



Workshop: South-South University  
Cooperation Network



**#POPFESTOAX**  
**Workshop Draft Concept Note**

# **International Conference & POP Festival for Youth-Led Climate Action 2024**

Human Fraternity and Compassion for Universal Peace, People, and the  
Planet

*Oaxaca, Mexico*  
*September 5-6*

## **Background**

South-South cooperation is increasingly recognized as a crucial framework for promoting sustainable development and addressing shared challenges among countries in the Global South. By fostering mutual support and collaboration, nations can capitalize on their collective strengths, share valuable experiences, and pool resources to combat issues such as poverty, inequality, and educational disparities.

The South-South University Cooperation Network (SUCN)—an initiative by UNESCO IESALC and UNOSSC—aims to strengthen international collaboration among universities in the Global South, thereby enhancing educational opportunities for young people. Founded on principles of multilateralism, open science, and sustainability, the network focuses on capacity building through training programs and knowledge exchange. It advocates for policies that address the unique challenges faced by member institutions and promotes collaborative research to tackle both regional and global issues. The network also prioritizes technology and innovation transfer, resource sharing, and the establishment of partnerships to facilitate networking and funding opportunities. By empowering Global South universities through mentorship and capacity-building initiatives, it aspires to create a more equitable and inclusive educational landscape in the Global South.

Today's workshop embodies the same spirit of South-South cooperation. We will organize participants into four themed groups based on the core functions of higher education: teaching



## Workshop: South-South University Cooperation Network



and learning, research, community engagement, and management. Each group will work together to identify three key challenges within their respective areas and propose potential projects that incorporate the principles of South-South cooperation as solutions. In alignment with the theme of the POP conference, we encourage each group to focus on climate-related issues, with at least two of the three identified challenges addressing this critical concern.

## Objective

**Foster Collaboration:** Create a collaborative environment where participants can share experiences and best practices related to South-South cooperation in higher education.

**Identify Challenges:** Enable participants to identify and articulate key challenges faced in teaching and learning, research, community engagement, and management, especially in relation to climate-related issues.

**Develop Actionable Projects:** Guide participants in proposing concrete projects that utilize South-South cooperation principles to address the identified challenges, focusing on innovative and sustainable solutions.

**Enhance Networking Opportunities:** Facilitate the establishment of connections among universities and institutions in the Global South, promoting resource sharing and collaboration beyond the workshop setting.

## Details

- Date: September 6th
- Location: Oaxaca, Mexico
- Time: 90 minutes
- Room capacity: 60 people
- Language: English
- Broadcasted: No

## Agenda



**Workshop: South-South University Cooperation Network**



Time (90 min)	Activity	Details
5 min	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Bosen Lily Liu, Head of Partnership and UN Liaison Unit, UNESCO IESALC
10 min	South South University Cooperation Network Overview	Bosen Lily Liu, Head of Partnership and UN Liaison Unit, UNESCO IESALC
5 min	Q&A	Participants
10 min	Grouping and Consensus making	Participants
40 min	Co-creating solutions	Participants
15 min	Presentations of the solutions	Participants
5 min	Closing	Eliane R. El Haber, Associate Project Officer, Partnership and UN Liaison Unit, UNESCO IESALC

## Expected Outcomes

**Comprehensive Challenge Analysis:** Participants will produce a documented list of the key challenges identified in teaching and learning, research, community engagement, and management, with a focus on climate-related issues.

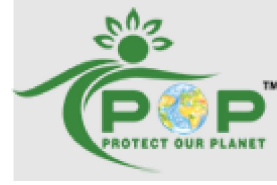
**Collaborative Project Proposals:** Each themed group will generate project proposals that reflect the spirit of South-South cooperation, providing innovative solutions to the challenges identified.

**Action Plan for Networking:** Participants will develop an actionable plan to maintain connections made during the workshop, fostering ongoing collaboration and partnership-building among institutions in the Global South.

**Increased Awareness of South-South Cooperation:** Attendees will leave the workshop with a deeper understanding of South-South cooperation principles, equipped with the knowledge and tools to advocate for collaborative approaches in their respective institutions and communities.



## Workshop: South-South University Cooperation Network



## Target Audience

- University administrators, academics and researchers, students and young scholars, NGOs and civil society organizations, policymakers and government representatives, international organizations and donors, technology and innovation experts, and community leaders & stakeholders.



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