

UN Day for South-South Cooperation

An event jointly organized by the UN Rome-based Agencies

Tuesday, 12 September 2017
10.30 am-12.30 pm
Italian Conference Room, IFAD headquarters, Rome



Background

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in transition in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

More than a decade ago, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to commemorate South-South Cooperation each year on 12 September. It is a reflection of the UN's recognition that SSTC is indeed an invaluable means of achieving sustainable development and improving the lives of billions of people in the global South and beyond.

The purpose of the UN Day on SSTC is to, among other issues, celebrate achievements; share development successes; explore new avenues for collaboration; forge innovative and inclusive partnerships; and launch concrete collaborative schemes towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IFAD, FAO and WFP – the three United Nations Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) – are increasingly recognizing the importance of SSTC, and devoting attention to using SSTC in their activities to further their mandates of eliminating poverty, fighting hunger and malnutrition and delivering food assistance in emergencies. More specifically, the RBAs also realize the importance of investing in rural youth employment for meeting the SDGs. In this regard, SSTC can be an effective instrument to help developing countries in providing rural youth better incomes and prosperity.

Event objectives

To commemorate the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, the RBAs will organize an event on 12 September 2017 to discuss their experiences as well as the opportunities and challenges in leveraging SSTC. The main objectives of the event will be to:

- 1) Discuss selected experiences drawn from IFAD, FAO and WFP programmes;
- 2) Illustrate some examples of key SSTC partnerships that IFAD, FAO and WFP have integrated into their operations;
- 3) Illustrate how the RBAs plan to further their SSTC activities in the next three years; and
- 4) Discuss the role of SSTC as an implementation modality to promote rural youth employment.

The event will also be an opportunity to identify issues that can be further treated in more detail during the international SSTC conference planned by IFAD, in partnership with the Government of Brazil, FAO, UNOSSC and others, in November 2017 in Brasilia. Moreover, this will be another opportunity to reiterate the cooperation of the RBAs around SSTC activities, which will also be reflected during the annual UNOSSC Global South-South Expo, to be held in Turkey at the end of November, where the RBAs are planning to discuss on a possible “roadmap” towards the Buenos Aires Plan of Action's 40th anniversary event (BAPA+40), through collaborating on brokering SSTC with a focus on SDG2.

Format

Participants will be welcomed by **Ashwani K. Muthoo**, Director of IFAD's Global Engagement, Knowledge and Strategy Division (GKS), who will act as event moderator.

The IFAD Vice-President, **Michel Mordasini**, will provide his opening remarks, highlighting, among other things, the main areas where the Fund will work during IFAD11 to strengthen its work on SSTC to promote sustainable and inclusive transformation. He will also focus on the role of SSTC as a key component of IFAD's holistic development approach and evolving business model to promote rural youth employment.

This be followed by remarks by **Daniel Gustafson**, Deputy Director-General of FAO, who will focus his intervention on FAO's experience with SSTC, and how SSTC contributes to the promotion of solutions and innovations among the countries of the Global South.

Maurizio Navarra, SSTC Team Leader, GKS, will provide a short presentation on IFAD's SSTC strategy, with main outputs and outcomes in 2017 and expected action plan in 2018.

H.E. Ms Reenat Sandhu, Indian Ambassador to Italy and Permanent Representative to the RBAs, will deliver a keynote statement on behalf of **Shobhan Kumar Pattanayak**, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, India, on the role of SSTC in meeting the objectives of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.

A panel discussion will follow with development practitioners reporting on their experiences in promoting investment cooperation and sharing innovative agriculture and rural development solutions to improve productivity, food security and nutrition. The session will be moderated by **Khalida Bouzar**, Director of IFAD's Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN). Panellists will include representatives from IFAD Regional Divisions, developing countries, FAO and WFP (see agenda in Annex).

Closing remarks will be delivered by **Perin Saint-Ange**, Associate Vice-President, IFAD's Programme Management Department (PMD); and **Paul Winters**, Associate Vice-President a.i., IFAD's Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD).

Webcasting

Webcasting will be made available through the IFAD website to enable external audiences to follow the deliberations at https://webcasting.ifad.org/sstc_day.

Provisional agenda

| Time | Description | Speaker/Panelist |
|-------|---|---|
| 10.30 | Welcome and objectives | Ashwani K. Muthoo , Director, GKS, IFAD |
| 10.35 | The importance of SSTC for IFAD to achieve its mandate | Michel Mordasini , IFAD Vice-President |
| 10.45 | FAO's experience with SSTC and future priorities | Daniel Gustafson , FAO Deputy Director-General |
| 10.55 | Presentation of highlights of IFAD's SSTC strategy | Maurizio Navarra , SSTC Team Leader, GKS, IFAD |
| 11.05 | Keynote statement on the role of SSTC in meeting the objectives of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs | Shobhan Kumar Pattanayak , Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, India Delivered by Her Excellency, Ms Reenat Sandhu , Ambassador to Italy and Permanent Representative to the Rome-Based Agencies |
| 11.20 | Q&A session | |
| 11.40 | The opportunities and challenges in promoting investments and sharing solutions across developing countries – including Q&A session | Moderator: Khalida Bouzar , Director, Near East North Africa and Europe Division (NEN), IFAD Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdelhamid Senouci Bereksi, Ambassador of Algeria to Italy • Joaquin Lozano, Director, Latin America and Caribbean Division (LAC), IFAD • Eniola Mafe, Partnerships & Business Development Manager, Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI) Foundation • Marcela Villarreal, Director of Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division, FAO • Stanlake Samkange, Director, Policy and Programme Division, WFP |
| 12.25 | Closing remarks | Perin Saint-Ange , Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department (PMD), IFAD Paul Winters , Associate Vice-President a.i., Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD), IFAD |

Welcome coffee will be available outside of the Italian Conference Room starting from 10.00am