



United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation



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Resilient nations.



# FIRST ARAB STATES REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXPO

18 - 20 FEBRUARY 2014, DOHA, QATAR



## First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo (RSSD Expo) 2014

18  
February  
2014

<b>Registration:</b> 8.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. <b>Venue:</b> Conference Centre Foyer		South-South Global Assets and Technology Matchmaking Space 18 - 20 February 2014, 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Conference Centre Foyer Exhibition: Showcasing of Successful Solutions 18 - 20 February 2014, 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Conference Centre Foyer Bilateral Strategic Networking Meetings 18 - 20 February 2014, 9.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Nakhli Hall
High-level Plenary Session – Morning High-level Opening Ceremony – Inauguration of Exhibition - Leadership Round Table - Launching of South-South Cooperation Mapping Tool 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium	South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security IFAD-led Solution Exchange Forum 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Maha Hall	
High-level Plenary Session – Afternoon Successful Solutions from the State of Qatar as the Host Country of the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014 – Special Plenary Session on the Role of the Private Sector in Scaling Up South-South Cooperation in People-centred Investment – SS-GATE Introduction and Matchmaking Briefing Session 2.00 p.m. - 6.15 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium	Gala Dinner hosted by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom	

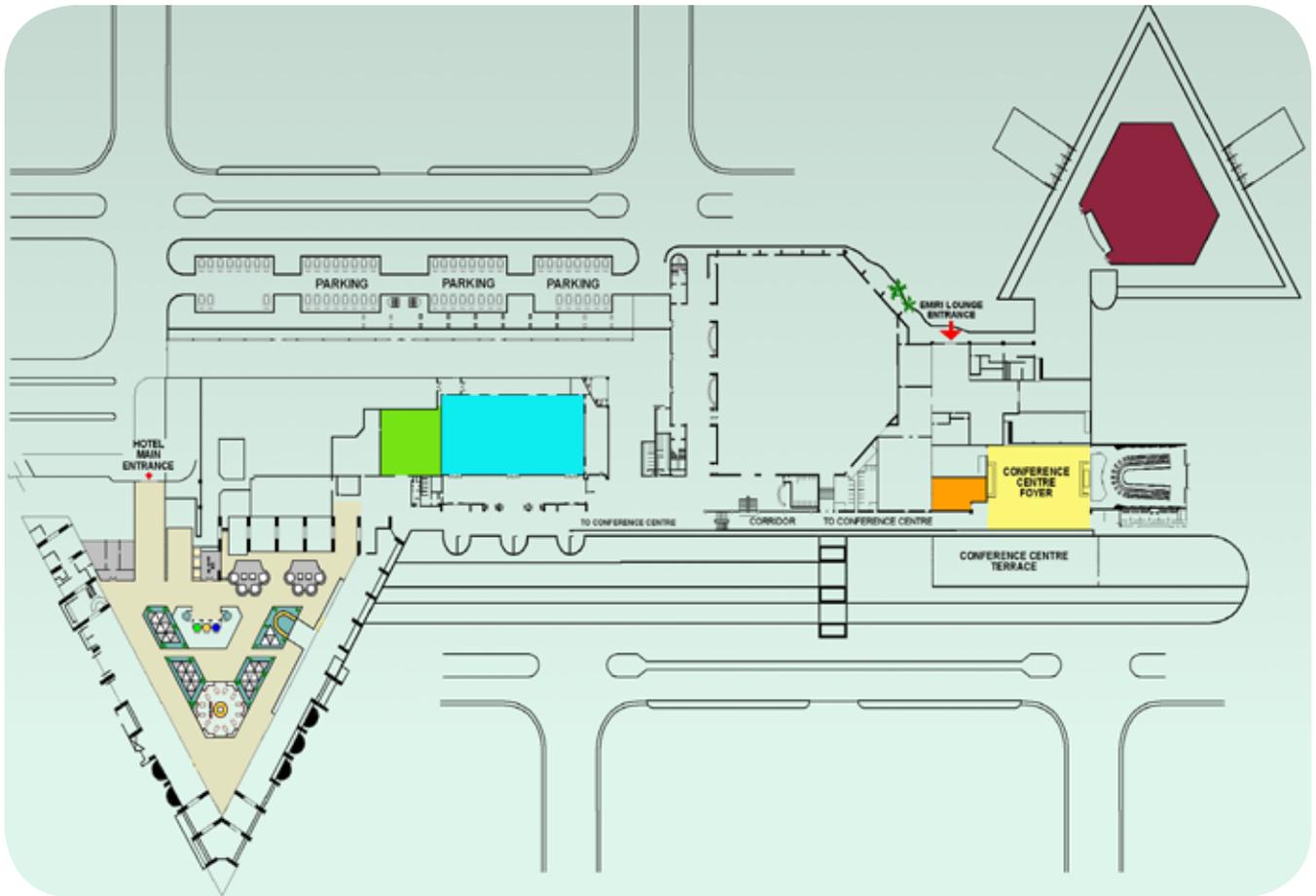
19  
February  
2014

Promoting Youth Employment through South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Arab States ILO-led Solution Exchange Forum 9.00 a.m.-11.45 a.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A	Sustainable Development in the Arab States Region – From Regional Ambition to Local Innovation UN-ESCWA-led Solution Exchange Forum 9.00 a.m.-11.15 a.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B	Arab States Regional Support Facility for Scaled-up Exchange in South-South Solutions, Technologies and Expertise (By Invitation) 11.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment C
Green Solutions for Sustainable Growth UNEP-led Solution Exchange Forum 12.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A	Supporting Resilience in an Age of Uncertainty: Focus on the Arab States UNDP-led Solution Exchange Forum 11.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B	
Investing in Gender Equality UN-Women-led Solution Exchange Forum 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A	Industrial Development in the Arab States Region: Youth and Women's Employment, Energy Efficiency UNIDO-led Solution Exchange Forum 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B	

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February  
2014

First Regional High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation – Morning 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium	Cross-regional Knowledge and Experiences Sharing between Europe and the Arab States – Morning 9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A	Launching a Regional Dialogue on the Energy, Water and Food Security Nexus in the Arab States Region Special Session Led by the League of Arab States 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B
First Regional High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation – Afternoon 2.00 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium	Cross-regional Knowledge and Experiences Sharing between Europe and the Arab States – Afternoon 1.00 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A	Round-table Discussion: Role of Information and Communications Technology in Fostering South-South Cooperation in the Arab States Region 1.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B
	Network for Economic Empowerment of Women in the South: Arab States Chapter 3.45 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B	Livelihood Improvement and Economic Regeneration through South-South Cooperation in Somalia 4.00 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment C
High-level Closing Ceremony and Special Awards 6.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium		

\*Please note that the programme schedule is subject to change.



- AI Majlis Auditorium**
- Salwa Ballroom**
- AI Maha**
- Conference Centre Foyer**
- AI Nakhil**

The State of Qatar, on the occasion of hosting and organizing the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014, in the period 18 to 20 February, renews its keen attention to this developmental approach (South-South) as an essential pivot in strengthening the bonds of regional cooperation through the major working group of the United Nations and our partners in countries of the South. Thus, we can enhance opportunities for exchange of expertise among the countries of the south. Such opportunities may enhance the fundamental interests of the developed and developing countries in the world, through multilateral and regional diplomatic and investment initiatives.

Cooperation among the countries of the south forms an evident shift from being limited to only bilateral, to new forms such as trilateral and multilateral cooperation, and is based on a number of principles such as solidarity, reciprocity and mutual interests and benefits. It is also an opportunity to establish a substantial structure that works on increasing and raising the levels of cooperation between the countries of the region, and eventually benefit the participants in cooperation among the countries of the South. Such opportunity shall give a growing momentum to triangular cooperation among the partners to support countries facing the challenges of complex development through the exchange of solutions, technologies and expertise in a number of areas and themes agreed upon through more organized plans that are relevant to the common needs of countries in the region.

In continuation of support for this new approach, the State of Qatar also hosted the high-level meeting on the management of oil and gas, which attracted senior officials from 42 countries. Such efforts led to improving the exchange of expertise, experiences and best practices with other countries.

It should be noted that there are many developmental and cognitive solutions, finance and aid, that should be commended and appreciated in the Arab region. These solutions are of great importance for countries in the region, as well as for other countries in the Southern Hemisphere.

The importance of holding this meeting in Doha appears in highlighting the importance of the theme of development (South-South) and in providing opportunities to view experiences and solutions from all parties, governmental and non-governmental from other parts of the southern hemisphere, in the field of women, youth, food security, water, energy and renewable energy. This EXPO is a practical platform for communication between owners of solutions and those who seek effective solutions. It also leads to a tangible exchange of solutions and expertise between the countries of the south and the Arab region.

We hope that this First Arab States Regional South-South Development EXPO will contribute to providing an opportunity to start in-depth dialogue on the activation and coordination of efforts to ensure strengthening of cooperation and exchange of experiences, and generate additional recommendations to be implemented in collaboration with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to pursue and consolidate the implementation of this approach.

We do thank all our partners and participants in this great event.



**His Excellency Dr. Khalid Bin  
Mohammad Al-Attiah  
Minister of Foreign Affairs**

*"In the decade since the Millennium Development Goals were first articulated, many countries have made significant progress in raising school enrolment, reducing child mortality, improving access to clean water and boosting their response to malaria, AIDS and other diseases. Yet 1.75 billion people in 104 countries remain unable to meet some of their basic needs... South-South cooperation is a vital component of the world's response. Developing countries that pool know-how, exchange ideas and coordinate plans can attain much greater gains than they ever would on their own."*

Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General, United Nations



Reflecting the need to strengthen South-South cooperation, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, in his 23 August 2007 report on the state of South-South cooperation (A/62/295), recommended that the General Assembly encourage Member States and their development partners, including the United Nations system, to:

- a) Optimize the use of South-South approaches in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;
- b) Intensify multilateral support for South-South initiatives to address common development challenges;
- c) Foster inclusive partnerships for South-South cooperation, including triangular and public-private partnerships;
- d) Enhance the coherence of United Nations system support for South-South cooperation through closer inter-agency collaboration, joint programming and documentation of lessons and good practices; and
- e) Continue to develop innovative mechanisms to mobilize resources for South-South and triangular initiatives, including through contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation (now the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation).



*"Tackling today's development challenges requires strong partnerships – and the scope for these is expanding rapidly with the rapid growth of South-South cooperation, of the mega philanthropic foundations and NGOs, and the growing interest of the private sector.*

...

*At UNDP, we recognize that the strategies, policies, skills, and expertise which can be exchanged through South-South cooperation are often those best suited to meeting the development challenges faced in the South."*

Helen Clark  
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, and Chair, United Nations Development Group



*"Development for too long was seen by many as an exercise of transferring resources from the North to the South, and hoping for the best," says Dr. Bahous. "But now the South has many more tools at its disposal. Development of today and of the future will be driven largely by South-South, triangular, and even South-North cooperation, along with traditional forms of cooperation. My view is that the South, and indeed the world, will be better off this way."*

Sima Bahous  
Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director, Regional Bureau for Arab States, United Nations Development Programme

<p><b>8.00 a.m.- 9.00 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Event Registration</b> <b>Venue:</b> Conference Centre Foyer</p>
<p><b>9.00 a.m.- 10.00 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSION – MORNING</b> <b>Keynote, Welcome and Introductory Speeches</b> <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> The first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo will begin with a high-level opening ceremony featuring distinguished and powerful champions of South-South cooperation. Attendees at this event will include the political leadership of the State of Qatar as the host of the Expo, government ministers from the Arab States region, special representatives of the United Nations Secretary-General, and Heads of United Nations agencies and other prominent multilateral institutions that promote the South-South cooperation agenda in the Arab States region.</p>
<p><b>10.00 a.m.- 10.30 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Inauguration and Guided Tour of Exhibition Featuring Expo Solutions</b> <b>Venue:</b> Conference Centre Foyer</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> Immediately after the keynote, welcome and introductory speeches, the delegation of high-level officials will officially inaugurate the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014 Solutions Exhibition. Throughout the entire event, the exhibition will showcase some of the most successful and innovative development solutions originating from the Arab States region and/or other parts of the global South, the shining examples of the current and potential strength of South-South cooperation. A number of South-South and triangular partnership solutions relevant to the three broad themes of the Expo will be displayed through the use of posters, audio visual equipment, printed materials and publications. The showcased solutions will embody the following key attributes: (a) Southern priority/demand driven; (b) Southern ownership;(c) Southern leadership; (d) broad-based partnership; (e) innovation; (f) efficiency; (g)sustainability; and (h) scalability.</p>



10.30 a.m.-  
12.30 p.m.

**High-level Statements, Leadership Round Table and Launching of the Joint IDB-UNDP-UNOSSC Tool for Mapping of South-South Cooperation Mechanisms and Solutions in the Arab States Region**

**Venue:** Al Majlis Auditorium

**Synopsis:**

The High-level Plenary Session Morning segment will continue with high-level statements and a Leadership Round Table. It will conclude with the launching of the joint IDB-UNDP-UNOSSC Tool for Mapping of South-South cooperation mechanisms and solutions in the Arab States Region.

The mapping tool is designed in response to the existing demand for filling the information gap on the range of existing tools and mechanisms for effective South-South cooperation specific and unique to the Arab States region. It aims to provide practical, easy-to-use information for use by the government agencies that are focal points for South-South cooperation as well as the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes active in the region in their work aimed at advancing South-South cooperation in the region in compliance with the provisions of the outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation which took place in Nairobi Kenya in 2009.



2.00 p.m.-  
4.00 p.m.

## HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY SESSION – AFTERNOON

**Venue:** Al Majlis Auditorium

### **Special Plenary Session on Successful Solutions from the State of Qatar as the Host Country of the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014**

#### **Synopsis:**

The State of Qatar has a wide range of successful solutions relevant to the three broad themes to be covered by the first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo. A number of Qatari home-grown solutions will be presented during this special session by various stakeholders representing the national government, civil society and the private sector.

### **Special Plenary Session on the Role of the Private Sector in Scaling Up South-South Cooperation in People-centred Investment**

#### **Synopsis:**

The one-hour session on South-South cooperation in people-centred investment is expected to demonstrate the important role that the private sector is already playing and could play in addressing the three broad themes of the Expo (youth/women's employment, energy efficiency/renewable energy, water/food security) through South-South cooperation partnerships in the Arab States region and beyond. Practical cases of private-sector-supported/-led transfer of knowledge, skills and technologies bringing about the solutions to the problems in these three broad areas will be the object of the substantive focus of this session.



4.15 p.m.-  
6.15 p.m.

**South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE)  
Introduction and Matchmaking Briefing Session**  
**Venue:** Al Majlis Auditorium

**Synopsis:**

The South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE) Introduction and Matchmaking Briefing Session will operate via two components, the first to introduce SSGATE and discuss its multiple benefits through an in-depth panel dialogue, and the second to brief participants on a matchmaking space running throughout the duration of the Expo. The session will feature remarks and introductions made by the Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Mr. Yiping Zhou, with both components of the session concluding with a Q&A.

Throughout the entire event, SS-GATE will host a matchmaking space on the exhibition floor. It will offer solution providers, solution seekers and potential investors the opportunity to leverage SS-GATE expertise in deal-making and project facilitation. Viable solutions will be prepared and loaded onto the SS-GATE e-platform in real time for dissemination throughout the global network. In cases where provider, seeker and investor/donor are matched, SS-GATE will provide on-site facilitation to maximize the chances of a successful deal.



3.00 p.m.-  
6.00 p.m.

**IFAD-led Solution Exchange Forum: South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) for Agricultural Development and Enhanced Food Security**

**Venue:** Al Maha Hall

**Synopsis:**

The importance of effective and efficient intraregional and cross-regional coordination, management and implementation of South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) in agricultural development cannot be overemphasized as useful entry points to achieving impact at scale. The transfer of effective and workable solutions and appropriate technologies is key to achieving development objectives. Efficient water use for agriculture in dry lands, increased agricultural production and productivity, and support to the establishment of farmer-based organizations are perfect candidates for SSTC for agricultural development.

7.00 p.m. -  
9.00 p.m.

**Gala Dinner hosted by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation**

**Venue:** Salwa Ballroom



<p><b>9.00 a.m.- 11.45 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>ILO-led Solution Exchange Forum: Promoting Youth Employment through South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Arab States</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> This Solution Exchange Forum encompasses a series of good practices and lessons learned on South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) on the theme of youth employment. It involves representatives of governments and workers' and employers' organizations, which contributes to addressing the issue from different perspectives and with an integrated approach. The latter allows combining and better understanding the interrelationship of fundamental principles and rights at work, labour standards, employment creation, social protection mechanisms, and social dialogue in strategies tackling youth employment.</p> <p><b>Segment I:</b> Sharing Good Practices on Youth Employment <b>Segment II:</b> Promoting Decent Work for Youth, Skills Development and Cooperatives <b>Segment III:</b> Green Jobs for Youth</p>
<p><b>9.00 a.m.- 11.15 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>UN-ESCWA-led Solution Exchange Forum: Sustainable Development in the Arab States Region – From Regional Ambition to Local Innovation</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> Water and energy are two of the most important natural resources in the Arab States region – one due to its scarcity, the other due to its abundance, but both unequally distributed and unsustainably used. Therefore, there is high demand and an urgent need to find solutions that can promote the more sustainable use of both resources whether through regional policy trickling down to the local level or local solutions replicated across the region.</p>
<p><b>12.00 p.m.- 2.00 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>UNEP-led Solution Exchange Forum: Green Solutions for Sustainable Growth</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> The UNEP-led Solution Exchange Forum will have two parts. The first session will present four solutions, each seeking to provide environmentally sound solutions for sustainable development and growth. They include two on-the-ground projects in support of the water, energy, food nexus and two projects that provide technical and policy support towards sustainable development initiatives, focusing on energy efficiency and cleaner production strategies. The second session will be in the form of a facilitated panel discussion on "Opportunities and Innovation for South-South Development Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Arab States Region". Panellists will include the solution providers, a youth innovator and green economy advocates from the region to expand on ongoing activities and future opportunities in the Arab States region and beyond.</p>

<p><b>11.30 a.m.- 2.00 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>UNDP-led Solution Exchange Forum: Supporting Resilience in an Age of Uncertainty: Focus on the Arab States</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> The overall focus of the session is to highlight development solutions that support the resilience of vulnerable groups during periods of volatility and change. It will bring together representatives from governments, IGOs, CSOs, academia, and practitioners already engaged in horizontal cooperation in the field of employment, with a particular focus on youth and women, and other strategies to strengthen economic and social resilience to withstand shocks and environmental stress. The session will showcase successful and replicable Southern development solutions in areas such as: promoting livelihoods in Palestine, initiating job creation and reducing stigma for those living with HIV and AIDs, deploying information and communications technology for improved service delivery, youth employment in Yemen, and addressing climate change in arid areas of Sudan. The intention is to introduce and promote exchanges on innovative, scalable and transferable regional, national or subnational Southern development solutions, and/or successful regional/cross-regional South-South knowledge initiatives and platforms. The session will be presented through an interactive dialogue format, including a talk-show arrangement that directly engages the audience.</p>
<p><b>3.00 p.m.- 6.00 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>UNIDO-led Solution Exchange Forum: Industrial Development in the Arab States Region: Youth and Women’s Employment, Energy Efficiency</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> The agricultural and industrial sectors account for a significant proportion of the livelihoods in the Arab States region. This Solution Exchange Forum looks from the vantage point of industrial development at central thematic concerns of youth/women’s employment and energy efficiency. Manufacturing industries and productive activities have a crucial impact on job creation, sustainable livelihoods, food security and equitable growth, the key requirements for eradicating extreme poverty by 2030 and for inclusive and sustainable industrial development.</p>
<p><b>3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>UN-Women-led Solution Exchange Forum: Investing in Gender Equality</b> <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b> The UN-Women-led Solution Exchange Forum will focus on innovative programmes and solutions that empower women economically and in the public sphere, including as leaders in their respective communities. We cannot look at employment alone, without recognizing the many factors that hinder women from participating as full-fledged citizens in their society, factors such as cultural norms and sometimes political climates that are not prioritizing a gender equality and women’s empowerment agenda.</p>

<p>9.00 a.m.- 5.45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>First Regional High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation, Jointly supported by the State of Qatar, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The meeting will establish a basis for regular regional-level exchanges of innovative approaches to South-South and triangular cooperation and best practices in capacity development. The objective of the meeting is to facilitate partnership-building among national governments, multilateral organizations and United Nations agencies, clarifying national ownership and leadership by the high-level decision-makers representing various parts of the Arab States region and the catalytic role of the United Nations together with the multilateral system and other partners in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in the region.</p> <p><b>Opening:</b> High-level Opening of the First Regional High-level Forum of Directors-General for Development Cooperation and Collaborative Arrangements for the Arab States Region  <b>Session I:</b> Intraregional South-South Cooperation as a Driver for Effective Policy Coordination and Development Coordination in the Arab States Region  <b>Session II:</b> Role and Positioning of the Arab States Region within the Cross-regional Cooperation Frameworks for Equitable Participation in Global Decision-making  <b>Session III:</b> Successful Country Strategies and Frameworks for South-South and Triangular Cooperation towards Effective Development in the Arab States Region  <b>Session IV:</b> Role of Development Cooperation Stakeholders, the United Nations System, and Other Institutions in Catalysing South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Arab States Region  <b>Session V:</b> Way Forward: Regionally Owned Arab Roadmap on Fostering South-South and Triangular Cooperation as a Practical Way of Harmonizing Efforts at the Regional Level</p>
<p>9.00 a.m. - 3.45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Special Session Organized Jointly by UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States: Cross-regional Knowledge and Experiences Sharing between Europe and the Arab States</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment A</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The Special Session will focus on knowledge and experience exchanges between civil-society and public-sector practitioners from Europe and the CIS and the Arab States. The event will cover three thematic areas: transitional governance and institution-building; economic governance and employment of women and youth; and challenges relating to energy and water. It will present an opportunity to foster new horizontal partnerships, network with potential partners and create sustainable mechanisms of cross-regional cooperation.</p>
<p>9.00 a.m.- 12.00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Special Session Led by the League of Arab States: Launching a Regional Dialogue on the Energy, Water and Food Security Nexus in the Arab States Region</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The session is led by the League of Arab States in partnership with UN-ESCWA and GIZ and other regional and international organizations. It intends to kick start a regional dialogue on the current status and prospects of a nexus in the energy, water and food sectors in the Arab region. The session outcomes will focus on challenges and opportunities in adopting a nexus approach at the regional level. The outcome will be presented to three regional decision-making bodies (Agriculture, Energy and Water) to initiate a regional nexus platform.</p>

<p><b>1.00 p.m.- 3.30 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Special Session Led by UNDP Egypt and Co-organized by the UNEP Regional Office for West Asia and the UNDP Art Initiative</b>  <b>Round-table Discussion: Role of Information and Communications Technology in Fostering South-South Cooperation in the Arab States Region</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  This session will be an interactive dialogue on the critical role of information and communications technology (ICT) as a driver of effective and relevant South-South development cooperation. It will be attended by high-level representatives from the region and senior officials of the United Nations and will feature renowned leaders and experts in the field of ICT and South-South and triangular cooperation.</p>
<p><b>3.45 p.m.- 5.45 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Special Session Jointly Organized by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States Regional Centre in Cairo:</b>  <b>Network for Economic Empowerment of Women in the South: Arab States Chapter</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment B</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The project focuses on the economic empowerment of women of the global South through different thematic streams – Agriculture and Food Security, Science and Technology, Energy and Energy Security, Design and Culture, Construction, and Services. The main objective is to re-tool established but struggling women-owned businesses to achieve higher levels of success through a Business Accelerator programme whereby already successful business entrepreneurs will team with established but struggling women-owned businesses to take them to higher levels of success. The project will consistently develop interventions that encourage greater collaboration among business women of the global South as well as institutions/ organizations that provide the tools required to accelerate women's existing income-generating activities into strong and viable businesses.</p>
<p><b>4.00 p.m.- 5.45 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Special Session as a Follow-up to the Joint Appeal by the Government of Somalia and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC):</b>  <b>Livelihood Improvement and Economic Regeneration through South-South Cooperation in Somalia</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Salwa Ballroom, Segment C</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The Special Session will focus on the post-conflict, post-drought situation in Somalia; the plans of the Government of Somalia in navigating the country towards its socio-economic resurgence; the challenges being encountered and the potential visualized; and the role that the OIC/UNOSSC-supported project –“Livelihood Improvement and Economic Regeneration through South-South Cooperation”– is expected to play towards the rehabilitation of the country's education and health-care services, and the improvement of livelihoods for the idle and unemployed Somalis, especially women and youth, through entrepreneurial training and small grants.</p>
<p><b>6.00 p.m.- 6.30 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>High-level Closing Ceremony and Special Awards of the First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo 2014</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Al Majlis Auditorium</p> <p><b>Synopsis:</b>  The High-level Closing Ceremony of the first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo will be a grand celebration of the event's successes. Future perspectives and the course of action in further advancing South-South cooperation in the Arab States region and beyond in the context of the post-2015 development agenda will be shared at the Closing Ceremony based on the planned commitments of eminent leaders in South-South and triangular cooperation in the region, including government officials, leaders of United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and other prominent South-South cooperation champions.</p>



## Secretariat of the Regional South-South Development Expo

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation's primary mandate is to promote, coordinate and support South-South and triangular cooperation on a global and United Nations system-wide basis.

Formerly known as the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1978. It receives policy directives and guidance from the General Assembly High-level Committee (HLC) on South-South Cooperation, which is a committee of the whole and a subsidiary body of the General Assembly that reviews worldwide progress in

South-South cooperation. The Office serves as the Secretariat of the HLC, preparing all substantive reports, including the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation. It organizes the General Assembly-proclaimed United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, celebrated annually on 12 September. It manages the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation and the IBSA Facility for Hunger and Poverty Alleviation (IBSA Fund). It also implements programmes financed by the United Nations Development Programme.



*The Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo is a direct response to the requests of Member States and institutional partners to bring practical Southern solutions closer to regional contexts. With a focus on the exchange of knowledge and experience, stakeholders come together at this Expo to deepen the impact of South-South development cooperation through concrete scaling up and replication efforts.*

*Yiping Zhou  
Director*

*United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation*

To participate in the next Expo, please register online at [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org).

To nominate a solution, please visit [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org).

To become a Lead Co-organizer/Partner/Sponsor of the Expo, please consider the opportunities listed below:

- Contribution to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation;
- Sponsorship of a publication on South-South and triangular cooperation (e.g., *South-South in Action*, *South-South Executive Brief*, *South Report*);
- Printing of the Expo 2014 book (a publication commemorating the solutions shared at Expo 2014);
- Sponsorship of a sub-forum or side event;
- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate or Head of State from a landlocked developing country or least developed country;

- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States, Europe or Latin America;
- Sponsorship of a high-level delegate of an intergovernmental or non-governmental organization;
- Sponsorship of a forum panellist.

Benefits for Lead Co-organizers/Partners/Sponsors include:

- Invitation to participate in all conferences and summits relating to South-South cooperation;
- Placement of your logo on our promotional materials, brochures, banners, posters and the Expo website;
- Exhibition booth to showcase your products.

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The UNOSSC-supported regional strategic approach is aimed at addressing existing knowledge, communication and resource gaps towards further advancing South-South and triangular cooperation for development in the Arab States region.

South-South cooperation as the driver for development, including its dimensions directly or indirectly relating to the Arab States, is the process that started a long time ago and will continue its evolution over time. A harmonized and coordinated effort, however, could help to further catalyse and speed up this process for the Arab States region by optimizing its intensity and focus and increasing the bargaining capacity of the Arab States region as a whole, leading in turn to the region's stronger voice in the global arena.

Experience shows that countries with the existing policy, coordination mechanism, and resources (including packaged knowledge and expertise, clearly identified needs, and some funding to support exchange with other countries) have proven more successful in South-South cooperation than the countries that revert to South-South cooperation on an ad hoc basis.

South-South cooperation clearly constitutes a shift from a mono-vector to a multi-vector type of relationship between countries and is based on solidarity, reciprocity and mutual benefit. At the same time, the countries in the Arab States region are different in terms of the actual and anticipated structure and proportion of inward and outward cooperation flows. Also there are a number of wealthier countries in the region that can benefit from their role as participants in South-South cooperation as well as triangular-cooperation partners supporting exchanges between other countries by filling the financial resource gaps.

**The agreed regional approach is closely integrated with the global three-in-one multilateral support architecture for South-South cooperation that consists of the Global South-South Development Academy, the Global South-South Development Expo and the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange.**

The three key elements of the regional approach in support of South-South cooperation for development in the Arab States region are:

### **1. National-level Coordination Boards for South-South and Triangular Cooperation**

In each country, it takes the shape of the forum that is most relevant to the national context, building on existing institutional arrangements. Regular meetings of the National-level Coordination Board for South-South and Triangular Cooperation are co-hosted by a National Coordination Authority in charge of South-South cooperation and the respective United Nations Resident Coordinator Office. The Board is comprised of line ministries, United Nations country team members and other triangular cooperation partners as well as relevant civil society organizations and private-sector institutions. A National-level Coordination Board for South-South and Triangular Cooperation is a time-efficient and cost-efficient clearing house with the following three functions: (a) coordination and synergies; (b) facilitation and resource mobilization; and (c) upstream policy advice and norm-setting on South-South cooperation.

In the long run, a National-level Coordination Board for South-South and Triangular Cooperation is to support the three essential prerequisites for effective scaling up of South-South cooperation, namely, national policy, a national coordination mechanism, and national-level resources.



## **2. Online South-South Cooperation Portal for Real-time Access to South-South-related Information**

This portal serves as a one-stop shop for the most-requested information on South-South cooperation such as documented home-grown solutions with the potential for replication and adaptation, information on technologies, descriptions of existing mechanisms in support of South-South cooperation, rosters of Arab experts and centres of excellence, partnership proposals with confirmed partial commitments, relevant training opportunities and training materials, and statistical and research data as well as other data on a demand-driven basis. As an additional value added, the South-South Cooperation Portal is meant to provide various institutions active in the domain of South-South cooperation with an opportunity to promote their relevant online tools and other information resources featuring their solutions, technologies, expertise and proposals. From the end-user point of view, this would eventually mean more standardized, interchangeable and thus easily accessible information.

## **3. Arab Regional Support Facility for Scale-up Exchanges in South-South Solutions, Technologies and Expertise**

The key objective of the Arab Regional Support Facility for South-South Cooperation is to provide for an equitable approach for all the players in the region in scaling up exchanges of solutions, technologies and expertise in a number of regularly agreed thematic areas relevant to the shared needs of the countries in the Arab States region. It is done by filling the financial gaps in cases where such resource gaps cannot be addressed bilaterally and locally between solution providers and solution recipients or with the support of members of respective National-level Coordination Boards for South-South Cooperation.

Financial resources that comprise the Arab Regional Support Facility for South-South Cooperation come from voluntary contributions/commitments from national governments, triangular cooperation partners, philanthropic organizations and foundations, the private sector and civil society. The Arab Regional Support Facility is governed by the Board of Trustees comprising one delegated Government representative of each of the participating Arab countries irrespective of the amount of a country's annual contribution/commitment to the Facility as well as one delegated representative of each contributor other than Arab Governments whose contribution/commitment is equivalent to a minimum of USD 1 million per annum. Other contributors will be represented on the Board of Trustees on a rotational basis. The funding decisions on each individual South-South cooperation initiative are taken solely by the Board of Trustees by simple majority vote based on the analytical recommendation prepared by the Experts Group. Each participating contributor irrespective of the amount of its annual contribution/commitment to the Facility retains control over the use of its contributed/committed resources in the form of the veto right.

Sustainability of the proposed regional strategic approach is reflected in the fact that each of its three key elements is demand-driven and thus is self-sufficient in that each of the elements produces value added in advancing South-South cooperation independently of the existence of the other two elements. It is worth mentioning that once all three key elements are in place, they further reinforce one another, provide for economies of scale, and thus further increase their cumulative value added in promoting South-South cooperation in the Arab States region and beyond.

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