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The South-South Experience Exchange Facility



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Strategic Objectives

- Meet immediate operational knowledge gaps of World Bank clients by catalyzing the sharing of country experiences between practitioners
- Document and disseminate lessons learned through a knowledge exchange library





The South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Quick facts about the South-South Facility

- A demand-driven multi-donor Trust Fund to finance South-South experience exchange
- Executed by the World Bank, leveraging Bank expertise, resources, and infrastructure
- A global partnership of traditional and emerging donors
- Sixty-nine grants funded as of spring 2011 at an average size of US\$100,000 sharing knowledge with 52 countries
- Grant-financed exchanges are influencing the design and direction of almost US\$2 billion in World Bank project financing
- Grants disburse and implement within 12 months
- Over half of all completed exchanges have led to the development or implementation of development strategies and policies across sectors
- Exchanges cover a wide range of topics including: Agriculture (fishing and forestry), Education, Finance, Industry and Trade, Public Administration, Law and Justice and more
- Lessons learned are documented and disseminated through a knowledge exchange library

A global partnership

A unique mix of nine partners, which includes five middle income countries, supports the South-South Facility. This global partnership reflects a new trend in development cooperation, with emerging economies playing an increasingly important role in global development practice. In addition to funding the Facility, these partners act as key knowledge providers in Facility-funded grants and

bring their significant experience in development. Together, this diverse group of development partners has much to give as well as gain from one another in their support of effective South-South knowledge exchange. Current partners include: China, Colombia, Denmark, India, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russian Federation, Spain, and the United Kingdom.



Achieving results

- **Thailand, Singapore, and Hong Kong shared their experiences in establishing medical profession licensing systems with Vietnam.** Through a series of study tours, officials from the Vietnamese Ministry of Health learned about the structure, scope, and documentation needs for medical licensing and registration systems. The exchange led to the development of a draft action plan for creating comprehensive systems for new and existing medical professionals in Vietnam.
- **Brazil and Korea share their experiences with Haiti in garment production to strengthen Haiti's economic and investment opportunities.** Under this exchange, several Korean and Brazilian firms visited Haiti to assess potential business opportunities. The participants produced a report on employment and investment opportunities and technology transfer between these countries, which has spurred the development of policies promoting the Haitian apparel sector in Asia and Latin America.
- **Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria shared their experiences in small-scale private irrigation.** To improve agriculture productivity and mitigate drought, agriculture policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders conducted field visits and organized a regional conference to discuss and review small-scale irrigation practices and policies. The exchange led to the development of a “best practice” guide that was highly praised for its contribution to irrigation reform, and 300 conference reports were disseminated to irrigation professionals throughout West Africa.
- **Moldova shared its experience in afforestation and carbon trading with the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.** Public policy officials and forestry specialists from Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic visited Moldova to learn about its successes in soil conservation, community forestry, and the registration of environmental projects through the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism. Moldovan experts held workshops on the challenges of carbon trading, and a video, booklet, and other materials were produced in Russian to inform future initiatives. The Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan have begun to document steps toward implementing carbon trading activities in forest management.
- **Benin and Ethiopia shared their knowledge about alternative options for social safety net/protection with Djibouti** in order to deepen officials' understanding of the challenges in implementing and monitoring public works and cash transfer programs. This exchange started a policy dialogue that was instrumental in Djibouti's decision to plan and design a social safety net and to request the Bank's support in implementing it.

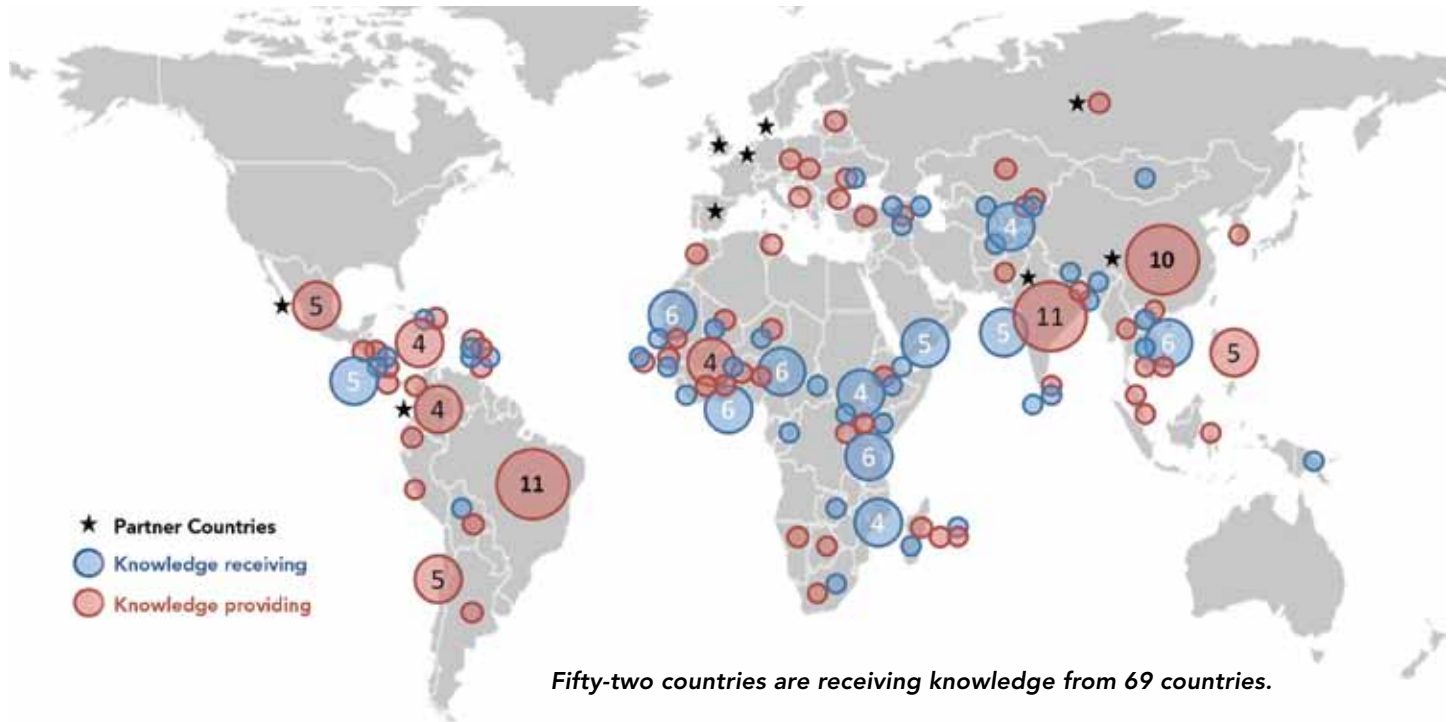
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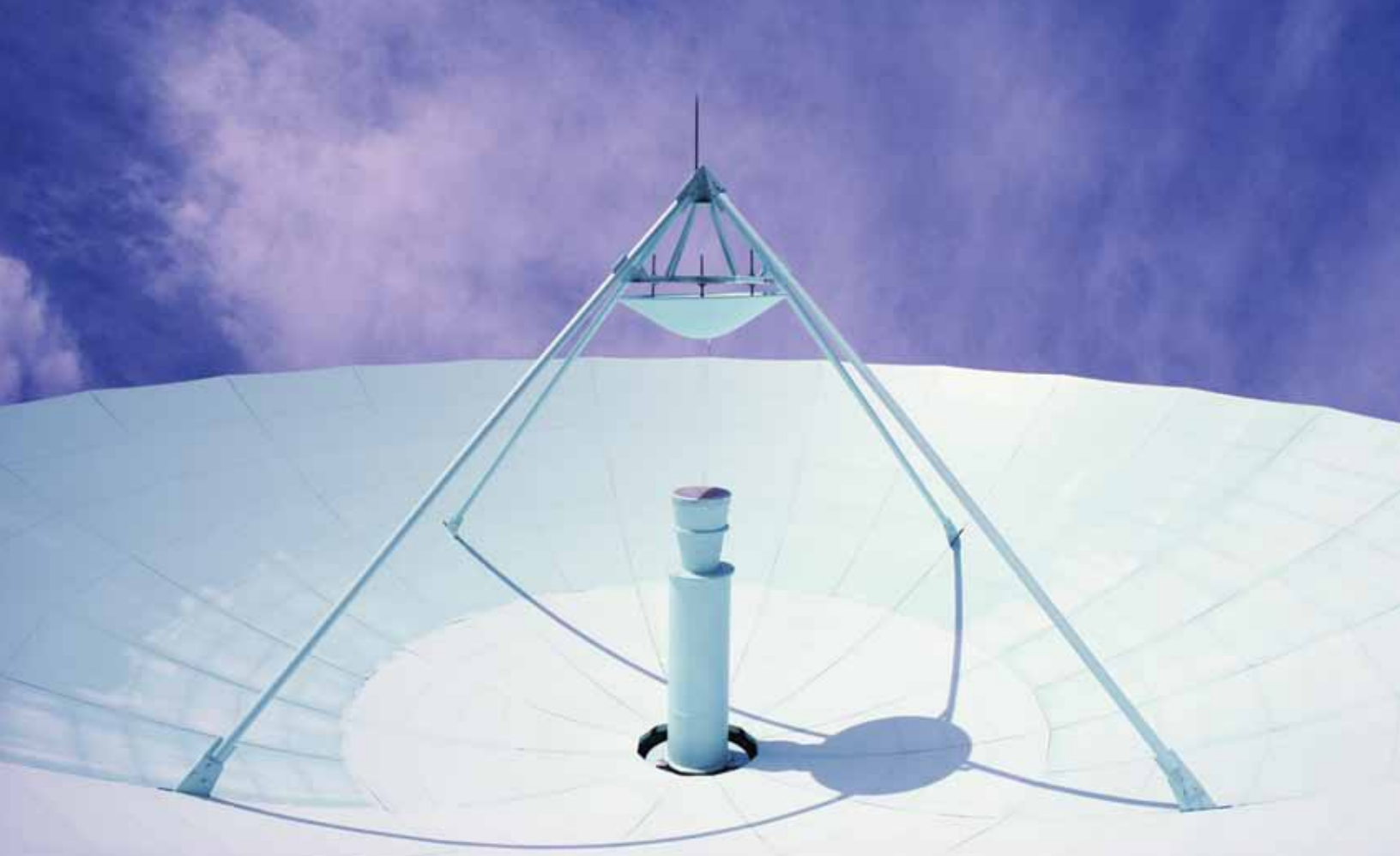
Created in 2008, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is located in the Knowledge Exchange Practice of the World Bank Institute. It provides just-in-time funding for developing countries to share their knowledge and expertise with one another. The Facility contributes to the World Bank's knowledge sharing agenda by drawing directly upon the accumulated expertise of its client countries.

Grant requests are country-driven but administered by the World Bank to facilitate their rapid implementation. The Facility's Oversight Committee, which is composed of World Bank staff, is chaired by Mr. Sanjay Pradhan, Vice President of the World Bank Institute.



Countries receiving or providing knowledge for the South-South Facility





The World Bank Institute (WBI) is a global connector of knowledge, learning, and innovation for poverty reduction. We connect practitioners, networks, and institutions to help them find solutions to their development challenges. With a focus on the 'how' of reform, we link knowledge from around the world and scale up innovations. We work with and through global, regional, and country-based institutions and practitioner networks, to develop customized programs that respond to specific needs. WBI connects globally and delivers locally.

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