

OUR MISSION

TO ADVANCE SCIENCE AND INNOVATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL PEOPLE

For more than 150 years, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has represented the entire community of scientists and engineers. AAAS is today the largest general scientific society in the world, drawing its members from all fields of science and engineering, as well as from the lay public. Its size and inclusiveness present both an opportunity and an obligation to provide strong leadership, nationally and internationally, on behalf of science and its uses.

A look into the future of our rapidly evolving world promises that science and technology will become increasingly central to modern life, thus making the AAAS leadership role ever more important.

The public and policymakers will need much-improved access to more scientific and engineering information, and to rational modes of thinking and analysis.

As problems of poverty, environmental degradation, health, and international development become increasingly complex, AAAS must continue to reach out beyond its U.S. origins to explore ways that science can be of service to all people throughout the world.

AAAS's core mission, to advance science and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people, is a restatement of its historic mission, in words that reflect the global context of the 21st Century. As the world moves toward new frontiers of knowledge, the Association must anticipate as well as adjust to change.

This is crucial to AAAS's continued, judicious support of the science and engineering enterprise, and to ensure that the work of scientists and innovators will continue to serve society. To fulfill its mission, AAAS must achieve broad goals, outlined in the pages that follow. Accompanying them are examples of specific strategies AAAS implements to achieve these goals, and short features that illustrate ways in which the organization displays its commitment to its mission.