



United Nations

Office for South-South Cooperation



- ▶ “South-South and triangular cooperation can offer opportunities by: enabling easier accessibility to knowledge and expertise sharing; increasing investment in joint R&D; strengthening partnerships through a multi-stakeholder approach; scaling-up access and the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms; strengthening capacity building; enhancing market access and trade; and by engaging in policy dialogues and the harmonization of policies and standards”.

UNOSSC STATEMENT AT G-77 AND CHINA SUMMIT ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
HAVANA, CUBA, 2023

21st International Inter-Conference on South-South and triangular cooperation in population and development

INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY AND DATA THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

9 July 2024
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Presentation by Denis Nkala- UNOSSC Intergovernmental and UN Systems Affairs

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATION

Offer a South-South Perspective on innovation, Technology and Data

Show that innovation, technology have always been at the centre of South-South Cooperation

Faced with Covid-19 pandemic, climate change, natural disasters, conflicts, not on track to meet SDGs.

Show why the Global South lagged on enthusiasm for data for South-South Cooperation.

Technology transfer
What is happening and what needs to be done.

“SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT BUILDING AND SUSTAINING INDIGENOUS CAPACITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THAT THE STRENGTHENING OF SOUTH-SOUTH AND NORTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION, AND EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW IS IMPERATIVE FOR THE GENERATION AND SUSTENANCE OF SUCH CAPACITIES” PROF. SALAM OF COMSATS

Doha Plan of action led to creation of the International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation in 2005.

In 2000, South Korea hosted a “Forum on South-South Cooperation in Science and Technology with the Seoul accord underlining the role of SSC in science and technology.

The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) in 1994

The Centre for Science and Technology of the non-aligned and other developing countries was founded in support of the non-aligned movement.

DATA HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN REGARDED AS EQUALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE SOUTH.

Opportunities

- Inclusive measure of South-South Cooperation including in-kind
- Opportunity to learn from countries that have been pioneering measurement particularly Latin America.

Imperative to measure progress in SDGs has led to a resurgence in need to collect South-South Data.

Constraints

- Not to use that data as a measure of who is contributing more to SSC
- Dearth of capacity in many of the countries that would measure South-South Cooperation
- Remains largely a voluntary initiative. implementation.

WHAT HAS CHANGED IN TERMS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Innovation accelerating exponentially except in the South.
- Beacons of success by individual countries or groups of countries

We need to return to a systems approach where the interlocking nature of challenges should be addressed accordingly

Example

Used to be that we expected a developing country to reach its demographic dividend accelerating its development. There is evidence that some countries are experiencing a decline in population before the expected demographic dividend.

WHAT TO DO?

- ✓ As we go towards Summit of the Future, not refrain from a fair assessment of what has worked and hasn't
- ✓ Enlist the facilitating role of the United Nations Development system to accelerate technology including artificial intelligence
- ✓ Document and share positive experiences in collaboration and exchanges, example is the UN Secretary-General's Annual Report on the State of South-South Cooperation prepared by UNOSSC
- ✓ Recognise the extensive existence of Innovation, Science and Technology organisations and work together for mutual benefit.
- ✓ Visit the South-South Galaxy which will provide examples of technology platforms and data networks.
 - ✓ Pool resources together for capacity building of countries interested in collecting data.

THANK YOU!

