

The High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change.

The Ministerial Session

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China Pavilion at COP23 Bonn Zone

Speech by Batjargal Zamba, Special Envoy on Climate Change, Mongolia

Your Excellencies,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all I would like to express my appreciation to the organizers of the Forum for inviting Mongolia to attend this very important and in time event.

No any doubt that South-South cooperation has come to stay as an essential part of international cooperation for development, covering the existing and newly emerging challenges as green development and climate change. As we know the role of South-South cooperation was emphasized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement on climate change and even in the Agenda for Humanity,

The UN Secretary-General's office, in partnership with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, launched the Southern Climate Partnership Incubator to foster and support collaboration for climate action, with a confidence that South-South and triangular cooperation can play an important role in keeping global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius.

Taking this opportunity I would like to highlight just a few examples about how, particularly, Mongolia is engaging in South-South cooperation and how is benefitting from it.

Last year has been signed a new agreement between Mongolia and FAO associated with the partnership on South-South and Triangular Cooperation – a form of development partnership that boosts countries' agricultural capacity by linking their policy makers and producers with experts and technologies from around the world. This includes other emerging economies that have built special expertise in specific agricultural sectors.

The new agreement builds on two previous successful South-South exchanges between China and Mongolia that FAO helped establish between 2010 and 2016.

In the last two years alone, some more than 700 producers, traders and policy makers across Mongolia received in-country training from Chinese experts, and more than 20 high-level Mongolian officials and experts participated in study tours to China, where they visited agricultural institutions, farms and enterprises.

These multi-year exchange projects improved animal breeding, crop production and agribusiness, and introduced new technologies to the Mongolian agriculture sector – a sector that builds strongly on animal husbandry, potato farming and intensive vegetable farming.

In the area of crop farming, new vegetable and fruit varieties, along with effective greenhouse technologies, resulted in increased yields. Local agricultural companies also expanded marketing and sale channels thanks to South-South exchanges and trade between China and Mongolia.

Mongolian farmers also benefited from new varieties of fodder crops and improved cultivation technologies, which offer livestock herders more options to keep their animals strong and healthy and will make animal husbandry overall more resilient to the changing conditions of climate.

Another important project with more broad geographical arrange was the project “South-South Cooperation in Mongolia and Central Asian Countries” which is implementing in cooperation with UNEP. The project titled as “Sharing Knowledge on Inclusive Green Economies and Ecological Civilization” supports Mongolia and Central Asian countries in developing research capacity on inclusive green economy (IGE) development. The participating countries share socio-economic challenges and environmental issues such as land degradation, water scarcity, energy inefficiency, and waste management. By facilitating South-South Cooperation, this project promotes the sharing of good practices and methodologies to help countries embark on Green Economy trajectories. I brought just two undertakings from the wide range of SS cooperation from which Mongolia is benefitting.

We believe that SS cooperation would give a great impulse and strengthen in addressing climate change related concerns in most vulnerable co climate change developing countries like Mongolia and others. Mongolia is fully supporting the Action Plan of South-South Cooperation for UN Secretary-General’s Climate change Engagement Strategy (2107-2021) aimed to leverage the full potential of SSC in maintaining and enhancing momentum, accelerating action, and promoting ambition on combating climate change and would be happy to make necessary efforts to contribute to its implementation successful on the ground.

Thank you.

