



International Ecosystem Management Partnership

国际生态系统管理伙伴计划



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MISSION

To provide science, technology, policy and capacity support to developing countries to integrate ecosystem management approach into their national policies and development plans to enhance the delivery of ecosystem services for human well-being.

MANDATE

To synthesize science findings for decision-making on ecosystem management and is supported by three inter-related initiatives:

1. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer
2. Making the Case through Assessment and Demonstration
3. Enhancing Science Policy Interface

UNEP-IEMP Bulletin will be issued on a quarterly basis to inform you of our achievements and lessons learned through activities and projects executed. Please feel free to share with us your feedback to further improve our work and the information shared with you. Please forward these directly to info@unep-iemp.org

Second South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Forum



Forum Opening Ceremony in the China Pavilion at COP21 in Paris.

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The second session of the South-South Cooperation on Climate Change (SSCCC) Forum, with the theme 'from political commitment to action', was held in the China Pavilion at COP21 in Paris on 6 December 2015. The event was co-sponsored by the National Development and Reform Commission of China (NDRC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), INTASAVE-CARIBSAVE Group, WWF, UNFCCC and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). It was organized by the UNEP-IEMP.

With more than 100 participants, including ministers, government representatives, principals of UN and other international organizations, the Forum promoted South-South cooperation as an integral part of the future climate architecture. The synergistic benefits of SSCCC were emphasized and it was agreed that this Forum, first held in Lima last year at the margins of COP20, serves as a milestone for warranting a platform for promoting SSCCC, and for catalyzing new resources in the South and for the South.

In his opening remarks, Minister Xie Zhenhua, China Special Representative for Climate Change Affairs, emphasized the important complementarities of South-South cooperation to North-South cooperation and called for the solidarity of the global South against climate change. He reiterated China's determination to make available \$3.1 billion for setting up the 'China South-South Climate Cooperation Fund' to provide continuous support to other developing countries combating climate change.

Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, recognized South-South cooperation to be emerging as a key element of the global response to climate change. He praised the fact that "many emerging economies are moving to the frontline of international climate policy, taking a lead in defining and implementing low-carbon, climate-resilient and sustainable development pathways."

Ministerial Dialogue

Ministers and high-level governmental representatives from Costa Rica, India, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nepal and Switzerland shared their respective views and experiences on the role of SSCCC, and called for the inclusion of a South-South dimension in all current and future initiatives and funding mechanisms under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), bilateral and multilateral alike. They highlighted the importance of building on current South-South mechanisms such as this Forum, in order to create long-term effective arrangements to implementing the cooperation on the ground. They emphasized the need to ensure complementarities of South-South cooperation with existing North-South mechanisms, which remain the primary modality for financial transfers under the UNFCCC architecture. While discussing the role and strategic directions of SSCCC, ministers underlined the specificities and strengths of the South, and the multiple benefits of enhanced cooperation and exchanges across the global South.



Ministerial Dialogue - moderated by SU Wei, NDRC China. Delegates: Amedi Camara, Mauritania; Namdag Battserreg, Mongolia; Bruno Oberle, Switzerland; Ivannia Quesada, Costa Rica; Krishna Chandra Paudel, Nepal; Susheel Kumar, India.

High-level Roundtable Discussion

The panelists at the high-level roundtables identified priority areas of intervention for SSCCC, such as validating and disseminating developing countries' wealth of traditional knowledge and practices, and mainstreaming ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and mitigation. Consensus was reached on the major function of SSCCC, to include building long-term institutional and human capacity in the South; enabling more effective engagement of Southern countries in international science and policy processes (e.g. IPCC); and, supporting the development and dissemination of South-based solutions and technologies. A number of examples were provided of SSCCC projects and programmes, implemented and supported by UN agencies (particularly UNEP, UNDP and UNOSSC) and by important organizations like INTASAVE-CARIBSAVE Group, WWF and the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR).

The delegates discussed the enabling conditions for SSCCC and called for the establishment of new mechanisms for action, such as a new Platform for Promoting South-South Cooperation on Climate Change. They suggested that the Forum could serve as a standing policy interface for this platform, by providing an opportunity for ongoing dialogue and engagement with policy-makers and policy processes from both South and North.



Panel A - Priority of areas of action, moderated by Youba Sokona, South Center. Panelists: LO Sze Ping, WWF; Alain Noudehou, UN China; Hans Friederich, INBAR; Ermira Fida, UNEP; Anand Patwardhan, India.



Panel B - Enabling conditions and implementation mechanisms, moderated by Anton Hilber, SDC; ZHANG Chao, CECEP; Jorge Chediek, UNOSSC; Murray Simpson, INTASAVE-CARIBSAVE Group; Keith Alverson, UNEP; ZHANG Xiaohua, UN EOSG.

UNEP-IEMP signed Letter of Intent with FUNDECOR

As part of its efforts to build strategic partnerships at the global level, UNEP-IEMP signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with FUNDECOR, a leading environmental NGO from Costa Rica. The aim of this alliance is enhancing the sharing of information between the two organizations, particularly on South-South cooperation on sustainable ecosystem management. On the occasion of the 2nd SSSCC Forum in Paris, a small signatory ceremony was organized with UNEP-IEMP Director Jian Liu and FUNDECOR Executive Director Felipe Carazo in the China Pavilion. Vice-minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, Ms. Ivannia Quesada and Mr. Su Wei, Director General of Climate Change at NDRC participated as witnesses of honor.



Signatory ceremony of Letter of Intent with FUNDECOR, Costa Rica at 2nd SSSCC Forum.

Visit to Democratic People's Republic of Korea



UNEP delegation visited DPRK in October, 2015.

From Oct. 19th to 22nd, 2015, joining Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, UNEP regional director for Asia-Pacific, Dr. Jian Liu visited DPRK and focused on increasing UNEP DPRK collaboration through more joint projects, such as increasing the use of solar energy for improving energy access and agricultural productivity. Additional elements such as improving monitoring of the state of environment, building capacities and training of DPRK technicians and institutions in a wide range of environmental fields, reduction of deforestation and climate related risks as well as vulnerabilities should be strengthened. This will be the focus of another project with UNEP in the future. The visit also discussed particulars of the project including where the project will be housed, various communication channels, the need to develop full UNEP project document based on the discussions in DPRK and submit for approvals, and the organization of a project finalization meeting with DPRK officials.

Workshop on NSFC-UNEP Joint Research Programme in Beijing

On November 23-24, NSFC-UNEP Joint research programme workshop was held in Fragrant Hill Hotel, Beijing, China. The meeting welcomed UNEP-IEMP's flagship programme proposal and recommended that NSFC give positive consideration to it in line with China's National Strategy of One Belt and One Road. Furthermore, the meeting encouraged UNEP to continue providing its services such as liaising with local partners and serving as an information hub. It also recommended the "Series of Science and Policy Dialogue" to promote the communication between scientists and decision makers. Additionally, exploring new mechanisms of flexible funding system in NSFC to encourage more Chinese Scientists and their developing country counterparts to work on regional and global environmental issues.



Workshop participants in Fragrant Hill Hotel, Beijing, China.

The Beijing Consultative Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change

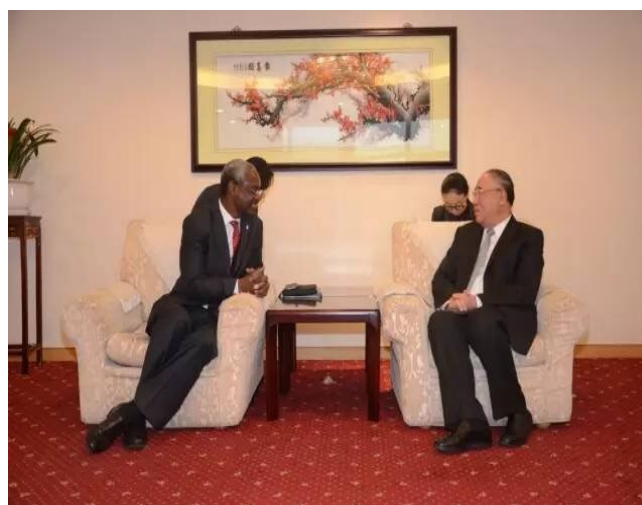


The Consultative Meeting on SSSCC in Beijing with main participants. © Huaping Long

On November 13-14, 2015, the two-day consultative meeting in Beijing aimed to enhance the common understanding and knowledge of SSSCC and to explore concrete opportunities and modalities to strengthen SSSCC. There were four breakout sessions focusing on energy, climate resilience, smart cities and big data. There is an urgent need to establish a platform for promoting South-South Cooperation on Climate Change to help mobilize global knowledge, technology, capacity and financial support to meet the needs of global south quickly and efficiently. Looking forward, SSC will play a vital role in successful implementation of the SDGs and the new global climate agreement.

KEY MESSAGES :

1. One of the primary challenges for SSSCC is the **lack of financial resources**. Both mitigation of and adaptation to climate change require substantial financial supports. For developing countries, the gap between the needs for financial resource and those available is significant, particularly for climate-actions requiring large initial investments.
2. Developing countries have **constraints in acquiring applicable climate-friendly technologies**, including the insufficient capabilities in technology innovation as well as equipment and system maintenances, lack of finance for intelligence patents, barriers in localization of imported technologies, etc.
3. **Cooperation on technology innovation and application** among southern countries on combating climate change should focus on the localization of advanced climate-friendly technologies taking into account national circumstances. Technology innovation is the breakout point for combating climate change. SSSCC should take every effort to enhance the accessibility of technologies and lower the costs to an affordable level.
4. **Developed country partners** can play an important role as well. They can be engaged in the SSSCC by **providing resources** in terms of finance, technology, and capacity building support. It could be significantly beneficial to have the **lessons learned** by developed countries during previous overseas aids and cooperation with developing countries shared among stakeholders to promote SSSCC.



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During the interval of the Beijing Consultative meeting on SSSCC, **Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw**, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, met with **Minister Xie Zhenhua** to exchange thoughts for the upcoming COP21 in Paris. Mr. Ibrahim praised the great efforts made by Chinese combating climate change and acknowledged that China has strong capacity and technology in renewable energy. He expected more important role China could play to invest in sustainable energy and to enhance cooperation with Africa. UNEP will continue to work with China to help developing countries to meet the needs of climate change adaptation as well as to provide better mitigation and assessment approaches.

UNEP Thematic Presentation in Nairobi



The first session of UNEP thematic presentation in Nairobi.

This UNEP thematic presentation was held on 15 December in Nairobi. It was chaired by DEPI Director Mette Wilkie. Managers and other representatives from almost all divisions and UNEP Regional Office Africa based in Nairobi attended the meeting. Dr. Jian Liu introduced the proposal for a Flagship Program on Climate, Ecosystems and Livelihoods (FPCEL). After a few rounds of questions and answers as well as comments and inputs, the meeting concluded that this is the right direction for synergies of UNEP sub-programs and will benefit the realization of SDGs.

NSFC visit to UNEP in Nairobi



UNEP-NSFC meeting in Nairobi.

On 14 December, Prof. Congqiang Liu paid a visit to UNEP and met with Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, the Deputy Executive Director of UNEP. Both sides agreed to continue and enhance the current cooperation initiatives and, to explore new windows of opportunity, such as jointly support research on the nexus of **climate-ecosystem-livelihood** within the context of One Belt and One Road initiative.

The Advanced Training Workshop on Ecosystem Monitoring and Management for Developing Countries

The workshop was held in Beijing, China from 1st to 18th November 2015. It was jointly held by the Institute of Geography and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the China Ecosystem Research Network (CERN) and the UNEP-International Ecosystem Management Partnership (UNEP-IEMP), and was supported by International Cooperation of CAS.

Within the umbrella of the Green Training of China Ecological Fora, this training focused on the ecosystem long-term monitoring and sustainable management, with the series of themes of international ecosystem monitoring and management progress, ecosystem long-term and networking monitoring, data management and sharing, and ecosystem sustainable management. In total 20 professionals in fields related to ecosystem monitoring and management attended from Asia-Pacific and African countries, including Thailand, Vietnam, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Kenya, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Seychelles, and Egypt. Through this dynamic workshop with multi training forms including lecture, field trips, group discussion and reporting, visits and etc., the trainees learned actively the methodologies and norms from the practitioners and were inspired from sharing experiences of each country.



Field trip at Qianyanzhou CERN station, China.

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The Himalayas mountains standing amidst white clouds in Lamjung District, Nepal © Chao Fu

Happy New Year

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