Global Science Forum 50th meeting
High-level Symposium

Monday 22 April 2024

OECD Headquarters – Paris

Following the creation of the Megascience forum in 1992, the OECD Global Science Forum (GSF) was formally established in1999 with a mandate that encompassed Research Infrastructures and other international science policy issues. Twenty-five years after its first meeting, the GSF will hold its 50th meeting in April 2024. This meeting will be held at the margins of the Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP) meeting at the Ministerial level (CSTP Ministerial meeting) scheduled for 23-24 April 2024.

It is proposed to take this opportunity to organise a GSF high-level symposium which would both build on the GSF achievements to date and contribute to the CSTP Ministerial meeting.

Ministers will be called to endorse a Declaration welcoming a transformative science, technology, and innovation policy agenda for sustainability transitions, while embedding shared values in the governance of science and emerging technologies and reaffirming the need for international co-operation to address global challenges.

The GSF high-level symposium is dedicated to international scientific collaboration, with a focus on Research Infrastructures (RIs) which have been at the core of the GSF activities from its inception.

International scientific collaboration is entering a new phase: on one side, emerging global challenges require the strengthening of collaboration and synergies between research communities to address complex scientific and societal issues. This was exemplified by the recent COVID-19 pandemic[1] but this is also true for many complex socio-technological problems (food security, extreme weather events, biodiversity reduction, energy crisis, disease migration…). On the other hand, there are growing barriers to the development of international scientific collaboration: security issues[2] (war in Ukraine, foreign interference in public research…), fierce economic competition (AI, quantum technologies…), and regulatory/legal barriers (that may prevent the circulation of researchers, data, or samples).

RIs are organisational structures dedicated to deliver data or services for basic or applied science. They have become indispensable in almost all scientific domains and represent an increasingly large share of research investment. RIs provide an effective mechanism promote international scientific collaboration - both to advance basic scientific understanding and to address global challenges. RIs can be very complex and expensive undertakings, sometimes in the billion or even tens billion € range, that require international co-funding, and/or they need to be distributed over multiple locations around the globe to collect the necessary data or observations. Those requirements have expanded the international dimension of individual RIs and fostered the establishment of international collaborative research infrastructure networks. This workshop will explore the development of international RI ecosystems as both a necessity to address complex scientific and societal challenges, and an opportunity to foster international scientific collaboration.

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1 https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/covid-19-resilience-and-the-interface-between-science-policy-and-society_9ab1fbb7-en

2 https://www.oecd.org/science/inno/integrity-and-security-in-the-global-research-ecosystem-1c416f43-en.htm

Agenda outline

[*9:00-11:00: strategic discussion on the future programme of work and budget, for GSF delegates only*]

Time	Session
11:45-13:00	**Round table: Evolution of international scientific collaboration in the last 25 years and challenges/drivers for coming years** Build on the lessons learned at GSF from the last 25 years, with a specific look at international research infrastructures, to develop a vision of the future of international scientific collaboration challenges and opportunities/ *Participants: former + current GSF chairs: Peter Tindemans, Jon Boright, Hiroshi Nagano, Gabriele Fioni, Amanda Collis, and Global Earthquake Model Director John Schneider*
13:00-14:30	**Lunch**
14:30-16:00	**Research infrastructures and international collaboration for addressing complex/wicked challenges** How to develop effective international collaboration around research infrastructures to support public policies in addressing socio-technological challenges (food security, extreme weather events, biodiversity reduction, energy crisis, pandemic and disease migration…). Lessons learned from recent crises regarding the roles of RIs in facilitating the exchange of scientific data worldwide and multi/interdisciplinary approaches to solve complex questions. *2 case studies presentations:* • *Integrated Services for Infectious Disease Outbreak Research (ISIDORe) and Interception of Oral Cancer development (INTERCEPTOR) (Diana Stepanyan, Head International Affairs, Strategy & Communication, European Research Infrastructure on Highly pathogenic Agents ERINHA)* • *Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) (Birgit Gemeinholzer, University of Kassel)* *Discussion: Nicolas Arnaud (Director of the Institute for Universe sciences, CNRS), Pearl Dykstra (Scientific Director of the Open Data Infrastructure for Social Science and Economic Innovations, Director Societal Preparedness at the Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness Center, Netherlands), Jose Luis Martinez (Chair of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures), Kei Koizumi (Principal Deputy Director for Policy for the Office of Science and Technology Policy, US)*
16:00-16:20	**Coffee break**
16:20-17:50	**Research infrastructures as a catalyst for future global and inclusive scientific collaboration** What will future international scientific collaboration look like? How can research infrastructure ecosystems facilitate responsible and transformative science worldwide and help overcome existing barriers (North-South etc.)? *Open panel discussion: 5 panel members* *Marcia Barbosa (Secretary (Deputy-Minister) for Strategic Policies and Programs at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Brazil), Masaaki Nishijo (Deputy Director-General, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan), Byung-Seon Jeong (President, Korean Institute of S&T Evaluation and Planning), Imraan Patel (Deputy Director General, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa), Claire Giry (Director General for Research and Innovation, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, France)*
17:50-18:00	**Closing words**
18:00-19:30	**Social Event**