Session Report Template

The objective of this report is to showcase tangible examples where science and innovation have significantly contributed to the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda set by the United Nations.

1 Identification

1.1 Session ID #2155287

1.2 Session Title Cultivating Tomorrow's Diplomatic Leaders: UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellows and Faculty Advancing the UN SDGs

1.3 Session Date and Time September 10 at 9 AM EDT

1.4 Convenor name Larisa Schelkin

2 Speakers and Panelists

Please list all speakers and panellists, including their names, titles, and organisational affiliations.

2.1 Speaker 1

2.1.1   Name: Lee Dana

2.1.2   Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.1.3   Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.1.4   Title of the presentation: Reflecting on History, Building a Resilient Society through Maintaining Peace in the Mekong Region.

2.1.5   Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

Ms. Dana Lee's presentation at the UNGA 79 Science Summit examines the challenge of maintaining peace in the Mekong region amid great power rivalries. Focusing on the Thai-Indochina War (1940-1941) as a case study, she explores how nationalism, diversionary tactics, and windows of opportunity led to conflict. Nationalism unified Thailand under Phibunsongkhram's leadership, while diversionary theory suggests that the war was a strategic move to distract from domestic issues. The window of opportunity theory posits that Thailand capitalized on France's defeat and Japan's support to advance its territorial ambitions.

Ms. Lee emphasizes the importance of promoting globalization, inclusivity, and people-to-people interactions to counteract these forces and sustain peace. She questions whether increasing domestic security would maintain or undermine peace, highlighting the

complexity of these decisions. The presentation calls for a strategic foreign policy in the Mekong region that can navigate great power influences while fostering resilience and stability.

This concise analysis underscores the need for thoughtful diplomacy and proactive peacebuilding in regions where historical and geopolitical tensions persist.

2.2 Speaker 2

2.2.1 Name: Dr. Patricia Tesoriero

2.2.2 Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.2.3 Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.2.4 Title of the presentation: The Impact of Climate Change on Psychosocial Well-being.

2.2.5 Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

Dr. Patricia Tesoriero's presentation at the UNGA79 Science Summit, titled "The Impact of Climate Change on Psychosocial Well-being," examines the profound effects of climate change on mental health and societal stability. The presentation begins by highlighting how climate change, driven by human activities like burning fossil fuels and deforestation, triggers extreme weather events such as floods, wildfires, and hurricanes. These events disproportionately affect marginalized populations, exacerbating stress, trauma, and socioeconomic disparities.

Dr. Tesoriero delves into the concept of environmental racism, where vulnerable communities are targeted by harmful corporate practices and policies, further jeopardizing their well-being. She discusses the "fossil dilemma," emphasizing how fossil fuel extraction methods like fracking not only contribute to climate change but also pose significant environmental and health risks.

The presentation also addresses the economic impacts of human-made climate change, including forced migration, geographical biases, and the role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in mitigating these effects. Dr. Tesoriero calls for greater awareness and action to protect psychosocial well-being in the face of climate change, particularly for those most vulnerable to its impacts.

This summary encapsulates the key themes of Dr. Tesoriero's presentation, focusing on the intersection of climate change, mental health, and social justice.

2.3 Speaker 3

2.3.1 Name: Dr. Gerald Maki

2.3.2 Organisation name: Ivy Tech Community College

2.3.3 Type of organisation: Academia

2.3.4 Title of the presentation: College and Curriculum Internationalization

2.3.5 Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

Gerald Maki's presentation at the UNGA79 Science Summit focuses on the internationalization of college curricula, specifically through the lens of Ivy Tech Community College, the largest two-year college in the United States with over 200,000 students across Indiana. The presentation highlights the integration of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the college's curriculum as a key strategy for globalizing education.

Maki emphasizes the importance of critical peace education, human rights, personal empowerment, and agency in the internationalization process. The approach also celebrates international cultures and focuses on relationship-building, contemporary project-based learning aligned with the SDGs, workforce skills development, and fostering ethical sensitivities among students.

A significant component of Ivy Tech's internationalization effort is the implementation of Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) virtual exchanges. These exchanges have been expanded statewide and involve partnerships with institutions in countries such as Uzbekistan, Chile, Spain, Colombia, Mexico, the Philippines, Germany, and Ukraine. These initiatives have proven transformative for both Ivy Tech and its international partners, emphasizing authentic relationships and practical, project-based learning.

The presentation concludes with a call to further build global community connections through expanded curriculum internationalization, community partnerships, and increased engagement with the SDGs at both local and global levels.

2.4 Speaker 4

2.4.1 Name: Yashraj Patil

2.4.2 Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.4.3 Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.4.4 Title of the presentation: Advancing SDG Goals through the Integration of The GLOBE Lab & Science Diplomacy Lab.

2.4.5 Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

Prof. Yashraj Sandeep Patil's presentation at the UNGA79 Science Summit focuses on advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the integration of The GLOBE Lab and Science Diplomacy Lab. As an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Engineering and a Global Diplomacy Fellow at UNITAR, Prof. Patil discusses his

role in leveraging scientific research and education to contribute to global sustainability efforts.

The GLOBE Lab, operating under NASA's GLOBE Program in the Asia-Pacific Region, plays a pivotal role in fostering environmental education and citizen science. Prof. Patil emphasizes the importance of combining these grassroots scientific initiatives with the principles of science diplomacy to enhance international collaboration and policy-making aimed at achieving the SDGs.

The presentation outlines how The GLOBE Lab engages students and communities in collecting environmental data, which is then used to inform global scientific research and policy decisions. By integrating this work with the Science Diplomacy Lab, Prof. Patil aims to bridge the gap between local environmental action and global diplomatic efforts, ensuring that scientific data and insights are effectively utilized in international forums to address challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable resource management.

In conclusion, Prof. Patil calls for stronger international cooperation and the continued integration of science diplomacy with educational initiatives to accelerate progress toward the SDGs.

2.5   Speaker 5

2.5.1   Name: Arnaaz Ali (presented together with Maximilian Heckmann)

2.5.2   Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.5.3   Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.5.4   Title of the presentation: Ethiopia: Food Security, Climate Change and Challenges to Implement SDG Target by 2030.

2.5.5   Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

This presentation explores the intricate relationship between political instability, climate change, and food security in Ethiopia. The authors argue that famines, often perceived as natural disasters, are preventable atrocities exacerbated by poor governance and conflict. Ethiopia's prolonged conflicts, including the civil war with the Tigrayan government, have significantly disrupted food security, leading to widespread famine, displacement, and loss of life.

The presentation highlights the severe impact of climate change on agriculture, with failing crops and severe droughts pushing millions into acute food insecurity. The humanitarian situation is dire, with over 20 million people requiring food assistance, according to reports from USAID and the World Food Program. Despite efforts like Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plans and Climate Resilient Green Economy initiative, the country remains highly vulnerable to climate change, further complicating efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The presentation concludes by emphasizing the need for political stability and effective governance to address institutional corruption and resource wastage. Only through

comprehensive policy reforms and international support can Ethiopia hope to build resilience against future food security challenges and meet its SDG targets.

2.6   Speaker 6

2.6.1   Name: Maximilian Heckmann (presented together with Arnaaz Ali)

2.6.2   Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.6.3   Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.6.4   Title of the presentation: Ethiopia: Food Security, Climate Change and Challenges to Implement SDG Target by 2030.

2.6.5   Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

This presentation explores the intricate relationship between political instability, climate change, and food security in Ethiopia. The authors argue that famines, often perceived as natural disasters, are preventable atrocities exacerbated by poor governance and conflict. Ethiopia's prolonged conflicts, including the civil war with the Tigrayan government, have significantly disrupted food security, leading to widespread famine, displacement, and loss of life.

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2.7 Speaker 7

2.7.1   Name: Gisella Lamas

2.7.2   Organisation name: University of Kentucky

2.7.3   Type of organisation: Academia

2.7.4   Title of the presentation: Integrating Science Diplomacy in Education and Empowering Women Against Domestic Violence.

2.7.5   Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

Gisella's presentation at the UNGA Science Summit highlights her journey into science diplomacy, which began with her interest sparked by attending an IPCC panel on the ozone layer. With a background in environmental engineering and as a UNITAR fellow, Gisella has focused on integrating science diplomacy into education and raising awareness about its importance. Her UNITAR paper, titled "Domestic Violence and How Women Can Break This Cycle," emphasizes defining domestic violence in all settings, implementing best practices in workplaces to support victims, and empowering women to break free from the cycle of abuse.

Gisella has actively worked on incorporating science diplomacy into her classes, leveraging the connections she developed as a UNITAR fellow. She has also engaged with initiatives like NASA's GLOBE Lab, led by Yashraj Patil, to bring real-world scientific and diplomatic issues into higher education. Her efforts underscore the potential of science diplomacy as a tool for addressing global challenges and empowering future leaders.

This presentation demonstrates Gisella's commitment to using her platform in education and her expertise in environmental science to foster a deeper understanding of science diplomacy and its applications in promoting sustainable development and social justice.

2.8 Speaker 8

2.8.1   Name: Koyali Burman

2.8.2   Organisation name: UNITAR GDI Fellow

2.8.3   Type of organisation: UN Agency

2.8.4   Title of the presentation: Cultivating Tomorrow's Diplomatic Leaders: UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellows and Faculty Advancing the UN SDGs

2.8.5   Summary of the presentation (max 200 words):

The presentation "Cultivating Tomorrow's Diplomatic Leaders" highlights the critical role of the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellows and Faculty in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It underscores the urgent need to develop diplomatic leaders capable of navigating complex global challenges, particularly in the context of humanitarian crises, forced migration, and climate change.

The presentation details Canada's response to global conflicts and the ongoing migration crisis, drawing attention to the effectiveness of regional coordination frameworks in managing humanitarian responses. It emphasizes the importance of integrating cultural competency and collaborative efforts among stakeholders to address the diverse challenges faced in global crises.

Furthermore, the presentation advocates for the role of science diplomacy in mitigating international disputes and supporting sustainable development. By establishing a robust data ecosystem and enhancing regional coordination, the UNITAR program aims to strengthen infrastructures and promote collaborative efforts that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

In conclusion, the presentation calls for greater international cooperation, resource mobilization, and policy-making that prioritize the well-being of vulnerable populations, reinforcing the importance of cultivating skilled diplomatic leaders for a sustainable and peaceful future.

3 Content

3.1 Session Abstract (max. 500 words)

- This session, "Cultivating Tomorrow's Diplomatic Leaders: UNITAR Fellows and Educators Advancing the UN SDGs," is dedicated to showcasing the transformative role of the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program in aligning diplomatic leadership with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In an era where global challenges are increasingly complex and interconnected, the importance of diplomacy in advancing the SDGs is paramount. Through the experiences of UNITAR Fellows and the insights of their faculty mentors, this session will emphasize the critical need for equipping future diplomats with the skills and knowledge necessary for effective global sustainability and diplomacy. The session will explore the evolution of global diplomacy beyond traditional state relations to encompass broader issues such as climate change, human rights, and sustainable development. It will highlight how the UNITAR Fellowship program prepares upcoming diplomats to navigate these multifaceted challenges, focusing on the integration of diplomacy with the SDGs.
- Central to the session will be personal narratives from UNITAR Fellows, reflecting on their diverse experiences within the program. These stories will illustrate their growth, the challenges they faced, their achievements, and their contributions to the SDGs. Additionally, faculty members will provide their perspectives on the importance of a well-rounded, practical education in nurturing future leaders capable of addressing global challenges.
- By synthesizing these insights, the session will offer a comprehensive view of the current state and future directions of global diplomacy in the context of sustainability. It will conclude with a call to action, inspiring a new generation of diplomats dedicated to advancing global peace and sustainable development.

3.2   Project Objectives

List the key objectives your session or project aimed to achieve.

3.2.1   Objective 1 (max 50 words)

To demonstrate how the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program equips future diplomats with the essential skills and knowledge to effectively contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through practical experiences and interdisciplinary education.

3.2.2   Objective 2 (max 50 words)

To highlight the personal and professional growth of UNITAR Fellows as they navigate global challenges, emphasizing their contributions to advancing diplomacy and sustainable development within their communities and on the global stage.

3.2.3   Objective 3 (max 50 words)

To showcase the critical role of faculty in mentoring and guiding emerging diplomatic leaders, ensuring that they are prepared to address the complex dynamics of global diplomacy and sustainability in the 21st century.

3.3   Key Themes

Main themes and topics that were covered during the session. The same ones you selected when you submitted your original session proposal. Select from the following. Maximum three

The three main themes and topics covered during the session were:

1. Education & Youth

2. Policy, Democracy & New Governance

3. Environment and Climate

These themes align with the session's focus on developing future diplomatic leaders through education, addressing global governance challenges, and integrating sustainability into diplomatic practices.

4 Planned Impacts of the science and innovation presented in you session

4.1 Contribution to the SDGs

The SDGs provide a comprehensive framework for addressing the world's most pressing challenges and promoting sustainable development globally. Select the Goal/s that your project contributes to (max 3 SDGs)

SDG 4: Quality Education
Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all by equipping future diplomats with the knowledge and skills needed to address global challenges.

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels through the development of skilled diplomatic leaders.

SDG 13: Climate Action
Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by integrating environmental sustainability and climate resilience into diplomatic training and global governance strategies.

5 Contribution to the UN Summit of the Future

5.1 Main challenges (max 200 words)

Main challenges and difficulties experienced in implementing the science to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and provide recommendations to address the same whole.

One of the primary challenges in integrating science into diplomacy to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the complexity of bridging the gap between scientific research and policy implementation. Diplomatic leaders often face difficulties in translating scientific data into actionable policies, particularly in areas where political, economic, and cultural differences create significant barriers. This challenge is exacerbated by the lack of scientific literacy among policymakers and the limited access to reliable data in some regions.

Another significant challenge is the resistance to change within existing political structures. Implementing science-driven solutions often requires substantial shifts in policy and governance, which can be met with opposition from vested interests or entities resistant to altering the status quo. Additionally, the interdisciplinary nature of the SDGs necessitates collaboration across various sectors, which can be hindered by siloed approaches and a lack of coordination among stakeholders.

Recommendations:
- Enhance the integration of scientific training in diplomatic education to improve the ability of future leaders to utilize scientific insights in policy-making.

- Foster stronger collaborations between scientists and diplomats to ensure that scientific data is effectively communicated and applied in global governance.

- Advocate for policy reforms that prioritize evidence-based decision-making, encouraging a culture of innovation and adaptability in addressing global challenges.

5.2 Additional goals (max 200 words)

Additional goals, beyond the Goals, which are considered priorities

5.3 Integration: economic, social and environmental (max 500 words)

The steps being taken to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental) and share best practices where available and how activities are being designed and implemented to reflect such integration.

The UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program is committed to integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development—economic, social, and environmental—into its training and initiatives. This integration is vital for creating holistic and sustainable solutions to global challenges, ensuring that diplomatic efforts are aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Economic Integration: The program emphasizes the importance of economic sustainability in global diplomacy. Fellows are trained to understand and address economic disparities both within and between nations. By promoting policies that support equitable economic growth, such as fostering international trade agreements that benefit all parties and advocating for financial systems that support sustainable development, the program ensures that economic considerations are central to diplomatic efforts. Additionally, the Fellowship program encourages the incorporation of economic resilience strategies into diplomatic practices, particularly in regions vulnerable to economic shocks caused by climate change or geopolitical instability.

Social Integration: Social sustainability is another critical dimension integrated into the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program. The training provided to Fellows places a strong emphasis on social equity, human rights, and the importance of inclusive governance. The program advocates for the protection of vulnerable populations, the promotion of gender equality, and the need to address social injustices that can hinder sustainable development. Through case studies, simulations, and direct engagement with global issues, Fellows are equipped with the skills to promote social cohesion and ensure that diplomatic efforts do not overlook marginalized communities. This approach ensures that social factors are considered in all diplomatic initiatives, contributing to the broader goal of peace and justice under SDG 16.

Environmental Integration: Environmental sustainability is a cornerstone of the Fellowship program, reflecting the urgent need to address climate change and environmental degradation. The program trains Fellows to incorporate environmental considerations into their diplomatic work, from negotiating international climate agreements to promoting sustainable resource management practices. The UNITAR Fellowship also encourages the integration of environmental diplomacy, where diplomats are educated on the latest environmental science and best practices in sustainability. By

focusing on the environmental impacts of economic and social policies, the program ensures that all dimensions of sustainable development are considered in global governance.

Best Practices and Implementation: To effectively integrate these three dimensions, the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program employs several best practices:

- **Interdisciplinary Training:** The program offers a curriculum that combines economic, social, and environmental studies, allowing Fellows to see the interconnectedness of these dimensions and apply a holistic approach to diplomacy.

- **Case Studies and Real-World Applications:** Fellows engage with case studies that illustrate successful integration of the three dimensions, such as sustainable urban development projects or international climate agreements. These examples provide practical insights into how economic, social, and environmental goals can be achieved simultaneously.

- **Collaborative Projects:** Fellows are encouraged to work on collaborative projects that require them to address economic, social, and environmental issues in tandem. These projects often involve partnerships with international organizations, NGOs, and academic institutions, fostering a multidisciplinary approach to problem-solving.

By integrating the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development into its training, the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program prepares future diplomatic leaders to address the complex and interconnected challenges of the 21st century. This approach not only enhances the effectiveness of diplomatic efforts but also ensures that global development is sustainable, equitable, and inclusive.

5.4   Impact on the 2030 Agenda (max 1000 words)

A success metric for your project is primarily in how it delivers for all persons in our societies. Describe how other principles of the 2030 Agenda, for example, respect for all human rights, gender equality, the principle of Leaving No One Behind, non-discrimination, etc, have been mainstreamed in your science project.

More info on: 2030 Agenda: https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

Please select also the transition relevant to your science project:

(1) food systems; (2) energy access and affordability; (3) digital connectivity; (4) education; (5) jobs and social protection; and (6) climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution

More info on Six transitions: https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/Six%20Transitions%20English.pdf

The UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program is strategically aligned with the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emphasizing inclusivity, equity, and the importance of addressing global challenges through a holistic and interdisciplinary approach. The program's impact on the 2030 Agenda is measured by its ability to prepare future diplomatic leaders who are equipped to promote and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their professional capacities. This includes mainstreaming principles such as respect for human rights, gender equality, non-discrimination, and the commitment to "Leaving No One Behind."

1. **Respect for Human Rights**

   The UNITAR Fellowship program deeply integrates the principle of respect for human rights across its curriculum and activities. Fellows are trained to understand and advocate for the protection of human rights in all diplomatic engagements. This is achieved through specialized modules that focus on international human rights law, case studies on human rights abuses, and practical exercises that simulate real-world scenarios where human rights must be upheld. The program emphasizes the role of diplomacy in protecting vulnerable populations, promoting social justice, and ensuring that human rights are a cornerstone of global governance.

2. **Gender Equality**

   Gender equality is a central tenet of the UNITAR Fellowship program. The program not only ensures gender parity among its participants but also includes targeted content on the importance of gender equality in diplomacy and global governance. Fellows are educated on the systemic barriers that women and marginalized genders face in the international arena and are encouraged to develop strategies to overcome these challenges. The program also highlights successful case studies where gender-sensitive policies have led to more effective and equitable outcomes in global diplomacy. This focus on gender equality aligns with SDG 5, which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

3. **The Principle of Leaving No One Behind**

   The UNITAR Fellowship program is committed to the principle of "Leaving No One Behind," a core element of the 2030 Agenda. This principle is integrated into the program by ensuring that all diplomatic strategies and policies developed by the Fellows are inclusive and equitable. The program encourages Fellows to consider the impacts of their work on the most vulnerable and marginalized communities, ensuring that their diplomatic efforts contribute to reducing inequalities (SDG 10) and promoting inclusive societies. Through mentorship, workshops, and collaborative projects, Fellows are equipped with the tools and perspectives necessary to ensure that their work leaves no one behind.

4. **Non-Discrimination**

   Non-discrimination is a fundamental principle embedded in the UNITAR Fellowship program. The program fosters an environment where all participants, regardless of their background, have equal opportunities to succeed and contribute. This commitment to non-discrimination is reflected in the program's selection process, curriculum, and activities, which are designed to be inclusive and accessible to individuals from diverse cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Fellows are also trained to recognize and challenge discriminatory practices in international relations, ensuring that their work as future diplomats promotes fairness and equality on a global scale.

5. **Transition Areas Relevant to the UNITAR Fellowship Program**

6. **Education (SDG 4):** The UNITAR Fellowship program directly contributes to advancing education by equipping participants with the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for effective global leadership. The program's emphasis on quality education ensures that Fellows are prepared to address complex global challenges, thereby contributing to the achievement of SDG 4. Through its educational initiatives, the

program fosters critical thinking, cross-cultural communication, and problem-solving skills, all of which are essential for advancing the 2030 Agenda.

7. **Jobs and Social Protection (SDG 8):** The program also aligns with SDG 8 by preparing Fellows to contribute to the creation of decent work opportunities and the development of social protection systems. Fellows are trained to understand the economic and social dimensions of diplomacy, including how to promote inclusive economic growth and ensure social protection for all. By integrating these concepts into their diplomatic work, Fellows can help build resilient economies that provide fair employment and social security to all individuals, particularly the most vulnerable.

8. **Climate Change, Biodiversity Loss, and Pollution (SDG 13, 14, and 15):** Environmental sustainability is a key focus of the UNITAR Fellowship program, with a particular emphasis on addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. Fellows are educated on the critical importance of environmental diplomacy and the need to integrate environmental considerations into all aspects of global governance. The program encourages the development of strategies that promote climate action (SDG 13), protect life below water (SDG 14), and sustain life on land (SDG 15). By training future diplomats to prioritize environmental sustainability, the program contributes to the global effort to combat environmental degradation and promote a sustainable future.

9. **Conclusion**

The UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program plays a significant role in advancing the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By embedding respect for human rights, gender equality, non-discrimination, and the principle of Leaving No One Behind into its curriculum, the program ensures that future diplomatic leaders are well-equipped to address the world's most pressing challenges. Furthermore, by focusing on key transition areas such as education, jobs and social protection, and climate change, the program aligns its activities with the broader goals of the 2030 Agenda, contributing to a more peaceful, inclusive, and sustainable world.

As the world moves closer to the 2030 deadline, the impact of programs like the UNITAR Fellowship becomes increasingly important. By cultivating a new generation of diplomatic leaders who are committed to the principles of the 2030 Agenda, the program not only contributes to the achievement of the SDGs but also helps shape a future where all individuals, regardless of their background, can thrive in a just and sustainable world.

6 Forward-looking Statement

6.1 Financial aspects

Why giving $ 1 million to your project will turbo boost the achievement of the SDGs.

Three bullets (50 words/bullet).

Here are three key reasons why providing $1 million to the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program will significantly boost the achievement of the SDGs:

1. **Expand Reach and Accessibility:**
   The funding will allow the program to increase its reach, providing scholarships and resources to a greater number of diverse participants globally. This expansion will empower more emerging diplomats with the skills needed to address global challenges and advance the SDGs.

2. **Develop Innovative Diplomatic Training:**
   With additional funding, the program can enhance its curriculum by incorporating cutting-edge tools and methodologies, such as AI and digital diplomacy. This innovation will better equip future leaders to tackle complex issues like climate change, inequality, and global health.

3. **Strengthen Global Partnerships:**
   The funding will enable the program to foster stronger international collaborations and partnerships with other institutions, NGOs, and governments. These partnerships are crucial for scaling successful initiatives, sharing best practices, and ensuring a coordinated global effort towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.

6.2 To further advance your science project, you will need:

Please select an option and develop it further (50 words). Multiple selection is possible.

- **Access to Funding**

- **Skilled Personnel**

- **Open Access to Data**

- **Establish Partnerships and Collaborations**

- **Dissemination and Communication activities**

7 Conclusions (max. 300 words)

Provide a concluding summary on how science contributes to achieving the SDGs, incorporating policy recommendations.

Highlight any new or emerging issues identified during the session, suggest possible next steps or areas for further research and discussion, and outline the support needed to advance science and innovation in your field.

Science plays an indispensable role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by providing evidence-based insights, innovative solutions, and a deeper understanding of global challenges. Through the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship program, science is integrated into diplomatic training, equipping future leaders with the knowledge and tools necessary to drive progress on the SDGs. This integration ensures that policy decisions are informed by the latest scientific research, fostering a more effective and sustainable approach to global governance.

Policy Recommendations: To maximize the impact of science on the SDGs, it is crucial to enhance the collaboration between scientists and policymakers. Policies should be designed to encourage the use of scientific data in decision-making processes, particularly in areas such as climate action, public health, and sustainable development.

Additionally, there should be an emphasis on interdisciplinary education, ensuring that diplomats are trained to understand and apply scientific principles in their work.

Emerging Issues: The session highlighted the growing importance of digital diplomacy and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in global governance. These technologies present both opportunities and challenges for achieving the SDGs. While they offer innovative ways to address complex problems, they also raise concerns about ethical use, data privacy, and the digital divide. Addressing these issues requires ongoing research and the development of clear ethical guidelines.

Next Steps and Further Research: Future research should focus on the integration of AI and digital tools in diplomacy, exploring how these technologies can be harnessed to support sustainable development while mitigating potential risks. Additionally, there is a need for further exploration of the role of science diplomacy in managing global migration and conflict resolution, particularly in the context of climate change.

Support Needed: To advance science and innovation in the field of diplomacy, increased funding is essential. This includes support for educational programs that bridge science and diplomacy, as well as investment in research that explores new technologies and their implications for global governance. Strengthening international collaborations and partnerships will also be critical in sharing knowledge, best practices, and resources to accelerate progress towards the SDGs.