

Towards Inclusive Science Advice for Global Policy Making



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In an era marked by complex global challenges, the need for robust evidence-based science advice has become increasingly important. More so has the importance of having an inclusive approach towards the global science advice mechanism. Recognizing this, India's G20 Presidency has conceptualized a dedicated initiative, Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable (G20-CSAR), as one of the flagship initiatives under the Sherpa track. G20 brings together top and emerging scientific powers of the world that produce approximately 85% of global scientific knowledge. It serves as an effective platform to discuss some of the critical issues related to scientific research, technology development and deployment. The Chief Science Advisers and their equivalents are embedded within the highest level of governance and have a prominent role in shaping the policy choices

by providing evidence-driven science advice.

The vision for inclusive science advice is rooted in the belief that the benefits of scientific progress should reach every segment of society, through appropriate policy improvement. Science and Technology (S&T) have the power to bridge gaps, empower communities, and address pressing social challenges such as poverty, healthcare disparities, and climate change. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that the policy advice provided by the Chief Science Advisers reflects the diverse needs and perspectives of all stakeholders, including women, indigenous communities, and underprivileged sections of society across nations.

The G20-CSAR initiative provides a valuable platform for governments to engage in discussions on critical themes at the policy level. During India's Presidency, G20-CSAR has fixed its collective priorities on themes such as One Health; Open Access to Scholarly Scientific Knowledge; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Science & Technology. One of the key objectives of this initiative is also to ensure that there is a continuous effort to create robust institutional mechanisms for continuous





and action-oriented Global S&T Policy Dialogue.

It is widely recognized that in the spirit of cooperation and dialogue, Chief Science Advisers, who provide scientific advice to the heads of the states on all major policy matters, have a responsibility to also engage in addressing transboundary issues that impact the global scientific enterprise. G20-CSAR as a platform aims to

foster meaningful dialogue and cooperation. Looking ahead, we can ensure that advancements in science and technology have a broad and inclusive impact. Through these collaborative efforts, we can harness the power of scientific knowledge to effectively address shared challenges, enhance global scientific progress, and foster a more equitable and prosperous future for all. ■

Science20 Engagement Group Meeting

MAY 01-02, 2023 | BANGARAM ISLAND, LAKSHADWEEP

The Science20 Engagement Group meeting on Universal Holistic Health under India's G20 Presidency took place at the Bangaram Island of Lakshadweep.

