

Regional Consultation on South-South Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific

“Towards Buenos Aires 40th Anniversary”

27-29 June 2018, Bangkok, UNCC



**South-South Cooperation in Asia
and the Pacific – a brief overview**
Day 3: Asia-Pacific Forum for South-South
and Triangular Cooperation

Survey on South-South Cooperation



- ESCAP and UNOSCC conducted survey to map South-South and triangular cooperation modalities, institutions, policies, priorities and focus countries in the region
- Responses from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Thailand and Vietnam
- Supplemented by analysis of secondary sources on South-South cooperation initiatives of China, India and Turkey
- Informal discussion paper to stimulate discussion
- Presentation will focus on:
 - Briefly present the outcomes of the analysis
 - Issues for discussion

South-South cooperation national strategies



- Appear as part of the national development cooperation strategies, for example:
 - Bangladesh - **National Policy on Development Cooperation** to facilitate a coherent and integrated institutional and policy approach to foreign assistance
 - China - **Second White Paper on Foreign Aid** - referring to training programmes, experience-sharing and trilateral programmes
 - Indonesia - **Development cooperation strategy** focuses on South-South cooperation putting forward priority sectors and countries and aid management
 - Thailand - **development cooperation strategy** covering some 150 countries world-wide, utilizing its domestic expertise, tailored to the SSC users' needs

South-South cooperation national institutional mechanisms



- National institutional mechanisms:
 - Stand-alone dedicated agencies:
 - TICA in Thailand (MFA); TIKA in Turkey (PM office); AIDA in Azerbaijan (MFA); KOICA in the Rep. of Korea (MFA); China in the process of setting up an agency
 - Units under the Ministries of Foreign Affairs:
 - India, Indonesia
 - Units under other ministries:
 - Bangladesh – Ministry of Finance
 - Several agencies sharing the oversight:
 - China - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Commerce (+ others)

South-South cooperation modalities



- Financial
 - China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep. of) and Thailand provided financial assistance bilaterally or in cooperation with international agencies
- Experts/knowledge/Training
 - All countries provided expertise and training in some form or the other
- Advisory services
 - Most countries provided advisory services
- Study visits
 - Most countries provided study visits
- Technology transfer
 - Most countries provided technology transfer

South-South cooperation Priorities



- Sectoral
 - Macroeconomics and finance; security; environment; water; waste; climate change; energy; disaster risk reduction; agriculture; food security; rural and urban development; connectivity (transport, trade and ICT), social development; gender and women empowerment; health; community development
- Regional
 - Asia-Pacific, Africa, Pacific Island countries, Latin America and Caribbean, ASEAN, Middle East
- Countries
 - LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, CLMV, Fragile States, G-77

Key challenges identified



Providers

1. Insufficient national legal and institutional frameworks
2. Limited coordination & knowledge-sharing
3. Limited measurement
4. Insufficient funding

Users

1. Limited information on technical assistance and human capacity development, including project formulation
2. Insufficient technology transfer
3. Limited access to financial resources
4. Lack of measurement and data availability

Some solutions identified (1)



- Improve coordination at national, regional and global levels
- At the national level:
 - Mainstreaming the South-South cooperation into the national development policy and agenda
 - Countries with existing national development/South-South cooperation institutions could consider creating coordination mechanisms involving other government agencies, and other stakeholders
 - Countries could share their experience and knowledge with other countries on their South-South cooperation institutional models.

Some solutions identified (2)



- At the regional level:
 - Coordination and collaboration could be improved through establishing a network or forum of the heads of the national agencies of international development cooperation – a regional DG Forum for South-South cooperation
 - A platform for learning from one another – “**South-South cooperation for the South-South cooperation**” – through exchanging experience and good practice on the institutional mechanisms.
- Complete the online questionnaire, so that we have a more complete database, available at:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4126557/South-South-Cooperation-Modalities-in-the-Asia-Pacific-Region>

UNOSSC Evaluation



- The UNOSSC conducted a South-South cooperation needs assessment survey
- The survey identified the following broad areas, where the support was needed:
 - Legal and institutional frameworks for South-South cooperation
 - National level institutional management and coordination mechanisms
 - Project management
 - Human resources skills
 - Communication skills and technology



Sub-themes of PABA+40

- Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation
- Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation
- Sharing of experiences, best practices and success stories
- Scaling up the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in support of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

Issues for consideration



1. Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
 - As a provider of technical assistance
 - As a user of technical assistance
2. Challenges of South-South cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
 - As a provider of technical assistance
 - As a user of technical assistance
3. Strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
 - What roles/functions could a DG Forum play/undertake in Asia and the Pacific
 - Opportunities for financing South-South cooperation and DG Forum
 - Partnership with other stakeholders
4. Sharing of experiences, best practices, success stories in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in Asia and the Pacific



Brainstorming exercise

Brainstorming exercise (1)



- One idea per card
- Write clearly
- All ideas welcome
- Stick them on the boards
- We will try to group the issues under each issue
- Discussions on each group of issues
- Hopefully arrive at some key conclusions and ideas on the way forward

Brainstorming exercise (2)



1. Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation in Asia and the Pacific;
 - As a provider of technical assistance (green)
 - As a user of technical assistance (pink)
2. Challenges of South-South cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
 - As a provider of technical assistance (green)
 - As a user of technical assistance (pink)

Brainstorming exercise (3)



3. Strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in Asia and the Pacific (yellow)

- What roles/functions could a DG Forum play/undertake in Asia and the Pacific
- Opportunities for financing South-South cooperation and DG Forum
- Partnership with other stakeholders

4. Sharing of experiences, best practices, success stories in promoting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in Asia- Pacific (blue) <write your name/country as well>



Thank you