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# Fast Facts

2023

# SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION



## WHAT IS SOUTH–SOUTH COOPERATION?

A process whereby two or more developing countries pursue their individual and/or shared national capacity development objectives through exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how.

When donor countries and/or multilateral organizations, such as WFP, enable South-South initiatives through the provision of funding, training, technical assistance and technological systems as well as other forms of support, we are speaking of [South-South and Triangular cooperation \(SSTC\)](#).

SSTC can take on many different forms, including but not limited to:



knowledge-sharing activities, including through research partnerships and technical assistance and capacity development activities;



mobilization of in-kind or cash resources (incl. twinning partnerships);



policy advocacy for achieving zero hunger;



support for collective intra- and inter-regional action and regional integration;



study tours and peer learning events, including with the support of demonstration sites.

## WHY DOES WFP FACILITATE SSTC?

WFP facilitates cost-effective and adaptable, results-oriented, and demand driven SSTC initiatives in line with WFP's Policy on SSTC (2015), which is currently under review and will be updated in June 2023.

WFP-supported SSTC aspires to support country-led efforts towards achieving [Sustainable Development Goal \(SDG\) 2](#) and [SDG 17](#) with a focus on the most vulnerable and food insecure, thanks also to its lively network of WFP Centers of Excellence in [Brazil](#), [China](#) and [Cote d'Ivoire](#).



SSTC with its horizontality and focus on mutual benefits and learning is a key pillar in WFP's efforts to strengthen national systems and programmes in countries from the Global South, as well as to mobilize new resources and local innovations to achieve [Agenda 2030](#), in alignment with the [UN System-wide Strategy on SSTC for Sustainable Development 2020-2024](#).

## IN WHAT THEMATIC AREAS DOES WFP FACILITATE SSTC?

In order to tap into the wealth of knowledge, expertise and innovations from the Global South WFP facilitates SSTC in a wide range of thematic areas such as, inter alia:



social protection (with a focus on school feeding programmes);



nutrition and food fortification;



empowering smallholder farmers and connecting them to markets;



rural development and poverty alleviation;



post-harvest loss management, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and early warning;



emergency preparedness and response to strengthen resilience building;



supply chain.

In WFP's [Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#), SSTC is reflected under Strategic Outcome 4 - "National programmes and systems are strengthened" - as a key engagement modality to strengthen national systems and capacities when WFP plays its "enabling role" by leveraging expertise, innovations, and resources from the Global South.

Under its Strategic Plan WFP will increase engagement as a SSTC broker across three levels:



Driving change at **POLICY LEVEL**

Incentivizing policy-makers to invest and prioritize social protection by generating evidence, advocating and exposure to other countries' experiences and decisions.



Empowering experts at **TECHNICAL LEVEL**

Expanding the skills and capacities of national experts at technical level.



Field experimentation at **GRASSROOT LEVEL**

to scale up local innovations

## WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR?

Harnessing WFP's wide network at field level with over 80 countries, and in some of the world's most difficult places, 91% of WFP country offices engaged with host governments on SSTC in 2021, compared to 62% in 2017.

## WFP COUNTRY OFFICES ENGAGED ON SSTC

62%  
2017

91%  
2021

WFP has brokered over 30 SSTC pilot projects up to 2022, driven by the demands of host governments. These have generated benefits for the most vulnerable people at risk of, and suffering from, hunger and malnutrition in 28 countries across the world.

## IS THERE ANY COLLABORATION ON SSTC AMONG UN AGENCIES?

Effective collaboration with WFP's fellow United Nations Rome-based agencies (RBAs) is central to WFP's efforts with regard to SSTC. In line with the UN Food Systems Summit outcome and the Global School Meals Coalition, the RBAs will work together to strengthen country capacities to design and implement national Home-Grown School Feeding programmes by facilitating SSTC.

WFP is consolidating its collaboration with other United Nations entities, including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to ensure inter-agency complementarity and support the implementation of the UN System-wide SSTC strategy.



## **SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION UNIT**

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