Evidence for Diplomacy

Presentation for INGSA North Eastern Africa Workshop Series on the Role of Science in Assisting Regional Policy Development

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Today’s challenges require science, technology, and innovation (STI) and global solutions.
Science + diplomacy: Intersection of science and foreign affairs

- Evidence-based form of knowledge acquisition with a universal language
- Management of international relations characterized by dialogue, negotiation, and compromise

Apollo–Soyuz Test Project

Antarctic Treaty
Science + diplomacy

How can the common language, power, people, and goals of science & engineering be leveraged for and in foreign policy, in relationships & alliances, and for progress towards solutions to shared challenges?
Science diplomacy > international research cooperation

- Build and strengthen **relationships and dialogue** in spite of diplomatic/political dynamics
- Advance a national, regional or international **policy** (foreign and/or science) agenda or issue
- Provide input into or **solutions** to global challenges and advance the global public good
(One) governmental perspective of science diplomacy

Use STI to advance broader international or diplomatic priorities

and/or

Use diplomacy to advance broader STI priorities
(One) governmental perspective of science diplomacy

Use STI to advance broader international or diplomatic priorities and/or

Use diplomacy to advance broader STI priorities

- Government interests (national, regional, S&T, etc)
- Foreign government/partner interests
- STI community interest & advice
- Shared global public good

- Funding
- Strategies
- Bilateral and multilateral efforts
- Government scientists
- Leveraging high-level officials
- Action-forcing functions
- New initiatives and partnerships
Example: Arctic Science Ministerial

- **Need:** Near-term science initiatives and increased international scientific collaboration on the Arctic over the longer term.
“In the €140m (£123m) MOSAiC expedition, 600 scientists from 19 countries including Germany, the US, Britain, France, Russia and China will work together”

Example: Science & technology in US-China relationship

FACT SHEET: U.S.-China Clean Energy Cooperation Announcements
January 19, 2011

In conjunction with Chinese President Hu Jintao’s state visit on January 19, 2011, progress and partnerships were announced that underpin the expanding clean energy cooperation as the United States and China work together to solve common energy challenges. Notable examples include:

Forbes
Artificial Intelligence, China And The U.S. - How The U.S. Is Losing The Technology War
Actors in STI and diplomacy ecosystem

• Federal Government
  • Head of State
  • Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  • Ministry of Science & others that work on science issues (e.g., energy)
  • Parliament

• International Organizations
  • United Nations
  • African Union
  • G20, G77, BRICS, etc.
  • World Economic Forum

• State and Provincial Government

• Non-governmental organizations
  • Academies of Science
  • Think tanks
  • Funding organizations
  • Scientific societies

• Academic Institutions
  • Research & collaborations
  • Policy institutes and centers
  • Degrees and student training

• Private sector, including public-private partnerships

• Individuals
CERN: The greatest evidence for diplomacy?
Science for mutual understanding

• Example: Synchrotron-Light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME)

“If it weren’t for Turkey, Jordan and Israel, this lab couldn’t have been opened easily. This shows that despite on and off political tensions between them, countries can indeed work together.”
- Zebra Sayers, Turkish scientist, founding member of SESAME

http://www.salom.com.tr/SalomTurkey/haber-110400-joint_project_from_turkish_and_israeli_scientists.html
Science as a “soft power” tool

• Soft power: “the ability to affect others to obtain the outcomes you want” and a type of power that “co-opts people rather than coerces them” (Joseph Nye)
Science as a means to build relationships

• **Example: Mount Paektu volcanology research**
  • Eruption in ~900 AD was one of the most intense in history
  • In 2002-2005, showed signs of weak earthquake activity
  • Government outreach lead to collaboration with scientists from UK, North Korea and China considerations in potential diplomatic opening on peninsula
Science as a means to build relationships

Rifting in the Horn of Africa: The Eritrea Seismic Project (June 2011 - October 2012)

James Hammond, Berhe Goitom, Mike Kendall

2014

North Korea project is linked to an early project in Eritrea
Science in regional development & cooperation

• Example: Square Kilometer Array
  • Located in South Africa and Australia with partners in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia

• Example: African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS)
  • Goal to have 15 AIMS centers of excellence in operation across Africa by 2023

https://www.skatelescope.org/africa/
Science in international agreements

• **Example: Paris Climate Agreement**
  • Data and evidence to form consensus
  • Climate diplomacy
  • Outreach from science to general public (e.g. efforts in French Embassy in U.S.)*
  • Determining NDC and working as a global community to meet targets

STI for Sustainable Development Goals

- STI plays various roles in progress*:
  - STI for or as individual Goals/Targets.
  - STI for SDGs as a system
  - Emerging risks of STI
  - International cooperation

Mechanisms to utilize STI for SDGs
One perspective on future needs for science + diplomacy in Africa

- Management of transboundary water resources
- Management of oceans and coastal environments
- Management of communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases
- Maintenance of peace and security

“Transnational cooperation constitutes the most rational way to develop adequate solutions to the increasingly acute and complex challenges facing the continent.”

- Dr. Moctar Toure, Vice President, The World Academy of Science

Trend: Shifting geopolitics

Why rightwing populism has radicalised

Populist governments, from the US and UK to Brazil and Hungary, are growing more extreme in power

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Brexit

Hopes of clean break with EU are nonsense, says ex-Brexit official

A no-deal exit would trigger complex negotiations, argues former top DexEU civil servant

China’s Belt and Road: The new geopolitics of global infrastructure development

Amar Bhattacharya, David Dollar, Rush Doshi, Ryan Hass, Bruce Jones, Homi Kharas, Jennifer Mason, Mireya Saba, and Jonathan Stromseth

Annexing the West Bank Will Destabilize Jordan

Netanyahu's election promise won't just hurt Israel, it will create chaos for its eastern neighbor and a diplomatic backlash too.

BY ALBERT B. WOLF | SEPTEMBER 17, 2019, 1:54 PM

Will Peace With Ethiopia Usher In a Political Opening in Eritrea?

Tanja Müller | Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019
Trend: Globalization & population trends
Trend: Growing shared, transboundary challenges with S&T dimensions or solutions
Trend: Advances in S&T are rapidly changing industries and society...

https://blogs.oracle.com/oracleuniversity/what-is-the-fourth-industrial-revolution-how-will-it-affect-you
...And amplifying the need for global governance, dialogue, and partnership.
Mechanisms for dialogue, accountability & action

• Example: BRICS STI Minister Forum

  • Est. 2013 to coordinate mutual interests and identify future directions of institutionalizing cooperation in STI within the framework of BRICS.

  • Formed working groups or forums for biotechnology, geosciences, space, science academies, cooperation in ICT, women in STI

  • Sample outcome:

    • BRICS ministers established the Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) to maximise the opportunities and address the challenges arising from the 4th Industrial Revolution (2019)

Trend: Greater involvement and potential of diverse actors

Ethiopian Diaspora in United States: Highest Education on Level

https://ethiopia.iom.int/sites/default/files/document/Final%20Mapping%20of%20Ethiopian.pdf
Tact and diplomacy are fine in international relations, in politics, perhaps even in business; in science only one thing matters, and that is the facts.

(Hans Eysenck)
Global engagement is a critical part of the science-policy nexus

The STI enterprise

- Influenced by
  - Potential to influence

- Impacted by
  - Potential to impact

- Advanced by
  - Potential to advance

The foreign affairs enterprise

http://www.khilafatworld.com/2012/11/picture-