



**RIS**  
Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries  
विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

## DAKSHIN Workshop on Agriculture

### Background

The Prime Minister of India inaugurated DAKSHIN – The Global South Centre of Excellence during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Voice of Global South Summit held virtually on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) hosts DAKSHIN and has been engaging with several think tanks across the Global South countries and formalising DAKSHIN's relationship with them through signing of Letter of Association (LoA). The Prime Minister also announced that DAKSHIN will coordinate an annual international conference of research partners and think tanks.<sup>1</sup> It is proposed to have such a conference in February – March 2024. To initiate collective engagements of think tanks of the Global South in the run up to this conference, DAKSHIN is organising a **virtual workshop** on the **agriculture sector** on **17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**.

The workshop aims to:

1. Discuss innovative solutions, best practices, successful flagship schemes of India & other countries of the Global South in the agriculture sector.
2. Promoting development solutions advocated by these countries for their possible replication and adoption among peer countries of the developing world.
3. Involve think tanks/universities/research institutions in promoting mutual learning, exchange of experiences and good practices among Global South countries.
4. Identifying areas of common interests and institutional collaboration.

Most of the countries of Global South face challenges related to food security of their population, improving farmers yield, manage groundwater level and maintaining nutrient value of the cultivated soil. The workshop will dwell upon these challenges, and would also deliberate upon farmer-centric solutions relevant for crop planning and health, improved access to farm inputs, credit, and insurance. The role of technology in different aspects of

---

<sup>1</sup> The PM stated: From next year, we propose to start an Annual International Conference in India, which will focus on the development priorities of the Global South. The "Dakshin" Centre will coordinate this conference with the partner research centres and think tanks of the Global South, whose main goal will be to identify practical solutions for the development related challenges in the Global South that will strengthen our future.

farming cycle like weather forecasting, soil health indicators, irrigation techniques, seed sowing & harvesting would also be discussed.

In the spirit of ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’, Global South cooperation in agriculture can fast-track food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture with climate smart approach, inclusive agri-value chains and food systems, all of which necessitate digitalization for agricultural transformation. DAKSHIN Workshop on Agriculture will showcase Indian schemes and programmes, and experiences of other countries of the Global South in the following potential areas of cooperation:

1. Food security and nutrition
2. Sustainable, inclusive and climate resilient agriculture
3. Funding agriculture infrastructure
4. Digitization of agricultural markets

### Agenda

<b>DAKSHIN Workshop on Agriculture</b> <b>Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b> <b>5:00 pm – 6:30 pm IST</b>	
5:00 pm – 5:05 pm	Welcome Remarks – Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
5:05 pm – 5:10 pm	Introductory Remarks by Chair – Dr Pramod Kumar Anand, Visiting Fellow, RIS
5:10 pm – 5:20 pm	Keynote Address – Dr Smita Sirohi, Principal Scientist, ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt of India <i>Overview of successful/innovative Indian Agriculture programmes</i>
5:20 pm – 5:30 pm	Discussants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr S R Rao, Member of Governing Council, Society for Technology Management, India</li> <li>• Dr Kalpana Sastry, Managing Director, Ag-Hub Foundation, PJTSAJ, Hyderabad, India</li> </ul> <i>Discussants will discuss the place of the Indian and global initiatives on agriculture in the context of immersive knowledge sharing among the countries of the Global South</i>
5:30 pm – 5:50 pm	Special Remarks – Discussants from selected Think Tanks <i>Challenges in the agriculture sector in the Global South countries; an overview of successful/innovative Agriculture programmes of respective countries</i>
5:50 pm – 6:25 pm	Open Discussion
6:25 pm – 6:30 pm	Vote of Thanks – DAKSHIN, RIS