

DAKSHIN Events



DAKSHIN - Global South Centre of Excellence at RIS, in partnership with the UNDP in India, convened a Roundtable on Advancing South-South Cooperation for a Sustainable Future at the UN House, New Delhi, on 11 November 2025. The discussion brought together representatives from the Government of India, India-led Global Organisations, development partners, and bilateral partner countries. Deliberations reflected on India's evolving role as a knowledge and innovation hub for the Global South.

Dr. Angela Lusigi, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator and Professor Sachin Kumar Sharma, DG RIS, initiated the discussion with Welcome Remarks. She praised this dialogue as very timely with regard to South-South Cooperation and in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals. Further, she highlighted India's important role in developing models related to digital infrastructure, renewables, biodiversity, and agriculture. Following this, Professor Sachin Kumar Sharma underscored the importance of DAKSHIN-UNDP collaboration in strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation. He emphasised that with the traditional aid models under strain, platforms like Dakshin translate experience into action. He further stressed that trust, togetherness and partnerships play an important role in fostering global partnerships.

Mr. Viraj Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, in his special remarks, pointed out that the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme has trained 400,000+ professionals globally. He added that the India-UN Forum aligns training with UN priorities. Further, he pointed out that India is ready to expand cooperation on tech, climate, energy, and agriculture. Following this, Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Under-Secretary-General and Acting Administrator, UNDP, commended India's leadership and reaffirmed UNDP's South-South commitment.

This was followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence (RIS) and UNDP in India to strengthen collaboration for enhanced global knowledge exchange, innovation sharing, and advancing South-South & Triangular Cooperation for sustainable development.

The roundtable on ‘Discussion on Opportunities to enhance South-South and Triangular Cooperation’ was moderated by Dr. Pankaj Vashisht, Associate Professor and Coordinator DAKSHIN, RIS. He highlighted this roundtable as crucial for structured knowledge exchange and to chart practical collaboration pathways (ISA, CDRI, IBCA and UNDP). Deliberations touched upon the need for scaling investments in climate-resilient infrastructure across sectors such as energy, transport, housing, water and as well as biodiversity conservation. Discussion also focused on the need for launching Centres of Excellence (Africa), AI-based capacity building, sharing India’s development models, such as the crop insurance model, and promoting tech-driven and farmer-centric resilience. India’s historic role in fostering South-South ties, collaboration on food fortification, digital health, ISA membership, and digital innovation and inclusion.

Ms. Isabelle Tschan, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP India, delivered the concluding remarks and emphasised the importance of promoting collaboration, knowledge exchange, and sustainable growth across the Global South.