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## Facilitating Science Networks for Innovation and Development

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American Association for the Advancement of Science

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"Researchers [in many developing countries] lack the capacity to participate in cutting-edge scientific endeavors and many of the most promising young scientists migrate to other nations to pursue their careers. In the majority of these countries, there is minimal **government support** for science and technology. More generally, there is the absence of a **culture of science**."

– Mohamed Hassan, TWAS, at AAAS Annual Meeting 2007



About AAAS

AAAS  
ADVANCING SCIENCE. SERVING SOCIETY

- The largest general scientific society in the world – Serving over 10 million people globally
- Working to "advance science and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people."
- Connecting scientists across boundaries (disciplinary or national) and between the public, academia, government, and private sector

Science Magazine

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Founded by Thomas Edison in 1880

Building Regional Networks

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- International Conference on Women Leaders in Science, Technology, and Engineering, Kuwait, January 8 – 10, 2007
- Over 200 participants, from academia, government, and private sector, across the Middle East, North Africa, and the United States
- Partnership between government and non-governmental organizations



Bridging Interdisciplinary Challenges: Sustainable Development

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- Center for Science, Innovation, and Sustainability
- Forum on Science and Innovation for Sustainable Development ([www.sustainabilityscience.org](http://www.sustainabilityscience.org)) – network for information sharing and discussions focused on science and technology for sustainability. Collaboration with the Initiative on Science and Technology for Sustainability (ISTS), Harvard
- AAAS 2007 Annual Meeting
  - Grand Challenges of Sustainability Science
  - Sustainability Science Programs Roundtable
    - Effectiveness of research leading to innovative practice requires partnering with stakeholders (e.g., policy makers, administrators, implementors)

Increasing Research Competitiveness 

**AAAS Research Competitiveness Service**

- **Services**  
Peer review, programmatic guidance and assessment, strategic planning, organization of science policy conferences, workshops, and symposia
- **Clients**  
Universities, other nonprofit research institutions, foundations, state and federal government agencies within 40 U.S. states and territories
- Over 180 total projects in research, development, education, and innovation, completed since program's inception in 1996

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RCS Examples 

- Setting S&T priorities, guidance on developing technology clusters by the state of Maine;
- Strategic guidance to University of New England regarding further development of their research programs;
- Review of technology transfer operations at the University of Missouri;
- Review of the progress of the Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center in Michigan.

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**"Science and Technology from a Global Perspective"**

 **Annual Meeting**  
14-18 February 2008 • Boston



Call for Symposium Proposals due **May 2**  
[http://www.aaas.org/meetings/Annual\\_Meeting/](http://www.aaas.org/meetings/Annual_Meeting/)

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