

The 4th International Conference on Financing for Development

Tuesday, 1 July 2025, 08:30 am – 10:00 am

Side-event Room 4, FIBES Sevilla Exhibition and Conference Centre

Side-event ID: 1968287

To confirm your participation, kindly indicate your attendance using the following link: [Attendance Confirmation](#)

South-South Data for Development: Starting a New Chapter

As leaders gather in Sevilla, momentum is growing to measure South-South cooperation (SSC) more systematically. This follows the historic 2022 endorsement of SDG indicator 17.3.1 by the UN Statistical Commission, which welcomed the voluntary '[Conceptual Framework to Measure South-South Cooperation](#)', developed by countries of the global South to reflect their development realities.

In response, UNCTAD was designated as custodian of SSC data under this indicator, while TOSSD (hosted by the OECD) continues to track North-South flows. Together, these efforts offer a unique opportunity to deliver globally inclusive data on development cooperation.

In 2024, over 60 countries expressed interest in using the UN Framework to report SSC data. A subsequent inter-regional expert meeting in Doha brought together 66 countries to share experiences and build momentum. The draft outcome of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) encourages broader reporting of South-South cooperation data.

For too long, South-South cooperation remained the only major form of development support not systematically measured—limiting its visibility and strategic use. The UN Framework now enables countries to report SSC data on their own terms, complementing traditional North-South data.

To support implementation, UNCTAD launched a global project in 2023 with the UN Regional Commissions and UNOSSC. Pilot countries are now collecting data using a practical [Manual](#) released in 2025, which guides institutional arrangements for data collection, analysis, and reporting.

This year, four countries submitted the first official SSC data to UNCTAD. These highlight the value of non-financial contributions—such as scholarships, humanitarian aid, and technical cooperation—across key SDGs including education (SDG 4), health (SDG 3), food security (SDG 2), peace and justice (SDG 16), and partnerships (SDG 17).

Why measure South-South cooperation? Because data provides critical insights into mutual support among developing countries. It helps allocate resources more effectively, strengthens regional resilience, and fosters solidarity. Robust national data systems also empower countries to align cooperation with their priorities, track activities, and present evidence-based positions in global forums.

This session discusses the first South-South data and guidance to enable such data to be collected in all interested countries using the UN Framework.

It will feature insights from experts and pilot countries, highlight tools and resources developed, and explore how data can elevate the voice and visibility of the global South in development cooperation.



The UN Statistical Commission tasked UNCTAD with supporting member States in testing the UN Framework, building capacity, and enabling global reporting of South-South data. In 2023, UNCTAD launched a global project for its testing with the UN Regional Commissions and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and **pilot countries are now collecting data guided by a practical [Manual](#) released in 2025**, which outlines how to strengthen institutional arrangements to collect, analyse, and report South-South data.

Speakers:

- **Ms. Cristina Camacho**, Minister, Undersecretary of International Cooperation, Ecuador
- **Mr. Jesus Enrique Garcia**, Minister, Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the UN in New York.
- **H.E. Sultan Ahmad Al-Aseeri**, Director of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar
- **Mr. Daniel Rodriguez**, South-South Cooperation Director, Presidential Agency for International Cooperation, Colombia
- **Ms. Anu Peltola**, Director, UNCTAD Statistics Service
- **Ms. Ines Tofalo**, Trust Fund and Project Management Specialist, UN Office for South-South Cooperation

Contacts

Amandine Rushenguziminega, amandine.rushenguziminega@unctad.org