

# THE ROLE OF ROBUST STI ECOSYSTEMS IN BUILDING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN ISDB MEMBER COUNTRIES

23/05/2022; Time 10:30 AM; Virtual on Zoom

## OVERVIEW:

Building a robust STI ecosystem is imperative to building resilient and sustainable economies. In the wake of the COVID-19 global crisis, it is of utmost importance for IsDB MCs to build adequate STI ecosystems that provide a foundation for the countries' preparedness for future emergencies and promote competitiveness and inclusive growth. In addition to breaking the cycle of poverty, instability and development inequalities while promoting the principle of effective ownership of national development strategies.

The Webinar is jointly organized by Science, Technology & Innovation Department and the IsDB Center of Excellence in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It will feature a unique blend of diverse MCs' experiences in adapting and leveraging the STI ecosystem to support resilience and recovery, including Egypt's, Malaysia's, and Mozambique's experiences. Additionally, the webinar will shed light on the experiences and role of international development agencies in strengthening STI ecosystems featuring STI policy global experts from UNCTAD, UNESCO and IsDB.

## KEY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED:

1. Highlighting the importance of strong STI ecosystems in supporting economic resilience.
2. STI ecosystem best practices and success factors. Featuring successful experiences and lessons learned in developing robust STI ecosystems from diverse maturity profiles of IsDB MCs.
3. Highlight the role of STI within other critical economic sectors in accelerating growth and efficiency.
4. IsDB frameworks for supporting MC strengthening their STI ecosystems.

## SPEAKERS:

	<p><b>Mahmoud M. Sakr</b>, President, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt. He is also a professor of plant biotechnology at the National Research Center (NRC). Since 2014, he has been working actively on the restructuring of ASRT's vision, mission, and objectives, to be an effective National Academy of Science, and the main public supporter of the complete cycle of innovation in Egypt.</p>
	<p><b>Hazami Habib</b>, CEO, Academy of Science Malaysia, a "Think Tank" body focusing on science, technology &amp; innovation policy and strategy projects. She leads the Management of the Academy that comprise of amount more than 700 STI experts in Malaysia. Also, she has represented Malaysia in few talks and forums, including the China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and STI Cooperation Forum; Asian Innovation Forum, Korea; and 2019 AAAS Symposium, Washington DC.</p>



**Eugénia Cossa**, National Director for Science and Technology, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. She holds a PhD in Science Education from the University of Western Cape, South Africa. She expert in planning, curriculum development, evaluation and monitoring, policies, and strategies for the development of higher education, gender and environmental issues.



**Liping Zhang**, Chief of STI Policy Section, STICT Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She started her career in the Ministry of Commerce in China, where she participated in trade policy making and trade negotiations, then she joined the Trade Division of UNCTAD as Senior Economic Affairs Officer, working on trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy ranging from trade in goods to trade in services.



**Ezra Clark**, Chief of Science Technology & Innovation Policy Section, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). He also used to work for the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) for 14 years. And he was previously employed by a UK-based NGO working in the areas of marine environmental threats and chemical smuggling.



**Salma Abbasi**, Chairperson and CEO, eWorldwide Group. A technologist, philanthropist and social activist that motivates professionals and the civil society. She is the founder of eWorldwide Group, an international social enterprise focusing on global health, innovative ethical technologies, digital transformation working with Governments, development agencies and private sector to achieve the SDGs.