

# CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

**U**NOSSC continued to support the promotion of the peace and development efforts of Members States and partner organizations through enhancing South-South cooperation.

## STRATEGY TO SUPPORT SOUTHERN SOLIDARITY FOR PEACE

Responding to the demand received from various countries and regional groups to engage more proactively in the promotion of South-South cooperation for peace and development, UNOSSC expanded its work to promote the cross-fertilization of ideas and create the space for Southern solidarity for peace and development. Together with Member States, intergovernmental organizations and United Nations agencies, UNOSSC developed a long-term strategy to support Southern solidarity for peace, including a programme and partnership strategy.

## CONTRIBUTION TO PEACEBUILDING IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

The Central African Republic has been experiencing a civil war for over a decade. Progress on relative peace in the country has given hope for economic recovery. UNOSSC, together with partners agencies including the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the African Development Bank, extended support to the Central African Republic in building confidence and capacity development efforts as well as mobilizing investors and rebuilding the country's ravaged economy. The Bangui Economic Conference in 2019 was an example of such a joint effort of the Government of the Central African Republic, together with UNOSSC, the African Development Bank, OIF and UNIDO. Its aim was to help to rebuild the country's human capital and create confidence among potential investors. As part of the Conference, a preliminary event was held to engage young people and women of the Central African Republic on the stakes and challenges of employment for the youth in the context of economic recovery. As a result of the Confer-

ence, young people and women increased their knowledge of employability and digital entrepreneurship and were provided with support tools.

The Round Table of the Conference, focused on the diversification of the cotton textile and clothing industries in francophone spaces, helped to identify areas of industrial cooperation including the improvement of cotton production in the Central African Republic, the training of Central African experts on the cotton value chain, and the creation of a model farm and a joint enterprise for the creation and processing of cotton in the country.

To strengthen unity and economic recovery in the Central African Republic, an investment fund was proposed that would be fully owned by the people of the country through a monthly contribution of about 10,000 CFA francs by 10,000 Central Africans, for a total of 1,200,000,000 CFA francs (about \$2.1 million) annually.

## TRAINING MODULE ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION FOR PEACE

UNOSSC, together with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the United Nations, supported the United Nations System Staff College in the development of a training module entitled South-South Cooperation for Sustaining Peace and Development as part of the online tutored course Introduction to Sustaining Peace. The support provided to the training modules included inputs, knowledge products and online materials to form the structure of the course.

## CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GROUP OF SEVEN PLUS

UNOSSC established a partnership with the Group of Seven Plus (g7+) to promote and strengthen g7+ fragile-to-fragile cooperation as a modality for South-South cooperation on peace and development. UNOSSC continued its close dialogue with the g7+ Secretariat and member countries, with a view to implementing a strong fragile-to-fragile learning strategy across continents.



UNITED NATIONS  
SYSTEM STAFF COLLEGE



UNOSSC



UNOSSC supported the United Nations System Staff College in the development of a training module entitled "South-South cooperation for sustaining peace" as part of the online-tutored course "Introduction to sustaining peace"

Panel discussion at the Bangui Economic Conference 2019, Bangui, Central African Republic



#### WAY FORWARD

- UNOSSC will continue to collaborate with the Government of the Central African Republic and partners to organize the second Bangui Economic Conference, where the issues of economic recovery and youth and women's empowerment will be further explored as will milestones since the first Conference. The second Conference will use more digital platforms to increase its reach and visibility. The model of the Bangui Conference – how to support economies recovering from conflict in LDCs – will be extended to two other LDCs and will contribute to the preparation of the African LDCs for the forthcoming LDCs Conference in 2021.
- UNOSSC will continue to work with the Member States, intergovernmental organizations and United Nations agencies in promoting the cross-fertilization of ideas and creating the space for Southern solidarity for peace and development through South-South cooperation.