

Side Event at the Global South-South Development Expo 2022

Digitalised South-South Cooperation for Zero Hunger

Event date and time: 14 September, 18:30-19:30 (Local time, GMT +7)

Zoom Meeting ID: 947 8193 0534 Passcode: 444385

Context

Digital technologies play an important role in agricultural production and have become an important driving force in alleviating poverty and achieving Zero Hunger. At the same time, the popularity of digital technologies has changed the way knowledge is disseminated and shared, as digital platforms have become an increasingly important way to share knowledge and exchange experiences.

WFP Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation (WFP China COE) upgraded its web-based South-South Cooperation (SSC) Knowledge Sharing Platform and launched "Cloud School" with the aim to create a two-side platform and knowledge hub linking knowledge providers and demanders. Cloud School provides developing countries with China's knowledge, technology and policy references on agricultural development and rural transformation. In addition, WFP China COE leverages the most useful experiences and proven technologies for poverty reduction and rural transformation to broker SSC activities through digitalised working environment and modalities across policy, technical and grass-root level.

Aspects to be explored during this side event will include:

1) Overview of WFP-China SSC Knowledge Sharing Platform and Cloud School function, structure, and impact

WFP-China SSC Knowledge Sharing Platform provides knowledge of China's experiences and solutions in four thematic areas of Value Chain Development for Smallholders, Post-harvest Loss Management and Food Systems, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Resilience, as well as Innovative Poverty Alleviation Initiative, and motivates people in their self-empowerment for food security locally. The Cloud School is embedded in this Platform, which offers an inclusive space and tailored learning programme for learners at all levels. Courses offered in Cloud School reflect WFP China COE's work on the four thematic areas, as well as the value chain development in rice, Juncao and cassava. The main sections of SSC Knowledge Sharing Platform include: Solutions, Policy Reference, Experts, SSC Engagement, Publications and FAQs. As a knowledge hub, the SSC Knowledge Sharing Platform serves an enabling environment for partners to post demands, share solutions and connect with each other for food security, nutrition improvement, poverty reduction and rural transformation. Strategic partners and technical partners of WFP China COE provide policy references, technology and knowledge.

2) Overview of digitalised SSC

a) China's digitalised technologies for poverty reduction and rural transformation

Digital technologies have been used in the production, storage, logistics and retail of agriculture, playing an important role in four areas WFP China COE prioritised, which can improve the efficiency of agricultural production, enhance the quality of agricultural products, and promote the farmers' income, etc.

- Smallholder value chain: Rural informatisation, Rural e-commerce (online business, live streaming marketing), Farmers Information Service, etc.
- Post-harvest Loss Management and Food Systems: IOT for grain reserve management, Information service for smallholders, Smart control of granary/ warehouse system, E-trading platform, Grain bank and digitalized financial services, etc.
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Resilience: Information service, GIS analysis, Remote sensing, Rapid assessment, Drone for emergency response, Digital water saving irrigation, etc.
- Innovative Poverty Alleviation Initiative: Digitalized countryside infrastructure construction, Blockchain for rural poverty reduction, Low-income households identification and registration, etc.

b) Digital management of SSC

Digital SSC is based on the SSC database and makes solutions from knowledge providers accessible, affordable, available, and transparent through formats of webinar and lecture series, virtual tours, and livestreaming.

Objectives

- **Present WFP-China SSC Knowledge Sharing Platform and Cloud School**
- **Introduce digitalised SSC**
 - China's digitalised technologies for poverty reduction and rural transformation
 - Digital management of SSC

Outcomes

- Increase global awareness on WFP China COE's South-South Cooperation Knowledge Sharing Platform and Cloud School as an effective tool for digitalized SSTC
- Promote affordable and effective digital technology for agricultural development and rural transformation
- Present effective approaches for SSTC management and working mechanism

Agenda

- **Moderator:** Dr. Sixi Qu, Representative/ Country Director, WFP China
- **Format:** Zoom.
- **Duration:** 1 Hour
- **Interpretation:** Chinese, English, French, Spanish (optional).

Agenda	Speaking point	Speakers
Introductory Remarks from the Moderator		
2'	Welcome and introduce speakers	Mr. Sixi Qu, Representative/ Country Director, WFP China
Opening Remarks		

5'	- South-South Cooperation innovation enables WFP's global development agenda	Mr. David Kaatrud (Tbc)
5'	- China's digital economy strategy for rural transformation and digitalised South-South Cooperation	Mr. Jianmin Xie, General Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China
Panel:		
3'	Introductory of WFP-China South-South Cooperation Knowledge Sharing Platform	Ms. Yan Jia, Head of South-South Cooperation, WFP China
8'	Rural youth empowerment by novel technology	Mr. Yongwan Hu, Executive Vice President of Central Agricultural Broadcasting and Television School
8'	China's experience in rural transformation by adopting digitalised platforms and tools	Mr. Chongjun Tan, Deputy Director of AliResearch
8'	Overview of digitalised South-South Cooperation	Prof. Xiaolin Wang, Deputy Dean of Institute for Six-Sector Economy of Fudan University/ Executive Director of Shanghai (Fudan University) Institute for Cooperation & Development
Discussion		
8'	Questions from the floor and discussion (Max. 2 questions)	Voices from the audience at the GSSD Expo
Closing remarks		
5'	Technical innovation empowering rural transformation	Mr. Stanlake Samkange (Tbc), Director of Strategic Partnership Division, WFP HQ
	Group Photo	Moderator

Bios



Dr. QU Sixi
Representative/ Country Director
WFP China Office

Dr. Sixi Qu is the Representative/ Country Director of WFP China, who is leading WFP's operation in China and SSC engagement of China COE. Dr. Qu has been deeply engaged in International cooperation and development, global food security and rural development. He has immense experience in bilateral and multilateral agricultural cooperation, technical exchange programmes and technical support. He gains decades of experience for multilateral cooperation with FAO and WFP as well as agricultural exchange with CGIAR, G20, APEC and ESCAP. He joined WFP in April 2016 as Representative/Country Director of WFP China Office.



Mr. David Kaatrud
Director, Programme—Humanitarian and Development Division
World Food Programme

Mr David Kaatrud is WFP's Global Director of Programme and Policy for humanitarian and development action, based in WFP's headquarters in Rome. He leads the organization's work on Climate, Food Systems, Resilience, Peace & Conflict, Protection, Social Protection, Country Capacity Strengthening, South-South and Triangular Cooperation among others. David has been involved in leading humanitarian and development work for the past 30 years, having worked with CARE and OCHA in addition to WFP, with longstanding experience in coordinating operations across the globe. Most recently, David served in Bangkok as WFP's Regional Director for Asia & the Pacific Bureau. Through various senior positions in Emergencies, Assessment & Analysis and Logistics over the years, he has held a lead role in building WFP's internal response capacity, developing key strategic partnerships and strengthening inter-agency coordination. Specifically, as Global Chief of Logistics, he deployed to numerous crises and conflict zones in ex-Yugoslavia, Somalia, Kosovo and East Timor and oversaw major logistics operations in the Caucasus and Central Asia. Later, as Director of Assessment & Analysis, he introduced new economic methodology to poverty and hunger reporting, which included co-leading the UN's efforts in GIS technologies. Beyond WFP, David served as OCHA's Coordination & Response Director in the UN's HQ in New York, supporting UN coordination of multiple crises, including the Haiti Earthquake. In 2010 he rejoined WFP as Director of Emergencies and continued coordinating global crises responses, including Syria. David holds two master's degrees in International Affairs/Economic Development and Urban Planning from Columbia University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He is currently based in Rome, Italy, with his wife and three children.



Dr. Yan Jia
Head of South-South Cooperation
WFP China

Dr. Yan Jia is the Head of South-South Cooperation in United Nations World Food Program China Office, is responsible for coordination of South-South and Triangular Programs including partnership development and implementation in full consultation with stakeholders concerned, and leading case study on, identification and documentation of successful experiences of Centre of Excellence for sharing through WFP's broader corporate knowledge network. Before joining WFP, she was Director in Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, Ministry of Agriculture, People's Republic of China, and has aligned herself with South-South Cooperation for many years. She also had years' experience as consultant for FAO and other organizations with efforts to enhance food security and agricultural sustainability under South-South Cooperation.



Mr. Chongjun Tan
Deputy Director
AliResearch

Mr. Chongjun Tan, PhD of Economics and Master of Laws of Renmin University of China and MSC in Development Economics of Manchester University, is the deputy director of AliResearch Institute of Alibaba Group, the executive director of Society of Public Finance of China, the academic committee member of the Chinese Tax Institute, and a former deputy director-general of the Tax Policy Department of the Ministry of Finance of China.

From 1990 to 2018 when he had been working in the Ministry of Finance of China, he was engaged in the reform of the fiscal and taxation system, the design of tax system programs, the drafting of tax laws and regulations, the research and formulation of tax policies, the quantitative analysis of tax survey data, the international cooperation of taxation, and the planning and design of major national information systems.

Since 2018, he has been engaged in research and policy analysis in the fields of digital economy governance, ESG, small and medium-sized enterprises, finance and taxation, employment, and rural revitalization in the AliResearch Institute.



Prof. Xiaolin Wang

Deputy Dean of Institute for Six-Sector Economy of Fudan University

Executive Director of Shanghai (Fudan University) Institute for Cooperation & Development

Prof. Xiaolin Wang, Professor of Fudan University, used to be the Deputy Director of the Information Center of the State Council Leading Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development, Head of research division of the International Poverty Reduction Center in China, and the professor of Beijing Normal University and visiting scholar at Oxford University. He received his PhD from China Agricultural University in 2003, with a special interest in poverty evaluation, human development, public service and development support. He used to serve in Inner Mongolia Agricultural University, Chinese Academy of Fiscal Sciences, China Academy of science and technology development strategy, and UNICEF. He is the consultant of WB, ADBI, UNDP and UNICEF. He led about 30 important projects entrusted by the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Science and Technology, State Council Leading Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development, and State Administration of Grain of China.



Mr. Stanlake Samkange

Director of Strategic Partnership Division

WFP HQ

Stanlake Samkange serves as the Director of the Strategic Partnership Division of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), a position he assumed on 1 February 2013. From April 2011 to January 2013, he served as Regional Director for East and Central Africa, WFP's largest regional bureau accounting for over 36% of WFP's total operations. From 2008 to 2011 he was the WFP Representative and Country Director in Uganda, managing an operation that included emergency, transition and development responses. From 2003-2007 he served in Rome as WFP Director for Policy, Strategy and Programme Support. Prior to that he served as Director of Research for the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (which coined the "Responsibility to Protect"), and was a Member (Rapporteur) of the Security Council's Panel of Experts set up to investigate the violation of sanctions against UNITA in Angola. Mr. Samkange served in the Office of the Secretary-General as a speechwriter from 1993-1996, and as a Political Officer in the Department of Political Affairs from 1996-1998. He practiced law in Washington DC with Covington & Burling, and was educated at Harvard University (A.B.), Oxford University, and Stanford University Law School (J.D.). He is a national of Zimbabwe.

Mr. Jianmin Xie

	General Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China
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	Mr. Yongwan Hu Deputy Head Central Agricultural Broadcasting and Television School
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