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Buan-Ionad na hÉireann
chun na Náisiún Aontaithe

Permanent Mission of Ireland
to the United Nations

“Science for Development” Seminar, 23 September 2016

**An announcement for a seminar within the context of the
2016 United Nations General Assembly**

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ISC
Intelligence in Science

Science for Development Seminar

2016 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA71)

Friday 23 September 2016, 3pm – 6pm (Conference Room B)

ISC, in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations and the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations, on the margins of the 71st Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 71), will organize a seminar entitled Science for Development.

The seminar will take place on Friday, 23 September 2016, in the UN Headquarters building in New York and will explore how to support the potential contribution of science and innovation to policies aimed at addressing global challenges and, specifically, how science can support the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by presenting key cases, such as examples of research infrastructures and capacity building. Furthermore, the seminar will examine the enabling policy and regulatory environment for enhancing science cooperation at a global level. Special focus will be placed on how big data will enable science in a global development context.

Poverty, hunger, access to water, electricity and education are some of the major challenges developing countries have to face. Science and innovation are key to overcome these problems and increasingly complement traditional development approaches. Examples of more traditional technologies used in the development context are vaccines which eradicated diseases like smallpox or new crops that are more resistant to environmental impacts. New technologies including ICT, renewable energies and biotechnology play a growing role in accelerating progress towards the SDGs. Moreover, innovation and technology development are crucial in boosting growth and economic development and transformation. In order that the full potential of science for development can be exploited, enabling policies, regulations and funding instruments are necessary. The challenge is to better integrate science and innovation in existing development and related policies and to create an environment that facilitates the involvement of academia, companies, and civil society in this process. The aim is to build partnerships between developing and developed country scientists who together can address local challenges and opportunities while using global sources of innovation, data and best practice.

The speakers at the seminar on 23 September will present relevant research infrastructures and examples of capacity building for achieving the SDGs and examine the enabling policy and regulatory environment for enhancing science cooperation and collaboration at a global level. Furthermore, special focus will be put on how Big Data will influence the operation of science in a development context, and in particular the seminar will look at how a UN Science Data Cloud could be developed to support data-enabled science aligned with related global initiatives. The target audience is primarily policy- and decision-makers involved in science, scientists and industry collaborators. The seminar will also include panel discussions which will examine potential policy options.

Agenda:

15H00: Science for Development seminar - Data and Capacity

15h00: Introduction and welcome

- **Declan Kirrane**, ISC, Belgium
- **Tim Mawe**, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations
- **Philipp Charwath**, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations

15h10: Scene setting

- **Prof Kurt Zatloukal**, Medical University of Graz, Austria:
The value of data: enabling medical science to address global challenges
- **Prof Orla Feely**, Vice President for Research, Innovation and Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland:
The role and contribution of universities to the SDGs

15h40: The view from Africa

- **Dr Mahama Ouedraogo**, Head of the Science and Technology Division of the African Union Commission:
The African Union's support for data enabled science [video address]
- **Prof Zeinab Osman**, Institute of Engineering Research and Materials Technology; National Center for Research, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Khartoum, Sudan:
Empowering women can drive innovation: A view from Sudan [video address]
- **Dr Eric Mwangi**, Deputy Director of the Department of Research Management at Kenya's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology:
Capability synergies between Africa and the EU [video address]

15h55: The science capacity and capability

- Moderator: **Declan Kirrane**, ISC, Belgium
- **Prof Jan-Eric Litton**, Director-General, BBMRI-ERIC, Austria / European Life Science Research Infrastructures:
Biobanks: a key structural capacity for supporting data-driven medical science
- **Prof Barry O’Sullivan**, University College Cork, Ireland:
Data Analytics: generating knowledge for the Cloud
- **Prof Francesca Rossi**, IBM Research / University of Padova:
AI for development: a human/machine partnership
- **Carsten Claussen**, Fraunhofer, Institute for Molecular Biology and Ecology (IME), Aachen, Germany:
A Medical Data Infrastructure for the Globe
- **Marianne Caponnetto**, 100 Year Starship (invited)

16h55: Education and skills development

- **Ian Jones**, Innopharma, Ireland:
Training and education: human capital for the SDGs

17h05: The policy response

- **David Byrne**, Chair, European Alliance for Personalised Medicine and Former European Commissioner for Health, Ireland:
Personalized medicine: a global perspective

17h20: Personalized medicine roundtable

- Moderator: **Prof Jan-Eric Litton**, Director-General, BBMRI-ERIC, Austria / European Life Science Research Infrastructures
- **Gordon McVie**, EAPM Secretary, former Director General of Cancer Research, UK:
TBD
- **Alex Dickinson**, Illumina:
TBD
- **Mark Lawler**, Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland:
TBD
- **Marisa Papaluca**, Senior Scientific Advisor, Human Medicines Research & Development Support Division, European Medicine Agency:
Role of the European Medicine Agency in the era of Personalised/Precision Medicine

17h40: Discussion on a UN Science Cloud and conclusion

18H00: End of seminar

Seminar venue:

United Nations Headquarters Building,
Visitors Entrance, First Avenue at 46th Street

Further information and registration available at: <http://iscintelligence.com/event.php?id=309>.

Registration will be on a “first come, first served” basis and will close on **22 September 2016**.

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