Improving Scientific Input to Global Policymaking:
with a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals

InterAcademy Partnership

The InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)

iap
SCIENCE
RESEARCH
HEALTH

the interacademy

A global partnership of more than 130 national and regional merit-based academies of science and health

Leadership

Steering Committee

Presidents:
Robbert Dijkgraaf[1], the Netherlands
Mohamed Hassan[2], Sudan
plus:
Detlev Ganten[3], Germany
Lai Meng Looi[3], Malaysia

Daya Reddy[1], South Africa
Volker ter Meulen[2], Germany

Board members

(representing regional networks)
Juan Asenjo, IANAS Krishan Lal, AASSA
Jos van der Meer, EASAC
Mustapha Bousmina, NASAC

Building a better world through science

Strategic Priorities

- Provide evidence-based advice and perspectives on global issues;
- Build a scientifically literate global citizenry;
- Strengthen the global scientific enterprise;
- Strengthen the global network of academies, including establishing new academies in countries where they do not currently exist.

IAP has an accomplished track record of building the capacity of new and young academies, especially in developing countries, of providing syntheses and reports to national and international governance structures on scientific issues, and issuing statements that highlight critical areas for action with recommendations to policymakers.

IAP Secretariat

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Four regional networks (Asia, Americas, Europe, Africa)

aassa Asia
THE ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIES AND SOCIETIES OF SCIENCES IN ASIA

IANAS
INTERAMERICAN NETWORK OF ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES

European Academies
easac
Science Advisory Council

NETWORK OF AFRICAN SCIENCE ACADEMIES
NASAC

iap SCIENCE RESEARCH HEALTH
the interacademy partnership

Committed to making the voice of science heard on issues of crucial importance to the future of humankind.

Improving Scientific Input to Global Policymaking

- Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York
- A working group of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) in collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Study
- Three year project framed around the global science community's contribution to the SDGs, with particular focus on the academies
- The project broadly aims to:
  - develop a framework that strengthens the global science-policy interface
  - raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially among the academies
  - facilitate productive collaboration and adoption of best practices among organizations that generate scientific advice

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs are comprised of 17 goals, broken down into 169 targets, covering issues such as:

-Ending poverty and hunger

-Ensuring healthy lives

-Providing quality education

-Promoting gender equality

-Combating climate change

The SDGs acknowledge that POVERTY REDUCTION must run in parallel with strategies that build sustainable and inclusive economic growth …

They address a range of social needs including education, health, gender-equality, reduced inequalities and job opportunities.

What is the IAP project

"improving Scientific Input to Global Policymaking"

- Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York

- A working group comprised of IAP member academicians, with GYA and ICSU nominations

- Three year project framed around the global science community's contribution to the SDGs, with particular focus on the academies

- The project broadly **aims** to:

  - **raise awareness of the SDGs**, especially in the academies;
  - **explore opportunities to support SDGs** more effectively, with a focus on how the academies can play their part systemically;
  - **encourage collaboration and adoption of best practices** among organizations that generate scientific advice and support.

Three pillars: mobilization | capacity building | linkages & partnerships

where/how do the Academies fit in

?

Common criticisms of national science academies in informing policy

- They are too slow: they tend to come to debates too late in the day.
- They do not have the profile and/or access to the highest levels of decision-making in national or regional governments.
- They are too supply-driven: they tend to work in a bottom up way on projects they are interested in.
- They produce reports that are too technical, too academic and not tailored to a user community.
- They have too much hubris and too many politics between them.
- They are not naturally disposed to working in partnership or with other sectors.
- They focus too narrowly on what constitutes "science" and are not generally trans/inter/cross-disciplinary.
- They have yet to appreciate that evidence *informs* not dictates policy.

Strengths of national science academies in informing policy

- Their independence
- Their scientific authority and credibility through merit-based membership
- They are organised and cooperate regionally and globally
- Many are multi-disciplinary or there is close cooperation between academies of science, engineering and medicine
- Many academicians have senior roles in their governments
- Growing number of young academies, working closely with (often mentored by) their senior counterparts
- High-quality output and back catalogue of reports on wide-ranging science-for-policy and policy-for-science issues

IAP survey of the academies

- In 2016/17, InterAcademy Partnership members and National Young Academies were surveyed to learn more about the role of academies in supporting the SDGs framework

- 51% responded (54 senior, 30 young, Global Young Academy)

- The survey provides a snapshot of where academies bring knowledge to the SDGs, where they could be more involved, and where they need to develop their own capacity

- It is anticipated that the survey will be a valuable resource for the academies themselves, external agencies and potential partners.

Which SDGs have been discussed in meetings/ workshops of your academy?

Since January 2014, has your academy published (or is about to publish) academy reports/ outputs that are relevant to the SDGS? If so, to which goals specifically?

In the next 12 – 18 months, is your academy planning to work on any goals relevant to the SDGs? If so, which ones?

Understanding the system for science supporting UN SDGs

- The survey identifies a need to better understand the process for supporting the SDGs – at global and national levels

  – Basic mapping work /schematic at the UN (global) level

  – Getting involved in translation at national level

The United Nations System

UN Principal Organs

- General Assembly
- Security Council
- Economic and Social Council
- Secretariat
- International Court of Justice
- Trusteeship Council[4]

Programmes and Funds

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- **ITC** International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
- **UNCDF** United Nations Capital Development Fund
- **UNV** United Nations Volunteers

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRWA[1] United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN-Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP World Food Programme

Research and Training Institutes

UNICRI United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNIDIR[1] United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

UNITAR United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNRISD United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
UNSSC United Nations System Staff College
UNU United Nations University

Other Entities

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNISDR United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNOPS United Nations Office for Project Services

Subsidiary Bodies (General Assembly)

Main and other sessional committees
Disarmament Commission
Human Rights Council
International Law Commission
Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Subsidiary Bodies (Security Council)

Counter-terrorism committees
International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)
International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

Military Staff Committee
Peacekeeping operations and political missions
Sanctions committees (ad hoc)
Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Advisory Subsidiary Body

United Nations Peacebuilding Commission

Related Organizations

CTBTO Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
IAEA[2] International Atomic Energy Agency
OPCW Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
WTO World Trade Organization

Functional Commissions

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Narcotic Drugs
Population and Development
Science and Technology for Development
Social Development
Statistics
Status of Women
Sustainable Development
United Nations Forum on Forests

Regional Commissions

ECA Economic Commission for Africa
ECE Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Other Bodies

Committee for Development Policy
Committee of Experts on Public Administration
Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
Other sessional and standing committees and expert, ad hoc and related bodies

Specialized Agencies[3]

ILO International Labour Organization
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WHO World Health Organization
World Bank Group
- **IBRD** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **IDA** International Development Association
- **IFC** International Finance Corporation
- **MIGA** Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
- **ICSID** International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes

IMF International Monetary Fund
ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization
IMO International Maritime Organization
ITU International Telecommunication Union
UPU Universal Postal Union
WMO World Meteorological Organization
WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization
IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development
UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNWTO World Tourism Organization

Departments and Offices

EOSG Executive Office of the Secretary-General
DESA Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DFS Department of Field Support
DGACM Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
DM Department of Management
DPA Department of Political Affairs

DPI Department of Public Information
DPKO Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DSS Department of Safety and Security
OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIOS Office of Internal Oversight Services
OLA Office of Legal Affairs
OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
UNODA Office for Disarmament Affairs
UNOG United Nations Office at Geneva
UN-OHRLLS Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
UNON United Nations Office at Nairobi
UNOV United Nations Office at Vienna

NOTES:

[1] UNRWA and UNIDIR report only to the General Assembly.

[2] IAEA reports to the Security Council and the General Assembly.

[3] Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations working with the UN and each other through the coordinating machinery of ECOSOC at the intergovernmental level, and through the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) at the inter-secretariat level. This section is listed in order of establishment of these organizations as specialized agencies of the United Nations.

[4] The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994 with the independence of Palau, the last remaining United Nations Trust Territory, on 1 October 1994.

This is not an official document of the United Nations, nor is it intended to be all-inclusive.

DRAFT: Mapping science advice into the UN SDGs process: at the UN level
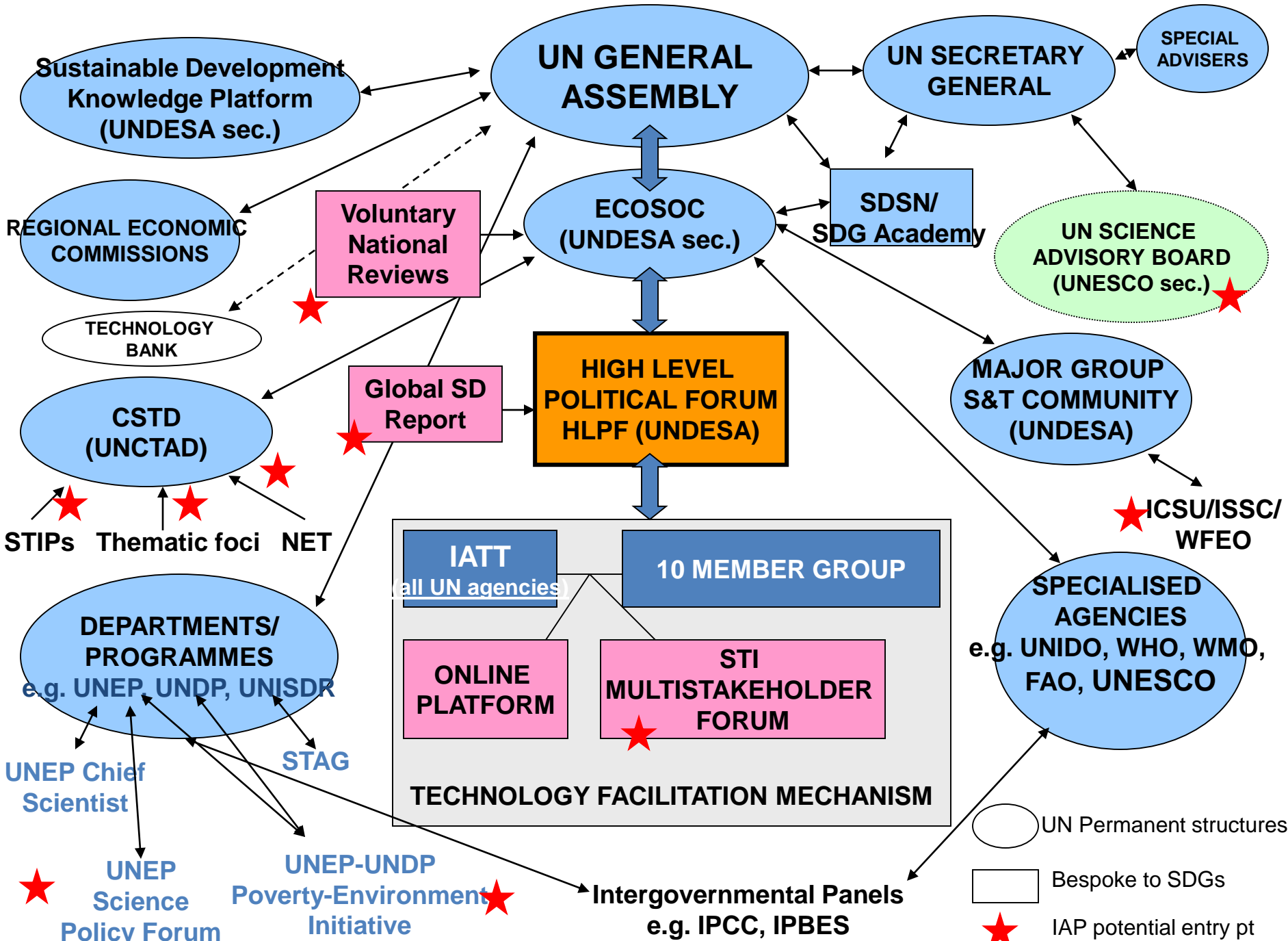
Next steps

- Participate at the UN STI Multi-stakeholder Forum in May 2017
- Develop information tools that:
  - Provide an intelligible map for SDG systems and processes
  - Identify where science can contribute to the SDGs
  - Frame SDG-related work for the academies
- Develop a public database (snapshot) of SDG-relevant work that academies have completed or are working on
- Support academies in SDG-relevant work (targets, tools, mechanisms, VNRs, STI roadmaps, etc.)
- Continue outreach activities

Desired outcomes of the SDGs project

- Senior and young academies make a proactive (potentially systemic) contribution to supporting the national implementation of the SDGs

- Sustained links and working partnerships are formed with UN and its agencies

- Underrepresented research communities have a voice through their academies, working with other agencies/networks

- A few examples of good practice – at national, regional and global level - are developed / scaled up

- In demonstrating by doing, academies build capacity and attract partnership for sustained follow-up work