SDG-FIR Nexus: Connecting the Dotted Lines

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PIDS

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SDGs and technology

48 of the 169 SDG targets are technology-related (UN 2016):

Significant overall technology performance improvement (19 targets) – e.g. *9.4 …upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes….*

Universal access to sustainable technology (12 targets) – e.g. *1.4. …ensure that all men and women …. have… access to basic services…and…appropriate new technology…*

Global effective innovation system for sustainable development (17 targets) – e.g. *8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support … entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation…*

"No one left behind" - Key risks

Digital divide

- Information and communications technology (ICT) as the foundation of FIR

- Unequal distribution of ICT among and within countries ---> unequal distribution of FIR benefits

Technology and employment

- 3 ways: (a) technology replacing human labor, (b) new jobs created because of technology; and (c) jobs being complemented by technology.

- How do we ensure that the net effect on jobs is positive?

- How do we ensure that people are redeployable and not unemployable?

Harnessing public-private partnerships

Digital divide

- Adopt an ecosystems approach to ICT development

Technology and employment

- Involve industry in curriculum development and delivery

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