



SESRIC POVERTY ALLEVIATION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME (PA-CAB)

Workshop on “The Potential of Utilizing South-South and Triangular Cooperation Mechanisms towards Alleviating Poverty in the OIC Region”

16-17 October 2024; 10:00hrs to 13:00hrs (Türkiye, GMT +3)

Zoom link: to be provided

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

Background

Poverty remains a persistent and multifaceted challenge around the world and across many member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Despite various national and international efforts, a significant portion of the population in these countries continues to live below the poverty line. Traditional approaches to poverty alleviation have shown limited success in some contexts, necessitating innovative and collaborative solutions.

The “poverty trap” theory, widely used in the development economics literature, assumes that low-income economies, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs), are trapped in the poverty cycle. In this regard, policy measures are essential in fair and effective distribution of the resources available to national/sub-national governments as well as improving cross-sector cooperation with a specific focus on education, social protection, and other universal basic needs.

From 2000 through 2019, the percentage of the global population living below the international poverty line decreased from 29.2% to 8.9%. Pre-pandemic projections indicated that this proportion would continue to decline to 8.2% in 2020 and 7.8% in 2021 (World Bank, 2022). However, the sudden onset of the COVID-19 pandemic significantly undermined progress in poverty reduction, causing the proportion of people living in extreme poverty to rise to 9.5% in 2021. By 2022, this rate had fallen back to 9%, close to the pre-pandemic level, and the negative impact of the pandemic began to fade.

SDG target 1.1 aims for the complete eradication of extreme poverty by 2030. In the 2000s, approximately 32.3% of the population in OIC countries lived on less than USD 2.15 a day, based on data from 30 OIC countries. By 2022, this figure decreased to 11.7%. Overall, OIC countries have made moderate progress in eradicating extreme and other forms of poverty, but this progress is not sufficient to achieve the goal of ending all forms of poverty by 2030.¹

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) mechanisms have emerged as powerful tools for addressing development challenges, including poverty. These mechanisms facilitate knowledge sharing, technology transfer, capacity building, and resource mobilization among developing countries (South-South) and with the support of developed nations or international organizations (Triangular). The OIC region, with its diverse member countries experiencing varying levels of development, presents a unique opportunity to leverage South-South and Triangular Cooperation for poverty alleviation.

On the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) are jointly organising a Workshop on “The

¹ Towards the Achievement of Prioritised Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries 2024: A Progress Report by SESRIC



United Nations
Office for South-South Cooperation



Potential of Utilizing South-South and Triangular Cooperation Mechanisms towards Alleviating Poverty in the OIC Region”.

Objectives: The workshop aims to:

1. Enhance understanding of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) mechanisms and their potential for poverty alleviation in the OIC context.
2. Share best practices, successful case studies, and lessons learnt from SSTC initiatives in OIC member countries.
3. Identify opportunities for implementing SSTC initiatives in participants' countries, considering local needs and resources.
4. Foster networking and collaboration among OIC member countries and international organisations for ongoing SSTC initiatives in poverty alleviation.

Format and Methodology: The workshop will employ a mix of interactive methods to ensure active participation and practical learning:

- Expert presentations and panel discussions
- Case study and good practices
- Group work
- Peer-to-peer exchange and feedback sessions

Target Audience: The workshop is designed for:

- Experts and executives from Ministries responsible for poverty alleviation
- Representatives from national planning commissions or equivalent bodies
- Officials from social welfare departments
- Experts from National Statistical Offices (NSO)
- Representatives from relevant national institutions involved in development cooperation and poverty reduction programs

Registration link: <https://erp.sesric.org/events/WORKSHOP-SSTC/Apply>



- *The workshop will be conducted over two days through a video conferencing platform (Zoom).*
- *The sessions start each day at 10:00 and end at 13:00 (GMT +3) Türkiye time.*
- *The link for connecting to the workshop will be sent by email to the registered participants.*
- *This workshop will be delivered in **English** without any simultaneous translation.*



Day 1: 16 October 2024		
Time (Türkiye, GMT +3)	Session	Facilitator
09:50 – 10:00	Online Sign-in	
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representative from UNOSSC (TBC) Representative from SESRIC (TBC)
	Introduction to the workshop objectives and format	
10:15 – 10:45	<p>Keynote Speaker: Tackling Poverty for Sustainable Development – IsDB’s Reverse Linkage Mechanism</p> <p><i>Highlighting challenges, strategies, approaches, and solutions for addressing poverty in the context of OIC member countries</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaker from Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) (TBC)
10:45 – 11:00	Q&A	
11:00 – 11:10	Break	
11:10 – 12:45	<p>Panel Discussion: Experiences and Lessons Learnt from South-South and Triangular Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Panelists share case studies of South-South and Triangular projects for poverty reduction initiatives</i> <i>Discussions on challenges, enablers, and best practices</i> <i>Presenting UNOSSC South-South Galaxy Platform as a partnership brokering and knowledge sharing tool for South-South and Triangular Cooperation</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-5 Panel members (TBC) <i>UNOSSC can coordinate for panellist from Network on “Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development”, co-hosted with the Chinese Academy for Social Sciences (CASS), under UNOSSC Global Thinkers Initiative. (Here is the link for information about this network)</i> Presentation of South-South Galaxy by UNOSSC (TBC)
12:45 – 13:00	Q&A and wrap up for Day 1	



Day 2: 17 October 2024

Time (Türkiye, GMT +3)	Session	Facilitator
10:00 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing Mechanisms for South-South and Triangular Cooperation Projects: Exploring funding sources and existing funding windows for South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives Strategies for resource mobilization and partnership development Successful SSTC initiatives in the OIC region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on managed Trust Funds by UNOSSC Trust Funds Team, UNOSSC (TBC) 2-3 Speakers from OIC Members Countries that have received support from the Trust Funds (TBC)
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Breakout session: Mapping South-South and Triangular Cooperation challenges, needs and opportunities for poverty alleviation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Participants work in groups to identify potential South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives (such as integrating South-South and Triangular Cooperation into National Poverty Reduction Strategies, mainstreaming South-South and Triangular Cooperation in policy frameworks, considerations for monitoring, evaluation etc.)</i> <i>Groups present their ideas and receive feedback</i> 	Breakout session Moderators (TBC)
12:00 – 12:10	Break	
12:10 – 12:55	<p>Expanding the Poverty Discourse: Use of Multidimensional Poverty Index in addressing Poverty in OIC Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Presenting the key messages/ findings of the 2023 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), Situating the discussion within the specific context of OIC member countries insights to delve into the multidimensional poverty challenges facing OIC required to address effectively.</i> Presenting MPI Methodology <i>Experience Sharing from OIC Member Countries that have developed national MPIs</i> <p>Q&A</p>	<p>(Sharing suggestions and can be finalized after discussion)</p> <p>By UNDP HDRO (TBC)</p> <p>By UNOSSC (TBC)</p> <p>Speakers from OIC Members Countries (TBC)</p>
12:55 – 13:00	Closing	