



UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative supported program in Nepal wins GSSD Expo Leadership Award

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Nairobi, Kenya - The Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo), a UN system-wide global high-profile event, took place in Nairobi, Kenya, from October 28-November 01. The overarching theme of the Expo was on 'Building inclusive green economies—South-South Cooperation for sustainable development and poverty eradication'. This theme facilitated an exchange of country experiences on green economy among Southern countries that have contributed to economic development, decent job creation, and poverty eradication at the global, regional, national and local levels.

At the closing ceremony, attended by high-level representatives from Governments and UN agencies, the annual South-South Cooperation Awards were presented to individuals and organizations that have been prominent champions of South-South cooperation. Many strong and innovative solution nominations from around the world, were assessed on eight key attributes (1) Southern priority/demand driven; (2) Southern ownership; (3) Southern leadership; (4) broad-based partnership; (5) innovation; (6) efficiency; (7) sustainability; and (8) scalability. The Expo conferred particular recognition on those solutions that stand out as global in scope, reach, and impact, and exemplary of the most important elements of South-South cooperation – Innovation, Partnership, and Leadership.

The GSSD Expo 2013 Annual Leadership Award for South-South Cooperation was awarded to the Government of Nepal's National Planning Commission and Ministry of Local Development, for its exemplary and innovative work on the "Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review", supported jointly by UNDP and UNEP through the Poverty-Environment Initiative(PEI). The award is in recognition of the strong southern leadership from the Government Ministries and the positive impact of its solution in Nepal as well as in other countries. Mr. Gopi Nath Mainali, Joint Secretary (Division Chief of Infrastructure Development) of the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal, received the award from H.E. Mr. John W. Ashe, President, sixty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Achim Steiner, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Mr. Yiping Zhou, Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

The joint UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative is a global programme that supports country-led efforts to mainstream poverty-environment linkages into national development and sub-national development planning, from policymaking to budgeting, implementation and monitoring. With both financial and technical support, PEI works with key government partners to raise awareness, influence policy making and strengthen the mainstreaming of poverty-environment into budget processes, sector programmes and sub-national planning. The overall aim is to bring about lasting institutional change and to catalyse key actors to increase investment in pro-poor environmental and natural resource management. South-South Cooperation is therefore a key element of PEI's programmatic approach.

More info at www.unpei.org

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