

UNOSSC inputs to Report of the Secretary-General on Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027)

Draft recommendation for SG Report

SG can reiterate the role of South-South and triangular cooperation and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving the overarching goal of eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and urge UN development system to further strengthen support to South-South and triangular cooperation, at global, regional and country-level, particularly for countries in special situations LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs.

South-South Trust Funds 2022 Data

The South-South Trust Funds, managed by UNOSSC, have 75 active projects and initiatives across the Global South spanning all 17 SDGs in support of vulnerable communities gaining greater climate resilience, improving and diversifying their livelihoods, and addressing COVID-19 health care system challenges. In 2022, the India-UN Development Fund supported 34 projects, the IBSA Fund supported seven projects, and the PGTF supported 26 projects. 8 initiatives were implemented under the UN Fund for South-South Cooperation (UNFSSC). A total of 70 countries were supported through these projects constituting 23 LDCs, 24 SIDS and 9 LLDCs. More than 15 UN entities supported the implementation of the projects and contributed to the 2030 Agenda in line with the system-wide role of UNOSSC and United Nations reform processes.

IBSA Fund and India-UN Fund have contributed almost \$20 Million for projects or project proposals that address the eradication of poverty during 2022.

IBSA Fund ongoing projects and approved proposals total \$11.6M, of which 51% were project proposals approved during 2022. The projects intervention includes enhancement of agriculture production, irrigation systems, marketing and access to markets, introduction of agriculture processing plants or photovoltaic systems for better agriculture, restoration of degraded lands.

The India-UN Fund projects that contributed towards poverty eradication in the 2022 had a total budget of \$8.3M. The projects supported irrigation systems, modernization of agriculture processing plants, provision of green houses and equipment, training and resilience of smallholder farmers, photovoltaic systems for water provision.

Examples of projects

The India-UN Fund project in Cameroon improved access to sustainable energy and energy efficiency in rural areas in northern and northeastern Cameroon. The project results include: the provision of 1,010 solar kits to 1,000 households in 26 villages, and five ‘Solar-Mamas’ trained at the Barefoot College, center in Dakar, Senegal, to maintain solar equipment.

The India-UN Fund project in Zimbabwe contributed to the reduction of the negative effects of frequent droughts and towards longer-term resilience by improving food production and marketing

opportunities of smallholder farmers. More than 5,200 farmers received training in post-harvest management, while the project supported the provision of post-harvest equipment.

The IBSA Fund project in Eswatini is supporting improved food security, through rainwater harvesting and drop irrigation systems for backyard gardens. The project supported solar powered borehole water benefiting 1,903 community members, while 456 farm households were trained on the use of efficient irrigation methods and 352 farmers received and planted vegetable seedlings.

Knowledge exchange

Multi-stakeholder participation and enhanced South-South cooperation are critical for poverty eradication. Knowledge exchange and capacity development through South-South and triangular cooperation continued to play an important role in contributing to poverty eradication efforts. As one of its priority areas, UNOSSC has been working to strengthen the knowledge base for poverty eradication through research and information exchange on policy options, experiences, and best practices. The Office, through its digital platform, South-South Galaxy, provides a digital repository including 900+ good practices spotlighting the role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in supporting all SDGs. This also includes good practices on a wide array of successful initiative on poverty eradication from the field.

Earlier in 2021, a Community of Practice/ network of think tanks on “Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development was constituted under South-South Global Thinkers initiatives, which is a global coalition of think-tank networks on South-South cooperation. This was done jointly with Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the network brought together over 20 leading think tanks from across the region. It continues to advance joint research and advocacy; knowledge and experience sharing and promote cooperation on poverty eradication.

In 2022, the publication, “*Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development – Vol. 4*”, was launched including 130 good practices from more than 50 partners, including Member States, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations entities, and other development stakeholders highlighting solutions for poverty alleviation and other key areas like COVID-19 response and recovery, climate action, trade facilitation and digitalization.

Capacity building and knowledge exchange workshops were also organized under the Global South-South Development Centre (GSSDC) Project, with the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), focusing on China-Africa cooperation in rice value chain, climate change, disaster management, and trade in services. The Project also supported knowledge products and a publication on “China-Tanzania Cooperation through Agriculture and Poverty Reduction Partnerships”.

Inter-agency coordination and coherence

In 2022, UNOSSC took measures to strengthen the capacity of UN entities to respond to developing countries in addressing SDGs, including poverty eradication, through South-South and triangular cooperation. UNOSSC collaborated with the UN inter-agency mechanism comprising over 40 UN entities, the Development Cooperation Office (DCO), the United

Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and Regional Commissions as well as some United Nations Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) to develop guidelines to implement the UN system-wide Strategy, mainstream South-South and triangular cooperation in United Nations Sustainable Development Frameworks UNSDCFs at country-level and in the regional collaborative frameworks and workplans. The Guidelines will help the UN system to respond better to requests from national government partners to address poverty and other SDGs through South-South and triangular cooperation. The guidelines will be released in 2023.