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Future Earth: Governance Framework and Institutional Design

Transition Team Working Group II



A system that can stimulate and support

- High quality,
- Internationally collaborative,
- Inter-disciplinary research, which is
- Solutions-oriented and
- Co-designed and co-produced in partnership with the “users” of researchers



And bring together multiple knowledge communities from all parts of the world



**A system to be
phased in as from January 2013
and be fully operational by May 2014**

S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability

- **ICSU, ISSC, Belmont Forum and IGFA, UNU, UNESCO, UNEP, WMO**
- **A growing, multi-stakeholder partnership**
- **Established Future Earth**
- **Will promote and support the development of Future Earth**
- **By building and maintaining the enabling conditions for Future Earth to operate successfully**

S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability

Governing Council

- **The overarching decision-making body, providing strategic guidance on and oversight of Future Earth's operations and resource mobilisation**
- **To comprise scientists from different fields, policymakers, business, industry and other stakeholders from different parts of the world**
- **Will be appointed by the Alliance**
- **Between now and May 2014 the Alliance will function as an interim Governing Council**

S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability

Governing Council

Engagement Committee

Science Committee

The Engagement Committee:

- To guide and oversee the implementation of credible processes of co-design, co-production and co-dissemination of research
- To include voices from business, civil society and government
- Will be established by May 2014 and appointed by the Alliance

The Science Committee:

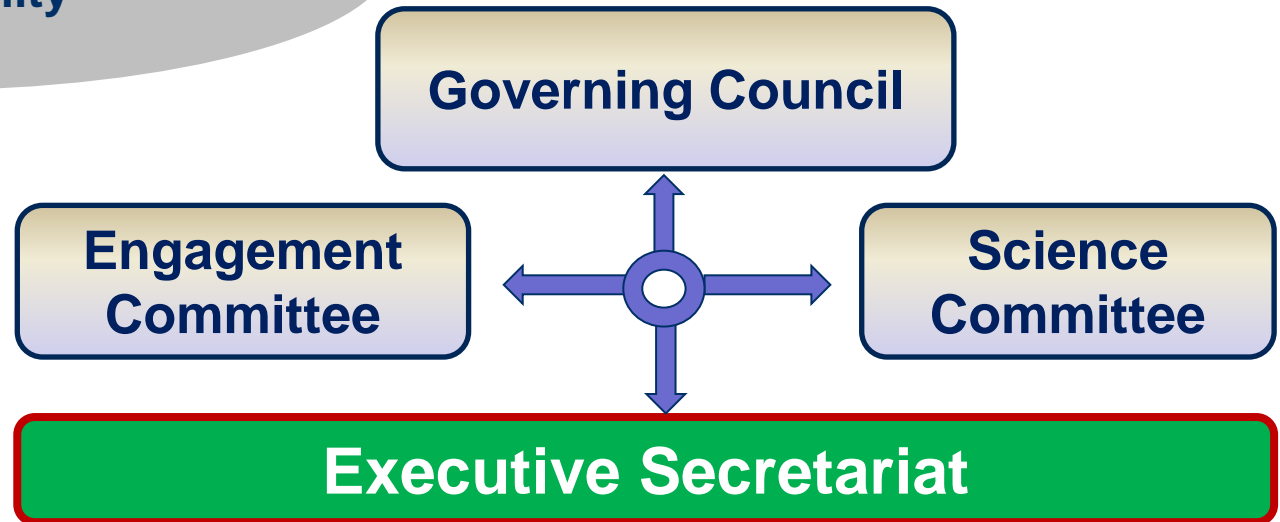
- To provide scientific guidance, propose new projects and priority issues, and secure the highest quality research
- To represent the full spectrum of scientific fields, as well as scientists from other sectors
- Will be established early 2013; appointed by ICSU/ISSC on behalf of the Alliance



To work closely together



S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability



- To implement the strategies and activities approved by the **Governing Council**, carrying out the day-to-day functions of **Future Earth**
- To act as an integrator and facilitator, also coordinating access by projects to cross-cutting capabilities
- To be established via an open, competitive call that will be issued by the Alliance
- An interim Secretariat, bringing together capacities of existing GEC Programme Secretariats will be operational as from early 2013

S&T Alliance for Global Sustainability

Governing Council

Engagement
Committee

Science
Committee

Executive Secretariat

Dynamic
Planet

Global
Development

Transition to
Sustainability

Integrated Research Theme Steering
Committees and Offices

- A global, integrated knowledge trust
- To develop distributed knowledge nodes around existing and new, co-designed projects
- Promoting the underpinning science and synthesis

**S&T Alliance for Global
Sustainability**

Governing Council

**Engagement
Committee**

**Science
Committee**

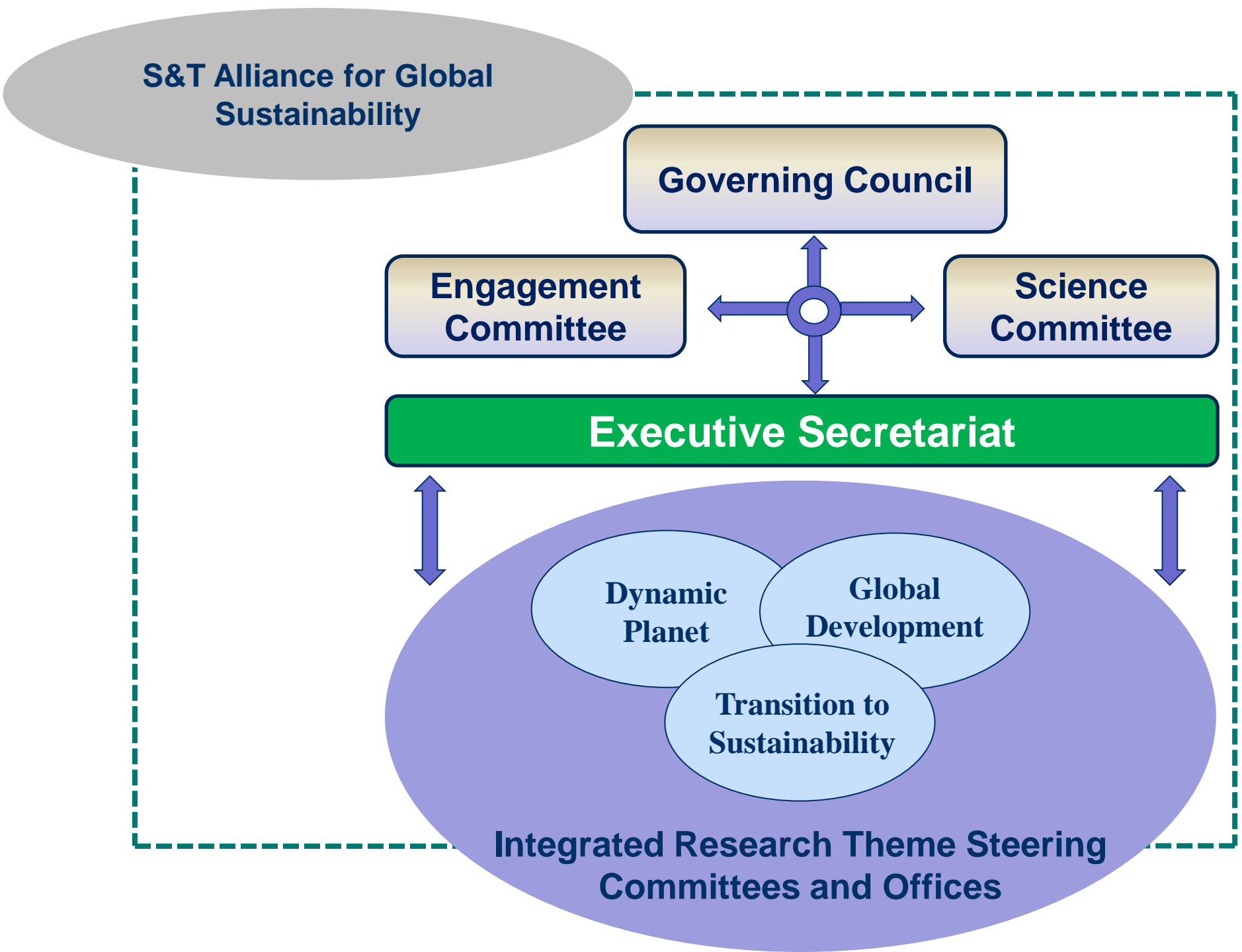
Executive Secretariat

**Dynamic
Planet**

**Global
Development**

**Transition to
Sustainability**

**Integrated Research Theme Steering
Committees and Offices**



Future Earth as a globally representative platform

**which means that all the governing structures
comprising the global governance system
should be representatives of different regions**

Future Earth should also be a **globally distributed** platform to ensure that research, capabilities and partnerships are developed at the most relevant level(s)



**Role of regions in linking across scales,
integrating knowledge, catalysing
transformative initiatives**

**So, Future Earth should have
strong regional "nodes"**

but ...

What does that mean?

How do we make that happen, how do we fund it?

Who's we?

Where do we start, what are the next steps?

and

What would the vision for a Future Earth African node be?

What would it have to achieve in the next 10 years in order to be considered a success story?