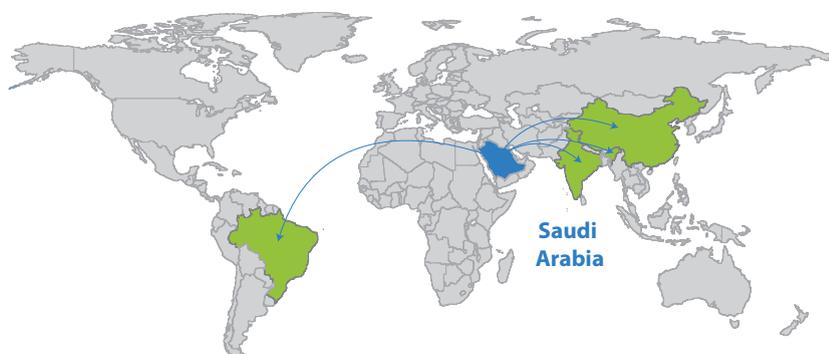


MECHANISMS

South-South Youth Exchange: Saudi Arabian Youth Exploring Global Development Solutions

Geographic focus: Brazil, China, India,
South Korea



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

MDG 8 on Global Partnerships for Development; As in the entire Arab region, youth empowerment is a growing challenge in Saudi Arabia, with about 60% of population below 30 years of age. While local efforts are underway to improve education systems and expand non-oil employment generating industry, another need is to empower Saudi youth to emerge as globally connected citizens, sharing development experiences and lessons with partners across the emerging South. In support of the Government's drive for greater intercultural dialogue, UNDP has been partnering for a south-south Youth Exchange project through which Saudi female and male youth visited counterparts in Brazil, China, India and South Korea in 2012 to explore models of youth employment, urban development, green economy, ICT for development, and knowledge economy generation.

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The South-South Youth Exchange mechanism is based on a process of identifying thematic priorities for empowering Saudi youth and relevant exchange countries for given topics, identification of female and male youth from regions of the country, developing a rigorous agenda for exchange visits, and undertaking evaluation and follow-up to capture lessons learned and ways to integrate such lessons into local youth empowerment activities in Saudi Arabia. It also involved a process to continue engaging youth across the South as alumni of the initiative. The exchange is overseen by a Project Board with various Government and private

sector partners who provide guidance, quality assurance and funding.

Results to Date:

The mechanism has been a success with positive evaluations from both Saudi institutions and host partners in Brazil, China, India and South Korea. Saudi youth have benefited greatly through exposure to development models in other emerging economies and have begun to apply lessons learned into their work back in the Kingdom. It has served as a base for further South-South cooperation potentials on specific topics of bilateral interest among countries. For example out of the Saudi-India youth exchange process, which focused on the role of ICT for development, an innovative idea for web-based platform for citizen contributions to global development has been tabled for development, as an offshoot initiative now under review by UNDP and the Government.

Most Recent Annual Budget (USD): 500,000

Total Budget (USD): 1,000,000

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MECHANISMS

Expert Exchange Mechanism: Morocco

Geographic focus: Morocco, Mauritania,
Gabon and Senegal

Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

Sharing of common mechanisms allowing for improved coordination of international cooperation notably decentralised.

Better understanding of the political intervention of the different partners in support of decentralization and local development with a view to transfer good practice and mutual learning between neighbouring countries.

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

- a) Signing of the Convention of South-South Cooperation Partnership between the 4 countries.
- b) Elaboration of a joint work plan that has established a flexible South-South cooperation system as according to its latest Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 2011/2012/. Such MOU includes: sharing of experiences in SSC exchange, expert exchange, setting up of knowledge networks between the countries using local level governance and local strategic planning.
- c) Organisation of a mission to Mauritania (Presenting Moroccan expertise in capacity building of local authorities).
- d) Organisation of a mission to Gabon (Supporting local planning and development guidelines for international cooperation),

Results to Date:

Mauritania:

- a) A participatory benchmarking exercise of existing trainings in Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and Gabon.
- b) Based on initial results, a set of good practices



was identified and a first draft of the Training Plan of Mauritanian actors for decentralization was developed.

- c) As according to the 2011/2015- Strategic Plan for Management and Training of Administrators and Technical Staff of Local Authorities within the Ministry of Interior (DFCAT); Commitment from both DFCAT/Local Government in Morocco to support the process 1: development of a Training Catalogue/identification of training needs, 2: elaboration of an Monitoring and Evaluation training plan and 3: implementing training of trainers.

Gabon:

- a) Members of the National Executive of the Unit Programme and Provinces/Local Branch Groups were trained on the development of the guidelines and the mobilization of decentralized cooperation.
- b) A draft of the guidelines for pilot provinces was developed.
- c) A Roadmap for the guidelines for the ART Gold UNDP initiative for Gabon was developed (Articulating Territorial and Thematic Networks, Governance and Local Development).
- d) A training tool kit on the local programming cycle was shared.

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MECHANISMS

Microfinance- A Mechanism To Empower Women And Uplift Family Living Conditions Knowledge Network: Bahrain

Geographic focus: Bahrain



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

Establishing an active microfinance activity within two women-based NGOs, and created an enhanced environment for equitable job creation and sustainable economic growth by increasing the number of NGOs managing microfinance initiative with focus on targeting youth and women entrepreneurs.

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The Microfinance project (previously Micro-Start) was first initiated in 1999. As a new solution to include productive families into an institutional mechanism, whereby the participating family member becomes an entrepreneur, a new culture in a much more organized manner was developed. NGOs participating in the programme were subject to intense trainings, and manuals were developed to facilitate the process. As a result of almost a decade of support to the line ministry and NGOs, the Bahrain Central Bank of Bahrain has finally added a chapter on (Microfinance) officially regulating the industry. As such, two Microfinance Banks were established based on the availability of such regulation.

Results to Date:

The project, as a mechanism, has been implemented in Bahrain as part of a global UNDP/UNCDF initiative implemented in around twenty five countries worldwide.

Through the participating NGOs, the project had reached out on aggregate to more than 7000 clients of which almost 50% or more are women and the same percentage for youth (under 45 years). Also, the two Women-based NGOs have achieved operational self-sufficiency with reasonable PAR indicators.

In an independent “Microfinance Market Research”

study conducted on the project, women entrepreneurs accessing loans expressed a major change in their lives; now demanding access to convenient savings products to maintain the real value of their cash savings. Based on interviews with female clients and stories of success, women became more able to decide on their future, benefit their children in terms of food quantity and quality, access to health and education. The empowerment also reached NGOs that offer micro-credit; now changed from a simple charity- based organization to a coherent management structure with proper institutional and market image.

UNDP and other Government line ministries in the Kingdom are examining the merits of utilizing the success created through access to Microfinance services for women to use the same venue in working with “Youth” within the age bracket of 15 – 29 years. Although the microfinance project outreach is more than 50% to borrowers under 45 years, the envisioned initiative would concentrate on an upper age bracket of 29 years. With a reconnaissance survey, the initiative should be able to depict in a clear manner the needs and wants of the Bahraini Youth and would blend financial with non-financial and coaching/advisory services needed by youth in building their lives.

Most Recent Annual Budget (USD):340,000

Total Budget (USD):730,280

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MECHANISMS

Exchange Visits between E-9 Countries: Education for All:

Expert Exchange Mechanism Egypt

Geographic focus: E-9 countries (the nine most heavily populated developing countries, which are: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan)



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

The focus of the mechanism is the 6 Education for All (EFA) goals. Each year focuses on a specific theme related to one of the goals.

Website:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/efareport/regional-resources/e9-countries/>

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

Within the follow-up activities for the E9 initiative and following the Seventh E-9 Ministerial Review Meeting on Education for All, Bali, March 2008, a study mission for a delegation of Nigerian Ministry of Education senior officials was endorsed by the Egyptian Ministry of Education and took place in July of 2008 under the theme of “Improvement of Teachers’ Education and Training as a Focus of Education”.

The overarching aim was strengthening bilateral cooperation between Egypt and Nigeria while sharing best practices, lessons learned and success stories in the field of the use of information and communication technology in teacher training and education.

Objectives of the Mission Included:

a) Exposing Nigerian delegates to the Egyptian experience in use of video conferencing for training and other innovations in teacher training.

b) Familiarizing Nigerian delegation with the training centre setting through visit to training centres.

Results to Date:

Nigeria: The Results of the Mission Included:

- a) Bilateral cooperation between Egypt and Nigeria strengthened
- b) Nigerian delegate’s capacities built through exposure to innovations in the field of teacher training with particular emphasis on video conferencing and websites preparations.
- c) Nigerian delegates familiarized with the training centre setting.

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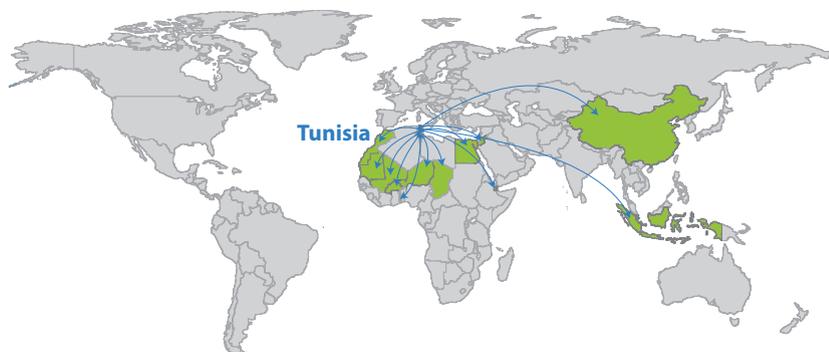
MECHANISMS

South-South Cooperation in the Area of Reproductive Health (ONFP):

Expert Exchange Mechanism : Tunisia

Geographic focus: African francophone countries, incl. Djibouti, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, Chad

Arab countries: Mauritania, Morocco, Jordan, Egypt, and Asia countries: China, Indonesia



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

- Training in Tunisia and target countries.
- Technical assistance and sending experts in the short and medium term.
- Study visit and observation in Tunisia.
- Gender equality and democratic transition.

Website:

http://www.credif.org.tn/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4393%A2012-22-08-19-23-16&catid=353%A2010-28-14-21-05-14&Itemid=121&lang=fr

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

- Diagnosis of the situation and identification of the needs.
- Development of strategies and formulation of Reproductive Health requests.
- Capacity building.
- Monitoring and evaluation of reproductive health and family planning programmes.
- Identification of the themes of the 3 conferences.
- Contacts with bilateral cooperation in Tunisia, and UNFPA CO in other countries and identification of experts.

g) Conference organisation (full day).

h) Publication of the conferences report (early 2013).

Results to Date:

- Training in the Centre for Research (CEFIR) of ONFP of more than 2000 staff from African and Arab countries.
- Ten training sessions in targeted countries.
- More than 30 short term technical assistance missions and 9 permanent experts (Niger, Mali and Mauritania).
- 3 international joint workshops (CREDIF-UNFPA) on gender equality and democratic transition in Tunis (September, October, November, 2012) with a participation of around 350 representatives of civil society organisations, government bodies and ministries, as well as the National Constituency Assembly, Tunisia

Most Recent Annual Budget (USD):40,000

Total Budget (USD):40,000

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MECHANISMS

Arab AIDS Initiative;
Partnership between Arab
Countries, League of Arab
States, UNAIDS and CSOs:

Regional

Geographic focus: Member States of the
League of Arab States



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

The Arab AIDS initiative is partnership between LAS, UNAIDS and CSOs to help Countries in enhancing national responses and achieving the targets of the 2011 UN Political Declaration on AIDS.

Website:

<http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2012/november/20121127arabregion/>

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The Arab AIDS Initiative is based on the decision of the Executive Council of the Arab Ministers of Health in October 2011 to endorse the Riyadh Charter on combating HIV as a Pan-Arab document. The Riyadh Charter had come out of the Saudi Initiative workshop held in April 2011, which all GCC members had endorsed to reaffirm their political commitment to HIV. Then in November 2011, at the Saudi Forum on Uniting Arab Countries against AIDS, Arab countries advanced a series of recommendations that called for Arab countries to review their national strategic plans, with particular focus on protecting the human rights of people living with HIV and scaling up HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services.

The recommendations of the Saudi Forum were adopted by the Council of the Arab Ministers of Health in its 37th session in Amman Jordan in March 2012. As part of this decision, the Ministers of Health agreed to develop a

unified Arab AIDS Strategy and constitute a technical committee under the leadership of Saudi Arabia that would follow up on the recommendations of the Saudi Forum and develop the Arab AIDS Strategy.

Results to Date:

- Arab Convention on HIV prevention and protection of the rights of People Living with HIV, an advance document that address the needs of People Living with HIV and endorsed by the Arab Parliament in March 2012.
- Outlines of Arab AIDS Strategy to achieve the targets of the 2011 UN Political Declaration on AIDS that came out from a technical meeting in Riyadh in November 2012.
- A technical committee on HIV under the umbrella of the LAS and the leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to oversee the finalization and implementation of the strategy.

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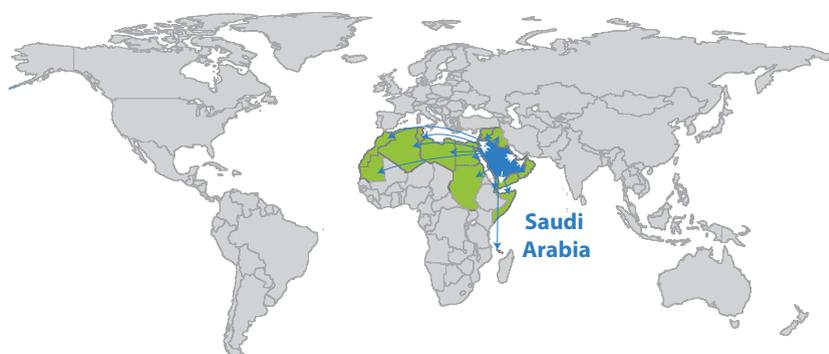


MECHANISMS

UN Theme Group for South-South Cooperation:

Saudi Arabia as A Global Partner in Development

Geographic focus: Global



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

MDG 8 on Global Partnerships for Development; Saudi Arabia has emerged as one of the largest Southern providers of ODA, providing over \$23-billion/yr overall ODA for humanitarian and development objectives. This includes important support to UN efforts around the world. As a result strong levels of interaction exists between various UN agencies and local partners within the Kingdom, but with a need for greater coordination among UN agencies, enhanced knowledge sharing on UN facilitated south-south cooperation initiatives with the Kingdom, and efforts to improve common UN positioning, reporting and advocacy. As a result, a new UN Theme Group on South-South Cooperation has emerged with membership of UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, FAO and WHO. It focuses on analysing for the past and future role of Saudi Arabia as a global partner in development, convening roundtables with partners to discuss emerging challenges, needs and scope for greater UN facilitation roles, and raising visibility of the role of the Kingdom as a global partner, including for UN initiatives.

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The mechanism arose from the lead role of UNDP in designing a specific Outcome on South-South Cooperation in the new UN Common Country Strategic Framework for Saudi Arabia (CCSF; 2012-16) and convening a core group of UN agencies within the UN Country Team engaged in managing Saudi contributions to UN agency initiatives globally, such as UNICEF, UNHCR, FAO and WHO. Through rounds of discussions among UNCT members, agreement

was reached that more coordinated efforts would be of common value and of potential benefit to Saudi partners as well to have a common voice and common channel for communication. The UNTG launch has been led by engagement of a South-South Cooperation Advisor to kick start initial activities including production in 2013 of a UNCT report on 'Saudi Arabia and the UN: A Global Partnership for Development' to have common understanding among UNCT members and between UNCT and Saudi partners on the full extent of the Kingdom's large scale ODA programme and cases of support to UN initiatives.

Results to Date:

A draft of the new UNCT report on 'Saudi Arabia and the UN: A Global Partnership for Development' has been produced and a SSC Roundtable is planned for 2013 to discuss the report with key Saudi partners and chart the course for future SSC.

Most Recent Annual Budget (USD):25,000

Total Budget (USD):50,000

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MECHANISMS

Agro-Industries Centre of Excellence with E-learning Portal:

On-Demand Support Facility: Egypt

Geographic focus: Arab and African countries are the primary geographical focus. However, technical services are provided to other partner countries around the globe.

Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

Technical services on:

- Post-harvest handling and processing of agricultural crops.
- Quality and food safety management systems.
- Food Traceability.

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

- Agreement on scope of assistance.
- Provision of services.
- Assisted E-Learning : with assistance from national experts, e-learning courses for partner countries.
- On-site technical assistance; conduct technical missions to other countries in order to provide support in traceability, supply chain management and related matters.
- Study tours for delegations to Egypt; delegates from other developing countries can be exposed to Egyptian experience in the design, the establishment and operation of traceability systems at national, farm and food processor levels, as well as various aspects of agro-industrial development and compliance to international quality and safety standard.

Results to Date:

- ETRACE provided technical assistance/advisory



services to 14 countries on traceability and related issues.

- Study tours to Egypt from the following countries: Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, China, Moldova, Vietnam, South Africa, Philippines, Tanzania, Ghana.
- Technical Missions by ETRACE to the following countries: Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, Ghana, India, Vietnam, Moldova, South Africa. Piloting GFSI Basic Level in Egypt and India with Metro Group.
- E-learning Portal developed and managed by ETRACE: Two e-courses on Traceability and Fundamentals of Quality and Food Safety.
- ETRACE formalized as a Technology Centre affiliated to Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade.

Most Recent Annual Budget (USD):100,000

Total Budget (USD):300,000

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MECHANISMS

Arab Humanitarian Portal: Information Sharing for Better Humanitarian Action: Regional

Geographic focus: Arabic speaking world but also including countries outside the region in which Arabic humanitarian organizations are operating (e.g.: Myanmar and Mali). The main target is countries from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).



Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

The portal focuses on issues related to humanitarian response. Organizations are able to upload materials, such as humanitarian news, project reports, research papers, needs assessments, evaluations, funding updates, humanitarian country profile etc.

Website:

<http://www.arabhum.net>

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The idea for the Portal stemmed from the gap that exists between what international organizations publish on humanitarian emergencies and the information produced in the Arab World. This information gap encouraged a network of 10 organizations, led by the OCHA Gulf Liaison Office, to create the Arab Humanitarian Portal. The aim of the portal is to compile and centralize humanitarian information products and to be a platform that can promote dialogue and improve the flow of information between humanitarian organizations.

The site is currently being hosted by OCHA on behalf of the Humanitarian Information Network.

Results to Date:

"Arabhum" is available in Arabic and English and is

currently being populated with news, maps, training manuals, up-coming events information and employment opportunities. The initiative was launched in Kuwait on 1213- September 2012 and there are concerted efforts to promote the website and encourage organization in the region to submit material to be uploaded.

Countries that benefited: Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar and Bahrain. . The project benefits the Arab World in general but targets the above countries in the first phase

Web link to video of Mechanism: <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3p49Q3eNCnY>>

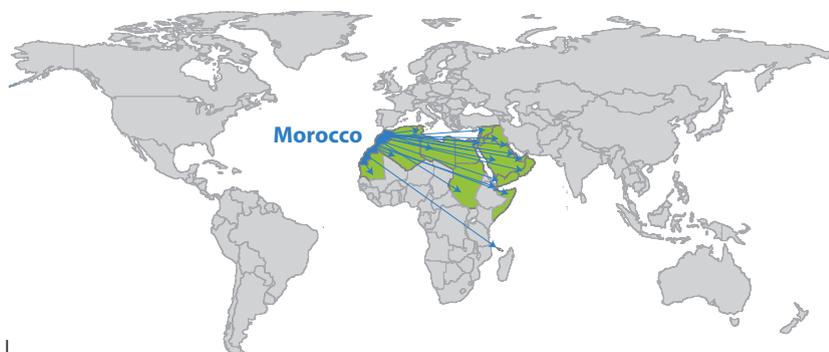
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MECHANISMS

Gender Responsive Budgeting Centre of Excellence in Morocco for exchange with practitioners, researchers, policy-makers:



Knowledge Network: Morocco

Geographic focus: The GRB centre is a global centre open to all countries. The centre is based in Morocco with a specific focus on Arab-speaking and French-speaking countries.

Thematic focus areas/sectors/practices supported by the mechanism:

- a) Gender-based assessment of public policies
- b) Results-based and gender sensitive public finance management
- c) Gender sensitive statistics and data
- d) Gender responsive planning and budgeting at local level.

Website:

(www.grbmorocco2012.com);(<http://km-bsg.finances.gov.ma/packkm/login>)

Steps/stages in practical application of the mechanism:

The Moroccan Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) centre of excellence was launched in November 2012 during an international high-level conference on GRB held in Morocco. More than 30 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America participated to this exchange. During 2012, an electronic platform of the centre of excellence was elaborated. It is a system for GRB knowledge management that allow setting up different communities of practice made up of members wanting to share, innovate and learn together. Before the official launch of the centre, south-south exchange workshops were organized to experiment this mechanisms. A first workshop on GRB for officials representing ministries of finance, sectoral department and statistics institutions from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania was organized on November

2010. Another bilateral workshop was organized on December 2012 for officials from Morocco and Tunisia.

Results to Date:

- a) A knowledge management electronic platform for Gender Responsive Budgeting knowledge
- b) A website sharing global knowledge on GRB : www.grbmorocco2012.com
- c) more than 20 presentations on different topics related to GRB: normative and policy environment for GR/GRB countries experiences / Accountability tools for Gender Equality / GRB approaches and budgetary programming/ Democratic space for gender-responsive budget/ Public Financial management reforms and gender-responsive outcomes in context of crises
- d) 17 country profiles on national gender responsive budgeting experiences
- e) other documentation on GRB and gender
- f) A list of national experts on gender responsive budgeting

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