

Transformations within reach: Pathways to a sustainable and resilient world

STRENGTHENING SCIENCE SYSTEMS

Science has moved to center stage in the continuing COVID-19 crisis. Science has been called upon to provide solutions across a very broad front—not only to the immediate challenges to health but also to the many social and economic challenges posed by the pandemic. The report on strengthening science systems begins with an assessment of how science contributed to addressing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and how, in turn, the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on science.

Based on this assessment of science systems in relation to the pandemic, three axes of improvement are required in order for the science system to respond more effectively to future global crises: reacting more rapidly, *increased agility*; enhancing the quality of output, *greater reliability*; linking more effectively to policy and to the public, *increased relevance*. The objective is a simultaneous improvement in all three axes, thereby moving science systems to a new frontier.

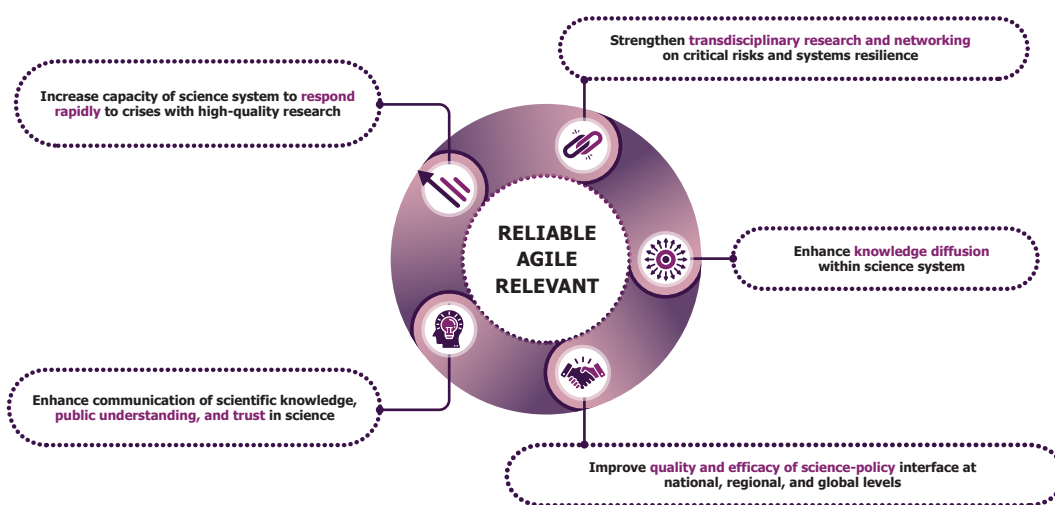


Figure A2. Five interrelated transformative changes

A number of challenges and constraints that science systems have had to confront in the pandemic are identified. To confront these and ensure improvement across a broad front, the report puts forward a large number of recommendations, grouped under five interrelated major transformative changes as identified in Figure A2.

These recommendations are addressed to all the stakeholder groups represented in the consultation process: scientists and science institutions in particular, but also science journalists and publishers, funders, the private sector, and policymakers at both national and international levels.

The full report can be accessed on [covid19.iiasa.ac.at/isc/outcome](https://www.covid19.iiasa.ac.at/isc/outcome)

