

Learning from South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Sharing Knowledge for Development

Bogotá, Colombia
September 26-28, 2011

WORKSHOP CONCEPT NOTE



I. Objective

This workshop aims to be a space for key partners gathered around South-South and Triangular Cooperation to discuss and enrich the proposals to be presented during the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, in Busan, Korea, November 29 - December 1, 2011:

- Policy recommendations and main messages for the Busan Outcome document.
- Good practices for the establishment of Horizontal Partnerships, based on evidence from 31 case studies and more than 150 case stories on South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

At the same time, the workshop is expected to be an opportunity for all participants to:

- Discuss and coordinate the strategy to ensure that the Busan Outcome Document adequately reflects the group's main proposals and recommendations, including at the regional level.
- Coordinate and prepare the activities of a *building block* on South-South Cooperation (SSC) during the HLF-4. The building block is a coalition of partners that will work actively and coordinately during the negotiations to make sure that the practice of South-South Cooperation and the paradigm of Horizontal Partnerships can effectively impact the global development agenda in the coming years.
- Review, in close collaboration with practitioners and academia, the recommendations prepared by the TT-SSC, UNDP, the World Bank and OECD for the knowledge-sharing pillar of the G20 Development Working Group.
- Engage in an inter-regional dialogue with TT-SSC academic partners and regional platforms in compliance with the [Bangkok Call](#).
- Start the discussions around the future of the South-South Agenda and Knowledge Sharing for Development Effectiveness in a post-Busan scenario.

II. Background: South-South Cooperation in the Road to Busan.

- Based on the agreements reached in the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) in September 2009, and the results of the High Level Event on South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development (Bogotá, Colombia March 2010), hundreds of practitioners, policy makers and academics around the world have intensified the debate and analysis, including at the regional level, around the benefits of sharing knowledge and experiences on development among Southern countries and its potential to build 'Horizontal Partnerships', such as those identified in certain South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives.
- This has been an evidence-based and action-oriented debate which main objectives are: (a) to provide methodological tools and issue concrete recommendations to take full advantage of the potential of SSC, and (b) to ensure that global forums such as the OECD High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, the G20 and the UN Development Cooperation

Forum recognize the need to learn more and systematically from the development experiences of MICs and other Southern countries.

- Since September 2009, the TT-SSC, in team with its regional platforms, has coordinated an unparalleled process of collaboration and feedback that engages policy makers, practitioners and academia to identify: (a) the contribution of SSC to the global development agenda, (b) the lessons that South-South Cooperation can learn from traditional aid, and (c) synergies between North-South and SSC, with Triangular Cooperation acting as a bridge between them.
- The process has resulted in the creation of an important analytical stock of 31 case studies, conducted by more than 25 academic institutions from developing countries, and more than 150 case stories prepared by governments, civil society and multilateral organizations.
- Besides the analytical work, a series of regional workshops and international meetings in Latin America and the Caribbean (Barbados, October 2010; Guatemala, November 2010 and Mexico, January 2011), Asia-Pacific (Korea, November 2010; Indonesia, February 2011; Thailand, June 2011), Africa (South-Africa, May 2011) and Europe (Paris, October 2010 and June 2011), have gathered the TT-SSC stakeholders as well as more than 1200 members engaged in the virtual Community of Practice (<http://www.southsouth.org>) to analyze and discuss the evidence generated along this process in order to extract best practices, policy recommendations and lessons learned.
- Among the preliminary evidence and messages emerging from the case studies and stories, stands out the concept of “Horizontal Partnership” which reflects a new way of doing development cooperation that suits better the needs and interests of Southern countries. “Horizontal Partnerships”, when established through SSC, are generally based on four pillars that describe the relation between partners willing to share their development experiences: (1) trust, (2) equity, (3) mutual benefit and (4) long-term relationships.
- The expected commitment from participants in Busan to promote the establishment of “Horizontal Partnerships” will open up an important space to debate “the how” of development cooperation and the way it can be adapted to a changing architecture, where many emerging countries and regions have become active players.
- Other key messages include the need to develop capacities in Southern countries for information management, management for results and accountability. To that end, the TT-SSC proposes the design of capacity development plans at local, country and regional levels, as well as the development of guidelines, a sphere where multilateral organizations have a key role to play as catalysts of country-led exchanges.
- In this context, the governments of Colombia and Indonesia, accompanied by a coalition of countries and organizations belonging to the WP-EFF, expressed to the Secretariat their interest to lead a *building block* on SSC and Knowledge Sharing at the Busan HLF 4. A more detailed proposal to be formally presented to the WP-EFF Secretariat in September is being prepared. This coalition of countries and organizations is committed to give to SSC a prominent role in Busan. It is possible by the time of the workshop in Bogota the WP-EFF

Secretariat has already sent some feedback on the submitted proposal so discussions might elaborate on it.

- The workshop “Learning from South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Sharing Knowledge for Development” will therefore be a unique opportunity to take stock of the advancements made in the past 2 years, to prepare a robust and coordinated participation at the Busan HLF-4 and to start a multi-stakeholder conversation on the next steps in order to continue advancing this agenda among the broad development community in a post-Busan scenario.
- Furthermore, the workshop will provide a space to strengthen and consolidate the *building block* coalition by providing a forum for its members to coordinate actions, messages and logistical requirements for a dynamic participation in the HLF-4, while welcoming new memberships.

III. Participants

The workshop will gather key partners engaged in the South-South and Triangular Cooperation. Agenda. Particularly, the following groups:

- **Country representatives.** Policy makers in charge of international cooperation from different countries,
- **Representatives from global and regional multilateral organizations.** Multilateral Organizations officials from DAC countries, particularly those actively engaged in promoting South-South and Triangular initiatives.
- **South-South Cooperation Practitioners,** involved in the case studies process coordinated by the TT-SSC.
- **Representatives from civil society organizations** involved in SSC initiatives
- **Subject-matter experts** from Southern academic institutions in charge of conducting case studies or signatories of the Bangkok Call.
- Members of the **Technical Secretariat of the Task Team on South-South Cooperation,** including regional focal points.

IV. Methodology

All sessions will focus on clearly defined outputs and must appoint a leader in charge of preparing, coordinating and providing guidance to the debates. Sessions will follow the following structure: (a) Presentation of preliminary versions of documents to be discussed (drafts) (b) debate around key aspects, political considerations and necessary adjustments, (c) conclusions and recommendations.

Each session will be facilitated and prepared by one of the attendants, who will be joined by keynote speakers (5 min) and a presenter of the draft document or practical cases. The facilitator will moderate the session and the debate, and together with the keynote speaker will generate the conclusions of the segment. All facilitators will be contacted in advance to request their participation and prepare the sessions with the support of the Technical Secretariat.

V. Preliminary Agenda*

Day 1 – September 26		Draft documents for discussion
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Opening and welcome remarks</p> <p>Session 1. Building good practices to improve quality of South-South and Triangular Cooperation</p> <p>Presentation. The Task Team process to build good practices based on evidence for Busan and the G20.</p> <p>Debate. How to set-up Horizontal Partnerships? What the evidence says.</p>	<p>Good practices paper (Based on evidence from 31 case studies and more than 150 case stories on SSC and TrC).</p>
2:00 – 6:00 PM	<p>Debate. South-South and Triangular Cooperation as a tool for developing capacities</p> <p>Session 2. Producing policy recommendations for Busan.</p> <p>Presentation: TT-SSC proposal for the Busan Outcome Document and position papers from regional platforms and other groups</p> <p>Presentation: Position Papers briefs.</p> <p>Debate: How to consolidate sound political messages to be included in the Busan Outcome Document?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Busan Outcome Document - Draft Policy Recommendations for Busan - Regional / other groups position papers
Day 2 – September 27		
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Session 3: How SSC is expected to be discussed at the Busan HLF4</p> <p>Presentation of options to discuss SSC in Busan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building block 2. Side event 3. Knowledge and Innovation Space. <p>Debate: who can do what to ensure a high level, regionally balanced and sound participation of SSC partners?</p> <p>Session 4. Looking at the Post-Busan Scenario: The way ahead towards 2015</p> <p>Debate. How a post Busan agenda on South-South Cooperation should look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building block proposal - Side Event Concept Note and Agenda - Knowledge and Innovation Space Application
2:00 – 4:00 PM	<p>Session 5. How to improve the impact of Knowledge Sharing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the recommendations submitted to the G20 Development Working Group - Debate. How to refine and deepen the recommendations to be brought to the Cannes Meeting? <p>Closing remarks.</p>	<p>Scaling Up Knowledge sharing for Development- A Working Paper for the G-20 Development Working Group, Pillar 9</p>

*Agenda for the activities programmed for September 28 will be sent in the coming days.