

Workshop

“Learning from South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Sharing Knowledge for Development”

Bogotá, Colombia, 26/27 September, 2011.

Conclusions

1. 140 members from governments, international organizations, civil society, practitioners and academia met in Bogotá, Colombia, on 26/27 September 2011, to take stock of the current debate on South-South and triangular cooperation and to discuss the way ahead. The Task Team South-South (TT-SSC) presented a Good Practice Paper on South-South and Triangular cooperation that is based on broad-based evidence collected and systematized since 2009. In rich discussions reflecting the diversity of horizontal partnerships, participants agreed on the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation and highlighted that the findings and recommendations of the TT-SSC should be reflected in the outcome document, the plenary discussion, the side events of the upcoming Fourth High-Level Forum (HLF₄) on Aid Effectiveness in Busan from 29 November to 1 December 2011, and the post-HLF₄ Building Block on South-South cooperation.

The following conclusions might be considered as options for action of policy-makers participating in the preparations of the HLF₄.

2. **Draft Busan Outcome Document.** Participants acknowledged that the 2nd draft of the Busan Outcome Document now includes the concepts of South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Knowledge Sharing. However, there is still an opportunity to sharpen the message by
 - a. Referring to South-South and triangular cooperation in the title of the corresponding section of the document;
 - b. Emphasizing the need to invest in the capacity of countries to engage in SSC;
 - c. Fully recognizing the cross-cutting nature of SSC as a modality to address multiple pressing development challenges;
 - d. Calling for the support and facilitator role that multilateral organizations, as well as regional and sub-regional platforms, can play in this country-led agenda;
 - e. Stating that Development Cooperation should build on lessons learnt from SSC and include the elements of equity, trust, mutual benefit and long-term engagement as key dimensions of any development partnership.
3. **Draft Agenda for HLF₄ in Busan.** Participants welcomed the inclusion of South-South Cooperation in the draft agenda for the HLF₄. In addition:
 - a. There was a firm interest in taking a lead role in the organization of the proposed thematic session on South-South Cooperation;

- b. There was a strong call for a side event dedicated to the presentation of the results of the analytical work of the TT-SSC, marking the conclusion of the TT-SSC mandate.

- 4. **Building Block on South-South Cooperation.** Participants welcomed the pre-selection of South-South Cooperation as a post-HLF₄ Building Block and highlighted the immediate readiness of countries and institutions to undertake coordinated actions to take it forward. They also encouraged the creation of concrete synergies with other thematic building blocks. They recognized the importance to engage all relevant actors -including policy-makers, practitioners, civil society and Southern academia- and a broad set of developing countries, including emerging economies, to help shape a common agenda for South-South Cooperation towards 2015 and beyond.