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THE SOUTH-SOUTH QUARTERLY

UNDP Newsletter for South-South and Triangular
Cooperation for Sustainable Human Development

Issue 3
October - December 2014

UNDP SOUTH-SOUTH NEWS

■ FOREWORD

I have the pleasure of sharing with you the third issue of the South-South Quarterly. This newsletter series provides regular updates of South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives supported by UNDP. We encourage all UNDP offices and our partners to actively contribute stories to the newsletter.

This issue focuses on the Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo), which took place in Washington D.C. from 17-21 November, 2014. As in previous years, the GSSD Expo was organized by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and it showcased Southern best practices from countries, UN agencies, private sector enterprises and civil society organizations. With over 500 delegates from 150 countries participating in a range of events, the Expo was a clear success.

In line with the theme of 'Scaling up South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development' and reflecting our strong commitment to the promotion South-South and Triangular cooperation, UNDP hosted

three events at the GSSD Expo: a high level panel - "Responding to Ebola as a Development Crisis", which showcased south-south cooperation solutions and best practices which can be scaled up to respond to epidemics like Ebola; a joint side event on scaling up horizontal knowledge and experience flows in Europe and the CIS that highlighted successful country-to-country and sub-(regional) knowledge sharing initiatives; and, a partnership forum that brought together Southern think tanks to share their research ideas on South-South Cooperation in the context of the implementation of the post-2015 agenda. The events were all very informative, well attended, and had great participant interaction.

In addition to highlights from the Expo, included in this issue of the South-South Quarterly are also a few selected stories from our country offices. They demonstrate various approaches that UNDP undertakes on the ground to support South-South and Triangular cooperation.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and that it will serve as a source of knowledge and inspiration as you continue your important efforts to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation in UNDP's work.

I wish you the very best for 2015!

Gina Casar
United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Associate
Administrator of UNDP



Photo: UNOSSC (Standing from Left to Right: H.E. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, President of UN High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation; Ms. Gina Casar, Under Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP; Mr. Yiping Zhou, Envoy of UN Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UN Office of South-South Cooperation; and Mr. Li Yong, Director-General of UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

■ GSSD 2014: SCALING UP SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The theme of this year's Expo was anchored in scaling up South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the post-2015 sustainable development scenario, in keeping with the growing demand for South-South and triangular development solutions in addressing global and regional

challenges. The Expo showcased concrete initiatives based on proven and replicable scaling-up processes for development, and made this knowledge open and accessible to all by engaging with the private sector and other key stakeholders. All activities such as high level panels, scaling up sessions, mini-forums, roundtables and cultural activities were designed around concrete projects and initiatives across the United Nations system and directly linked to the economic, social and environment pillars of development cooperation. Running concurrently with the main activities was a hall of exhibits displaying solutions and best practices in South-South cooperation generated by United Nations agencies and other development actors.

■ SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN POVERTY ERADICATION - RESPONDING TO EBOLA AS A DEVELOPMENT CRISIS

On 18 November 2014, the scaling up session *"Responding to Ebola as a Development Crisis"* hosted by UNDP at the Global South-South Development Expo 2014, provided a platform for participants from government, development agencies, think tanks and the private sector to share experiences, and analyze challenges and opportunities in providing immediate integrated response to health epidemic crisis such as Ebola.

Government representatives from China, Cuba, the Gambia, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, South Africa

and Uganda advocated for integrated responses emphasizing the linkages between poverty and health epidemics. Highlighting the importance of the global South in helping end the Ebola crisis under the umbrella of South-South cooperation, each country representative provided actions and initiatives taken in assisting Ebola affected countries. These South-South solutions not only successfully addressed several key issues, but analyzed mechanisms for successful scaling-up of such solutions, creating space for future partnerships between solution seekers and providers.

This session provided an opportunity for Southern and donor countries to share best practices and discuss scaling up approaches to respond to economic and livelihood impacts of pandemics for early recovery.

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Photo: UNDP/ Shams Banihani



Photo: UNDP/ Jenneth Sonntag

■ SOUTHERN THINK TANKS AND UNDP PROMOTING A COMMON RESEARCH AGENDA ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

On 20 November 2014, the partnership-forum “South South and Triangular Cooperation: Emerging Opportunities for Think Tanks”, facilitated by UNDP at the GSSD Expo, brought together think tanks from the north and south to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation, and identify cutting edge research ideas to inform policy makers and governments in implementing the development agenda beyond 2015.

To start the conversation, UNDP presented a background paper which provided perspectives from 21 think tanks (in the North and South), outlining emerging trends, roles, good practices and challenges faced by think tanks on SSC and TrC. The UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Representative in Gambia shared insightful practitioner perspectives.

Panelists from the Institute for Applied Economic Research (Brazil), the Institute for Global Governance Studies - Shanghai Institute for International Studies (China), the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (India) and the International Secretariat of the Society for International Development (Italy), represented four leading

think tanks and presented their views on the concepts, principles, practices, and development impacts of SSC and TrC, and outlined some next steps for moving forward.

This consultation process added great value in creating a space for exchange of opinions across sectors, countries and regions, especially within the think tank community interested in SSC and TrC policy research. UNDP hopes to continue such discussions in the future and actively work towards bridging the gap between research and policy making in SSC and TrC.

For more information on this session please contact Yumn. Almufarrej@undp.org

■ FROM SOUTH-SOUTH TO EAST-EAST COOPERATION – SCALING UP HORIZONTAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE FLOWS IN EUROPE AND THE CIS

On 19 November 2014, UNDP and UNOSSC hosted a joint Regional side event where Governments and non-governmental organizations from Central and Eastern Europe, Western Balkans and the CIS, put the narrative of South-South Cooperation into the spotlight through the regional lens of East-East Cooperation.

It was an interactive discussion focusing on several case studies of country-to-country and sub-(regional) knowledge sharing initiatives, the unique contribution of

the region to the global development agenda on issues such as resources, coordination, and multilateral support for East-East cooperation were discussed.

Government representatives from Albania, Armenia, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Slovak Republic and Uzbekistan participated at the event and provided country examples on their respective countries engagement on East-East cooperation. The event drew together representatives from government institutions in charge of development cooperation, as well as from line ministries engaged in specific country-to-country knowledge and experience sharing initiatives, governmental and non-governmental institutions responsible for specific horizontal exchanges.

For more information on this session, please contact Dmitri.mariassin@undp.org

■ THE CHILEAN FUND AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION INITIATIVES

The Chilean Fund against Hunger and Poverty helps to achieve the MDGs by promoting South-South Cooperation actions to respond efficiently to demands, by focusing on areas in which Chile's experience in fighting hunger and poverty can serve as good practice for other countries.

To date, 13 projects have been implemented in 15 countries along two work tracks (conducted by NGOs and UN Agencies) to address the fight against hunger and poverty. For the first round, the fund has prioritised projects in Bolivia, Ecuador, El-Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Nicaragua, Palestine, Paraguay, Surinam and CARICOM countries. There are a further eight initiatives along humanitarian lines, conducting activities such as mass vaccination campaigns, against diseases like poliomyelitis as was done in Egypt.

Design, preparation, evaluation and supervision of the initiatives financed by the Fund are conducted by the Government of Chile, UNDP, the Chilean Foreign Affairs Ministry, and its International Cooperation Agency (AGCI). Execution of financed projects includes Chilean NGOs, government institutions, UN Agencies in Chile and other UNDP Country Offices.

The Fund is financed with resources provided directly by the Chilean state and is raised by a tax charged on international air tickets purchased in Chile. This innovative funding mechanism strengthens international cooperation from a Middle income country that has transitioned from a net recipient to also being a net contributor towards international development. The connection with UNDP serves as a basis for replicating a similar model in other countries of a similar income level.

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■ SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: THE CARIBBEAN RISK MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The Caribbean Risk Management Initiative (CRMI) is a UNDP regional initiative designed to promote best practices and build capacity in the region in the field of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. From 2009 to 2014, CRMI has supported a SSC pilot to transfer a Cuban model of disaster risk reduction to five countries in the Caribbean. The British Virgin Islands, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago elected to participate in this pilot initiative.

The Cuba experience was documented and a guide which outlined the conditions for successful implementation was created. This was shared in the Caribbean region through conferences, events, and the dissemination of systematized materials. Different mechanisms such as training workshops, ongoing technical assistance, and a comprehensive training kit were used to transfer the model. Each country adapted the Cuban model differently in response to their needs, vulnerability and context. The experience was shared between countries and stakeholders through social media forums, webinars, the CRMI website and workshops.

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SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGE TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON SEXUAL HEALTH

As part of an innovative initiative under the Multi-Country South Asia (MSA) Global Fund HIV Programme - UNDP, sub-recipients from Pakistan and Nepal engaged in a mutually beneficial knowledge exchange to strengthen community-based organizations (CBOs) working on HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) service delivery; promotion and advocacy for human rights and the sexual health of men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender people.

In April 2014, Naz Male Health Alliance (NMHA) and Blue Diamond Society (BDS) jointly organized a knowledge exchange, which brought 12 representatives (one from NMHA and 11 from CBOs) from Pakistan to Kathmandu, Nepal, for an intensive week of south-south learning activities.

The exchange focused on practical knowledge transfer in a number of areas, including organizational development, field visits, monitoring and evaluation techniques, policy and advocacy initiatives, resource mobilization strategies, community service delivery (including reaching low income populations), treatment for prevention, media engagement and good practices for supporting and strengthening MSM and transgender-led CBOs. Meetings were held with a high-level advocate of the Supreme Court as well as representatives of the National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC) in Nepal.

Discussions amongst the participants centred on the role of government and civil society systems and formulating steps to address challenges associated with civil society/CBO development and the welfare of key HIV-affected populations. Of particular interest were the lessons learned in targeted advocacy.

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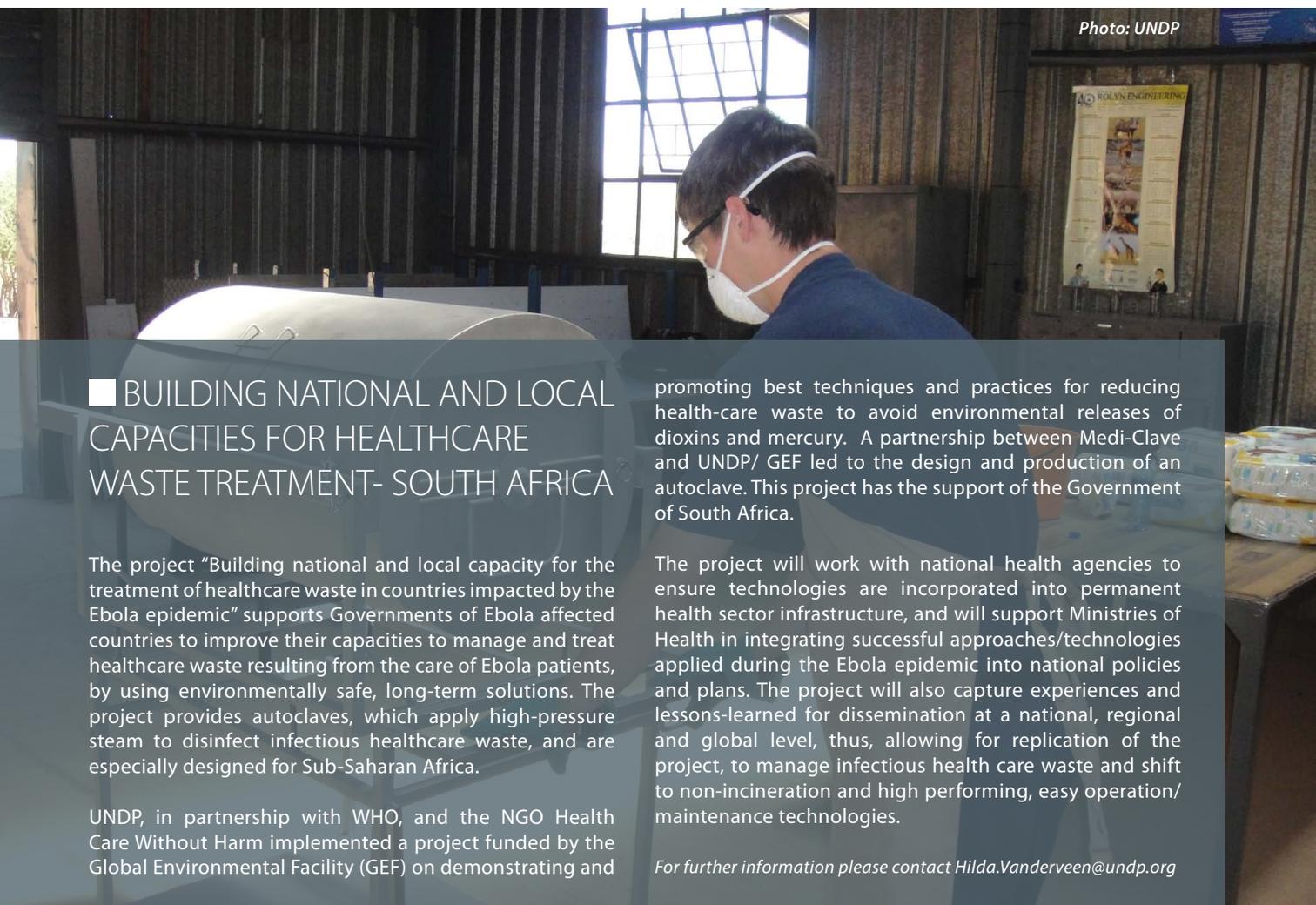


Photo: UNDP

BUILDING NATIONAL AND LOCAL CAPACITIES FOR HEALTHCARE WASTE TREATMENT- SOUTH AFRICA

The project “Building national and local capacity for the treatment of healthcare waste in countries impacted by the Ebola epidemic” supports Governments of Ebola affected countries to improve their capacities to manage and treat healthcare waste resulting from the care of Ebola patients, by using environmentally safe, long-term solutions. The project provides autoclaves, which apply high-pressure steam to disinfect infectious healthcare waste, and are especially designed for Sub-Saharan Africa.

UNDP, in partnership with WHO, and the NGO Health Care Without Harm implemented a project funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) on demonstrating and

promoting best techniques and practices for reducing health-care waste to avoid environmental releases of dioxins and mercury. A partnership between Medi-Clave and UNDP/ GEF led to the design and production of an autoclave. This project has the support of the Government of South Africa.

The project will work with national health agencies to ensure technologies are incorporated into permanent health sector infrastructure, and will support Ministries of Health in integrating successful approaches/technologies applied during the Ebola epidemic into national policies and plans. The project will also capture experiences and lessons-learned for dissemination at a national, regional and global level, thus, allowing for replication of the project, to manage infectious health care waste and shift to non-incineration and high performing, easy operation/maintenance technologies.

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Photo: The Chilean Fund Against Hunger and Poverty, Courtesy America Solidaria

If you would like to subscribe or contribute to the South-South Quarterly please write to Jenneth Sonntag at sscforhd@undp.org. To learn more about UNDP's work on South-South and Triangular cooperation visit us at www.undp.org/ssc.

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