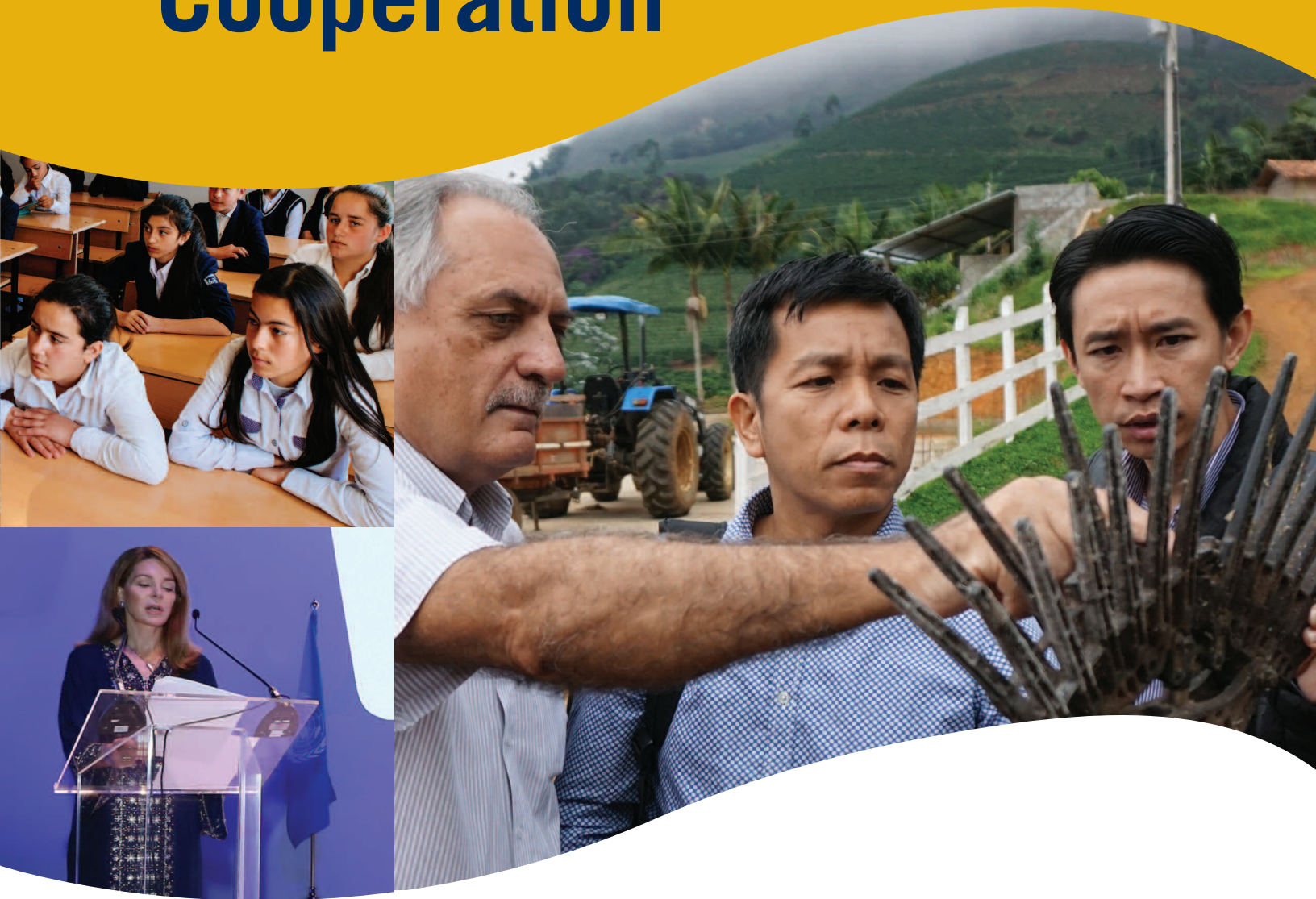




UNITED NATIONS Fund for South-South Cooperation



| 2017 REPORT

CREDITS

This publication was produced under the leadership of Mr. Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), with contributions from UNOSSC staff and consultants as well as from United Nations agencies and partners participating in the implementation of United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation (UNFSSC) activities. Appreciation is expressed to all partners that supported, advanced or collaborated on the activities described in this report.

Editor-in-Chief: Ines Tofalo

Copy Editor: Barbara Brewka

Contributing Editors: Ragini Malik and Trang Nguyen

Design: Alamini Creative Group

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report is produced as part of the UNOSSC Director's commitment to continuously enhance the transparency, efficiency and accountability of funds managed by UNOSSC. It describes contributions, implementation and activities during 2016, which represents the third year of implementation of the UNOSSC strategic framework, 2014-2017.

Analysis and discussion of UNFSSC financial trends are also provided through an overview of the period 2009-2015. In addition, this report responds to the Nairobi outcome document call for improved information-gathering and reporting on South-South cooperation and to General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, which calls for entities of the United Nations development system to enhance reporting on support to and results achieved through South-South and triangular cooperation.

This report contributes to efforts of the United Nations system to strengthen the quality of system-wide reporting on funding and performance and enhances programming for results. Moreover, it is not only an exercise in reporting and results management but also a means of informing policy-level discussions of Member States on pilot and pivotal South-South cooperation activities undertaken with the United Nations system.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation or Governments. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area, or its frontiers or boundaries.

As Fund Managers, we are pleased to provide this consolidated report presenting a detailed account of the numerous achievements of the fund to date. For updates and inquiries, please contact ines.tofalo@undp.org.

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Foreword



In 2016, the ambitions outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development guided its implementation. After the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the landmark Paris Agreement, this year was one in which countries began carrying out actions and tracking progress to make these objectives a reality. In this context, ongoing challenges including political hostility and conflicts, natural disasters, persistent inequality and poverty in the low-income developing countries, continue to test the global community's commitment and creativity to forge innovative solutions.

Overcoming these challenges requires collaboration at all levels and in various forms, including bilateral and multilateral cooperation between and among countries. While developed countries remain important actors in providing support to developing countries to attain their goals, developing countries are increasingly taking charge, and they have much to share and much to bring to one another. For this, South-South cooperation is rapidly becoming an active and common modality of international cooperation.

In 2016, the United Nations system strengthened its institutional support for South-South cooperation by mainstreaming South-South cooperation into its policy frameworks and developing repositories of good practices and lessons learned. The United Nations agencies also supported regional and interregional South-South cooperation through initiatives that included organizing events such as workshops and consultations, implementing technical cooperation programmes, partnering with networks to boost their regional South-South cooperation capacity and providing funding for regional initiatives.

Aiming at being the knowledge hub on South-South cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is committed to putting countries from the Global South at the centre of its work through playing the roles of knowledge broker, capacity-development supporter and partnership facilitator. UNOSSC, through the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation (UNFSSC), brings opportunities for Member States to partner with organizations and institutions through multilateral systems and mobilizes resources for the joint implementation of innovative and transformative activities.

UNOSSC is committed to playing its part in supporting the replication and adaptation of good practices from the South. Through this UNFSSC report, we are pleased to share some of the key achievements and impacts of the projects and initiatives delivered. We would also like to convey our gratitude to the Member States and organizations that supported and advanced them.

Jorge Chediek

*Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director,
United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation*

While developed countries remain important actors in providing support to developing countries to attain their goals, developing countries are increasingly taking charge, and they have much to share and much to bring to one another.

Report Structure

The present Report, issued in 2017, provides an overview of the portfolio of activities carried out from 1 January to 31 December 2016. It serves as the annual report of the Fund, ensuring transparent and accountable reporting on resources contributed and activities implemented with UNFSSC financial support.

The annual reporting on the Fund portfolio is placed within the context of the strategic framework of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), 2014-2017, which sets clear roles, priorities and guidelines for the different work streams of UNOSSC. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Fund activities are also linked to the overarching priorities of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report provides analytical insights into how these activities are related to the UNOSSC strategic framework, the SDGs, and UNFSSC multi-year trends in terms of financial contributions and implementation.

Messages from Global Leaders



“Solidarity amongst peoples and countries of the Global South has contributed to the improvement of developing countries’ national well-being and collective self-reliance and has enhanced their capacity to attain national priorities and other internationally agreed development goals – especially the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Beyond this, South-South and triangular cooperation has demonstrated significant benefits for the international community as a whole. The achievements and great potential of South-South cooperation, which complements North-South cooperation as an effective contribution to development, are well recognized.

I commend the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation in supporting South-South activities and encourage United Nations Member States in a position to do so to partner with the fund.”

H.E. Mr. Adonia Ayebare, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations, and President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation of the United Nations General Assembly

“Last year, UNDP supported more than 500 projects using South-South and triangular cooperation to address development challenges in 127 countries. The next step is moving from making lessons and best practices available to working with our development partners on the ground to choose the right lessons and then tailoring these solutions to achieve the best possible development impact.”

Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme



“South-South cooperation has an enormous potential role in agriculture and rural development in developing countries both in unlocking diverse experiences and lessons and in providing solutions to pressing development challenges. As a development institution, IFAD has been supporting the transfer and dissemination of Southern-based development solutions in the rural sector. IFAD has partnered with UNFSSC to finance a partnership initiative on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security that focuses on South-South knowledge exchange and capacity development aimed at increasing productivity of smallholder farms and promoting rural business linkages. This partnership initiative intends to offer a holistic approach to further strengthening the positions from which the participating countries – Algeria, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan – address the South-South and triangular cooperation agenda in pursuing their individual and shared development priorities in agricultural development.”

Mr. Abdelkarim Sma, Regional Economist, Near East, North Africa and Europe Regional Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development

1. The United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation

UNFSSC at a Glance

Contributions to date:



Partners:



Strengths:

Global mandate	Global operations	Broad engagement of the multilateral system	Empowerment of national implementing partners	Preferential cost-recovery rates equal to national cost-sharing	Programming support	Operational and legal frameworks	Quality assurance	Knowledge-sharing and visibility

Focus of 2016 activities:

Developing capacity in the Global South	Knowledge exchange	Promoting initiatives with common interests & benefits	South-South cooperation for climate change

Contributed most directly to:

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SDGs promoted:

1.1 Introduction

Initially established as the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation in 1995, the Fund was renamed the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation in 2005. It is under the management of UNOSSC, which oversees the finances and implementation of several trust funds that support collaboration and piloting of South-South initiatives across the globe.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for partnerships, including South-South and triangular cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation, as important means of implementation. South-South cooperation is a powerful, effective tool for promoting sustainable development, for which its scope in recent years has expanded beyond technical cooperation and exchange of knowledge to include trade, investment, infrastructure and connectivity as well as coordination of policies and development strategies among developing countries.

UNFSSC aims to promote, support and implement South-South cooperation by enabling Southern countries to leverage their collective strength to increase the volume of exchanges, involve partners, dedicate resources, capitalize on synergies and incubate initiatives for the joint implementation of innovative, transformative South-South cooperation activities. In addition, cooperating with the United Nations system enables Southern countries to strengthen multilateral governance processes, building inclusiveness, impartiality and development know-how into South-South activities.

The mobilization and implementation of activities through UNFSSC are characterized by strong partnerships, including with Member States, United Nations agencies and other international or regional organizations. Since its establishment, contributions to UNFSSC have totalled nearly \$33 million, provided primarily by United Nations Member States. A review of the activities and achievements of the UNFSSC portfolio over the course of 2016 provides important insights into the nature and impact of the support provided by the Fund to Southern countries in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains.

The Fund continues to have two strong focuses. One is on investments in global platforms, mechanisms and structures that enable and facilitate South-South cooperation, such as facilities. The second focus is on investments in developing local Southern capacities through various engagements, including: workshops for mutual learning; larger-scale projects sharing expertise, technology and equipment; small grants for technical missions; direct provision of technical assistance from Southern experts; and support for infrastructure development, public services or training activities.

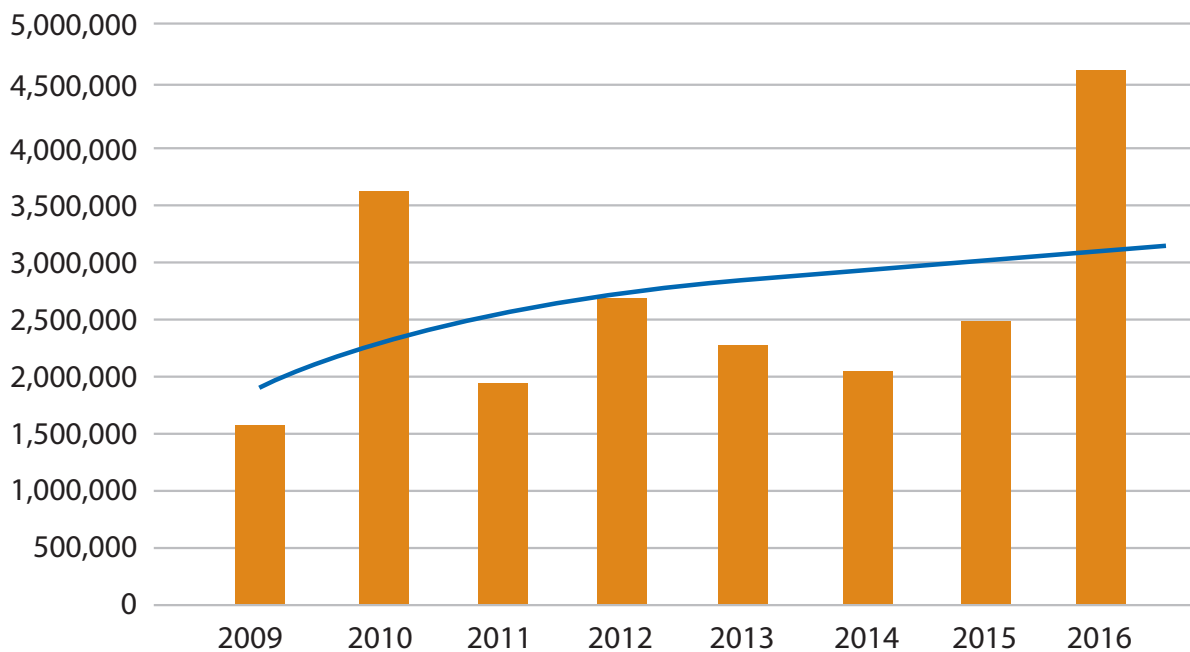
1.2 Contributions

This report summarizes UNFSSC contributions, activities and accomplishments for the year 2016. In addition to describing 2016 contributions, this section extends the analysis of UNFSSC financials by reviewing trends during the period of the fourth cooperation framework for South-South cooperation (2009-2013) and the current UNOSSC strategic framework (2014-2017). The broader time frame presented here is relevant to providing a meaningful explanation of the financial data for 2016.

Contributions to UNFSSC, by Partner (in \$)

Contributor	2009-2015	2016	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	11,000		11,000
Argentina	65,000		65,000
Bangladesh	6,000		6,000
Brazil	394,000		394,000
Chile	5,000	5,000	10,000
China	7,300,000	2,200,000	9,500,000
Colombia	150,150	162,359	312,509
Côte d'Ivoire	5,000		5,000
FHI 360	42,000		42,000
FK Norway	20,000		20,000
Fuzhou Municipal Government, China		147,493	147,493
Germany (GTZ)	48,000		48,000
Ghana	8,000		8,000
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	7,000		7,000
Group of 77 (contributions of G-77 Member States pooled)	1,140,000		1,140,000
Guyana	10,024		10,024
Indonesia	30,000		30,000
International Centre on Small Hydro Power, China		73,746	73,746
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	322,913		322,913
International Labour Organization (ILO)	11,000		11,000
Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)	87,443	83,000	170,443
Jingdezhen Municipal Government, China		144,507	144,507
Kazakhstan		2,000	2,000
Kenya	367,000		367,000
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2,000		2,000
Lebanon	5,000		5,000
Madagascar	1,000		1,000
Mexico	25,669		25,669
Norway	30,000		30,000
OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)	170,000		170,000
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	7,000		7,000
Philippines	5,000		5,000
Qatar	10,000		10,000
Quanzhou Municipal Government		179,991	179,991
Republic of Korea	5,464,216	676,186	6,140,402
Samoa		1,000	1,000
South Africa	2,000		2,000
South American Institute of Government in Health of UNASUR	7,000		7,000
Suriname	100,000		100,000
Turkey	20,000	40,000	60,000
United Arab Emirates	200,000	40,000	240,000
United Nations	72,000	250,000	322,000
World Bank	385,000		385,000
Zayed International Foundation for the Environment		465,000	465,000
Total	16,535,415	4,470,282	21,005,697

Contributions to UNFSSC, by Year (in \$)



Contributing Partners,
2009-2016 (%)

91 **9**
Member States Other

Allocation of Contributions,
2009-2016 (%)

100 **0**
Project Level Fund Level

Partners of UNFSSC



1.3 Advances in UNFSSC Quality Assurance

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, sets forth an institutional commitment to achieve high-quality programmes through better planning, design, monitoring and evaluation. This is to be underpinned by strong results-based management and incentives to increase the quality of programme delivery. To implement this commitment, UNDP developed new quality standards for programming based on seven criteria: strategic, relevant, social and environmental standards, management and monitoring, efficient, effective, sustainability and national ownership. These quality standards were piloted in 2015, focusing on programme development to establish specific and measurable quality indicators and monitoring from the start.

UNFSSC welcomed this emphasis and new thinking on quality assurance and has actively engaged in the development and implementation of quality-assurance activities. UNOSSC remains committed to providing cross-portfolio quality assurance and undertakes the following quality-assurance functions for UNFSSC:

- Compiles and improves aggregated reporting and produces analytical work to create learning opportunities across the portfolio;
- Strengthens monitoring and outreach, improving collective accountability for results and quality reporting;
- Supports the governance boards of the Fund in line with agreed-upon strategic priorities;
- Improves transparency in resource allocations and oversight processes;
- Links UNFSSC resource mobilization with the UNOSSC mandate and resource mobilization efforts;
- Promotes improvements in the pipeline of projects;
- Responds to corporate information-management requirements; and
- Stimulates innovations in South-South cooperation.

1.4 Fund Manager: The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

UNOSSC, established by the United Nations General Assembly within UNDP in 1974, is mandated to promote, coordinate and support South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis. The pillars of its work are South-South advocacy, South-South knowledge-building and knowledge-sharing, and innovative programming. In carrying out these functions, UNOSSC serves as Fund Manager and secretariat of Steering Committees providing strategic direction to UNFSSC programmes. It also serves as Fund Manager and secretariat of the Board of Directors of other South-South and triangular cooperation trust funds implemented jointly with the United Nations system, namely, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund, the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, and the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

UNOSSC provides advisory and consulting services to Member States and United Nations entities on South-South and triangular cooperation to enable developing countries to effectively face their most important development challenges and harness global opportunities to address them. As a South-South knowledge hub, it also monitors progress in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document.

UNOSSC engages with Member States globally and regionally as well as within the United Nations system to facilitate practical expressions of Southern solidarity towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. It works with a wide range of partners, including global centres of excellence, to explore how building endogenous capacity can be encouraged, how broadening and sharing technological advances within the Global South can occur systematically, and how emerging innovative financing mechanisms can be harnessed through South-South and triangular cooperation. UNOSSC ensures that its Southern constituencies have timely access to high-quality analytical planning, mapping, programming and reporting on data, trends and opportunities that will advance South-South and triangular cooperation in ways that lead to successful outcomes.

Key South-South Cooperation Principles Guiding UNFSSC Activities

The agreed principles that provide an international framework for South-South cooperation activities were formalized in the United Nations Buenos Aires Plan of Action of 1978 and reinvigorated by the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation of 2009. The UNFSSC Trust Fund Agreement references the conceptual and operational framework established by these documents as providing the guiding tenets by which Member States entrust UNDP with the management of UNFSSC and with the corollary responsibilities for the promotion and implementation of South-South cooperation.

Among the several cornerstone principles for cooperation among developing countries outlined in these foundational documents, UNFSSC strives to promote across its trust-fund portfolio programming and implementation approaches based on the following premises:



South-South cooperation is, above all, based on the principle of solidarity. Developing countries engage in South-South cooperation on a voluntary basis, driven by mutual affinities.



South-South cooperation is guided by horizontal partnerships among equals, where countries cooperate as peers.



South-South cooperation does not substitute for but rather complements North-South cooperation.



South-South cooperation is demand-driven and empowers countries of the South as they lead and shape their own development pathways.



South-South cooperation benefits all partners engaged. It is not unidirectional assistance.



South-South cooperation does not attach conditions to support provided to other developing countries.

In addition, South-South cooperation strives to be cost-effective, context-appropriate and driven by practical results.

2. UNFSSC Activities in 2016

2.1 UNOSSC Strategic Framework, 2014-2017

The strategic framework of UNOSSC, 2014-2017, is characterized by its response to the two overarching requests by Member States. It calls for UNOSSC to play a greater coordination role across the United Nations system and to increase the catalytic role of UNOSSC in the promotion of South-South cooperation by enabling Member States and partners' South-owned initiatives, South-South exchanges, and data collection and analysis.

The strategic framework proposed increasing engagements with various United Nations agencies in supporting them to develop South-South strategies, frameworks and programmes and to mainstream South-South cooperation into their activities. In addition, the strategic framework mandates UNOSSC to strengthen its facilitation role among Member States. In particular, UNOSSC is tasked to promote South-led evidence-based analysis of the impact and results of South-South cooperation, support intensified knowledge exchanges and South-South sharing towards informed policy development, facilitate technology transfers, and enable increased and improved monitoring and reporting on South-South cooperation, in particular through national systems.

The strategic framework built on the successes and lessons of the fourth cooperation framework (2009-2013). Those successes and lessons guided UNOSSC activities as they evolved into more formal mandates given to UNOSSC through General Assembly resolutions and ultimately culminating in the formulation of the strategic framework, 2014-2017.

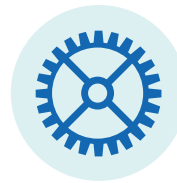
The strategic framework set a target of mobilizing \$20 million (a yearly average of \$5 million) to complement UNDP regular (core) resources in the promotion and implementation of the activities proposed therein. In 2016, UNFSSC was an important mechanism for the realization of that target since \$4.47 million were contributed (while \$1.81 million were implemented) through the Fund. Additional resources in support of the framework were also contributed through other trust funds managed by UNOSSC, namely, the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation and the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation, and cost-sharing contributed directly to projects.

The 3 Goals of the UNOSSC Strategic Framework, 2014-2017

1 "An effective policy-enabling environment allows partners to support and engage in South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation."



2 "Southern partners possess the institutional mechanisms and capacities to initiate, manage, coordinate and implement South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation initiatives efficiently and effectively."



3 "Innovative South-owned and multi-partner initiatives lead to the scaling up of the development impact of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation."



The resources channelled to UNFSSC and the programmes that they supported contributed to the advancement of all three goals of the strategic framework and their related outcomes. As described below and as designed in the UNOSSC strategic framework, 2014-2017, the largest share of contributions was marshalled to scale up initiatives owned and led by partners.

2016 Resource Implementation, per Strategic Framework Outcome

Multilateral Policy Processes
(Outcome 1)*

Institutional Capacities Advanced through UNOSSC Support to Knowledge and Technology Exchanges (Outcome 2) \$414,119 **23%**

Scaling Up through Partnerships (Outcome 3) \$1,401,277 **77%**

*Core resources only

Goal 1 and Outcome 1 of the UNOSSC strategic framework focus on multilateral South-South policy, including strengthened South-South and triangular policymaking processes that advance Southern perspectives, with the aim of mainstreaming South-South cooperation across the United Nations system. This involves the production of United Nations reports and the facilitation of multilateral meetings that are at the core of the UNOSSC mandate. Hence, these activities operate mostly within the United Nations structures and less through partnerships enhanced through UNFSSC. Previous UNFSSC-facilitated initiatives include research, outreach and coordination activities to support the Group of 77 engagement at the United Nations, in particular to inform South-South policy development. In 2016, however, Outcome 1 was promoted through UNOSSC core resources since partner contributions through UNFSSC all focused on advancing Outcomes 2 and 3.

The achievement of Outcome 2 and thus of Goal 2 of the strategic framework was advanced through capacity-building and facilitation of knowledge and technology exchanges. Examples of initiatives that received financial support through UNFSSC in 2016 include Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, which focuses on engaging a range of stakeholders from

UNFSSC-supported Projects, by UNOSSC Strategic Framework Outcome, 2016

1 Multilateral Policy Processes

2 Institutional Capacities Advanced through UNOSSC Support to Knowledge and Technology Exchanges

- Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation;
- Global South-South Development Expo; and
- Knowledge Exchange in Peacebuilding through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

3 Scaling Up through Partnerships

- **Facilities:**
 - Global South-South Development Centre;
 - Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance; and
 - Unleashing the Potential for South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Development in the Arab States, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
- **Initiatives:**
 - Southern Climate Partnership Incubator.

2016 Resource Implementation for Outcome 3: Facilities versus Initiatives (%)



the Global South in sharing knowledge about successful South-South cooperation management practices, and Knowledge Exchange in Peacebuilding through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, which aims to facilitate sharing successful peacebuilding practices among countries of the Global South. In addition, the Global South-South Development Expo, an annual event highlighting Southern innovations in tackling development challenges, was organized in 2016 by the Government of the United Arab Emirates through its Zayed International Foundation for the Environment in Dubai.

The achievement of Outcome 3 and consequently Goal 3 was supported by UNFSSC through four facilities and one initiative, which together accounted for 77 per cent of the resources implemented through UNFSSC in 2016. This larger share of resources mobilized and

implemented in relation to Outcome 3 is due to the goal of marshalling resources to scale up partner-owned and -led activities. Each of these facilities and initiatives represents innovative partnership modalities securing in-kind and financial resources for scaling up the impact of South-South cooperation.

With respect to Outcome 3, 97 per cent of the contributions were mobilized and implemented through facilities, which consist of defined windows within the trust fund characterized by a country sponsorship or a regional or thematic focus. Facilities have specific governance processes as well as agreed-upon development outcomes. In 2016, the four facilities established within UNFSSC made consistent progress.

The Global South-South Development Centre was able to progress significantly in promoting South-South cooperation by supporting cooperation activities mostly based on Chinese development experiences. A report on China's South-South cooperation in trade, investment and foreign aid was published along with the production of other knowledge products and the organization of meetings and workshops to facilitate partnership-building among a range of stakeholders.

The Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance, which has been implemented for more than a year, successfully advanced its agenda of promoting cooperation among Silk Road cities for collective benefits. The Alliance organized a forum to facilitate investment, trade and sustainable development among Silk Road cities. Overall support was received from UNDP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as well as from new cities and organizations that became members.

The project facility Unleashing the Potential for South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Development in the Arab States, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) expanded its support and coordination services for United Nations country teams and the government focal points, mapped South-South cooperation solutions via its portal and published reports for sharing successful solutions in the region. It also contributed to capacity development and organized meetings and forums for the exchange of ideas and networking of leaders from the South.

The remaining 3 per cent of contributions relating to Outcome 3 were directed to a new initiative of the Secretary-General: the Southern Climate Partnership Incubator. This initiative is both an online and an offline multi-stakeholder platform. Its objective is to foster partnerships among the Global South in the areas of renewable energy, climate resilience, smart cities and the application of big data.

The following sections describe in greater detail the 2016 achievements of UNFSSC-supported projects that contributed to the implementation of the UNOSSC strategic framework.

Snapshot of Projects, Goals and SDGs Supported (2016)

				
Project Name	Goal	SDG	Strategic Framework Outcome	
1 Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation	Build capacity among professionals from the Global South by capitalizing on emerging, effective and innovative management practices for South-South cooperation		Outcome 2	
2 Knowledge Exchange in Peacebuilding through South-South and Triangular Cooperation	Exchange knowledge on peacebuilding practices among the Global South actors		Outcome 2	
3 GSSD Expo	Facilitate the showcasing, sharing, exchange and adoption/adaptation of best practices and solutions by actors from the Global South		Outcome 2	
4 Global South-South Development Centre	Engage and connect experts from China and globally to exchange knowledge			Outcome 3
5 Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance	Develop initiatives for intensified trade, partnerships and investment for the participating cities to create win-win opportunities			Outcome 3
6 Unleashing the Potential for South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Development in the Arab States, Europe and the CIS	Focus on advancing South-South and triangular cooperation for development in the Arab States, Europe and the CIS		Outcome 3	
7 Southern Climate Partnership Incubator	Foster climate change partnerships in the Global South		Outcome 3	

2.2 Institutional Capacities Advanced through UNOSSC Support to Knowledge and Technology Exchanges

OUTCOME 2 OF THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: “Institutional capacities of Member States, United Nations system organizations and other partners to effectively initiate, manage, coordinate and implement South-South cooperation and triangular cooperative are enhanced.”

UNOSSC resource mobilization target for Outcome 2: \$414,119

2.2.1 Knowledge-sharing Platforms and Activities

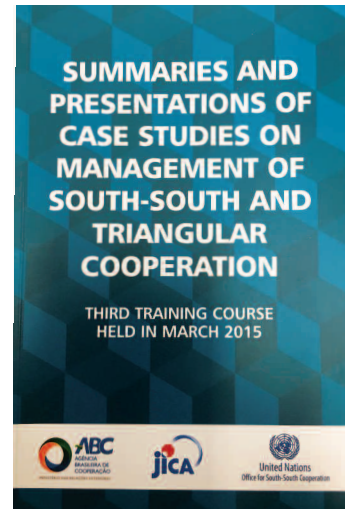
Knowledge-building and knowledge-sharing are essential elements of UNOSSC activities, which aim to help governments and institutions to systematize and leverage good practices, enhance capacities, improve coordination and build long-lasting partnerships. In 2016, UNOSSC advanced two knowledge-sharing activities: Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, and Knowledge Exchange in Peacebuilding through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Project Time Frame: September 2012-December 2016

In 2012, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Government of Japan and UNOSSC started the project Capacity Development in the Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation. Its objective was to develop the capacity of practitioners engaging in technical cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in middle-income and least developed countries as well as to improve the quality of technical cooperation.

Training modules were designed based on a needs assessment exercise in which questionnaires were sent to 80 countries to collect information on the capacity development needs of institutions. This was followed by a planning workshop to identify more specific needs for improved management skills. Subsequently, three peer-learning training courses on managing South-South and triangular cooperation were held in Brazil from 2013 to 2015.



Outcome report of the third capacity development training course



Opening session of follow-up activity hosted by ABC (Brasilia, June 2016)

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

In 2016, the project focused on the advancement of the following:

- A compilation of PowerPoint presentations entitled Summaries and Presentations of Case Studies on Management of South-South and Triangular Cooperation was presented as part of the effort to share practical experiences during the third peer-learning training course. It features good practices on five topics: (a) legal and institutional frameworks; (b) institutional management and coordination mechanisms; (c) project management; (d) human resources skills; and (e) communications skills and tools. A total of 41 representatives from 40 countries participated in the training course.
- Two follow-up activities in the form of technical visits were hosted by Brazil in June 2016 and by Mexico in October 2016. Representatives from 8 countries for the first workshop and 10 countries for the second exchanged experiences on the development of South-South cooperation manuals, notably by ABC, and international cooperation law.
- A project evaluation was conducted through surveys and interviews with former participants from over 55 countries. Recommendations for the project's second phase continue to place emphasis on learning and capacity-building activities with a more participatory approach and organized in terms of key themes, including monitoring and evaluation of South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation, and knowledge management and communications.

➤ 2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: \$140,592

Knowledge Exchange in Peacebuilding through South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Project Time Frame: 2016-Present

In recent years, there has been an expansion of the substantive focus of South-South cooperation beyond economic and technical cooperation to peace and development. This includes partnerships in peacebuilding, mediation and development, conflict resolution and prevention. UNOSSC further enhanced its undertakings in this area by entering into a partnership with the Colombian Presidential Agency for Cooperation (APC-Colombia) for a joint learning initiative on peacebuilding.

Following decades of conflict and peacebuilding processes, Colombia has accumulated valuable experiences and practices for supporting and empowering other countries and regions to overcome similar challenges caused by conflicts and violence. It has carried out reforms to build the conditions for peace, develop new welfare and local democracy dynamics, advance the conditions of equality between people, communities and regions, and open the door to consolidate sustainable development. Simultaneously, Colombian institutions working on peacebuilding are also seeking to learn from other countries' experiences in post-conflict reconstruction to ensure an enduring peace.



Visit to the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, part of the follow-up activity (Brasilia, June 2016)



Participants and project team after the closing session (Brasilia, June 2016)

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- The report *Experience-based Peacebuilding: Practices and Perspectives from Different Regions* documents practices, experiences and lessons in peacebuilding, including 15 cases from Colombia and four from Azerbaijan, El Salvador, the Philippines and Rwanda. A documentary video containing the cases studied was also developed.
- The Spanish version of the report was launched at the peace conference in Bogota, Colombia, in August 2016. At the conference, attended by over 100 leaders from Colombia, Azerbaijan, El Salvador and the Philippines, details of the publication in each country were shared, and all participants had rich discussions on peacebuilding.
- The English version was launched at the Solution Forum on Peacebuilding and Peace Alternatives during the Global South-South Development Expo 2016. Over 50 participants exchanged ideas on peacebuilding, including panellists from APC-Colombia, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, the g7+ secretariat, Argentina, Egypt and Global Change. Through the Solution Forum and the adoption of the final communiqué, participants agreed to further strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation in peacebuilding areas.

➤ 2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: No Financial Implication in 2016

2.2.2 Global South-South Development Expo

Project Time Frame: 2008-Present

The Global South-South Development (GSSD) Expo is an annual global event organized for countries and institutions to showcase development solutions, celebrate successes, share knowledge and lessons learned, explore new avenues for collaboration and initiate new partnerships. It is the only Expo offered by the United Nations system solely for the Global South.

The Expo brings together various stakeholders – policy decision makers, solution providers, solution seekers, solution beneficiaries, funders/supporters and development practitioners – at one single major event as a direct response to the demands of stakeholders from the Global South. Each year, the GSSD Expo theme is focused on the evolving priorities of the South and the mandates and priorities of the host country as well as new directions from the United Nations, including the 2030 Agenda.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- In 2016, the GSSD Expo was hosted by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates. It was realized in conjunction with more than 25 United Nations agencies, 7 Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) organs and institutions, and 117 other institutional partners on the theme of “enhancing innovation towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.



Presentation on strengthening the comprehensive rehabilitation system for persons with disabilities in Colombia



Meeting to discuss peace and coexistence in Suchitoto, El Salvador



Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, at the High-level Opening Ceremony



Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein of Jordan delivering the keynote statement to launch the Expo

- Close to 700 delegates from more than 90 countries attended, over 170 Southern-grown solutions and initiatives were showcased, and close to 40 bilateral partnership meetings were held.
- The Expo was highly successful, providing a platform for development partners to discuss more than 20 thematic topics related to South-South and triangular cooperation for sustainable development. Those topics included the future of work; poverty eradication; food security and agricultural innovation; trade and investment; climate change and environmental protection; youth and women's empowerment; public service delivery; economic transformation; research on South-South cooperation for SDGs; skills development; peacebuilding and peace alternatives; promoting youth entrepreneurship; public-private partnerships; SSMart for SDGs; green technology transfer; green economies; tobacco control; and global health.
- More than 90 Southern-grown solutions, technologies and initiatives were showcased on the GSSD Exhibition floor by 70 exhibitors representing national governments, international organizations, regional groups, academia and the private sector using multimedia materials, including posters, audio visual presentations, printed materials and product prototypes.
- In addition, the Expo featured the High-level Forum of Directors General for Development Cooperation in which over 150 representatives from more than 35 developing and developed countries participated. Practical ways of promoting the successful home-grown solutions and national expertise of the participating countries were presented and discussed, and replicable and scalable solutions were transferred.

➤ **2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: \$273,527**



Opening Ceremony of the GSSD Expo 2016



Participants at the High-level Forum of Directors General for Development Cooperation



GSSD Expo Opening Ceremony attended by participants from within and outside the United Nations system

2.3 Scaling Up through Partnerships

OUTCOME 3 OF THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: “Innovative South-South, triangular and public-private partnerships and funding modalities marshal financial and in-kind resources that support the scaling up of the development impact of Southern solutions in meeting the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.”

UNOSSC resource mobilization target for Outcome 3: \$1,401,277

2.3.1 Facilities

South-South cooperation is based on the principle of collaboration on multiple development agendas with multiple partners. Making South-South cooperation a reality requires a flexible structure that permits the engagement of a range of stakeholders, facilitates communications, enables the forward-looking development of initiatives, and provides tools and financing for their realization. In this regard, facilities have been a mechanism for Southern partners wishing to support South-South cooperation jointly with the United Nations system. This is exemplified by the fact that the largest share of resources channelled through UNFSSC in 2016 and accounting for 77 per cent of total resources was implemented through facilities.

Facilities are often defined by a country sponsorship or a regional or thematic focus. They provide a financial, governance, operational and legal framework within which it is possible to mobilize, transfer, implement and account for resources. They are institutional tools that permit the development of South-South networks, the formulation and implementation of projects, and the selection and awarding of small grants as well as collaboration on initiatives large and small, far-reaching or of limited geographic and thematic reach.

Facilities within UNFSSC are characterized by strong and actively engaged governance bodies, which, with the support of the Fund Manager, the secretariat and technical experts, have formulated strategies to advance the objectives of the facilities. These boards or steering committees established criteria for funding; selected and made awards to small-grant recipients; reviewed, commented on and approved larger projects; offered guidance; and ensured oversight of the progress of activities.

Global South-South Development Centre

Project Time Frame: 2009-Present

The Global South-South Development Centre (SSDC) was established in 2009 through the partnership between the China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) and UNOSSC. The overall mission of SSDC is to promote successful South-South cooperation experiences and practices and build development capacity in the Global South. SSDC supports the formulation, coordination, technical support and small-scale catalytic financing of cooperation activities.

SSDC has facilitated cooperation between a network of renowned centres of excellence based in China and institutions from other developing countries. Since 2009, it has sponsored numerous study tours, workshops, training courses and small grants projects. These activities enabled cooperation in a variety of fields: solar energy, information technology applications, car maintenance technology and many others.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- The *China Development Report on South-South Cooperation, 2015*, was published, which includes research on China's South-South cooperation on trade, investment and foreign aid; an analysis of the challenges and solutions; and the impact of the South-South cooperation of China.
- SSDC organized two feasibility study tours: one to Vanuatu, Samoa and Fiji, and another to Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. The tours were aimed at exploring the possibility of establishing small, complex demonstration projects on solar energy, small hydro power, freshwater fisheries and bamboo industries as well as on the ecological protection of Lake Victoria.
- The 21st Annual Meeting of the China South-South Cooperation Network was held in Yunnan in November 2016 and co-organized by SSDC and the Lancang-Mekong Subregional Economic Cooperation and Trade Development Centre. More than 50 representatives from 30 member institutions attended. Discussions focused on activities carried out during the first half of 2016 as well as current and upcoming South-South cooperation projects. In-depth communication on South-South cooperation among the member organizations was conducted in 2016. Member organizations also called for and agreed to advance the capacity-building agenda of the network.
- The *News on South-South Cooperation Quarterly* was published and to date has included 32 articles contributed by the members of the China South-South Cooperation Network, 26 articles advertised for the Network members, and 75 updates on trade and investment.



Participants at the GSSD Expo 2016 Solutions Exhibition



4th Steering Committee Meeting of the Global South-South Development Centre



SSDC study tour to Vanuatu, Samoa and Fiji



SSDC study tour to Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda



21st Annual Meeting of the China South-South Cooperation Network



Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance

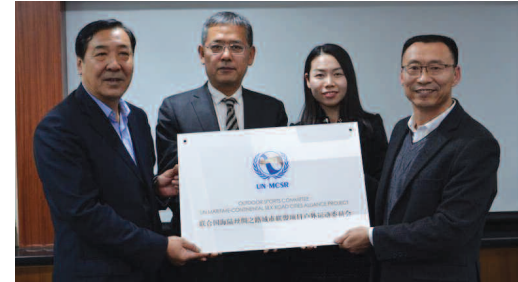
Project Time Frame: September 2015-Present

The Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance (MCSRCA) is a joint initiative implemented by the Government of China, Mayor's Offices along the Silk Road and United Nations agencies. The Alliance is an important innovation in terms of cross-border cooperation, which aims to facilitate policy coordination, partnership-building, formulation of initiatives and access to finance, leading to intensified trade, investment and exchange among participating cities.

The initial phase, which was implemented from March 2015 to December 2016, focused on the goal of creating a governing body with specialized committees to develop action plans on specific development issues of various sectors of relevance to the cities. The Alliance would also seek a sustainable mechanism to acquire resources over time, thus aiming to establish a South-South Silk Road fund. Opportunities for collaboration with the private sector, including through public-private partnerships, were also explored.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- The MCSRCA secretarial workplan was developed with support from UNIDO and UNDP. The design and institutionalization of specialized committees including the Business Council and the Finance, Information and Technology, Logistics, Culture and Communications, and Tourism Committees were advanced.
- Quanzhou Municipal Government has voluntarily taken on the responsibility of serving as the secretariat of the Business Council, which held its first Chairpersons Meeting in January 2016. As of the end of 2016, the Business Council had a total of 25 group members, 34 individual members and 21 observers. About 20 projects or activities were initiated by the Council and its board members.
- The revised edition of the MCSRCA Charter was launched during the Inaugural Cities Forum and was adopted by the first Enlarged Conference of Board of Directors of Cities Alliance Council. At the Conference, held in May 2016, participants shared ideas and suggestions on the future development of the Cities Alliance Council, and representatives from the Board of Directors reported on their work.
- The Inaugural MCSR Cities Forum, co-sponsored by UNOSSC and MCSRCA, was held in Fuzhou in May 2016 on the theme of "equality and mutual benefit through win-win collaboration". More than 500 participants from 36 countries attended the Forum to discuss and exchange information on resource complementarity and economic and trade cooperation.
- Two sub-forums were organized by UNDP China and UNIDO during the Cities Forum to promote the development of sustainable urbanization among participating cities of the Silk Road. Those platforms encouraged further discussion to determine the future direction, building on the initial phase, to strengthen its capacity and increase its sustainability.



Unveiling ceremony of the MCSRCA Outdoor Sports Committee



1st Enlarged Conference of Board of Directors of Cities Alliance Council



MCSRCA mission to Europe



MCSRCA mission to Nepal

- MCSRCA welcomed 11 cities, a governorate, a region and 6 organizations as its new members: Fangchenggang and Yantai (China); Accra (Ghana); Tema (Ghana); Mombasa (Kenya); Colombo (Sri Lanka); the Southern Governorate (Bahrain); Phuket (Thailand); Dunkerque (France); Mombasa (Kenya); the Gorno-Badakhshansky region (Tajikistan); Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran); Pokhara (Nepal); the China International Freight Forwarders Association; the International Centre on Small Hydro Power; the Isfahan Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (Islamic Republic of Iran); the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (Islamic Republic of Iran); the GIF Research Foundation-Japan; and the Pokhara Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Nepal).

➤ **2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: \$311,024**



Unleashing the Potential for South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Development in the Arab States, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

Project Time Frame: 2013-2017

This project facility was established as a regional umbrella initiative to address existing gaps in knowledge, communications and resources towards further advancing South-South and triangular cooperation for development in the Arab States and in the Europe and the CIS (ECIS) regions. During 2016, the project continued to develop a range of tailor-made support services for the United Nations country teams and government focal points on South-South cooperation in the two regions.

The three key elements of the regional approach in supporting South-South cooperation for development in the Arab States and the ECIS regions are: (a) national-level coordination boards on South-South and triangular cooperation; (b) an online South-South cooperation portal for real-time access to South-South-related information; and (c) an Arab Regional Funding Facility and an ECIS Regional Funding Facility for scaled-up exchanges of South-South (East-East) solutions, technologies and expertise within the regions and beyond.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

National-level stocktaking exercises on trends and opportunities for South-South cooperation

- The stocktaking exercises were completed in Azerbaijan, the Republic of Moldova and Somalia and unleashed a wealth of opportunities for South-South knowledge exchange.
- Government focal points on South-South cooperation were formally designated in three countries, namely, Lebanon, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Kyrgyzstan (re-assigned), increasing to 17 the number of countries that were assigned the roles of focal points by the end of 2016.

Capacity development for national South-South cooperation units

- A familiarization and experience-exchange workshop was held in the UNOSSC New York office in March 2016 for government focal points from both regions following the national stocktaking on trends and opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation.
- The training course titled “United Nations Catalytic Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation towards the Achievement of SDGs” was delivered in cooperation with the United Nations System Staff College Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development to support United Nations staff and national focal points to acquire skills in promoting and coordinating South-South and triangular cooperation.

Regional studies on the value addition of South-South and triangular cooperation for sustainable human development in the Arab States and in Europe and the CIS

- Initiated by UNOSSC and developed in cooperation with UNDP regional bureaux, two regional studies were conducted on existing practices, models and instruments and provided recommendations for harnessing the potential of South-South cooperation.
- The pre-launch of the regional reports at the GSSD Expo 2016 facilitated the discussion on the findings and recommendations for the development of national South-South cooperation strategies as well as for building a more cohesive and coordinated approach at the regional level.

Advocacy for South-South cooperation

- A number of events aimed at promoting and advocating for South-South cooperation were organized by the project, including the following:
 - The special session on “Cross-regional South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Promoting Sustainable Development” of the GSSD Expo 2016 showcased initiatives for broader cross-regional cooperation and new partnership ideas on anticorruption and governance integrity.
 - The First Regional Networking Forum for the Arab States, Europe and the CIS brought together over 50 development practitioners to discuss the role of South-South cooperation in advancing the achievement of national development priorities in implementing the 2030 Agenda. This resulted in the Joint Statement for further promoting South-South cooperation agendas and sharing practical knowledge in various areas of development, including public service, education, health, agriculture, rule of law, customs, employment and public-private partnership.



First Regional Networking Forum, November 2016, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Mapping South-South cooperation solutions

- The solutions mapping portal operationalized in 2013-2014 (<http://southsouthworld.org>) has been continuously expanded and has evolved with the partnership support of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). Thus, 70 new solutions were sourced, documented and uploaded online; 43 solutions were shared on the page created for agricultural solutions (<http://agro.southsouthworld.org>); and 18 solutions were documented as a result of the national stocktaking exercises.
- The dedicated <http://africa.southsouthworld.org/> webpage was developed at the request of the UNDP Regional Hub in Addis Ababa as a replication of the mapping model that had been initially implemented by this project.

Publications

- Electronic versions of the stocktaking reports were produced and posted online, including for Azerbaijan, the Republic of Moldova and Somalia in 2016 as well as for Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in 2015; an e-publication on Algeria's support to South-South cooperation was produced at the request of the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Algeria.
- The report *Mapping South-South Cooperation Solutions in Europe and the CIS* was produced with support from IsDB. It comprises an analytical overview of South-South and triangular cooperation practices in the ECIS region and a compendium of over 50 featured solutions collected on the southsouthworld.org portal.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security Initiative

- With support from IsDB, four more countries – Kyrgyzstan, Sudan, Tajikistan and Tunisia – were able to join the initiative in addition to the initial countries of Algeria, Hungary, Morocco, Turkey and Uzbekistan.
- Five South-South cooperation Country Components to support the implementation of national policies were developed and agreed at the policy level as the individual national plans.
- Two knowledge exchange workshops were organized – on livestock development in Algeria and on water resources and irrigation systems under climate change in Morocco – with support from the Ministries of Agriculture.
- Two specialized training courses – on farmer-based organizations in Turkey and on agricultural biotechnology in Hungary – provided an opportunity for 26 practitioners from Turkey and 6 practitioners from Hungary to learn successful methods and practices.
- The project facilitated the institutional capacity development of partner countries through several events, including the High-level Ministerial Meeting and consultative meetings of the national focal points.

➤ 2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: \$283,117



Knowledge Exchange and Coordination Workshop on Water Resources and Irrigation under Climate Change, Rabat, Morocco, October 2016

2.3.2 Initiatives

All developing countries, regardless of size or level of development, have accumulated knowledge that can be a source of cost-effective and replicable solutions to the challenges faced by other developing countries. UNOSSC leverages South-South and triangular collaboration to strengthen knowledge sharing, capacity-building and technical assistance between countries. It facilitates the documentation and sharing of various models, approaches and tools that can help countries to realize their shared aspirations for achieving sustainable and equitable development.



Southern Climate Partnership Incubator

Project Time Frame: 2016-Present

Countries of the Global South, including the least developed countries (LDCs) and the small island developing States (SIDS), are among those most affected by climate change. Climate change exacerbates threats and makes delivering on the sustainable development agenda more difficult because it reverses positive trends, creates new uncertainties and raises the costs of resilience. The Southern Climate Partnership Incubator (SCPI), launched in April 2016, is a joint initiative between the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and UNOSSC to foster, support and promote South-South and triangular cooperation on climate change.

SCPI builds and promotes political momentum on climate change, strengthens knowledge and understanding of South-South cooperation on climate change, accelerates the United Nations system-wide efforts and engages stakeholders to mobilize resources for global climate action. These activities are implemented through policy exchange, technical assistance, knowledge-sharing and partnership-building.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- The High-level Plenary Session on “Partnerships for Climate Action: Sharing Experiences from the Global South” was organized during the GSSD Expo 2016. Panellists highlighted development challenges in the Global South that have been exacerbated by climate change and offered their opinions on innovative solutions and initiatives that are contributing to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The event demonstrated the commitment to science, technology and innovation in advancing South-South cooperation on climate change.
- A High-level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change was organized during COP 22 in Morocco. The Forum brought together key international organizations and Member States to: (a) discuss challenges and opportunities in the new implementation stage of global goals; (b) deepen exchanges among developing countries so that they can better address climate change and achieve sustainable development; (c) maintain and promote momentum towards wider

South-South cooperation; (d) expand global partnerships for the Southern countries; (e) enhance the capacity and readiness of developing countries to implement their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) for the Paris Agreement; and (f) take stock of their experiences and good practices.

- The SCPI together with UNFCCC published the report *Catalysing the Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions in the Context of the 2030 Agenda through South-South Cooperation* to show the significance of South-South cooperation on climate change and explore the interlinkages between goals and targets related to the NDCs and the 17 SDGs. The report indicates many of the overlapping priority areas that developing countries highlight in their NDCs as well as their interest in engaging in more international collaboration to meet their needs. It also points out the linkages between the priority areas that developing countries highlight in their NDCs and the co-benefits of achieving several SDGs. In addition, it describes cases where South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are already being successfully undertaken in some of the identified NDC priority areas owing to similar circumstances, interest in collaboration, shared cultures and languages, and the shared geographical locations of countries of the South.

➤ **2016 Implementation of UNFSSC Inputs: \$40,158**



High-level Plenary Session on "Partnerships for Climate Action and Sustainable Development: Sharing Experiences in South-South and Triangular Cooperation"; GSSD Expo 2016

