IsDB: 50 Years of Championing South-South Cooperation in its Member Countries and Beyond

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As the only Multilateral Development Bank whose membership is entirely drawn from the Global South, the Islamic Development Bank, since its inception, has been championing South-South Cooperation (SSC) in its Member Countries (MCs) and beyond. For over five decades, the Bank has reflected this in its operations by bringing its MCs together to help one another solve common development challenges through various programs that promote trade, investment and technical cooperation among its 57 MCs.

Guided by the principles of South-South Cooperation, the Bank designed the "Reverse Linkage" as a technical cooperation mechanism enabled by the IsDB whereby MCs exchange their knowledge, expertise, technology and resources to develop their capacities and devise solutions for their autonomous development. Through this mechanism, the Bank plays the role of a facilitator and connector to mobilize resources and identify development solutions from across the globe to meet the challenges of its MCs.

In addition, the Bank has been very active in enriching the body of knowledge of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) through new concepts, guidelines and tools. Notable among them is "the National Ecosystem for South-South and Triangular Cooperation".

In commemoration of its 50th anniversary, the Bank would like to seize this opportunity to organize a side event to shed light on its longstanding experience in promoting and championing SSC among its MCs and beyond. This event will be a golden occasion to cherish and highlight the achievements made throughout the journey of the IsDB to a global audience. It will also be an opportunity to express gratitude to all the IsDB MCs who have shown a high sense of solidarity among themselves, especially during challenging times, by sharing their knowledge, expertise and development solutions across a wide range of sectors and thematic areas such as agriculture, health, energy, education, climate change, etc. The objective of this side event is to celebrate the longstanding experience of the IsDB in promoting and advocating for South-South Cooperation within its membership and beyond. It will also provide a platform to exchange views and ideas on the various ways and means to scale up SSC and emphasize the huge potential of SSC to assist the countries from the Global South to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) during this Decade of Action.