



## **South–South and Triangular Cooperation as driver for SDG 2: Harnessing South–South opportunities for knowledge exchange, peer learning and technology transfer in the context of development and humanitarian cooperation for SDG 2**

Side event on the margins of the Second Regular Session of the Executive Board  
Tuesday, 27 November, 8:30–9:50

(A light breakfast will be served from 8:30–8:45)  
Aula 1, WFP Headquarters

### **Context**

South–South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) is critical to access and mobilize the expertise, technologies and financial resources that already exist in developing countries. In order to reach the remaining 821 million people affected by chronic food deprivation worldwide the knowledge and development solutions from the Global South are indispensable. As enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17, SSTC bears significant potential to advance country-led progress on SDG 2:

1. It is recognized as an effective means to enhance capacity building in developing countries to support national plans for achieving zero hunger (17.9);
2. It is a means to access the existing technology, expertise, knowledge and innovations in developing countries to tackle hunger and nutrition challenges elsewhere in the developing world (SDG17.6);
3. SSTC contributes to mobilizing additional financial resources for developing countries (SDG17.3);
4. SSTC breaks up “traditional” provider and recipient roles and brings more countries on board as partners for advancing zero hunger. Through SSTC, every country can become a “provider” of expertise and experiences, regardless of its size or stage of economic development;
5. SSTC has an important political dimension and serves as an inspiration for countries to strengthen country ownership and prioritize food security and nutrition. Regional bodies play a role in rallying collective action and developing joint regional positions on food security and nutrition issues.

Driven by rising country demand, WFP has stepped up its approach to broker SSTC for progress on SDG 2. As per [WFP's 2015 Policy on South–South and triangular cooperation](#), supporting countries to “help each other” is a strategic opportunity to reach more people in need. The number of WFP country offices supporting their host governments in this area has risen from 48 percent in 2014 to 74 percent in 2017. Key thematic areas of WFP's support to SSTC include resilience building, value chains, nutrition, social protection, school meals, emergency preparedness and food security analysis. All of those topics are at the heart of advancing progress on SDG 2 at country level.

While significant progress has been achieved to promote SSTC as part of WFP's programme of work, more can and needs to be done. There are key opportunities to realize *South–South opportunities in the areas of connecting smallholder farmers to markets, nutrition and social protection*. Realizing those opportunities can help countries not only to progress in terms of longer-term development, but also to work together in new ways across the humanitarian–development–peace nexus. This is particularly relevant for those countries affected by recurrent food crises, fragility, and conflict.

WFP works in close partnership with FAO and IFAD on facilitating SSTC partnerships to promote progress towards achieving zero hunger. Guided by the Joint United Nations Rome-Based agency (RBA) Road Map on South-South and triangular cooperation, the agencies recognize their complementary roles and contributions. They collaborate on a range of priority activities, from starting joint operational activities on SSTC in the field, to making the voices of RBA board members heard on this topic in dialogue fora.

## **Objectives**

WFP is organizing a side event in order to make the voices of the members of WFP's Executive Board heard on the role and potential of South-South and triangular cooperation as driver for country-led progress on SDG 2. The discussion will shed light on country demands, experiences and key opportunities to support host governments on SSTC opportunities in the areas of nutrition, rural resilience building, and social protection – all of which are at the heart of achieving zero hunger and supporting developing countries in development and humanitarian settings.

In line with the Joint RBA Road Map on SSTC, the event also explores opportunities for the RBA to work closer together in facilitating SSTC in the above areas.

The outcome of this side event will feed into the preparations of the outcome document for the Second High-level Conference on South-South cooperation (40th anniversary of the [1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries](#), in short "BAPA+40") in Argentina in 2019.

# Agenda

**Moderator: Denise Brown, Director of Policy and Programme, WFP**

<b>Agenda point</b>	<b>Speaking point</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
<b>Opening remarks</b>		
5 minutes	WFP's approach to promote SSTC as a means to advance country-led progress on SDG 2	<b>Mr. Amir Abdulla</b> , Deputy Executive Director, WFP
5 minutes	Outlook towards the Second High-level Conference on SSC in Argentina: opportunities for advancing progress towards SDG 2	<b>Argentina</b> , Host of the Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South cooperation in 2019, H. E. Ms. Maria Cristina Boldorini, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Argentina to the Rome-based agencies
<b>Session 1: Reaching the most vulnerable by tapping into local innovations in nutrition and resilience building</b>		
5 minutes	Relevance of South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) for building resilience within the African context	<b>Egypt</b> , H.E Hisham Badr, Ambassador of Egypt and Perm. Rep. to the RBA, and Chairperson of the Group of 77+China Rome Chapter
5 minutes	China's experience in building rural resilience by fostering entrepreneurship and innovations among a new generation of smallholder farmers. Insights from WFP's partnership with China	<b>The People's Republic of China</b> , H. E. Mr. Niu Dun, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the Rome-based Agencies
5 minutes	Country perspective from Sri Lanka: country demand and experience with intra-regional South-South collaboration in the area of rice fortification	<b>Sri Lanka</b> , Mr. M.S. Somasena Mahadiulwewa, Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the
<b>Session 2: Social protection in the context of humanitarian and development cooperation for SDG 2</b>		
5 minutes	Country perspective from Guatemala: South-South opportunities in building social protection systems in order to reach the most vulnerable people	<b>Guatemala</b> , H. E. Ms. Karla Samayoa Recari, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the Rome-based Agencies
5 minutes	Digitizing food-based safety nets: Experiences from India	<b>India</b> , Dr. Shri Devesh Chaturvedi, Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare of India
5 minutes	Opportunities for RBA collaboration: FAO's perspective	<b>FAO</b> , Mr. Jinbiao Wang, FAO-China SSC Programme Coordinator

5 minutes	Opportunities for RBA collaboration: IFAD's perspective	<b>IFAD</b> , Mr. Shantanu Mathur, Lead Adviser, Global Engagement and Multilateral Relations
<b>Questions and Answers</b>		
10 minutes	Questions from the floor and discussion with EB members	<b>EB members</b>
<b>Closing remarks</b>		
5 minutes	Key take-aways and closing remarks	<b>WFP</b> , Ms Lauren Landis, Director, Nutrition Division.
3 minutes	Video message from the Envoy of the Secretary-General for South-South cooperation.	<b>Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation</b> , Mr Jorge Chediek