

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity-building for Sustainable Development in the NEAC

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Capacity-building is the integral part of the means of implementation of the 2030 agenda as well as Addis Ababa Action Agenda and knowledge sharing is an indispensable element of capacity-building for sustainable development. The 2030 agenda (17.9) underlines enhancing international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all sustainable development goals. In this context, knowledge sharing for sustainable development among the North-East Asian countries can be very contributive to capacity-building in developing countries through North-South, South-South and triangular development cooperation.

The old-aged jargon of capacity-building is defined as means by which skills, experience, technical and management capacity are developed within an organizational structure, often through the provision of technical assistance(OECD), and the fundamental goal of capacity building is to enhance the ability to evaluate and address the crucial questions related to policy choices and modes of implementation among development options, based on an understanding of environment potentials and limits and of needs perceived by the people of the country concerned (UNCED). UNDP emphasize capacity-building as the creation of an enabling environment with appropriate policy, legal frameworks, institutions and human resources development and recognizes capacity building as a long-term, continuing process, in which all stakeholders participate (ministries, local authorities, NGOs, professional associations, academics and others). It focuses on a series of actions directed at helping participants in the development process to increase their knowledge, skills and understandings and to develop the attitudes needed to bring about the desired developmental change (FAO).

NEAC as 'recipient-turned-donor' countries have common but diverse development experiences, knowledge as well as development institutions, systems, and human resources that can be useful for the capacity-building for sustainable development in the developing countries. Different from the traditional donors, their norms and colonial legacy, the North-East Asian countries can provide STI knowledge platform and contribute to capacity-building of the developing countries to implement SDGs. Regional partnership among the NEAC can be strengthened through harmonized capacity-building and knowledge sharing programs for sustainable development. The Korean 'Knowledge Sharing Program' (KSP) and all kinds of technical assistance program including overseas volunteer program, scholarship, training, consulting and the other technical cooperation programs of Japan, China and Russia should be harmonized and aligned to SDGs and its targets to support capacity-building of the developing countries and ultimately to transform our world.