

HARNESSING THE POWER AND POTENTIAL OF THE SOUTH FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Launched in 2008, the Global South-South Development (GSSD) Expo is one of the flagship global events organized by UNOSSC in collaboration with Member States, United Nations agencies, private-sector enterprises, CSOs and academic institutions. It is the only worldwide platform offered by the United Nations development system for the systematic showcasing of development solutions at the national, regional and global levels as a direct response to the expressed interest and needs of stakeholders from the Global South.

The GSSD Expo has enabled development actors and stakeholders to showcase and scale up Southern development solutions, celebrate South-South and triangular cooperation successes, share knowledge and lessons learned, and explore new avenues for collaboration while contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

OVER 250 SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION SOLUTIONS SHOWCASED AT THE TENTH GSSD EXPO

The tenth edition of the GSSD Expo took place at United Nations Headquarters in November 2018 in New York. It featured a variety of documented best practices from the stakeholders participating in the event. The 2018 Expo was the largest Expo to date, bringing together representatives of over 120 Member States and more than 1,000 participants from United Nations agencies, the private sector, civil society and academia and showcasing over 250 South-South and triangular cooperation solutions. South-South cooperation in over 13 thematic areas connected with SDGs were highlighted during the Expo.

“The GSSD Expo is about harnessing the power and potential of the South for the common good. It is about sharing homegrown Southern solutions for sustainable development”, said António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, at the Opening Remarks segment of the GSSD Expo 2018.



High-level Opening Ceremony of the GSSD Expo 2018, New York

A PLATFORM FOR THE PREPARATIONS FOR BAPA+40

In addition to showcasing development solutions, the GSSD Expo 2018 provided a platform for discussions by Member States and stakeholders on critical issues in the context of the upcoming second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) to advance stronger South-South cooperation across 17 SDGs.



Delegates at the GSSD Expo 2018, New York

LESSONS LEARNED

- Ensuring inclusive participation in the GSSD Expo by representatives of local government agencies, the private sector, national experts and civil society together with Member States and multilateral institutions can make the thematic discussions and knowledge exchanges more substantive. This arrangement would also lead to more meaningful South-South and triangular cooperation and partnership-building.
- Effective engagement and participation of young experts and young entrepreneurs from the developing countries in the GSSD Expo to share their initiatives and best practices can provide them with innovative, concrete opportunities for access to potential knowledge, solutions and financing.

WAY FORWARD

- The next GSSD Expo will focus on the implementation of, and follow-up on, the BAPA+40 outcome document commitments and recommendations as well as the role of South-South and triangular cooperation in the achievement of the SDGs, including consideration of the impact of the spread of COVID19.
- The organization of future GSSD Expos will include the application of greener and more digital approaches to support the expansion of global and regional networks of development stakeholders and the systematic sharing of the most relevant and high-quality knowledge and development solutions.

RESULT HIGHLIGHTS



Only worldwide platform offered by the United Nations development system for systematic showcasing of development solutions from the Global South



120 +



Member States represented



1,000 +



Participants, including from United Nations agencies, the private sector, civil society and academia



250 +



South-South and triangular cooperation solutions showcased