Forum will explore ways to bridge this gap. Since this is expected to be a practical, results-oriented event, the principal audience is expected to include a wide range of stakeholders, including government officials from developed and developing countries, private sector executives, and staff from bilateral, multilateral, and non-governmental organizations and foundations involved in STI capacity building programs.

This 2-day event will be the second STI Global Forum hosted by The World Bank. The first Forum convened in February 2007 and discussed specific strategies, programs, and policies for building science, technology and innovation capacity to promote sustainable growth and poverty reduction in developing countries. The proceedings from the 2007 Forum, as well as video and power point slides from each presentation, can be downloaded at www.worldbank.org/sti.

Please refer to this website for more information about the upcoming 2009 STI Global Forum, including registration information, a draft program, and a preliminary Background Discussion Paper.