

Leveraging the Advancement Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development

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<https://doi.org/10.5109/7323431>

出版情報 : Proceedings of International Exchange and Innovation Conference on Engineering & Sciences (IEICES). 10, pp.30-31, 2024-10-17. International Exchange and Innovation Conference on Engineering & Sciences

バージョン :

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Keynote Speaker



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Short Biography

Prof. Emmanuel Mutisya is a seasoned project manager, sustainability specialist, researcher, education expert, entrepreneur and strategist in international development policy with more than 10 years of professional and program management experience. Prof. Mutisya is currently the Chairperson of the University Council of the Kenya Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (Kenya-AIST), Education Advisor to the President of Kenya, the Chairperson of the Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI), a Visiting Professor at the University of Nairobi, a Board Member at the Institute for Humanities in Africa at the University of Cape Town, and a Senior Consultant of Education and Skills Development at the African Development Bank.

As an accomplished senior international development leader and researcher, Prof. Mutisya offers a track record of designing, formulating, implementing, and monitoring portfolios at country, regional, and continental levels in Africa in higher education, skills development, research, innovation, and development. Having played leading roles, including continental coordinator of education and skills development, Prof. Mutisya continues to provide advisory policy support, and strategic analysis in multicultural and multidisciplinary ecosystems.

Prof. Mutisya holds a PhD in Sustainability Science from the University of Tokyo (Japan), a master's degree in public administration from the International Christian University (Japan), and a Master's Degree in Mathematics from Karlstad University (Sweden).

Title: Leveraging the Advancement Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development

10th International Exchange and Innovation Conference on Engineering & Sciences (IEICES 2024)

October 17-18, 2024

Kyushu University, Fukuoka City, Japan

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Abstract

Science, technology and innovation (STI) has a great potential in addressing sustainability challenges and promoting the realization of development agenda across nations. Rapid change of technologies has led to disruptions across all economic, social and environmental dimensions. Emerging technologies under the frame of the 4th industrial revolution including artificial intelligence, machine learning, internet of things, and big data continue to shape our lives in ways never imagined before. They continue to produce innovative solutions to address some of the most urgent global challenges, such as energy, food security, health issues and climate change. As such, growing technological complexity, the fast pace of development, and the scale of global challenges call for increased investment in STI.¹

However, challenges still remain on how to utilize technology to address emerging sustainability concerns. This is particularly so in developing countries where the adoption of new technologies is slow compared to advanced countries. There is a need to strengthen science, technology, and innovation contributions to economic growth and align new innovations with emerging development needs.

¹ <https://unctad.org/news/bridging-global-sti-divide-identifying-and-addressing-technological-needs-least-developed>