



Global South Matters

# DAKSHIN

## Global South Centre of Excellence

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### IN FOCUS



#### Accelerating Women-led Development

*Tanya Singh, Research Assistant, DAKSHIN, RIS*

In pursuance of India's civilizational deep-rooted values, guided by Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the philosophy of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" that strives for humanity and universal brotherhood,

Nari Shakti (women's power) has been central to India's progress. As the country advances toward Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047, women's empowerment remains vital not just for the nation but for the entire Global South. India's G20 Presidency in 2023 reinforced the shift from women's development to women-led development, recognizing women as active drivers of change. On **International Women's Day 2025**, the call to **#AccelerateAction** is urgent, demanding global efforts to uplift women and girls.

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### Key Developments in the Global South



#### PM Modi Emphasizes India's Efforts in Giving a Strong Voice to the Global South

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the NXT Conclave in the Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Addressing the gathering, he extended his heartfelt congratulations on the auspicious launch of NewsX World. He highlighted that the network includes channels in Hindi, English, and various regional languages, and today, it is going global. He also remarked on the initiation of several fellowships and scholarships, extending his best wishes for these programs.

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## Capacity Building Programme on Human Rights for the NHRIs of Global South

The six-day Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Executive (ITEC) Capacity Building Programme on human rights for the NHRIs of Global South, being organized by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India in partnership with the Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) began in New Delhi on 3 March 2025. About 47 participants from the NHRIs of 14 countries of the Global South have confirmed their participation. These are Madagascar, Uganda, Samoa, Timor Leste, DR Congo, Togo, Mali, Nigeria, Egypt, Tanzania, Mauritius, Burundi, Turkmenistan, and Qatar.

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## India Advocates Tech Transfer Between the Global South and North

India is linking the Global South and Global North as the effects of climate change transcend borders while advocating for technology transfer and capacity building for developing countries or vulnerable nations, also known as the Global South, said Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav. At the second edition of Business Standard Manthan on Thursday, Yadav said: “Climate change affects both the Global South and the Global North. Storms, rain, drought, etc., affect both.

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## India Stands in Solidarity With the Global South

In a powerful gesture of support, ICGS Sachet set sail for Djibouti on Friday (February 28, 2025), carrying essential medical aid aimed at bolstering the country's healthcare capabilities. The shipment includes 20 haemodialysis machines and one Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant, which will play a crucial role in improving Djibouti's medical infrastructure. Given the rising prevalence of kidney-related ailments in the region, the haemodialysis machines will provide life-saving treatment, while the RO plant will ensure access to clean and safe water—an essential element in medical care and public health.

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## India Extends USD 1 Million Grant to Lao PDR

The Indian government has extended a grant of approximately USD 1 million to the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund. This grant will support the

project titled "Strengthening Large-Scale Food Fortification: The Case of Investing in Rice Fortification."

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## Malaysia and Cambodia Boost Agricultural Cooperation

Due to global climate change, Malaysia has called for collaboration to ensure food security among countries in the region, particularly Cambodia. During a short press conference on Tuesday, marking the third day of his visit to Cambodia, Malaysian Agriculture Minister Haji Mohamad bin Sabu noted that Cambodia has developed significantly since his last visit 11 years ago.

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## Vietnam and Cuba Enhance Medical Cooperation

Vietnam and Cuba are strengthening their medical collaboration in Angola with a newly signed agreement between the Vietnamese Embassy in Angola and Cuba's Meditex General Clinic. At the signing ceremony on February 28, Vietnamese Ambassador to Angola Duong Chinh Chuc expressed his belief that the partnership would open new avenues for professional exchange between Vietnamese doctors in Angola and their Cuban counterparts at Meditex.

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## Iran and Azerbaijan to Establish Joint Agricultural Cooperation Committee

According to Mehr News Agency, Iranian Agriculture Minister Gholamreza Nouri Ghezeljeh and his Azerbaijani counterpart Majnun Mammadov discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the agricultural sector during a phone conversation. Nouri Ghezeljeh stated that Iran is prepared to expand scientific and research collaborations, increase agricultural trade, and facilitate the transit of agricultural goods. Mammadov emphasized the significant potential for cooperation between the two countries, stressing the necessity of forming a joint committee to advance collaboration in this sector.

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## Kazakhstan and Morocco Strengthen Bilateral Ties

Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtleu arrived in Rabat with the first official visit in the history of bilateral relations at the invitation of Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco. During the talks, the sides discussed the current state and prospects for the development of bilateral interaction,

including the intensification of political dialogue, strengthening trade, economic and investment ties, as well as expanding contacts in the cultural and humanitarian sphere.

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## Senegal's New Digital Strategy, Dubbed the "Technological New Deal"

The President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr. Bassirou Diomaye Faye, officially launched Senegal's new digital strategy, dubbed the "Technological New Deal." In his speech, President Faye emphasized the importance of this ambitious initiative, which places digital technology at the heart of national development and Senegal's technological sovereignty. This strategy, part of the national transformation agenda "Senegal 2050," aims to make the country a leader in the digital economy in Africa.

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## Nigeria Re-Commits to Improving Digital Services

Nigeria is looking forward to investing around \$2 billion on digital public infrastructure in order to improve the delivery of digital services to citizens. The country's Minister of Communications and Digital Economy Bosun Tijani, speaking late last month, reiterated this plan, ahead of a summit organized in Nigeria by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), Business Day reports.

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## Morocco Reiterates Firm Commitment to South-South Cooperation

Speaking at the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Farhane reaffirmed the Kingdom's strong willingness to continue sharing its experience with African countries, while remaining fully engaged with its regional and international partners to contribute to strengthening the international nuclear safety regime and achieving the IAEA's objectives. In this respect, he noted that IAEA Director General's report on reviewing nuclear safety in 2025 references certain aspects of Morocco's contribution to enhancing regional capacities.

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## Ministries Collaborate to Revolutionize Indonesia's Agriculture Sector

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Manpower have joined forces to provide mechanical support to implement modern agriculture, boost productivity, and achieve food self-sufficiency. Agriculture Minister Andi Amran Sulaiman stated in a press conference after a meeting with Manpower Minister

Yassierli here on Monday that both ministries have signed a cooperation agreement.

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## Thailand to Introduce Salt Tax to Promote Healthier Eating

In a progressive move towards improving public health, the Excise Department of Thailand aims to implement a salt tax this year. This initiative supported by the Salt Reduction Network targets reducing the consumption of sodium-rich foods and encouraging the production of healthier options. Associate Prof. Dr. Surasak Kantachuversiri, president of the Salt Reduction Network, lauded the decision, citing international examples where similar measures have proven effective.

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## Recent Event



## RIS Roundtable on India-Indonesia Cooperation on Traditional Medicine

The Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), through its constituent units – Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM), Development and Knowledge Sharing Initiative (DAKSHIN) and the Asean India Centre (AIC) hosted a round table on ‘India-Indonesia Cooperation on Ayush and Jamu: Relevance of Sustainable Bioresource Management’ at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on January 23, 2025. This was organized in collaboration with the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and the University of Padjajaran and the University of Udayana, Bali.

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