



The Presentation of Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)  
to  
The Experts Meeting on Measuring South-South Cooperation (SSC)

*July 2023*



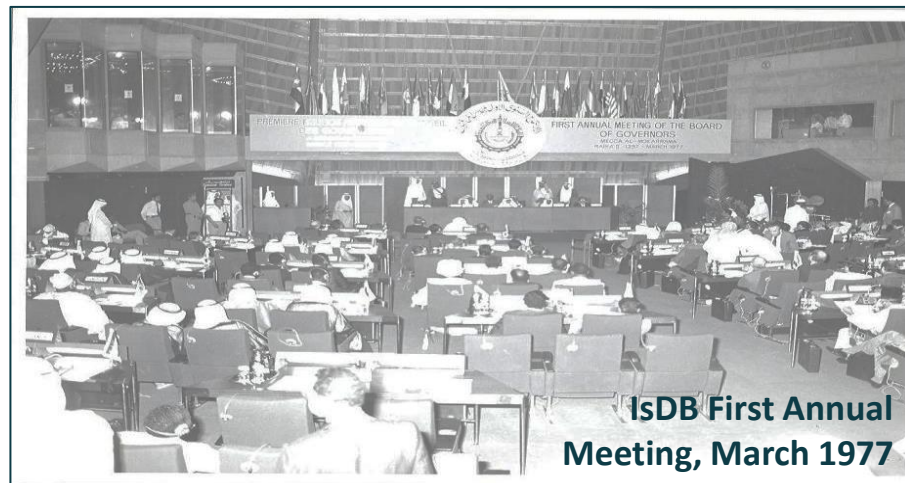
# Contents

- The challenges of measuring SSC.
- The IsDB's framework for the National Ecosystem for SSTRC.
- How the National Ecosystem for SSTRC can help in measuring SSTRC and promoting it in general.
- Conclusions.



# Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in Brief

- IsDB is a multilateral development bank, with its headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Established in **1975** to promote social and economic development in its member countries
- **57** member countries spread across the globe—all from the South
- Provides financing for public and private sector projects and supports capacity development in various sectors
- Long-standing experience in South-South Cooperation (SSC).



## Major initiatives of IsDB to promote SSC

- The IsDB has been providing financing for South-South Technical Cooperation since 1983, through various programs.
- Based on long experience, the IsDB recognized that increasing the contribution of SSC towards sustainable development requires several enabling factors which work as one integrated ecosystem.
- The IsDB developed – along with other partners - a complete framework that defines the “*national ecosystem for SSTRC*”.
- Currently, the IsDB is adopting a dual approach:
  - a) Enabling the IsDB member countries to do more and better SSC projects.
  - b) Helping the member countries to build their “*national ecosystems for SSTRC*”.

## Typical challenges of measuring SSC

- Low appreciation of the importance of SSC (Why should we collect SSC data?)
- Lack of specific national objectives concerning SSC (What will we do with the SSC data?)
- Large number of SSC actors apart from the entity collecting the data (Who should provide SSC data?)
- Unsustainable process for collecting SSC data (Who should be the custodian of SSC data?)
- Lack of proper Information Technology system (How the SSC should be preserved and maintained?).

## What's a National Ecosystem for SSTRcC?

- A national ecosystem for SSTRcC is a collection of interlinked institutional arrangements.
- These arrangements complement each other without a specific hierarchical order.
- The ultimate benefits of the ecosystem materialize when all parts co-exist and harmoniously work together.
- The national ecosystem provides the enabling environment for effective SSTRcC.



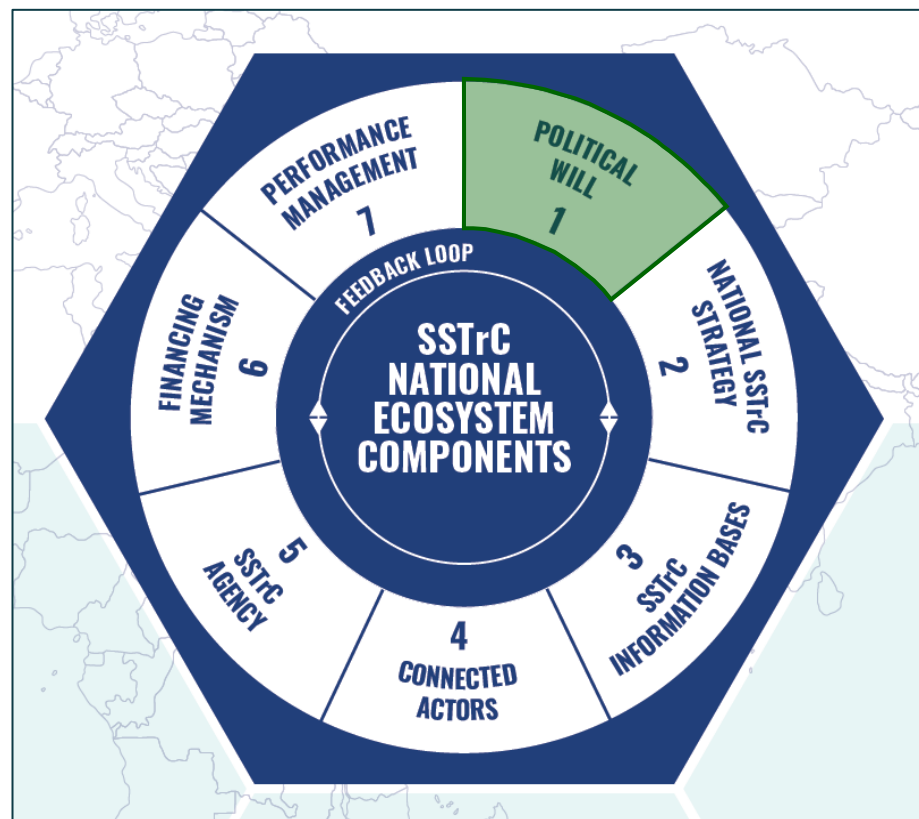
# What are the pillars of the National Ecosystem for SSTRc?





## Political Will for SSTRc

- The **political will** from the highest levels of government is vital for including SSTRc as an element of the national development strategy, mainstreaming it into the national constitution, as well as relevant regulations.

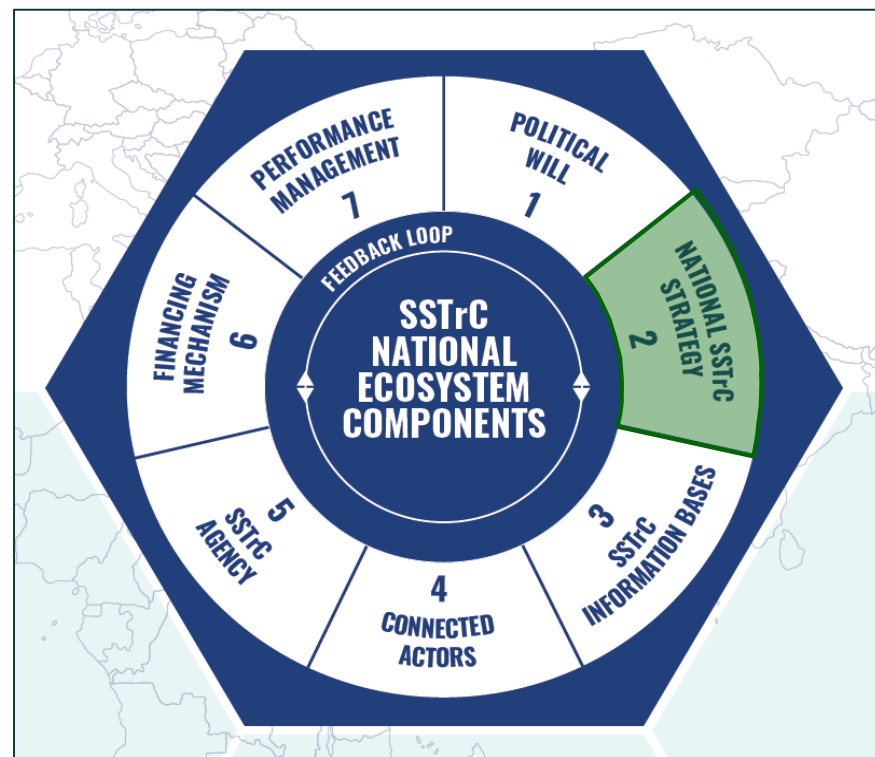


The strong political concerning SSC and SSTRc will encourage all actors to give high priority to measuring them.



## National Strategy for SSTRc

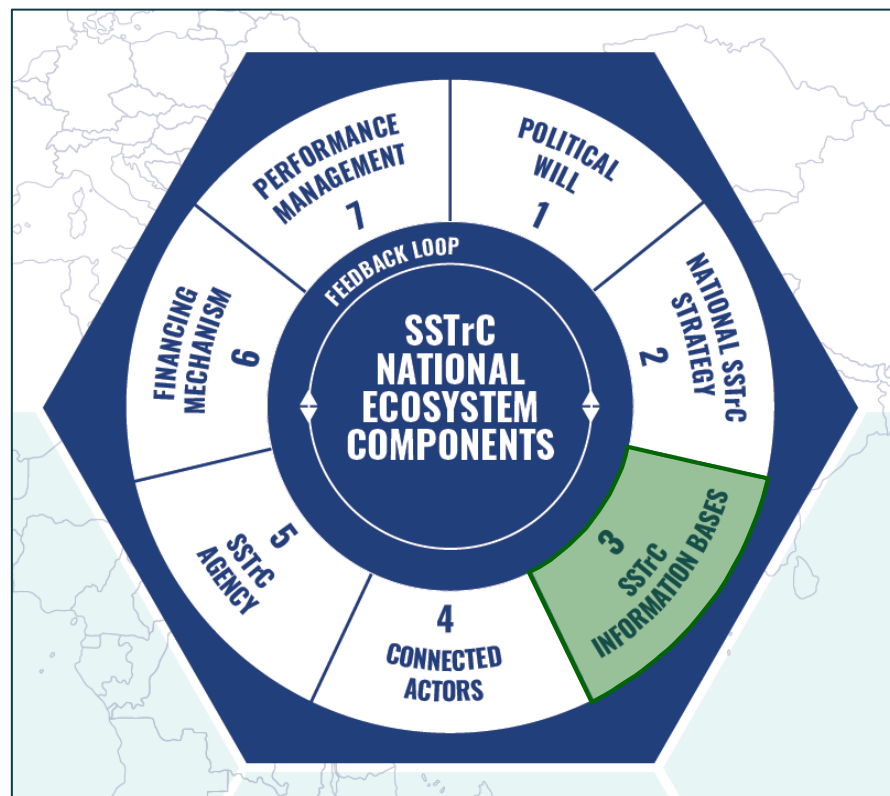
- A **national strategy** for SSTRc helps governments clearly identify their priority areas as well as developmental needs which could be addressed by SSTRc, both as providers and recipients.



The national strategy for SSTRc, if exists, will be the reference framework for assessing the SSTRc data.

## SSTrC Information Bases

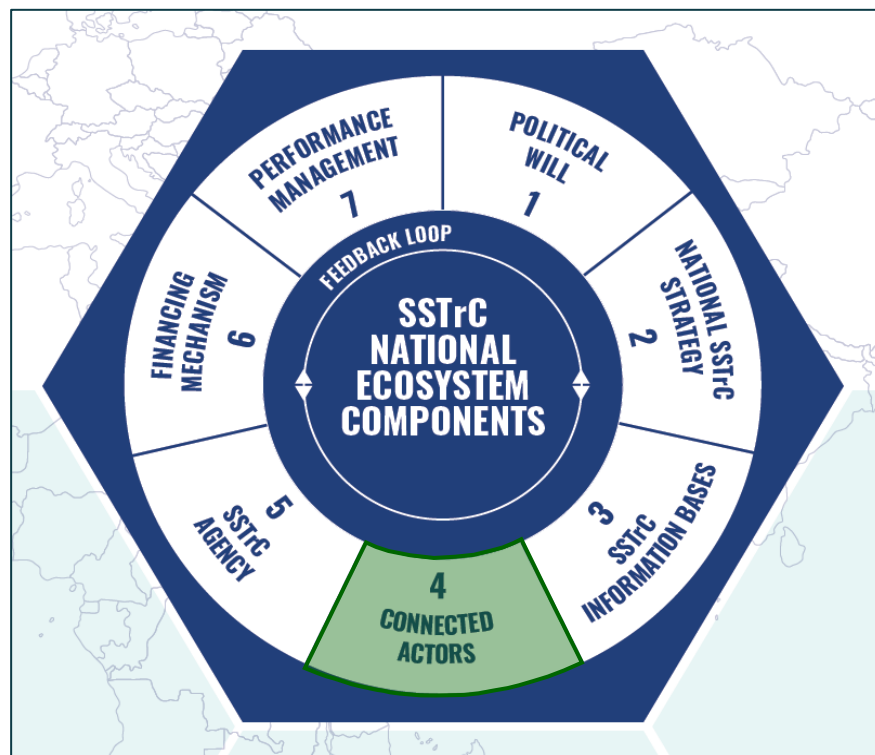
- Building **information bases** on national SSTrC initiatives and available resources could assist countries in maintaining a comprehensive database for enhancing their SSTrC activities.



The SSTrC information bases will be the host of the data on SSTrC activities, technical experts, Center of Excellence, etc.

## Connected Actors

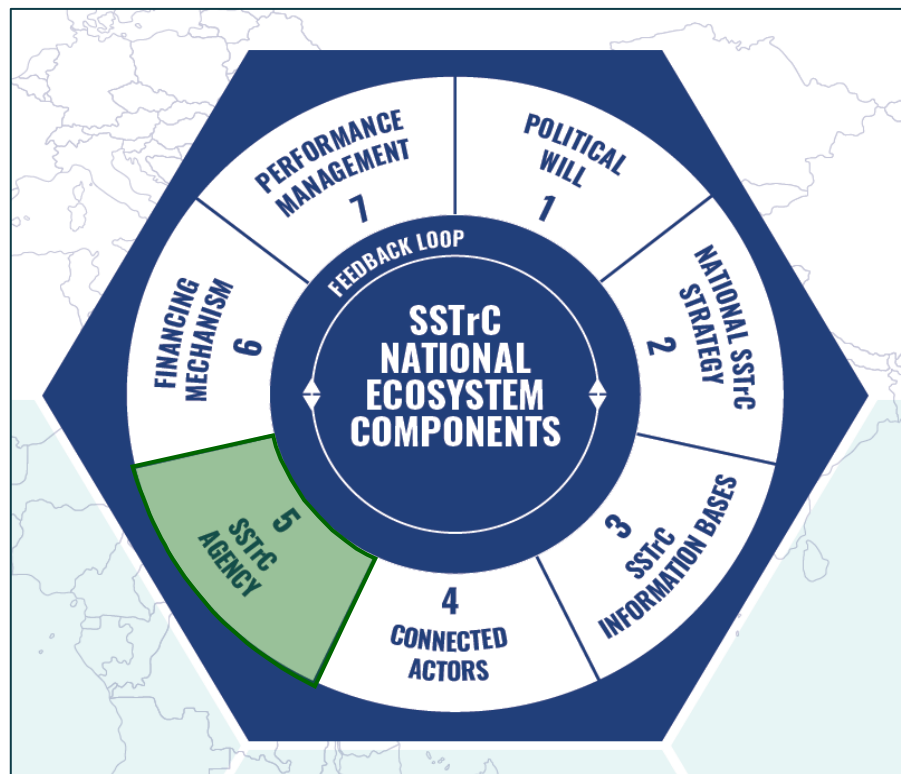
- **Connected actors** of SSTRc could bring in views and perspectives, allowing them to coordinate and harmonize their efforts, and greatly augment the ability of countries to engage in SSTRc, both as providers and recipients.



The good coordination of SSTRc actors ease the collection of comprehensive and consistent data on the SSTRc activities.

## National Body for SSTRc

- The establishment of a **national body for SSTRc** could facilitate the coordination among the national stakeholders as well as the cooperation with other countries through institutional arrangements.



A competent national body for SSTRc will be naturally the custodian of the SSTRc data, and hence the one responsible for collecting and maintaining those data.

## Financing Mechanism for SSTRc

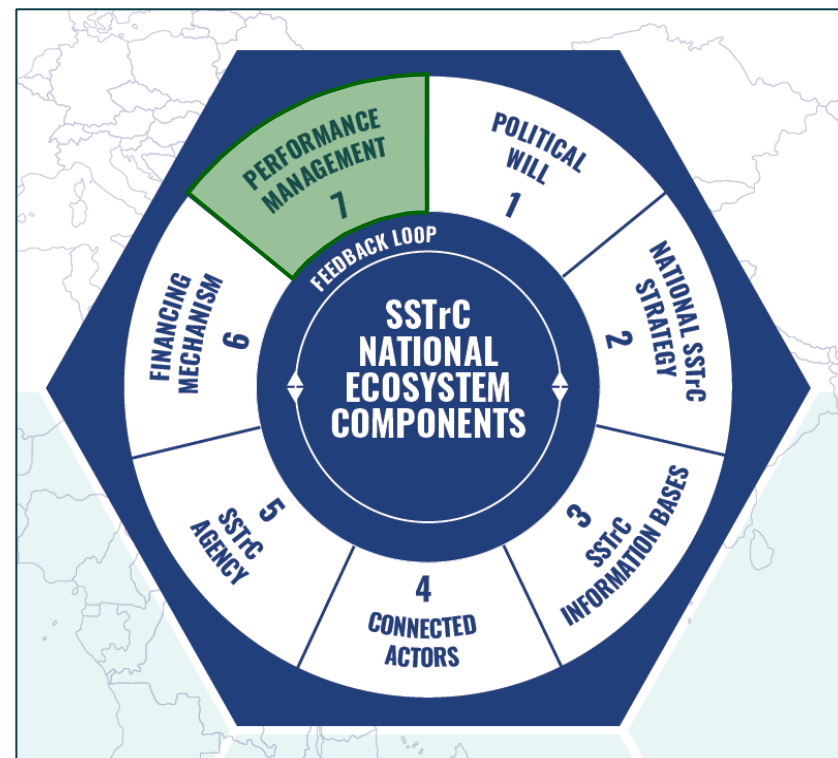
- Having **financing mechanisms** at the national level would bring in more resources and domestic contributions for SSTRc activities. Contributions can also be raised at the regional and international levels.



Allocating financial resources for SSTRc should come with the responsibility of demonstrating how those resources were utilized.

# Performance Management for SSTRc

- **Performance management systems** for SSTRc would provide the means to learn from experience and leverage this learning to improve efficiency and effectiveness of interventions and, thereby, increase the benefits of SSTRc for all stakeholders.



An effective performance monitoring system will ensure that the SSTRc data are properly assessed and used for enhancing future SSTRc activities.

# Tools developed by IsDB to put the framework of the national ecosystem of SSTRC into action



**Assessment Framework for National Ecosystem for SSTRC**



**Guiding Process for Enhancing the Political Will for SSTRC**



**SSTRC Strategy Development Framework**



# Tools developed by IsDB to put the framework of the national ecosystem of SSTrC into action

The screenshot shows the IsDB Online Academy interface. At the top, the title "Developing the National Ecosystems of Sou..." is displayed. Below it, a breadcrumb trail shows "All Content / The IsDB Online... / Developing the National Ecosystems of So...". A description states: "The IsDB's framework of the national ecosystems of SSO, its assessment methodology, and guiding notes on how to strengthen it." It also indicates the content was created and modified 10 months ago by Sameh Hussein. There are buttons for "Play All" and "Share". A "Sort by" dropdown and a "Filter content on this page..." search bar are also visible. The main content area displays three cards, each with a thumbnail image and a "Read More" link. The first two cards are titled "Developing National ecosystems for South-South and Triangular Cooperatio..." and the third is titled "Advocacy Note on 'Developing National Ecosystems for South-South and...". Each card shows it was last updated 5 months ago.

- The tools are available in the IsDB Online Academy for South-South Cooperation

# Countries being supported by ISDB to enhance their national ecosystem for SSTRc

## Countries

- Tunisia
- Morocco
- Comoros
- Guinea
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Cameroon
- Jordan
- Bangladesh

## Assistance

- Undertaking overall assessment of the national ecosystem for SSTRc.
- Developing an action plan for enhancing SSTRc.
- Supporting the establishment of new national entity for SSTRc.
- Developing the capacities of an existing national entity for SSTRc.

## Conclusions

- Measuring SSC is crucial, and the countries of the Global South are urged to use the Conceptual Framework for Measuring SSC.
- Meanwhile, it is essential for the countries of the Global South to work on enhancing their whole ecosystem for SSTRC.
- A complete and efficient national ecosystem for SSTRC will enhance the contribution of SSC towards national development as well as address the challenges of measuring SSC.





Thank you