Welcome to the STIR Workshop!

Are you curious about innovation and sustainability transitions? Are you interested in the role of public policy in enabling innovation to face major civilizational challenges of today and tomorrow? Do you have a view on how governments can take the lead and contribute to the transition to sustainability?

These are the main questions behind the Sustainability Transition and Innovation Reviews (STIR). STIR gathers evidence and expert views on the role of public policy in supporting innovation enabling transition towards sustainability. The reviews are conducted in countries at different points in their sustainability transition and facing diverse environmental and societal challenges. The STIR framework supports policy reflection on problem framing, policy design and capacity building relevant for policies aimed to support sustainable innovation.

The process has three main purposes:

- **Policy evaluation** – STIR is a systemic policy evaluation tool based on a mix of self-assessment and expert appraisal focused on individual countries.

- **Public debate and policy learning** – STIR is to contribute to a policy learning process providing a comprehensive policy appraisal framework for national debates and policy reflection on concrete steps to improve current policies.

- **International collaboration** – STIR aims to stimulate international debate and collaboration on the current and future role of public policy in enabling systemic changes in economies and societies towards sustainability.

STIR generates two types of outputs requiring different time effort from authors and stakeholders. **Country reviews** are in-depth analyses and appraisals of country’s public policy including an analysis of sustainability challenges and innovation system. The policy appraisal in country reviews is based on expert interviews, stakeholder workshops as well as on available evidence and literature. **Country briefs** are shorter reports focused mainly on the appraisal of public policy. The briefs include short comments and evidence sources on the specific policy appraisal criteria.

STIR is a new initiative developed in the framework of the Innovation for Sustainable Development (Inno4SD) project (http://www.inno4sd.net/). Inno4SD is an international network providing a platform for exchange of experience and policy learning on the role of innovation for sustainable development. The network invites multiple perspectives on innovation and sustainability relevant for different countries and regions around the world.

The outputs of STIR contribute to the Inno4SD innovation policy guidelines and the on-line evidence library with thematic policy outlooks and policy briefs. The library will feature concrete policy practices supporting transformative innovation in diverse economic, social and political contexts around the world. The Inno4SD partners aim at conducting policy appraisal on a regular basis in order to analyse changes in policies over time.
What’s the focus of the policy appraisal? The exercise aims at mapping, analysing and appraising public policy supporting innovation for sustainability, taking into account the main phases of policy cycle, including agenda setting, policy design, strategy and decision making, policy implementation, and policy evaluation.

The reviews feature a comprehensive set of 12 appraisal criteria designed to capture the key attributes of public policies supporting innovation for sustainable development. The scores obtained through policy appraisal will be presented as a policy scoreboard.

The appraisal questions reflect the following appraisal criteria:

> **Agenda centrality** – the position of innovation for sustainability in the policy debate and policy agenda.

> **Relevance** – the extent to which policy vision and objectives are consistent and adequate for sustainability challenges.

> **Directionality** – the extent to which policy is oriented towards sustainability.

> **Environmental policy stringency** – the extent to which policy protects environment.

> **Alignment** – the extent to which policy mobilises change agents for the vision and to engage in transformative eco-innovation.

> **Legitimisation** – the extent to which choices on direction of transition pathways have democratic and social mandate.

> **Demonstration** – the extent to which policy creates strategic arenas for experimentation and demonstration of transformative system innovation.

> **Specialisation** – the extent to which policy encourages innovation specialisation in the most relevant areas in terms of sustainability impact.

> **Coherence** – the extent to which policy mix is coordinated and coherent.

> **Distributional impacts** – the extent to which policy redistributes costs and benefits of transition between societal groups and regions.

> **Effectiveness** – the extent to which policy is effective in achieving impact.

> **Policy evaluation and learning** – the extent to which policy is based on evidence and supported by learning environment.
WHY GET INVOLVED?

The STIR exercise requires investment of time and effort from both authors of reviews as well as from experts and stakeholders. Participating in STIR also comes with rewards and opportunities to improve the policy process in your country.

When you become the STIR author you have an opportunity to:

- Publish and promote your work in the framework of the Inno4SD project.
- Engage with experts and stakeholders and be part of the policy learning process in your country.
- Co-develop policy guidelines on how to improve future policies supporting transition to sustainability.
- Broaden your network by exchanging with international peers and learn from international experience.
- Benefit from the methodological support, receive secondary data from the core team and learn from the peer review process.

When you get engaged in the STIR consultation and policy appraisal as an expert or stakeholder you have an opportunity to:

- Take part in a structured reflection on innovation policy and sustainability.
- Make your voice heard and share your opinion on public policy in your country.
- Co-develop policy guidelines on how to improve future policies supporting transition to sustainability.
- Meet and discuss with experts and stakeholders interested in innovation and sustainability.
- Contribute to the international debate and learn from international experience.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RELEVANT CONTACTS

The Inno4SD team will be pleased to provide you with further information and methodological guidelines on the exercise.

For questions on the STIR Workshop in Turkey, please contact

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For the general questions on the STIR framework, please contact Dr Michal Miedzinski, UCL Institute for Sustainable Resources (m.miedzinski@ucl.ac.uk).