



Global South Matters

DAKSHIN

Global South Centre of Excellence

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IN FOCUS



New Pledges at the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development

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The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) took place in Seville, Spain, from 30 June–3 July 2025. The conference witnessed participation from leaders from the government, stakeholders from businesses and civil society, financial institutions, along with eminent international and regional organisations. Deliberations upheld the importance of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and underscored the importance of fulfilling the long-term commitment made by developed countries to achieve the targets of 0.7 percent of Gross National Income (GNI) to developing countries, and between 0.15 and 0.2 percent of GNI to the least developed countries. It acknowledged the impact and effectiveness of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in aligning efforts with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also sought to strengthen regional financial mechanisms that facilitate cross-border investment, resource mobilisation, and knowledge sharing among developing countries.

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Key Developments in the Global South



Caricom Summit Promotes South-South Cooperation

The 49th Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) concluded in Montego Bay, Jamaica, with a strong commitment to accelerating regional integration, strengthening South-South cooperation, and building a more secure and resilient future. Jamaican Prime Minister and Caricom Chairman Andrew Holness stressed that South-South cooperation with Africa, Central and South America, and Asia is now an “urgent matter” for the region's development, offering an alternative to protectionist trade policies.

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Countries Unite to Scale Up South-South Cooperation for Agrifood Systems Transformation

A regional event on strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in Africa called for greater collaboration to unlock shared benefits. Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and hosted by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, the two-day event brought together government ministers, technical experts, private sector leaders and development partners to promote more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems in Africa through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. South-South Cooperation is the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries in the Global South.

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Sri Lanka Backs Regional Solar Cooperation at ISA Summit

Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya has affirmed Sri Lanka's commitment to strengthening regional solar cooperation and achieving energy security through sustainable development. PM Amarasuriya emphasized Sri Lanka's dedication on the second day of the Seventh meeting of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific Region held in Colombo today. The meeting, focusing on advancing Regional cooperation for a Solar-powered future, was held under the theme 'Advancing Solar Cooperation Across a Region of Diversity and Opportunity', with Sri Lanka being the vice chair of the high-level dialogue.

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India and Saudi Arabia Ink Agreements for Long-Term Supply of Fertilisers

India and Saudi Arabia finalised long-term agreements for 3.1 million metric tonnes of DAP fertiliser per annum for five years during the visit of Union fertilisers minister JP Nadda, assuring New Delhi of supplies of key crop nutrients at a time when China has tightened restrictions on exports. Union fertilisers minister JP Nadda visited Dammam and Riyadh with the focus on enhancing cooperation with Saudi Arabia in chemicals and fertilisers. He held talks with Saudi mineral resources minister Bandar bin Ibrahim Al Khorayef in Riyadh on mechanisms to strengthen the partnership in fertilisers, petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals.

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Indonesia, Japan Launch Trade Training for African Countries

The Indonesian government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening collaboration with Global South countries through a training program titled South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) on Trade and Investment Promotion for African Countries. The training was opened by Deputy Minister of Trade Dyah Roro Esti Widya Putri at the Export Human Resources Development and Trade Services Center (PPEJP) in Jakarta. She emphasized the importance of inclusive dialogue, knowledge exchange, and practical collaboration in trade and investment.

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Kyrgyzstan Endorses Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Green Climate Fund

Kyrgyzstan has taken a step toward climate resilience by approving its Country Program for Cooperation with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through 2027. The program defines national priorities for climate action and outlines a portfolio of projects seeking international funding. The GCF, the principal financial mechanism under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), supports developing nations in mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change. According to the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision, Kyrgyzstan mobilized significant international climate finance between 2010 and 2023.

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Vietnam Shares One Country One Product Experience with African Countries

Fourteen agricultural ministers from African countries attended the High-Level Inter-regional Knowledge Exchange on One Country One Priority (OCOP) Product Models in Hanoi. The event was co-organised by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Environment. Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Environment Trần Thanh Nam said VietNam envisioned OCOP as a model for building inclusive, competitive and sustainable value chains, improving income and quality of life. To date, VietNam has over 16,800 OCOP products rated three stars or higher, showing major improvements in quality, packaging, and branding.

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Armenia and Uruguay Seek Boosting Agricultural Partnership

Armenian Minister of Economy Gevorg Papoyan discussed prospects for expanding Armenian-Uruguayan economic cooperation with the Uruguayan Ambassador to Armenia Silvana Lesca Barolini. According to the press service of the Ministry of Economy, the interlocutors touched upon issues related to the promotion of agricultural exports, the implementation of joint investment programs, as well as the possibility of organizing B2B meetings to promote Armenian products in the Uruguayan market. Papoyan emphasized that the Ministry of Economy is ready to assist in identifying priority sectors and potential investment partners.

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Egypt and WHO Strengthen Health Cooperation

Minister of Planning, Economic Development and International Cooperation, Rania Al Mashat, held a meeting with WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Hanan Balkhy to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation. The meeting focused on the World Health Organisation's Health in All Policies approach, which aims to integrate health considerations into policymaking across all government sectors. Al Mashat welcomed the initiative, noting its alignment with Egypt's efforts to adopt evidence-based policymaking and develop a medium-term national plan starting next fiscal year.

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Asian Development Bank Network to Boost Universal Health Coverage in Asia Pacific

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a regional network to fuel the coverage of universal healthcare across the Asia Pacific. In a statement, ADB said the Universal Health Coverage Practitioners and Experts Knowledge Exchange and Resources (UHC PEERS) "addresses a gap in regional health cooperation by providing a platform for countries to share solutions for extending coverage to underserved populations." The bank noted that over 1 billion people across the region still lack access to basic health services, with millions pushed into poverty due to health-care costs. The network will facilitate exchanges on reaching remote populations, integrating private sector providers, and developing sustainable financing.

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Burundi Eliminates Trachoma as a Public Health Problem

The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially announced that Burundi has eliminated trachoma as a public health problem, making a major milestone in the country's fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTD). Burundi becomes the eight country in the WHO African Region to achieve this status, and trachoma is the first NTD to be eliminated in the

country. Burundi's Health Minister, Dr. Lydwine Baradahana celebrated the announcement. Before 2007, Burundi had no official data on trachoma. That changed when the government launched a nationwide initiative to tackle the NTDs, mapping the prevalence of various diseases including trachoma.

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Nigeria and Brazil Sign Landmark Health Sector Cooperation

Nigeria and Brazil have signed a landmark health sector cooperation pact at the BRICS summit. The statement made by the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate reads, "On the margins of the BRICS Health Ministers' Meeting in Brazil, I had the honour of signing the Nigeria — Brazil Memorandum of Understanding on Health Collaboration with my esteemed counterpart, Dr. Alexandre Padilha, the Honourable Minister of Health of the Federative Republic of Brazil." This milestone agreement according to reflects the strategic vision and international cooperation priorities of His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, under whose leadership Nigeria is implementing bold and far reaching reforms to strengthen its health system.

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South Africa Inks Sci-Tech, Innovation Pact with Tunisia

South Africa's Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (DSTI) and the Republic of Tunisia have agreed to scale up science, technology and innovation cooperation. The agreement was signed by Mondher Belaid, Tunisia's minister of higher education and scientific research, and professor Blade Nzimande, in his capacity as SA's minister of science, technology and innovation. The partnership, referred to as the "scaling up Tunisia – South Africa strategy", was established during Nzimande's official visit to the North African nation. According to a statement, the cooperation includes an action plan and joint research call meetings.

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Ghana Plans to Expand Digital Government Services

Ghana's government aims to digitize around 16,000 public services on its national platform Ghana.gov by the end of this year, according to Minister of Communication, Digital Technologies, and Innovation, Samuel Nartey George. The move is part of a major overhaul designed to simplify how citizens and businesses interact with government institutions. The revamped portal will serve as a single point of access to all government services, offering a faster and more user-friendly experience. It will also be fully integrated with the Ghana Card, the country's national biometric ID. The platform, developed in partnership with the National Information Technology Agency

(NITA), is intended to streamline administrative tasks ranging from tax payments and fines to obtaining permits, licenses, and registrations

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Morocco Plans 500 MW Renewable Data Centre

Morocco plans to build a 500-megawatt data center powered entirely by renewable energy. This initiative is part of efforts to strengthen its national cloud infrastructure, as announced by Reuters, quoting Amal El Fallah Seghrouchni, Minister of Digital Transition. "Through this network of data centres, the kingdom not only asserts its digital sovereignty, but also its ambition to become a regional digital hub serving Africa," the minister said. Under its "Digital Morocco 2030" roadmap, the kingdom aims to develop a hybrid national cloud offering, combining sovereign and public cloud solutions. The goal is twofold: ensure sensitive national data remains stored on Moroccan soil under Moroccan jurisdiction, and facilitate the shift toward fully cloud-based digital infrastructure.

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Somalia Seeks Stronger Digital Cooperation with Global Partners

Somalia is aiming to boost international cooperation in digital development, according to government statements made on the sidelines of the WSIS+20 review held in Geneva. The event marked 20 years since the launch of the World Summit on the Information Society. Mohamed Adan Macallin, Somalia's Minister of Telecommunications and Technology, met with Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of the ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau. He also held talks with his counterparts from Malaysia and Djibouti, Fahmi Fadzil and Ridwaan Abdulaahi Bahdoon.

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Uzbekistan Puts Forward Global Initiatives for Ensuring Fair Competition in the Digital Economy

At the Ninth United Nations Conference on Competition and Consumer Protection, held in Geneva (Switzerland) under the auspices of UNCTAD, the Chairman of Uzbekistan's Competition Development Committee, Khalilillo Turakhodjaev, delivered a keynote speech during the session titled "Ensuring Competition in Digital Markets." In his remarks, Turakhodjaev presented to the international community the results of the structural reforms being carried out in Uzbekistan under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev. He placed special emphasis on developments in the digital economy and the modernization of antitrust legislation in alignment with international standards.

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DAKSHIN Network and Collaborations



DAKSHIN Meeting with the Council on Foreign Relations-Ghana (CFR-Ghana), Ghana

DAKSHIN had a successful virtual meeting with the Council of Foreign Relations – Ghana (CFR – Ghana) on 10 July 2025. The meeting was initiated by Professor Gulshan Sachdeva, Chief Coordinator, DAKSHIN, by giving a brief description of the inception and mandate of the centre. He discussed the objectives of the Global South Centre of Excellence, India's G20 presidency and emphasised the importance of linking development with security and international relations, and mentioned that the centre has organised numerous online events to facilitate policy research, capacity building, and technology transfer among countries in the Global South. Ambassador Kabral Blay-Amihere from CFR-Ghana highlighted the historical relationship between Ghana and India, dating back to the times of Prime Minister Nehru and Kwame Nkrumah. They emphasised the importance of collaboration between think tanks and academia beyond governmental levels, particularly in addressing issues relevant to the Global South. He noted that the CFR-Ghana was established in 2019 to focus on international affairs and foreign policy, including peace, security, economic development, etc. Further, the Ambassador mentioned that the institute also delves into issues of global importance such as migration, food security and South-South cooperation. The institute aims to create a platform for public debate and education on contemporary issues affecting the region and beyond, including peace, security, and economic development. The meeting successfully concluded with both sides affirming the importance of conducting joint research & studies and organising seminars and workshops on such issues. Professor Gulshan Sachdeva proposed a bilateral webinar, which the Ambassador welcomed as a timely initiative to build on the momentum of the Indian Prime Minister's recent visit to Ghana.

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