



## South-South News Quarterly

### April 2017

*“South-South cooperation can be seen as an expression of the growing capacity and political willingness of developing countries to do their part to attain the 2030 development agenda. This builds on their own resources, which in many cases emanate from knowledge gathered by facing their own domestic experiences, and less on financial support.”*

[Gina Casar, Executive Director, Mexican Development Agency (AMEXCID), May 2016]



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South-South Cooperation**

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April 2017

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# What's happening in Rome?

## Demand-Driven South-South Cooperation Symposium in Beijing

The [WFP China Centre of Excellence](#), China Ministry of Agriculture and WFP Policy and Programme and Division (OSZ) are organizing a [Demand-Driven South-South Cooperation \(SSC\) Symposium](#) that will take place in **Beijing on 11-12 May 2017**. 23 WFP Country Offices and 3 Regional Bureaus will be joining the discussion with Chinese partners on SSC opportunities in the area of P4P, supply chain, climate adaptation, DRR and resilience and nutrition.

The purpose of the event is to “match” China’s national solutions in food security and nutrition with the needs of WFP’s host governments around the world through the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation. It aims to identify concrete South-South project ideas for the WFP China Centre of Excellence to support. In preparation of the event, WFP China and OSZ’s SSC team jointly conducted a “South-South review” in China to systematize

country demands for China’s support and to identify and capture a “**menu of possible Chinese solutions**” that the [WFP China Centre of Excellence](#) can make available.

For more information, you can contact: [jia.yan@wfp.org](mailto:jia.yan@wfp.org), [ywen.zhang@wfp.org](mailto:ywen.zhang@wfp.org) (WFP China Office) or [carola.kenngott@wfp.org](mailto:carola.kenngott@wfp.org)



**Photo:** OSZ/ WFP China and OSZ SSC teams with MoA during the “South-South review” in Beijing.

## More than Just Data: Charting the Road to Zero Hunger

Did you follow this year’s [Global Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping \(VAM\) Meeting](#) in the Hague? South-South



cooperation was a topic on the agenda for the first time. Here is a brief insight on what happened: The final day of the [2017 Global VAM Meeting](#) shed a light on **VAM oppor-**

session, facilitated by OSZ’s South-South cooperation team. Voices from Southern Africa were heard including from government representatives of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and regional organisations like the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel. Members from the European Commission (DG DEVCO), and regional VAM advisors from RBC, RBJ and RBP also participated in the discussion.

### How can mVAM technology from DRC help Namibia?

The session focused on concrete opportunities for intra-regional collaboration for food security analysis by exploring the example of **mVAM technology transfer from DRC to Namibia**. Click [here](#) to explore this SSC case in a short video produced as part of the “[More than just data](#)” initiative. This example shows how SSC can be applied in VAM and how it can create win-win situations within regions.

For questions, contact [jean-martin.bauer@wfp.org](mailto:jean-martin.bauer@wfp.org) (OSZ).

## Coming up: New Learning Opportunities on brokering South-South Cooperation for WFP staff

**(1) First pilot of WFP South-South Learning Journey:** The first pilot of WFP’s new “[South-South Learning Journey](#)” (online training course) is currently being tested in the Latin America/Caribbean region. Jointly developed by OSZ and RBP’s South-South Cooperation teams and the HR Learning and Capability Branch, the course aims to equip WFP officers in the field with skills and tools to identify, analyze and realize SSC opportunities with their host governments. It also prepares WFP staff to apply a South-South cooperation perspective during the formulation and implementation of [Country Strategic Plans](#).

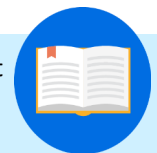
**New enrolment opportunities** for colleagues from all regions are coming up from **June 2017** onwards.

Please contact [adriana.bianco@wfp.org](mailto:adriana.bianco@wfp.org) (OSZ, SSC team) to flag your interest in upcoming trainings.

### (2) NEW! Practical WFP resources on South-South and triangular cooperation:



Click [here](#) to take a look at WFP’s new online manual on South-South and triangular cooperation (*internal guidance document for WFP colleagues in the field*).



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# WFP Centres of Excellence: What is new?

## WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil

### Myanmar prepares action plan to improve school feeding programme

From 27 to 31 March, a **delegation from Myanmar participated in a study visit to Brazil**, organized by the [WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger](#) (CoE) and the WFP Country Office Myanmar. The goal was to provide Myanmar with an opportunity to learn about the design and implementation of **multi-sectorial and sustainable school meals programmes** and to contribute to strengthening Myanmar's institutions.

The delegation from Myanmar, including representatives from the ministries of Education, Border Affairs, Agriculture, Social Welfare, and Health, prepared an action plan which outlines the next steps after their return from Brazil. Three members of the WFP Country Office team also participated in the study visit.

During the **five-day visit**, the delegation had diverse meetings with representatives from the Brazilian government. They undertook field trips to see first-hand the implementation of the school meals programmes and visited a smallholder farmers' cooperative that supplies food to public schools. Conversations with farmers highlighted how school meal programmes can increase farmers' income. The delega-



Photo: WFP/Michelle Ramos

tion also visited three different schools and discussed the options for the preparation of menus and meals, the provision of food to the schools, how the schools manage the food they receive, and how **school meals programmes can purchase food from smallholder farmers**.

For more information, contact: [isadora.ferreira@wfp.org](mailto:isadora.ferreira@wfp.org) or [christiani.buani@wfp.org](mailto:christiani.buani@wfp.org) (WFP CoE in Brazil).

## WFP China Centre of Excellence

### WFP Launches 5-Year Country Strategic Plan in China

*"China's accomplishments provide inspiration for countries that are still struggling to achieve food security"*, said Stanlake Samkange (Director of WFP Policy and Programme Division, OSZ) during the launching event of the WFP China **Five-Year Country Strategic Plan** in Beijing on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017.



Stanlake Samkange at launch of "Five-Year China Country Strategic Plan". Beijing, March 2017.  
Photo: People's Daily, 28 March 2017

The plan was jointly launched by WFP China and the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture. It aims to reach food security and nutrition targets in China and other developing countries.

By implementing the plan, China and WFP hope to bring about several outcomes, including **(1)** supporting the reduction of food insecurity inside China by boosting capacity and developing small innovative pilot programmes that could be replicated or scaled-up, **(2)** promoting China's efforts to support other developing countries in achieving SDG 2 through South-South Cooperation; and **(3)** building a broad range of partnerships to promote progress towards zero hunger worldwide.

*"China has transformed itself over the past three decades, reducing hunger and improving the livelihood for millions of people. WFP could help the Chinese people and share China's rich experience in an innovative manner,"* said Dr. Sixi Qu, Director of [WFP China Centre of Excellence](#).

Click [here](#) to read more or contact [jia.yan@wfp.org](mailto:jia.yan@wfp.org) or [yiwen.zhang@wfp.org](mailto:yiwen.zhang@wfp.org) (WFP China Office).

Follow us on [WFP's South-South Community](#) to stay updated on WFP's work on South-South cooperation!



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## What is happening in the regions?

### North Africa: Coming up next—regional partnership meeting in Cairo on national survey

On May 9-11, the VAM Unit of the WFP Bureau for the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe's (RBC) will host a **regional partnership meeting on national survey data for food security analysis and policy advisory**. Participants will include country delegates from the Middle East and North Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, and national institutions that provide food security related information, including national statistical agencies.

The meeting will open with an overview of ongoing cooperative projects concerning statistics, including cooperation with regional partners, and cover four key themes: **(i)** use of national household surveys to baseline and monitor the food security situation; **(ii)** joint data collection and analysis

**(iii)** use of national data to inform social protection and safety-net programmes such as 'cost of diet' analysis, shock impact simulation model, and proxy-means tests to derive targeting criteria; and **(iv)** data visualization.

The exchange of experiences and best practices between participating countries will be the core of the meeting. It will help to identify mutual opportunities for South-South Cooperation. The forum will also serve to officially launch the [Safety Nets Alert Platform \(SNAP\)](#) initiative: an innovative food price monitoring system, jointly coordinated by WFP and national institutions of the Middle East and North Africa Region. You can contact [courtney.bennett@wfp.org](mailto:courtney.bennett@wfp.org) (WFP RBC) for further information or questions.

### West Africa: Second Africa Day of School Feeding

The second edition of the [Africa Day for School Feeding](#) was celebrated in Brazzaville (Congo) on March 1<sup>st</sup>. It was dedicated to the theme "**Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF): Investment in Youth and Children for Harnessing the Demographic Dividend**". The choice of the topic for the second anniversary highlights the trend of increased adoption of this approach to school meals programmes throughout Africa, particularly in Central and West Africa.

The Regional Bureau in Dakar (RBD) produced a [report](#) that provides an **overview of HGSF programmes in West and Central Africa**. The stories underline the key role of the [WFP Centre of Excellence \(CoE\) in Brazil](#) in providing the technical assistance and knowledge exchange to host governments on this topic. It shows that 14 out of 20 countries in Central and Western Africa that adopted HGSF

conducted a study mission to the [WFP CoE in Brazil](#).

For any questions, please contact: [constance.kobolar@wfp.org](mailto:constance.kobolar@wfp.org) (WFP RBD).



Photo: WFP RBD/ Esther Ouoba

### Southern Africa: Developing disaster risk solutions through African partnership

[African Risk Capacity \(ARC\)](#) is a specialised agency of the African Union (AU) that provides Member States with the financial tools and infrastructure to improve their capacities to **better prepare and respond to extreme natural disasters**. It helps protect the food security of vulnerable populations. In March 2017, ARC Member States convened

in Cote d'Ivoire to [finalize a new partnership](#) with the **African Development Bank** to strengthen the management of weather-related risk on the continent. They were joined by WFP, and – for the first time – by farmers' associations. The WFP Country Director from Cote d'Ivoire, Ms Adeyinka Badejo, was invited to address the conference.

Highlights included: **(1)** agreement between [ARC](#) and [African Development Bank](#) to develop a new facility assisting ARC Member States with premium financing, to facilitate access to insurance coverage; **(2)** formation of subcommittee to address the sustainability of sources for financing the ARC insurance premiums; **(3)** introduction of [ARC's Outbreak and Epidemic pilot programme](#) that will develop an insurance product to address financing needs in containing outbreaks of pathogens and diseases common to Africa.

For more information, you can contact [ekhosuehi.iyahen@africanriskcapacity.org](mailto:ekhosuehi.iyahen@africanriskcapacity.org) or [tuga.alaskary@africanriskcapacity.org](mailto:tuga.alaskary@africanriskcapacity.org) or visit ARC's website: <http://www.africanriskcapacity.org>.



ARC Director General and Senior Vice President of the African Development Bank Group. Photo: ARC

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# What is happening in the regions?

## Asia-Pacific: Highlights from the WFP Country Office in Sri Lanka

**(1) First South-South Review in Asia/Pacific region conducted in Sri Lanka:** In March 2017, a [South-South review](#) was conducted in Sri Lanka jointly with the WFP Country Office and the South-South cooperation team of WFP's Policy and Programme Division (OSZ).

As the first of its kind in the region, the mission led to the development of three deliverables: **(1)** an overview of the “national picture” where the Government of Sri Lanka currently stands as a partner for South-South cooperation; **(2)** a **South-South partnership mapping** that includes an overview of available SSC partners and their solutions, and what Sri Lanka can offer to other countries; **(3)** a **set of practical “South-South investment opportunities”** that the WFP CO can explore. Out of nine identified SSC Investment Opportunities, the Sri Lanka CO will prioritize and select the “top 3” most viable ones to support the implementation of its Country Strategic Plan. For more information, you can contact [Brenda.Barton@wfp.org](mailto:Brenda.Barton@wfp.org) (CD Sri Lanka).

**(2) Rice fortification workshop in Sri Lanka:** On 22 – 23 March 2017, WFP Sri Lanka, along with the [Food Fortification Initiative \(FFI\)](#), and supported by the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MoH), and RBB, organized a **national workshop on food fortification**. The workshop brought together 70+ participants from several national government ministries, NGOs, private sector companies, civil society organizations, academia, and international experts from the region. It served as a platform for stakeholders to discuss and agree on a country strategy for wheat flour and rice fortification and propose cohesive policy recommendations to the government.

## Latin America & the Caribbean: Bridges for Resilience and South-South review in Guatemala

**(1) From Cuba to Haiti - Bridges for Resilience in the Caribbean:** An effective Early Warning System contributes to reduce the impact on food security in Cuba in the face of extreme climate events. The island has the highest hurricane exposure in the region, but the lowest human loss index. WFP supports the strengthening of these capacities, and promotes experience-sharing with other vulnerable countries in the region, such as Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

With funding from the Government of Germany, **Cuban specialists have shared with their Haitian counterparts their experiences in forecast-based emergency preparedness**. The cooperation has included exchanges of information and tools including for meteorological and hydrological services, the preparation of risk studies and the strengthening of the Haitian hurricane early warning system. Click [here](#) for full article.

For questions, please contact [marianela.gonzalez@wfp.org](mailto:marianela.gonzalez@wfp.org) (WFP Cuba).

To facilitate regional knowledge sharing, participants from India and Bangladesh (Government and WFP) attended the workshop. They presented evidence, current status, and challenges of rice fortification in their respective coun-



International experts sharing their knowledge and experience in food fortification with multi-sectoral stakeholders in Sri Lanka. **Photo:** WFP/Sri Lanka

tries. In addition, technical advisors from the WFP Regional Bureau in Bangkok and [FFI](#) presented an overview of regional and global evidence and updates on food fortification. **As a result of the workshop, a strategic work plan for food fortification in Sri Lanka was successfully developed and endorsed by all stakeholders.** The workshop was funded through the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Fund \(SDG-F\)](#). The SDG-F Joint Programme for “[Scaling Up Nutrition through a Multi-Sector Approach](#)” is implemented by WFP and FAO together with the Government in Sri Lanka.

**(2) South-South support mission from WFP's Regional Bureau in Panama (RBP) to Guatemala:** A “South-South review” was organized from 13 to 17 March. It helped to identify opportunities for the WFP Country Office in Guatemala to engage in South-South Cooperation in the context of its upcoming Country Strategic Plan (CSP).

The [South-South review methodology](#), developed by OSZ, and jointly tested by RBP and OSZ in Colombia and Peru, was applied in order to produce a **(A) “national picture”**, the **(B) a South-South partnership mapping** for strategic outcome areas and **(C) “South-South investment opportunities”** for the WFP Country Office Guatemala. As result of this mission and the meetings with key government counterparts and other partners in Guatemala, nine concrete opportunities were identified for CSP design/implementation.

For questions, please contact [maria.pino@wfp.org](mailto:maria.pino@wfp.org) or [carol.montenegro@wfp.org](mailto:carol.montenegro@wfp.org) (SSC Focal Points, WFP RBP).

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