

*“With man’s recent mastery of science and technology there is no physical reason left for the existence of hunger and want for any part of the human race.”*

**ABDUS SALAM,  
TWAS FOUNDER**

## CONTACT US

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for the advancement of science  
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# TWAS

The World Academy of Sciences  
for the advancement of science  
in developing countries

## HISTORY

TWAS was founded in **1983** in **Trieste, Italy**, by a distinguished group of scientists from the global South and North under the leadership of Pakistani physicist and Nobel laureate **Abdus Salam**. They shared a belief that developing nations, by building strength in science and engineering, could build the knowledge and skill to address such challenges as hunger, disease, and poverty. From the start, the Academy had essential support from **Italian scientists** and **political leaders**. The Academy was inaugurated officially in **1985** during a ceremony attended by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar. Today, TWAS is the voice for science in the South.

## STRUCTURE

TWAS is a programme unit of **UNESCO**. The **TWAS Council**, elected by members every four years, sets the Academy's broad policy and programmatic direction. Its **Secretariat**, located on the campus of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics [ICTP] in Trieste, Italy, assists the Council in the administration and coordination of TWAS programmes. TWAS has established **five regional partners** to help organize activities and disseminate information: in Alexandria, Egypt; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Beijing, China; Pretoria, South Africa; and Bangalore, India.

## THE TWAS MISSION

Through four decades, TWAS mission has remained consistent, while its daily work continues to adapt to current circumstances and situations:

- Recognize, support and promote **excellence in scientific research** in the developing world
- Respond to the needs of **young scientists** in countries that are still developing in science and technology
- Promote **South-South** and **South-North cooperation** in science, technology and innovation
- Encourage scientific research and sharing of experiences in solving **major challenges** facing developing countries.

[WWW.TWAS.ORG](http://WWW.TWAS.ORG)

# Sustainable prosperity through research, education, policy and diplomacy.



## ABOUT TWAS

For four decades, TWAS has been a leading force in **developing crucial scientific capability** in some of the most underdeveloped countries in the world. TWAS has more than **1,400 elected fellows** — some of the world's most accomplished scientists and engineers — representing 112 countries; 13 of them are Nobel laureates. Additionally, 431 scientists from 83 countries are part of the **TWAS Young Affiliates Network**. TWAS has graduated **1,134 PhDs** and offered **2,362 postdoctoral fellowships**, bestowed **1,258 prizes**, has offered **2,763 research grants**, trained **643 in science diplomacy**, and supported **1,434 exchange visits**.