

SIDE EVENT

19 March 2019

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Venue: Museo de
Arquitectura y Diseño
(Pabellon Ternium
Siderar) Buenos
Aires, Argentina

South-South Cooperation in a Digital Era

BAPA+40 *Side Event*



FCSSC
FINANCE CENTER FOR
SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION



BAPA+40
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION



UNOSSC
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION



Background and Objectives

- Digital technology is becoming a key driver of growth and development in the Global South. It can enhance knowledge sharing, collaboration, and open new opportunities for business and entrepreneurial activity as well as new avenues for sharing knowledge, accessing overseas markets and engaging in global e-value chains. It also offers new tools for addressing persistent development challenges. The opportunities and challenges associated with digital technology are particularly important for Southern countries, particularly in the context of South-South cooperation. The adoption of digital technologies has the potential to transform the international operations of multinational corporations and the impact of Southern development partners on host countries. Investments in digital infrastructure and the digital economy can be affected by myriad challenges, including the lack of systematic knowledge management of existing solutions, good practices, and funding sources; need to bridge the digital divide between countries and communities; minimize potential negative social and developmental impacts; pressures on labor markets; address privacy and data protection, and navigating complex internet-specific regulatory issues.
 - Considering the above, this side-event aims to highlight the impact of digital technology on South-South cooperation. The Finance Centre for South-South Cooperation (FCSSC) in partnership with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) will examine how to make full use of the changes brought about by digital technologies to realize more prosperous, sustainable and inclusive development towards the attainment of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
 - During the event, FCSSC and UNOSSC will also launch a prototype of a global knowledge sharing and partnership brokering platform entitled “South-South Galaxy” that will be able to respond more systematically and effectively in supporting Southern countries’ demand to connect, learn and collaborate with potential partners digitally. Moreover, it will be an example of how Southern partners can utilize digital technology to learn from each other, share good practices and lessons learned as well as foster collaborations.
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- “South-South Galaxy”, aims to fill a gap for a space that will connect and link all of the existing platforms developed by UN agencies and development partners, making it easier for Southern partners to access, navigate and use, in order to access a broad range of knowledge, solutions, research, capacity development initiatives and partners. It is important to highlight that South-South Galaxy will complement rather than substitute or replace those existing platforms at the global, regional or country level.
 - The event will launch a joint report by FCSSC and UNOSSC titled “South-South Cooperation in a Digital World” which analyzes digital opportunities and challenges in the context of South-South cooperation. It further explores and analyzes development prospects and trends affecting and impacting digital industries in the Global South, and finally puts forward proposals for digital industrial cooperation among Southern countries. The report also focuses on the impact of digital technology in promoting cross-border trade and investment facilitation, as the application of smart contracts in cross-border trade and smart supervision issues. It analyzes the potential of digital finance to promote the development of inclusive finance for sustainable development and proposes developing digital financial infrastructure, human capital investment and capacity building in the Global South.
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Format

- 1.5 hours
- High-level speakers with a panel discussion
- The launch of South-South Galaxy prototype; Report on “South-South Cooperation in a Digital World” and South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Action by Norec and UNICEF
- The side event will be open to all BAPA+40 participants

Proposed Agenda

11:30 – 12:00

Moderator

Mr. Jorge Chediek

Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation

Key Note Address

H.E. Mr. Tabaré Vázquez, President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay

H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General (tbc)

Special Remarks

H.E. Mr. Adonia Ayebare

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the UN

President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation

H.E. Mr. Tianyun Hong

Vice Minister of China State Council Leading Group for Poverty Reduction

Mr. Jens Frølich Holte

State Secretary for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Cai E'Sheng

Chairman of the Finance Center for South-South Cooperation, Former Vice Chairman of China Banking Regulatory Commission

Launch of

South-South Galaxy (knowledge sharing and partnership brokering platform) prototype
South-South Cooperation in a Digital World Report (by FCSSC and UNOSSC)

12:00 – 12:20

Session1: South-South Galaxy

Moderator

Ms. Xiaojun Grace Wang

Deputy Director of Programmes and Operations, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

Video Presentation of South-South Galaxy (2:30 min)

Moderated Discussion

Discussants

Ms. Ana Ciuti

Director General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship
Argentina (tbc)

Mr. Ian Thorpe

Chief, Learning and Knowledge Exchange, Division of Data Research and Policy, UNICEF

Mr. Bobby Olarte

Senior Advisor, Inter-Country Cooperation, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

12:20-12:40

Session2: South-South Cooperation in a Digital World

Moderator

Mr. Xiaolin Wang

Professor of Fudan University, Executive Dean of the Sixth Industrial Research Institute

Moderated Discussion

Discussants

Mr. Hany Besada

Senior Research Coordinator of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

MS. Rashmi Banga

Senior Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

12:40-12:55

Q&A / Open Discussion

12:55 – 1:00

Summary and Closing Remarks

Mr. Zhong (John) Wu

Vice Chairman and Director General of the Finance Center for South-South Cooperation