



Photo: Field visit in China, Hainan Province, December 2016, WFP/Carola Kenngott

## South-South News Quarterly January 2017

*“For centuries, countries have helped their neighbors in need, particularly in the times of humanitarian crisis. It is today that the discourse on South-South cooperation is much stronger and that South-South and triangular cooperation have increased the range of possible development partnerships constellations which are vital to achieving internationally agreed goals, such as the Sustainable Development Goals.”*

*[Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan,  
Global South-South Expo 2016, Dubai]*



**World Food Programme**

Policy and Programme Division (OSZ)

# What's happening in Rome?

## South-South learning module available for WFP officers in the field

We are glad to announce that a **South-South learning module** for WFP officers in the field is now available on WFP's [Learning Management System \(LSM\)](#). Have a look at our short [intro video](#) ("*SSC in 100 seconds*").

**Objective:** If you are working in a WFP Regional Bureau or as a WFP officer in the field, this learning journey can provide you with an intro to WFP's approach on South-South cooperation. It can equip you with some practical skills and tools to explore South-South opportunities in your area of work and help you to apply a "South-South lens" when it comes to Country Strategic Planning (CSP).

### Key features:

- **Blended approach:** The training combines e-learning, training videos, practical case assignments, and peer discussions.
- **Developing practical problem-solving skills** by exploring real-case examples from RBP's work on South-South cooperation in Latin America.
- **Flexible design:** We can work with you to help you plug this module into other learning initiatives, so you can integrate a "South-South perspective" in your thematic/technical area.
- **Optional face-to face sessions** can be organized upon request and tailored to your topic/region.

The module has been developed jointly by OSZ's and RBP's South-South cooperation (SSC) teams, and the HR Capability Development Branch.

## WFP expanding South-South partnerships at the Global South-South Development Expo in Dubai

In 2016, from October 30 to November 3, WFP showcased its approach to facilitating South-South cooperation (SSC) in the context of SDG 2 at the [2016 Global South-South Development Expo](#) in Dubai.

The expo brought together 700 South-South practitioners from 29 countries and promoted the sharing of innovative South-South practices in 20



WFP delegation at the expo: From left to right, Dr. Yan Jia (WFP China), Carola Kenngott (SSC team/OSZ), Peter Rodrigues (WFP CoE Brazil), Mohammed Amasha (WFP Dubai), at the WFP booth. Photo: WFP/Carola Kenngott

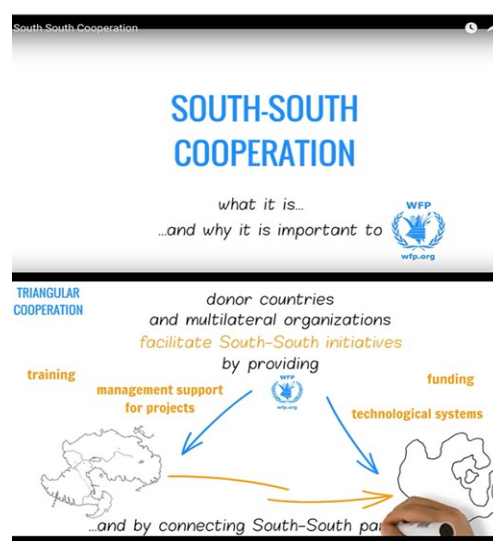
### Interested to participate?

The first pilot training is being taken forward by RBP for colleagues in the **Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region**. You can sign up until 24 February (sign in [here](#) or contact [maria.pino@wfp.org](mailto:maria.pino@wfp.org) for support).

Colleagues from other regions can sign up for the next round of training (April 2017 onwards) by contacting [carola.kenngott@wfp.org](mailto:carola.kenngott@wfp.org) (OSZ focal point on SSC).

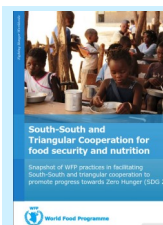
If you are working in a Regional Bureau, WFP Centre of Excellence, Liaison Office or HQ division and you would like help in tailoring this South-South learning journey to your region/context, just let us know.

### Intro video: SSC in 100 seconds.

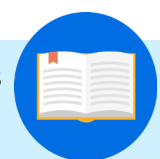


thematic focus areas related to the 2030 Agenda. WFP hosted two side events together with FAO and IFAD on Southern networks and intra-regional learning for achieving SDG 2. WFP China's experience in collaborating with Zimbabwe on support to smallholder farmers was showcased in a high-level dialogue forum with Directors from international cooperation agencies.

The expo showed that there is a tremendous opportunity for WFP to position ourselves as a **partner for facilitating SSC in the humanitarian domain**. There is a growing demand from host governments for UN partners that can help them share their solutions in areas such as emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and managing post-conflict settings – all of which are at the heart of achieving SDG 2.



Click [here](#) to access WFP's **first external publication** on best practices in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation. Feel free to



# WFP Centre of Excellence: What's new?

## WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil

### Zimbabwe: supporting progress on school meals strategy

In November, the [WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil](#) (short: WFP Brazil Centre) supported Zimbabwe in conducting the first phase of a situation analysis on school meals. The mission included a field trip to schools in two provinces. It was a first step in operationalizing the partnership between the Government of Zimbabwe, the WFP CO in Zimbabwe and the WFP Brazil Centre, which aims to develop Zimbabwe's national school meals strategy (expected to be approved by mid-2017) and a related implementation plan.

### Togo: national forum recommends adoption of school meals policy

In November 2016, the Government of Togo hosted the country's first school meals forum. Over 300 people from the government, civil society and private sector attended the event to discuss the country's school meals policy. The participants ultimately recommended its adoption by the government. The forum was organized by the Government of Togo, WFP (including the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil) and the World Bank. The goal was to boost national awareness on the importance of school meals for achieving the SDGs, particularly ending hunger and poverty and improving education.



Photo: WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil/Peter Rodrigues.

Togo's national school meals policy sets guidelines to improve students' performance and health and to promote smallholder farming, building on a multi-sectorial approach. It was designed with support from the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil and WFP Country Office in Togo.

For more information, you can contact [peter.rodrigues@wfp.org](mailto:peter.rodrigues@wfp.org) or [christiani.buani@wfp.org](mailto:christiani.buani@wfp.org) (WFP Brazil Centre).

## WFP China Centre of Excellence

From 14-15 December 2016, Mr. Abdou Dieng, WFP Regional Director for West and Central Africa, and Dr. Sixi Qu, Director the WFP China Office, represented WFP at the **6th Roundtable Conference on China-Africa Cooperation and 3rd Conference on China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation** in Hainan Province, China.

Mr. Dieng presented **WFP's approach in supporting South-South cooperation** to accelerate progress towards SDG 2 (zero hunger) and its relevance to help connect smallholder farmers to markets. Dr. Qu highlighted WFP's new strategic orientation with the Integrated Road Map, which aligns WFP's support to country-led efforts when translating national zero hunger objectives into practical actions. Ms. Yan Jia, South-South Programme Officer from the WFP China Office, and Carola Kenngott, South-South focal point in OSZ, were part of the WFP delegation and supported these efforts.

A **multilateral meeting for China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation**, was held on the final day of the conference. It was co-chaired by Dr. Qu (WFP China) and Ms. Zhou Yanhua, Deputy Director General of Hainan Provincial Department of Agriculture. The meeting helped to explore concrete entry points for WFP China to collaborate with Chinese stakeholder on South-South cooperation for SDG 2. The importance of expanding South-South efforts to



Photo: Dr. Qu, Director of WFP China, speaking at the 3rd Conference on China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation to boost implementation of priority actions from 2015 FOCAC Summit, Johannesburg. WFP China/Yan Jia.

boost smallholder farmers' production and rural development were highlighted during the meeting. Representatives from the China Foreign Economic Cooperation Center of Ministry of Agriculture, China Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences, CGC Overseas Construction Group, CITIC Construction, and Hainan Department of Agriculture shared their views on collaboration with WFP.

A WFP internal working session was held in Beijing after the events. The WFP China Office and OSZ SSC focal point discussed opportunities and explored practical options for the set-up of WFP China's South-South services in 2017. For more information, contact [yan.jia@wfp.org](mailto:yan.jia@wfp.org) (WFP China).

# What is happening in the regions?

## RBJ: 2016 highlights in supporting South-South cooperation for progress on SDG 2 in Southern Africa

In 2016 RBJ further advanced its approach towards facilitating South-South partnerships and enabling intra-regional learning in order to accelerate progress towards zero hunger in Southern Africa. Country Offices like Zimbabwe and Namibia were able to tap into South-South opportunities for the formulation of their Country Strategic Plans. Here are four concrete examples of how RBJ helped Country Offices to realize South-South opportunities across the thematic areas of connecting smallholder farmers to markets, nutrition and social protection and safety nets – all of which are also at the heart of many Country Offices' efforts as they develop their Country Strategic Plans (CSP) and Interim CSP (ICSP):

**(1) Zimbabwe-Malawi cooperation on operationalizing effective warehouse receipt systems:** In October 2016, and as part of the follow-up to WFP Zimbabwe's [South-South review exercise](#) earlier in the year, Zimbabwe visited Malawi to learn about the successes and challenges of Malawi's warehouse receipt system. This study visit was facilitated with support from RBJ, WFP Zimbabwe, WFP Malawi, and the WFP Purchase for Progress (P4P) unit in Rome. As a result of this mission, the Zimbabwe team developed a draft action plan for the implementation of a Warehouse Receipt System in their own country, which will be further refined after consultations with key stakeholders back home.

**(2) South-South peer learning forum on Nutrition & HIV and social protection:** Contributing to the National Capacity Strengthening Project (NCSP) in Southern Africa, the RBJ Nutrition and HIV Unit held its annual Regional Nutrition and HIV workshop on 14-16 June 2016, in Johannesburg. The forum was recognized by the participants as a successful South-South learning opportunity, facilitated by RBJ. Presentations by Tanzania, Mozambique, Lesotho and Malawi on emergency response with a focus on nutrition & HIV were at the heart of the intra-regional peer learning and helped to identify common challenges. These include a need for improved coordination and collaboration with governments and other stakeholders in emergencies, stronger capacities to handle emergencies and coordinated data collection. Best practices from Namibia's **Food & Nutrition Security Monitoring System**

and **Malawi's mVAM real-time monitoring tool** were showcased, which may inspire the adoption of new technologies in other countries, and enhance effectiveness of their national monitoring systems.

**Peer learning** was also at the heart of a session on knowledge exchange on social protection programmes. South Africa shared its challenges in **monitoring social security grants** and their impact on nutrition, which is a relevant issue for various countries in the region.

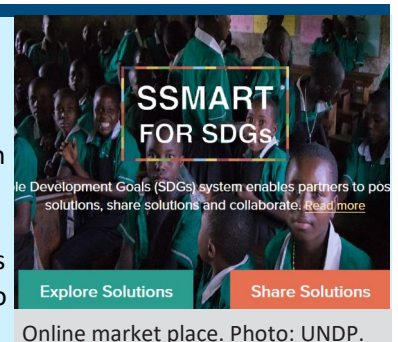
**(3) Making Malawi's approach towards stunting prevention available for peer learning on WFP's LMS platform:** Since January 2013, the Government of Malawi, supported by WFP, World Vision and the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), has been implementing a successful **stunting prevention programme** in the district of Ntchisi, Malawi. The programme is in line with the objectives of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. Malawi's approach and success factors which were identified during a RBJ facilitated cross-country learning exercise in July 2016, were captured and **"packaged"** into a **"learning journey"** which is now available on WFP's LMS platform. It is called **"10\*10\*10: Lessons learned from a stunting prevention program in Malawi"** and features 10 short videos on the key success factors, as well as a case study. It is a product of joint collaboration between Ntchisi Suboffice, the Malawi CO, RBJ, and the HR Capability Development Branch.

**(4) "South-South review" in Namibia helps the WFP Country Office to tap into South-South opportunities for the formulation of Namibia's Country Strategic Plan (CSP):** In November 2016, a "South-South review", supported by OSZ's SSC team, RBJ and CO Namibia, helped to identify nine **South-South investment opportunities** for the CO to expand their engagement with the government in the context of Namibia's upcoming Country Strategic Plan (2017-20). The investment opportunities can enrich upcoming country capacity strengthening strategies, resource mobilization plans and advocacy/outreach messages for CSP implementation.

For more information, contact [sarah.longford@wfp.org](mailto:sarah.longford@wfp.org).

### Engagement opportunity: WFP/[RBA]-UNDP collaboration on **"global marketplace"** for matching demand and supply of Southern solutions for achieving zero hunger (SDG 2)!

WFP Country Offices as well as G77 + China countries will be able to explore and share their SSC solutions that are relevant for achieving SDG 2 through a "SDG 2 solutions window" which WFP's and UNDP's South-South teams are developing on a new **South-South knowledge sharing platform**. In a first phase, solutions in social protection and safety nets and in connecting small-holders to markets, may be featured, building on the work of WFP's Centres of Excellence in Brazil and China, relevant OSZ technical units, and RBP. If you are interested to engage in this initiative for your area of work, contact OSZ's South-South cooperation team.



Follow us on **WFP's online Community on South-South Cooperation** to stay up to date on SSC.

# What is happening in the regions? (continued)

## RBP: Chile supports Guatemala and Honduras in strengthening smallholder farmer organizations

In November 2016, RBP facilitated a visit of Chilean experts to Guatemala and Honduras with the aim of helping those countries to strengthen their local capacities and organizations of smallholder producers. Financed and technically supported by the Agricultural Development Institute of Chile (INDAP) under the coordination of the Chilean Cooperation Agency (AGCI), technical assistance was provided by the Chilean government in order to strengthen smallholder farmers' organizations in Guatemala and Honduras.

The three technical missions in Guatemala and Honduras included field visits, dialogue with authorities at the national and local levels, workshops and expertise transfer among local agricultural organizations to formulate work plans in the areas of food security and nutrition. For example, in Guatemala, Chilean experts provided educational support to optimize the nutrition of vulnerable Guatemalan families through the promotion and use of bio-fortified maize and beans.



Peer learning in action. Photo: WFP/Sofia Bustos.

Key achievements of the Chile-Guatemala and Chile-Honduras exchanges include the adoption of good practices, strengthened capacity of local agricultural organizations, enhanced nutritional value of local products and empowerment of local communities in both countries. For more information, contact [maria.pino@wfp.org](mailto:maria.pino@wfp.org) and [carol.montenegro@wfp.org](mailto:carol.montenegro@wfp.org) (RBP, SSC team).

## RBD: Niger's partnership with Brazil in developing a national school meals strategy and strengthened profile as partner for South-South cooperation in West Africa

Niger is one of the most actively engaged countries in West Africa on South-South cooperation, mainly with support from WFP and FAO. The country initiated its partnership with Brazil in 2010 through the "Brazil-Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Hunger Fighting and Rural Development". Through this partnership, Niger has explored Brazil's Zero Hunger Strategy, which is based on hunger and poverty eradication through multi-sectorial activities including national safety nets that rely on local food production. Brazil has also provided operational tools and methodologies, as well as capacity development support, experience sharing opportunities, funding and technical support to Niger

From 2012 to 2015, following close collaboration between the Government of Niger, the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil and the WFP Country Office in Niger, three high-level exchanges took place that helped the Nigerian government explore how the Brazilian experience can enrich their own national processes.

The mission resulted in three key achievements:

**(1) Boosting national food purchases from smallholder farmers organizations in Niger**, including through support of the WFP-Brazil-UK supported "Purchase from Africans for Africa Programme". Since 2012, WFP CO Niger has procured food from smallholder farmers, and this trend has been growing. In 2015, WFP bought 2,500 metric tons of cereals and pulses from almost

21,000 farmers, especially women. Purchases from smallholders were reinforced with the decision of Niger's Council of Ministers to create a **quota of 10 per cent for local procurement** from smallholder farmers' organizations for the national food reserve.

**(2) Elaboration and validation of Niger's national school meals strategy linked to food purchases from smallholder farmers (home grown school meals approach), which now serves as a reference example for other countries in the region.** This initiative allowed Niger not only to improve its own national school meals program but also to become a reference case in its region. Many West African countries are inspired by Niger's school meals programme, which addresses both local development and inclusive quality education aligned with the Agenda 2030.

**(3) Development of the "Nigerians Nourish Nigerians (3N)" initiative**, which aims to reform agriculture and stock farming, and to improve food and nutrition security of Nigerians. The initiative demonstrates a strong commitment from the government to develop a sustainable national safety net and improve livelihood conditions for the rural population.

For more information on these cases and the role of South-South cooperation in the West Africa region, contact [natasha.nadazdin@wfp.org](mailto:natasha.nadazdin@wfp.org) (RBD).