

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

Venue and time

Sheikh Zayed Centre, Thursday 6 July 2017, 18:15 - 19:45

Title

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

About the Side-Event

FAO's South-South Cooperation Programme (SSC), under the FAO Framework, has been going on for more than 20 years, since the Organization officially launched the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) in 1996. Throughout these years, FAO has coordinated the international community to explore effective ways to address food security threats in developing countries, which made important contributions to improving agricultural productivity and food security in the latter.

China, as a significant participant and active supporter of FAO's SSC Programme, has witnessed the burgeoning development of SSC with FAO and other partners. This side event aims to share achievements and experiences, and to improve the worldwide understanding of FAO's SSC Programme, to further extend global SSC partnerships, and 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, developing into one of the important moves to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. Within the framework of the SPFS the Organization has vigorously promoted SSC and entering the new century, FAO's SSC Programme has continued to evolve. The number of participating countries has increased rapidly and the effectiveness of cooperation has continued to emerge.

China was one of the earliest participants of the FAO SSC Programme and the first country to establish a strategic SSC alliance with the Organization. The country donated to FAO a total of USD 80 million worth of trust funds in two phases, to support SSC in agriculture. By the end of May 2017, China has sent over 1000 experts and technicians to 26 countries in Africa, Asia, the South Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, through FAO's SSC Programme, accounting for about 60 percent of all expatriates under the Programme. They have made positive contributions to improve 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, with SSC being FAO's key tool. In recent years, FAO and China have assessed several ways to strengthen SSC, while taking into account the different levels of development and capacities of different countries, exploring regional and global projects to benefit more impoverished populations through SSC. In addition, FAO and China have made 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 SSC.

Objectives

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

Expected Outcomes

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

Agenda

Marcela Villarreal, OPC Director, 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 at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry of Namibia.
19:00-19:10	Sharing Experience on Uganda-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) Project, by Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja, Minister 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, Director-General of FAO, 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