



**India-UN Development Partnership Fund –
6 years of Collaborative Partnership**

**29 November, 2023 - 3.00 to 5.00 pm
ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters**

CONCEPT NOTE

The **India-UN Development Partnership Fund** stands as a remarkable example of India's commitment to global sustainable development and South-South cooperation. With its focus on advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting innovation, and strengthening partnerships, the Fund continues to make a positive impact on the lives of people in the global South.

The Fund endeavors to support projects and programs that directly contribute to the realization of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality, ensuring access to quality education and basic amenities, and fostering economic growth. The Fund takes a holistic approach to address development challenges comprehensively.

Managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and currently implemented by 12 UN entities at country-level, the \$150 million Fund supports innovative, Southern-owned and led, demand-driven, and transformational sustainable development projects across the developing world. Since it was launched in 2017, the Fund has supported 76 projects in 54 countries. Its project portfolio spans climate resilience, livelihood development, health and sanitation, education and skills, agriculture and food security, infrastructure and other SDG-targets prioritized by partnering countries. The Fund operates across the Global South and supports all geographic regions, while keeping a strong emphasis on Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.

As the world grapples with challenges to meet the SDGs, the India-UN Development Partnership Fund serves as a model for South-South cooperation, which encourages mutual learning and collaboration among developing nations. The Fund prioritizes innovative approaches and capacity-building efforts to empower communities and governments in partner countries to address development challenges effectively. It supports initiatives that leverage technology and knowledge transfer for sustainable solutions. United Nations' rigorous monitoring and evaluation mechanisms ensure that

projects supported through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund achieve their intended outcomes in a timely manner and contribute to the SDGs.

Since its inception, the Fund has achieved significant milestones. For instance, funding initiatives have enhanced healthcare infrastructure and services in partner countries leading to better access to quality healthcare for vulnerable populations; renewable energy projects have contributed to reducing carbon emissions and fostering sustainable energy solutions; education programs with a particular focus on girls and marginalized communities have improved literacy rates and access to quality education; a number of projects have promoted gender equality, women's empowerment, and entrepreneurship. The Fund also responded to humanitarian crises by providing timely assistance and relief efforts, including during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event on **29 November 2023** will discuss how prioritized developmental ideas of the beneficiary countries implemented through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund could empower their vulnerable communities. Colleagues from the United Nations Secretariat will also outline how the India-UN Development Partnership Fund engages with and strengthens multilateral processes for Sustainable Development. Representatives from the UN entities supporting the design, implementation and monitoring of the Fund's projects will describe their experiences with the Fund and its support to the UN System approaches. As world leaders have been emphasizing on global cooperation on Agenda 2030, we will discuss how mechanisms such as the India-UN Development Partnership Fund are essential during the Decade for Action. The event will also give us an opportunity to appraise the functioning of the Fund and to consider suggestions to further improve it.

The India-UN Development Partnership Fund annual report will also be launched.

For more information about the Fund:

- On the India-UN Development Partnership Fund: <https://indiaunfund.unsouthsouth.org/>
- On the *2022 Year-in-Review Report*:

For questions on the event:

Mr. Dinesh Setia, Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations (press.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in, +1 646 894 3422) or Ms. Ines Tofalo, United Nations Office of South-South Cooperation (ines.tofalo@undp.org, +1 917 209 9395).