Scaling up South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development

GLOBAL SOUTH-SOUTH DEVELOPMENT

EXPO 2014

OVERVIEW

Organization of American States

www.southsouthexpo.org
The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) promotes, coordinates and supports South-South and triangular cooperation on a global and United Nations system-wide basis.

Formerly known as the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, hosted by UNDP, was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1974. It receives policy directives and guidance from the General Assembly High-level Committee (HLC) on South-South Cooperation, which is a committee of the whole and a subsidiary body of the General Assembly that reviews worldwide progress in South-South cooperation.
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The GSSD Expo is a concrete response to the commitment made by the United Nations Secretary-General, the UNDP Administrator and United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Chair, and the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA) Chair to help the Global South to realize its shared aspirations for achieving sustainable and equitable development through the sharing and transfer of Southern-grown development solutions.

The GSSD Expo is designed to showcase successful evidence-based solutions created by developing countries to address development challenges. It enables developing countries and their development partners – including donor agencies, agencies of the United Nations system, and private-sector and civil society organizations – to collaborate and showcase solutions that are rooted in the historical, political, economic, social and geographic conditions specific to the originating countries. It provides a powerful platform for Southern development actors to celebrate successes, share knowledge and lessons learned, explore new avenues for collaboration and initiate new collaborative efforts towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed development goals. In addition, the GSSD Expo facilitates the forging of innovative and inclusive partnerships for South-South cooperation, including triangular and public-private partnerships.

Since its inception in 2008, the GSSD Expo has featured contributions from hundreds of partner countries, United Nations agencies, private-sector enterprises and civil society organizations, and over 500 Southern development solutions relevant to achieving the MDGs and beyond have been showcased.

Today, over $5 trillion in reserves are held by countries of the Global South, which now also account for 47 per cent of global trade. This unparalleled economic development opportunity will be one of the main engines of growth in the years ahead.
2014 HIGHLIGHTS

150 MEMBER STATES

24 UN SYSTEM PARTNERS DELIVERING AS ONE

70+ SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR SOLUTIONS SHOWCASED AND EXHIBITED

1,500+ STREAMED VIEWERS FROM 31 COUNTRIES, ACROSS 5 CONTINENTS

100 THOUSAND+ VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION VIA SOCIAL MEDIA #GSSD14
5 MOUS SIGNED TO SCALE UP SOUTHERN SUCCESSES VIA SS-GATE

700+ PARTICIPANTS


180 NGOs/CSOs AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

70+ CEOs AND PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES
“In the decade since the Millennium Development Goals were first articulated, many countries have made significant progress in raising school enrolment, reducing child mortality, improving access to clean water and boosting their response to malaria, AIDS and other diseases. Yet 1.75 billion people in 104 countries remain unable to meet some of their basic needs… South-South cooperation is a vital component of the world’s response. Developing countries that pool know-how, exchange ideas and coordinate plans can attain much greater gains than they ever would on their own.”

Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General, United Nations

“South-South cooperation, understood as a mutually beneficial partnership based on solidarity, equality, and shared development experiences, is growing fast. Innovations and experiences from the South are often seen as the most relevant to the challenges faced by other developing countries.”

Helen Clark
Administrator, UNDP and Chair, United Nations Development Group
Ms. Gina Casar, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP, providing the overall vision for the Global South-South Development Expo 2014 during her remarks at the High-level Opening Session.

High-level Opening Ceremony

Hundreds of high-level delegates from 150 countries and across the United Nations system gathered at the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, DC to tackle development challenges by harnessing, exchanging and scaling up innovative solutions developed in the Global South.

Organized by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and hosted by OAS on the theme “Scaling up South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development,” the Global South-South Development Expo is the world’s biggest stage for development solutions created in the South for the South.

South-South and triangular cooperation offer a path to balancing growth and equity in the context of a “new collaborative global partnership for sustainable development” where all stakeholders stand shoulder to shoulder in their political, social and environmental development efforts, said Gina Casar, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP.

Other High-level participants included Rebeca Grynspan, Secretaría General Iberoamericana (SEGIB) Secretary General; LI Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); Christian Friis Bach, Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); Jon Lomøy, Director of the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, on behalf of the OECD/DAC Chair; Nicholas Nelson, Director of the FAO Liaison Office for North America, on behalf of the FAO Director General; Munyaradzi Chenjeon, Director of the Regional Support Office of UNEP, on behalf of the UNEP Executive Director; and Jürgen Schwettmann, Director of the ILO Department of Partnerships and Field Support, on behalf of the ILO Director General.

The OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza, noted that his organization works to support the efforts of its member states in achieving sustainable and inclusive economic, human and social development. In the area of sustainable development the OAS “is known for the effective collaborative networks and communities of practice that have taken South-South cooperation to a new level and positioned the OAS as a solutions multiplier.”

The President of the UN High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, Abulkalam Abdul Momen of Bangladesh, said that the strong economic performance of many countries of the South in recent years are improving the human condition everywhere. To further accelerate this progress, he highlighted a new “pioneering” Fund – the UN Social Enterprise Facility for the South that will pool official development assistance together with equity funds and will initially support social enterprises in Asia. “This facility has attracted interest from commercial banks, venture philanthropists and hedge fund managers specializing in socially responsible investment funds,” he said.

Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the UN Secretary General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UNOSSC said the annual Expo is proving effective in bringing together development organizations from all sectors to establish inclusive and innovative partnerships, South-South, North-South, triangular and public/private so that the impact of successful development solutions can be scaled up. “The collaboration of more than 25 organizations of the UN system at the Expo clearly demonstrates the strong commitment of the UN family to the Secretary-General’s call for ‘Delivering as One’ in the area of South-South and triangular cooperation,” he said in his opening remarks.
The Global South-South Development Expo 2014 Solution Exhibition showcased more than 40 successful and innovative Southern development solutions nominated by 30 entities including donor agencies, the United Nations system, multilateral financial institutions, the private sector, CSOs, academia, and other partner development organizations. The nomination and selection process was highly competitive. The finalists showcased were the most shining examples of the current and potential strength of South-South cooperation which embodied the following 8 key attributes: Southern priority/demand driven, Southern ownership, Southern leadership, broad-based partnership, innovation, efficiency, sustainability, and scalability. The GSSD Expo 2014 Solution Exhibition floor featured the representations from the following 25 countries and regions: Burkina Faso, Brazil (IBSA Fund), Canada (Keroul), China (CICETE, Anjie County), Colombia, Dominican Republic (CONADIS), Ecuador, European Union (Native Hotels), Ghana (Bamboo Bikes), Guinea (Ebola Response Solutions), India (IBSA Fund), Japan (JICA), Lao PDR, Liberia (Ebola Response Solutions), Mongolia, Nepal, Norway (FK Norway), Peru, Philippines (ADEC, My Shelter Foundation), Republic of Congo, Republic of Korea (Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning), Sierra Leone (Ebola Response Solutions), South Africa (IBSA Fund), Sri Lanka, and the United States.

DAY 1
Leadership Round Table

The Leadership Round Table was an interactive dialogue on critical themes of Southern development. It was attended by high-level representatives and senior officials of the United Nations system and Member States and featured renowned leaders and experts in the field of sustainable development and South-South and triangular cooperation. This theme in 2014 was “Bringing South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to bear during the implementation of the post-2015 agenda”.

“For there to be success, the South must be involved in global governance,” said Ms. Gina Casar, Associate Administrator of UNDP. “It is imperative that there is interexchange of knowledge, cooperation, and technology. The MDGs cannot be achieved by one UN agency or government. There has to be partnership if we are to get there.”

Other participants included: Secretaría General Iberoamericana (SEGIB) Secretary General, Rebeca Grynspan; Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Li Yong; and Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Organization of American States (OAS), Sherry Tross. The Round Table was moderated by Mr. Raj Kumar, Founding President & Editor-in-Chief of Devex.

Background

The global economic landscape has undergone a fundamental transformation in recent years owing to the remarkable economic performance of a number of countries in the South such as Brazil, Russia, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa that have become
powerful engines and pillars of global economic growth. This unprecedented rate of growth and transformation has enabled these Southern economies to become new global powers in an evolving economic landscape. As a result, South-South interactions in areas such as trade, investment and finance have surged in recent years lifting millions out of poverty and improving the living standards a significant share of the population in the South. Despite this progress, there is growing income inequality within and between developing countries while the gap between the per capita incomes of people in developed and developing countries remains unacceptably high. Thus, new and more effective forms of SSC that address these challenges and contributes to the eradication of poverty and to ensure sustainable and equitable growth are needed, particularly as the international community transitions to the post-2015 development agenda. In that context, developing countries have recognized their greater weight and influence in the international development system and have proactively put forth their views, highlighting pertinent challenges that they want to concordedly address. They also have laid out their vision for the forthcoming framework and have requested the organizations and agencies of the UN system to bolster support to South-South initiatives.

Objective
The Leadership Round Table aimed to raise awareness of the roles that South-South and triangular cooperation would play in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. In this regard, panelists sought to address important questions: (a) what role should the rising South play in shaping a more responsive multilateral development architecture beyond 2015? (b) how could SSC provide a complimentary framework for the provision of regional public goods in the post-2015 development agenda? (c) what are the innovative ways or institutional arrangements that South-South financial cooperation could contribute to boosting development finance in the post-2015 development agenda? (d) how can SSC be integrated into a comprehensive industrial development strategy to meet the industrialization objectives of developing countries? (e) How can governments ensure that South-South investments enhance the skills and technological capacities of local firms to catalyze inclusive and sustainable economic growth? (f) what sharable lessons can the international community draw from successful triangular cooperation initiatives as well as public private partnerships?

Main Outcomes
The Leadership Round Table brought together high-level officials from the United Nations, and other multilateral and intergovernmental institutions. The main outcome of the panel discussion include:
a) More awareness among participants on the importance of the UN development system, global and regional intergovernmental institutions including regional banks in strengthening the collective voice of the South in the context of the post-2015 development agenda; b) Better understanding of the role of regional banks and development banks being established by countries of the South in filling the financial gap in key sectors and providing an alternative source of finance to attain sustainable development goals beyond 2015; c) Understanding of the importance of the private sector in meeting sustainable development goals and the role that the UN system and other multilateral organizations could play in attracting investment from the private sector towards the provision of regional and global public goods; d) More awareness on the need to move beyond public-sector led development measures towards inclusive partnership models comprising governments, private sector, civil society, UN system and other multilaterals in driving the sustainable development agenda; e) A clearer understanding of how an IT-based industrial development would contribute to inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the significant role that SSC can play in fostering knowledge and experience sharing in successful industrial policies and strategies; f) Understanding how SSC can help in adapting proven technologies to local contexts to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized populations.

The Way Forward
The informal setting of the EXPO enabled various leaders to freely express their views on how SSC and triangular cooperation could be brought to bear in implementing regional and sectoral aspects of the post 2015 agenda. Pathways to act on the many ideas expressed is the challenge going forward.
For there to be success, the South must be involved in global governance. It is imperative that there is an exchange of knowledge, cooperation, and technology. The Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved by one United Nations agency or one government. There has to be partnership if we are to get there... UNDP has a Global Partnerships project with over 90 examples of cooperation in key areas such as infrastructure, education, and health.

Ms. Gina Casar
Associate Administrator of UNDP

Before in development cooperation, there was the North-South paradigm, the idea that what happened in the South was not worth looking at... The opportunity now exists to erase the “averaging out inequality” syndrome that development experts have suffered from in the past. The Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals will ensure that averages hiding inequalities are the exception, not the norm to development agendas. By tackling inequality through inclusivity, the SDGs will be answering problems by designating proper quantifiable solutions.

Ms. Rebeca Grynspan
Secretaría General Iberoamericana (SEGIB) Secretary General

The OAS has dealt with South-South Cooperation for such a long time. These relationships that are evolving and changing, no partner is too small or too big to learn, to form strategies and partnerships with. The nexus between policy formulation and programme implementation is critical. Working with the countries and leveraging their experiences and lessons learnt, and sharing them with member countries is necessary. Countries don’t have to start from scratch and are able to put together joint ventures, which facilitate matchmaking.

Ms. Sherry Tross
Executive Secretary for Integral Development Organization of American States (OAS)

Development financing can suffer from being “not realistic”. Investments usually ask for high returns (around 4.5%) but returns of that nature are currently unfeasible for developing countries. For partners to understand how to generate conditional financing is important for Southern countries. However, overloading conditions can have a negative effect on policy and make it impossible to implement. Conditionality will always exist in loans, but a better understanding can improve the outlook a country takes on it.

Mr. Li Yong
Director-General
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

What do countries want? And how can we facilitate what they need? What is the future architecture for the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals, what is the role of Member States, civil society, the private sector? Basic partnerships are going to be needed to achieve anything.

Raj Kumar
Founding President & Editor-in-Chief, Devex
Leadership Round Table

Bringing South-South and triangular cooperation to bear during the implementation of the Post-2015 development agenda

All the panelists at the Leadership Round Table were presented South-South and Triangular Cooperation Champions Awards in recognition of their innovative vision and leadership in placing the cooperative spirit center stage in international efforts to improve the human condition. The awards were presented by H.E. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, President of UN High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation, and Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the UN Secretary General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UNOSSC.
South-South Cooperation in Poverty Eradication – Responding to Ebola as a Development Crisis

The theme of the session was poverty eradication with a special focus on responding to Ebola as a development crisis. The objective of the session was to provide a platform for participants to showcase and share experiences, analyze challenges and seek opportunities in deploying integrated responses for poverty reduction, management and recovery from an outbreak of an epidemic, such as Ebola.

Important South-South cooperation examples that have supported Ebola and other pandemic responses were discussed and showcased. The linkages between poverty and health epidemics were discussed to advocate for integrated responses. The session targeted government representatives, development agencies, civil society organizations, think tanks, the private sector, and media. Government representatives from China, Cuba, Nigeria, Russia, South Africa, The Gambia, Senegal and Uganda participated at the session.

The session was moderated by Ms. Simona Marinescu, Chief, Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP. She opened the session by stating that the South-South cooperation (SSC) has led to rapid growth in countries of the South. However, there still exists challenges and progress can’t be achieved without partnership, she emphasized.

Panelists included: Ms. Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, Deputy Assistant, Administrator and Deputy Regional Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa; H.E. Mr. Omar Sey, Minister of Health and Social Welfare, the Gambia; H.E. Mr. Jose Ramon Cabanas Rodriguez, Chief of Mission of the Cuban Interests Section in the United States; H.E. Dr. Cyprian Terseer Heen, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations; H.E. Mr. Yao Shenhong, Director General, China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), Ministry of Commerce, China; H.E.
Barry Kistnasamy, Ebola Response Coordinator, Department of Health Diseases, South African National Development of Health; H.E. Mr. Alfred Nnam, Deputy Chief of Mission, Uganda Embassy to the United States; and H.E. Mr. Andrey Nastasin, Counselor, Russian Federation Embassy to the United States.

Ms. Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, Deputy Assistant, Administrator and Deputy Regional Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa, said in the West African countries, the Ebola crisis has affected the lives of rural people. It does not respect national borders, particularly when family members live on both sides of a border. Beyond the health and economic effects, Sandhu-Rojon said, there is an erosion of trust among communities, lack of confidence in the health care system and survivors are being stigmatized. Health service delivery has been affected, education is stalled and many vulnerable people are being isolated (such as women and children). She stressed that there is a need to understand the socioeconomic consequences, which will probably last longer than it will take to bring the crisis under control.

The African Union (AU) and ECOWAS have been working closely with Member States to keep borders open. Countries such as Ghana and Senegal have established humanitarian corridors, and Uganda, which had its own Ebola outbreak and Russia, have deployed health-care workers to the affected countries. She stressed the need for continued support of the countries of the Global South to isolate the virus without isolating countries.

H.E. Mr. Omar Sey, Minister of Health and Social Welfare, the Gambia, said the Gambia was the first country to provide funding to the African Union Ebola fund. He noted that the Ebola virus affects development through, for example, a negative impact on GDP as well as curtailment of movement across borders. In responding to the crisis, sharing good practices is important, as is effective care management, dissemination of accurate information on the virus, development of a protocol for managing the disease including prevention of infection, and funding to support various efforts. All countries should have in place a functioning national plan with an integrated approach to the problem, especially those countries affected by the Ebola virus, and international organizations could help in the development of such a plan.

H.E. José Ramón Babañas Rodriguez, Chief of Mission of the Cuban Interests Section in the United States, Washington, D.C., stated that Cuba sent specialized medical teams to the three countries most affected by the virus and is working with 32 countries in Africa on preventive diagnosis and treatment of disease. He noted that combating the outbreak is not limited to internal control but extends to the spread of the disease to other countries. The country has undertaken numerous initiatives, including the approval of an action plan on 20 October 2014 and the convening of a panel of experts on 29-30 October.

At the regional level, Cuba has communicated with the 25 governments of Latin American countries, who are ready to train and consult on Ebola. They are ready to prevent entry and internal spread of the virus internally and to provide a platform for the consolidation of efforts. He concluded by saying that Ebola is a global problem that must be addressed by all countries, both rich and poor and that Cuba is ready to share its expertise with all countries.

H.E. Dr. Cyprian Terseer Heen, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations commended the initiative of UNDP, which provides a platform to share experiences on how to combat the Ebola virus. On 22 July 2014, Nigeria recorded its first case of Ebola. To date, there have been 19 Ebola cases; 12 of the victims survived and 7 died.

In order to create enlightened awareness and to reduce panic over the virus, the government created a Presidential Inter-Ministerial Committee on Communication Strategy for Ebola Virus Disease Prevention and Containment, which was headed by the Minister of Information and mandated to prevent false and erroneous information. Dissemination of information on Ebola was further intensified through television, radio jingles, Ebola websites, face book, twitter, bulk SMS messages, hotlines, dedicated toll free-lines and distribution of leaflets.

Upon confirmation of a suspected case Ebola, a rapid response team was dispatched headed by the Director of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to contain and control the outbreak. An Ebola Emergency Operation Centre was created to coordinate daily activities. Body scanners were provided at all ports of entry and exit manned by immigration and NCDC officials, who had to screen travellers. On 20 October, Nigeria was declared Ebola-free by the WHO.

Lessons learned include the need to ensure the dissemination of information in order to create awareness of the fatality of the virus and to create synergies between government components. Nigeria has trained over 591
Health practitioners, who have volunteered to join the international force going to Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea to assist in the containment of the Ebola Virus. In addition, Nigeria has pledged to offer specialized training to health personnel combating Ebola in the affected West African nations. Also, Nigeria has donated the sum of US$3.5 million to assist the affected countries and the sum of US$2 million to the common fund of the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS). Drugs amounting to US$292,483.18 are also to be donated to Sierra Leone.

H.E. Mr. Yao Shenhong, Director General, China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), Ministry of Commerce, said that China has given four rounds of aid (in the amounts of 4 Million RMB, 30 Million RMB, 200 Million and 500 Million, and some separate donations to regional organizations, totaling about 750 million RMB) to the Ebola affected countries and sent medical teams and experts, who have tackled over 200 suspected Ebola cases. He shared the example of the Chinese Embassy in Senegal, which has transported goods to rural areas amid heavy rainfall. Initially, assistance needs to be early, swift and efficient, an emergency response; but long-term assistance is also necessary. Equal emphasis should be placed on prevention and treatment. The focus should be on affected areas, with preventive aid to the surrounding countries in a combination of bilateral and multilateral aid, he said.

In addition to its emergency responses, China’s other efforts include training courses. Its assistance also involves international coordination and information-sharing to avoid duplication. In support of long-term solutions, China has strengthened its cooperation with the international community, including donations to multilateral organizations such as the African Union ($2 million USD), World Health Organization ($2 million USD), and the World Food Programme ($6 million USD), and the United Nations Ebola Response Multi-partner Trust Fund ($6 million USD), to respond to the Ebola crisis.

He also noted that International organizations should provide more development assistance to African countries so as to eliminate poverty and realize sustainable development goals in the post-2015 period as well as to enhance their public health capacities in the long term.

China has promised to initiate the Sino-Africa Public Health Cooperation Plan, and organize 12 training courses for the affected countries on public health and epidemic prevention and control. China will also carry out joint researches on tropical diseases with Africa and help Africa build up a public health information platform and an epidemic prevention, control and monitoring network.

H.E. Barry Kistnasamy, Ebola Response Coordinator, Department of Health Diseases, South African National Development of Health said Ebola creates a quadruple burden but it is important for the tourism industry and for people to know that Africa is very large and the entire continent is not affected. Since other diseases mimic the Ebola virus, diagnosis is necessary and South Africa has mobilized cash contributions and goods including ambulances, generators, personal protective equipment, drugs and food. It supports the Cuban doctor programme in West Africa and provides volunteer health professionals.

UNDP support under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) provides autoclaves to sterilize and decontaminate instruments; this equipment can function in low resource areas because the technology is simple, requiring minimal training of technicians. In devising any interventions, it is important to be aware of a country’s sociocultural traditions. The lessons learned are that it takes time to mobilize support even in an emergency. Effective communication and supply lines are critical. Diplomatic links are needed, e.g., to facilitate visas for different countries. It is also necessary to identify in-country recipients of goods and to avoid corruption. To ensure success, working with affected and other countries as well other development partners (United Nations agencies, NGO’s) is needed. Governance is important in dealing with public funds so the proper governance and management support needs to be set up.

Countries need to work together to address the challenges posed by diseases such as Ebola and UNDP can serve as a facilitator and knowledge broker in these exchanges.

H.E. Mr. Alfred Nnam, Deputy Chief of Mission, Uganda Embassy to the United States began by saying that Uganda is on the front line in facing killer diseases such as polio and infectious diseases such as Ebola and HIV/AIDS, and needs to be permanently on the alert. Each time there has been an attack by these viruses, the country has taken four steps: prevention, detection, response and treatment.

The population needs to be sensitized with clear messages, to recognize that there is a problem and to accept the problem as a reality. Awareness of the issue is the first step towards winning the campaign and it must be created at different levels. Political leadership needs to listen to the population;
civic leaders can be used to inform the population; NGOs have a role to play as do health practitioners. Various media can also be used to create immediate awareness (radio, mobile phones, and social media). Detection calls for immediate actions to avoid creating anxiety owing to an information deficit.

In responding, relevant actors need to show leadership and all partners of government need to provide a rapid response to alert people about the presence of the disease. Emergency plans need to be activated. A ministry responsible for disaster preparedness is necessary since viruses do not announce themselves.

Help is needed with monitoring, for example, and neighboring countries need to be consulted; international assistance can also play a role. In combating Ebola, Uganda dispatched medical teams to West Africa. At the regional level, countries cooperated to put together a team doctors and nurses to be dispatched to the West Africa region. The fight against Ebola cannot be borne in isolation, regional and international cooperation are needed.

H.E. Mr. Andrey Nastasin, Counselor, Russian Federation Embassy to the United States of America said that the Russian Federation was among the co-authors of the UN Security Council Resolution on Ebola and also supported the UN General Assembly Resolution on Measures to React to the Ebola Outbreak, establishing the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response. It has allocated 779 Million Rubles (20 million USD) thus far.

Furthermore, a special antiepidemic team was sent to the Republic of Guinea and this group included nine specialists including epidemiologists, virologists and laboratory employees. They have been cooperating closely with the Government and Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene of the Republic of Guinea, WHO and the organization Doctors Without Borders.
Accelerating the Impact of South-South and Triangular Cooperation on Food Security Post-2015

This session showcased four compelling innovative South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives that have been tested and disseminated in several countries in the global South. The presentations focused on three FAO-led solutions in partnership with other UN Agencies and other stakeholders, twinned with three other interventions on concrete country-level impact. A solution advanced by IFAD and its partners was also featured. All the solutions presented were in support of national and regional agricultural and food security goals. These included:

- Integrated rice-aquaculture systems transferred through exchanges between the People’s Republic of China and 25 African countries in the last decade, featuring a specific example from Uganda;
- Programming national school feeding initiatives linked to local agriculture: Up-scaling Brazil’s successes in school feeding programmes to Latin America. As well as the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA) triangular partnership (Brazil, FAO, Malawi, United Kingdom and WFP) in support to local food purchases for school meals in five African countries, featuring the case of Malawi. Both are inspired by the Brazilian learning process of the national food zero hunger initiative and social protection;
- Upscaling sustainable production using conservation agriculture, and specific example from Zambia including evergreen agriculture;
- Sharing scaleable learning on innovative models of financial and nonfinancial services packages designed explicitly for rural youth, generated by the IFAD Rural Youth Economic Empowerment Program, in Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen.

In each case, Southern development solutions were shared through a wide range of SSC knowledge sharing modalities, including the short-, medium-, and long-term deployment of expertise, policy dialogue, training, study tours and technology exchange.

FAO and its partners showcased evidence based results on how multi-stakeholder partnerships can make a difference, unlocking the potential of up-scaling successful approaches and best practices and further expanding their impact to others countries in the global South. The session allocated
Scaling Up Session 2: Accelerating the Impact of South-South and Triangular Cooperation on Food Security Post-2015

sufficient time for dialogue and interactive discussion on the initiatives showcased, including what has worked, challenges, opportunities and lessons learned. The debate also focused on how FAO and the wider UN family can work to facilitate and up-scale initiatives that have potential to make a difference in view of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Ms. Katrin Taylor, from the South-South Cooperation Team, FAO, served as the moderator for the session.

Mr. Festus Akinnifesi, Chief South-South Cooperation Team, FAO, provided an overview of FAO’s work that dates back to 30 years ago, starting with the Indonesia Farmers Fund’s (IFF) support to 80 projects in Africa, and establishment of two Rural Agricultural Training Centers in Tanzania and Gambia. Since then, FAO has been facilitating South-South Cooperation (SSC) and more than 2000 experts have been deployed to 80 countries to support with agriculture. One of the largest ongoing programmes is between China and Nigeria, where Nigeria now funds Chinese experts to share knowledge and technologies on a wide range of topics to enhance agriculture and food security. In addition to the fielding of expertise, and since 2012, FAO has expanded its SSC Strategy to include broader modalities of exchange, beyond the fielding of medium-long term expertise, to include short-term exchanges, study tours, policy dialogues and technology exchange. FAO’s Southern partnership base is expanding, as more countries request South-South Cooperation and others come on board as willing providers. China is a long-standing partner, having donated USD 30 million to FAO in 2008, and in October 2014 has just announced a new commitment of USD 50 million for the next 5 years. Other countries that are showing strong support as providers or Triangular partners, include Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey and Vietnam. In addition, some host countries, especially in Africa, are financing SSC in their own countries in partnership with FAO and southern provider countries.

Mr. Liao Fuming, from the National Hybrid Rice R&D Center & Hunan Hybrid Rice Research Center (HHRRC), Changsha, China, spoke about Integrated Rice-Fish Systems. He stated that development solutions have been transferred via the FAO/China SSC programme to many developing countries. For example, the 80 long-term Chinese rice and fish experts have been fielded in 25 countries. Rice-fish farming has shown to substantially increase harvests in China; from 6.7 to 7.5 tons of rice per hectare and 0.75 to 2.25 tons of fish per hectare. Hence the output value of the integrated rice-fish culture is estimated at USD 8,550 to 17,100 per hectare. He added that the rice-fish co-culture lessens the impact of agricultural chemicals, as less inputs are required. In addition, rice-fish systems integrate fresh water fishing farming and high yield rice production, which even when practiced independently have major spinoffs. Further, the ecological soundness of rice-fish systems can stimulate eco-tourism, thereby contributing and improving local livelihoods.

For example, new fish farming techniques were introduced in Uganda, and as a result, the fish egg fertilization rate increased greatly as well as rice yields. Partners and stakeholders benefiting from these exchanges included farmers and key decision makers supporting them such as government officials, agriculture extension officers, and local businesses. This development solution shows great potential for scaling up, but requires investment in rice field innovation, reliable and affordable fish seed supply for stocking, development of rice varieties, etc.

Mr. Fuming also shared the success story of Nigeria, where over 35 rice-fish demonstration sites were set up in 22 states, helping to almost double rice and tilapia production. Furthermore, the China-Nigeria South-South Cooperation programme expanded the rice-culture to 10,000 hectares, thereby benefitting hundreds of smallholder farmers and their families. There is further potential for up scaling, and investment is required in areas such as rice field renovation, reliable and affordable fish seed supply, developing rice varieties and farming techniques.

Mr. Okasai Opolot, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Uganda, talked about the benefits of the rice-fish system, transferred through an exchange between China and Uganda. Results demonstrate an increased the uptake of fish farming and improved the incomes of farmers. It has also led to the introduction of the high grade rice and high rice yields, up to 10 tons per hectare. In addition to rice-fish systems, the Chinese introduced the fox tail millet, for higher yields, as Uganda was traditionally producing finger millet. All in all, Mr. Opolot, affirmed that South-South Cooperation had brought many clear and tangible benefits to Uganda and looked forward to ongoing cooperation with China.

Mr. Lewis Hove, Project Coordinator at the FAO Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa, spoke about sharing conservation agriculture techniques in Southern Africa. He began by saying that agriculture is the backbone of most Southern African countries. However, land degradation still remains a major problem for the region owing to erratic
rainfall, droughts, and use of inappropriate technologies such as plowing among many others. Climate change has also worsened the situation.

He shared the example of Zambia, which has successfully implemented conservation agriculture as a way of managing the agro ecosystems for improved and sustained productivity while safeguarding the environment and putting money in the hands of farmers. This includes minimizing soil tillage – focusing on soil tillage where the crops are planted, maintaining soil cover and diversifying the crop types.

In order to spread and share this knowledge, FAO has facilitated study and learning tours and brought together farmers in the sub-region. The results include increased uptake of conservation agriculture among farmers, and evidence that Governments are embracing the approach as a strategy for adapting to climate change. He stressed that he would like to see the private sector more involved and increased investment by all stakeholders to increase impact.

Mr. Dutch Gibson, from Zambia’s Conservation Farming Unit (CFU), stressed that the private sector is key to unlocking potential. No one Organization can do address the needs of farmers, it takes a multi-stakeholder approach. His NGO works with local farmers to boost crop yields through conservation agriculture techniques. It takes TTT, he said: in development, things take time, and the emphasis should be on training.

Ms. Najla Veloso, Regional Coordinator of the “Strengthening of School Feeding Programmers”, FAO, Brazil, talked about the regional School Feeding Programme, which is ensuring that school meals are provided and the capacities of institutions, managers and technicians are strengthened. The programme draws on the successes in Brazil, and includes community incentives such as the local public purchase from family farmersbroad participation, and appropriate policy. School feeding programmes offer a way to address food insecurity and to integrate health, education and environmental policies. It is a solution that undergirds the three pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals: economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. FAO role has been that of facilitator, supporting Brazil and more than 20 countries to give school feeding and local purchase schemes the importance deserved.

The results and lessons learned include: improved the legal frameworks for schools, raised awareness, broad participation in the project by the parents and governments, and renewed interest in gardening. In addition, model schools have been established, serving as reference centers for sustainable feeding. Furthermore, school feeding e-learning and face to face courses for government officials and other actors, have promoted dialogue and south-south experience sharing.

Mr. Israel Klug, the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA) Africa Programme Coordinator, FAO, highlighted how the programme works at improving food access and availability, enhancing the capacity of African governments and civil society in support of home-grown feeding programmes. It is based on the success of the Brazilian local purchase schemes for school feeding and food assistance, and is supported by technical expertise, and triangular partnership between the United Kingdom, Brazil, FAO and WFP.

The programme links smallholder farmers with school feeding programmes through local procurement. The programme works at three levels, at: operational, programming and policy level. The PAA provides technical support and training to farmers, such as to enhance farmer’s production methods, supports local assessments of local contexts and challenges and supports the development of specific country proposals to upscale and consolidate local food procurement.

As a result of PAA activities, food access and availability has improved, and as a result of pilot PAA initiatives, to date, 5,516 smallholder farmers have been trained and provided with agricultural inputs. Farmer’s productivity rates have increased by an average of 114%. This has provided 128,456 pupils with meals in 420 schools in 5 countries, where the project is operating. I

Lessons learned point to the fact that government participation in operations and policy dialogue at local, national and international level is necessary to ensure ownership, and the development of institutional capacities, as well as the advancement of related policy and legal instruments. Also, tailored spaces for dialogue with civil society are important so as to ensure the sustainability of activities. Agricultural support should focus on small holder farmers, and local institutional procurement arrangements need to be strengthened. Finally, local products should systematically be encouraged in school feeding.

Ms. Thokozile Chimuzu Banda, Principal Secretary responsible for Basic and Secondary Education in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (EST), Malawi, stressed that School meals are a major component
of the Ministry of EST. There are three operating models to supply food for school feeding programmes: centralized (national sources), direct funding to schools and school gardens (locally produced foods), and home grown (PAA Africa food programme from small-scale farmers). The vision of home grown school feeding is that school meals programme comprise of locally produced food of the right quality and quantity for children and, which in turn, empowers communities to provide nutritious foods.

The programme has seen smallholder farmers’ capacities strengthened in productivity, storage, group marketing and market engagement, thereby increasing their incomes. Critical issues to ensure smooth implementation of the programme, include identification and registration of farmer organizations; crop/production potential of areas; menu planning and preparation; dissemination of price information; infrastructure inform of kitchen, storerooms, feeding shelter; commodity and knowledge management.

In terms of scaling up, Malawi has a master-plan to scale up home-grown school feeding, in two schools per zone per year. However, the main challenge is securing permanent storerooms and the capacities of frontline staff are to be strengthened.

Mr. Stanlake Samkange Director of the Policy, Programme and Innovation Division of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), highlighted the fact that WPF supports 25 million School Feeding Programmes. In this context, the PAA programme is particularly important because it combines a focus on school feeding with local procurement and local purchase from small holder farmers. Therefore, importantly, enhances not only the health and well being of children and students, but the livelihoods of the local communities.

Ms. Michelle Muldonon, Director, Economic Opportunities at Making Cents International, Washington, D.C.; noted that the majority of rural youth are inadequately served in many countries, often being with products and services that are not relevant to their needs.

Making Cents is partnering with the IFAD Rural Youth Economic Empowerment Programme (RYEEP), through a three-year grant to increase employment and self-employment of young people aged 15-35 in the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA). This programme is being implemented in 4 different countries (Egypt, Yemen, Morocco and Tunisia) and provides capacity building and technical assistance to local institutions to pilot youth-inclusive financial services (YFS) and non-financial services (NFS) as delivery models to rural youth and to the enterprises that employ them. By 2016, RYEEP pilot projects will reach more than 18,000 young people, facilitating formal sector or self-employment to over 3,750 youths and delivering financial services to over 15,000 youths.
Global Public-Private Partnership for Infrastructure Development

This session presented UNECE as a global leader in developing international best practices, recommendations and standards in the area of public-private partnerships (PPPs).

The conveners of the session presented a network of global partnerships for infrastructure development in line with MDG 8 and the prospective sustainable development goals (SDGs) to ensure that best practices and standards are implemented and translated into projects that make a difference in realizing the ambitious United Nations development targets.

The UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence is already making substantial progress in terms of South-South exchange presented the following in the session:

- an announcement that several major countries of the South including India, Morocco and the Philippines are setting up Specialist Centres that will focus on South-South cooperation and helping countries with project implementation;
- a presentation of various PPP models that have already been developed by Southern countries and that will be the most suitable for other Southern countries;
- an announcement that the business community through the UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board is ready to provide its expertise to help countries to implement PPPs and to support the SDGs to achieve a results-orientated and practical agenda;
- the showcasing of Southern countries taking leadership roles in the development of PPP best practices;
- the signing up of government and private-sector partners for the PPP Specialist Centres to show how the collaboration with other Southern countries can impact project development; and
- the endorsement of the global partnership for infrastructure development by key partners.

Mr. Christian Friis Bach, served as the Moderator for the session, said that a significant amount of investment is needed to achieve the proposed sustainable development goals (SDGs), which is why public-private partnerships (PPP) are important.
Scaling Up Session 3:
Global Public-Private Partnership for Infrastructure Development

Mr. Oslim Benito Sevinger, Ambassador and Minister of Infrastructure, Aruba began by saying that Aruba changed its focus from oil to tourist and now has a very successful tourism sector but the rest of the island is stagnant because of infrastructure.

As a small country, Aruba does not have the funds to build the small projects and realized that it could use PPPs for financing and realizing the projects but it needed help and sought advice from the Netherlands, which had a broad experience with the concept of PPP. It then realized that combining projects into one big project ($100,000) would attract international bidders so the country went to the market, through the media, and generated a great deal of interest in the combined project.

In the bidding process, Aruba realized that it needed to change its law and policy to guarantee transparency for bidders. Changing the law was important because it gave the private sector the guarantee of the feasibility of a project. A PPP standard is important; Aruba adopted the European standard for a small economy and wants to share its experience in small-scale economy projects to improve PPP projects in the Caribbean. PPP projects must be undertaken in order to improve the quality of life for the people in Aruba as well as in the entire region. Aruba developed a social dialogue with government, the private sector and the community, talking about how the project is important for island, etc. Aruba now has two full-fledged PPP projects and is ready to share its experience with other small islands in the Caribbean.

Mr. Makasim Yermalovich, Deputy Minister of Finance, Belarus said that the Global partnership for infrastructure development will enable countries to achieve SDGs in the spirit of cooperation and support. Project-by-project financing is a means of bridging the financing gap. She noted that in Belarus, 80% of GDP is provided by the private sector. PPPs are also a way of transferring technologies to developing countries and the location of a PPP unit depends on the structure of the government. In Belarus, the Ministry of Economy must provide advice to PPP partners.

When devising a PPP project, it is necessary to always put people's interest first, consumers should be the ultimate beneficiaries. It is also necessary to ensure political will at the highest level during each stage of the project. A legal framework is also needed. In addition, it is helpful to obtain advice from all stakeholders to ensure that the project is conducive to attracting investment. It is also important to build institutional capacities, including those of line ministries, and to train the public sector to understand the advantages and pitfalls of the project. Payments to the private sector partner should be a main part of budget policy and corruption should be fought at all stages of the project cycle.

Ms. Abhilasha Mahapatra, Director of the PPP Unit, India said that good governance creates confidence on the part of the private sector to invest in projects and engage with the government. To help to ensure that the private sector will be interested in an initiative, the project must be viable and there must be a financial interest. Having appropriate institutional mechanisms in place for accountability also creates confidence on the part of the private sector. To ensure that a project will be delivered, the delivery process must be streamlined. This can be achieved through a committee at the Ministry of Finance for due diligence and a stringent approval process. India has no PPP policy but one is being drafted.

The aim of PPPs and infrastructure development is public services. To ensure bidding by the private sector, set up a fund to finance capital costs (20% to project developers at the time of construction of the infrastructure) and provide this as a government grant. PPP projects need to be well structured and developed since there is available expertise. It is important to create a government project development fund through which support is provided to state governments and line ministries to develop projects, and standardize processes and procedures, e.g., contract agreements, bidding processes, and use them as templates. Eligibility criteria for selecting a project should also be standardized.

Mr. Jose Cuisia Jr., Ambassador of the Philippines said that PPPs are undertaken in health sector to improve access to adequate health services. Disparities, which exist between the rich and poor, have resulted in unnecessary deaths of many Filipinos. Therefore, the goal was to ensure that all Filipinos, especially those in the two lowest income quintiles, have access to quality health care. A national health insurance programme will ensure the coverage of the population, especially the poor and enhance the health benefits of all its members. With this, a nationwide programme was introduced to modernize and upgrade rural health units, hospitals, and all other government health facilities through PPPs, thereby adding much-needed capacity and raising quality. The programme strengthened the public hospitals' capability in providing the best tertiary care possible and as end referral
hospital.

PPPs in health are an integral part of universal health care system; they are cooperative ventures through clear agreements that delineate resources, risks and rewards. The private sector is expected to introduce innovations, resources, etc. PPPs can augment the capacity of governments to make sure that there is no additional burden on the poorest and marginalized people.

International assistance for PPPs in health projects is available. A PPP Specialist Centre of Excellence in Health was established in the Philippines with UNECE. The Centre has the major task to identify the best practices in health PPPs and is envisioned to become the global focal centre on PPPs in the health sector. The Centre will also help to train government officials in the new skills required to do PPPs in the health sector, such as project management and private financing. The cooperation of governments and NGOs in the activities of the Specialist Centre would stimulate shared learning of agencies involved in health programmes.

Mr. Laurence Carter, Director of the PPP Programs, World Bank stated that there was a great deal of interest in and rhetoric about PPPs but financing through this mechanism fell in 2013 and posed the question how can this situation be changed and how can experiences be shared?

Big projects attract attention but to achieve the SDGs, it is necessary to standardize processes and contracts to ensure that the private sector is not disappointed and to create less room for negotiations after bidding. He cited the example of four water distribution projects, which have just been concluded in Benin. In the long term, there could be many more projects like those through the use of standardized user models. Small projects are possible for example, extracting water from bore halls and distributing it to families.

The World Bank Group is working with other multilateral development banks to put in place a certification scheme in the PPP area through which people would study a set body of knowledge, take examinations and demonstrate experience to be able to put an indication of certification after their name. This would be one route by which to spread a PPP revolution. He stressed the importance of standardization and certification.

Mr. Antonio de Lecea, European Union Delegation in Washington, D.C. said countries both large and small have huge needs; investors have money; research is being done to match available capacity with needs. However, investors lack knowledge about the pipeline of financial projects and the viability of political and business environments, and public authorities lack expertise on opportunities and challenges of engaging with the private sector. There is, therefore, a need to have adequate regulatory and legal regimes, bridge the gap between investors, project promoters and the authorities and to build on expertise that has worked; multilateral development banks have advisory capacities, for example.

The Group of 20 global infrastructure initiatives is setting common principles and guidelines to make countries more attractive for this type of arrangement. A hub is also being set up in Australia to systematize this information. Bilateral financial instruments help in feasibility studies to make projects better structured and thus more attractive. However, some projects are not bankable due to deficits in the legal environment. Feasibility studies are a way forward in such a situation.

Mr. Geoffrey Hamilton, UNECE stated that the goal is to develop PPP standards, which will make the MDGs deliverable and put people first, especially vulnerable groups. This can be done through consultation with people. The challenge is that the enormous gaps between delivery on the SDGs and the lack of funding from governments to do so; therefore PPPS aren’t an option but an absolute necessity.

He stressed the need to have benchmarks for performance, without which, there would be failure. There are a great number of best practices but no international best practices, and standards are critical to give to innovators in government so that they can take PPPs forward. PPPs will scale up delivery and accelerate their own programmes. International best practices are being developed through a specialist centre. For countries of the South, it is more effective if they develop their own programmes and neighboring countries provide advice.

Mr. Peter Ward, Leader on PPPs in health policy in the UNECE Project Team, talked about UNECE PPPs in Healthcare Policy and asked why a standard is needed and how does one go about developing a standard? He noted that a team is developing a PPP standard in health-care policy, which is needed in order for investments to achieve the MDGs and SDGs (1/3 to1/2 are related to health care). Demographic changes are occurring and there are expectations that life expectancy will increase, so there is a need for investment in order to respond to this and to developments in technology.
PPPs are good tools but they are complex and require long-term commitments and the need to transfer risks.

The UNECE standard development process has seven stages (3rd stage now). A team of people worldwide is contributing expertise to make the standard as effective as possible. The output of analysis has resulted in a large database on projects covering what has worked as well as governments and the private sector. The standard itself will help to inform governments about best practices in establishing and delivering a PPP programme. Work is divided into six work streams: policy and legislation; economic context and affordability (equitable access); planning and business cases; training and resources; engaging with the market; and ensuring that procurement and management processes are transparent. The work will be integrated, with a secretariat that will oversee it.

With regard to a question as to which ministry should host a PPP programme, the UNECE presenter stated that the location depends on the institutional structure of a country. In many European countries, there is a central unit in the ministry of finance. The representative from India stated that the Indian PPP is in the Ministry of Finance but to promote the setting up of PPP units and a nodal officer for PPP, companies must accept the help of a multilateral in its PPP cell. The representative of the World Bank Group indicated that it could be in the ministry of finance or planning to maintain neutrality between sectoral ministries. He also suggested focusing on standardizing processes rather than documents to bring predictability to investors and government officials, thereby increasing certainty. There also is a great deal of scope for disseminating information on PPP returns and performance.
Accelerating Green Technology Transfer for Sustainable Development

WIPO introduced WIPO GREEN, an interactive marketplace that promotes the innovation and diffusion of green technologies by connecting technology and service providers with those seeking innovative solutions.

WIPO GREEN is a specialized platform administered by WIPO and anchored to its mission to lead the development of a balanced and effective international intellectual property system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. It consists of an online database and a network that brings together a wide range of players in the green-technology innovation value chain and connects owners of new technologies with individuals or companies seeking to commercialize, license or otherwise access or distribute a green technology. The platform enables stakeholders to search green technology products, services and intellectual property assets as well as to post an announcement of a need. Anyone with a green technology can apply to add the technology to the database and the searches are open to all.

The WIPO GREEN network helps to facilitate commercial relationships and transactions by connecting green technology providers and seekers and serves as a gateway to a range of supportive services. It offers its members the opportunity to come in contact with a wide range of stakeholders, including multinational companies, intergovernmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industry associations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), investors and academia. This diverse membership provides myriad opportunities for collaboration and partnership, and the network was expanded during the GSSD Expo 2014.

The WIPO GREEN Scaling-up Session focused on several scale-up projects of WIPO GREEN’s Partners in Africa, Latin America and Asia, as well as its wastewater project, which facilitates the transfer of wastewater treatment technologies, with a particular focus on Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

The partnership between the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) and WIPO GREEN was highlighted during the Scaling-up Session to emphasize the need for the protection of intellectual
Scaling Up Session 4: Accelerating Green Technology Transfer for Sustainable Development

assets and technology transfer in the South.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger, Director, Global Challenges Division, WIPO served as the moderator and delivered the opening remarks. He began by talking about the WIPO GREEN interactive marketplace which serves as a gateway to a range of supportive services.

Ms. Anja Von Der Ropp, Program Officer, WIPO introduced the panelists; Ms. Alison Mages, Senior Counsel for IP Procurement and Policy, General Electric; Mr. Edward Mungai, CEO of Kenya Climate Innovation Center; Ms. Kemi B. Fadojutimi, Ghana Bamboo Bike; Mr. Kingsley Kalusha, UNOSSC; Ms. Pacyinz Lyfoung, Program Director Program Director for Public Interest Intellectual Property Advisors (PIIPA); Mr. Yorimasa Suwa, Senior Manager, Tejin; and Mr. Zituni Ould-Dada from UNEP. Ms. Ropp then sparked conversation by asking the question: How can developing countries be better connected to emerging global innovation systems?

Ms. Allison Mages, of General Electric, said partnerships are important to move and transfer technologies. Today, there are a wide variety of players, who can accelerate technical diffusion and transfer local know-how and expertise. Local infrastructure, culture and decision-making sometimes are a critical link in getting a technology adopted. It is important to begin with openness and to make sure that the right problem is defined. Reverse innovation can be applied to other countries in the South to be better connected. Bringing a western product to a developing country may not work. It is important to think about the specific market first and design a product accordingly (e.g., a less expensive EKG machine that is sturdier and with locally sourced parts). The people closest to the problem are usually the ones who should develop the products.

Mr. Edward Mungai, Kenya CIC Climate Innovation Centre asked how many innovators are dying with their inventions because they don’t want to share their innovations. There is a need for the protection of intellectual assets and technology transfer in the South because there isn’t a framework, where innovators can talk freely about their inventions. He highlighted the need to have intellectual property, safe guard ideas and to adapt solutions to the local context. He noted that CIC services provides access to information, offers access to testing and office facilities and provides business advisory services to innovators to make sure that their ideas are bankable.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger asked how they were building trust and in response, Mr. Mungai said they provide access to services such as finance so that ideas can be tested and later commercialized.

Ms. Kemi B. Fadojutimi, Ghana Bamboo Bike, Ghana noted that the world is a global market – partnerships with other people doing similar businesses. Works with partners to connect them to the global green marketplace, helping to create employment for youth, for example it has created employment for 60 youth in three different areas. For this project, communication is critical, including knowledge of what is going on in a community; branding of oneself and telling one’s story are very important.

Mr. Kingsley Kalusha talked about the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-Gate) and WIPO Green. With regard to companies from developing countries, the first step is to set up a means of knowledge management in terms of innovations that are happening and technological needs in the area. There is a need to build technology marketplaces where those technologies and needs could be deposited. Connectivity needs to happen between the marketplace that has been created and knowledge management centres in the local community.

He noted the legal frameworks, which support a particular region or country is important if someone wants to connect to the outside world. It is also necessary to look at capacity-building to link to universities as sources of innovation and innovators. Connectivities –e.g., private to private, public to private – help to expand technologies in different countries. In enhancing absorptive capacity, universities could be a source of training for innovators, which would also target youth.

Ms. Anja Von Der Ropp asked about the crucial role that universities play – they train people in technical field, which can be much cheaper and not only target the established innovators but others as well. In this modern day, people go online to buy particular items without having to go to a shop.

Ms. Pacyinz Lyfoung of PIPA, stated that with respect to the global innovation system, young people may not have a more equitable access to IP knowledge. She shared the example of Nigeria, where Nollywood produces movies
and music, which are enjoyed by people across the world, but the local artists didn’t receive any benefits or realities for their work. Nowadays, PIPA helps them to register their work and benefit from it for example PIPA helped to add value to Colombian farm products for the Canadian market.

IP has been a point around which relationships can be structured and PIPA has helped many people in developing countries to get connected. It has helped to build capacities, bringing in a team of experts. It is also the administrator of the IP handbook. PIPA administers a network of IP professionals including attorneys, who have pledged over 300 hours of pro bono services for WIPO GREEN projects to enable green technology transfer.

She added that IP is an indispensable tool for sharing the value and benefits of an innovation in developed and developing countries. Based on the experience of UNEP, policies and a market environment are needed to integrate companies into the global innovation system.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger noted that the Philippines have been helping with the issues of WIPO Green and asked Mr. Yourisama to elaborate on a specific contribution of the Philippines. In response, Mr. Yourimasa Suwa shared the example of the social network systems which was developed by subnet.

Ms. Anja Von Der Ropp asked what could be done for countries in the developing South so that they could be integrated with the global innovation systems? Mr. Zituni Ouid-Dad, UNEP, in response said there needs to be policies and a market environment. Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) need to have the confidence to come in and for there to be an enabling environment which can facilitate innovation. Secondly, there is the need for a market environment and a reward for the innovation, and hence the Intellectual Property. Thirdly, cooperation is relevant because there are several PPPs who can provide different actors and expertise.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger asked what policies should be considered. Policies are a medium for what will happen in the future. He shared the example of the energy sector, which found that the total investment was 300 million USD and was mainly from policy inventions. He stressed that If you an innovator or an SME, you need to make sure that there is a low risk and high confidence for innovation. He then asked Allison about an article on reverse innovation, which described in general electric, which has worked with Indian inventors. Asked how the successful model in India has been applied in other countries in the South?

Ms. Allison Mages said that reverse innovation thinks of the market and then designs the product. Innovations work well for both the inventor and community. The people who know what the problems and vulnerabilities are the ones that are usually best to design the product.

Ms. Anja Von Der Ropp asked Mr. Edward Mungai to give example of how they have scaled up technology in Kenya. In response, he gave the example scaling up biomass products (briquettes), which illustrates the value of IP rights. The project involves using agricultural waste from tea to make briquettes. Helped to find the technology, identify the biomass to use and how to safeguard the idea (filing for IP right) since a multinational would be involved. He noted that the challenges that remains is which biomass is to be used, how can a person build a business, and the most critical, how can an individual safeguard his ideas from multinational companies. KCIG in this regard has helped individuals to patent their ideas. However, the major challenge that still exists is how to finance the innovation.

Ms. Anja Von Der Ropp asked Ms. Kemi B. Fadojutimi to explain the new partnership, which has been undertaken by the Ghana bamboo bag. Ms. Kemi B. Fadojutimi explained that the Ghana bamboo bag partnered with WIPO GREEN and signed a memorandum of understanding with the Newmont Development Foundation in Ghana. The project created more jobs for the youth thereby reducing poverty. She added that youth are being trained and bikes generate fewer emissions and help farmers as means of transportation and some of them are using the bamboo trunks to produce charcoal, which is used by the local women and has reduced gas emission, and has also enabled farmers to transport their goods from one village to the other.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger asked Mr. Kingsley Kalusha about the call for investors. In response, Mr. Kalusha said an integrated agriculture and energy project on coffee production in Kenya based on the Songhai Centre work in Benin has located potential financing. SS-GATE matches needs of solution producers and those solution seekers.

Ms. Pacyinz Lyfoung said that making a contribution of
IP skills will enable WIPO Green to achieve its goals. Mr. Yourimasa Suwa added that a total of 28 wastewater management technologies have been uploaded in the WIPO GREEN database. Green technology transfer, it is necessary to know the real needs in developing countries and appropriate business models in each country. The Philippines, Indonesia and Viet Nam are involved in X project, which has the potential for scaling up.

Mr. Zituni Ould-Dada said there is a climate technology center, which does an assessment nationally of technology support, capacity building. The key thing is that the CTCN helps to match the technology and has direct engagement within the countries. CTCN has 96 members within its network and is open to any individual or organization. The expertise of WIPO is pertinent because it can help the countries to address IP issues – the beauty is that the networks are diverse. They have received 24 requests from different countries in the energy, agricultural, fisheries and waste sector.

Mr. Anataole Krattiger concluded by saying that IP isn’t an end in itself. The public and private sector are viewed as opposites and this is when the battle starts. When indeed the two are opposite forces that pull the same level of life. The objective of partnership is to improve the wellbeing of the public. The more connections there and the more innovation there are- the more robust the network there is.
South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Decent Work Post-2015

In the framework of GSSD 2014, the ILO organized Solution Forum aimed at presenting and disseminating South-South and triangular development solutions identified as good practices. This year the overarching themes of the ILO Solution Forum were social protection, social and solidarity economy, combating child labour, social dialogue and fragile-to-fragile cooperation. The themes were organized in four segments.

Launch of the publication Global South-South Development Expos: Decent Work Solutions (2010-2013)

The first segment was devoted to the launch of the ILO-UNOSSC joint publication Global South-South Development Expos: Decent Work Solutions (2010-2013). It was moderated by Ms Anita Amorim, Head of the ILO Emerging and Special Partnerships Unit, who highlighted the importance of joining efforts to advance the Decent Work Agenda through the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation. The UNOSSC was a key partner for the ILO.

Mr Yiping Zhou, Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, stressed that the UNOSSC and the ILO had collaborated actively in joint activities and been solid partners in the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation. The ILO and the UNOSSC joined forces to organize Solution Forums aimed at promoting a series of South-South development exchanges, placing particular emphasis on issues related to the world of work. In the post-2015 development framework South-South exchanges would continue to be scaled up, and the close collaboration between the UNOSSC and the ILO would be of the utmost importance to promote development cooperation, including horizontal knowledge transfers and social justice. The joint publication was the result of constant support to South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives and addressed the need to scale up the initiatives showcased during previous GSSD Expos.

Mr Jürgen Schwettmann, Director of the ILO Department of Partnerships and Field Support, emphasized that a commitment to promoting South-South and triangular cooperation was made in the strategy adopted by the ILO Governing Body in March 2012, entitled “South-South and triangular cooperation: the way forward”. The ILO strongly believed in South-South and triangular cooperation as a path to efficient solutions to development challenges. The ILO had been an active participant in the GSSD Expos since 2009, having hosted the 2010 edition at its headquarters in Geneva. Close collaboration between the ILO and the UNOSSC was highly valued. As a result of that collaboration, the joint initiative on “South-South and triangular cooperation – Implementation
of gender sensitive Social Protection Floors at country level” had been successfully implemented.

Mr. Schwettmann also stressed that the joint ILO-UNOSSC publication was a response to the objective of the 2014 Expo to scale up solutions presented over the history of such expos. It had an inspirational value, giving visibility to southern solutions in the world of work and making them accessible to different countries.

South-South and triangular cooperation and Follow-up to the III Global Conference on Child Labour, leading to the Regional Initiative: “Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour by 2020”

The second segment was moderated by Ms Anita Amorim, who described current efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean to eradicate child labour through South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC), building on experience and solutions already existing in the region.

Ms Paula Montagner, Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Social Development of Brazil, presented the outcomes of the III Global Conference on Child Labour, held in Brazil in October 2013. One of the most important political results of the Conference was the “Brasilia Declaration” which:

- acknowledged the progress made
- renewed the commitment towards the goal for 2016
- noted that the violation of rights cannot be used as a trade advantage
- reinforced the need to accelerate the pace of elimination
- acknowledged the role of governments, decent work policies and cooperation
- brought attention to the concept of sustained eradication of child labour
- emphasized the need for appropriate legal and institutional frameworks
- highlighted the importance of accurate and disaggregated statistics
- pointed the way to the next conference to be held in Argentina in 2017.

Ms Montagner highlighted another important result of the Conference, an appeal to all countries to ratify the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) by the next Conference in 2017. Several important needs were emphasized in the Declaration:

- strengthen public policies aimed at child labour, with special attention to agriculture and domestic child labour
- broaden income transfer programmes to eradicate poverty
- establish governments’ commitment to integral education, vocational training, culture, sports, and leisure
- integrate education, healthcare and social assistance policies to identify child labour and other violations of rights
- ensure the participation of children and adolescents in the policy decision-making processes.

Among the follow-up actions of the III Global Conference was the consolidation of the Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour by 2020, which aimed to accelerate the pace of elimination of child labour in the region. Its impact would be enhanced through a joint approach by multiple countries sharing experience, practices and common interests. In addition, it encouraged an attitude change and promoted institutional strengthening among the participating countries.

Employers’ Network to Eradicate Child Labour in Ecuador

Ms Maria Velasco, Manager of the Ecuadorian Ministry of Labour’s Programme on the Eradication of Child Labour, presented the public-private initiative of an Employers’ network to eliminate child labour in Ecuador. Its main objective was to promote joint work between the Government, the private sector and civil society in order to eliminate child labour in Ecuador by 2020, the time-frame set in the Regional Initiative.

This involved a public-private partnership whereby companies undertook to develop corporate policies based on zero tolerance of child labour, with the primary objective of transferring these policies to their value chain by implementing a CSR model based on Key Project Indicators (KPIs) related to the prevention and elimination of child labour. It was launched in July 2012 by the Ministry of Labour with the sponsorship of UNICEF, support from the ILO, and the commitment of 28 private companies. The initiative had been recognized as a good practice in the region, but Ms Velasco emphasized that successful PPPs had to be accompanied by strong political will, commitment from all parties, joint work and relations based on trust.

Among the key achievements of this Ecuadorian initiative, the representative of the Ministry of Labour emphasized the following:
the model had been transferred to Colombia and Costa Rica and had also raised interest among several other countries willing to replicate the initiative (including Paraguay, Venezuela, Brazil, Bolivia, and Jamaica), particularly in the framework of the Regional Initiative

several joint initiatives have been developed between member companies

all parties involved have been actively participating towards the achievement of the networks' goals

90% of companies have set zero-tolerance policies

more than 8,500 certified employees and suppliers contracts include specific clauses regarding child labour

a web page was launched

annual network reports and CSR reports are developed on a regular basis

100% have mapped the major risks in their value chains.

The benefits of SSTC within this initiative include time saving, promotion of solidarity between countries, and building bridges for further exchanges. Experience with Colombia was an evidence-based example of the benefits of South-South cooperation, particularly because in Ecuador the process to consolidate the network had lasted three years, but building on the good practices and lessons learned from Ecuador, Colombia could develop a similar network in seven months.

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South-South Cooperation and Social and Solidarity Economy and Cooperatives in Asia and Africa

The third segment was moderated by Mr. Jürgen Schwettmann, Director of the ILO Department of Partnerships and Field Support, who stressed that SSTC was an instrument to strengthen social and solidarity economy and decent work. The convergence between Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and SSTC arrangements was a strategy for the ILO to promote social and economic inclusion in the framework of the post-2015 development framework. SSTC was based on a spirit of solidarity, whereby developing countries were able to provide sustainable solutions to their own problems at a lower cost. In this sense, South-South Cooperation initiatives – including the identification of good practices and their adaptation and replication in other countries – were fundamental to the dissemination of decent work outcomes under the ILO's four strategic objectives.

Mr. Benjamin Quinones, Chairman of the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), described the links between the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and SSTC in the Asian context. SSE was governed by ordinary people and based on cooperation between organized groups of producers and consumers. It represented a “triple-bottom line” approach to development, as it sought to meet people's social development needs, preserve the environment, and ensure a sustainable society.

At the macro level, SSE could function as a means of development cooperation with the State and the private corporate sector towards inclusive and sustainable development. A conducive public policy environment for SSE as well as private companies’ support for SSE products and services can improve the “triple bottom line” of the government’s development programme and the private sector’s CSR programme, respectively.

Mr. Quinones introduced the SELJ, a solidarity project by civil society organizations (CSOs) in Asia engaged in socio-economic development. Aimed at enhancing the concept and practice of SSE in Asia, the project had received funding support from the Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation for Human Development (FPH) during 2006-2010, which enabled partner CSOs from various Asian countries to exchange SSE information and experience. The SELJ started with the First Asian Solidarity Economy Forum in Manila in October 2007, which was henceforth organized every two years. The participating CSOs engaged in a process of mutual learning about the concept and practice of SSE.

In 2011 the collaborating CSOs established the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC). Since then ASEC national chapters had been established in Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal and the Philippines, enabling South-South exchanges of experience. Regional coordinating centres had also been set up in South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia. ASEC verified SSE concepts against reality in the field through case studies and dialogue with local people, deepening CSOs’ reflections on SSE, and establishing in the process more trust and confidence among them. Together, participating CSOs undertook a participatory process of prototyping to translate visions into concrete models of SSE supply chains.

Among the benefits of SSTC in the development of SSE organizations (SSEOIs), Mr. Quinones underlined the following:

• Vibrant knowledge sharing on SSE: Sharing of best practices and experience in: a) the development of SSEOIs and their value chains, to address the post-2015 development goals of social development, ecological conservation, and economic sustainability; b) linking the informal sector with the formal sector in triple bottom-line value chains (e.g. fair trade, community...
supported agriculture, bank self-help group linkages); c) job creation and entrepreneurial development for youth, women, the elderly, and vulnerable groups – SSE is an instrument for generating work, employment, and income; d) investment programmes by SSEOs aimed at attracting investments from overseas contract workers.

- Broader knowledge and greater understanding of the concept and practice of SSE. This was demonstrated at the 5th RIPESS International Meeting of SSE held in Manila in October 2013 where over 400 participants from Asia actively participated in elaborating a global vision of SSE and in formulating the SSE recommendations for the post-2015 goals, which was submitted to the UN High Level Political Forum in July 2014.
- Establishment of ASEC chapters or focal points in Asian countries. ASEC chapters have been established in Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal and the Philippines. Regional coordinating centres have been set up for South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia.
- Producer-Consumer Solidarity Projects. ASEC chapters in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines are developing producer-consumer solidarity projects involving their respective national SSE networks.
- ASEC SSE Course. ASEC designed an SSE course for the purpose of training a team of SSE advocates and organization development (OD) specialists. Its 6 modules reflect the SELJ learning process.

Regarding the sustainability of linking SSTC and SSE initiatives, the ASEC SSE course, combined with the periodic round table discussions on SSE, has improved the sustainability of ASEC’s advocacy and networking activities at the country level. A core group of SSE practitioners and advocates has emerged in some Asian countries. In addition the SELJ had paved the way to a new SSE innovation, the ASEC Solidarity project – a multi-stakeholder undertaking aimed at scaling up SSE value chains. The project stakeholders include social enterprises, CSOs, academia, government and intergovernmental agencies, and international actors.

The ASEC SSE course and the RTD-SSE could easily be replicated by national SSE networks. Project costs can be customized to the resource capacities of participating organizations. At the Asian regional level, partnership with an international funding agency remained an essential element for cross-country sharing of knowledge and expertise.

Mr Quinones also emphasized the contribution that SSE made to local economic and social development: SSE promotes a participatory development process that brings together local government, the private sector, civil society organizations and local communities. It also strengthens the organizational capacity of communities. SSE organizations can influence transaction costs, and have greater resilience in integrating
unschooled youth or persons with disabilities into gainful employment. SSE builds the capacity of communities to overcome poverty. SSEOs are designed to overcome collective action problems, such as underdevelopment and poverty. In communities where SSE organizations are few and weak, village people are unable to extend cooperation beyond the nuclear family. Finally, SSE facilitates territorial development.

Mr. Quinones listed various ways in which SSTC can strengthen SSE:

- Horizontal dimension of cooperation: SSTC can strengthen cooperation between countries in SSE knowledge sharing, training of human resources or replication of strategies
- Triangular dimension of cooperation: SSTC could bolster the cooperation of a country of the North with two or more countries in the South in supporting SSE development
- Cooperation in promoting innovation: SSTC could support SSE innovations that increase the productivity of local resources and/or enhance the effectiveness of development programmes
- Cooperation in promoting adaptable/replicable strategies and approaches: SSTC could support SSE strategies or approaches whose features were transferable to other contexts or situations
- Cooperation in enhancing sustainability: SSTC could support the replication of SSE practices whose benefits remain effective in the medium and long term
- Cooperation in enhancing social inclusion: SSTC could support partnerships between SSE stakeholders that are inclusive and which involve a multilateral approach to the integration of the Decent Work Agenda
- Cooperation in building SSE value chains: SSTC could help build SSE value chains, especially due to the difficulty of entering chains formed by other enterprises in the traditional economy
- Cooperation in the development of international policies: SSTC could support SSE initiatives that contribute to the development of international policies and to increased visibility within the UN system.

Microinsurance Innovation Facility

Mr. Yoseph Aseffa, Project Coordinator of the ILO Microinsurance Innovation Facility (MIF), presented the Facility, which was launched in 2008 to explore better ways to protect the lives and enhance the livelihoods of low-income people.

The initiative responded to the following needs: enhanced policies, skills development, enterprise and cooperative management, and financial inclusion (financial literacy; saving for asset building; access to credit and insurance; grants; and

High-level Opening Ceremony of the Global South-South Development Expo 2010, hosted by the ILO in Geneva, Switzerland.
He highlighted the benefits of microinsurance, which can be scaled up through SSTC mechanisms: microinsurance protects low-income households and enterprises against economic losses arising from illness, death, accident, disability, loss of assets, loss of crops or livestock, at an affordable cost. Microinsurance serves as collateral for lending to low-income borrowers; it protects lenders against the risk of unpaid debts; microinsurance also enabled low-income businesses of youth and women to succeed without fear of enterprise risks; it helped in savings mobilization for development by covering shocks that force the poor to cash in their savings and sell assets; it formalized traditional funeral and social insurance schemes with efficiency and reduced cost; and when combined with enterprise development and cooperatives, it became a powerful tool for sustainable MSE business development and job creation.

The promotion of microinsurance and SSTC was a powerful tool to advance the Decent Work Agenda. In this regard, partnerships and experience sharing were actively been undertaken in Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique in the framework of the MIF.

Among the microinsurance activities undertaken in Ethiopia were training of the Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions to form viable financial cooperatives providing savings, credit and insurance; supporting the Federated Cooperative Agency to strengthen its regulatory and market development capacity for urban and rural cooperatives; working with rural coop unions to help them better manage their members’ insurance needs; working with microfinance institutions to provide better microinsurance value, strengthening their savings and loans programmes; and providing training of trainers for insurers, microfinance institutions, cooperatives and NGOs.

Microinsurance activities had also made it possible to introduce viable cooperative business models for women NGOs and prisons; create partnership models for microfinance institutions and cooperatives; and provide technical support to partners that provided rural agricultural insurance pilot projects for crop and livestock insurance. To date a huge growth in numbers had been recorded: 4.1 million households accessing insurance and covering their financial risks while ensuring the sustainability of a large number of MSE enterprises and households that provide quality jobs.

Regarding the Mekelle Prison Cooperatives in Ethiopia, the regional government had made policy decisions to introduce producer coops in prisons with a limited financial inclusion programme. Through the microfinance facility cooperative management, financial education and a variety of improved skills training were introduced. It helped them to establish active cooperative businesses in prison. Currently 31 cooperatives provided decent work and skills. Prisoners were net savers with good balances, and many sent remittances to support their families in towns and villages. They were insured for death, accident and disability, and asset insurance would soon be introduced.

The prison was a workplace where prisoners acquired skills, produced quality products and retained the profits. Training for prison officers, both locally and internationally, in prison management, conflict resolution, negotiation and communication was an added value. Exchange visits with South African prison services provided lessons that demonstrated the advantage of the Ethiopian model, since in prison business initiatives in South Africa the profits were not shared with inmates.

Mr Aseffa also introduced WISE, an umbrella NGO for 12,000 self-employed women, 10,000 of them organized under producer, marketing and SACCO cooperatives. The ILO supported cooperative management and business skills training, financial education and microinsurance. In addition, activities to promote knowledge sharing with sister NGOs and training institutions in India and Kenya, as well as with regional women groups from different parts of Ethiopia had been organized. Innovation grants were provided for women entrepreneurs that introduced successful ideas to create sustainable businesses. Moreover, such cooperatives provided training for other women groups from all parts of the country, and could be useful partners for other ILO activities. Management development and exposure visits for senior staff of WISE to India and Kenya provided opportunities for cross learning.

WISE has created an active and vibrant network of marketing and commodity exchanges, knowledge sharing and community support. The WISE CO-OP weekly bazar facilitated exchange products and services, learning from successful innovative business practices, and led leadership and motivational sessions.

Another MIF beneficiary, the Lidet Farmers Cooperative Union, had 115,000 members, all rural farmers in the Amhara region of Ethiopia. The Union provided production, marketing and financial services to its members. Insurance was introduced in early 2014 with support from the ILO. Cooperative management and insurance training was provided to 11 union employees and over 100 cooperative leaders. With the
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introduction of a voluntary microinsurance scheme where at least 90% of members have joined, the insurance cover provides: credit life, accident and disability insurance cover for the amount borrowed, covering the borrower and spouse, if married; funeral cover, a flat amount of Birr 1,500 covering the borrower and spouse, if married; asset and limited health insurance would be introduced in 2015; and agricultural insurance covering crops and livestock was being introduced in collaboration with commercial insurers.

The MIF initiative had achieved scale and efficiency by providing insurance services to hitherto unserved low-income businesses at an affordable cost, exchanging experience with a number of countries in sub-Saharan Africa and positioning microinsurance in national financial inclusion programmes. In addition, the Microinsurance Innovation Facility was a provider of knowledge through the South-South exchange of good practices and lessons learned between countries by making them available on its online platform to over 3,000 stakeholders.

**Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation and Social Dialogue**

The fourth segment was also moderated by Mr Jürgen Schwettmann who introduced the segment pointing out that SSTC was first and foremost based on the principle of solidarity and non-conditionality and aimed to provide an innovative response to global challenges that better adapts development policies to the needs of countries. Therefore, the objectives and practices of SSTC are in alignment with the principles of national ownership and self-assessment of fragile-to-fragile cooperation mechanisms as outlined in the Dili Consensus of the g7+. The ILO and the g7+ had signed a Memorandum of Understanding which was an important stepping stone, since it stated that the “ILO will support and promote fragile-to-fragile cooperation between the g7+ Member States and with other developing countries, as well as South-South and triangular cooperation”.

**Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation in the framework of the g7+**

Mr Helder da Costa gave an introduction on the basic facts of the New Deal for fragile States agreed in Busan in November 2011. The g7+ was a platform for conflict-affected states internationally inspired by the Accra Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (2008), and formalized in Dili in April 2010.

The permanent secretariat of the g7+ was in Dili, Timor Leste, based on an MoU signed with the Timorese Government in February 2014. The g7+ supported peer-to-peer learning through fragile-to-fragile cooperation, and promoted collective action and advocacy through engagement with development partners and international organizations (UN, WB, IMF, ILO, G20, INCAF/DAC, bilateral donors, and CSOs).

The core mission of the g7+ was to promote peacebuilding and state building as the foundation for transition out of the margins of conflict to the next stage of sustainable development. Mr da Costa presented several facts concerning fragile States: 1.5 billion people lived in conflict-affected and fragile States; about 70% of fragile States had been in conflict since 1980; basic governance transformations may take 20 to 40 years; 50% of ODA was spent in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. He emphasized that “many fragile States would not achieve the MDGs by 2015, as transitioning out of fragility was a long process and required country leadership and ownership.

In this regard, Mr da Costa pointed out that fragile-to-fragile cooperation was also beneficial to raise a single voice vis-à-vis the global development agenda by having a common vision and a uniform plan. In 2013, the g7+ started promoting the idea of ‘Fragile to Fragile’ (or F2F) cooperation, which consisted in sharing good practices and experience to promote peaceful societies and to place common issues and goals in international agendas and forums.

Mr da Costa pointed out the importance of partnering with the ILO to advance the Decent Work Agenda in fragile States. Between 2004 and 2013, the ILO had implemented over 360 TC projects in 38 States considered “fragile” aiming at: a) Strengthening the capacity of ILO constituents to play a greater role in supporting recovery and development processes in communities affected by fragility and disaster situations; b) Creating jobs and extending social protection under a coherent and comprehensive policy framework for socio-economic reintegration and poverty alleviation of households and communities.

Following the discussion on fragile States in its Governing Body, the ILO had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the g7+, taken part in the Fourth International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, and taken steps to initiate new TC programmes in countries affected by fragility. The MoU signed between the g7+ and the ILO in March 2014 aimed at facilitating peer learning among the g7+ and with other developing and least developed countries, with a focus on fragile-to-fragile cooperation between the g7+ Member States as well as South-South and triangular cooperation. In addition, the MoU sought to enhance coordination between development partners and g7+ Member States on matters of
international labour migration policy, as well as the socio-economic reintegration of refugees and other citizens of fragile States, particularly within the same region and in neighbouring States. Finally, it aimed to develop and provide national, regional and international labour market statistics.

Mr da Costa highlighted the importance of promoting cooperation between fragile States and countries in transition. The g7+ provided a forum for such countries to discuss their shared development challenges and to advocate for better international policies to address their needs. Peer learning and experience sharing between member States were major elements of the g7+ forum.

Through the support and guidance of its Emerging and Special Partnerships Unit (ESPU), the ILO had been building a strong partnership with the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), which had been formalized in 2004 through an MoU that fostered knowledge exchange and networking, joint awareness campaigns, harmonized approaches to issues of mutual relevance and support to capacity building. The ILO-CPLP partnership was thus a bridge to enhance fragile-to-fragile cooperation among the g7+ in the field of decent work and sustainable development.

Mr da Costa described the prospects for SSTC in fragile States. The objectives and practices of SSTC were aligned with the principles of national ownership and self-assessment of F2F cooperation mechanisms, as outlined in the Dili Consensus of the g7+. These countries faced similar challenges and situations, and as they developed solutions to cope with current difficulties, the potential for South-South Cooperation increased, taking into account the sharing and adaptation of these solutions into analogous contexts. Through peer sharing and lessons learned, their successes and failures informed a new and better understanding of their own conditions and necessary steps for transition. Finally, adaptive and innovative aid modalities and policies to overcome unique and rapidly shifting challenges were emerging from the forum to guide international actors for results-based outcomes.
Connecting the Dots in South-South Cooperation: From Collective Action and Knowledge Transaction to Crowd-Sourcing

Over the past decade, the participation of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in South-South cooperation has increased exponentially, be it through collective action among countries or the transfer of knowledge and technology from one country to others in the region or beyond. LAC’s interest in South-South cooperation is a reflection of several factors:

- The progressive integration of goods, services and factor markets in the region has led to a higher degree of interdependence, resulting in externalities that have prompted an increasing demand for intraregional cooperation and the generation of regional public goods.
- Many countries in LAC not only are a source of innovative development solutions but also have become important providers of cooperation, offering resources and technical expertise to share and
replicate good practices regionally and globally.

- At the same time, these countries are actively engaged in seeking out development solutions through global South-South cooperation, especially with Asia, which has proven to yield valuable and actionable lessons for LAC countries and vice versa. A case in point is the Asia-LAC Joint SSC Program supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

- Information and communication technologies have reduced the boundaries between knowledge and innovation and boosted processes of solution sourcing and sharing. The transaction of proven models or the incubation of innovative ideas has been moving to the online world with the development of very efficient exchange platforms, including Communities of Practice. The management of these platforms has also permitted the creation of vibrant users communities for development solutions implementers.

The session highlighted the different approaches in LAC countries to harness the potential of South-South cooperation as an instrument for sustainable development in the region.

Mr. Joaquim Tres Viladomat, Coordinator of Regional Integration Instruments, Integration & Trade Sector, Inter-American Development Bank, introduced the session by saying that today the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) are important sources of development solutions, with some LAC countries providing significant resources to transfer knowledge and build capacity in other countries of the region as well as Asia and Africa. To support LAC countries in harnessing the full potential of SSC for sustainable development, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Group has at its disposal a compendium of instruments that deal with different aspects of SSC: public vs. private sector cooperation, intra-regional vs. international cooperation.

Mr. Tres Viladomat proceeded to present the IDB’s Regional Public Goods (RPG) Initiative, asking the following questions: What is the role of generating public goods among countries? Many developing countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa have challenges that can be better addressed through cooperation. The Ebola pandemic is one example. Why are global and regional public goods in demand? Borders are increasingly permeable (integration of goods, services and factor markets, increase in migration, globalization of knowledge, virtual and physical connectivity and climate change), creating greater interdependence and resulting in positive or negative externalities, which in turn, generate opportunities for cooperation. Key features of the RPG Initiative are its regional nature (it is the main IDB instrument to finance regional technical assistance projects); the competitive allocation of funds; the fact that it is demand-driven and multisectoral; and its alignment with the priorities of IDB. RPG projects have been scaled up in size (with new countries and/or stakeholders joining the cooperation effort), in scope (with development solutions designed for one sector being applied to others), and through enhanced IDB engagement (complementing RPG project resources with other IDB grants or implementing RPG project results at the country level by means of loan operations).

Mr. Julio Cesar Valdes, Executive Secretary, Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMISCA), shared the experience of a RPG project, which created the conditions for the regional procurement of prescription drugs in Central America and the Dominican Republic. In 2010, the participating countries agreed to a protocol for the joint procurement of prescription drugs for use in public health facilities, with the double objective to reduce costs (pharmaceuticals represent up to 65% of public health budgets in the region) and ensure that these drugs comply with regionally agreed quality standards.

Negotiations have taken place for 38 drugs that treat mostly chronic diseases, and because of their high therapeutic value, are expensive and therefore difficult to access. By joining efforts, the Central American countries have proven that it is possible to negotiate with the pharmaceutical industry as a group, creating competition among companies, which has resulted in a 22%-60% decrease in costs for the jointly negotiated drugs, representing approx. US$20 million, as well as drugs of consistent quality. The pharmaceutical industry also benefits because companies no longer have to negotiate with each individual country; instead, they negotiate with a group, with procurement conditions applicable to all participating countries. Public procurement at the regional level can be replicated in other sectors to ensure greater affordability and higher quality of products and/or services. In Central America, it is already being used in the sports and leisure sector, and it is under consideration for the water sector.
In response to a question from a participant from the University of Toronto on whether or not there is preferential treatment for local suppliers, Mr. Valdes stated that all participating suppliers, be they from the Central American region or international, need to be accredited to ensure compliance with quality standards, i.e. there is no preferential treatment for regional suppliers. In fact, 92% of the drugs are made outside the region.

Mr. Esteban Campero, Coordinator, Regional Program for Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Engineering (PRECITYE), Argentina, presented a RPG project on cooperation among engineering schools in four South American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay). Based on the idea that in today’s economy, competition, innovation and entrepreneurial skills are necessary to succeed, the universities, through collaboration and collective action, re-designed curricula and developed a tool box and materials to foment entrepreneurial spirit and a culture of innovation among their students. Today, more than 500 professors and 10,000 students have created the first community of learning in entrepreneurship and innovation among engineering schools in South America.

As a part of this initiative, multi-country teams have tackled real life entrepreneurial challenges by participating in competitions such as “24 Hours of Innovation”, organized by the École de Technologie Supérieure of Montreal, and an “Innovation Rally”, held recently in Argentina. Moreover, over 3,000 students took part in a competition to promote technological innovation in public sector institutions at the national and local level, as well as in regional entities. The community of learning promotes South-South cooperation not only through an exchange of know-how among countries and engineering schools, but also by means of collectively generating new knowledge (the so-called South-South Cooperation a la Latina).

Ms. Albina Ruiz Rios, Founder & President, Grupo Ciudad Saludable (Healthy City Group), Peru, spoke about the knowledge transfer experience between Ciudad Saludable and ECORED, an NGO based in the Dominican Republic that promotes the integration of the business sector in developing a culture of conservation and sustainable management of natural resources and the environment. Between 2008 and 2012 Ciudad Saludable implemented a successful project “Development of an integrated solid waste management market in Peru”, creating 17 recycler associations, approving Solid Waste Act proposals in 4 municipalities, and establishing a National Recycling Board in the country. The project generated a set of relevant knowledge products as well, including a methodology for formalization of recyclers and selective collection of solid waste, solid waste act proposals to promote the inclusion of recyclers in recycling programs and a set of training modules for recyclers and policymakers. ECORED was interested in learning from Ciudad Saludable’s experience in order to strengthen recyclers and their associations, and improve solid waste management for MSMEs’ in the Dominican Republic.

Through the knowledge transfer project, supported by the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), Ciudad Saludable’s methodology for formalization of recyclers and selective collection of solid waste was transferred to ECORED and adapted to the local context. Training modules on best practices for recycling business management were also adapted to the local context, and pilot projects to implement a system of waste segregation at the source and selective collection were executed by ECORED in four municipalities, in partnership with local public and private actors.

As result of the project, a National Recycling Board, composed of 76 representatives from the public and private sectors, was created to foster dialogue among all actors in the recycling chain in Dominican Republic. A Solid Waste Act proposal that considers the socioeconomic inclusion of recyclers was presented to the national legislature, and over US$100,000 was raised during the project from local public and private sector actors for implementing the pilot projects. Ms. Ruiz stressed that the applicability of the Ciudad Saludable knowledge transfer model to other countries and particularly its impacts on public policies can be attributed to: (i) methodologies with proven and evaluated results; and (ii) the process of selecting partners.

Mr. Yves Lesenfants, Senior Specialist, Multilateral Investment Fund stated that many organizations are getting support to be better innovators but usually the best innovators are bad marketers. A mechanism was needed for sharing the solutions but there was nothing like that for innovation. NEXSO was built as a kind of Amazon.com to match providers and users of innovations and to simplify the process since there was a need for practical ways to obtain what is needed in the projects.

To create a unique marketplace for development solutions and give a voice to innovators, NEXSO provides a structure
in which members can share their most effective solutions, comment on each other’s content, and connect with potential partners and investors.

All potential providers are invited to pitch and share their solution in an easy-to-write, easy-to-read 500-word format. Anyone working on project design or looking to invest or support or accelerate promising and innovative solution can go to the database and look for the solution to support or scale up. Users can chat directly with providers to ease information and transaction processes. The user community can also comment and rate the solutions.

The website includes a platform for running NEXSO Challenges—in which solutions providers compete to receive exclusive access to new opportunities from sponsors—including mentorship, funding, and other benefits. Corporations, foundations, development finance institutions, and other funding organizations sponsor challenges to crowd source new solutions for persistent development problems. NEXSO Challenges are intended to help the global development community fill specific knowledge gaps and spark innovation through cross-sector creativity.

Members of the NEXSO community create synergies, which is an important part of this South-South initiative and NEXSO disseminates knowledge and experiences.

Ms. Natalie Alicia asked how does NEXSO sustain itself as a business model. In response, Mr. Yves Lesenfants said that NEXSO charges for competition when it works with corporate partners on the social responsibility side. Also, there are new opportunities for organizations interested in being part of NEXSO to help curate some of the content on NEXSO and obtain the best input for their processes and other specialized services in the area of in-depth research.
Green Economies Are Sustainable Economies

Under the overarching theme “Contribution of South-South and Triangular Cooperation to Sustainable Development”, UNEP convened a session for scaling up best practices for protecting the environment while promoting sustainable development. Entitled “Green Economies Are Sustainable Economies”, the UNEP session brought together solution providers, seekers and funders from the Global North and the Global South to demonstrate existing opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation to contribute to sustainable development. These solutions included initiatives by UNEP itself as well as initiatives by other practitioners of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation whose work has an impact on the environment and the local economies in which they operate. By showing the practicality of the South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation
Scaling Up Session 7: Green Economies Are Sustainable Economies

approaches in attaining sustainable development while protecting the environment and outlining what needs to be considered, UNEP highlighted these approaches as viable options for protecting the planet and human well-being. UNEP presented solutions in a diverse range of categories, including models for sustainable green cities, renewable energy from geothermal sources, capacity development through regional forums, and community-led marine conservation in the western Indian Ocean. Using as examples the existing capacities in regional development banks, research centres, academic institutions, and the public and private sectors, among others, it showed how the scope of a sustainable future involves all players.

As the voice of the environment in the United Nations system, UNEP used the Expo to advocate for a world of shared natural resources to achieve social and economic development for all with the least negative and the most positive environmental impacts.

Mr. Manish Bapna, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of the World Resources Institute, served as the Moderator for the Session and noted that the theme of the session was an incredibly timely issue. Protecting ecosystems can help improve poverty and economic growth. Increasingly, there is strong empirical evidence that tackling poverty can go hand-in-hand with sustainability. He introduced two solutions — energy and urbanization and noted that there is a need to tackle the energy problems around the world since most of the energy mix is fueled by a colossal mix and the African continent has untapped renewable energy. Secondly, urbanization — the world has become more urbanized. Each week 1.4 million people move to the cities and Africa is the place with the fastest rate of urbanization. Cities consume the vast sources of energy and there is a need to determine how to make them efficient and how to scale-up solutions? How do we get to win-win?

Mr. David Chirchir, the Cabinet Secretary of Ministry of Energy and Petroleum of Kenya noted that the rate of energy use strongly affects national wealth human development. Kenya is close to the equator and presents many opportunities to tap into development, and for investors in to solar, of which the cost has greatly dropped. However, it is very difficult for the government of Kenya to provide services when there is a great spread. Urbanization provides opportunities to pull people together, making it easier to address social problems and provide programmes in a cost-effective way. There are some 2,300 megawatts of power on the grid, which is quite a lot of geothermal and green development. 3,700 will come from geothermal, wind, and other green technology, bringing down costs by 40%. Also, half of the supply in the Great Rift Valley are available in Kenya and it has developed a power purchasing agreement that can be used as a model.

Mr. Andrew Rudd, Urban Environment Officer for UNE-Habitat pointed out that in 2008, the world population increased by 50% in urban areas and by 2030, 60% of the world’s population will be urban and in the developing world. Latin American and Asian cities have the chance to set the stage correctly. Cities produce 80% of the world’s GDP and consume 60-80% of the world’s resources. However, most of the emissions come from urban areas as well. Data shows that 60% of the areas (urban) that are predicted have yet to be built. Some cities are just replicating things in already developed countries, like using cars to travel.

The challenges include the following: massive infrastructure backlogs; some national governments have tried to make urbanization illegal; some have turned urban projects over to the private sector, which is not good at issues like protecting public space. A small city in Brazil has set urban growth boundaries while keeping public spaces. Cities can be there for a thousand years, and if these fast-growing cities can get it right now, they are in a great position to yield economic and social dividends.

How can other cities harness the kind of development this kind of city has been able to achieve? UN-Habitat and UNEP have worked together over the years to incorporate environmental considerations into urban planning and development. At the 2010 World Expo of Cities, UN-Habitat and UNEP launched a number of tools and guidance documents on sustainable urbanization highlighting in part the importance of resource use and flows in cities, which led ultimately to UNEP’s Global Initiative on Resource Efficient Cities (GI-REC) UN-Habitat ’s focus on issues ‘beyond urban sprawl’ and settlement patterns of currently growing urban environments is helping set the right direction for present and future development of sustainable and integrated communities.

Mr. Haibing Ma, China Program Manager of the World Watch Institute said China is the number one world energy market (bigger than the United States, Germany or India). Now China and the United States have agreed on an emissions cap by 2030. In a short time frame, China has developed its clean energy, a renewable sector, which has
at least doubled each year and provided policy incentives and tax credits, as well as market approaches to achieve this. There has been financial support by the government to energy companies, market approaches and electricity price reform, reform of the fossil fuel sector, and a huge public education programme to let people know the advantages of clean energy. The Government has included clean energy as a national strategy and as a means of catching up with developed countries. Seven out of 10 solar panels are made in China.

Lessons learned include how to balance the government and market approach: too much emphasis has been placed on subsidies; there are environmental concerns in the production of clean energy, which is not pollution free; building a sustainable future calls for sustainable processes and approaches; there is a need for more science-based decision-making processes and systematic thinking (plans for dams create tension for neighboring countries and citizens); energy consumption differs in rural and urban areas, creating a burden for future energy production since by 2035 it is anticipated that urban areas will occupy 70% of the country. With respect to energy, South-South cooperation could be involved through technology transfer and capacity-building in strategic planning, for example.

Overall, China has made clean energy part of the national strategy. Maybe China is relying too heavily on subsidies and is not reactive to market change. Therefore, there is a need for more science-based and systematic thinking and for China to scale up its own energy market – and there is a need to link the South-South mechanism with that of the North-South. This would provide more incentives to South-South development.

Mr. Cletus I. Springer, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development of the Organization of American States (OAS) said there has been an evolution from cooperation to partnership in the South-South cooperation at various levels. While there also have been dramatic improvements in terms of energy access, many people are still without access to affordable energy. Africa instituted a geothermal risk facility and the Caribbean is on a similar path for geothermal drilling, with four islands gearing up for that. The problem is not so much risk management, but the very limited fiscal window for taking on additional debt so there is no room to offer support to the private sector. What is needed is a financial mechanism that is large enough to let us tap into these mechanisms and there is need for more adaptable policies and more integrated planning frameworks. Scaling up is a big issue for many Latin American and Caribbean countries. There is a need to scale down models for climate change and to move consumption and production from linear to sustainable/circular economy ways.

Ms. Karin Costa Vazquez, a member of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) asked how can countries realize the full potential of the South-South Cooperation? To address these questions we need to address the challenges that arise – for example of the African geo-thermal in Kenya. What policies and legal requirements must be in place and what solutions from the Kenyan experience can be replicated?

She noted that the approaches and modalities for replicating and scaling up some South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives vary but there is a common pattern: the exchange of development experiences previously tested in countries facing similar challenges and demand for experiences on specific issues. The focus is on the knowledge and learning process which has implications for how countries share and package initiatives, learn from them and turn them into policies. It is necessary to think about the concept of drivers of success and the extent to which they are present in the partner country as well how experiences from other countries can inform the leadership, and technical and funding requirements for a new project.

When partners consider replication and scaling up development experiences, the focus should be on an integrated approach to development, not one merely of exchanges. There is a need to go beyond training to strengthen institutions. Many developing countries are developing knowledge networks offering permanent space for partners to share ideas, data exchange and negotiation platforms. The networks provide links with policy frameworks to facilitate the country’s learning process.

Mr. Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director and Under-Secretary General of the United Nations said that the Green Economy and sustainable economy is one and the same. We are living in an age where the collective footprint of humanity, economy and ecology are putting us in new territory that is planetary boundaries, peak oil or peak something else or ecological degradation. Whichever entry point we take, we are living in an age of convergence. We need to think of varying dimensions of development but decisions today are being driven by, for example, 30-40% unemployment of youth in some countries, a resource-
dependent economy (effect on food markets), the price of oil and the fact that over half of known reserves of fossil fuels are unextractable and there is only so much space for pollution.

Wind power is on the verge of becoming as cost effective as fossil fuels. There are other renewable energy sources. The greatest bet is to invest in renewables and in energy efficiency and smart grids and connect them. We need to make choices – decision makers and investors are slow in such processes and 60% of the world’s urban infrastructure that we will have has yet to be built – what an extraordinary opportunity to do this just a little differently. Ecosystems do not feature in systems of natural accounting – they just do not feature in our decision making processes.

How does the world prepare itself for this? When we talk about green or sustainable economies, the intended definition means that what people do today must not deprive future generations from doing the same things. Whatever the planet can absorb will limit what we can emit, this is a huge change. Sometimes the transition to a Green Economy may require much less money. It is best for a country with no fossil fuels to strengthen its autonomy from the fossil-fuel markets and turn to renewables: wind, solar, investments in energy efficiency, and smart grids to connect grids. Choices have to be made but decision makers and investors are slow to respond.

United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Mr. Jan Eliasson addressing the Opening Ceremony of the Global South-South Development Expo 2013, hosted by UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya.
Global Health

Introduction

Building human, technical and institutional capacity through South-South and Triangular cooperation is important because it builds upon knowledge, know-how and approaches proven successful in countries in the South. When applied to Global Health, South-South and Triangular Cooperation can significantly support countries in their plight to reduce morbidity, mortality and poverty and to strengthen their health systems. This is particularly relevant to accelerate progress towards MDGs 4, 5 and 6 and the future Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in support of maternal and child health, as well as the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. In addition, the growing threats posed by non-communicable diseases (NCDs), especially across the Global South, call for greater sharing of relevant solutions and best practices.

Co-chaired by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the South American Institute of Government in Health (ISAGS/UNASUR) and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria this session featured innovative policies, institutional responses and solutions to health issues relating to maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, and malaria, as well as mechanisms for improving health systems and access to technology.

Four scale-up projects were presented with concrete plans for implementation in the next 5 years: 1) PAHO: Strengthening Regulatory Capacity for Medicines and Health Technologies. Focus Area: the Americas; 2) ISAGS: Strengthening Child Health. Focus Area: Bolivia in cooperation with other South American Nations; 3) The Global Fund: Elimination of Malaria in Central America and Hispaniola Island (Haiti and Dominican Republic). Focus Areas: Central America in cooperation with Mexico and Colombia; and 4) JICA: Strengthening Health Systems through Human Resource Development. Focus Area: Angola in cooperation with Brazil and JICA (triangular cooperation).

The session also brought together multi-stakeholder partners to harness public-private collaboration and North-South-South Triangular Cooperation in the field of global health. It drew the participation of the private sector, governments, international development banks, UN agencies and civil society. It introduced the South-South Global Health Exchange initiative and its recent work as an enabling platform to scale-up successful and innovative South-South and Triangular Cooperation efforts. Endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly as an effective tool for enhancing development efforts through South-South and triangular cooperation, SS-
GHX as part of the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE), is a virtual and physical public-private partnership that facilitates the exchange of knowledge, technology and financing among multistakeholder partners.

Panel I: Scaling Up Projects

Dr. James Fitzgerald, Director of Health Systems and Services Department, Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) made the opening remarks and noted that a policy for cooperation for health development in the Americas was adopted in 2013 by PAHO member States (Resolution CD52.R15).

Mr. Simon Bland, Director of New York Liaison Office, UNAIDS who represented the UNAIDS Executive Director, began by saying that the world and the way in which people connect is changing, e.g., the trend to greater access to mobile telephony. Through South-South and triangular cooperation, processes are being built to improve outcomes. For instance, with regard to HIV and AIDS, the South-South cooperation is shaping the markets for ARVs and it is expected that 15 million people will be on treatment by 2015. We are talking about health and security, which are interlinked.

Ms. Mariana Faria, Head of Office, South American Institute of Government in Health, Union of South American Nations (ISAGS/UNASUR) said that ISAGS is a think tank on health that has a flexible structure that promotes the concept of networking. It aims at partnerships with global institutions and specialists that can share best practices with South American countries. All decisions are based on consensus and activities on mutual trust, partnership and solidarity.

Based on four strategies which include the generation, production and dissemination of knowledge, which is very important since 9 of the 12 countries are Spanish-speaking whereas much of the information from around the world is in English; the democratization of knowledge production and access to information; support to the training of strategic human resources; and intersectoral articulation within or outside the region to find best practices.

A priority for development is child health. It is not for the future but for a better world now. The Healthy Brazilian Kids Strategy is an initiative that highlights the importance of emotional factors and social factors in determining children’s health to contribute to the full and healthy development of citizens and their countries.

In response to a question on how to cooperation in ISAGS when there is such variety in the role of the State in the provision of health care within South America, the Ms. Mariana Faria said that in the integration process, it was important for people to respect each other and that transformation, interaction and cooperation take time. Will get the idea and share the best practice with other countries – will look towards the South-South and Triangular Cooperation to fulfill the needs and demands of the countries.

In response to a question regarding how South America gets to cooperate, Ms. Mariana said what is important is respect and that cooperation takes time.

Dr. Lilliana Lugarinho, Senior Consultant Child Health, South American Institute of Government in Health, Union of South American Nations (ISAGS/UNASUR) said health professional need to work together with educators and social workers so that children can be better taken care of. This can be done through an e-learning platform, face to face meetings etc. Its methodology is based on the concept of problematizing teaching and significant learning. It is proposing a pilot project in Bolivia, which has the highest child mortality rate in South America. The expected outcomes include support to managers in the formulation of flows and integration of services to achieve a more efficient system. In the medium term, it aims to diminish child mortality.

The major challenges relate to maternal child problems – highest mortality rates of southern America especially of children under five years of age.

Mr. David Baca Grande, Executive Director of International Operations, Federal Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS) said PAHO created in September 2000 a mechanism for international procurement and technical assistance on supply management of pharmaceuticals for Member States (PAHO Strategic Fund). The mechanism involves the recognition of installed capacity of regulatory authorities to ensure access to safe, efficacious and quality-assured medical products. The National Regulatory Authorities of regional reference (NRArr) are: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and the United States of America. NRArr are those that are considered competent in regulatory functions and are committed to actively contribute to the strengthening of regulatory capacities in the region, in particular, in countries with weak regulatory functions.

In the case of Mexico, the policy of promoting access to generic medicines from the federal government has enabled extraordinary benefits for the population and the public sector. The improved regulatory performance has permitted
improve the availability and access to quality, safe and
effective health technologies. Moreover since its designation
as NRArr, COFEPRIS has become a driving force in improving
regulatory capacities in the region with a special focus in
Mesoamerica by providing direct assistance to countries like
El Salvador and other Central American countries.

In response to a question on the future work program for
PAHO, Mr. David Baca Grande stated that PAHO is developing
a tool to assess regulatory capacity for medical devices.
COFEPRIS seeks to increase access to high-quality generic
medications.

Mr. Filippo Iarrera, Senior Programme Officer, The Global
Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria presented
the content of the Initiative to Eliminate Malaria in Central
America and the Hispaniola Island (Haiti and Dominican
Republic) - EMMIE. The Initiative started following the strong
political commitment declared in June 2013 by all Ministers
of Health of the Region as well as the shared consensus
between Countries and other stakeholders (Regional and
Multilateral Institutions, CSOs, Foundations and that malaria
elimination could be reached by 2020.

Programmatic gaps included limited national funding,
national Malaria strategies more focused on Malaria control
than elimination, some operational limitations due to mobile
populations, and sub-optimal technical capacities of human
resources. Given the limitations of working in isolation, a
multi-country commitment was sought as a way to foster
regional ownership and to facilitate the exchange of best
practices.

An innovative data verification methodology is being
developed and it will serve to verify that data from countries
are trustworthy and robust enough for monitoring &
evaluation. The program objective is to act as a catalyst for
participating countries to shift from a malaria control focus
towards a shared goal of zero local malaria cases for 2020
and to bring in new actors. The programme aims at fostering
the achievement of this target by i) strengthening national
surveillance systems, ii) supporting the standardization and
agreed protocol of diagnosis and treatment, iii) supporting
the standardization and agreed protocol of Integrated Vector
Management (IVM), iv) fostering active participation of
civil society and communities, v) facilitating cross-border
collaborations and, vi) by establishing a regional operational
research framework.

Some of the budgeted funds (10%) will be used to strengthen
the national surveillance system, whilst another 20% are
allocated to ensure that countries get together to set up a
regional strategy to eliminate malaria and change the in-
country strategy from control to elimination. The remaining
70% will be used for an innovative reward system (“Cash on
Delivery”) to be applied to countries achieving the agreed
impact leading to the elimination of Malaria.

Dr. Neves Isilda Maria Simões, Head of Public Health
Department, Provincial Directorate of Health in Luanda,
Government of Angola spoke about the PROFOSA project that
is part of the Triangular Cooperation between Brazil, Japan
(JICA) and Angola (Ministry of Health), and seeks to strength
health systems through human resource development in
two hospitals and other health services and revitalization of
primary health care in Angola.

JICA contributed technical assistance and equipment
for primary health care and big hospitals and funding
for capacitation; Brazil provided technical assistance for
capacitation for primary and tertiary care; from Angola, there
was a budget to rehabilitate infrastructure and equipment
for infrastructure, support for travel, and capacitation in the
country. The Fund for Malaria contributed through triangular
cooperation involving Brazil and the Japan International
Cooperation Agency (JICA).The amount is similar for each
country.

The challenges include improving the human resources skills
of people especially those who work in the area of mother
and child health, monitoring, community participation, and
infant and maternal mortality. The project improved health
care in Angola. A handbook on maternal and child health was
produced and a strategy on maternal and child health was
implemented. Success factors include good monitoring and
it was an initiative of the Ministry of Health, and it promoted
the participation of related staff.

She stressed that practitioners of South-South cooperation
in general should learn from past mistakes and not replicate
old models that are not based on reciprocity or teamwork.
South-South cooperation needs to build its own pathway
based on values of solidarity, harmony, etc. In health, there is
a need to strengthen national capacity. There have been good
initiatives that did not build that capacity and the situation
returned to its pre-initiative status after the initiative
terminated.

In relation to a question about the specific contribution of
Japan and the financial contribution of its partners, Dr Neves
Isilda Maria Simões said they received technical assistance
and equipment for the big hospitals, and some experts
from Angola went to Japan and Brazil for training. Angola contributed with the national budget, and the rehabilitation of the infrastructure.

Panel II: South-South Global Health Exchange, Building Multistakeholder Partnerships

Dr. John Edward Greene, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for AIDS in the Caribbean, as the moderator for the session, said that small States need to do the same things as big ones to improve health but with different strategies.

Ms. Nuria Moya, Project Coordinator, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation presented the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange, a global exchange platform that harnesses public-private partnerships in the areas of food security, global health, energy, and the environment. The platform offers online and on-the-ground services to match development solutions with needs. An integral part of SS-GATE, the South-South Global Health Exchange (SS-GHX) platform was established in 2011 in partnership with PAHO/WHO, to address global health issues related to maternal and child health, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and HIV/AIDS. Since then it has been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly as a sustainable business model that facilitates the transfer of knowledge, technology and financing by engaging the public and private sector, international organizations, academia and civil society organizations. She shared the example the exchanges conducted between Senegal and China, as well as the strengthening of the capacity of midwives and obstetric nurses in the Americas through South-South Cooperation.

Ms. Natalie Africa, Director of Private Sector Engagement, Every Woman Every Child, United Nations Foundation highlighted the neglect of resources towards women and children’s health in international development. So a global strategy on women and children’s health gave birth to the Every Woman, Every Child movement. It is a Multistakeholder movement, which is trying to see how to increase the participation of the South-South cooperation because it provides new and growing sources of funding and development assistance.

There is also investment in local infrastructure, sharing of knowledge, and shared knowledge and understanding of local conditions, and also private sector involvement. She gave the example of India and Nigeria, where two movements were to combat child diarrhea and provide ORS. Concluded by saying that going forward – post 2015 sustainable development agenda – the South-South cooperation holds huge and untapped potential.

Mr. Gary Cohen, Executive Vice President, Global Health and Development, BD (Becton, Dickson and Company) said the
BD Company has a focus on global health and has achieved such results as the BD Odon Device for Assisted Childbirth. Private sector participation is important to address the lack of progress in achieving MDGs 4 and 5, particularly newborn mortality and maternal mortality, and to bring initiatives and solutions to scale, e.g., through the use of business models. PPP is valued at $20 million with equal contributions from U.S. government and BD. As a result, it has improved access to specialized testing services for MDR-TB, particularly in HIV co-infected patients and reduced TAT for TB testing from 3 weeks to 3 days in Uganda.

Ms. Angela Trenton-Mbonde, Senior Adviser, UNAIDS said that UNAIDS China in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, UNIDO and UNFPA support the China-Africa Cooperation in health, which involves expanding access to medicines and other health commodities and transferring technology in Africa. Learning across regions is a strategy for this cooperation. South-south cooperation is playing a significant role in tackling inequalities in HIV services and broader health services.

She noted that it makes economic sense for countries to invest in education and health. The China-Africa Cooperation includes the project on the India Learning Network/BRIDGE Project Partnership to increase access of key populations in the United Republic of Tanzania to HIV services. South-South cooperation is a key strategy in terms of accessing HIV services and health commodities, and the civil society needs to be supported within the context of South-South cooperation.

Asked how can we leverage the private sector and how to engage in the businesses with regard to corporate social responsibility? The office in China is looking at establishing an agency like CDC

Noted that populations such as the homosexuals are being left behind in Tanzania AIDS response although there is a general decline in the population. She explained that violence, stigma and discrimination at community and health facilities hinder access to HIV services.

She gave the example of the BRIDGE Project, which works to control the HIV epidemic in India, disseminate significant lessons learned, and provide technical assistance to selected African and Asian countries. The expertise from the India Bridge Project training CSOs is working with key populations on community mobilization strategies and targeted communications. She noted that advocacy with media, police and judiciary helps to violence against key populations and draw up a combined strategy and action plan for Tanzania.

Mr. Jan Baaroy, Deputy Director General, FK Norway said
that FK Norway is an agency of the Government of Norway which facilitate exchanges of innovations between individuals and organizations in the education and health and education sector. Principles of exchange are reciprocity, triangulation and partnerships. Participants exchange knowledge and skills, build capacities in the health services (Kenya, Zambia and Malawi), and carry out exchanges involving the School of Prosthetics and Orthotics (Cambodia, Malawi, United Republic of Tanzania and Norway).

For the schools in Cambodia (CSPO), both the received and returned participants have contributed to improved quality of the teaching of treatment of Spinal Orthotic Management in children. All teaching staff at CSPO are now Cambodians, and the increased level of staff competency is likely to be sustainable in the institution. The schools in Tanzania TATCOT, on the other hand, recently received approval by the ISPO (International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics) of the following courses: Diploma Course in Orthopedic Technology, Wheelchair Technologist Certificate, and Bachelor of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics. The FK exchanges have contributed to reach the required standard for these courses.

He stressed that there is a need to focus on the well-being of participants. Human capitals become change agents and are well trained and are now coming with ideas, which last longer and benefit their societies. There is therefore a need for reciprocal exchange and equality in the partnership.

Ms. Chioma Onukogu, Principal Resource Mobilization Officer, African Development Bank said AfDB has experience in mobilizing funds for the health sector in Africa. However, the AfDB Group Resource window has scarce resources and the governments need to drive their own development agenda and be in control of their ideas. As to the bank strategies, they are defined in consultation with governments and the conclusion is that its two main objectives are transition to green growth and inclusive growth.

The AfDB found that Governments have resources for health so health has not been a focus. However, with the outbreak of Ebola, the AfDB has been mobilizing funds and is giving a total of USD 160 billion for 9 new operations to the affected countries in West Africa (Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra-Leone). The Bank is also collaborating with national governments, AUC, UNECA, UN Specialized Agencies, the World Bank and bilateral agencies to fight Ebola.

Going Forward, the AfDB will build a pipeline of health and health (including Ebola) related projects/programmes for financing from the ADB, ADF & NTF windows; Explore the possibility of setting up special funds and capital market issuances to mobilize funds to fight against the disease and lastly, approach potential donors including emerging donors through south-south cooperation, private sector entities (corporates, philanthropic organizations or foundations).

Global Health Scaling Up Session Key Messages:
- Greater awareness of the role of South-South Cooperation in tackling health inequalities and addressing the burden of disease, specially by incorporating all sectors including civil society organizations, private sector, governments, international organizations and the UN System.
- PAHO’s Strategic Fund offers a mechanism of South-South Cooperation to secure access to pharmaceuticals for member states in the Americas through the certification of sanitary agencies, including good manufacturing and laboratory practices, and implementation of requirements and regulations.
- South-South Cooperation can serve as a tool for eliminating malaria in Central America and the Hispaniola Island (Haiti and Dominican Republic), through the political commitment of Ministers of Health in the region and a change in the region’s strategy from control to the elimination of malaria.
- Private sector participation in South-South and Triangular Cooperation strategies is particularly important to address newborn and maternal mortality and bring initiatives and solutions to scale utilizing new business models.
- Underscored the existing opportunity to increase South-South Cooperation through the multi-stakeholder movement to provide new and growing sources of financing for development and global health, including investment in infrastructure and access to medicines. For example, a better understanding of the role of regional banks and development cooperation agencies in the mobilization of resources to support global health initiatives through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.
- South-South Cooperation is playing a significant role in tackling inequalities in respect to access to HIV services and broader health services, as can be witnessed by China-Africa health cooperation and the India Learning Network.
High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation

The High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation brought together Directors-General from cooperation agencies of national governments of the South and the North that are already working on South-South and triangular cooperation or are ready to start such cooperation in the near future. It facilitated an exchange of solutions on challenges in policy, strategy and institutional and financial arrangements for South-South and triangular cooperation as well as management capacity. The Forum also offered a partnership building opportunity for scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives.

A total of 150 people from 38 countries, 16 United Nations entities, 12 international organizations and 20 other entities including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), think tanks, academic institutions and private sectors participated. More than 20 Director-General- or Deputy
Director-General-level officials of national development cooperation agencies attended.

**Background**

In response to a dire need to create a space for Directors-General and practitioners of South-South and triangular cooperation to discuss how to improve South-South and triangular cooperation and to facilitate innovative partnership among all stakeholders, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) jointly launched the DG Forum during the first Global South-South Development (GSSD) Expo in 2008. Since then, the DG Forum has been an integral part of the GSSD Expo. This 7th DG Forum was co-organized by UNOSSC and JICA and hosted by the Organization of American States (OAS).

**Objectives**

The DG Forum, under the overall theme of “South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Post-2015 Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”, brought together Directors-General from cooperation agencies of national governments of the South and the North that are already working on South-South and triangular cooperation or are ready to start such cooperation in the near future. It was intended to facilitate an exchange of solutions on challenges in policy, strategy and institutional and financial arrangements for South-South and triangular cooperation as well as management capacity. The Forum also offered a partnership building opportunity for scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives.

**Session themes**

The session I theme was “South-South and Triangular Cooperation Initiatives Contributing to MDGs and Post-2015 Development Agenda”. This session focused on showcasing: (a) successful and scalable initiatives of development solutions from the South which are ready to scale up within the country and to be shared with other countries, as well as South-South and triangular cooperation which has contributed to the achievement of MDGs or may potentially contribute to the post-2015 development agenda; and (b) strategy for scaling up those concrete initiatives. The session II theme was “Pre-conditions and Tools for Scaling Up South-South and Triangular Cooperation”. This session discussed about preconditions and tools necessary for scaling up successful South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives such as policy instruments, capacity for effectively implementing South-South and triangular cooperation, knowledge management, matching mechanisms, regional networks and public-private partnership (PPP), as well as useful partnerships to make available those instruments. The session III theme was “South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Context of the Post-2015 Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”. This session focused on showcasing successful partnership arrangement to scale up South-South cooperation in collaboration with partners such as UN, donor countries, civil society and the private sector, and discussing how we can strengthen or broaden partnerships towards the post-2015 development agenda.

**Solutions Presented and Overview**

Solutions were presented by panellists from Honduras, China, Qatar, Mexico and India at the session I, OAS, JICA, Sudan and UNOSSC at the session II, and Thailand, Argentina, United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) at the session III. The 2013 Report on High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation (link: http://ssc/content/ssc/library/publications/books/high-level_forumofdirectors-generalfordevelopmentcooperation2013.html) as well as Global Portal for Triangular Cooperation (link: http://ssc/content/ssc/Global_Portal_for_Triangular_Cooperation.html) were launched during the DG Forum. The Opening session was moderated by Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of UNOSSC. The opening session speakers were: H.E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, President, United Nations General Assembly High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations; Mr. Kunio Okamura, Senior Special Advisor, JICA; Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the United Nations Office of the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; and H.E. Dr. Neil Parsan, Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, and Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the OAS. Session I was moderated by Mr. Jürgen Schwettmann, Director, Partnerships and Development Cooperation.
Department, ILO. H.E. Ms. María del Carmen Nasser de Ramos, Vice Minister of International Cooperation and Promotion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Honduras, shared the regional cooperation against chagas disease in Central America, which was supported by JICA. Mr. YAO Shenhong, Director General, China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), Ministry of Commerce, China, shared China’s efforts on poverty alleviation and stressed the importance of substantive contribution to South-South cooperation and innovative resource mobilization strategies including PPP. H.E. Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Al-Zowaidi, Assistant Director for International Development Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State of Qatar, stressed the importance of knowledge sharing and exchange of experience and expertise to implement South-South cooperation in addition to the importance of triangular cooperation support. H.E. Mr. Bruno Figueroa, Ambassador and Director General for International Development Cooperation, Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, Mexico, highlighted that evaluation is a critical tool to achieve national and internationally-agreed goals, sharing the example of Mexico’s National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policies (CONEVAL) in partnership with foundations and other Southern countries. Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, Managing Trustee, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute, introduced the Global Centre for Excellence in organizing the South-South Citizenry Based Development Sub-Academies (SSCBDAs), which is a Southern learning platform for sharing knowledge, skills and practices, describing challenges and recommended solutions for scaling up the initiative. After the session I, Ms. Mami Yamada Sakurai, Assistant Director for Partnerships and Triangular Cooperation, UNOSSC, launched Global Portal for Triangular Cooperation, a “one stop shop” for triangular cooperation to access data, position papers, case studies and researches on triangular cooperation available to all partners.

The session II was moderated by Ms. Laura Bocalandro, Coordinator M&E Regional Public Goods - Lead Principal Specialist, Integration and Trade Sector, Inter-American Development Bank. Ms. Kim Osborne, Chief, Technical Cooperation, OAS, highlighted concrete example of guiding principles, pre-conditions and tools for scaling up. She addressed the necessity of dialogue, commitment, capacity development, inclusive partnership and utilization of ITCs. Mr. Koji Yamada, Senior Advisor, JICA, shared the importance of demand-driven approach, creation of Center of Excellences in pivotal countries as well as solid knowledge management networks. H.E Mr. Sirajuddin Hamid Yousif, Ambassador and Director General, International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sudan, introduced Sudan’s successful South-
South and triangular cooperation experience including establishing the national coordination unit for South-South cooperation and nomination of focal points in the key line ministries in order to strengthen national coordination authority, policy and strategy on South-South and triangular cooperation. Mr. Christopher Paek, Communications Officer, UNOSSC, shared South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) as one of the tools for scaling up, stating needs of more partnerships, project financing and technical expertise.

The session III was moderated by Mr. Hajime Takeuchi, Chief Representative, JICA USA Office. Ms. Suchada Thaibunthao, Director-General, Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency, introduced project formulation and implementation process of the “Thai-German-Lao Triangular Cooperation Project on Strengthening National Good Agricultural Practices in Lao PDR” which involved multi-stakeholders, describing challenges and key success factors. H.E. Ms. Nilda Garre, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Argentina to the OAS, described Argentina’s policy and legal framework to implement triangular cooperation programmes, introducing concrete case which was implemented in collaboration with other Latin American countries, Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Mr. Stanlake Samkange, Director, Policy, Programme and Innovation Division, WFP, focused on WFP’s Centre of Excellence against Hunger in partnership with Brazil and its concrete support to Bangladesh, sharing complexity, challenges and key learning. Dr. Khalida Bouzar, Director, Near East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia, IFAD, discussed its role and strategic partnerships on South-South and triangular cooperation, challenges, opportunities and IFAD’s success stories. She introduced new IFAD-UNOSSC initiative in regions led by Hungary, Turkey and Egypt.

In the closing session, on behalf of participants, Ms. Laima Jureviciene, Director, Development Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania, expressed appreciation to UNOSSC for supporting exchanging ideas and partnership building opportunities for scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives through annual DG Forum as well as online platform. She welcomed the launch of Global Portal for Triangular Cooperation and expressed DGs’ commitment to continue efforts to strengthen capacity for improving development impact of South-South and triangular cooperation and scaling up its results under innovative partnership arrangement with difference sectors.
South-South cooperation has expanded in scope and content driven by the remarkable economic performance of a number of fast-growing developing countries. Its contribution to the attainment of national and internationally agreed development goals, including sustainable development goals is well recognized by all development actors. To meet the increasing demand for South-South cooperation and in response to a wide range of intergovernmental decisions and resolutions, the UN system has stepped up its support for South-South initiatives. Such support includes convening of forums for policy development and dialogue, undertaking research and analysis, facilitating knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, partnership-building, financing, monitoring and evaluation. Although such support by the UN system has become increasingly strategic in recent years, with the exception of a few joint initiatives, most UN system support to South-South and triangular initiatives remains compartmentalized. Hence, more inter-agency collaboration is needed to further maximize the benefits of South-South and triangular cooperation.

**Objective**

Against this background, the UN multi-stakeholders meeting was organized to initiate consultations on the establishment of an interagency mechanism that was called for by Member States at the 18th session of the High-level Committee on South-South cooperation in 2014. The meeting sought to solicit feedback from participants on the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) prepared by UNOSSC in close consultation with UNDP and DOCO for the establishment of the UNDG Task Team for SSC under the auspices of the new UNDG Sustainable Development Working Group. Other objectives of the meeting included, exploring opportunities for interagency collaboration in organizing regular issue-based forums on South-South and triangular cooperation including the possible launching and coordination of e-discussions on various aspects of South-South and triangular cooperation and the collaborative preparation of regular interagency policy briefs on South-South and triangular cooperation for publication online and in print.

**Main outcomes**

A total of 30 participants representing more than 15 United Nations system and other multilateral organizations participated at the UN multi-stakeholders meeting. The main outcomes of the meeting include:

- A clearer understanding by participants, of the objectives, expected tasks, functions, membership, timeline and working methods of the Task Team;
- Further refinement and finalization of the TOR for the Task Team based on inputs received from participants. Feedback from participants also contributed to the preparation of the work plan for the Task Team which will commence work in January 2015;
- Agreement by participants to organize issue-based webinars to facilitate dialogue and experience sharing among UN agencies on SSC;
- Agreement to jointly prepare the South Report on the basis of content prepared by agencies and provided to UNOSSC as input to the annual report of the Secretary General on the State of SSC;
- Agreement by participants to jointly launch e-discussions, produce newsletters and policy briefs for publications online and in print and to coordinate resource mobilization for joint SSC initiatives.

**Lessons and the Way Forward**

The growing number of participants at the inter-agency meetings organized by UNOSSC underscores the value attached to coherent and coordinated UN support to SSC. A UNDG Task Team on South-South cooperation, would in this context serve to further galvanize inter-agency collaboration in bring SSC to bear in the implementation of development goals adopted beyond 2015.
Ms. Inyang Ebong-Harstrup, Deputy Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) highlighted the value of the relationship between the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty (WACAP) and UNOSSC and the importance of WACAP in view of current global trends in urbanization. Central government cannot do everything, decision-making should be closer to where people live, and the WACAP focus on mayors and city leaders is a recipe for success.

Purposes of the mini-forum included the following: to increase the understanding of what good practices are; to identify what is working well; to learn how governors of cities understand and respond to issues beyond health and education such as employment and entrepreneurship; to discuss how to reorient the new WACAP within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation as well as how WACAP could better serve cities and improve their functionality; and to consider how to increase the sense of engagement of the North as more than a provider of funding and how to bring the North to the South-South table so that all partners can work more effectively.

Mr. Ronald Derks, Policy Advisor, City of Rotterdam, and former WACAP focal point at UNDP provided an overview of the different perspectives on the way forward for WACAP, perspectives from Rotterdam on decentralized cooperation, and how the Alliance can benefit from a shift to the South. WACAP has been in existence for almost 20 years and comprises a network of more than 900 cities, mainly in Europe and Africa. At a WACAP forum in Rotterdam in 2010, it was decided that there was a need to refocus WACAP activities. To do so, research was undertaken by the New York University Wagner Capstone program. From student interviews of WACAP stakeholders, it was concluded that there was a need for a network of cities.

What makes WACAP unique is the inter-agency United Nations support that it receives, including from UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNITAR and UN-Women. The Alliance supports its member cities to mobilize individuals, governments and all sectors of society to confront the many challenges of urban poverty and to share successes – and failures – with other cities. WACAP in Rotterdam has been a vehicle for the promotion of poverty reduction within the city and beyond. It has a certain level of expertise to bring to the table and it is important to ensure that it addresses key policies and practices in cities. Cities in turn need to gain something from the network: a mutual exchange of knowledge. Rotterdam cannot engage in international cooperation; however, it can engage in projects, but leaders must be convinced that there will be some benefit for the city. WACAP in Rotterdam would like to see the network expand beyond European cities to learn from cities in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia. There would be value in linking South-South cooperation and its many possibilities for connections with the WACAP network. Moving forward consideration needs to be given to how these networks can be further developed, building within existing frameworks rather than attempting to create something new.

A partnership between Malaga, Spain and Tripoli, Lebanon, to develop a GIS system for the city has improved how city authorities are able to plan for the delivery of services to citizens. A similar partnership between Malaga and the Moroccan city of Chefchaouan upgraded the city’s document management and human resource management systems. Malaga is a founding member of WACAP and a member of the Alliance’s Executive Steering Committee.

New Directions for WACAP

Mr. Julio Andrade, Deputy Mayor, Malaga, Spain, said Malaga has been working with the Alliance for 20 years. It is the thematic pole for information and communication technology (ICT) for WACAP. While ICT is not a magic formula, it can improve the lives of many. UNDP and Malaga signed a memorandum to support ICT efforts in areas of the Iberian Peninsula and the Mediterranean. The Digital Solidarity Fund, for example, helps to bridge the gap between the connected and the unconnected. There are areas of synergy in cities that contribute to movement towards sustainable development. However, WACAP realized that the concept of thematic poles was no longer useful. It needed to clarify its relationships and establish a role for cities. A Steering Committee needed validation and functions had to be assigned to each member. Malaga is a member of the Steering Committee. A permanent secretariat needed to be established and decisions had to be taken on new projects to develop. New memberships and partnerships with WACAP had to be established along with relationships between its city members; the new partnerships should be a powerful tool to fight poverty.

Mr. Charles Cadwell, Urban Institute, Washington, D.C., said the Urban Institute is an American domestic think tank created by President Lyndon Johnson in 1958 as an independent research entity looking at longer-term methods of fighting poverty in cities. Twenty years ago, it began working outside the United States at the request of places rapidly decentralizing and now works in 170 countries in areas such as budget and planning, performance management, local development and the development of legislative councils.

Decentralization has been a popular policy in the last 20 years. Decentralization was found to be very comfortable (services are closer to the people) and academics and theorists thought
about the production of public goods (understanding how best to respond to preferences and needs of the community). Local leaders were also happy – getting more money to local officials has had a positive correlation with infant survival and literacy rates, for example – and in some cases, decentralization did improve service delivery (Indonesia) while in other places, results were not so clear. Today there are places where decentralization is working its way backwards (in the Russian Federation, for example, mayors are no longer independent).

Urban service delivery worries many people including officials, especially in areas that are changing and those that are threatened by climate change. Cities are unprepared because they are not empowered. Cities operate in a vertical governance context that plays a huge role in their ability to deliver services responsively to citizens. Research under way at the Urban Institute is documenting the scale of this challenge in dozens of countries. Cities that meet this challenge can deliver better development outcomes. Questions to answer include identifying which city leaders have sorted out vertical relations so that authority and money are aligned, how they did it, and which city leaders have integrated their own planning with that of other jurisdictions. How to deal with overlapping intergovernmental relationships and integration of urban refugees are other challenges that need to be addressed. These are challenges that are not well understood but city leaders are in the best position to think about them. Further research will contribute to increased understanding of these issues.

Mr. Adam Kaplan, Vice President, Sister Cities International, explained that Sister Cities International represents 525 cities in the United States and has over 2,000 partnerships around the world. Its mission is to build peace through mutual respect and understanding. It has engaged in cultural and art exchanges, youth exchanges, municipal exchanges, city planning, and now exchanges for business and economic development. Sister Cities International excels at knowledge-sharing and best practices; it also builds knowledge. It builds connections and relationships, partnerships that will promote long-term commitments, and its mission of peace building motivates people to be involved and to cooperate even further on building personal relationships. Exchanges and partnerships can be undertaken for a variety of reasons, e.g., between diaspora populations or cities that share culture or pre-existing relationships between mayors. Partnerships are not defined by the timeline of a particular programme; they are open-ended. They also need to be balanced, with clear roles for all those who are involved. Procurement also affects a partnership so it is essential to be clear about the protocols and roles so that problems can be solved as they arise. Community involvement is the key to successful partnerships.

It is possible for a city to have more than one sister city. Sister Cities International has a trilateral programme involving cities in Africa, China and the United States. Trilateral projects with a broad and ambitious city-to-city partnership (a South-South model) call for flexibility; if they are too focused and the context changes, people might think that the partnership is no longer relevant and abandon it, so open-ended models and freedom to engage in other areas are also necessary. The advantage of a trilateral engagement is that one solution may not work in the context of one partner but it may work with another. Once implementation begins, small problems will arise and having ties with other cities makes it easier to turn to them for advice and knowledge-sharing.

CIFAL is a network of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) that aims to develop capacities of individuals, organizations and institutions to enhance global decision-making and support country-level action for shaping a better future. Ms. Estrella Merlos, Associate Director, CIFAL Global Network, explained that CIFAL was created in 2004, with 14 centres globally, each of which has a particular expertise. Each centre is a hub for capacity-building and knowledge-sharing between local authorities, national governments, international organizations, the private sector and civil society to achieve sustainable urbanization in the context of increasing responsibilities of local authorities. It provides training to local authorities worldwide and works in areas such as urban governance, economic development, social inclusion and environmental sustainability. In addition to face-to-face training in thematic areas, its services include e-learning, research papers on human trafficking and resilience in decentralized governments, and learning materials for use within CIFAL on how to increase cooperation among its own network. One of its priorities is to encourage South-South cooperation between local authorities to improve access to basic services. It provides training services to WACAP members.

Mr. Pierre Martinot-Lagarde, Special Adviser, ILO, stressed that while ILO is not an organization of cities but rather of the world of work, the organization has decided that it is time to look at the potential of working with cities. Voices of cities have become permanent in the global framework and there may be a related goal in the post-2015 development framework.

There are three areas where working with cities is important: advocacy and global policy coherence; building the capacity of local actors and governments to contribute not only to local economic development but also to social protection, rights at work and eradication of child labour; that is, a comprehensive agenda around work; and building a network of cities and exchanges. Thus it is important to look at what it means to work on policy coherence on this level. There is a great deal to be done to build the capacity of local actors and governments, and a model is needed to work with cities and localize the global agenda, respecting the nature of local governments. The support of the mayor and involvement of local people are needed.

In reviewing its technical cooperation projects ILO found that local governments were involved in most of them as implementing partners, including two on local economic development. ILO can build on this reality. For example, it has implemented a city-to-city peer learning event on governance and the transition from the informal to the formal economy.
Mr. Jan Olav Baarøy, Deputy Director-General, FK Norway, stressed that there has been a call for human resources to strengthen South-South cooperation, but the exchange of people has been absent. FK Norway focuses on the mutual exchange of personnel. The theme of the FK Norway session is global partnership.

Mr. Helge Espe, Senior Adviser, FK Norway, serving as moderator emphasized that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals has proposed 17 SDGs, which will now go into government negotiations. Proposed goal 17 is on global partnership, but it could be argued that this is a cross-cutting theme relevant for all other goals. Without partnership, none of the other goals can be achieved. In the report of the Open Working Group, there are 19 subpoints on goal 17, but none have the world “people” in them. How can there be a partnership in other areas such as finance or trade or technology if relationships between people are absent? There is a need to focus on people and the creation of trust.

Mr. Øyvind Aadland, Secretary-General, Strømme Foundation, explained that the Strømme Foundation is a Norwegian-based international development agency that aims at a decentralized structure with its four regional offices (East and West Africa, South America and Asia) and a coordinating and facilitating office in Kristiansand, Norway. All the Directors and Regional Directors are on an equal footing and constitute the global leadership. The Board includes a strong voice from the South. The Foundation contributes to change through the global exchange of young people and professionals.

FK Norway is a resource for its work, facilitating exchange between partnering institutions in Norway, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Individuals and institutions share competence and experience across cultures.

There has been a paradigm shift in development and the structural change in South-South and triangular cooperation for sustainable development is in evidence through the GSSD Expo. Development involves interaction between the global structural changes of international organizations and governments and the local communities. Successful development takes place when there is interaction, a cooperative symbiosis of top structures and community involvement. Bottom-up involvement is needed.

Where are we in terms of South-South and triangular partnership at the community level, in building a strong civil society community-based development? How are international NGOs partnering with local NGOs and how do government structures collaborate with civic institutions?

Partnership in development does not happen in a historically neutral context, however. There are persistent power asymmetries (resources, institutional capacity and power) between partners despite the language of partnership and national ownership. Poorly conceptualized and badly managed partnerships can promote dependency and do more harm than good. Partnership suggests equality, respect, reciprocity and ownership but partnerships continue to promote top-down models of governance and exist on an uneven playing field.

Does the donor-recipient syndrome still remain under the cover of “partnership” in the North-South partnership? Are partners expected to be implementers of projects planned in the North? The rhetoric has been changed from donor-recipient to partnership, but sometimes a partner is made the implementer. Changing the paradigm at the community level is an ongoing process. Capacity-building is key in developing real partnership and there is a need to work on changing mindsets. Listening to local ideas on how to go about meeting the challenges that communities face is essential. It is important to strengthen South-South partnerships. Organizations such as the Strømme Foundation can have a catalytic function, using what is already there to create a commonness and togetherness, e.g., to release resources. In doing development work, it is important to keep in mind the Maasai proverb “The fastest way to the mountain top is the zigzag way”.

Results-based management is good; however, too strong an emphasis on numeric results may be corrected by a redefinition of purpose, inspired by the philosopher Aristotle: “There is a kind of activity where the activity is an aim in itself.” This relates to implementing processes and capacity-building. Strong and independent local civic institutions are the backbone for partnership and development. The Strømme Foundation works in the areas of education and microfinance through local implementing partners. Financial resources come from Norway but development solutions are built and designed in the same places where they will be used. Thus the “ladders” out of poverty (solutions) are made at home, not in Norway. This model helps people to see their own talents and abilities and gives them strength to use them. Local involvement continues after the Foundation work is done because knowledge and capacity stay behind. The real empowerment of South-to-South partnership at the community level often proves to be successful when poverty alleviation and educational programmes are replicated across borders and continents through the mutual exchange of professional personnel. It is important to break the silence of the voice of the South through confidence-building.

Among its programmes, the Strømme Foundation has three FK Norway programmes: FK Youth (between Norway and Bolivia/
Ms. Gil Harper, Executive Director, International and Corporate

affairs, YMCA Africa Alliance, Durban, South Africa, explained that the YMCA Africa Alliance is the largest pan-African youth network, bringing together YMCAs in 20 African countries by empowering young people for the African renaissance. It interacts with partners globally, such as FK Norway and YMCA Global. The YMCA Africa Alliance applies the change philosophy of the From Subject 2 Citizen (S2C) programme by providing youth with voice, space and ability to influence for positive change, enabling them to transform themselves, others and their communities.

The S2C programme is based on research carried out in Africa on how youth perceived themselves and what they wanted. The researchers found that young people saw themselves as voiceless and vulnerable. What they wanted was to believe in themselves and be treated as partners in their own and their country’s future. To achieve these goals, they need to develop a voice, claim appropriate and relevant space at school and in parliament, and influence others for positive transformation.

S2C is a philosophy and a change model. It is about action and implementation as well as leadership with the potential to transform youth and others. The Young Peace Performers exchange programme is bringing that project across countries and continents. Youth across Africa have been successful in using S2C examples to change mindsets and create entrepreneurship. Youth are being transformed, believing that change is possible in the continent and that they have something to offer to the rest of the world. In a partnership with FK Norway involving S2C exchange, youth and partners reverse mentoring models: they learn and they also teach.

They exchange views, experiences and learning and shape development. They regularly hold meetings with elders and create improved ways of leading in Africa. In Senegal, in elections, S2C was used to increase youth participation in voting. In Zimbabwe, young men are transforming the lives of the community to transform masculinities. In Zambia, youth are working with the justice system.

Mr. Kasper Landmark, Programme Manager, FK Norway, said that FK Norway has exchanges within Norwegian institutions but also South-South exchanges, with 650 individuals exchanged each year from 350 organizations. It also has 120 partnerships. It uses the FK Norway personnel concept as a method in South-South cooperation. The FK Norway model has the following key elements: partnership among like-minded organizations; reciprocity (all organizations host and send personnel, which strengthens the results of the exchange); young people as change agents (an age limit of 35 years for participation in its partnerships owing to the flexibility and open-mindedness of young people and greater impact with investment in youth); and ownership.

While equitable and reciprocal partnerships are more sustainable, it is not possible to eliminate power asymmetries. It is possible, however, to supply models and practices that undergird equality and reciprocity in partnerships and try to strengthen those aspects. The equality of the partnership is important.
This mini-forum looked at four ways that organizations are working together to achieve the MDGs and prepare for the SDGs through the lens of South-South and triangular cooperation. A number of questions were put on the table to set the stage for policy-level discussions on the MDGs, the SDGs and whether or not South-South and triangular cooperation might fit into that agenda.

The MDGs were primarily an agenda about aid, whereas the SDGs will be a different agenda because all countries would be following through and holding themselves accountable for the goal areas. In world financial flows from 2000 to date, ODA used to be the majority flow to developing countries. Now the relative share has dropped from some 70 to 10 per cent, including FDI flows from emerging economies. The landscape changes and scale of ambitions and aspirations will require a scale of resources beyond any one source. South-South cooperation plays an important and growing role in terms of financial flows and tools. USAID, for example, is looking for ways to partner in South-South cooperation. It is necessary to look at all the different resources on the table that can be applied to development. The toolbox needs to be expanded and Southern countries have resources and abilities to leverage.

What will development cooperation look like once the development community transitions from the MDGs to the SDGs and how can we better engage South-South cooperation?

For 20 to 30 years, Western development agencies greatly influenced what and where development happened. In the period prior to 2000, a series of international meetings focused on specific problem areas. It was largely donors talking to themselves, with some NGOs present, about what they were going to do. The MDGs broadened the discussion to include many recipients, a voice that had been missing earlier.

Development cooperation going forward will start with countries themselves. Domestic resource mobilization dwarfs others and this will continue. There is a need to ensure that it is getting down to communities, local systems and local solutions. It will also be multifaceted. Actors bring resources and develop partnerships that work and maximize ways that resources will come to the table. Public investment will be used to mobilize private investment. There will be more and more mechanisms like the Global Fund, e.g., a global innovation fund. A very strong emphasis on results is important because the MDGs help to provide a blueprint and it is hoped that the same will happen for the SDGs. Transparency is also very important. There is an explosion in data. Data is capital that has development impact; data puts decision-making in the hands of the people. Development cooperation will include many more of the multilateral entities such as the Global Fund and the GAVI Fund, entities that are institutions where non-profit, voices of the South can all come together around a particular issue.

The next task is to simplify; look for a variety of new actors to be able to work together more productively. However, engaging emerging economies with investments, sustainability, development cooperation that builds sustainability for activities to be able to maintain themselves without outside investment will be increasingly difficult.

Private players are concerned that Northern countries play a role that is overwhelming and dilutes the role of Southern players. Do private players from the South become involved in development? Are they strong enough? The local private sector is important and there is a need to focus on the local as well for sustainability. It is important to look at the sustainability of the type of development being done in conjunction with local communities (labour, finance) as well as the policy environment that can bring in private investment that has been on the sidelines. There are numerous differences. It is transaction based; lower risk is needed so that FDI is not being concentrated in one place.

Local partners are receiving a great deal of global attention, a major shift. In moving forward, it is alright to engage communities at the country level, but it is important to focus on how to involve target groups and beneficiaries to ensure sustainability. In isolated countries such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, it is not easy to become involved in collaboration with other countries. South-South cooperation plays a role in getting its voice heard but there is the question of how to make the different governments get the message from the people. Having a local governance platform helps to reduce pressure and opens up the South-South cooperation tool to get the government involved.

Are distinctions in direction (South-South, North-South) necessary? Globalization has meant models to be shared across boundaries so the direction does not matter. Unfortunately, the political conversation has not caught up. The focus is still on flows from developed to developing countries. There is some concern that in the politics of coming to agreement on the post-2015 development
agenda, there will be some stale distinctions. The real issue is a misnomer, financial inclusion, digital financing in the future. It will take time, but in practical terms, cross-border exchanges benefit everyone. The USAID programme Lessons Without Borders should be updated. USAID could help United States communities look at models that were successful internationally, such as the role of community health networks in Nairobi.

Before the SDGs, there was a series of sector goals. How to we see the interactive collaborative universe: interacting or silos? There are differences regarding the SDGs. We want to be able to end extreme poverty but we have to do it in a way that is sustainable and economically feasible (job creation and an enabling environment for entrepreneurs). So it will be necessary to look at ways to hold people accountable for results, but do it in ways that are much more integrated. A successful mechanism may be a framework that shows how things converge and where integration will have to be made the norm. For an aid agency such as USAID, it will be an evolution.

In focusing on results, it is important to ask how much of results are driven by countries themselves. Efforts should be made to try to make sure that communities initiate them, that they are driven by the community or country. How do sectors look at development, South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation, differences in the private sector, donor agencies? With respect to how each sector approaches development issues, academics try to understand development and underdevelopment and specific details but are less interested in operational issues so solutions might be less practical. How to bring a practitioner perspective into trainings is being addressed on campuses. NGOs are probably less interested in upstream research, than in how you are going to finance sustainability.

There are different types of capital: political, intellectual, financial, social and varying degrees of different constraints on the capital. Philanthropic capital is accountable to itself, for example. South-South cooperation has intellectual and knowledge capital and looks for ways to combine financial and intellectual capital and leverage it to achieve impact. Political actors have political motivations; they can be an example of the highest of ideals but also see helping to facilitate prosperity abroad as something that will help at home.

In the private sector, decisions need to be made as countries grow because people will move toward where there are opportunities. Those countries that remain in an ungovernable cycle are not going to benefit from the growth needed to get them out of that cycle. Countries with intractable governance issues will not have growing economies.

On the subject of sustainability of efforts, one of the great advantages of country ownership is greater likelihood of sustainability. How have the words “sustainability” and “resilience” evolved over the last 20 years? Integrated rural development was the rage in the 1970s and it had one meaning: can you sustain it? “Financial sustainability” for a long time referred mainly to environmental issues. Now it means financial, environmental, economic, environmental, political and social sustainability so the whole idea is much broader than a decade or two ago.

The question raised some uncertainty as to whether or not a specific definition is needed. We need to sign on to the meaning of “resilience” and “sustainability”, which mean different things to different people but they also mobilize political momentum and resources. This is good.

In experiences with South-South and triangular cooperation, where are lessoned learned of interest to the audience? With respect to types of coordination, people understand that things can be learned elsewhere. Externally, there is always the issue of disseminating the lessons because funders will not fund this activity. An example of a negative lesson in this area concerned the result of a cyclone that hit the Islamic Republic of Iran. The United Nations had an initiative in South-South collaboration to form an early warning system. The countries signed an agreement on the system but it never was implemented. It was difficult thereafter to ensure that other groups collaborate.

In the area of the role of civil society, such as international associations developing collaborative standards versus using government agencies or civil societies to do so, the question arose as to why does civil society or trade associations do not do more development of collaborative standards, which is a bottom-up process that transcends government.

As markets become more global, companies are looking for ways to have more advantages for a product, e.g., signing up to a standard. NGOs are well placed to look for opportunities. There are many initiatives on how to engage the private sector and help it to look for solutions, for example in the development of journalism standards.

Have there been any changes in programme designs? Through the USAID Global Development Lab, trilateral development mechanisms were created that provide resources to social entrepreneurs but they were open source. People can go to the Lab with an idea and it will provide seed funding and rigorous evaluation and scalability, and if the idea proves itself in the conceptual stage, the Lab will provide funding to commercialize it. Newer mechanisms will of course take time to evolve.

USAID is also doing a great deal more with small credits through its Development Credit Authority.

What will it take to bring the South-North dialogue to the fore, to intellectual capital? The limitation is ignorance about what has worked elsewhere. A clearinghouse is needed and information on success stories must be available.
Mini Forum 4: South-South and Triangular Cooperation – Emerging Opportunities for Think Tanks
*led by UNDP*

**Introduction**

Dr. Xiaojun Grace Wang, South-South Cooperation Lead Adviser, Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP, began the session by asking what is the cutting edge research agenda for South-South cooperation? South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, she said, are at the heart of the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2014-2017 because the global architecture is changing and State and non-State actors are making important contributions to development goals. South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are platforms for leveraging contributions of different actors, especially think tanks.

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are platforms for leveraging the contributions and knowledge of different actors, especially think tanks, which have been playing a more active role in South-South cooperation. What has been the role of think tanks in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation? What are the lessons learned and challenges and, looking forward, what are the priority topics that need think tank research to advance the effectiveness of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation and their contribution to the post-2015 development agenda? UNDP, for example, has included in its Strategic Plan the championing of South-South leadership on a set of research topics to help to facilitate open networking for future discussions to advance thinking and advice.

**Session I: Lessons learned in South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Perspectives of Think Tanks**

Ms. Karen Vazquez, UNDP Background Paper Consultant, said that only recently has there been more and more research from think tanks on South-South cooperation. This relatively recent engagement is due to two factors: strong interest by traditional donors in supporting this research agenda and willingness of Southern countries to seek a more thematic approach to South-South cooperation.

A study was undertaken on how think tanks can collaborate to define priority topics for joint research, how South-South and triangular cooperation can best deliver on the post-2015 agenda. There was a research survey on what we can learn from think tanks, Northern versus Southern think tanks, in five key areas: strategy, mapping, funding, programming, diversity of funding sources and effectiveness of funding sources. How do think tanks recognize opportunities? A qualitative assessment of the challenges and opportunities for South-South cooperation was undertaken. The views of 21 think tanks were compiled and an analysis was carried out. The main similarities between Northern and Southern think tanks were that they were established as non-profit independent organizations funded mainly by governments of Northern countries and traditional donors. The main differences were length of the programme, appropriateness of staff skills, staff seniority and total funding.

Think tanks contributed to countries’ development agenda by increasing transparency and accountability, building policy and consensus, and lobbying for strategic policies and legal frameworks/brokering knowledge.

Common challenges identified were the relative ineffectiveness of funding diversification strategies, insufficient staff to achieve its mission, underutilization of networking with others in governments and other development actors or to act on opportunities for programme development. Challenges in South-South and triangular cooperation were as follows: (a) there is little evidence or analysis on their contribution to the implementation of international development commitments, policy formulation in sustainable development areas, and global regimes; and (b) there is a lack of actionable principles, definitions and standards as well as weak needs assessment, matching and transfer of development solutions and management capacity, and monitoring and evaluation tools and mechanisms to avoid potential negative externalities.

Priority topics cutting across all development areas for a common research agenda were how different approaches contributed to substantive development areas; how it can support the implementation of the post-2015 development goals; and a focus on areas in which countries already have expertise and tested best practices. In terms of defining a common research agenda on South-South and triangular cooperation, a common research agenda should highlight the common aspects of the various approaches to South-South and triangular cooperation.

The three top priority development topics for Northern and Southern think tanks were mainstreaming South-South cooperation in the post-2015 agenda, poverty eradication and education. Two key areas – education and health – were identified as priorities for Southern think tanks but were less of a priority for Northern think tanks so there is a question as to how these can be reconciled in future research agendas. A common South-South and triangular cooperation research agenda could enable setting a vision and goals and identify how to establish priority actions, ensure success and monitor performance, including any negative externalities on the
ground.

Among the next steps are developing a minimal conceptual framework; mapping work already done in South-South and triangular cooperation and creating a network of interested organizations that would identify specific research issues and share information; and investing in resources.

UNDP could support this agenda as follows: establish a think-tank-led research network; develop a common South-South and triangular cooperation research agenda; create a technical secretariat to maximize opportunities to link South-South and triangular cooperation research with the post-2015 development goals; develop in-house capacity to broker knowledge and learning; convene dialogue; support research; and pair think tanks with funders.

Think-tank policy research is carried out to support practices in the field so as to provide insights into expectations from the field, as illustrated by the example of the Resident Coordinator/Resident Representative in The Gambia.

Ms. Ade Mamonyane Lekoetje, Resident Coordinator/Resident Representative, UNDP Gambia Country Office, was asked how think tanks help in achieving the desired impact? She provided some insights and expectations from the field. Two key development objectives or challenges are to reduce poverty and ensure sustained economic development, both of which are multifaceted. For Africa, there has been impressive GDP growth in the past decade but poverty is still persistent. Systems in developing countries are still fragile. What does transformation mean for us? We need a different approach that takes into account the dynamic reality of the work. How can we do things taking this reality into consideration? We need knowledge driven by a development model linking multiple stakeholders. Think tanks could develop core policy research on how to make changes and how to advocate for changes. Countries need an institution at the regional level for discussion (e.g., on coastal erosion) and to look at key policies that can be brought together regarding cross-border issues for countries with similar characteristics – how to
transfer experiences?

The key challenges in developing countries in Africa when talking about think tanks are the fact that only a few African countries have this type of institution and that the extent to which think tanks influence policy varies.

The challenges are as follows: data still constitute a big problem in many African countries. If there are no reliable data, research for informed policy cannot be carried out. Other challenges include brain drain; independence: level of influence of government and governance issues since most of the institutions, if financed by government, must be politically correct and connected to influence decisions; legal framework; funding; regional think tanks collaboration that is loose, not long term or well-structured so it is difficult to make an impact.

Recommendations focus on: how to establish think-tank organizations and build capacity to advocate, etc.; encourage regional think tanks and build that type of synergy; invest in research and development (medical areas such as diseases; food security; climate change); networking South-South and North-South to draw from available experiences and knowledge to influence developing countries.

One participant noted that one way to address the question of financing is a tax on the private sector with the money used for think-tank research.

There is a lack of evidence on interregional African cooperation. Modalities are little known. From the African perspective, it is necessary to consider the negatives of reconstruction and development, and human and financial capacities are always a problem.

With respect to realities of the field, especially regarding the influence of think tanks, most developing countries have labour unions, medical associations, and educational institutions. Their value is becoming known in policy formulation. Voices are being raised and noticed. In South Africa, there are clusters of NGOs. Unless institutions are well financed, research is problematic. UNDP and the United Nations system can help in promoting contacts among think tanks and may be in a position to gather and share information. The role of think tanks in development has been minimal.

Ms. Ade Mamonyane Lekoetje noted that a private-sector financing tax is a good idea but government should put money into this institution. On the ownership side regarding security and the root causes of crises, most issues are poverty-related in Africa so poverty needs to be addressed. Research and policy look at all dimensions in which challenges have manifested themselves.

There is more and more private-sector engagement in development and public-private partnerships are an untapped area in South-South cooperation and an area for mapping as a potent private-sector funder for this type of research.

Youth are more capable of thinking of new possibilities, new markets than others, as evidenced by the example of inter-African cooperation in trade in Sudan. In Africa, cooperation can be encouraged by emphasizing best practices.

Session II: New Trends in South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Major Challenges and Opportunities for the Future Engagement of Think Tanks

Mr. Arthur Muliro Wapakala, Deputy Managing Director, Secretariat of the Society for International Development, said that on the issue of what think tanks could do to promote South-South and triangular cooperation, think tanks need to be in a position to solve complex problems or at least contribute towards solving them. It is necessary to understand the alignment of think tanks to the challenging social problems of the day and their relationship to being able to influence the thinking around policy frameworks and decisions that will ultimately be taken and applied.

Think tanks need to clarify what role they want to place within their national space, and on the basis of this clarity understand which partnerships are likely to enable them to meet their goals. They also need to clarify their role vis-à-vis similar organizations in their space. There are various roles that third (partner) organizations and UNDP could play in supporting this process, such as idea fairs for showcasing their ideas to help to identify potential candidates.

Think tanks have a clear role to play in working towards consensus-building and the partnerships that they are able to build can support the generation of alternative ideas and showcase how other countries are dealing with the difficult problems of the day. They are also perfectly positioned to support the challenge of dealing with the future. UNDP can play a critical role here as a broker of techniques and technologies that can assist societies to improve their capacity to diagnose and dialogue about their problems and showcase case studies of how these technologies might have contributed (or failed) to the resolution of the problems of the day with the view that other think tanks or policy organizations can learn from them.

The post-2015 SDG process could benefit from this process.
In understanding what needs to change as we move ahead, think tanks could contribute to making more accurate analyses of decision-making and problem-solving ideas that are being generated and work together with governments to try to understand the extent to which the underlying systems and structures that will underpin the work towards the SDGs are in tune and prepare them to embed diversity in their problem-solving approaches. The post-2015 action agenda offers fertile terrain for South-South and triangular collaboration including on an examination of why the MDG gap was not fully resolved, including institutional factors that facilitated successes, etc. UNDP has a particular role in helping to facilitate such exchanges, that of an honest broker that identifies and brings together parties and hosts a broad space in which donors, foundations, think tanks, governments and parastatal agencies can exchange views and propose ways and means to improve performance.

The growth of inequality is one of the biggest challenges facing all societies today and the broad and crosscutting nature of the inequality problem offers a unique opportunity to have conversations about how the emergent gaps can be narrowed and policy choices inherent in that. UNDP could play a catalytic role in bringing together think tanks from across different divides (sectoral, geographical) to reflect on different approaches to the problem as well as understand the impact that efforts being made to address the problem are having. In this regard, a series of multi-level partnerships could be helpful: links with foundations and other donor agencies could help to create a financing base for a research agenda as well as institutional transformation efforts.

Prof. Ye Jiang, Senior Fellow, Institute for Global Governance Studies, Shanghai Institute for International Studies, said on the subject of opportunities of think tanks in South-South and triangular cooperation, that whether the future goals will be called sustainable development goals or not, there will be new ones. The MDGs were created by the North but the new ones will be created by the North and the South, products of South-South cooperation. When there is a new agenda, think tanks are faced with challenges and opportunities for engaging in development issues, including South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation.

To some extent, major trends, challenges and opportunities of South-South and triangular cooperation relate to the implementation of the post-2015 agenda. Implementation of the new agenda is quite important. Monitoring, evaluation and assessment of implementation efforts will become key tasks of both Southern and Northern think tanks. Such analytical work by think tanks will need to focus simultaneously on the national and on the international, addressing such questions as how successful developing countries are in implementing the international development goals at home and how effectively Northern and Southern countries contribute to collective implementation efforts of supporting LDCs as well as in providing global and regional public goods.

Within this context, think tanks from the South, especially those from emerging economies, along with Northern think tanks, can together take on important roles. First, they can strengthen the capabilities of fellow think tanks based in LDCs to play an active role in the policymaking process at the national level. Second, Southern think tanks from emerging economies can provide evidence-based knowledge in the form of research articles and policy reports on the impact of South-South and triangular cooperation for national development goals in Southern countries and for the provision of global and regional goods. Third, based on the previous finding and through policy recommendations, Southern think tanks can support governments as well as international organizations and non-State actors in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the implementation process for the post-2015 goals and targets. To perform these roles, think tanks need to mobilize adequate resources and set up solid institutionalized policy programmatic and financial frameworks for collaboration and mutual learning.

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A priority topic for joint research by Northern and Southern think tanks is how the effectiveness and efficiency of South-South and triangular cooperation in implementing the United Nations post-2015 agenda can be enhanced. UNDP can help to set up a collaborative network for joint research on the topic among think tanks from the South and the North; select a core group to guide the process; agree on outcomes and working methods; and design a programme for dialogue and outreach for external actors. Through facilitating and funding the meetings, workshops and scholars of participating think tanks, UNDP can play an important role in promoting cooperation among think tanks in the study of South-South and triangular cooperation in the post-2015 era.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, asked what the general perception of think tanks are, said that in the Southern context, the role of think tanks is very different from that of Northern think tanks because the structure of Southern Governments is slightly different: Governments dominate how policy is made. In providing inputs in developing countries, South-South cooperation is a very sectoral dialogue. Southern think tanks are focused on a very narrow issue: what applies to the individual think tank is what a particular ministry is doing.

South-South cooperation evolved differently in different continents. The substantive part of South-South cooperation in regions has evolved on two different tracks and the approach to empirical analysis is different so looking at a common template is not possible. In the North, it sometimes...
Mini Forum 4: South-South and Triangular Cooperation – Emerging Opportunities for Think Tanks

ted by UNDP

Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza, Research Fellow, Institute for Applied Economic Research, on the topic of developing a South-South cooperation conceptual and evidence-based framework for the post-2015 development agenda, said this agenda differs because it is meant to be a lot more inclusive, including actors, especially Southern countries and emerging economies. The main challenge of the agenda will be to determine, under a broad and inclusive framework, the commitments and responsibilities of the numerous actors currently involved in international development cooperation. As South-South cooperation plays an increasingly important role, understood in most international forums as complementary to official development assistance (ODA), it needs to be acknowledged and incorporated into any such framework.

However, surprisingly little is known about what South-South cooperation refers to. While most Southern countries have rejected the norms, standards and principles of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of OECD, stressing the need to reassess and reform the international development architecture, as of yet they have failed to provide a unified and coherent proposal of alternative and distinctive norms, standards and principles that would apply to South-South cooperation. For the purpose of presenting any such proposal, however, it is crucial to generate more knowledge on several aspects of the nature of South-South cooperation and how it is carried out, which are still largely unknown. On the basis of this knowledge, South-South cooperation can be better defined and understood and its role in the post-2015 agenda can be better determined. Think tanks that engage in South-South cooperation are uniquely positioned to help governments and international organizations with the task of generating this knowledge.

Two major and related sets of issues should be addressed by think tanks. The first is conceptual: what kinds of cooperation should count as South-South development cooperation? In general, South-South cooperation tends to adopt a much broader view of development cooperation than ODA, often taking the form of peacekeeping missions, refugee and student scholarships, debt refinancing, and trade facilitation, for example. In addition the development cooperation of some Southern countries is not easily distinguishable from other types of cooperation such as non-concessional loans, refinancing of debt services and FDI. ODA is defined in terms that privilege concessional loans and credit. Thus the boundaries of South-South cooperation and the criteria to determine what should count as South-South cooperation have yet to be consensually established. They need to be realistic (not too far from what is already being carried out) and legitimate (not being exclusively driven by profit or strategic concerns).

The second set of issues that think tanks are to address is empirical: which modalities are more common in South-South cooperation; how has South-South cooperation evolved, and how is it distributed in space? Little is known about these issues and elucidating them requires systematic data collection and the mapping of South-South cooperation. A major challenge is the paucity of available data in many Southern countries and the lack of transparency and central coordination of South-South cooperation. In such countries, think tanks may need to build previously non-existent databases on South-South cooperation. In doing so, it would be desirable if not to harmonize methodologies for quantifying and measuring South-South cooperation, at least to spell out and understand their differences across countries. Otherwise, country comparisons and aggregate descriptions are compromised. Quantification has always been a complicated issue for South-South cooperation because a large part of it corresponds to technical cooperation and involves transfers of technology, skills and know-how, all of which are intangible assets difficult to express in monetary values. The next step would be to carry out evidence-based analyses and perhaps even evaluations of South-South cooperation. Assessing the impact of South-South cooperation is important but impossible at this stage. These two sets of issues are closely related insofar as developing a conceptual and definitional framework for South-South cooperation requires some knowledge of the actual practice of South-South cooperation. Likewise, the data-gathering and quantification efforts of South-South cooperation will necessarily require the adoption of some, even if minimalist, concepts and definitions of South-South cooperation. Therefore, the two sets of issues do not need to be addressed in any particular order; their exploration should rather provide ongoing and two-directional feedback. Think tanks engaged with South-South cooperation would benefit from a platform where Southern countries can share knowledge, establish research partnerships, learn from
one another, and conceive South-South cooperation under common norms, standards and principles. Such a platform could be provided by UNDP in an existing forum or a newly created one. UNDP could play an important role not only in helping to finance the participation of think tanks from LDCs, which need to be included, but on in mediating and coordinating the research of all think tanks involved since it has the expertise and the legitimacy to do so.

Following the presentations, participants made the following comments: (a) The power of South-South cooperation is that it offers flexibility and diverse modalities; (b) With regard to the post-2015 development goals, one of the major factors, the GDP growth model, that is basic to research on the development model has failed; there is a need to create an institutional framework and focus South-South and triangular cooperation on monitoring and evaluating the development model that will be adopted for the SDGs; (c) to engage think tanks in South-South cooperation, the Government of Chile and UNDP Chile launched a fund with a unique financing mechanism, an airport tax, which has enabled work with States and non-State actors; (d) while standards and norms of South-South cooperation need to advance, even if understanding is not very clear, many words are heard that refer on values of South-South cooperation such as solidarity and mutual learning; (e) while poverty reduction is very important, there is a need to include rights of citizens because reducing poverty does not mean equalities are reduced and this should be included in a future South-South cooperation framework; (f) the need to go deeper into the conceptual framework debate was questioned since it is difficult to have consensus on a single concept of South-South cooperation and what a think tank is. Heterogeneity may be easier in the beginning; (g) the question was raised as to whether the evaluation of South-South cooperation as a development modality is the best way to go about things from the perspective of opportunity costs; (h) to define South-South cooperation, the South would have to create its own lexicon for describing what is happening; (i) regarding the monitoring and assessment of implementation efforts, it is more important to monitor the development models; (j) in response to questions on a transformation model, there is a need to go beyond what exists. Think tanks can be the architects of a new order. The current growth model has not worked so why extend it into the future? What new things can be developed? (j) Even if research confirms what we thought, that is the value of the research space.
Special Session on Accessible Tourism and Sustainable Development for All

Tourism is a rapidly growing industry and has become one of the main income generators for many countries in the global South. Ensuring the sustainability of this growing source of income depends heavily on ensuring that its social and economic impact is both positive and inclusive. Greater attention to accessibility in the tourism industry is a major part of this impact.

The Forum on Accessible Tourism showcased and promoted accessible tourism as an effective means for poverty eradication, employment generation and social inclusion. Successful models for improving accessibility in the tourism industry were also presented during the Forum. Featuring industry players from the global South and North, the Forum provided governments, NGOs and the private sector with a platform to showcase promising and replicable strategies for promoting and developing accessible tourism. By having this conversation in the context of the Global South-South Development Expo, the forum aimed to provide a springboard for further engagement of all relevant stakeholders on developing strategies and policies that will effectively promote accessible tourism in countries, especially in the global South.

Taking the form of an interactive roundtable, the forum featured successful policies and initiatives from Latin America, Europe, and North America.

Accessible Tourism and Sustainable Development: Making the Case

Travel and tourism account for more than 9 per cent of global economic output and account for around 10 per cent of jobs worldwide. With its real and potential contributions to social development and economic growth, it is important to ensure that tourism is developed in a
sustainable and inclusive way.

By broadening the scope of the available tourist clientele, a focus on accessibility in the tourism industry enriches the economic contribution of tourism. Just as importantly, attention to accessibility in tourism brings a shift to the social and infrastructural strategies applied in the industry. Accessible and sustainable tourism products go beyond ad hoc accommodation to ensuring that all persons, regardless of their physical or cognitive needs, are able to use and enjoy the available amenities in an equitable manner. This broad attention to accessibility can have far reaching social impacts, not only addressing myriad challenges faced by the more than one billion people living with disabilities across the globe, but also encouraging a more multigenerational focus in development planning.

Accessible tourism is a form of tourism that involves a collaborative process among stakeholders. A successful tourism product requires effective partnerships and cooperation across many sectors at the national, regional and international levels. From idea to implementation, a single destination visit normally involves many factors, including accessing information, long-distance travel of various sorts, local transportation, accommodation, retail, and dining. The impact of accessible tourism thus goes beyond the tourist beneficiaries to the wider society, engraining accessibility into the social and economic ethos.

As the international community accelerates its efforts to realize the Millennium Development Goals and map out a forward-looking development framework beyond 2015, the General Assembly of the United Nations, during the 2013 High-level Meeting on Disability and Development, underlined the importance of ensuring accessibility by following the universal design approach and removing barriers to persons with disabilities to inclusive development. For those countries where tourism has and can prove a viable contributor to economic development, encouraging public and private enterprises to make it easier for persons with disabilities to access to the essential goods and services driving the tourist industry not only helps to fulfill this commitment, it encourages partnerships, and also encourages the private sector to tap into the opportunities that remain untapped in addressing the needs of persons with disabilities.
The Special Session on IFAD-UNOSSC supported partnership initiative on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security was co-chaired by the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation and by the Director of the Near East, North Africa and Europe Division of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. It included representatives of potential beneficiary countries, such as Algeria, Hungary, Sudan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, relevant centers of excellence in these countries, as well as representatives of international organizations and civil society institutions. The Special Session served as an opportunity for the representatives of key stakeholders to share their constructive recommendations and expectations on the relevance of the proposed initiative as well as its specific outputs to the national development priorities in South-South Cooperation for effective agricultural development of the countries that could potentially benefit from the initiative.

The agreement was reached to proceed with the first phase of the initiative as soon as possible; more specifically, Turkey and Hungary re-confirmed their willingness to organize/host capacity development workshops in line with the agreed plan of action. Also, Sudan expressed their interest to join the initiative and preliminary steps were agreed upon towards this end.
Harmonized Regional Approach to Scaling Up South-South Cooperation in the Arab States

The session on Scaling up South-South Cooperation in the Arab States region reviewed the progress made by some of the countries in the region in advancing the South-South and Triangular Cooperation agenda. The session also was an opportunity to discuss further practical steps that the stakeholders decided to undertake individually and as a group towards creating an even more favorable South-South Cooperation environment in the Arab States region.

Finally, the session highlighted how the countries in the Arab States region could benefit from the global Three-in-One Multilateral Support Architecture for South-South Cooperation that consists of the Global South-South Development Academy, Global South-South Development EXPO and the South-South Global Assets and Technologies Exchange through the services and cooperation modalities provided in the framework of the three-pillar regional approach. The agreement was reached on advancing the regional South-South Cooperation roadmap; Qatar re-confirmed their interest to take the lead, together with other partners in the region, in facilitating this process.
The special session served as a venue for governments from Central and Eastern Europe, Western Balkans, and the CIS to put the narrative of South-South Cooperation into the spotlight through the regional lens of East-East Cooperation. The session aimed to argue that a clear, robust and inclusive approach to East-East/South-South Cooperation, and coordination between the efforts of various regional stakeholders, are key to scaling up the impact of East-East/South-South and Triangular Cooperation work for the Europe and CIS region. More specifically, the event provided a space for practical discussion on exchanging information on concrete cases of knowledge, expertise, and technology transfer from and to specific countries, especially (sub)-regional exchanges on successful solutions; on sharing the experience of supporting East-East (South-South) cooperation through government-led or other mechanisms at the national and regional level, including existing coordination mechanisms; as well as on identifying the needs and scope for support from the United Nations and other multilateral partners in making national and regional mechanisms to support East-East (South-South) cooperation in CIS more effective. The session was also an opportunity to discuss the support offered by the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (including on national stock-taking and the application of the global “Three-in-One” Multilateral Support Architecture for South-South Cooperation) and the UNDP Regional New Partnerships team (East-East Cooperation Toolkit and case studies from the region).

The agreement was reached to actively implement (through the second phase of partnership with IDB) the regional online mapping platform, as well as to consider introducing the regional East-East Cooperation roadmap mechanism.
Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Workshop

The Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Workshop took place over three days and consisted of an all day workshop on the second day of the Expo, an all day partnership meeting on the second day and a consultation with the World Bank on the third day.

The event was put together to assist the development of the second Phase of the Korea Facility.

The workshop brought together Korean partners, namely, the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Development (MSIP) and the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPi) with country representatives from Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Nigeria and Vietnam as well as World Bank staff. Initial discussions were led by experts from Korea and Global experts on STI Policy.

The second day focused on scaling up the work and visibility under the second phase of the Korean Facility. Discussants included World Bank staff and experts.

On the third day the main partners under FACILITY, the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, MSIP and STEPI explored possible ways of scaling up the Korean Facility in Phase 2 and possible collaboration with the World Bank and other partners.

Main Outcomes

The workshop established that STI could be one of the main pillars of achieving the proposed Sustainable Development Goals. There are several packages for developing STI policy strategies and frameworks. Korea, under the Phase 1 of the Facility has developed a methodology that it would like to scale up and would be interested to widen the scope of cooperation beyond UNOSSC.

The partnership meeting observed that there was a need to narrow the range of priorities for Phase 2 and that the Korean Government needed to make a decision on the scope and scale of participation of Korean Institutions as this would determine the design of Phase 2. There was emphasis on the unique opportunity UNOSSC offers for Korean Institution participation. There was emphasis on sustainability of the Korean Facility Initiatives. The best way to achieve that is to continue to ensure that they are part of the government programme and to ensure that they are supported by UN Country Teams.

At the meeting with the World Bank, possibilities for cooperation ranging from cost-sharing, to parallel financing or simply working together through a programme Governance structure such as a board were muted. The decision made was to carry out further discussions between STEPI, World Bank and UNOSSC.
New Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Round Table

As a new element in the GSSD Expo this Round Table responds directly to the vision expressed by Ms. Gina Casar, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP, and other powerful champions of South-South cooperation during the High-level Opening Ceremony.

The Round Table offered a concrete path to balancing growth and equity in the context of a new collaborative global partnership for sustainable development by facilitating an interlocution between all partners including Ministers, UN focal points, mayors, municipal leaders, CEOs and investors.

In this new global partnership, all stakeholders stand shoulder to shoulder in their political, social and environmental development efforts, to deliver sustainable development in the post-2015 context.

During the Round Table partners exchanged strategies with regard to public-private partnerships and adjacent topics while highlighting their respective contributions in scaling up development solutions.

Specifically, the panelists’ presentations shared valuable experiences from several different perspectives: as municipal leader, as CEO, as NGO, as UN agency, and as investor.

While experiences varied, the presentations brought to light three overarching ideas that are central to building global, cross-sector partnerships:

1. The role and importance of leadership in partnership building efforts;
2. The need for tools, mechanisms and instruments to facilitate and strengthen partnerships;
3. The need for monitoring mechanisms to measure mutual accountability and to attribute partner contributions to achieved successes.

Round Table Overview

Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation, UNOSSC Director, as moderator, said the session is considered important because it is coming at a time when the international community, especially the United Nations system and Member States are trying to shape the post-2015 development agenda. By the end of the year, there
New Global Partnership for Sustainable Development: UN Focal Points, Municipal and City Leaders, CEOs and Investors Round Table

will be a synthesis report on what Member States should put into place, followed by the adoption of the agenda in September 2015. One of the most important elements is how to implement the agenda. If the right partnerships are not in place, it might not be implemented.

Partnership must be in different forms and the three key elements to making a partnership work are: leadership (not political but from business, society, municipal leadership); the right tools, mechanisms and place to enable partners to engage, contribute and leverage strengths; and lastly, measurement of responsibilities for accountability.

The session had three segments: one on the importance of scaling up partnerships and demonstrating how leadership is exercised; the second on the kinds of instruments that are available for doing this; and third, what UNOSSC is doing in order for partnerships to work, including SS-GATE.

Session 1: Public Sector/United Nations

H.E. Anissi Chamsidine, Governor of the Autonomous Island of Ndzuwani, Anjouan, Union of the Comoros said Ndzuwani Anjouan is undertaking a partnership agreement with the United Republic of Tanzania in higher education, and with countries in the Indian ocean region, cooperation is in managing agriculture and natural disasters. By broadening and strengthening the South-South cooperation, we can guarantee the development of initiatives within the South-South cooperation, and by pulling our resources together, we can meet the challenges of sustainable development.

However, there was a lack of political will to bring all actors from civil society into decision-making on strategy and choices. Therefore, a local committee comprising all partners was created to think about policy and cohesion. The committee for sustainable development is part of the programme on youth for sustainable development. The Committee on the Indian Ocean has helped in these efforts.

In order to meet the challenges of the South-South cooperation, tools are needed to help to take advantage of worldwide opportunities. The South-South Gate Platform is one of the best instruments available and has already assisted in attaining the best results in technology transfer. The island of Ndzuwani, Anjouan partners and donors needs assistance to meet its many challenges and help in strategic areas of its development including agriculture, energy, waste disposal and professional training, and is willing to share its experience with partnership in achieving sustainable development.

Mr. Julio Andrade Ruiz, Deputy Mayor of the City of Malaga began by asking why do we cooperate? How can cities help each other? Multilateral relations work better. City leaders are willing to involve other political leaders and to learn from each other. To meet goals, partnerships are needed. Malaga has a long tradition and experience in partnerships, which have been used to improve lives and achieve the MDGs. There are areas of synergy among cities and companies. Thus the Declaration of Malaga, for example, aims to reduce the digital divide in the Mediterranean through their collaboration. Malaga has collaborated with a number of cities, including on a GIS street mapping project in Lebanon and on projects in Morocco on the management of human resources. It has also entered into a new partnership with a private company and the University of Malaga to prevent natural disasters among cities. The city is interested in sharing cooperation strategies and good practices.

Mr. Henry Dommel, Director, Inclusive Finance Practice Area, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) said financial inclusion is becoming an important agenda for many developing countries. It is not only about credit but basic savings accounts, remittances and insurance. Financial inclusion is a key policy that is needed to support economic growth.

The project Making Access Possible (MAP) requires diagnostic tools and a programme framework focusing on better data on demand and access, and link analysis to look at the regulatory landscape to help shape strategies. It offers a powerful platform for financial inclusion and also provides a platform to coordinate partnerships. The project is now in 4 countries, with LDCs as a future goal.

The second innovation is MicroLead, which is a South-South initiative partnering with market leaders who are given incentives to develop their operations in LDCs. It leveraged $5 million of its own money and $20 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to select the best business plans of market leaders from the South to expand operations to underserved countries, serving the bottom of the pyramid in LDCs. It involved the South-South transfer of experts and was a driver of domestic resource mobilization. UNCDF has played a catalytic role in this initiative.

The Youth Economic Empowerment works, as the third project, works with microfinance in sub-Saharan Africa to develop financial services for youth, including savings accounts, loans to youth enterprises and training in financial literacy. Collectively, they have granted almost $6 million in loans and trained almost 400 people in financial literacy. Peer
learning and dialogue among players are important because it helps youth to do market research and helps governments to look at regulating accounts. Youth are the key element to reap the youth dividend and accumulate skills. They plan to scale up activities and take it to many countries with the support of UN agencies such as the UNDP and ILO.

Leadership whether from government officials, political leadership, and municipal leadership is needed if partnerships are to work and partnership schemes should work and reach as large a network of cities as possible, and leverage other strengths and capacities.

Session 2: Civil Society Organizations

Dr. Oyvind Aadland, Secretary General, Stromme Foundation noted that no partnership development change will work without mutual cooperation between policymakers and society, community. However, it is possible that some of the attitudinal stand of the past remains (donor-recipient) in partnership relationships. Now we talk about partnership but we use partners to implement our ideas. There is a need for a paradigm shift with civil society and the NGO community. The metaphor of the ladder that is made in a place and used in that place is useful here: it is made in the South and people in SDG programming must pay more attention to the constituencies where we work, create real ownership and break the silence (make voices heard) from the bottom up because poor people also have visions and solutions. NGOs in particular must show haste to grasp the questions and, in cooperation and mutual respect, bring forward the solutions. Thus the key work to be done is in capacity-building and enablement, and this means empowerment. People should take into account the Maasi proverb: “Make haste slowly”. We are very concerned about collecting data but we probably should not be so numerically focused. Partnership itself is an important process and if we are to have sustainable partnerships, we need to equip development leaders so that they function independently of us.

In terms of mutual cooperation, you experience South-to-South exchange when you hit the core of something and you need to act. The programme in Bangladesh to build self-esteem in young girls and to empower them to manage their own resources needs to be decentralized. There is therefore a need to centralize and decentralize our approach, enable leadership and capacity-building in the bottom-up approach to ownership and CSOs need to be able to relate better with local government structures. A way needs to be found to take advantage of the catalytic role of NGOs.

Mr. Mihir Ramesh Bhatt, Director, All-India Disaster Management Institute gave a brief introduction of the Institute. He said that the All-India Disaster Mitigation Institute is a network of community-based disaster-based organizations. They offer opportunities to eliminate poverty, move towards sustainable development and contribute to shared prosperity.

Countries in the south have gone through repeated disasters. However, people who have gone through the most difficult part of the development process and repeated disasters do not have enough opportunities to talk with one another and learn yet impact is most apparent at the local level. The experience in the Global South is that people do not ask for relief alone; they ask to have the opportunity to have income, assets, technology and information to see how someone else has done something, and local leaders have to offer how to recover. People come together where rehabilitation is taking place to try to see for themselves. What is achieved is a multiple perspective on how recovery takes place, how to prepare and prevent.

More than seven academies have been held and 60 per cent of participants have revised their action plans based on what they saw and have included South-South expertise, ideas or information in their work, especially on cash transfers in relief and the right to information on the part of disaster victims. The demand for such academies is great in Asia and the Pacific, the Indian Ocean area, the Middle East and Latin America. Growth areas include: infrastructure and recovery, urban resilience; small and medium-sized enterprises and insurance for their protection; and water harvesting. Academies made development leaders develop initiatives faster, better and more sustainable. Citizen leadership is driving the initiative of a new partnership paradigm forward.

Mr. Jean-Louis Sarbib, CEO, Development Gateway said Development Gateway was created to share information and knowledge on development activities in order to provide more informed leaders, move develop towards evidence-based decision-making and partnerships and mutual accountability. It can be done at the global level by creating the largest repository of development activities with partners such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), including tracking the activities of non-traditional donors and emerging donors. It is South-South in the way it provides information, which is needed by journalists, academics and citizens. All the information is published on maps so that all the stakeholders can a comprehensive view
of what is being done. There is an attempt to respond to the call for more transparent information by building country systems and putting developing countries in the driver seat. This platform is the result of South-South cooperation and was developed with strong partnership of Ethiopia and India. All partners come together each year to exchange information. Bussan had a strong emphasis on South-South cooperation so there is a specific module for South-South cooperation added to the aid management platform to respond specifically to South-South cooperation; it is based not only on the transfer of financial resources but also of experiences, etc., and exchanges.

The challenges include tracking South-South cooperation rapidly: there is no easy way to record information because forms of South-South cooperation are not easily trackable (technical assistance, information exchanges, etc.), there are many definitional issues that need to be resolved for easier tracking: how to take account of FDI, which is a big part of South-South cooperation now, how to deal with remittances and how to add location data to areas where South-South cooperation is taking place and how it can be monitored.

Ms. Dorothy Davis, Chair, International Board of Directors, SirLeaf Market Women’s Fund said the Sirleaf Market Women’s Fund is the only women’s organization in the world that is in the centre of the fight against Ebola in Liberia. It represents market women, who are now focusing on Ebola after civil war. A group of international women approached the President to ask how they could help her and she suggested market women because they were instrumental in feeding the country during the 14-year war and helped to bring peace and security. The Fund wanted to provide financial and literacy training to upgrade schools and this was being done since 2007 until the President announced a national emergency regarding Ebola in August 2014.

The Fund had become an agency focused on economic development but with Ebola focus shifted to helping women to understand how to protect themselves and their families. With many markets in the quarantine area and restricted access on the ground, it was difficult to find ways to engage the market women and to build on their resilience. Further, the women were hit with a livelihood issue – most women lost more than 50 per cent of their livelihoods when the markets were closed and the number even increased further when people stopped going to restaurants. There is a food shortage which is starting to manifest itself so it is clear that the way that development has operated is not working. There needs to be a more holistic approach since illiteracy is also a problem.

The initiative involves 30,000 marketers, each with 6 to 8 family members, mostly female heads of household owing to the war. Women are caregivers and work doing laundry and in treatment centres so the situation is complex and difficult. In terms of going forward, Ebola is promoting cross-sector partnerships (agencies are finding commonality, which they
couldn’t before the ebola outbreak) and people are focusing more on using local content in creating strategies. There is a pilot project to create mini first aid centres – four inside and four outside Monrovia – to provide the first level of care and then for referral to higher health systems. The aim is also to add classrooms in markets to add health literacy and other training. The initiative is looking to the use of cell phones to get messages out to the market women. The project is seeking help from all quarters including the private sector and foundations (UN-Women has provided $3 million to build markets) and alliances with the United Nations system to work together with other market women, including forums to incorporate women into the dialogue. Any type of partnership to make this happen would be welcome.

Session III: Private Sector

Mr. James Donovan, CEO, ADEC, Group of Companies said that the ADEC Group provides solutions to multinationals in health care, education and other areas. Tangible opportunities from a business perspective include global challenges, risk management, business opportunities, cost savings and innovative products. To create a niche, it is necessary to determine how to bring value into opportunities?

The real situation facing companies is making sure that deliveries go out on time and scarcity of resources. A new type of leadership understands that substantive performance and long-term financial performance are the same thing. ADEC connects the dots and bridges gaps: we are together but speak different languages; we are living in an era of unprecedented data; the challenge comes down to collaboration, the highest form of partnership. Each partner, who has a role in the solution, is to have impactful relationships with clients, provide solutions, help to collect data and help from branding through compliance. It provides consistency throughout an industry, e.g., help brands to remove harmful chemicals from the supply chain, and development of an open data standard to ensure competitive vendors. The goal is to connect dots and show value every day for customers and to give a chance to provide a voice to the South, using data to connect the countries of the world to opportunities.

Ms. Ting Shih, CEO& Founder, ClickMedix noted that in 2008, ClickMedix began working on an initiative to deliver health care by mobile phone by building a strong network of customers and partners (medical, government) using mobile network technology. The initiative began in 15 countries, focused on a variety of diseases, infections and chronic diseases (heart, cancer, diabetes etc.) and using a flexible payment model adjusted to market rates. Health workers were trained to provide a diagnosis (training in India to screen for ear infections will increase 300-fold the number of people to be screened). Patient symptoms are captured on a screen. Data on patient symptoms are collected using mobile phones. The system empowers community nurses and care workers to collect data via evidence-based protocols. The project will be done in phases to build community health capacity with existing resources. It will enable doctors to serve more patients while lowering costs, virtually connect health care providers and enable collaboration; and task shifts towards community health-care professionals to treat more people remotely.

The system creates a virtual network of medical specialists and connects communities. The task is shift to community-based health business to create sustainable services while incentivizing increased health-care delivery. Chronic diseases are about the whole person; thus to address acute and chronic diseases for the whole body, a patient health score card that is colour coded is prepared along with care plans and service referrals. By showing patients a treatment plan (health matrix), they can see visible results. The screen strategy enables triage and intervention and empowers existing health ecosystem stakeholders to provide the right care at the right time at low costs. The data are aggregated for education and for enhancing the capacity of the health system to serve more patients. It builds effective public health interventions through real time and aggregates data for continuous improvement in health-care delivery. This initiative reaches communities that normally do not have services and less educated people can also become medical providers.

H.E. Helen Hai, UNIDO, Goodwill Ambassador, CEO of Made in Africa Initiative said the Prime Minister went to China looking for a company to make one thing and to make it locally. He selected Made in Africa: leadership and vision then brought the company to Africa; the private sector did not go to Africa to do aid but to achieve development goals. Through the Made in Africa initiative in Ethiopia, shoe revenue doubled and many local workers were hired. The initiative increased job creation and export generation.

Among the challenges were various taxes and many management layers but the company was sustained by the commitment of government. While other industrial zones were struggling, the company had its own industrial zone and successfully leased all the units, leading to jobs.

SS-GATE Platform for Scaling Up

Mr. Christopher Paek, Communications Officer, South-South
Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) stated that the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) was launched in 2008 with the support of UNOSSC and ILO to be a global matchmaking platform for companies working in developing countries to meet their technology needs. It identifies providers of technology solutions and matches them with potential seekers of those solutions. Many solutions were available in the South but there was the need for a scaling-up mechanism.

The SS-GATE is a market-driven exchange, an electronic clearinghouse that operates on the ground through 50 country centres in 40 countries. SS-GATE partners with existing infrastructure at the country level, components of which act as agents for SS-GATE. Through this decentralization, SS-GATE takes a strong regional approach, with particular attention to LDCs, Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Since 2009, it has listed 6,132 projects, matched 1,869 projects and transacted 857 projects. Its focus areas are food security, climate change and clean energy, and global health, guided by a decision of the Secretary-General’s Policy Committee (decision no. 2008/26).

The successful partnership between the United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya to build a 8MW hydropower plant in the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania benefited from the capacity of SS-GATE to align partners and its flexibility to be able to engage the private sector, government and civil society. As a result, $21 million was channeled by Viability Africa, a Kenyan investment firm and more than 500 jobs were created.

The key insights from the experience of SS-GATE include the following: Southern solutions are available and partnerships are the key to unlocking these solutions; project listing and matchmaking are not enough; sustainable partnership is needed; project financing is also key but there remains a critical gap; and there is no need to reinvent the wheel.

Mr. Tony Wamala, IT Officer, Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UNCCI) shared his country-level experiences and outcomes relating to SS-GATE. Tangible benefits of partnership with SS-GATE include trade promotion (trade fairs and SS-GATE Business Forum) and business networking and matching space. This has resulted in joint ventures and partnership projects for Ugandan SMEs for example a $10M project has already been signed between Bio green (a member) and Songhai center (Benin/Vietnam). In order, for more Ugandan companies to benefit from SS-GATE, they need to exploit and support the SS-GATE platform for opportunities and synergies available to achieve continued transformation of their responsive SMEs.
CLOSING CEREMONY

The Closing Ceremony of the GSSD Expo 2014 was a grand celebration of South-South successes. Eminent leaders in South-South and triangular cooperation, including government officials, leaders of United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and other leaders of Southern initiatives shared their ongoing commitment to South-South cooperation and highlighted the importance of it going forward. The Ceremony concluded with remarks of appreciation by OAS, a cultural performance and presentations of the annual South-South Cooperation Awards to individuals and organizations that have been prominent role models and champions of South-South cooperation throughout the world.

The Closing Ceremony featured messages and statements from H. E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, President of the United Nations General Assembly High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation; Mr. Jose Miguel Insulza, OAS Secretary-General, whose statement was delivered by Ms. Kim Osborne, Chief of the Cooperation Section, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI); Ms. Judith Karl, Executive Secretary of UNCDF; Mr. Jean-Luc Bories, Secretary of the UN-Women Executive Board, who delivered a statement of behalf of UN-Women; Dr. Carissa Etienne, Director of PAHO, whose statement was delivered by Dr. Isabella Danel, Deputy Director, PAHO; H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Honourable Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, who was represented by Mr. Sajeeb Ahmed Wazed, Adviser for ICT to the Honourable Prime Minister; and Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for South-South Cooperation and Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

H. E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, President of the United Nations General Assembly High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation provided an overview of the Expo, reflecting on the many achievements in regard to scaling up and replicating development solutions against the backdrop of efforts to shape the development agenda.
for the next 15 years, including the role that the South-South and triangular cooperation should play to achieve the goals that the international community choses to adopt in December 2015.

Much of the socioeconomic progress attained by the Global South is attributable to effective policy choices and actions taken by developing countries individually and collectively. The GSSD Expo has put a spotlight on many of the drivers of growth and sustainable development by showcasing more than 70 solutions that merited scaling up in order to benefit more people across the developing world.

UNDP led discussions among various partners on the linkages between poverty, health and Ebola that showed the need for a multifaceted response to the disease and demonstrated the practical measures taken by developing countries in support of Ebola affected countries in the spirit of South-South cooperation. On the issue of food security, FAO and IFAD displayed practical approaches to bolstering national, regional agricultural systems, school feeding programmes sustained by local framers and financial services that benefit local youth.

UNEP highlighted Southern pathways to viable options for protecting the planet and human wellbeing, including models for sustainable green cities, harnessing renewable energy from geothermal sources and community based marine conservation.

In the health sector, PAHO, ISAGS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have shown that the South-South and triangular cooperation provide frameworks to support countries in their efforts to reduce morbidity, mortality and poverty through collaborative initiatives. They have also noted the growing threat posed by non-communicable diseases that require greater sharing of relevant solutions and best practices. The session on accessibile tourism reminded the international community to be just and inclusive by designing policies and strategies that enable handicapped people to access and enjoy tourist sites without any hindrance.

UNICEF provided invaluable insights on standards and best practices, which are needed in the formation and sustenance of public-private-partnerships. Broader partnerships are important in the acceleration, production and diffusion of green technologies as demonstrated by WIPO and UNEP. There is the need to have a framework to protect intellectual assets if innovators are to freely exchange knowledge and experience as they generate more innovations. ILO offered practical solutions to deepen the understanding of the fundamental principles that are the bedrock of the right to work, labour standards, etc.

The Inter American Bank gave a glimpse at how regional neighbours in Latin America form strong partnerships to provide regional public goods, including frameworks for the collective public procurement of medicines and other health care goods and services. The lesson learnt is that this kind of action should be scaled up for service delivery in numerous sectors.

Ms. Kim Osborne, Chief of the Cooperation Section of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), read a statement on behalf of the OAS Secretary-General, Mr. Jose Miguel Insulza. He observed that cooperation in its various modalities is the most essential ingredient for socio-economic development, particularly as we approach the post-2015 Development Era. Multi-sectoral and multi-modal partnerships are critical components of Development cooperation mix, whether it be South-South or triangular cooperation. No one sector or actor can do it all but it can be done through collective action and the establishment of coherent, integrated plans and strategies, and the pooling of resources.

ICTs are solution multipliers through the sourcing and sharing of solutions and knowledge transfer. There still remains a critical need for the funding of development cooperation programs, specifically the South-South cooperation and dialogue on the funding of development cooperation programmes needs to continue. It is also important to have robust evaluation mechanisms for evaluation in order to measure results and impact and results, and make adjustments for improved cooperation programs and strategies. Lastly, political will, strong policies and political dialogue and commitment from policy makers, both as recipients and providers of cooperation, are fundamental to all development cooperation efforts.

Ms. Judith Karl, Executive Secretary of UNCDF, observed that participants had highlighted many different contributions of South-South cooperation, including benefits to poverty eradication, support to industrial development, food security and nutrition, and the benefits of the triangular cooperation were also emphasized to address the challenges. Much as progress has been made towards achieving the MDGs, disparities still exist between countries, states, urban and rural areas have increased. The issues of youth unemployment, environmental degradation, inequality and lack of inclusion need to be addressed. One of the challenges is developing financial models that are
inclusive and drive growth. The South-South cooperation continues to grow rapidly and the order of magnitude of additional investments needs the dynamism of South-South cooperation as a potential driver for the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

The current trends are extremely encouraging for example new banks have the opportunity to provide new mixes that can leverage greater development gains. UNCDF has indicted how derisk and capital in the local economic space can open access space to engage with local structures directly. The key challenge is to ensure that United Nations agencies are fit for purpose for further South-South cooperation. There is therefore a need to pilot and scale up financial mechanisms that facilitate better use of development financing where needs are the greatest. Help is also needed for domestic resource mobilization. In the post-2015 development era, innovative modes of development cooperation, South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation should be part of the new development paradigm. The quantity and quality of solutions showcased at the GSSD Expo indicate the potential of South-South and triangular cooperation and that there is a need to maximize their benefits for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Mr Jean-Luc Bories, Secretary of the UN Women Executive Board delivered the remarks of UN-Women Executive Director, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka. He stated that the GSSD Expo offers a unique opportunity to link solution-providers and solution seekers on global development issues. It identifies and develops combined responses to common challenges and generates economic, social and political dividends that will help engagement in the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. One key lesson learnt from the MDGs is that we need to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment.

This year’s GSSD Expo’s theme “Scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation for Sustainable Development” focuses on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. Many UN agencies, Funds and Programmes have already integrated elements of South-South and triangular cooperation in their strategic plans. UN-Women considers its facilitator role for South-South cooperation as a principle for the design of its regional architecture, for example for UN-Women acts as global broker of knowledge and experience, including through the fostering of South-South and triangular cooperation, and the sharing of lessons learned on aligning practices with normative guidance.

UN-Women contributes directly to the cycle of mutual learning through close bilateral, regional, sub-regional and interregional relationships. Examples of UN-Women use of effective South-South cooperation include the support of an Ethiopian delegation visit to India that resulted in the adoption and replication of good practices in the field of micro and small enterprises, and the promotion of bilateral South-South cooperation between El Salvador and Mexico on political participation of women.

The South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation takes into account the individual potential, respective capacities and needs of men and women equally. It has helped the creation of legal parameters to grant equal rights and opportunities for women and men, including
the removal of discriminatory legislation. The “HeforShe” campaign launched by UN-Women aims to advance gender equality since everyone needs to be involved in changing social norms, behaviours and gender stereotypes which perpetuate discrimination and inequality. The South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation adds value to improve gender equality and empowerment of women as a complementary contribution to traditional Official Development Assistance including North-South cooperation.

Dr. Isabella Danel, Deputy Director of the Latin America PAHO/WHO, delivered a statement on behalf of PAHO Director Dr. Carissa Etienne. He noted the solutions and scaling-up projects at the GSSD Expo, the multiple forms of cooperation that they represent and the variety of areas that they touch; provide good evidence of the central place that cooperation among countries occupies in the development area. They further show the unique contribution that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation can make to finding solutions for more sustainable development overall, and of particular interest to PAHO, for health development. Direct partnerships between developing countries have become more feasible and in some cases more desirable as a result of economic growth and enhanced capacity that contribute to local and sustainable solutions to problems. They also facilitate the exchange of expertise and experiences that can be applied to common problems and areas of interest.

The changing global context has created new opportunities for building sustainable development while challenging development agencies, organizations and institutions to adapt. In this environment, one overarching principle should guide everyone: national ownership of development policies must be respected and countries must be the ones to define the development model that they wish to implement. Development agencies, organizations and institutions, and especially other countries, can all contribute to the achievement of national development objectives.

PAHO has been facilitating country-to-country cooperation for more than a century and its role as broker and supporter of cooperation among countries for health development has been expanding. In the context of the Ebola outbreak, for example, PAHO technical cooperation with the Government of Cuba included training for Cuban medical personnel who were sent to support some of the African countries affected by the outbreak. Cuba has robust health institutions and a strong medical corps, transferring its technical and human resources to other countries with those specific needs. PAHO is pioneering an expanded vision of country-to-country cooperation called “Cooperation for Health Development”, which builds on Member States’ growing national capacity in health, their sub regional integration groupings, and their expressed desire to learn from, and work closely with, each other in health, especially in the context of the post 2015 development agenda. PAHO member States have approved the challenge of universal health coverage, and South-South cooperation will be key to achieving this goal. The region of the Americas is committed to South-South and triangular cooperation in keeping with global solidarity and the tradition of Pan Americanism.

Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the UN Secretary General on the South-South Cooperation expressed his appreciation to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, the Group of 77 and China and the Directors-General of development cooperation from various continents for their co-sponsorship; to JICA for the High-level Forum and national leadership; and to the leadership of the United Nations system including Secretaries-General of the 25 cooperating organizations of the Expo for their leadership throughout the system in the spirit of “Delivering as one”. It is necessary to bring the needs of the least developed countries (LDCs) to the attention of the United Nations; UNCDF is the only fund working in inclusive financial models for the LDCs.

Mr. Zhou further expressed his gratitude to all corporate leaders, CSOs, municipal leaders and all participants contributing knowledge and experiences and the UNOSSC team and OAS staff for their high level of professionalism. He reiterated the Secretary-General’s call to the UN system to think as one, act as one and deliver as one in the operational activities of the UN.

Mr. Sajeeb Ahmed Wazed, Adviser for ICT to the Honourable Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina, read the statement of Her Excellency. In her statement, the Honourable Prime Minister expressed her appreciation for honouring her with the South-South Cooperation Award for Leadership in recognition of her visionary leadership and championing of the South-South and triangular cooperation agenda and stated that the award is for the people of Bangladesh. The country is often cited as a model of development, with increased GDP and its progress towards achieving MDGs 1 through 6.
SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AWARDS

The motto of the GSSD Expo is Solutions! Solutions! Solutions! To this end, the GSSD Expo seeks to showcase the strongest and most successful Southern development solutions to the complex challenges facing the South today. Focusing on the areas most critical to Southern development in the field of energy security – climate change, industrial development, social development, decent work, food security, health, women and youth – the task of identifying the best from an entire world of Southern development solutions is great.

Many strong and innovative solution nominations were received from all regions of the world this year. Those selected were an impressive grouping, each embodying all of the 8 key attributes of Southern development solutions: (1) Southern priority/demand driven; (2) Southern ownership; (3) Southern leadership; (4) broad-based partnership; (5) innovation; (6) efficiency; (7) sustainability; and (8) scalability. While all the solutions featured in this year’s Expo were applauded for their success at meeting these key attributes, there were three that stood out as global in scope, reach, and impact and exemplary of the most important elements of South-South cooperation: innovation, partnership and leadership.

They are the embodiment of the principles at the core of South-South cooperation as described in the Nairobi outcome document: “solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. South-South cooperation and its agenda have to be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit”. These solutions, in addition to being among the best in their respective areas of focus, are deserving of special recognition for their contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation through the GSSD Expo Annual South-South Cooperation Awards.

In 2014 there were four clusters of awards: The GSSD Expo
Annual South-South Cooperation Awards and the Special Recognition Awards, presented on Day 5. The South-South Champion Awards presented on Day 1 and the South-South Visionary Awards, presented during the Gala Dinner on the evening of Day 1.

The GSSD Expo Annual South-South Cooperation Awards

While all the solutions featured in this year’s Expo were applauded for their success at meeting these key attributes, the three Awardees stand out as global in scope, reach, and impact and exemplary of the most important elements of South-South cooperation: innovation, partnership and leadership.

The Awardees, in addition to being among the best in their respective areas of focus, are deserving of special recognition for their contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation.

The South-South Cooperation Award for Innovation is given to the solution that best shows the creativity needed to address and positively impact the critical challenges of today. It especially showcases interventions that will overcome critical constraints to investments in renewable energies and in climate change mitigation.

This year’s recipient of the South-South Cooperation Award for Innovation is the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The South-South Cooperation Award for Partnership is given to the solution that best shows the cooperative spirit of South-South cooperation in a broad-based and egalitarian collaboration, including triangular and multilateral approaches.

The 2014 recipient was Sino-Africa Initiative of the Sister Cities International (SAI), a unique two-year program that ended in 2014, was designed to address the manner in which Chinese, African, and U.S. cities can collaborate on economic development and urban poverty issues in Africa. By working with Chinese, African, and U.S. public diplomacy networks, local municipal governments, and businesses, this initiative aimed to create strategies that ensured development.

The South-South Cooperation Award for Leadership is given to the solution that best shows the leadership required to bring about South-South cooperation. The 2014 recipient was Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh.

Innovation Award

Ms. Nathalie Montillot, Project Officer at WIPO, receiving the South-South Cooperation Award for Innovation from Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of the UN Secretary General on South-South Cooperation and Director of UNOSSC and Ms. Jane Thery, Director of the Department of International Affairs, OAS.

Partnership Award

Receiving the South-South Cooperation Award for Partnership on behalf of the Sino-Africa Initiative of the Sister Cities International (SAI), Ms. Mary Caine, President of Sister Cities International.

Leadership Award

Receiving the South-South Cooperation Award for Leadership on behalf of Prime Minister Hasina was Mr. Sajeeb Ahmed Wazed, Adviser for ICT to the Prime Minister.
and poverty alleviation projects addressed community needs, and promoted transparent business practices and government accountability. SAI will be recognized for its innovation as a unique program that leveraged trilateral, North-South-South partnerships. Partnerships included the African-U.S.-Chinese cities of Nairobi-Denver-Kunming, Osogbo-Asheville/Raleigh-Xiangyang, Zomba-Urbana-Haizhu District.

The South-South Cooperation Award for Leadership is presented in recognition of global leadership and consistent investment in concrete South-South solutions and inclusive partnerships. The recipient for 2014 was Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Honourable Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh.

Her Excellency’s visionary leadership and championing of the South-South and triangular cooperation agenda are an inspiration to us all. The world community, under her direction, has particularly recognized the achievements of the Bangladesh government through the project a2i and Bangladesh has now become a useful development model for others. You brought back the confidence of the people regarding governance through transparency which the traditional services couldn’t ensure. In the last few years, your government succeeded in almost all the sectors of governance including agriculture, education, health, civil facilities, land management, commerce and above all government administration in digital services through the innovative use of ICT.

Receiving the award on behalf of Prime Minister Hasina was Mr. Sajeeb Ahmed Wazed, Adviser for ICT to the Prime Minister.

The GSSD Expo Special Recognition Awards

The first awardee for 2014 was the Government of Egypt. This award was presented to the Government of Egypt for initiating the first national-level South-South Development Academy as well as the supplementary trust fund in support to advancing Egypt’s South-South cooperation agenda. The creation of Egypt’s South-South Development Academy is the result of systematic and continuous effort that was started in 2012 and led by the Government of Egypt and supported by the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office and UNDP team in Egypt.

MyShelterFoundation based in the Philippines was the second awardee. My Shelter Foundation, was founded by
Mr Illac Diaz and its project ‘Liter of Light’ uses recycled plastic bottles as solar light bulbs. The project provides energy to poor families and enables them to be ‘green’ as the technology is very simple and sustainable and the light is free.

The Liter of Light movement has grown to brighten up 28,000 homes and the lives of 70,000 people in Metro Manila alone. Now Liter of Light is present in India, Indonesia, and even as far away as Switzerland.

The third special awardee was presented to the Government of Kazakhstan for championing the first regional civil service hub – a dialogue platform that brings together 29 countries for the continuous exchange of best practices and experience in the field of civil service – backed by $14,000,000 contribution from the Government of Kazakhstan in support to practical South-South Knowledge Exchange in the field of civil service.

The South-South Visionary Awards

The South-South Visionaries Awards are presented to those who have consistently embodied all three aspects of the annual South-South Cooperation Awards – innovation, partnership and leadership – over the course of their careers.

In 2014, the Awardees have displayed an innovative vision in leading the international community forward towards meeting competing development goals with limited resources.

This Award is also a token of gratitude to the men and women who toil everyday to place the cooperative spirit at centre stage in international efforts to improve the human condition.

The first Visionary Award was presented to H.E. José Miguel Insulza, Secretary-General of Organization of American States for demonstrating political will and integrity of vision in his leadership of the Organization of American States – a bridge, not only between the countries of the region, but also with the rest of the developing world, and beyond. Mr. Insulza has conceived pioneering instruments that have opened new pathways of cooperation – including, among many, the Inter-American Social Protection Network and the Inter-American Competitiveness Network, which are both showcased at this Expo. This is results focused South-South and triangular partnership for development. He is also leading a truly transformative development dialogue within Latin America – an inspiration and model for all regions.

The second Awardee was The ICT and Future Planning area of the Ministry of Science in the Republic of Korea for the partnership they have had with the UN Office of South-South Cooperation since 2011 to implement the Korean Facility. This generous support for South-South and triangular cooperation to address the MDGs amounts to approximately $5 million over 5 years. They are also being recognized for their support of the 2014 GSSD Expo amounting to $36,000.

The award was received by Sanghun Lee, Director of the Multilateral Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning.

The third Visionary Award was presented to The Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) in the Prime Minister’s Department of the Government of Malaysia. MIGHT is receiving this award for its generous support and leadership in support of South-South and triangular cooperation. The award was received by Dr. Raslan Ahmad, Senior Vice-President of (MIGHT).

The fourth Visionary Award was presented to H.E. Ahmed Al-Meraikhi, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar. This award is being presented to the Government of Qatar for its substantial contribution to scaling up South-South Cooperation by: hosting the First Arab States Regional South-South Development EXPO (18-20 February 2014) and initiating practical follow up activities in support of the Expo to exchange knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how among the countries in the Arab States region and beyond. The award was received on behalf of H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al-Meraikhi by Ms. Nada Ar-Rahman/Al Sayed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The fifth Visionary Award was presented to Mr. Jim Donovan, CEO of ADEC Innovations. Mr. Donovan has focused on making a difference in the important topics of our time – healthcare, education and climate change. Bringing this market experience in leveraging data and business process management, Jim is redefining and revolutionizing the Environment, Social and Governance space. As the CEO of a relaunched ADEC Innovations, we recognize Jim as a visionary focused on helping improve all countries in the Global South – and beyond.

The sixth Visionary Award was presented to Mr. Dato Cheong Yee Lee, Chairman of the International Science Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation in Malaysia, for unrelenting efforts in linking the International Science Technology & Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation (ISTIC) to the South-South Agenda in his capacity as Chairperson of the ISTIC Board.
The Organization of American States (OAS) is the world’s oldest regional organization, dating back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, D.C., from October 1889 to April 1890. That meeting approved the establishment of the International Union of American Republics, and the stage was set for the weaving of a web of provisions and institutions that came to be known as the inter-American system, the oldest international institutional system.

The OAS brings together all 35 independent States of the Americas and constitutes the main political, juridical, and social governmental forum in the Hemisphere. In addition, it has granted permanent observer status to 69 States, as well as to the European Union (EU). The Organization uses a four-pronged approach to effectively implement its essential purposes, based on its main pillars: democracy, human rights, security, and development.

The OAS Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (OAS-SEDI) serves as the action arm for development of the Organization of American States and works with countries to support their efforts in achieving sustainable and inclusive economic, human and social development. This conforms with the Organization’s founding principle, as expressed in the OAS Charter and reiterated in the Social Charter of the Americas, that “development with equity strengthens and consolidates democracy, since the two are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.” Together with security and human rights, the development-democracy nexus exemplifies the mutually reinforcing work of the Organization.

Policy dialogue at regular ministerial and high-level meetings organized by the OAS creates a space for authorities to discuss the region’s outlook and emerging challenges, and arrive at policy decisions to improve education; strengthen competitiveness and innovation; support micro, small and medium enterprise development; reinforce social inclusion; support job creation; and invest in sustainable energy, among other areas. Ongoing consultations and partnerships with civil society, the private sector and academia reinforce the Organization’s holistic and inclusive approach.

Working simultaneously with Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Labor, Education, Tourism, Social Development, Sustainable Development, and Science and Technology, among others, the OAS has pioneered an all-of-government approach that constitutes an important competitive advantage in the formulation and implementation of an integrated development agenda. The OAS thus serves as a hub organization for regional cooperation, building networks; identifying areas for collaboration; mobilizing human, technical, and financial resources for effective programming; and helping to advance South-South and triangular cooperation.

The partnership-for-development model embraces the participation of all member States, recognizing that every country, regardless of its size or level of development, has valuable experiences to share. This has strengthened OAS-SEDI’s capacity to deliver tangible results by fostering direct exchanges between countries to benefit from practical experience and lessons learned. Today, the Organization is known for the effective collaborative networks and communities of practice that have taken South-South cooperation to a whole new level and positioned the OAS as a solutions multiplier. Through the sharing of experiences and capacities, networks such as the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC), Inter-American Social Protection Network (IASPN), Inter-American Teachers Network (ITEN), Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) and the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) are helping countries to make generational leaps in advancing toward sustainable economic growth and social inclusion.

“I believe that we are all part of an integrated system that is built upon joint contributions and that the solutions to those challenges will only be achieved through enhanced cooperation. The cooperation mechanisms of the OAS constitute important spaces that can help us move past those challenges. If we work together as a region, we can achieve a lot more in less time for the benefit of all.”

José Miguel Insulza
Secretary General
Organization of American States
The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation’s primary mandate is to promote, coordinate and support South-South and triangular cooperation on a global and United Nations system-wide basis.

Formerly known as the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, hosted by UNDP, was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1978. It receives policy directives and guidance from the General Assembly High-level Committee (HLC) on South-South Cooperation, which is a committee of the whole and a subsidiary body of the General Assembly that reviews worldwide progress in South-South cooperation. The Office serves as the Secretariat of the HLC, preparing all substantive reports, including the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation. It organizes the General Assembly-proclaimed United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, celebrated annually on 12 September. It manages the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and the IBSA Facility for Hunger and Poverty Alleviation. It also implements programmes financed by the United Nations Development Programme.

To participate in the next GSSD Expo, please register online at www.southsouthexpo.org.

To nominate a solution, please visit www.southsouthexpo.org and contact the GSSD Expo Secretariat at gssdexpo.secretariat@unossc.org.

To become a Lead Co-organizer/Partner/Sponsor of the GSSD Expo, please consider the opportunities listed below:

- Contribution to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation;
- Sponsorship of a publication on South-South and triangular cooperation (e.g., South-South in Action, South-South Executive Brief, South Report);
- Printing of the GSSD Expo 2014 book (a publication commemorating the solutions shared at Expo 2014);
- Sponsorship of a sub-forum or side event;
- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate or Head of State from a landlocked developing country or least developed country;
- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States, Europe or Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate of an intergovernmental or non-governmental organization;
- Sponsorship of a forum panellist.

Benefits for Lead Co-organizers/Partners/Sponsors include:

- Invitation to participate in all conferences and summits relating to South-South cooperation;
- Placement of your logo on our promotional materials, brochures, banners, posters and the GSSD Expo website;
- Exhibition booth to showcase your products.

For details, please contact the GSSD Expo Secretariat at gssdexpo.secretariat@unossc.org or visit the GSSD Expo official website at www.southsouthexpo.org.
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