



RIS
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries
विकाशशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली



ceides
Centre africain d'Etudes Internationales
Diplomatiques Economiques et Stratégiques



Workshop
on
South-South Cooperation for Agricultural
Innovation: From Knowledge Exchange to
Scalable Solutions
(Hybrid)

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm (IST)
9:30 am - 11:30 am (Morocco Time)

Tuesday, 13 October 2026
G Parthasarathi Conference Hall, RIS



Concept Note

Background and Rationale

Agriculture across the Global South is undergoing a period of profound transformation. Countries are seeking new approaches to improve productivity, strengthen food and nutrition security, build climate resilience, enhance rural livelihoods, and create more inclusive and sustainable agri-food systems. In this context, **South-South Cooperation (SSC)** has emerged as an increasingly relevant mechanism for accelerating agricultural transformation, enabling countries to exchange technologies, policy experiences, institutional models, and locally adapted innovations. Unlike conventional models of technology transfer, South-South cooperation offers opportunities for countries to learn from solutions that have been developed and tested in contexts with similar agro-ecological, socio-economic, and institutional realities.

However, the transfer of knowledge does not automatically translate into development impact. Innovations that succeed in one setting may require substantial adaptation to be effective elsewhere. Similarly, many promising initiatives remain confined to pilots because of limited financing, institutional fragmentation, weak coordination, inadequate local ownership, or insufficient capacity for scale.

The challenge, therefore, is to move **from knowledge exchange to knowledge adaptation, institutionalisation, and scalable implementation**. This workshop will examine how South-South cooperation in agriculture is being operationalized through concrete institutional mechanisms. This workshop is being jointly organized by DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence at RIS, India and the Policy Center for the New South (PCNS), Morocco.

Objectives

The objective of this workshop is to discuss how knowledge amongst & Global South can be effectively staked, adopted to different national contexts and scaled beyond isolated pilot initiatives.

Tentative Agenda

Time	Details
3:00 pm – 3:05 pm (India) 9:30 am – 9:35 am (Morocco) 3:05 pm – 3:20 pm (India) 9:35 am – 9:50 am (Morocco)	Opening Session Welcome Remarks • Dr Rajan Sudesh Ratna, Coordinator, DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence, RIS Special Remarks • Professor Sachin Kumar Sharma, Director General, RIS • Dr Karim El Aynaoui, Executive President, Policy Center for the New South (PCNS), Morocco
3:20 pm – 4:45 pm (India) 9:50 am – 11:15 am (Morocco)	Panel Discussion: South-South Cooperation for Agricultural Innovation: From Knowledge Exchange to Scalable Solutions Moderator • Dr Talha Akbar Kamal, ex-Consultant, Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT, India Speakers • Dr Mangi Lal Jat, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India • Dr B V R C Purushottam, Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand, India (TBC) • Mr Ajeet Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India (TBC) • Ms Boutaina Lmasrar, Economist, Policy Center for the New South (PCNS), Morocco • Dr Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub, Chief Agroeconomist, OCP Foundation, Morocco (TBC) • Dr Christian Pout, Minister Plenipotentiary, President, African Centre for International, Diplomatic, Economic and Strategic Studies (CEIDES), Cameroon • Mr Jibril Barry, Head of IT & Communication, Stat View International, Republic of Guinea • Ms Irina Komar, Expert of the Division of Bilateral Relations with Europe, Asia, and Africa; Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Belarus Open Discussion – Question & Answer

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm (India)
11:15 am – 11:30 am (Morocco)

Concluding Remarks and Way Forward

- **Dr Rajan Sudesh Ratna**, Coordinator, DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence, RIS
- Representative from Policy Center for the New South (PCNS), Morocco

About Organizers



RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) was set up by the governments of the non-aligned countries at the NAM Summit in 1983 to serve as a think-tank for the developing countries with an aim to promote trade and investment, and international economic and technical cooperation

related issues. RIS specialises in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. It is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on global and regional economic issues. The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and collaborate with developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. Through its different centres/forums, RIS promotes policy dialogue and coherence on regional and international economic issues.

Website: <https://ris.org.in/en>



The word “DAKSHIN” is of Sanskrit origin, meaning “South”. DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence was announced by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India during the 1st Voice of Global South Summit. It was established in November 2023 under the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India to further strengthen India’s development partnerships with countries of the Global South and is hosted by Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi. DAKSHIN began working in the areas of agriculture, health, and digital solutions and is now

expanding into other sectors, including connectivity, gender, and climate technologies. Since its launch, DAKSHIN has established linkages with leading think tanks, universities, governmental as well as non-governmental organizations across the Global South and is building a dynamic network of scholars working on Global South issues.

Website: <https://dakshin.org.in/>



THINK • STIMULATE • BRIDGE

The Policy Center for the New South (PCNS) is a Moroccan think tank aiming to contribute to the improvement of economic and social public policies that challenge Morocco and the rest of Africa as integral

parts of the global South. The PCNS pleads for an open, accountable, and enterprising "new South" that defines its own narratives and mental maps around the Mediterranean and South Atlantic

basins, as part of a forward-looking relationship with the rest of the world. Through its analytical endeavours, the think tank aims to support the development of public policies in Africa and to give the floor to experts from the South. This stance is focused on dialogue and partnership and aims to cultivate African expertise and excellence needed for the accurate analysis of African and global challenges and the suggestion of appropriate solutions. As such, the PCNS brings together researchers, publishes their work and capitalizes on a network of renowned partners, representative of different regions of the world. The PCNS hosts a series of gatherings of different formats and scales throughout the year, the most important being the annual international conferences the “Atlantic Dialogues”, the “African Peace and Security Annual Conference” (APSACO), and the “Africa Economic Symposium” (AES). Finally, the think tank is developing a community of young leaders through the Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders program (ADEL) a space for cooperation and networking between a new generation of decision-makers from the government, business, and civil society sectors. Through this initiative, which already counts more than 490 members, the Policy Center for the New South contributes to intergenerational dialogue and the emergence of tomorrow’s leaders.

Website: <https://www.policycenter.ma/>



The African Centre for International, Diplomatic, Economic and Strategic Studies (CEIDES) is a think tank based in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Established as a scientific association and officially launched in 2013, it contributes to policy thinking on Africa's development and its place in the world.

CEIDES works along research, training, and fostering dialogue on African and international diplomatic affairs. Recent engagements include a contribution to the 4th US-Africa Futures Summit and two collaborations with the FAO Subregional Office for Central Africa, one on the validation of national studies on digitalisation and the attractiveness of agro-sylvo-pastoral and fisheries value chains for young people, the other on land governance reforms. CEIDES is led by its President, Dr Christian Pout, Minister Plenipotentiary.

Website: <https://www.ceides.org/>



Founded in 1992 in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, Stat View International began as a national research firm and has grown, over more than three decades, into an African data intelligence organization operating across 14 countries. Leveraging the Afrobarometer network and strategic partnerships, Stat View International supports research, monitoring and evaluation, and data collection initiatives across West, Central, East, and Southern Africa while successfully delivering projects in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and São Tomé & Príncipe.

Website: <https://www.statviewinternational.com/>