

**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION
DIVISION FOR THE ARAB STATES, EUROPE AND THE CIS
2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION GROWING IN IMPORTANCE WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION LANDSCAPE

CONTRIBUTION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION CONTINUES TO INCREASE

UNOSSC GUIDING FRAMEWORKS

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION, 2018-2021

Goal: to support Member States efforts to achieve the overarching goal of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment so as to achieve the 2030 Agenda through enhanced South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation.

Providing effective secretariat support to intergovernmental bodies, including analytical reporting on trends and opportunities

Coordinating coherent United Nations system support to South-South and triangular cooperation, and monitoring and reporting on the mainstreaming of that cooperation

Forging strategic South-South and triangular partnerships

Mapping Southern development solutions and becoming a robust knowledge hub on South-South and triangular cooperation

Undertaking outreach, advocacy and strategic communication on issues of critical importance to the South that call for South-South solutions

Mobilizing resources and managing existing funds and others to be established for South-South

UNOSSC REGIONAL STRATEGIC APPROACH FOR ARAB STATES, EUROPE AND THE CIS

Support to National-level Coordination Mechanisms on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Facilitation of SSC Online Portal for real time access to South-South-related information

Mobilizing Funding Partners for exchange in South-South solutions, technologies and expertise

2018 DELIVERABLES

**Component 1:
Country-level
Support**

**Component 2:
Regional-level
Facilitation**

**Component 3:
SSC Solutions
Portal**

**Component 4:
IFAD- IsDB – UNOSSC
Partnership Initiative**

**Component 5:
Advocacy through
Innovation and Media**

Stocktaking exercise in Tunisia conducted

The 4th Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS (Istanbul, Turkey)

83 new successful solutions

Results of the SSTC-ADFS consolidated on the webpage

Regularly updated websites (23 news entries, video, photos, presentations)

Stocktaking reports on SSC in Djibouti, Georgia and Montenegro launched

The 5th Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS (New York, USA)

6 solutions on agriculture at agro.southsouthworld

5 experts’ exchanges with 117 beneficiaries

E-Newsletter (Issues 7, 8 and 9)

Component 1 Cont'd: Country-level Support	Component 2 Cont'd: Regional-level Facilitation	Component 3 Cont'd: SSC Solutions Portal	Component 4 Cont'd: IFAD – IsDB – UNOSSC Partnership Initiative	
<i>South-South in Action report on the role of Croatia (launched in Istanbul)</i>	<i>South-South in Action report on the role of UNESCO</i>	<i>COMSEC landing page with 10 COMSEC youth-led solutions</i>	<i>HarvestIt App</i>	<i>4 presentations on SSC in the specialized events</i>
<i>South-South in Action report on the PICA (launched in NY)</i>	<i>The Silk Road Mayors' Meeting on SSC in Smart Green Cities and Tourism</i>	<i>Enhanced landing page for South-South Development Academy in Egypt</i>	<i>6 regional reports on the best innovative home-grown solutions</i>	<i>6 media campaigns</i>
<i>Strengthened institutional set-up and policy of</i>	<i>South-South Cooperation Workshop (Cairo, Egypt)</i>	<i>Enhanced Africa sub-portal for UNDP RH in Addis Ababa</i>	<i>6 country-level policy documents</i>	
<i>2 new focal points for SSC in Lebanon and Djibouti designated</i>	<i>"A Water Kiosk in School" solution transfer to Rwanda</i>		<i>Video on the results of SSTC-ADFS</i>	
<i>Training on SSTC in Green Economy in Implementing the 2030 Agenda</i>	<i>Youth4South Edition orientation training</i>		<i>High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the New SSGE-ADFS Partnership Initiative (Dubai, UAE)</i>	
	<i>Expanding Partnership with WFP led by WFP Egypt</i>			

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I. OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

SSC growing in importance within the international development cooperation landscape:

Countries of the South are intensifying their cooperation with each other to accelerate the attainment of sustainable peace and prosperity. Global growth slowed following the financial crisis of 2008-2009, but the current upward trend is largely attributable to the performance and recovery of emerging economies and the South as a whole. Growing Southern economies are steering South-South exchanges that benefit many countries in the global South. However, external forces could continue to hinder socioeconomic progress across the developing world. This suggests a greater need for nuanced policy responses and actions if the promise of the 2030 Agenda to eradicate poverty in all its forms is to be realized by 2030.

The contribution of developing countries to international development cooperation continues to increase:

After the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement, India and China launched several initiatives that elevated South-South development cooperation to a higher level. In 2016, India announced a \$10 billion concessional credit line to Africa over a period of five years, further to \$600 million in grant assistance, plus an earlier line-of-credit programme that India had extended to Africa. China established a \$2 billion fund to assist developing countries towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, thus launching its South-South cooperation fund.

It is within this overall context that the Division for Arab States, Europe and the CIS of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) launched its support activities initially for the Arab States region since its inception in July 2012 (in cooperation and coordination with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States) and eventually- following the re-structuring - also for the Europe/CIS region in May, 2014 (in close partnership with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS and its Istanbul Regional Hub). The high demand for the Division's services resulted in intensified cooperation at national and regional level, production of knowledge products and capacity building efforts in coordinating South-South cooperation. Specific focus has been given to advance SSC exchanges in agriculture and food security in a number of the countries in both regions (please refer to the 2015, 2016 and 2017 Annual Reports available at www.arab-ecis.unsouthsouth.org).

II. UNOSSC GUIDING FRAMEWORKS

In its work, UNOSSC is guided by the **Strategic framework of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, 2018-2021** that was approved by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office for Project Services at its Annual session 2018 (DP/CF/SSC/6). It aims to achieve the overarching goal of supporting Member States efforts to achieve the eradication of poverty in all its forms and to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda through enhanced South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation.

In line with the overarching goal, UNOSSC pursues six objectives, namely:

- a) providing effective secretariat support to intergovernmental bodies, including analytical reporting on trends and opportunities;
- b) coordinating coherent United Nations system support to South-South and triangular cooperation, and monitoring and reporting on the mainstreaming of that cooperation;
- c) forging strategic South-South and triangular partnerships;
- d) mapping Southern development solutions and becoming a robust knowledge hub on South-South and triangular cooperation;
- e) undertaking outreach, advocacy and strategic communication on issues of critical importance to the South that call for South-South solutions; and
- f) mobilizing resources and managing existing funds and others to be established for South-South cooperation.

In providing its catalytic services at the regional level, the work of the UNOSSC Division for Arab States, Europe and the CIS is also informed by the **UNOSSC Regional Strategy towards further advancing South-South, East-East, and Triangular Cooperation for development in the Arab States, Eastern Europe and CIS** that comprises three elements:

A. Support to National-level Coordination Mechanisms on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Experience shows that countries with the existing *policy, coordination mechanism, and resources* - including packaged knowledge and expertise, clearly identified needs, and some funding to support exchange in those with other countries - have proven more successful in South-South Cooperation than countries reverting to South-South Cooperation on an ad hoc basis.

B. Facilitation of SSC Online Portal for real time access to South-South-related information

While national-level coordination is critical to ensuring scaled up South-South Cooperation within and beyond the regions, the approach should provide for seamless and non-bureaucratic horizontal linkages, local leadership and ownership, as well as it should be inclusive and systematic in a sense that support activities should benefit as many of existing and potential South-South exchanges involving various government, civil society, and private sector players as possible.

C. Mobilizing Funding Partners for scaled up exchange in South-South solutions, technologies and expertise

Building on existing institutional arrangements, capacities developed and other resources available (avoiding duplication of arrangements, capacities and resource facilities) while implementing the recommended approach can help to seriously reduce the set-up costs, and in itself serve as a driver towards a more harmonized and inclusive approach.

III. DELIVERABLES

In the course of 2018, in line with the new UNOSSC Strategic the Division continued to provide tailor- made support services for the UN Country Teams and the Government Focal Points on South-South Cooperation in the two regions. The services were provided on a demand-driven basis aiming to enable respective countries to pursue their national South-South and triangular cooperation agendas in addressing their individual and shared development priorities.

More particularly, the following range of deliverables was produced in the reported period:

Component 1: Systematic Country-level Support in Advancing South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Arab States and Europe/CIS regions

The holistic approach was continually introduced and promoted at various levels in the establishment of strategic national coordination systems for advancing of national South-South and triangular cooperation agendas for the Member States, including through the outcome recommendations of national stocktaking exercises on trends and opportunities for promoting SSC. A solid emphasis was placed on further development of the capacities of the national focal points on South-South Cooperation designated by the governments, as well as decision-makers responsible for coordinating development cooperation in both regions, and building sense of ownership for SSC at the national level.

Deliverables:

1.1 National-level stocktaking exercises on trends and opportunities for promoting South-South Cooperation.

- **Three national-level stocktaking reports on trends and opportunities for South-South Cooperation (Djibouti, Georgia and Montenegro)** were finalized, endorsed by the responsible national authorities and UNRC offices in the countries and launched. The countries confirmed their intention to intensify their South-South cooperation efforts that would lead to attaining their individual and shared priorities. The reports are available online on the Division web-site (available at: <http://www.arab-ecis.unsouthsouth.org/library/publications/>).
- In response to the formal demand of the Government, **a national stocktaking exercise on trends and opportunities for South-South cooperation was conducted in Tunisia.**
 - As part of the stock-taking exercise, the consultations with the key governmental institutions, international partners and private sector were conducted. Under the recommendations of the Tunisian Agency for Technical Cooperation, the national focal point for SSC, 10 consultative meetings with the governmental institutions took place: the Tunisian Agency for Technical Cooperation, the Ministry of Tourism, the Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies (CITET), the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of General Education, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MCTDE), the National Sanitation Utility ONAS, the Ministry of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries (MAHRF), the Tunisia Export (CEPEX), and the Ministry of Industry.
 - As a result of the stocktaking exercise, a draft report was produced and provided for the comments to the national stakeholders. Cleared by the national stakeholders, the report is now available online on the Division web-site.

1.2 Two new governmental focal points on SSC were designated in Lebanon and Djibouti.

1.3 Institutional support to the SSC Coordination Unit in Sudan: Based on the recommendations in the stocktaking report conducted earlier, UNOSSC provided assistance in the three-months secondment of the IsDB expert to support in strengthening the institutional set-up and policy of the SSC Coordination Unit at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning in Sudan, including support in drafting the concept note, preparation of the action plan and the strategy of the Unit.

- 1.4 **Countries of the regions advanced and promoted their expertise both in attaining development priorities and development cooperation.** The two South-South in Action reports, namely, “Croatia: A Unique Bridge between North and South Development Cooperation” and the “Palestinian International Cooperation Agency: Solidarity through Cooperation and Development” were developed and launched at the Fourth Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS and the Global South-South Development Expo 2018, respectively.
- 1.5 **Training on the UN Catalytic Support to South-South & Triangular Cooperation in Implementing the 2030 Agenda with focus on Green Economy.** In October 2018, the Division in cooperation with the United Nations System’s Staff College (UNSSC) Knowledge Centre and in the framework of its partnership with the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) organized a training for 18 participants from the ministries, international development agencies and international organizations presented in the regions to build a common understanding of the theory and practice of South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of development cooperation.
- 1.6 **Visibility of the Arab States and ECIS countries at a global level:** High-level representatives of Egypt, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Palestine and Uzbekistan contributed to the WGEO Preparatory Conference held during the World Green Economy Summit 2018. Representatives of Morocco, Tunisia and Sudan contributed to the High-level Forum of Directors General for Development Cooperation within the Global South-South Development Expo 2018 as speakers in November 2018 in New York, USA.
- 1.7 **National ownership in SSC was strengthened.** With the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey the Fourth Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS on the Innovative Solutions for the Engagement of the Private Sector in Achieving the 2030 Agenda – the Promotion of Entrepreneurship through South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the Establishment of the UfM Business Platform was organized.
- 1.8 **Institutionalization of the partnership between national SSC coordination authorities and UNOSSC. Interagency agreement between Palestinian Agency for International Cooperation and UNOSSC** signed in Brasilia, Brazil. The Division has supported and contributed to the development and signing of the agreement aimed at the development of South-South knowledge sharing, cooperation to find development solutions provided by Southern countries, and facilitating the high-level dialogue on policies, as well as plans and technical exchange towards institutional partnership through South-South and triangular cooperation.
- 1.9 **The Division’s Advisory team provided on-demand services to the Governments and UN agencies at national level on the issues related to South-South and triangular cooperation,** including elaboration of relevant content for the web-pages, consultations on documenting solutions, reviewing reports and presentations, delivering presentations on SSC at national-level events.
- 1.10 **Youth volunteers’ engagement,** including collaboration with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV), in advancing South-South cooperation continued. The volunteers have contributed to populating the solutions mapping portal, developing concept notes of projects for mobilization of partners and funds, and advocating for South-South cooperation in various events. One concept note developed into a full proposal for the review and resource mobilization purposed by the Union for Mediterranean: South-South-UfM Campus for vocational education of Syrian refugees.

Component 2: Regional-level Facilitation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Arab States, Europe and the CIS

The 2018 was a year that highlighted greater expansion of regional level activities of the Division, all conducted in line with a strong and flexible regional approach and based on the new UNOSSC Strategic Framework have assisted in providing demand-driven response to the countries and facilitated cooperation based on solidarity, reciprocity, and mutual benefit. Moreover, the production of South-South in Action publications, the stocktaking reports in the countries of the regions allowed documenting the existing opportunities for further promotion of SSC, including available expertise, funding and mechanisms. Other key activities of the Division during the reporting period encompassed the capitalization of existing regional platforms and their strength in promoting cooperation among the countries, as well as the supporting capacity building and networking among the stakeholders engaged in South-South cooperation.

Deliverables:

- 2.1 **The Fourth Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS on Innovative Solutions for the Engagement of the Private Sector in Achieving the 2030 Agenda; the Promotion of Entrepreneurship through South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the Establishment of the UFM Business Platform** in Istanbul, Turkey in June 2018. The event organized in collaboration with UNDP, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Union for Mediterranean and the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. 50 key decision-makers and practitioners coordinating development cooperation from over 25 countries of the Arab States, the Europe and the CIS gathered at the Forum to discuss the role of South-South and triangular cooperation in promoting entrepreneurship and engaging the private sector in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Joint Statement was agreed by participants reflecting the key directions of intensification of support to SSC.
- 2.2 **The Fifth Regional Networking Forum for the Arab States, Europe and the CIS on South-South cooperation in a Green Economy for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security** as a side-event of the GSSD Expo 2018 in New York, USA in November 2018. The Forum was conducted in partnership with IFAD, IsDB and WGEO and joined by over 40 participants, including national focal points, heads and high-level officials of international and regional organizations and institutions. Representatives of national development cooperation agencies from the Arab States, Europe and the CIS

(Croatia, Morocco, State of Palestine), as well as the Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation were among the active contributors and participants of the Forum. The participants agreed to come out with a practical solutions in green economy, especially after the establishment of the World Green Economy Organization, and the representatives of Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia and Uzbekistan expressed demand for the solutions to be replicated in their respective countries.

- 2.3 **The Silk Road Mayor's Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Smart Green Cities and Tourism** was organized jointly by WGEO, UNOSSC and the Maritime Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance (MCSR-CA) as side-event of the World Green Economy Summit 2018 with the aim to promote South-South cooperation among the Maritime-Continental Silk Road Cities Alliance (MCSR CA) members along the "Belt and Road" as well as beyond. About 60 participants representing 20 cities in Africa, Arab States, Asia, Europe and the CIS regions attended the meeting and agreed to contribute to the expansion of an action-oriented WGEO's Smart and Sustainable Cities Platform (including the focus on tourism) for future collaboration for the participating cities and other stakeholders.
- 2.4 **The South-South in Action report on UNESCO.** The Division supported the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in developing and launching the publication that demonstrates how UNESCO is promoting South-South and triangular cooperation to advance inclusive, quality education and lifelong learning and to bolster science, technology and innovation.
- 2.5 **Cairo Workshop: South-South Cooperation and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Challenges and Opportunities.** In July 2018, the Division supported a round of preparatory consultations ahead of the Second High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40, which will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 20 to 22 March 2019) hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt in Cairo that focuses on the role of South-South cooperation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It brought together 57 representatives of national coordination agencies on South-South and triangular cooperation and institutional focal points of a number of international organizations and think tanks, including the UN Coordination Group on the Least Developed Countries, the OECD Development Centre and the South Centre. They shared the experiences on existing mechanisms for South-South and triangular cooperation, lessons learnt over the past four decades that go beyond technical cooperation and exchanged insights and ideas on the conceptual framework of South-South and triangular cooperation and their contribution to achieve 2030 Agenda. The Summary of the workshop is available on <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12CFROIEi0GxNNIMGO2FLbc-lp-SlkrZp/view>.
- 2.6 **South-South & Triangular Cooperation in Implementing the 2030 Agenda: Youth4South Edition orientation training** for young people was organized in cooperation with the UN System Staff College (UNSSC), UN Volunteers, China Institute for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (CISSCA), UNFPA, IsDB and SESRIC in June 2018. More than 20 established young professionals and young officials from national governments, technical cooperation agencies and related sectors learnt and exchanged views with their peers from other developing countries to adapt and apply South-South and triangular cooperation tools and methods in scaling-up sustainable development solutions in their own community, institution and country contexts.
- 2.7 **Support to the winners of Youth4South Solution Awareness Contest to transfer their solutions.** With the Division's continuous regional level actions on the UNOSSC Global Initiative Youth4South Climate Change Action, young winners of the First Youth4South Solution Awareness Contest used the opportunity to share the success of their solutions with the youth in other countries:
 - From the Philippines to Indonesia: a non-profit Silid Aralan, Inc. (SAI) that develops programs for academically-challenged public school students, is transferring its iLead program to the youth in Jakarta, Indonesia. The transfer of expertise was initiated when YCAB Foundation (YCAB), an organization based in Jakarta, Indonesia, focused on education and capacity building to foster youth development, expressed its interest in the knowledge exchange with SAI. Starting from September 2018, the adapted program is used to educate 25 unprivileged students in Jakarta;
 - From Kenya to Rwanda: "A Water Kiosk in School" solution is in process of transfer to Rwanda through making networks and building the basis for setting up, ensuring financial sustainability and scaling up the solution. In partnership with the International Transformation Foundation (UTF) and the Ministry of Education of Rwanda (MINEDUC), the Kenyan youth is planning to support on technical sides of constructing and running the water kiosk.
- 2.8 **Investing in the Sustainable Development Goals through South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Promoting conducive policy and legal environments in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.** The Division provided organizational support to the joint event of UNOSSC, UNDP and Yingke Law Firm (China) in May 2018 in Prague (Czech Republic) held to scope the contributions of South-South investment in Europe and the CIS region, identify challenges and good practices in policy and legal areas that can facilitate better South-South investment for sustainable development, and discuss regional integration efforts within the region and the implementation of the Belt and Road initiative and their contributions to sustainable development.
- 2.9 **Expanding Partnership between the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNOSSC.** Starting on the side-line of the Global South-South Development Expo 2017 in Antalya the idea of joint collaboration between the Division and WFP Egypt Country Office to enhance food security in the Arab region and beyond has been shaping. WFP Egypt confirmed its interest to join the New SSGE-ADFS Partnership Initiative in the High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the SSTC-ADFS Partnership Initiative in Dubai, in October 2018.

Component 3: SSTC Solutions and Mechanisms Portal and other Knowledge Products

In response of the demand of the Arab States expressed in the First Regional South-South Development Expo in Qatar in 2014 to provide knowledge management support to UN agencies and national stakeholders in both regions through enhancing their capacities in sharing and sourcing successful replicable solutions, the Division designed, developed, and operationalized the Solutions Mapping Portal for the Arab States in 2013-2014, and expanded to Europe and the CIS region in 2015. The work on populating the portal evolved with the partnership support of IsDB. In 2017, the SSTC Solutions and Mechanisms Portal was enhanced with new features and transformed into the South-South World. The publications on Mapping South-South Cooperation Mechanisms and Solutions in the Arab States (2014, 2017) and in Europe and the CIS (2016) produced in collaboration with the IsDB and UNDP are also available at www.southsouthworld.org.

In the course of 2018, the Division continued to encourage development actors from public and private sector as well as civil society institutions to contribute to South-South knowledge exchange by sharing their successful homegrown solutions in various sectors of development, including rural and agricultural development, ICT, health care, education, women's rights, etc. The Division also continued demand based support in creating institutional solutions mapping sub-portals.

Deliverables:

- 3.1 **The 83 new solutions** were sourced, documented, and made available through the South-South World.
- 3.2 **The 6 solutions** in agriculture sourced in the framework of implementation of the partnership initiative on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security (SSTC-ADFS) populated the dedicated landing page (<http://agro.southsouthworld.org>) created for agricultural solutions.
- 3.3 **Africa.southsouthworld.org landing page** was expanded further at the request from the UNDP Regional Hub in Addis Ababa with 21 new solutions added.
- 3.4 **The Commonwealth Secretariat (COMSEC) landing page** (<http://comsec.southsouthworld.org/about-comsec>) with 10 COMSEC Youth-led solutions developed.
- 3.5 **Landing page for the South-South Development Academy in Egypt** (<http://ssda.southsouthworld.org/>) expanded further with 3 new solutions documented.

Component 4: IFAD-IsDB-UNOSSC supported partnership Initiative on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Food Security (SSTC-ADFS)

Launched in 2015, the three-year partnership initiative on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security (SSTC-ADFS) intends to systematically promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation among the participating countries as well as other countries through identification, pilot-testing, and documentation of successful models and solutions ready for replication. The project covers Algeria, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

The SSTC-ADFS partnership initiative has been supported by the IFAD, as the key funding partner, as well as by the IsDB, both jointly assisted in catalyzing the expanded geographic coverage of the initiative alongside the new thematic knowledge exchange corridors. SSTC-ADFS provided systematic support in advancing South-South and triangular cooperation among the participating countries in line with three main components: 1. Practical transfer of innovative solutions and technologies; 2. Policy advice and institutional capacity development for scaling up successful solution; and 3. South-South knowledge exchange.

The variety of tangible and intangible results from 2015 to date includes the landing page for agro solutions on the Solutions Mapping Portal (agro.southsouthworld.org), a mobile application for farmers (HarvestIt App), South-South knowledge exchange workshops, policy-level coordination, in-depth trainings, expert exchanges, thematic knowledge products, and SSC capacity development training series, as well as other deliverables. The promising results of advancing SSC partnership led to the interest of the national partners in new phase of the project, as well as to other countries' interest in joining the initiative. The initiative has been extended until the middle of 2019 to support the countries to integrate and elaborate a new green economy dimension into their South-South cooperation agendas.

Deliverables:

- 4.1 **Results of SSTC-ADFS for the three years were consolidated to** showcase the achievements of the partnership initiative and benefits of the participating countries, focusing on South-South knowledge exchange, sharing and learning the innovative solutions, policy advice and institutional capacity development. The Results Webpage for the SSTC-ADFS Partnership Initiative (<http://sstc-ads.southsouthworld.org/>) contains information on each deliverable.
- 4.2 **HarvestIt App**, an Educational Mobile App for Farmers and Producers in the Arab States and the ECIS Regions. Inspired with success of the MEVA mobile application created in Uzbekistan to provide access to value chain information for farmers, the HarvestIt mobile application has been designed to cover other countries of the SSTC-ADFS. Software for Android and iOS has been developed and the content was elaborated by the local experts in close consultations with the national partners based on the needs of the participating countries. Currently, the topics in the app focus on the needs of farmers in Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Sudan and Turkey. HarvestIt App is available in Apple Store and Google Play Store (available here for download: <http://sstc-ads.southsouthworld.org/harvest-it-mobile-app>).

- 4.3 **5 expert exchanges requested by the countries' in their Country Components have been supported.** The overall 117 experts and practitioners benefitted from the trainings, study visits and participation in the 8th World Water Forum in March 2018:
- Turkey – training on Isolation, Disinfection, Inoculation and Production of Mycorrhizal Fungi delivered by the expert from Iran - 17 beneficiaries (January 2018);
 - Uzbekistan – experts' visit to Viet Nam on Aquaculture development – 2 beneficiaries (March 2018);
 - Tunisia – knowledge sharing visit to Brazil on Water management – 3 beneficiaries (March 2018);
 - Hungary - experts' visit to Tunisia on Vegetable breeding – 2 beneficiaries (March 2018);
 - Uzbekistan – trainings on Breeding of common carp delivered by the expert from Hungary - 91 beneficiaries (April 2018).
- 4.4 **Consolidation and publication of the individual and group reports of the 89 experts** participated in the experts' exchange scheme. Available on the Results Webpage for the SSTC-ADFS Partnership Initiative (<http://sstc-adfs.southsouthworld.org/experts-exchanges>).
- 4.5 **6 regional thematic reports on the best innovative home-grown solutions have been developed.** The reports cover topics of the SSTC-ADFS knowledge exchange corridors and provide practical information on existing expertise and successful solutions to decision-makers at policy and practical levels assuming that agricultural challenges and problems in developing countries can be addressed and overcome by successful solutions present in other developing countries. The reports are available in the form of electronic publications on the Division's web-site and cover the following topics (<http://sstc-adfs.southsouthworld.org/knowledge-products/thematic-reports/regional-reports>):
- Rural Tourism;
 - Farmer-based Organizations;
 - Agricultural Biotechnology;
 - Sustainable Aquaculture;
 - Public-Private Partnerships;
 - Sustainable Pasture Management;
 - Sustainable Livestock Management (in progress).
- 4.6 **Supported development of the national level policy documents aimed at advancing South-South cooperation in agriculture.** 6 country-level policy documents were produced as a result of support upon demand from the participating countries (available here: <http://sstc-adfs.southsouthworld.org/knowledge-products/thematic-reports/national-reports>):
- Draft National Strategy of Agriculture Development in Kyrgyzstan;
 - Needs Assessment in Agricultural Development in Kyrgyzstan;
 - Draft SSC in Agriculture in Uzbekistan;
 - SSC needs and opportunities assessment in Uzbekistan;
 - SSC Strategy in Agricultural Sector in Sudan;
 - PPP in Agriculture in Sudan.
- 4.7 **Lists of all trained staff of the ministries of Agriculture in 8 participating countries** were consolidated.
- 4.8 **Video on the results of SSTC-ADFS** was produced as an advocacy tool to showcase an all-inclusive summary of the results achieved, as well as documenting first-hand evidences of beneficiaries. The video is available on the Results Webpage for the SSTC-ADFS Partnership Initiative (<http://sstc-adfs.southsouthworld.org/>).
- 4.9 **Narrative report (online publication)** on the results of SSTC-ADFS developed. The report summarizes the implementation of the project on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security in the Near East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia Region (SSTC-ADFS) from 2015 to date, a partnership initiative supported by IFAD, IsDB and UNOSSC. It informs the reader on the results achieved, lessons learnt and the possible way forward.
- 4.10 **Consolidated additional results** achieved in the framework of the initiative:
- As a result of the visit of the Hungarian delegation to Tunisia in March 2018, the potential directions of cooperation between the National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (NARIC), the Institution of Agricultural Research and Higher Education (IRESA), the National Agronomy Institute (INAT) and the Horticulture and Organic Regional Research Centre (CRRHAB) in vegetable research were identified and formulated in the draft proposal for future cooperation to be considered by the Tunisian colleagues;
 - Letter of Intent for establishing a joint venture for introducing high quality seeds of common carp in order to establish a live gene bank and initiate a breeding program of common carp in Uzbekistan was signed between the Hungarian company Hun-Bas Invest Kft. and Uzbekistan's Samarkandbalikanoat company in April 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan;
 - The "Kyrgyz jayity" National Pasture Users' Association took part in the International Land Coalition 2018 Award Competition. The experience on pastures reform in Kyrgyzstan, promoted through expert missions and shared through agro.southsouth.org was awarded as a distinctive and replicable good practice;
 - The training of trainers on "Support to Developing Capacities of Rural Women and Men in Uzbekistan to Diversify their Incomes through Knowledge and Skills" for 42 participants from 6 regions of Uzbekistan in February 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, resulted in establishing cooperation between "Hunarmand" Association of Folk Artists and Craftsmen of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Association of Hungarian Folk Artists.

- 4.11 **The High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the New SSGE-ADFS Partnership Initiative** was organized in October 2018 in Dubai, UAE, on the side of the World Green Economy Summit 2018. The meeting took stock and presented the results achieved within the current phase and articulated a demand in establishing an action-oriented platform for future collaboration for countries participating in the SSTC-ADFS partnership initiative, as well as other interested countries within the new phase of the partnership with focus on South-South Cooperation in Green Economy for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security launched in the meeting. The Joint Statement was agreed by participants reflecting the key points.

Component 5: SSC Advocacy through Innovation and Media

The innovation and media play an important role in facilitating South-South cooperation efforts both at regional and national levels. In view of this, the Division implements advocacy and media activities that contribute to the better awareness of the public of benefits of South-South and Triangular Cooperation model, practical opportunities to employ those benefits, as well as on the range of services provided by the UNOSSC.

Deliverables:

- 5.1 **Wide media coverage** was ensured for all the major events supported by the Division and its partners, including the two Regional Networking Forums, the High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the new SSGE-ADFS Partnership, the Youth4South Edition orientation training and the Silk Road Mayor's Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Smart Green Cities and Tourism.
- 5.2 **6 email campaigns** were implemented through circulating the information by the Division to over 150 media contacts and partners, including 100 journalists, 25 UN communication colleagues and 26 national focal points for South-South cooperation and representatives of technical cooperation agencies.
- 5.3 **23 web-site news** on the events and activities implemented by the UNOSSC and partners.
- 5.4 **E-newsletters (issues 7, 8 and 9)** containing news about the key progress and achievements of the UNOSSC and partner institutions were disseminated through the master mailing list of 1486 subscribers, consisting of UN agencies, representatives at national level, international organizations and foreign embassies and institutions.
- 5.5 **UNOSSC's social media accounts** were actively used to raise awareness on the events and updates in activities implemented by the Division (Facebook: 14 posts, Twitter: 108 tweets).
- 5.1 **On-demand public presentations/speaking contributions** on the value added of South-South and Triangular Cooperation model have been delivered at the invitation of the organizers of respective events, including:
 - Presentation on the Mainstreaming South-South cooperation during the stocktaking exercise in Tunisia;
 - Presentation on SSTC-ADFS in the training for South-South Cooperation/Belt and Road – Nurturing Youth Leadership for Agricultural Development in Africa in August 2018 in Beijing, China;
 - Presentation on the paradigm shifts of South-South Cooperation towards Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in the Workshop on Public Private Partnerships in agricultural development organized by Hagggar Group, a leading Sudanese company in Agriculture in August 2018 in Sudan;
 - Online presentation at the training on Building Partnership for Sustainable Development, organized by the UN System Staff College in September 2018 in Bonn, Germany.
- 5.2 **Video on the results of SSTC-ADFS presented** at the High-Level Ministerial Meeting on the New SSGE-ADFS Partnership Initiative and 5th Regional Networking Forum for the Arab States, Europe and the CIS on South-South cooperation in Green Economy for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security.

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