

SPRU Training Course: Innovation Policy in a Changing Global Context 18–22 June 2018

Day 2: New approaches to innovation for sustainable development

Convenor: Joanna Chataway (Deputy Director & Professor of Science & Technology at SPRU)

This session will discuss some of work that SPRU has carried out in partnership with international colleagues and the United Nations Commission on Science, Technology and Development, mapping new and emerging approaches to innovation that can respond to the Sustainable Development Goals. Surveying approaches such as pro-poor and inclusive innovation, social innovation and grassroots innovation, the session will highlight their unique characteristics and implications for innovation systems and innovation policy.

It will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of mission-oriented policy approaches, including the setting of priorities and the challenges of co-ordination across multiple and diverse stakeholders. Digitally-enabled open and collaborative innovation offers opportunities to organise innovation in ways that breaks down the barriers between firms, users and other communities, however the role of public policy in this process is highly contested. Drawing on concrete case studies from around the world, the session will explore approaches that have succeeded in different contexts and highlight the questions at the cutting edge of policy research.

