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A Message from David Nabarro

Dear Valued Reader,

In the past year, we have seen unparalleled triumphs of multilateralism towards addressing climate change and sustainable development. The **Signing of the Paris Climate Agreement** was a historic, unanimous move forward, with over 171 parties signing in a single day. The **2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs** are now a guide and cornerstone for development actions. The **Addis Ababa Action Agenda** is an ambitious agreement for mobilizing resources, technology, and global partnerships for sustainable development. All of these agendas have established climate-resilience and sustainability as the global themes for this century, and that new partnerships are a way forward.

Enhanced international cooperation is crucial for the world to develop sustainably and address climate change. While South-South Cooperation on Climate Change is still a nascent field, it has been gaining momentum in recent years by countries of the global South. Many developing countries have accumulated technologies and innovative solutions on climate change in recent years and are eager to share them. South-South Cooperation allows them to replicate their cost-effective results and practices to benefit more people. There are potential benefits to be unleashed with support from the international community.

The UN has therefore **launched the Southern Climate Partnership Incubator (SCPI)** and the **new SCPI Website**. This Secretary-General-led UN initiative is the first of its kind to be focused on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change. We expect this incubator to serve as an effective and inclusive multi-stakeholder platform that will facilitate cooperation among the Global South such that countries can both address climate change and achieve the SDGs.

This newsletter will share the latest information on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change and the most **recent activities of the SCPI initiative**. The initiative will be iterative and reflect ongoing discussions with Member States. We are looking forward to engaging in dialogue with countries and hearing from our readers about successful partnerships that could inform our efforts.

Thank you for your support on this important topic. Together we can create a sustainable world where no one is left behind.



Dr. David Nabarro

United Nations Secretary General's Special Advisor on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change



UPCOMING SSCCC EVENTS

- UNDP-China South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Matchmaking Event
- United Arab Emirates South-South Cooperation Expo: South-South Development Partnership: Mainstreaming Climate Actions & SDGs
- Southern Think-tanks Event with UNEP and TERI
- Implementation of NDC through South-South Cooperation with UNFCCC Event
- South Centre Report Release Event
- International Conference on Sustainable Transport

SSCCC FACTS

Did you know we are nearing 40 years since the UN's landmark meeting on South-South Cooperation? Learn more about the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.

Up to 80% of the United Nations resident coordinators who responded to a 2014 survey by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs indicated that they had received requests from governments of developing countries to support their cooperation with other countries of the South.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

“One of the main lessons that I have learned during my years as Secretary-General is that broad partnerships are the key to solving broad challenges. When governments, the United Nations, businesses, philanthropies and civil society work hand in hand, we can achieve great things.”

Ban Ki-Moon

“We have overcome significant challenges together and put our people on a path for making even more progress in the near future, if we continue to draw on the strengths of the partnerships that make us greater than the sum of our parts.”

H.E Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of Environment and Energy, AOSIS

Southern Climate Partnership Incubator (SCPI) Initiative and Website Launch



The Southern Climate Partnership Incubator was launched on April 21st, 2016 on the margins of the Paris Climate Agreement Signing Ceremony.

The key functions of the incubator are to: **1)** Make use of the capacity of the UN system to improve networking between key actors **2)** Expand good practices and knowledge from

the Global South to a larger scale to meet climate goals and the SDGs **3)** Foster flagship partnerships in promising areas of mitigation and adaptation **4)** Nurture South-South Cooperation on Climate Change within both a national and global context **5)** Research fully the role of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change.

Representatives from UN agencies, member states, and civil society attended the event and spoke about the importance of South-South Cooperation for meeting climate change adaptation and mitigation goals. They also discussed how the UN can use their unique facilitative role to incubate new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.

Speakers included:

Dr. David Nabarro, Special Advisor of the Secretary-General on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change

H.E. Minister Xie Zhenhua, China's Special Representative on Climate

H.E. Mr Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of Environment and Energy, the Republic of the Maldives

H.E. Dr. Richard Nduhuura, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the UN

[Click here for the full list of speakers and full speeches](#)

[The SCPI website was also launched](#) as an online platform of SCPI. Stay updated on the ongoing activities of the SCPI initiative through the website.

Call for Multi-National Climate Partnerships



Share your stories about how cross-country partnerships have helped you achieve your mitigation or adaptation goals, your lessons learned, and your future expectations. From the many case studies that we receive, we are extracting key components and messages for how to create a successful cross-country partnership and collaboration, and distributing this information in an official publication on best practices.

You also have the opportunity to highlight your cases on the United Nations Climate Partnerships for the Global South Website, and you may be entered for a United Nations Climate Partnership Award.



Official Name: 'Enhancing Capacity, Knowledge and Technology Support to Build Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Developing Countries'.

Host location: China, Mauritania, Nepal and Seychelles / Asia-Pacific and Africa

Timeframe: 2013-2017

Scale: Global

Partners: Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Seychelles, the Ministry of Population and Environment of Nepal and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Mauritania

Cost and source of funding: GEF Special Climate Change Fund: US\$ 5 Million + US\$ 5 Million Co-finance from China

Implementing Agency: UNEP

Executing Agency: National Development and Reform Commission of China, NDRC, through the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, IGSNRR, CAS

Project Management: UNEP-IEMP

Sector: Ecosystem-based Adaptation

Type: Technology transfer, Capacity building, Awareness raising, Knowledge generation, Policy support

Links: <http://ebasouth.org/>

Climate Partnerships in Action: Case Study: Ecosystem-based Adaptation through South-South Cooperation (EbA South)

Summary

The project aims to help vulnerable communities in Africa and the Asia-Pacific adapt to climate change. Engaged partners aim to improve these countries' capacity to plan, implement, finance, and research **Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)** activities.

The three pilot countries are Mauritania, Nepal, and Seychelles. These areas represent three different vulnerable ecosystems: Mauritania is dry land, Nepal is mountain area, and Seychelles is coastal area.

Outcomes

Mauritania- The implementation team chose two sites to demonstrate the EbA approach of planting indigenous and climate-resilient plant species. They held a national survey of the indigenous non-timber forest species and the findings of the survey were used to decide the species that would be chosen for the two sites. They also held a dune fixation workshop at the sites for 50 local experts.

Nepal- The team launched a long-term EbA research program in partnership with Tribhuvan University, focused on building resilience and economic growth after the country's major earthquake.

Seychelles – Three EbA workshops were organized with national partners and local communities. The focus was on transplanting mangrove seedlings from nurseries to improve wetland flow and flood regulation.

Reflection

Why did you decide to do a cross-country climate partnership? Many countries in the South have accumulated a wide range of good practices in the areas of ecosystem management and climate change adaptation. Some of them – notably China – have taken the lead in defining climate-resilient development pathways and have shown solid expertise in both research and practice.

In recent years, China has started working with organizations in the United Nations system and has developed various initiatives to support other developing countries in addressing climate change impacts. Concrete actions have been taken to assist vulnerable communities in the South in areas including capacity building, knowledge sharing and technology-transfer. **South-South Cooperation proves to be a particularly appropriate dimension for Ecosystem-based Adaptation.**

How did you find individuals/groups to collaborate with? China already had good relationships with these countries, and had established research stations in both Mauritania and Nepal. China was also interested in doing more research in Seychelles. These countries were chosen because they represent key vulnerable ecosystems (dry land, mountain, and coastal, respectively). China also chose these countries on the basis of the urgent need to strengthen climate-resilience and improve livelihoods of local communities.

What do you think are the key ingredients for a successful climate partnership?

Trust and communication are important for creating a successful climate partnership. Many countries have different interests, which can sometimes shift attention away from a project objective, so developing trust and communication is necessary to focus and obtain results.



Host location: Africa

Timeframe: Initial 6-year phase to cover 7 countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Sudan, Ethiopia, Malawi, and Swaziland) – Later phases could expand to other regions of Africa

Scale: National

Partners: Companies, environment, and development network for Africa (AFREPREN/FWD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Global Environment Facility GEF), African Development Bank, Government of Mauritius, Indian Private Suppliers

Cost and source of funding: GEF Special Climate Change Fund

Implementing Agency: UNEP and AfDB

Executing Agency: AFREPREN/FWD

Project Management: UNEP and AfDB

Sector: Clean Energy

Type: Technology transfer, Capacity building, Knowledge Sharing

Links:

UNEP, UNEPSSC Site, ESRI

Climate Partnerships in Action: CoGen in Africa Initiative

Summary

The “CoGen in Africa” Initiative promotes biomass-based cogeneration in private-sector agro-processing industries across East Africa. This project draws on technical and policy expertise from Mauritius, where over half the country’s electricity comes from biomass-fed cogeneration facilities. This project focuses on biomass-based agro-industries in seven countries. This is an example of knowledge-transfer through South-South Cooperation.

Outcomes

The initiative has been successful in working with companies in the tea industry as well as the sugar industry to produce cleaner energy. Uganda, the latest high-tech co-gen facility, is not only helping meet the energy needs of the country’s largest sugar factory, the Kakira Sugar Company, but also providing excess clean electricity to the national grid in place of costly, fossil fuel-based electricity.

This project allows for the mobilization of financial support, new knowledge, capacity-building, and technical assistance. This is specifically through the following: grants for training, pre-feasibility/full feasibility studies, engineering studies, Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) development/negotiations and investment finance. Key progresses to date include:

- 9 Full Scale Feasibility Studies commissioned • 20.8MW (3.8MWe + 17MWth) of efficient
- Cogen systems installed in Kenya & Uganda
- 90MW (30MWe + 60MWth) Under construction in Uganda
- 103 People trained (85% of end of project target)
- 197 Investment Opportunities Identified

This project is designed to eventually create over \$300 million in investment of cogeneration technology.

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