



Global South Matters

DAKSHIN

Global South Centre of Excellence



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DAKSHIN Welcomes New Coordinator



Dr. Rajan Sudesh Ratna Joins DAKSHIN as Coordinator

Dr. Rajan Sudesh Ratna joined DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, on 1 April 2026 as Coordinator. In this capacity, he provides strategic leadership to the Centre, guiding its academic and programmatic agenda to foster meaningful multi-country collaboration across the Global South.

Dr. Ratna is a distinguished development policy specialist with over four decades of experience spanning multilateral diplomacy, government service, and academic leadership. He has an extensive and proven track record in negotiating international trade agreements, shaping national foreign trade policy, and strengthening institutional capacities in the domain of global economic governance.

He may be reached at: coordinator@dakshin.org.in

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Key Developments in the Global South



India Ensured Global South's Voice at WTO Meet: Piyush Goyal

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said India ensured that the voice of the Global South was well-articulated at the 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

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India and Algeria Hold 7th Round of Foreign Office Consultations

The 7th round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Algeria was held in Algiers on 29 March. The meeting was co-chaired by the Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (South) Dr Neena Malhotra and the Secretary General of Algeria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lounes Magramane. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the ongoing cooperation and emphasised the importance of sustained high-level engagement.

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Kuala Lumpur Declaration Urges Global South to Accelerate Fossil Fuel Phase-Out

Civil society groups and climate experts from across South and Southeast Asia have called for a faster move away from fossil fuels. The call comes in the form of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Climate Justice, issued on March 30, 2026 following a regional meeting ahead of the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP 31) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) climate summit.

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Developing Countries, LDCs can no Longer be Rule-Takers at WTO

Developing countries and LDCs asserted themselves across critical areas, such as agriculture, e-commerce and reform debates, at the WTO's 14th Ministerial Conference (MC14) in Yaoundé, Cameroon last week, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal has said.

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India UN Development Partnership Foundation Supporting PAHO to Strengthen Elimination of Diseases in the Caribbean

Several Caribbean countries have advanced key interventions to strengthen the Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission (EMTCT) of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B, as part of a project supported by the India UN Development Partnership Fund and implemented by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), in collaboration with CARICOM.

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ASEAN and Chile Explore Cooperation to Strengthen ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership

The 7th Meeting of the ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership Committee (AC-DPC) was convened today at the ASEAN Headquarters/ASEAN Secretariat. Representatives from ASEAN and Chile met to review progress in the implementation of the Practical Cooperation Areas (PCA) for ASEAN-Chile Development Partnership and discussed new possible areas for deepening cooperation.

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Health Minister of Syria Discusses Enhancing Cooperation with International Rescue Committee

Health Minister, Musab al-Ali, met David Miliband, President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee, and his accompanying delegation to discuss ways to enhance joint health cooperation and explore partnerships supporting Syria's health sector priorities.



WHO Chief Praises Malaysia's Role in Strengthening Global Health Cooperation

The Director-General of the World Health Organisation, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has praised Malaysia for its commitment and active engagement in international health issues, as well as its role in strengthening global cooperation.

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NDDDB, WCOOPEF sign MoU to Boost Co-op Growth

In a significant step towards building a prosperous India through cooperation, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Cooperative Economic Forum, informs a social media post by IFFCO Chairman Dileep Sanghani.

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Africa CDC Rolls Out Continental SPARK-NCDs Programme as Noncommunicable Diseases Rise Across Africa

Nearly 2 million Africans die prematurely each year from complications related to hypertension and diabetes alone, and only an estimated 10–20% of those living with these conditions receive regular care. In response Africa CDC has launched a major

continental initiative to strengthen surveillance, improve integrated care, and transform the continent's response to non-communicable diseases.

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Indonesia, ASEAN-Japan Centre Partner to Boost Wellness Tourism

Indonesia is strengthening ties with the ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) to develop its wellness tourism sector, aiming to attract more Japanese travelers through holistic health experiences and strategic regional partnerships.

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Morocco-Costa Rica: New Dynamics in Bilateral Cooperation

Morocco and Costa Rica reaffirmed in Rabat their commitment to revitalizing their bilateral relations through structured political dialogue and more ambitious sectoral cooperation. This dynamic paves the way for concrete partnerships in agriculture, clean energy, tourism, and environmental protection.

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Oman: New Initiative Integrates Solar Energy into Agricultural Projects

With the aim of reducing electricity costs for farmers and investors, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, in cooperation with Nafath Energy Company and the Development Bank, announced the ‘Solar Energy — Sustainable Harvest’ initiative, focusing on integrating solar energy into agricultural projects.

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Tanzania seeks Turkish Investments in the Infrastructure, Energy, Agriculture Sectors

Tanzania has invited Turkish investors to explore strategic partnership opportunities in infrastructure, energy, and agriculture sectors as part of the country’s economic development strategy, officials announced during high-level diplomatic talks in Dar es Salaam.

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Morocco Reaffirms Commitment to South-South Cooperation at OACPS Summit in Malabo

Morocco has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening South-South cooperation during the 11th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. Morocco participated in the summit as Guest of Honor, reflecting the Kingdom's growing role in promoting cooperation among countries of the Global South.

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UNESCO Initiative Drives new Digital Platform Governance Frameworks in South Asia

South Asia is strengthening digital platform governance through a rights-based approach shaped by regional cooperation and international guidance. A workshop led by UNESCO brought together policymakers, civil society and academics to align platform regulation with principles of freedom of expression and access to information.

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India Launches new Yoga Protocols to Fight Lifestyle Diseases

The Union Ayush Ministry has launched a comprehensive “Yoga Protocol for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Target Groups”, in a significant push towards reshaping the country’s healthcare narrative from treatment to prevention.

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Ethiopia Urges Stronger Partnerships to Advance Shared Interests at OACPS Summit

Ethiopia’s President Taye Atske Selassie, at the 11th Summit of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) in Malabo, called for stronger, more genuine partnerships to advance shared strategic interests and tackle challenges.

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East Africa Boosts Agriculture with AfDB-Backed Early Warning Initiative

The African Development Bank Group, together with key partners, convened a workshop to assess progress and plan the next phase of a regional agriculture initiative benefiting Burundi, Comoros, Somalia, and South Sudan. The Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response to Food Crisis (SEPAREF) project, funded by the Bank and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in partnership with national ministries, was launched to address food shortages caused by global supply disruptions and rising geopolitical tensions.

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ECOWAS Ministers to Improve West Africa's Digital Economy

Ministers in charge of Telecommunications, Information and Communication Technologies and Digitalisation from across the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS have agreed to improve the region's Digital Economy.

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