



UNEP

BUILDING INCLUSIVE GREEN ECONOMIES

# BUILDING INCLUSIVE GREEN ECONOMIES

A photograph of a person, likely a woman, walking through a lush green field. She is carrying a large, shallow basket or bowl balanced on her head. The field is divided into sections by dark, possibly water-filled, channels. In the background, there are rolling hills under a clear sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of rural life and agriculture.

**SUCCESS STORIES  
FROM SOUTH-SOUTH  
COOPERATION**

This publication was produced for the United Nations South-South Development Expo, which is being hosted by UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya, from 28 October to 1 November 2013.

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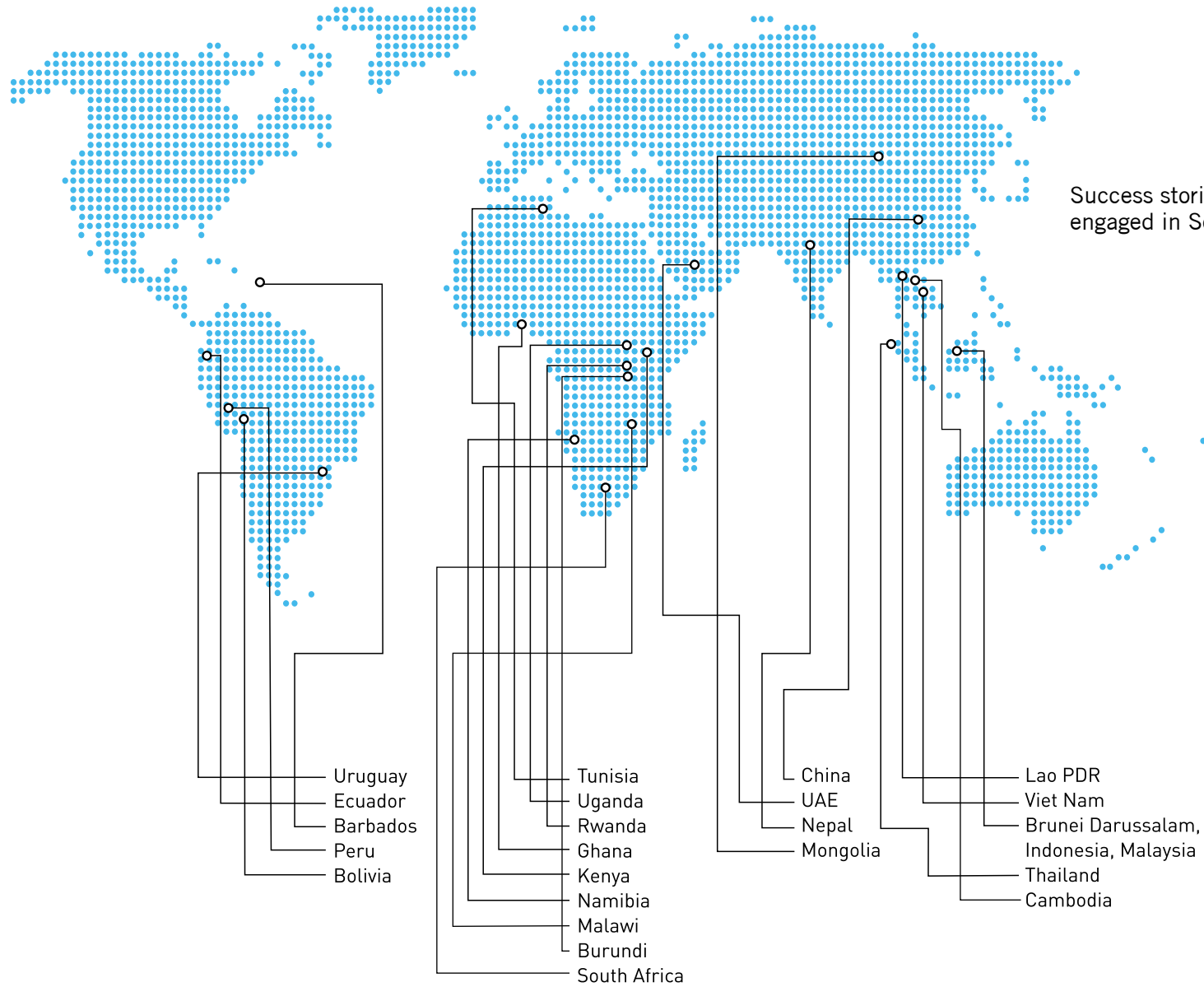
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# Foreword

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UNEP is increasingly inspired by the global commitments from countries, as well as tangible examples of cooperation between governments and the private sector, to accelerate the transition to an inclusive, low-carbon green economy.

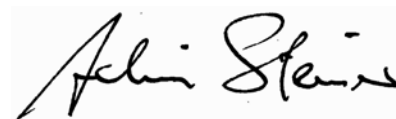
While the world is facing unprecedented population growth, greenhouse gas emissions and economic inequality that can challenge all nations but particularly developing countries and economies in transition, many of these countries are responding by establishing new alliances, bold strategies and innovative solutions that are enabling them to adapt and thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Whether it is China's pioneering partnerships with business to build model green cities under its new eco-civilization approach, or regional efforts by African countries to green key economic sectors like agriculture and energy, these efforts demonstrate the potential benefits that can be achieved – from the creation of green jobs and energy efficiencies to greater food security and general well-being.

South-South Cooperation can be a catalyst for delivering environmental capacity building and technology support to developing countries and regions in the South that wish to make a transition to a green economy. Such cooperation is also critical for replicating and scaling up these successful initiatives.

On behalf of the United Nations and its partners, UNEP is proud to host the 2013 South-South Development Expo, which will explore "Inclusive Green Economies: South-South Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication". This publication highlights some of the examples that will be presented at the Expo, as well as a host of other initiatives that bear witness to the enormous potential in the South to contribute to our global development agenda.

By working together, we can achieve the Future We Want.



ACHIM STEINER  
UNEP Executive Director  
United Nations Under-Secretary General

By working together, we can achieve the Future We Want



# 1 Introduction

Drawing on shared economic, environment and social aspirations, South-South Cooperation is increasingly playing a key role in identifying solutions to today's sustainable development challenges, as well as delivering new ideas and resources to advance the global transformation to an inclusive green economy. Moreover, it is widely recognized as an effective way for countries to advance their green economies.

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) meeting in 2012, the final declaration, *The Future We Want*, called on the UN System and other international organizations to assist developing countries, and especially least developed countries, in developing resource efficient and inclusive economies through capacity building, including through South-South Cooperation.

Following that decision, in February 2013, the UNEP Governing Council adopted a resolution, recognizing the "different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development."

been providing the latest economic research, policy advice and fiscal tools to countries, as well as facilitating dialogues and training. Just recently, UNEP and three other UN agencies launched the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) to ensure that countries receive a full range of assistance as they develop their green economy strategies.

This report highlights how the partnerships between countries in the South are contributing to a global paradigm shift. It provides a snapshot of a myriad of projects and activities that are sparking new concepts, financing, technology, standards and momentum for change.

The report shows how countries and other actors are pursuing initiatives to green key sectors of the economy – from agriculture and energy to manufacturing and waste – while sharing their knowledge and experiences with others, so they can also reap the benefits as well.

More importantly, the experiences presented are being scaled-up and replicated, thus positioning other developing countries on a more sustainable development

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