

## **First Virtual Joint International Workshop on ‘SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE’**

**18-19th Feb 2021**

A two day joint workshop on ‘SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION POLICY FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE’ was organised by Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), University of Sussex, UK, and the Department of Science and Technology - Centres for Policy research (DST CPRs), India.

A key aim of this joint workshop was to examine the Science, technology and innovation ecosystem in India, through an understanding of the concept of “Transformative innovation policy (TIP)”. This was also an effort to explore opportunities for collaborative partnerships in the area of STI policy for societal transformation between Indian scholars and those working abroad.. The workshop was widely promoted and was open to anyone interested in the topic, which resulted into an overwhelming responses of over 150 registrations.

On the first day of the workshop (18<sup>th</sup> Feb), Dr T A Abinandanan, Coordinator, DST-CPR at IISc Bangalore, India discussed the mandate of CPRs (Center for policy research) in India. He emphasised on the need for creating a policy cadre in India. In the opening plenary, Dr Akhilesh Gupta, Adviser, DST and Head, STIP Secretariat at DST, Gol presented in details [India’s 5th National STI Policy](#) – which is currently undergoing public consultation as an initial draft. Besides presenting the policy itself, he also shared the four-track participatory process behind the formulation of the Policy draft. He stated that ‘It is one of the largest, widest and diverse policy consultations undertaken for drafting India’s 5th STIP’. In the same plenary, Dr. Matias Ramirez, Senior Lecturer, SPRU, and Christina Miariti, Programme Co-Director, TIPC presented the concept of “[policy experimentation](#)” and how this is done, alongside the key outcomes in Transformative Innovation Policy Consortium (TIPC), 2020. In the second plenary session, Prof Shubhini A Saraf discussed frugal innovations in health system and in connection to SDGs, while Prof. Johan Schot presented how STI policy globally has evolved from a focus on R&D to national systems of innovation to transformational change addressing SDGs (3<sup>rd</sup> and emerging frame of innovation policy).

A key highlight of the workshop was 10 “Flash talks” by mostly early career scholars, presenting their own research and experience of engaging in STI policy. . These diverse set of presentations by the scholars from DST-CPRs and SPRU and TIPC partners ranged from discussions on STI financing, importance of gender and equity, energy transitions, to knowledge systems and pandemic preparedness..

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1	<b>Dr. Venkat Nadella</b> , Post-doctoral Policy Fellow, DST-CPR-Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Financing Science, Technology and Innovation: Lessons from Polycentric System of Governance
2	<b>Dr. Nimita Pandey</b> , Post-doctoral Policy Fellow, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the GoI and UNESCO New Delhi	Gender Equity and Inclusion in STI: Towards Institutional Transformation
3	<b>Dr. Suchiradipta Bhattacharjee</b> , Senior Policy Fellow, DST-CPR Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Looking at India’s climate change initiatives in agriculture through an innovation systems lens
4	<b>Dr. Mansimran Khokhar</b> , Senior Scientist D, DST-CPR Panjab University, Chandigarh	Public-Private Partnerships in STI: Key to Multi-stakeholders Participation in STI
5	<b>Dr. Saunhya Pathak</b> , Post-doctoral Policy Fellow. DST-CPR BBAU Lucknow University	Internationalisation of Indian Standard Medicine: Strengthening Patent Regime, Strategies and Modulation of Policy
6	<b>Dr. Imogen Wade</b> , Research Fellow, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex	Implementing transformative innovation policies (TIP) across different geographical contexts: TIPC in South Africa, Sweden, and the European Union
7	<b>Dr. Alexandra Boni</b> , INGENIO (CSIC-UPV), Universitat Politècnica de València	Evaluating transformative innovation policies in a formative way
8	<b>Dr. Joshua Moon</b> , Research Fellow, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex	Fear and Apathy in Implementation: Learning the lessons of learning lessons for epidemic preparedness
9	<b>Nora Ndege</b> , PhD Scholar, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex	Investing in Science Technology and Innovation: Learning from a complimentary approach (Transformative Knowledge Systems Approach) piloted in East Africa.
10	<b>Yasemin Aslan</b> , PhD scholar, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex	A Novel Index for Knowledge Triangle: The Entrepreneurial and Innovative University Index of Turkey

On the second day of the workshop (19<sup>th</sup> Feb) Prof. Jeremy Hall, Professor, and Director at SPRU, University of Sussex, UK highlighting the position and reputation of SPRU and its contribution to teaching and research on Science technology and innovation policy. Complementing his talk, Dr. Adrian Ely, Reader in Technology and Sustainability, SPRU, University of Sussex, UK elaborated on the historical engagement of SPRU and STEPS centre on STI Policy for Development context for the past 50 years. Prof. Anjula Gurtoo, Chairperson, Centre for Society and Policy, IISc Bangalore, India offered a detailed overview of Data Governance and Equity issues in India and the ongoing changes and adaptation in policy to address ethical use and application of data.

A highlight on the second day was however at the very end of the workshop – the session where we went into breakout groups to discuss specific themes/topics of STI policy. 25 minutes of dedicated interaction in these small groups resulted into many interesting insights and inputs from diverse participants.

These key areas of STI policy such as Conceptualising STIP: Global context; STI policy for Transformative Change; Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship; STI Governance; Developmental Context; STI roadmaps for the SDGs; Open Science and Science Communication; Implementation and evaluation of STI policy and Inclusivity and Equity in STI.

At the end of the workshop, participants shared positive feedback as well as ways in which we can organise more such joint workshops in the future. All participants have been invited to join the emerging “Transformative innovation policy research network (TIPRN).