



United Nations

Office for South-South Cooperation

Introduction

- Read with Interest the Background paper prepared for this Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs for the Decade 2014-2024 in the Euro-Asian Zone;
- Confess to having learnt a lot about both the Programme of Action and the centrality of South-South and triangular cooperation, appreciate this opportunity to be part of it;
- Two regional Offices of UNOSSC work with the countries in the Euro-Asia LLDCs; Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe and Arab States.

What Can South-South Cooperation Contribute.

1. The disadvantage of Land-locked developing countries is lack of access to transport that can facilitate trade.
2. The countries have neighbours with such access;
3. Mutual benefit and idea of public goods drives South-South Cooperation.
4. Principle of solidarity/leaving no one behind;
5. In the paper, mentioned and expounded on in the context of Regional Cooperation.
6. Asian South-South Mapping study showed South-South Cooperation cutting across all sectors, economy, political, culture, peacemaking and conflict prevention etc. Connectivity was a central integration strategy including people connectivity.
7. The idea of regional public goods. There are statistics that countries connected by Belt and Road have already increased trade among themselves.



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Buenos Aires + 40

1. Increasing role of Southern providers;
2. (d) Note with concern , increase in debt levels in many developing countries/address debt sustainability.



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Conclusion

1. Promote interregional exchanges
2. Address teething problems of South-South Cooperation e.g. prospects of rising indebtedness.
3. CDF working with countries: Diaspora Bonds for investment in own countries.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead



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