

## **Recent Events**

### **Role of India-Vietnam in Developing Global South Cooperation**

19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

#### ***EVENT NOTE***

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The Embassy of India, Hanoi and the Institute for South Asian, West Asian and African Studies (ISAWAAS) of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) organized a conference on role of India and Vietnam in developing global south cooperation. DAKSHIN, as a platform for development solutions curated in the Global South by agencies of the Global South, participated in this international conference to discuss opportunities for India and Vietnam to work together for the Global South countries. DAKSHIN was represented by Atul Kaushik, GDC Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS). India's Ambassador to Vietnam Dr. Sandeep Arya and the Director General of ISAWAAS Dr. Nguyen Xuan Trung set the stage for the proceedings by exhorting the participants to leverage India's role in creating a platform for South-South Cooperation (SSC) as a driving force for sustainable development, with Vietnam contributing good practices on efficiency and India on Digital Public Infrastructure, technology and climate change abatement.

Topics covered include the significance of the Global South in the new context, role of India and Vietnam to promote Global South interests, and the opportunities, challenges, potential, and solutions of India-Vietnam cooperation for the Global South development. Speakers from India included representatives from the International Solar Alliance, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, DAKSHIN at RIS, Nalanda University, O.P. Jindal University, and the Observer Research Foundation. Vietnam was represented by ISAWAAS, the Vietnam Centre of Advanced Study of India (VCASI), the Vietnam Academy of Agriculture Sciences (VAAS), and the Hanoi National University. Eleven different areas of potential cooperation between India and Vietnam were identified. The day long deliberations included several suggestions from the floor from experts to narrow them down to specific issues and areas for India and Vietnam to work for the broader interests of the Global South. Sustainable and productive agricultural practices including in rice, coffee, potato and bamboo leading to improved entrepreneurship, and bringing digital public infrastructure to use in the Global South could be good starting points.

With like interests and similar development pathways, countries of the Global South are not lacking in opportunities and options to work together. They can supplement North-South cooperation through South-South cooperation. Experience was shared about how such South-South cooperation between India and Vietnam could also benefit from the triangular cooperation with technology and financial support from developed countries like Japan and Germany.