

Concept note for Side-Event for the FAO Conference-40th Session

Venue and time

Sheikh Zayed Centre, Thursday 6 July 2017, 18:30 - 20:00

Title

China-FAO South-South Cooperation: promoting inclusive and sustainable development

About the Side-Event

South-South Cooperation (SSC) under the FAO framework has gone through more than 20 years since FAO officially launched the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) in 1996. Over the past 20 years, FAO has coordinated the international community to explore effective ways to address food security threats in underdeveloped countries, which made important contributions to improving agricultural productivity and food security in developing countries. China, as a significant participant and active supporter of FAO SSC programme, has witnessed the burgeoning development of SSC with FAO and other partners. In addition of assisting the publicity of the conference, the side event aims to share achievements and experience and improve the worldwide understanding of FAO SSC programme, further to extend global SSC partnership, promote SSC and tripartite cooperation to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations.

Background information

The SPFS was proposed by FAO in 1994 and recognized by the World Food Summit in 1996. It has developed into one of the important moves to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. Within the framework of the SPFS, FAO vigorously promotes SSC. Entering the new century, FAO SSC programme keeps evolving. The number of participating countries has increased rapidly and the effectiveness of cooperation has continued to emerge.

China is one of the earliest participants of the FAO SSC programme and is the first country to establish a strategic SSC alliance for SSC with FAO. China donated two phases of trust funds, a total of 80 million US dollars, to FAO to support the SSC in agriculture. By the end of May 2017, China has sent over 1000 experts and technicians to 26 countries and regions in Africa, Asia, the South Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean through FAO's SSC programmes, accounting for about 60 percent of all expatriates under the FAO SSC programme. They have made positive contributions to improving agricultural productivity and food security in developing countries.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations has become the focus of global development since 2016. As the specialized agency responsible for global food and agriculture in the United Nations system, FAO plays a vital role in coordinating resources and supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals such as poverty and hunger eradication on a global scale. SSC will be one of the key tools of FAO. In recent years, FAO and China have carried out a series of exploration on strengthening SSC. These efforts include taking into account the different levels of development and capacity of different countries, and exploring regional and global projects to benefit more impoverished population through SSC. Meantime, FAO and China make great efforts to promote triangular cooperation with developed countries and other international organizations to expand partnerships and promote global sharing of agricultural expertise and knowledge.

Main topics

- Sharing SSC achievements and success stories;
- Expanding partnerships across the world to promote the SSC.

Objectives

- To present the history and achievements of FAO SSC programme over past 20 years;
- To improve the international recognition and visibility of the FAO SSC programme;
- To extend the partnership and involve more countries and international organizations to join and support FAO SSC programme.

Expected Outcomes

- More comprehensive understanding of achievements of FAO SSC programme is promoted;
- New needs and suggestions for FAO SSC programme are identified;
- More support for FAO SSC programme in the future is explored.

Agenda

Marcela Villarreal, Director of the Partnerships, Advocacy and Capacity Development Division (OPC), will chair this side-event.

18:15-18:30	Free discussion (beverages and snacks will be provided for participants at the side event)
18:30-18:37	Opening remarks by José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General
18:37-18:45	Opening remarks by H.E. Niu Dun, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture
18:45- 18:50	Video projection - "Food for All", produced by the Government of the People's Republic of China
18:50-19:00	South-South Cooperation efforts in Namibia and the Successes, by Sophia Kasheeta, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry of Namibia.
19:00-19:10	Sharing Experience on Uganda-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) Project, by Ms. Ethel Kamba, Under Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of the Republic of Uganda
19:10-19:20	Achievements of the China-FAO South-South Cooperation in Capacity Development, by Dongxin Feng, Deputy Director, OPC
19:20-19:45	Free discussion, questions and answers.

Participants

Head of the Chinese delegation, heads of delegations/ ambassadors of countries that have implemented or will implement SSC Programmes, representatives of relevant Chinese and FAO departments, representatives of other countries and international organizations

Language for interpretation

Chinese, English, French and Spanish