



United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

## UNDP AWARDED FOR VISIONARY LEADERSHIP IN SOUTH-SOUTH & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

H.E. Ambassador John Ashe, President of the General Assembly High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation (HLC) presented the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Visionary Award to UN Under-Secretary-General and UNDP Associate Administrator Rebeca Grynspan during the 2012 UN Global South-South Development Expo, in Vienna, Austria, organized by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and hosted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization from 19 to 23 November 2012. The Award was presented in recognition and appreciation of UNDP's visionary leadership in championing the UN's support to South-South and triangular cooperation.



***The Special Unit for South-South Cooperation created a three-in-one multilateral South-South architecture to enable all stakeholders to forge inclusive South-South and Triangular partnerships.***

***– Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon***



**From left to right:** H.E. John Ashe, President of the General Assembly High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations; Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, UNDP Associate Administrator; and Mr. Yiping Zhou, Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

“Today we are witnessing a spike in cooperative spirit in the global South,” Ambassador John Ashe said. “Owing to enlightened leadership, developing countries increasingly turn to each other for trade, investment and many other beneficial exchanges. Enlightened leadership also inspires developing countries towards concerted efforts to face up to the global challenges posed by energy and food crises, climate change, and pandemics such as HIV/AIDS through sub-regional, regional, interregional and global South-South arrangements.”

UNDP was recognized for demonstrating a clear vision in optimising, mainstreaming and

intensifying Southern approaches toward achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and beyond.

During a Gala Dinner held at the Hofburg Palace, Ambassador John Ashe congratulated UNDP on behalf of the HLC for corporately mainstreaming its support to South-South cooperation.

UNDP was also recognized for successfully regaining major Southern countries' confidence in its work and value-added. This is clearly evidenced by the signing of several strategic partnerships agreements with Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, and Turkey, which jointly promote and support South-South cooperation.

UNDP's strategic approach to enabling major South-South development provider countries to jointly establish global South-South centres of excellence was also applauded. These South-run thematic global centers of excellence include: the International Centre for Inclusive Growth in Brazil; the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China; the International Centre for Private Sector Development in Turkey; the International Public Service Excellence Centre in Singapore; the Human Development Centre in India; and the Rio+ Sustainable Development Centre in Brazil.

UNDP has also operationalized South-South cooperation across all its practice areas. This is evidenced by the extensive across-board support to South-South cooperation through for example the Global Programme led by the Bureau for Development Policy, Regional Programmes led by the five Regional Bureaus, and a large number of country programmes. In last few years, more than 130 UNDP country offices have been actively engaged in supporting South-South knowledge sharing activities – this has been documented through UNDP's Results Oriented Annual Reporting (ROAR) since 2009.

Finally, UNDP was recognized for enabling the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (formerly the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation) to have more effectively served the Global South and the larger UN system.

What the UNOSSC offers to the global community is a global and multilateral South-South Support Architecture consisting of the Global South-South Development ACADEMY, the Global South-South Development EXPO, and the South-South Global Asses and Technology Exchange (SS-GATE).

In its statement at the 17th Session of the HLC 2012, the EU particularly acknowledged “that the Special Unit had successfully created a space where UN actors, Member States, the private sector and non-governmental development actors can forge inclusive partnerships for effective development”. Also at the 17th session of the HLC, the representative of India said that “a key facet of India's joint initiative with countries of the South, along with Brazil and South Africa, has been its IBSA initiative and it is extremely pleased that its partner in this initiative are now renamed, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.”

UNDP is the host of the UNOSSC on behalf of the General Assembly. The Administrator of UNDP is the Convener of the GA/HLC and also Chair of the UN Development Group. This powerful political and executive leadership, institutional backing, financial and worldwide infrastructural support, has enabled the UNOSSC to fulfill its GA-mandated responsibilities “as a separate entity and coordinator for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis.”

**For more information, please contact Mithre Sandrasagra, Communications Officer, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), at [mithre.sandrasagra@undp.org](mailto:mithre.sandrasagra@undp.org) or visit our website at [ssc.undp.org](http://ssc.undp.org)**