

Policy Impact Unit – Update

April 2024.



[Vax-Hub – Going Global!](#)

The [United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals \(IATT\)](#) have accepted a Policy Brief, led by PIU, showcasing the work of the Vax-Hub and making the case for building local vaccine manufacturing in LMICs to increase resilience to future pandemics and ensure global health security and equity.

As a result, the Brief will now be shared with policy and decision-makers in the run-up to the Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs taking place in May, followed by the [High Level Political Forum \(HLPF\)](#) in July and the [UN Summit of the Future](#) in September 2024. We will be sharing the policy brief once published in our next newsletter.

Alongside this good news, PIU presented policy engagement plans at the [Vax-Hub Global](#) official launch event (pictured) on April 24th, and are due to present at the [Vax-Hub Sustainable](#) Research Group meeting later this week.

PIU's April highlights also included...

- Participated in a Panel discussion at a cross-sector event on the use of systems-based approaches to strengthening cancer care innovation and [health system security in Africa](#), supporting STEaPP colleagues [Ine](#), [Julius](#), [Jo](#), and [Mai](#).

- PIU named in the [Institute of Healthcare Engineering's Annual Report](#) for two policy impact projects, including our Futures Forum.
- Attended the [Future of UK Manufacturing Conference](#) on behalf of Vax-Hub Global and Vax-Hub Sustainable. The Conference was organised by partners such as the High Value Manufacturing Catapult, and brought together the manufacturing and research communities as well as policymakers including the [Department for Transport](#) and [Department for Business and Trade](#). To find out more about the event...
- Written a new blog on ***Unleashing the economic potential of UK manufacturing*** – check it out from tomorrow on the [STeAPP Blog Hub](#).
- Delivered a Policy Update to the [Revolutionising Online Safety](#) Advisory Board, which includes multiple policy partners, focused on legislative updates, developments in Northern Ireland, and a discussion on opportunities to work more closely together... watch this space!
- Presented our [Festival of Engineering](#) Policy Engagement plans to the Oversight Board chaired by [Prof Nigel Titchener Hooker, Dean UCL Engineering](#), pitched (successfully!) an updated event plan for the House of Commons launch to the central Festival team, and developed a high-level comms plan with support from [Alice Hardy](#).
- Congratulations to our colleagues at [ICEC-MCM](#) who, through secondment to the [Environment Agency](#) and close partnership working with them, have led contributions to the new [Potential for a Soil Reuse and Storage system in England](#) paper published today.

This month we have also begun work on not one, not two, but three new projects! We are excited to share updates in the coming weeks, as well as on the two new consultation responses and new policy brief that are currently underway. We also took a trip to Parliament this month, for a meeting on closer ways of working and collaboration with researchers.

Welcome Aleyna!



Please join us in welcoming Aleyna Prokudina to the PIU team.

Aleyna joins us from Central London Forward where she led their policy activity on skills and Net Zero, building on her previous experience in public policy consultancy. At PIU, she will manage a portfolio of projects on the Circular Economy, Net Zero, and Sustainability. If you work in one of these areas and would like to reach out for a chat, [please get in touch.](#)

Opportunities

- A series of new research topics have been approved from [POST](#), including Autonomous Vehicles, Biometric Data, and Inherited Blood Diseases (including cell and gene therapy.)
- UCL European Institute are hosting the annual Sir John Priestly Memorial Lecture next week, focused on [Britain's future relationship with the EU - click here to sign up.](#)
- New Calls for Evidence have been launched on [UK-EU data adequacy](#), [Use of AI in Government](#), and the [accuracy of generative AI models](#). (*Note: Short deadlines*)
- Royal Academy of Engineering have opened applications for their prestigious [policy fellowships](#).
- [DLUHC](#) are recruiting for three new (paid) [Non-Executive Director roles](#), if you are senior leader with experience engaging policy partners and a passion for policy areas such as Levelling Up – this could be for you!

STeAPP Public Policy

This month at STeAPP we.....

- Met with UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs colleagues to develop a science diplomacy training programme for UAE diplomats. [[IS](#)] [[JCM](#)] [[MC](#)]
- Attended the **International Network for Governmental Science Advice** (INGSA) conference in Rwanda to discuss [science diplomacy](#) developments. [[JCM](#)]

- Hosted focus groups with local authority stakeholders including the **Energy Systems Catapult** and **LGA**, to inform Net Zero What Works team research outputs. [\[JP\]](#) [\[PP\]](#) [\[PC\]](#)
- Met with members of the **Welsh Government's Science Evidence Advice division** to discuss new approaches to modelling and science for public policy in health and social care post-Covid. [\[ET\]](#)
- Met with the Scientific Advisory Board of the **RIVM Netherlands Institute of Public Health and the Environment** to discuss the report of the evaluation of the **Centre for Environmental Quality**. [\[AP\]](#)
- Visited [RoRI's partners CIHR: Canadian Institutes for Health Research and SSHRC: Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council](#) in Ottawa, facilitated a one-day workshop for their leadership teams, and spoke at a public panel on 'the future of meta-research in Canada'. [\[JW\]](#)
- Launched **European Commission** programme on '[whole of government innovation](#)' in Brussels and published working paper on the topic. [\[GM\]](#)
- Organised a workshop with **The Good Investors** on their methods of investment decisions and monitoring to enable transformative change in the food system as part of the [Deep transitions Lab](#). [\[BG\]](#)
- Participated in the event on [The UK Role in Global Health: Present Challenges and Future Directions](#), co-hosted by **Center for Global Development (CGD)** and **British Medical Journal (The BMJ)**. [\[RT\]](#)

Know a colleague who may be interested in receiving these updates? [Let us know!](#)

Thank you!