

Building Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Science, Technology and Innovation in Rwanda

Paul van Gardingen
Consultant to DFID-Rwanda

Why?

Innovation creates *opportunities* for people to *improve* their own lives.

- **Science, Technology and Innovation *deliver*:**
 - Economic growth.
 - Poverty reduction.
 - Health and human well being.
 - Good governance.
- **STI are *necessary* to deliver against the Millennium Development Goals.**

STI Delivering Results

Public investment in STI *must* be focused on delivering against the priorities and needs of society.

- STI is one of the cross-cutting issues identified in Rwanda's Vision 2020.
- Rwanda's National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (2005) provides a framework to deliver results.
- STI is being incorporated into the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS).

Implementing the National STI Policy.

- Targets and resources will be provided through the EDPRS.
- The 2005 Policy identifies the need to establish an enabling environment addressing the *legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks* that are required to support implementation.
- The Policy identifies the need to build STI capacity to meet economic and social development goals.

Legal, Regulatory and Institutional Frameworks

DFID's support is intended to build legal frameworks (laws and regulations) and institutional structures designed to ensure future investment in STI delivers *real and measurable improvements to the lives of people in Rwanda*

- **DFID Technical Assistance to the Government of Rwanda.**
“Science, Technology and Innovation for Results” (STIR).
- **Part of an emerging shared agenda between the Government of Rwanda, World Bank and DFID which emphasises the contribution that STI will make to the future development of Rwanda.**

STIR Outputs:

1. Definition of institutional structures and relationships required to implement the National STI Policy.
 - The STI Policy identifies the need for a National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NCSTI) and National Research Fund (NRF).
 - Proposed structures will be discussed through a participatory process involving key stakeholders in Rwanda.

STIR Outputs:

2. Draft legal and regulatory frameworks required to implement Rwanda's National STI Policy.

These are required to create new institutions and create the legal basis for their operation.

STIR Outputs:

3. Definition of requirements for processes of building human capacity and institutional change required to support implementation of the National STI Policy.
 - Addressing the operational needs of new institutions.
 - Addressing the needs of existing institutions to participate (e.g. in competitive grant schemes).

STIR Outputs:

4. An integrated approach to measure the benefits and impact of government investment in STI .

- Assisting MINISTR to develop indicators that can be used to measure the *benefits* and *impacts* of investment in STI.
- Measuring progress against EDPRS targets.

Measuring Impact

Public investment in STI *must* be focused on delivering against the priorities and needs of society.

- The ability to measure the benefits and impacts of the STI Policy will:
 - Challenge STI institutions and practitioners to adopt new ways of working.
 - Promote focus on delivery of results.
 - Generate the evidence required to ensure continued support for STI activities.

Summary

- Public investment in STI needs to *deliver results* that address the priorities and needs of society.
 - Economic growth
 - Poverty reduction
 - Health and human well-being
 - Good governance
- DFID will support the Government of Rwanda's implementation of their STI Policy through the “Science, Technology and Innovation for Results” (STIR) project.
 - STIR will deliver the legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks required for implementation of the Policy...
 - ... and a monitoring framework to measure benefits and impact in relation to the EDPRS.