GHANA's STI4SDGS ROADMAP: Experiences, Achievements and Lessons

PAVING THE PATHWAYS FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY AND FUTURE RESILIENCE

By

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INTRODUCTION

- Given the importance of STI in solving societal, environmental and economic development challenges, a Global Pilot Programme on the preparation of STI4SDGs roadmaps was launched in July 2019 by the UN Inter-agency Task Team (UN-IATT)

- Ghana is one of the participating countries in the Global Pilot Programme on STI4SDGs roadmaps

  STI4SDGs Roadmap is aimed at fast tracking the achievement of the SDGs with application of emerging STI

- We have used the joint UN guidebook as a toolkit for the national roadmap development exercise.

- We have also had inputs from Stakeholders, Knowledge resource from UCL Students and enjoyed commitment from high level policy makers

The Ghana STI4SDGs Preparation Process

December 2019
- A workshop to deliberate on the objectives of STI4SDGs roadmap was organized
- Tentative workplan and outline for STI4SDGs Roadmap developed for high level engagement

Mar-June 2020
- Constitution of Technical Task Team for the Development of STI Roadmap for the SDGs
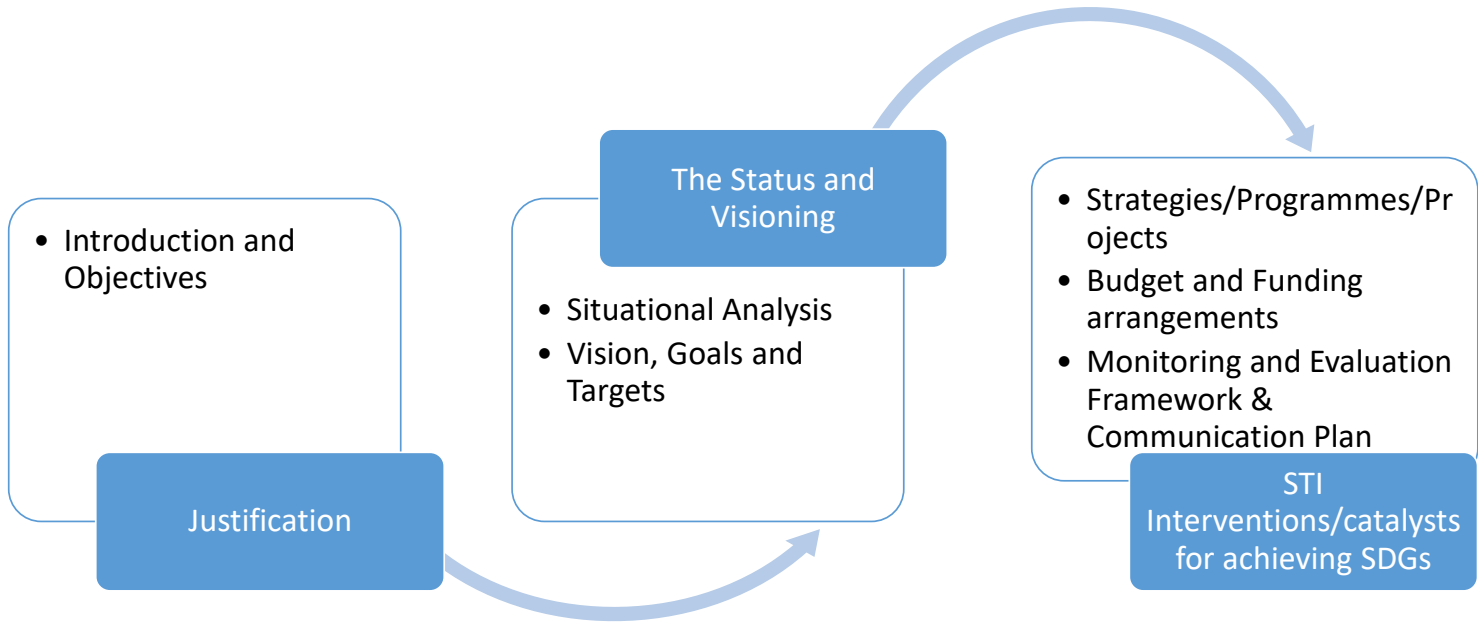- 1st face-to-face meeting, virtual meeting and participation in validation workshop

September 2020
- Resource Person identified for STI4SDGs Road map
- Situational Analysis done by CSIR-STEPRI Team led by Resource Person with technical guidance, inputs and support from MESTI, TTT and UNESCO

October 2020
- Developed a concept note for resource mobilization and operationalization of STI4SDGs roadmap
- Proposal for sensitization on STI4SDGs among stakeholders
- Development of Policy Briefs

Iterative Process of Developing The STI-SDGs Roadmap

- Introduction and Objectives

Justification

The Status and Visioning

- Situational Analysis
- Vision, Goals and Targets

- Strategies/Programmes/Projects
- Budget and Funding arrangements
- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework & Communication Plan

STI Interventions/catalysts for achieving SDGs

Key Achievements

- Situational Analysis of the extent of Integration of STI in Development Plans and Critical Contribution of STI to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in Ghana

- Critical sectors that would need the application of STI in creating jobs, solving developmental and environmental challenges in society

- Agric (SDGs 1&2), Industry (SDGs 9, 8 & 1), Education (SDG 4), Health particularly due to COVID-19 and significance of public health (SDG 3), Water and Sanitation (SDG 6) due to deficit inn achieving targets

- Development of 5 Policy Briefs

Policy Briefs (5)

- Conceptualizing STI4SDGs Roadmaps: An Actionable Strategy aimed at accelerating the achievement Of SDGs using STI in Ghana
- Review of the current STI Policy, SDGs and Development Plans and the Inter-linkages
- Assessment of STI Capabilities to meet prioritized SDGs
- Harnessing Innovation potential of the Ghanaian Youth for the attainment of the SDGs
- Fact Sheet on current situation with prioritized SDGs

Challenges in the Context of Urgent needs and Opportunities to apply STI for resilient Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic

Challenges in the health sector as captured in the National Health Policy (2020) are:

- Inadequate health facilities in terms of infrastructural and equipment including ICT and AI-powered healthcare services;

- Need for re-tooling of existing facilities and adoption of digital technologies for pandemic planning, surveillance, testing, contact tracing, quarantine, and health care

- Plans for the creation of 88 regional hospitals, Infectious Disease Center built to expand the country's health infrastructure, and additional funds were made available to increase the testing centers.

- Medical education and training in various disciplines including herbal medicine, biomedical science, drone operations, e-health systems, hospital waste management and health tourism

COVID-19 Research Fund

- The Research and Grant Institute of Ghana (NGO dedicated to promoting the generation, dissemination, and utilization of research in Ghana) launched the COVID-19 Research Fund

- The Fund supports research projects underpinned by the WHO's COVID-19 Global Research Roadmap and Global Coordinating Mechanism (GCM) for R&D in epidemics, the Global Infectious Disease Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) and national research needs

- Areas of attention include Transmission dynamics, COVID-19 Susceptibility and Severity, Clinical characterization and management, public health and media and communication

Proposal on Sub-TTT Committees

Chapter 1,2,3

Head, Office of President SDG Unit (Co-Chair)
Director STI, MESTI
Rep from NDPC
Director-CSIR-STEPRI
Resource Person and Team

Chapter 5,6

Rep From Ministry of Finance
Rep from Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation
Rep Ghana Statistical Services
Resource Person and Team

Chapter 4

Chief Director, MESTI (Chairperson)
Rep from Ministry of Business Development
Rep From Ministry of Trade and Industry
Rep from Ministry of Education
Rep From Ministry of Health
Rep From Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
Rep From Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Resource Person and Team

Chapters /Activity	Responsibilities	Timelines (October –Mid December, 2020									
1. Introduction/Background, Objectives of STI4SDGs Roadmap and Scope	TTT Sub-committee	▩	▩								
2. Situational Analysis	Done	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩	▩
3. Vision, Goals, and Targets of the Roadmap	TTT Sub-committee	▩	▩								
4. Detailed STI4SDGs Strategies/Programmes/Projects/Activities	TTT led by Resource Person			▩	▩	▩	▩				
5. Budget and Funding arrangement for Implementation Activities/Projects	TTT led by consultant					▩	▩	▩			
6. M & E Framework and Communication Plan	TTT Sub-committee led by Rep from M&E Ministry							▩	▩	▩	
Sensitization &Stakeholder Consultation one in-persons and two virtual sensitization workshops	MESTI & STEPRI								▩	▩	▩
Validation Workshop	MESTI & STEPRI										▩

Lessons

- Shared responsibility and commitment at the highest level – MESTI's Strategic role and guidance in the development of STI4SDGs Roadmap
- Involvement of critical actors and alignment to national development plans
- Intensive engagement with stakeholders – expert group discussions, validation workshop and virtual debriefing meeting with Technical Task Team
- A Team of resource persons involving STI experts and Development Practitioners
- Effective targeting of sectors to focus on based on developmental trajectory – agenda for jobs and inclusive sustainable development
- Strong cutting edge of STI and expected developmental outcomes

Considerations by UN and International Partners

- Partnerships and Collaborations for STI research
- Resource mobilization for finalization of the development of STI4SDGs Roadmap Process
- Sharing of knowledge resource and knowledge exchanges
- Regional STI Projects/Programmes for the implementation of STI4SDGs Roadmap tailored to the National Projects and Programmes
- Supporting STI institutions to deliver on their mandates
- Building strong M&E systems for effective management, communication and reporting

THANK YOU