



## Inter-regional Expert Meeting on the Measurement of South-South Cooperation

Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton,  
Doha, Qatar

4-6 June 2024

### INFORMATION NOTE

#### I. General information and registration

The United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA), the UN Regional Commissions, the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB), and other regional partners organise **an inter-regional expert meeting on the measurement of South-South cooperation** hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar and held at Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton, in **Doha, Qatar, from 4 to 6 June 2024, as a hybrid event** (in person and online).

The target audience will include national, regional and international experts on South-South cooperation and its measurement from development cooperation agencies, statistical offices, and ministries. For the high-level segment, senior officials from countries, regional and international organizations, project partners, and the academic community are invited to discuss and agree on strategies for integration of the Framework to strengthen South-South cooperation.

**The meeting is organized as a hybrid event.** Participants for both in-person and virtual participation must **register** online [here](#).

The working languages of the workshop are English with simultaneous interpretation available for Arabic, French and Spanish during selected sessions.

The event aims to foster dialogue and empower Southern countries to collect and report their own data from country-owned systems. This effort helps to target national policy action and bolster strategic management of development support in the global South. Please refer to the agenda for details.

#### II. Documentation

Timetables, papers, presentations and other documents will be made available on the [meeting web page](#) (in process).



Participants are advised to bring their copies of any documents shared in advance as printouts, as they will not be made available in the meeting room. Where feasible, use of electronic devices to read them is encouraged to minimize paper use.

Free Wi-Fi is available in the meeting room.

### III. Accommodation and travel arrangements

Participants are requested to make their own hotel arrangements. It is advisable to book your hotel well in advance of the meeting as hotels in Doha may be fully booked when there are many events taking place.

In addition, below is a list of hotels situated within 15 minutes' walk to the Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton:

Hotel	Distance to Venue	Room rate	Email & Phone number
Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton	n/a	QR 650	+974 4425 6666
Rixos Gulf Hotel Doha	1.0 km	QR 450 for single bedroom; QR 500 for double bedroom (with breakfast)	reservation.gulfdoha@rixos.com/+974 4429 8888
The Plaza Doha, LXR Hotels & Resorts	1.0 km	QR 500 with breakfast	lxrplaza.reservations@hilton.com/+974 4040 2222
Sherao Hotel Doha	1.1km	QR 185	reservation@sherao.qa/+974 7771 0533
Century Hotel Doha	1.2 km	QR 225	info@centuryhoteldoha.com /+974 4445 5111
Grand legacy Hotel Doha	1.4 km	QR 200	reservations@grandlegacyhoteldoha.com/+974 5070 7394

### IV. Visa

Participants are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa to enter Qatar. The host country will ensure the visa process. Those participants who require a visa are asked to share their passport copy with the organizers. A visa will be issued in their name and sent electronically prior to arrival. Participants are asked to print it out and show it at the airport.

## V. Travelling from the airport to Doha

Hamad International Airport in Doha is approximately ten kilometres from the meeting venue, and it is connected to the venue through the red line and gold line. Follow the signs to the metro station from the arrivals area. The journey takes about one hour.

To the Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton:

- Red line (Hamad Intl Airport T1) - Msheireb
- Gold line (Msheireb) - National Museum

In addition to the metro, **taxis** are readily available from the airport. They are metered, so costs will vary, but the journey from the airport into the venue will usually cost around QAR 40-45.

Tourist and public transport information is available at the information desk in the airport arrival hall after you go through customs. More information on Doha's public transport is available from the website of [Metro in Doha](#).

## VI. Transport in Doha

Visitors can discover Doha by metro, tram or bus. It takes about 17 minutes to walk from the metro station (Gold Line-National Museum) to the Sharq Village & Spa, Hotel Ritz-Carlton.

Doha has a convenient public transport network with three metro lines and some bus lines. The service hours of metros are from 5:30 to 23:59 Saturday to Wednesday, from 5:30 to 1:00 on Thursday, and from 14:00 to 1:00 on Friday.

Doha metro system has three lines: Red, Green and Gold, with 37 stations across 76 km which converge at the centrally located Msheireb Station, close to Doha's main cultural attractions. Red (coastal) Line connects Hamad International Airport to West Bay, Katara Cultural Village, Qatar University and Lusail. Green (educational) Line connects Hamad Hospital, Al Bidda park, Qatar Foundation's Education City and Mall of Qatar. Gold (historic) Line runs through Khalifa Stadium, Villaggio Mall, to Souq Waqif and National Museum of Qatar.

Before you purchase the metro ticket, a Travel Card is needed (10 QAR). A single journey costs two QAR, and a day pass costs six QAR. You can purchase the Travel Card at the Station Travel Card vending machines and licensed retailers, and purchase the credit at the Station Travel Card vending machines, website and App. Further information on itineraries, timetables and fares is available on the site of [Metro in Doha](#).

**Taxis** are not very expensive in Doha and generally easy to find. Karwa Taxi by Mowasalat, is the exclusive taxi operator in the State of Qatar. On arrival at Hamad International Airport (HIA), follow the signs for the taxi rank and enjoy a hassle-free transportation experience. Travelers with special needs can book a minivan via the Karwa Taxi app, suitable for two or three wheelchairs and accompanying passengers. Payment options are cash, all major credit and debit cards, iPay (by Vodafone), Apple pay, and Google pay.



## VII. General information about Doha



Doha is the capital city and main financial hub of Qatar. Located on the Persian Gulf coast in the east of the country, north of Al Wakrah and south of Al Khor, it is home to most of the country's population. It is also Qatar's fastest growing city, with over 80% of the nation's population living in Doha or its surrounding suburbs. As the commercial capital of Qatar and one of the emergent financial centers in the Middle East, Doha is considered a beta-level global city by the Globalization and World Cities Research Network.

### Weather

The weather in Doha in June is hot and sweltering with no rain likely. The average minimum night-time temperature in June is 28°C (80.6°F). The average maximum daytime temperature lies around 42°C (107.6°F). The average rainfall in Doha is 0 millimeter in June. You may check the weather forecast [here](#).

### Currency

The currency in Qatar is the Qatari Riyals (QAR). The currency symbol is ريال. The prevailing exchange rates (at the end of April 2024) are as follows: 1 US dollar is equivalent to 3.64 QAR.

Currency exchange facilities are available in the city center. Please find the opening time before you go to the bank. For instance, Doha bank, which is one of the largest commercial banks in Qatar, is open from 07:30 to 13:00 from Sunday to Thursday.

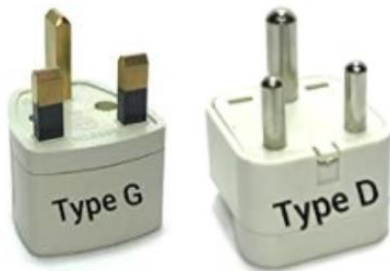
All major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, hotels and restaurants.

### Time Zone

Qatar observes Arabia Standard Time (AST) time zone (UTC/GMT +3 hours).

## Electricity

The voltage in Qatar is 240V/50 Hz. Please note that Qatar uses type G and type D 3-pin electrical plugs and sockets in a triangular pattern. Electric appliances can be used in Qatar, if the standard voltage in the home country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa). A step-down power converter is needed if you are travelling to Qatar from a country that uses 100-120 volts. **Please, bring your own adaptor** as no adapters can be provided by UNCTAD.



## Useful telephone numbers

Emergency – Police – Ambulance – Fire: 999

Telephone Directory: 180

Emergency Service for Deaf: 992

## VIII. Information and correspondence

Additional details will be communicated to all registered meeting participants by e-mail.

## IX. Contact information

### UNCTAD:

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### Regional Commissions focal points:

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