



# Scientific Advisory Board

Bridging Science and Policy for Impact



## ▶▶ THE MISSION

The Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board and its associated global network of scientific institutions **advise UN leaders on breakthroughs in science and technology** – how to harness the benefits of these advances and mitigate potential risks. The Board provides independent insights on trends at the intersection of science, technology, ethics, governance and sustainable development to support UN System organizations in anticipating, adapting to and leveraging scientific advancements in their work for people, planet and prosperity.



## VISION

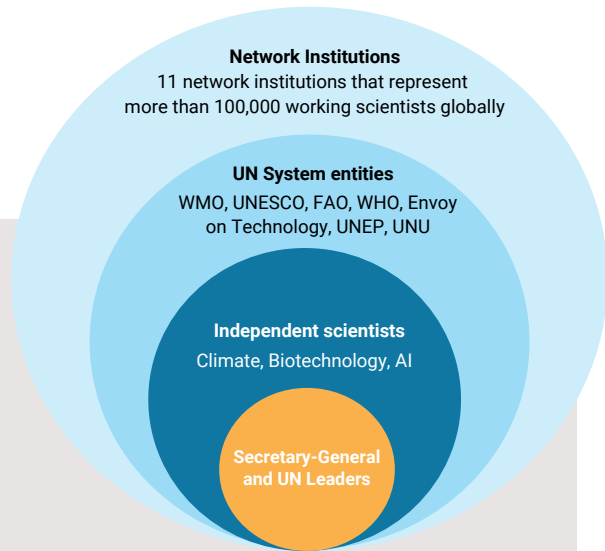
The Scientific Advisory Board works to make the UN more connected by bringing together experts from different fields and **expanding access to scientific knowledge**. By using science to guide decisions, the Board helps the UN find better solutions to global challenges. It also aims to build **trust in science**, both within the UN and among people around the world.

## DESIGN

Composed of eminent scholars alongside UN Chief Scientists, the Board demonstrates **agile** expertise, **legitimate** alignment with UN policy and programmes and **diverse** representation through its global network institutions.

**14 Board Members:** Yoshua Bengio, Asha de Vos, Sandra Díaz, Fei-Fei Li, Alan Lightman, Thomas Südhof, Thuli Madonsela, Ko Barrett, Lidia Brito, Beth Crawford, Jeremy Farrar, Amandeep Gill, Andrea Hinwood and Tshilidzi Marwala.

**11 Network Institutions:** GESDA, GYA, IAP, ICTP, INGSA, ISC, OWSD, Southern Voice, SSRC, TWAS and WFSJ.



## 2025 WORKPLAN

- **Science Advice:** science briefs for the Secretary-General; horizon scanning briefing for Senior Management Group.
- **Science Communication:** products on cross-cutting issues, social media engagement across platforms; local forums; public science repositories; annual surveys; science literacy programmes.
- **Science Connection:** digital connection platform; briefings to Resident Coordinators; support for UN Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum and other events; support for international scientific panels.



## Scientific Advisory Board Members

### **Yoshua Bengio**

A.M. Turing Award Laureate; Founder and Scientific Director, Mila - Quebec AI Institute; Full Professor, Department of Computer Science and Operations Research of Université de Montréal

### **Asha de Vos**

Founder and Executive Director, Oceanswell; Adjunct Research Fellow, The Ocean Institute of the University of Western Australia

### **Sandra Díaz**

Senior Member, National Scientific and Technical Research Council - Argentina; Professor of Ecology, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba

### **Fei-Fei Li**

Sequoia Professor, Computer Science Department at Stanford University; Co-Director, Stanford's Human-Centered AI Institute

### **Alan Lightman**

Professor of the Practice of the Humanities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

### **Thomas Südhof**

Nobel Laureate; Avram Goldstein Professor, School of Medicine at Stanford University

### **Thuli Madonsela**

Professor of Law and the Law Trust Research Chair in Social Justice, Stellenbosch University

### **Ko Barrett**

Deputy Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

### **Lidia Brito**

Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

### **Beth Crawford**

Chief Scientist ad interim and Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

### **Jeremy Farrar**

Chief Scientist, World Health Organization (WHO)

### **Amandeep Gill**

Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology

### **Andrea Hinwood**

Chief Scientist, UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

### **Tshilidzi Marwala.**

Rector, United Nations University (UNU)

## Network Institutions

