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Development Cooperation Review (DCR) aspires to capture holistic narrative around global development cooperation and fill an important knowledge gap towards theorisation, empirical verification and documentation of Southern-led development cooperation processes. Despite growing volumes of development partnerships around the Southern world, there remains an absence of detailed information, analysis and its contribution to global development processes. Even though there have been sporadic efforts in documenting some of the activities, a continuous effort in chronicling the diverse experiences in South-South Cooperation (SSC) is still absent. RIS has endeavoured to launch DCR, a monthly periodical, to fill this gap.

DCR is designed to bring policy-makers, officials, researchers, academics and the development practitioners onto a global platform to share their ideas, experiences and concerns vis-a-vis development cooperation. The periodical would further allow us to feature special write-ups, analyses, opinion pieces, commentaries and in general the South’s take on the emerging narratives of global architecture of development cooperation, including ODA.

The necessity of a publication that analysis development cooperation landscape through a Southern lens cannot be overemphasised, given the prevailing practice of looking at SSC from a typical Northern perspective. Through this publication, readers can keep themselves abreast of efforts carried out worldwide and also with the latest information about diversified efforts at development cooperation. The periodical will review and analyse bilateral/ multilateral cooperation efforts, highlight key developments and issues in SSC and other narratives of development cooperation, besides underlining their discernible trends and patterns. In the evolving narrative on SSC, different modalities and divergent ideas are emerging.

The establishment of Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) South-based Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) and involving active participation of scholars and practitioners in development cooperation may be considered a welcome invitation to the quest for understanding the achievements and taking care of the challenges facing the present architecture of global development cooperation in general and South-South Cooperation (SSC) in particular. The need for a platform like DCR that would facilitate open dialogue among the stakeholders was felt ever since these two organisations were in place. It is felt that DCR will fill the existing vacuum to a larger extent.
Editorial

Continuing with the spirit of having special articles, perspectives, conference reports, book reviews and statistics on South-South Cooperation (SSC), Development Cooperation Review is out with its fourth issue. In this issue, the first article is on South-South and triangular knowledge cooperation on sustainability standards. The write-up highlights interests of the South in sustainability standards. The authors also talk about the challenges at national and international levels in formulating policy responses. The second write-up of the section discusses the role of Mexico in combating climate change through SSC. The article presents details regarding the alarming situation where Mexico is slated to experience major increase in temperature over the next decade, that is reckoned with significantly higher than the global average. The article proposes a Green SSC initiative and elucidates the Mexican experience in this regard.

The third special article is on the case study of West African Gas Pipeline Project. The article discusses objective of the project, the project description, capacity of the pipeline, project benefits, and challenges, ending with ownership and project sponsorship. The penultimate special article is on SSC initiatives of Brazil. The article highlights the sector specificity of Brazilian development cooperation, followed by the operational and institutional mechanism in the country towards South-South projects. The last special article discusses the case study of the North-South Railway Corridor Railways and Connections in South Africa. The article relates the developmental project with the African ethos of Ubuntu (“I am; because we are”).

The next section of the DCR is dedicated to our on-going ‘Lexicon and Syntax’ series on development cooperation. This issue talks about the institutional heterogeneity in development cooperation and carries forward the debate of premise control in the post-Paris declaration phase from the previous issue.

The conference report section of DCR discusses the key points of deliberations at the Regional Consultation on South-South Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific held on 27-29 June, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok. DCR then takes up the book review of “South-South Cooperation Beyond the Myths: Rising Donors, New Aid Practices?” edited by Isaline Bergamaschi, Phoebe Moore and Arlene B. Tickner.

In the Ambassador’s perspective section, development cooperation projects and initiatives between India and Myanmar have been explored in a detailed manner. We are thankful to Vikram Misri for his contribution.

The fourth issue of DCR concludes with the ‘SSC in Statistics’ section that emphasises on domestic security market in the South.
Voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) are exerting a growing influence on domestic markets and global value chains. Three main factors drive the evolution of product-specific labels and certification schemes. First, more affluent consumers – be that in advanced economies or among the expanding middle-class in developing and middle-income countries – increasingly look out for “clean” or “green” goods and services, which meet certain social, labour, environmental and health criteria (Pande, 2017). Second, the corporate sector has discovered the value of VSS for supply chain management, competitive advantage and reputational protection. Finally, responding to societal concerns and political targets, not least so with regard to implementing the Agenda 2030, public procurement in South and North has begun to incorporate sustainability considerations.

This text addresses the burgeoning interest of the South in voluntary or, as some say, private sustainability standards. It highlights multi-stakeholder efforts to establish national VSS platforms, assisted by the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards (UNFSS). South-South and triangular knowledge cooperation within the Managing Global Governance (MGG) Network has played an important role in facilitating such progress. In conclusion, we discuss challenges for VSS at the national and the international level and formulate appropriate policy responses.

Shift of attitudes in the South
The rapid growth of VSS has created a veritable standards jungle where consumers, producers, traders and public authorities have great difficulties in orienting themselves. Globally, there are more than 500 product labels promising sustainability, thereby also seeking...
to distinguish themselves from competing products. The assessment of their impact and the comparability of schemes are impaired by a lack of transparency and incomplete empirical evidence (ISEAL, 2018). Sustainability claims of individual companies which are not backed up by independent third-party verification add further layers of complexity to the puzzle. In this discussion, we find differing perspectives between the Global South and North. Historically, Southern countries have rejected voluntary/private standards conceived in the North as protectionist tools, which act as barriers to trade. Observers point also to the discriminatory effects of VSS on micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) which play a dominant role in less industrialised economies (Sommer, 2017).

The sceptical, often outright hostile, attitudes in the South have, of late, given way to more nuanced perspectives and we can observe convergence on some points. Southern countries, and particularly rising powers, now want to participate in shaping VSS according to their development needs. The paradigm shift can be understood as a countermeasure to the unfettered liberalisation of world trade, which has led to unfair and harmful social and ecological competition. From this point of view, VSS are not seen through the lens of individual enterprises and their supply chains, but rather as policy instruments which should serve the societal objectives of macro-economic transformation. Evidence for the fundamental change of opinion in the South can be identified in the setting up of multi-stakeholder forums, which are meant ensure that VSS align with national priorities while achieving sustainability outcomes. A remarkable aspect in all cases is the active involvement of public authorities. This underlines the pragmatic trend towards hybrid forms of co-regulation, moving beyond the unproductive polarisation between private and regulatory concepts (UNFSS, 2015).

In a short period of time, from March 2016 to June 2017, the heavyweights in the South, viz. India, Brazil and China, established national VSS platforms built on multi-stakeholder principles. These are mandated to function as clearing house for information exchange, analytical work, collaborative action and policy advice. Since March 2016, the Quality Council of India (QCI), a joint institution of the Ministry of Commerce and Trade and three industry federations, acts as secretariat for the national platform. In May 2017, the Brazilian Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (INMETRO), which is part of the Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade, was charged with such task. The official Standardization Administration of China (SAC) and the multi-stakeholder China Association for Standardization (CAS) work in tandem to coordinate their country’s platform established in June 2017. In Mexico, the Ministry of Economy initiated the preparatory process for a VSS platform by hosting an international conference in December 2017. And two other rising powers of the South are planning similar steps: BSN, the standardization agency of Indonesia, and the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) are presently exploring the possibility of establishing similar forums. In other developing countries, stakeholders are also engaging with VSS: In Laos, Vanuatu and the Philippines, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is implementing a project that
aims at strengthening domestic capacities to make the best use out of VSS for agricultural exports, eventually leading to national multi-stakeholder platforms.

South-South and triangular interaction

In recent years, VSS platforms, national standards bodies and other stakeholders from the countries mentioned have engaged in extensive exchanges. International participation has turned the launch of platforms into opportunities for broad-based South-South and triangular interaction, including non-state transnational engagement. Without this, the events would have been national formats conducted in the local language. Transnational knowledge cooperation on VSS has added value by facilitating joint learning and innovation. For example, the Indian standards for yoga, medicinal herbs and traditional healers (QCI, 2018) have met with interest by partners from other countries. Similarly, the partnership between QCI and the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO) has attracted the attention of peers. In these various types of cooperation, triangular cooperation can also provide useful avenues for mutual support and collective action. A widely recognised example is the partnership of INMETRO, the secretariat of Brazil’s VSS platform, with the National Metrology Institute of Germany (PTB). They have joined hands in capacity building for Mozambique’s Institute for Quality Standardization. In another programme, QCI collaborates with PTB and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to hone accreditation facilities in the region. Triangular knowledge cooperation on VSS between Southern countries, international organizations and German actors plays an important role in the MGG Network coordinated by the German Development Institute (DIE).

The rapid evolution of pro-active engagement with sustainability standards in the South to a large extent, depended on the support from the United Nations system. In 2012, five UN agencies, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Trade Centre, UNCTAD, UN Environment and UNIDO, the UN Industrial Development Organization, launched UNFSS to coordinate their activities and to provide support to interested governments and non-state stakeholders. UNFSS facilitates exchange of experiences, analytical studies, networking and training and plays an important role in the formation of national VSS platforms.

Conclusions and way forward

The ever-growing diversity, overlap and duplication of VSS, sometimes openly competing with each other, represent significant problems for all stakeholders. A still growing standards jungle is likely to undermine credibility amongst consumers for all labels, if there is no framework to ensure trustworthiness of standards. Further proliferation of standards can be expected, for example, in addressing urgent environmental concerns like carbon and water footprints and social dimensions such as decent work and human rights or ethical aspects such as animal welfare in husbandry. Southern governments and VSS platforms are thus confronted with a triple challenge. First, they need to prepare their economies for increasing requirements in foreign countries through targeted industrial policies as well as improvement in quality
infrastructure and accreditation systems. Second, they are called upon to align the use of VSS in domestic markets with national priorities by adaptation to local conditions and regulatory oversight. In separate developments, China and India, are presently exploring formal endorsement procedures for VSS, ensuring a ‘standard for standards’. This would imply the definition of macro-economic criteria which could be used in assessing existing and new VSS frameworks. Once put in place, public recognition of a particular scheme - for example relating to support of MSMEs and procurement - could be made conditional on meeting such stipulations.

Third, Southern actors need to strengthen collective agency in international standard-setting processes in order to safeguard their interests against advanced economies and foreign multinational corporations (Sreenivasan, 2018). This implies that they should collaborate in addressing global governance gaps for VSS. There exists no multilateral organisation or mechanism which could guide the evolution of such standards across borders, ensuring a transparent and fair process, providing legitimacy and lowering transaction costs. Since the World Trade Organization (WTO) treats VSS as private schemes, it considers them outside of its remit. The UN system, through UNFSS, plays a supportive role but has neither the authority nor adequate resources to shape the VSS architecture for the global common good. It seems advisable to find an authoritative institutional solution responsible for the meta-governance of sustainability standards, concerning, for example, normative features and principles for the allocation of rights and obligations as well as multi-stakeholder relations. At the operational level, specialized multilateral institutions should determine the technical details of individual standards. In the case of agricultural, forestry and seafood products this would, of course, be the FAO. The organs of UNFCCC, the climate convention, could oversee the evolution of metrics measuring the carbon content of products and services.

Future international work on VSS can be built on a remarkable consensus of G-20 leaders at the 2017 Hamburg Summit where they declared: “In order to achieve sustainable and inclusive supply chains, we commit to fostering the implementation of labour, social and environmental standards and human rights in line with internationally recognised frameworks”. However, transformative change has to move beyond purely voluntary approaches and has to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework at the global level. In a policy brief produced during the German G20 presidency, the Think20 Task Force on Trade and Investment called for a ‘Global Pact for Sustainable Trade’, which would set binding minimum standards for environmental protection as well as for labour conditions and protection of human rights (T20, 2017). Transnational knowledge cooperation needs to play a proactive role in transformative change by providing conceptual and policy frameworks for concrete steps in this direction.

Endnote

1 Managing Global Governance (MGG) provides an innovative platform for training, knowledge cooperation and policy dialogue of government and non-governmental actors from significant rising powers and Germany / Europe. The MGG Programme is financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) that has given the mandate to the DIE to run the programme. The Training Department (as part of DIE’s research programme “Inter- and transnational cooperation with the Global South”) is responsible for the implementation of the
A group of 10 African nations, including some of the continent’s rising economic stars, will fall $1 trillion short of the infrastructure financing required to meet U.N. development goals by 2040, a study released recently found.

The report by the Global Infrastructure Hub (GIH) of the G20 exposes the challenges facing one of the world’s least developed regions. But it also highlights the opportunities for investors willing to take the plunge. “Africa is a fascinating continent for investors,” GIH Chief Executive Chris Heathcote told Reuters. The GIH report focuses on Morocco, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Egypt, Ghana, Tunisia, Benin, Guinea and Rwanda - all participants in the G20’s ‘Compact with Africa’ initiative, which aims to channel investment to the continent.

To keep pace with success stories such as Vietnam in terms of developing roads, railways, airports, sea ports, electricity, water and physical telecommunications infrastructure these nations will require investments of $2 trillion through 2040. Meeting the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals, which call for universal access to power and water by 2030, would require $383 billion in additional investment, the study found, bringing the total to around $2.4 trillion. If they maintain their current average investment level of 4.9 percent of gross domestic product, that would leave the 10 countries with a 42 percent funding gap to fill.

Source: http://www.newtimes.co.rw/business/10-african-nations-face-1-trillion-infrastructure-funding-gap
Mexico is a “megadiverse” country due to its vast quantity, diversity and uniqueness of plant and animal forms. It has seacoasts in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, and has a mountainous landscape also. Its landscape diversity provides varied environment, soil and weather.

Geographic characteristics of the country make it highly vulnerable to climate change. Its location between two oceans, latitude and geographical relief, expose it to different hydro-meteorological phenomena. Besides, diverse socio-ecological and socio-economic tendencies, industrialization, urbanization, and indiscriminate use of natural resources accentuate climate-change effects.

The scientific evidence points out that in the forthcoming decades, Mexico would experience a generalized temperature increase of 6 per cent, which would be higher than the global increase. Consequently, there would be increased risk of climate events, such as heat waves or decreasing agricultural yields (even in locations where historically no yield losses were recorded), droughts.
and floods. The Mexican government has developed a legal framework as a solution to these pressing problems, which would help the country abate effects of climate change. This comprises enactment of the General Law on Climate Change in 2012 - the second of its kind in the world - as well as a National Climate Change Strategy in 2013, and a Special Programme on Climate Change for 2014-2018 (Diario Oficial de la Federación, 2013). Along with the supra legal framework, Mexico has a law on the International Development Cooperation since 2011. Hence, this legal infrastructure as a whole reduces effects of climate change in Mexico as well as in the continent.

Since many years, Mexico has been forming cooperative bonds across the region. The main reason for this approach has been the Mexican Law for International Development Cooperation, which states that Mexico’s main target region for the International Cooperation is Central America. Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are very vulnerable to climate change. As an upper-middle income country and one with strong political and economic ties with the developed countries, Mexico has the capacity and is predisposed to receive and offer international cooperation. Mexico acts as a recipient of financial assistance from the North and a provider of technical assistance to the South. The reasons behind this practice are wide and distinctive, but exist mainly because of the financial constraints that the Federal Public Administration is experiencing since the past decade.

**Green South-South Cooperation**

Climate change negotiations are dynamic, are for a noble purpose, and have a solid knowledge foundation derived from scientific inputs from all around the world. Still, these negotiations face one of the greatest challenges in the 21st century diplomacy. However, due to global efforts, climate diplomacy is experiencing a momentum derived from the latest accomplishments within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); for example, the fast tracked entry into the Paris Agreement.

Although this accomplishment took place within an archetypal institution from the North – which undoubtedly propelled some cooperation projects in the developing countries – the efforts of the global South have influenced it. All negotiation groups from the South enriched the agenda with issues promoting equality and accessibility to means of implementation such as finance, technology transference and capacity building along with ambitious goals. In doing so, Mexico took the lead and pushed forward, for example, inclusion of increase in the level of ambition, gender and human rights.

It is also important to note that Mexico’s political agenda acknowledges that climate change actions need to be included in the developing world, the South. This implies that significant changes would take place in countries like Costa Rica. And this would have huge impact on the international cooperation agenda of the global South. This situation warrants some type of cooperation, though specifically in climate change negotiations; without compromising on transformational projects from the North and the South, as it would be impossible to abate climate change effects.
Regarding climate change, Mexico is the leader in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Many countries approach the Mexican authorities for cooperation projects -- specially the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change. As a provider of assistance, acceptance rate of the Mexican government for these intended cooperations is very high, especially in terms of technical assistance and capacity-building. These cooperation projects promote partnership among countries.

In this regard, one of the highlights of cooperating with Mexico, and in general terms with the global South, is that recipient countries engage in cooperation projects knowing that their needs and priorities would be taken into account. In consequence, countries have an opportunity to progress of their own, while following their national plans.

**Perspectives from Mexican Experience**

The climate change cooperation has the following schemes: bilateral, multilateral, regional and triangular. The predominant cooperation schemes among Mexico and LAC are bilateral, regional and triangular in nature.

Based on the experiences from the above-mentioned cooperation schemes regarding climate change, there are many lessons learnt from the SSC in the region among Mexico and other countries. The following are the most relevant ones:

- The SSC brings in a fresh perspective to foreign policy and is a viable option to promote development – whether environmental, economical and/or social – in terms of a partnership.
- Based on the principles of non-intervention and self-determination, Mexico does not interfere in the domestic policy of the recipient country.
- Mutual respect is promoted.
- Mexico continuously supports growth of its partners; however, it is important to include a tangible benefit to Mexico. Therefore, it is crucial that parties agree beforehand for a set of mutual benefits, which can be outlined later on cooperation agreements.
- The success rate of the finalised projects is very high, although institutions from the donor country and the recipient country should evaluate results and the impact of a project; at least at a basic level.
- Project evaluation is encouraged as it would provide tools for the improvement of future projects and would allow better planning.
- Considering that in most cases, cooperation schemes are among public sector entities, including international cooperation agencies and intergovernmental organizations, private actors should also be invited to be the part of the triangular cooperation projects.

**Conclusion**

The SSC provides a different perspective to cooperation among countries from the global South. Through its different modalities – trade and investment, technology, capacity-building, lines of credits and grants – development can be achieved. For Mexico and its institutions dedicated to climate change, triangular cooperation is a very viable option as it favours development of donor and
recipient countries. Accordingly, through SSC healthy environment would be ensured in the region, and Mexico would be able to acquire leadership again among Latin America and the Caribbean.

References


ISRAEL’S MASHAV EXTENDS PROJECTS IN GHANA

As part of activities to strengthen development cooperation between Israel and Ghana, the State of Israel’s Embassy, will host a MASHAV resource trainer in Accra.

MASHAVI is Israel’s Agency for International Development and Cooperation. Dr Sela, who is the former Chief Director of Women’s Lobby in Israel and currently an advocate and trainer for women sensitivity and entrepreneurship would lead a series of workshops and dialogue programmes to contribute to Ghana’s efforts and processes to socially and economically empower women.

About 30 women from different career backgrounds, levels and belonging to different social groups would benefit from the initiative by Israel’s Agency for International Development and Cooperation (MASHAV) in collaboration with the Network of Women in Growth (NEWIG), Amicus Onlus, Inner-City Development Foundation (IDF), Oaks and Wuuds and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection.

The workshops would focus on areas such as gender sensitivity, women as agents for change, women as business entrepreneurs, mentorship among others. At the end of the workshops, it is envisaged that, these women would be equipped with tools and skills that would help them become change agents in their respective communities in the spheres of entrepreneurship as well as overcome obstacles, specifically related to their professions.

For further details see: http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/israel-s-mashav-extends-projects-in-ghana-135086
Nigeria in South South Cooperation: The Case of West African Gas Pipeline

Introduction

The West African sub-region of which Ghana forms a part is strategically located at the Western part of Africa which is best known as Sub-Saharan Africa. Out of the 54 nations in Africa, there are 16 countries which make West African sub-continent. The region has enormous mineral resource potential for trade, investment, and industrial development resulting in economic growth. However, lack of available, reliable and cost-effective energy supply is a major challenge for the region. For this, the West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) project has been launched to bring about sub-region’s solution for bringing energy for economic growth and environmental benefits to Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria.

The West African Gas Pipeline Project

The West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) project is an unprecedented energy development project in the sub-
region that holds much promise for the effective and economic utilisation of the region’s resources for development. The project is an international gas transmission system that transports clean, reliable and cheaper natural gas from Nigeria to customers in the Republic of Benin, the Republic of Togo and the Republic of Ghana. The project has the following milestones in its emergence:

- In 1982, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), proposed construction of a Natural Gas Pipeline across West Africa as a key Regional economic goal which was the first background in the emergence of the project.
- In 1992, the World Bank study confirmed viability of a natural gas pipeline based on ample reserves of Nigerian Natural Gas and Regional Energy needs which was the second background in the emergence of the project.
- In 1995, Leaders of Nigeria, Ghana, Togo and Benin signed an Agreement for the development of the WAGP which created a formal platform for the emergence of the project.
- In 2000, the four nations signed an Inter-governmental Agreement for a harmonised fiscal and regulatory framework for cross-border construction and operation of the gas pipeline.
- In 2003, the four nations and the West African Pipeline Company (WAPCo) signed the International Project Agreement (IPA) for the development of the pipeline. The construction of the WAGP began in 2005 and was completed in 2008 and the supply of gas has started through the pipeline.

**Objectives of the Project**

The pipeline project among other seeks to:

- Improve the competitiveness of the energy sectors in Ghana, Benin, Togo and Nigeria;
- Promote the use of cheaper and environmentally cleaner gas from Nigeria in lieu of solid and liquid fuels for power generation and other industrial, commercial, and domestic uses;
- Reform institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks that facilitate private sector participation in the energy sector in the country; and
- Foster regional economic and political integration that would support economic growth, and development of the West Africa electricity market.

**Project Description**

WAGP transports purified natural gas free of heavy hydrocarbons, liquids and water, ideally suited as fuel for power plants and industrial applications. Eighty-five per cent of the gas is for power generation and the remaining is for industrial applications.

**Pipeline Capacity**

The total pipeline length is approximately 690 kms that travels through onshore and offshore routes from the Niger Delta in Nigeria to Benin Republic and Togo and terminates in Takoradi in Ghana (The Volta River Authority’s Takoradi Thermal Power Plant in Ghana), which transports and deliver gas to these four partnering countries. Thus, the project has an option to extend the pipeline to other West African countries in the future, if feasible.

The initial capacity of the project is 175 million cubic feet per day (mmcf/d), and it is ultimately expected to expand to
475 million cubic feet per day, as demand grows. The main offshore pipeline runs East to West at an average water depth of 35 metres though some sections such as the South-East of Ghana, South of Lome, and the Benin – Nigerian frontier ranges between 50 to 70 metres. Its range from the coast is as varied as the depth. At South of Cape St. Paul in Ghana, it is as close as 3.5 nautical miles (6.5 kilometres) while at its widest section south of Winneba also in Ghana, it is 17.5 nautical miles (32.5 kilometres). The ranges of the Tees from the coast are approximately as follows: Cotonou – 7 nautical miles (13 Km), Lome – 10.3 nautical miles (19 Km) and Tema – 7.8 nautical miles (14 Km). The main pipeline is 20 inches in diameter, Cotonou and Lome laterals are 8 inches, each, while the Tema lateral is 18 inches. The termination point at Takoradi (Aboadzi) forms part of the main pipeline.

**Project Benefits**

- The project is the sub-region’s solution in bringing energy for economic growth and environmental benefits to Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria.
- It will provide a long-term supply of abundant, clean, relatively cheaper fuel from Nigeria to Ghana, Togo and Benin.
- The pipeline construction and operations will transfer technical knowledge and skills to relevant public agencies, local consultants, contractors and their employees across the four countries.
- WAPCo employs over 100 skilled people from the sub-region, on competitive selection basis. This number had been far greater during construction.
- The pipeline project has provided a new level of regional co-operation and economic integration to enhance regional stability under the auspices of ECOWAS.
- The pipeline as a regional energy infrastructure will serve as a catalyst for direct foreign investment in the partnering countries.
- Nigerian producers will benefit from additional revenues accruing from the sale of associated gas to WAPCo.
- Each of the four countries will have some direct tax benefits. The gas recipient countries will make some fuel gains.

**Challenges/Setbacks**

- Delayed work at a Compressor Station at Lagos Beach in Nigeria and Regulating and Metering stations in Tema, Cotonou and Lome posed some initial challenges to the project.
- Project cost escalated due to delays and currency fluctuation.
- Environmental group, Friends of the Earth, has criticised the project, after local communities in Nigeria complained it would damage land, destroy livelihoods and pollute fishing areas.
- On 27 August 2012, the West African Gas Pipeline was damaged when pirates who had tried to board an oil tanker in an attempt to get away from the pursuing Togolese Navy.

**Ownership of the West African Gas Pipeline**

- Bermuda Corporation, owns and operates the West African Gas Pipeline Company (WAPCo) Limited. It is a joint venture Limited Liability Company,
owned by both public and private sector companies in Nigeria, Ghana, Benin and Togo.

**Project Sponsorship**
The World Bank has sponsored the project through its International Development Agency (IDA), and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) has provided the financial and political risk guarantee for the project.

**Conclusion**
Commissioning of the pipeline began in late November 2008 and gas supply into the offshore pipeline began on 6 December 2008 from Nigeria to the beneficiary countries which ended at Volta River Authority’s Takoradi Thermal Power Plant in Ghana. Takoradi Thermal Power Plant was successfully completed on 14 December 2008. Construction of the Takoradi Regulating and Metering Station was also completed after initial delay. South-South Cooperation had been an integral part of Ghana’s development agenda. As even before the WAGP, within the framework of South-South Cooperation, Ghana, supplied Electricity to Togo and Côte d’Ivoire, however, as the population of Ghana increased, the demands for power outstripped the supply. Ghana, therefore, joined hands with other sister countries in the West Coast to construct the West African Pipeline to augment her energy need in a win-win manner.

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**Launch of UNESCO’s South-South Cooperation in Action publication**

On 12 June, Prof. Mahmood Al-Mulla Khalaf, Chair of the G-77 and China and Ambassador of the Permanent Delegation of Iraq; Mr Jorge Chediek, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation; Mr. Firmin Matoko, Assistant Director-General, Africa Department, UNESCO; and Clare Stark, Strategic Planning Specialist, Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO, launched UNESCO’s first dedicated report on South-South and triangular cooperation during a panel discussion at UNESCO’s headquarters in Paris.


Report available for download at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M1ovACu-6aSjvbF_2qfcrVNJxu_3B18/view
Role of Benevolent Political Ideologies in Enhancing Development Compact: Appraising South Africa’s Credo in the Establishment of the North South Corridor

Introduction

It is well documented that notions of the nation state often dovetail with ideologies that are most commonly propounded and propagated by revered political thought leaders in the society, for example, Turkey and Kemalism (Kemal Atatürk), Nasserism (Gamal Abdel Nasser) in Egypt and Gaullism (Charles de Gaulle) in France.

Characteristically as a country that is home to former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, one of the world’s most iconic statesmen and humanitarians, South Africa is no exception to the rule of thumb alluded to. Indeed, since the advent of democracy in 1994, South Africa’s national and foreign policy objectives have drawn their moral fabric from Nelson Mandela’s talismanic aura and altruism, which derived from the African ethos of Ubuntu (Translation: “I am; because we are”).

The ethical essence of Ubuntu advocates for unity, selfless and humanistic behavior that places less emphasis on the interests of the individual in favour of the furtherance of the common good. Under the ambit of Ubuntu, South Africa’s foreign and national policy objectives espouse the advancement of various fundamental South-South Cooperation values such as equality, universal human rights, social justice, sovereignty, solidarity, and non-discrimination. Therefore, South Africa’s approach to development cooperation shares an abundance of commonalities with the ancient Indian ideals of “daanam” (giving) and “dharma” (duty), which underline the highly successful Indian approach to development cooperation.

Thabane Nhlengethwa*

*International Relations Coordinator at the National Department of Transport in South Africa. The views are personal.
In light of the 44/55 African states ratifying an agreement to establish a Pan-African Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA), it remains critically imperative for the regional integration and development efforts in Africa to be infused with benevolent Development Compact\(^1\) in order to level the playing field between the lesser developed African nations and the more developed ones, such as South Africa, in order to circumvent exploitation.

The aim of the research paper is to underscore the value and importance of humanistic frameworks in the implementation of Development Compact by giving a brief overview and micro-level impact analysis of the North-South Corridor regional integration process.

**Background on the North-South Corridor Project**

It is often said that poor infrastructure development remains one of the main “Achilles heels” of African economic development and that Africa will never realise its full potential until the pitiable infrastructure albatross is resolved. Discerningly, the African Union (AU) remains privy to the infrastructure challenges faced by the continent, and in July 2010, the inter-governmental organisation unveiled an African Infrastructure Master Plan (AIMP) pillared by the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) and the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Much has been written about the AU’s caprice and velleity with respect to programme implementation to such an extent that the organisation’s visions and plans are often dismissed as mere rhetoric and cajolery. Hence, as the former Presidents of the PIDA and the Republic of South Africa respectively, Jacob Zuma, made a proposition for the establishment of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) to accelerate implementation of the AIMP.

This proposal was made during the 23rd Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee meeting in Kampala, Uganda, in July 2010. The role of the champions is to bring visibility, unblock bottlenecks, co-ordinate resource mobilisation and ensure project implementation. President Jacob Zuma took up the role of the Champion of the North-South Corridor. The project focuses on multi-modal (road, rail and ports) trans-continental interconnector, ultimately connecting Cape Town in the south and Cairo in the north. South Africa champions this project, which will involve numerous countries and Regional Economic Communities (RECs).\(^2\)

However, the initial phase of the project, which is being spearheaded by South Africa, will involve seven countries from three of the eight RECs recognised by the AU: the Southern African Development Community, the East African Community and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa. The seven countries include Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The value proposition of the infrastructure project, amongst many other benefits, includes the improved feasibility of the CFTA, increased intra-regional trade, potential GDP contribution to the tune of $16.1 billion annually and
in excess of 500 million jobs that could be created by 2035. Below, is a figure which exhibits the NSC blueprint.

As illustrated in the image below, phase one of the project will grant landlocked resource-rich countries such as the DRC and Zambia easier market access to other countries in the region as well as continents on the Indian Ocean through Durban Port and Port of Dar-es-salaam.

**Infusing Developmental Regionalism With the values of Ubuntu**

“Always look for the fool in the deal. If you don’t find one, it’s you” – Mark Cuban.

According to Sören Scholvin and Jöran Wrana (2015: 3), “transregional transport infrastructure and the co-ordination of industrial-development policies are essential for what South Africa’s Department of Trade and Industry labels “developmental regionalism”.

Development regionalism is similar to Development Compact in that it extends beyond trade facilitation to include, for example, research and development sharing, capacity building initiatives, investment, industrial and infrastructure policy harmonization and transboundary transport networking. *Ipsa facto*, South Africa’s approach to developmental regionalism, like India’s approach to Development Compact, needs to be predicated on altruistic values.

The reasons for the above are three-fold:

1. South Africa is a regional giant and its level of industrialisation and infrastructure development is incommensurable with many of the other six NSC countries. South Africa successfully hosted the 1995 Rugby World
Cup, the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) World Cup in 2010, hosted the seventeenth edition of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC), and will be home to the world’s largest radio telescope; the Square Kilometer Array. With respect to the three important infrastructural features: rail, roads and ports South Africa’s total road network is about 747 000km, the longest network of roads in any African country, the country is home to some of the most sophisticated ports, infrastructures in the world, and has a world class rail network which is being augmented by the Gibela Rail Project which will render South Africa as one of the first African nations to manufacture locally its own trains. South Africa therefore, is in an advantageous position to share technology and skills with its regional partners.

(2) The worldwide financial catastrophe of 2008 stifled South Africa’s economic growth to negative 1.7% and the 2011 economic downturn in the US and Europe, two of South Africa’s major trading partners, culminated in the export industry in South Africa declining. Therefore South Africa needs to play a leading role in boosting intra-regional trade and capitalise on import substitution industrialisation. Furthermore, South Africa is home to many asylum seekers and migrants who cross into its borders from neighbouring countries (many from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Malawi) seeking greener pastures. This influx of non-nationals from neighbouring countries resulted in xenophobic attacks the South African in 2008 and 2015, as émigrés and locals competed for scarce resources. Therefore, South Africa needs to help ensure that countries in the region develop rapidly to create opportunities for their citizens and ease the prevalence of immigration into South Africa. In the absence of such remedies, the essence of Ubuntu needs to be imbued within the local South African population and they need to be taught to accommodate expatriates. Especially as many South African liberation movement figures were accommodated in neighbouring countries during their exile in the fight against apartheid.

(3) Political and economic instabilities in countries such as the DRC, Zimbabwe and Mozambique will need to be adequately addressed so as not to delay progress in the project. South Africa has a respectable mediation footprint on the African continent and will need to heighten its efforts to ensure peace and regional stability. The Angola-DRC-South Africa Tripartite Mechanism for Dialogue on Cooperation was established in 2013 to help stabilize the DRC politically and South African Deputy President, Cyril Ramaphosa, led mediation efforts in Lesotho under the auspices of the SADC in 2015. These two instances highlight South Africa’s commitment to establishing development regionalism that is buttressed on peace, stability and inclusive human development – virtues of Ubuntu.

Conclusion

South Africa is home to some of the most sophisticated rail, road and ports infrastructures in the world. One of the major rail projects in South Africa is the Gibela Rail Project wherein South Africa will build its own locomotives.
This capacity needs to be shared with its neighbours. Increasing access to resources is also an important aspect of SSC, and through its major ports in Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth and Richards Bay, South Africa needs to grant access to landlocked countries to export their goods at concessional rates. Furthermore, as the championing nation of the North South Corridor, South Africa needs to infuse its development cooperation agenda with its philosophy of Ubuntu to ensure that capacity building, knowledge sharing and concessional market access is manifested optimally. Countries such as Malawi and Zimbabwe do not have strong economies and the benefits of the NSC need to be shared with these countries to bridge the inequalities that exist between the seven NSC countries with respect to infrastructure development and industrialisation.

Endnote
1 Conceptually, SSC may be considered to have branched into five founding modalities of development cooperation that includes capacity building, trade and investment, development finance, grants and technology cooperation. These are collectively referred to as ‘Development Compact’, highlighting the logic that they are not mutually independent of one another.
2 The New Partnership for Africa’s Development.

Reference

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE JAMAICA-PANAMA JOINT COMMISSION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Jamaica recently hosted the first inaugural meeting of the Joint Commission between Jamaica and Panama.

The technical meeting is aimed to promote and facilitate cooperation between both countries in the field of economic and technical fields. Jamaica will focus its attention in providing technical assistance to Panama in the development of sports, culture and education. Panama in return, will assist Jamaica in the areas of aviation, ports and tourism.

The Joint commission exemplifies a truly progressive model of international partnership in development cooperation. It promotes joint ownership of cooperation objectives, and through meetings such as this, allows flexibility to remain responsive to changing national circumstances and the needs of the peoples and the partnership has opened a way for increased collaboration in areas such as maritime and port development, tourism, civil aviation, education, sports and trade and investment, which are critical to our economic growth and job creation agenda.

Details available at http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Inaugural_meeting_of_the_Jamaica/Panama_Joint_Commission
The Brazilian South-South Cooperation (SSC) operates in many fields, but mainly in health, agriculture and educational sectors. The Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC – Agência Brasileira de Cooperação), of Minister of Foreign Affairs (MRE – Ministério as Relações Exteriores), plays a coordination role in the technical South-South cooperation projects. However, Brazilian cooperation is not centralized. Big number of organizations, as well as many different actors, promote the Brazilian South-South Cooperation. Therefore, the low degree of institutionalisation and lack of a regulatory framework of international cooperation results in a diffuse performance (Leite, 2013). In this sense, several instances are involved, not only at a federal level, but also at a local level, such as government, universities, health institutions, private sector, think tanks and research centers.

As previously mentioned, education is one of the main fields of Brazilian SSC action and the efforts cover the following sectors: scholarship; structuring of higher education; teacher training; professional education; youth and adult literacy, special education; curriculum building and management; school lunch; distance education, Portuguese language teaching; and education in interface with other areas, as such as health, sports, environment and science.

According to the latest report by the Brazilian Cooperation for International Development of the Institute of Applied Economic Research - Cobradi / IPEA (2011-2013), the international cooperation projects promoted by the Brazilian government involving education mobilized an important volume of resources between 2005 and 2013: the annual expenses of this period resulted in a total of 476,222,210 (USD) in educational cooperation;
420,490,779 (USD) in science technology cooperation; and 565,92,743 (USD) in technical cooperation¹.

There are few studies focused on Brazilian cooperation in the area of education. An important article recently published, in April 2016, by Carlos Milani, Francisco da Conceição and Timóteo M’Bunde under the title “South-South Cooperation in Education and Brazil-PALOP Relations” brings many contributions to the theme outlining a profile of this modality.

First, it points out the diversity of actors involved in cooperation including the public and private sectors:

In summary, the Brazilian CID / ED is very diversified in terms of design and implementation actors, involving the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (technical cooperation), the Ministry of Education (scholarship program, international exchange programs and technical cooperation), but also SENAI (vocational education) and, to a much lesser extent, some NGOs (non-formal education). This modality of CID counts mainly with public funds and partnerships with private companies and industries (as in the case of SENAI) (Milani et al, 2016: 20).

In addition, the author points out that the central focus of Brazilian international cooperation in the area of education is in higher education with state policies reaching the mark of 97 per cent of government spending on educational cooperation. This reflects the Brazilian strategy to train elites in the partner countries. In the case of Latin American countries, investment is higher in postgraduate studies, while in the African continent it is higher in undergraduate programs, reflecting local demands.

An important factor to be analysed is language as a tool of integration that is strongly present in Brazilian cooperation with the CPLP (Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries) member countries which, in addition to Portugal and Brazil, include the PALOPs (African Portuguese Speaking Countries): Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau) and Timor-Leste.

Among them, the PALOP’s are the main targets of Brazilian cooperation. These relations are really strong due the common colonial past shared by Brazilian and African countries, mainly in the context of slaving in the Portuguese colonies. Milani et al. (2016) point out that exchange of higher education students is one of the main educational projects and that, between 2000 and 2013, the undergraduate students from PALOPs corresponded to 66.2 per cent of the total of 7,676 foreign students in under Brazil government scholarship program. In addition, they highlight the founding of UNILAB (Federal University of International Integration of Afro-Brazilian Lusophone) in 2010 as emblematic in this movement of approximation.

One of the most important Brazilian South-South Cooperation projects in the African region is the Brazilian Open University (UAB – Universidade Aberta do Brasil), an educational project between Brazil and Mozambique. The diplomatic relations between Brazil and Mozambique were established in 1975, the year of
Mozambican independence, and the first cooperation agreements between the two countries were signed in 2001. However, only from 2003 an increase in education projects has been observed.

The Open University of Brazil (UAB), project, in partnership with Universidade Pedagógica (UP) and Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM) of Mozambique, began in 2010 and aims to train professionals in the areas of basic education and public management. Four courses are offered in distance mode (Pedagogy, Mathematics, Biology and Public Administration) by the respective Brazilian universities: Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UniRio), Fluminense Federal University (UFF), Federal University of Goiás (UFG) and Federal University of Juiz de Fora (UFJF).

The courses are distributed in three branches in the cities of Maputo, Beira and Lichinga serving an average of 600 students (Presti, 2013). This is one of the largest Brazilian cooperation projects in the area of education in Mozambique, classified by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency as a “structuring project” defined by the “creation and structuring of institutions for the training of countries that demand cooperation” (3). In 2016 occurred the graduation of the first class and, unfortunately, the project was interrupted due the Brazilian political crisis.

Endnotes

Reference
COBRADI. 2013. Cooperação Brasileira para o Desenvolvimento Internacional – 2011-2013 Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada – IPEA.
MELLO, André et al. 2016. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for South. UNPD. USA.
In the previous issue (Vol. 1 No. 3) we underlined the choice of premise control in managing South-South Cooperation, while it was argued that the development cooperation model followed by OECD/DAC (2005) underwent significant changes after the Paris Declaration from action to output control. We shall elaborate the argument in further detail in the present issue.

Development cooperation involves exchange of resources – transactions, to be precise – between the parties engaged in such an action. Let us first consider the attributes of the transactions under different control regimes. Obviously, the number of transactions under action control (hierarchy) and premise control (Brotherhood) will be higher as the capability of specifying contract \textit{ex ante} would be lower under conditions of limited rationality. The frequency would be generally lower in case of a market determined transaction as the evaluation of the product/services delivered is carried out through output control. In case of exchanges through market involving delivery of a series of intermediate products, the frequency of transactions may even be higher in regimes dictated by output control. Irrespective of the control regime, the uncertainties involved in transaction would be high under all the cases. The variations in terms of ambiguities about goal and action have already been discussed in the previous issue. Table 1 distinguishes the characteristic features of attributes of transactions across the control regimes.

Let us now turn to the characteristics of the transactional forms. The arbiter of relationship between the parties under action control would undoubtedly be authority where the coordination between the donor and the recipients will be through commands – a feature that
characterized development cooperation by OECD/DAC before the Paris Declaration – Structural Adjustment Programme included. Post-Paris Declaration, the relationship changed to that of bargaining, with coordination ensured through exhaustive contracts that called for

- Ownership: Developing countries set their own strategies for poverty reduction, improve their institutions and tackle corruption.
- Alignment: Donor countries align behind these objectives and use local systems.
- Harmonisation: Donor countries coordinate, simplify procedures and share information to avoid duplication.
- Results: Developing countries and donors shift focus to development results and results get measured.
- Mutual accountability: Donors and partners are accountable for development results.

SSC, on the other hand, relied on trust between the partners, with the sense of solidarity, as enshrined in its non-negotiable guiding principles providing the basis for such horizontal coordination.

Under action control, investments – in the sense of provision of resources – were transaction specific, giving rise to identification of modalities. Paris Declaration, based on output control, argued in favour of investments that need not necessarily be transaction specific. More emphasis was laid on general budget support that covers “financial assistance as a contribution to the overall budget with any conditionality focused on policy measures related to overall budget priorities. Within this category, funds may be notionally accounted for against certain sectors, but there is no formal limitation on where funds may actually be spent”.

An evaluation study on partnership general budget support (PGBS) in 2004 found:

(a) PGBS has been a relevant response to acknowledged problems in aid effectiveness.

(b) PGBS can be an efficient, effective and

Table 1 Three institutions of Development Cooperation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DAC Post-Paris Declaration (Market)</th>
<th>DAC Pre-Paris Declaration (Hierarchy)</th>
<th>SSC (Brotherhood)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attributes of transactions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-Frequency</td>
<td>Low/high</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Uncertainty</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Ambiguities about:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
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<tr>
<td>Characteristics of the forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relation</td>
<td>Bargaining</td>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination through</td>
<td>Exhaustive contracts</td>
<td>Command</td>
<td>Ideology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transaction- specific investments</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autonomy of party</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control type</td>
<td>Output control</td>
<td>Action control</td>
<td>Premise control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus of control</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

sustainable way of supporting national poverty reduction strategies.

(c) Provision of discretionary funds through national budget systems has produced systemic effects on capacity, particularly PFM-related capacity. These effects are government-wide.

(d) PGsS tends to enhance the country level quality of aid as a whole, through its direct and indirect effects on coherence, harmonisation and alignment.

(e) PGsS’s effectiveness in reducing poverty depends on the quality of the strategy that it supports. Given the bias of early poverty reduction strategies towards the expansion of public services, most of the effects of PGsS inputs so far have been on access to services, rather than income poverty and empowerment of the poor.

(f) It is important not to overload the PGsS instrument, but in all cases a capacity to learn from experience suggests that PGsS could become more effective, and have a broader scope, over time.

(g) The evaluation considered unintended and adverse effects of PGsS (corruption, undermining of revenue effort, unpredictability, crowding out of the private sector). It did not find adverse effects that outweighed the benefits of PGsS, but all these risks need to be taken into account in the design of PGsS (and of other aid).

(h) PGsS, as presently designed, is vulnerable to a number of risks, including political risks, that threaten its ability to operate as a long-term support modality.

(i) PGsS is part of a family of programme-based approaches (PBAs), and many of the study findings are also relevant to PBAs in general.

SSC, for a change, gives credence to transaction specific investments, as exemplified through the five distinct but not independent components of Development Compact – capacity building, trade and investment, development finance, grant and sharing of technology.

In view of the above differential characteristics, it is obvious that post-Paris regime of aid management increases the autonomy of the recipients, compared to what they enjoyed prior to 2005. In a framework of demand driven, unconditional SSC, the autonomy of the partners in cooperation was never in jeopardy. The focus of control being the people-to-people relations in solidarity, or premise, SSC thus clearly distinguishes itself from the OECD/DAC institution that shifted its focus from action to output since the declaration at the Second High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness.

Endnotes
1  http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/parisdeclarationandacraagendaforaction.htm
2  http://ec.europa.eu/development/body/theme/rurpol/forum/papers/Hoole1En.pdf

Reference
Regional Consultation on South-South Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific: Towards the Buenos Aires Plan of Action 40th Anniversary

27-29 June, 2018, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok

South-South cooperation is one of the important drivers of the regional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific and has resulted in increased volumes of South-South trade, foreign direct investment flows and technology transfer. Over the decades, countries of the South have accumulated considerable expertise, experience, lessons and capabilities in their own development processes, which have been shared with other developing countries in the form of technical assistance. Middle-income developing countries, as emerging development partners and technical cooperation providers, have significantly influenced the landscape of the South-South cooperation in this region and beyond. South-South and triangular cooperation have been identified as key modalities for delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To reach their full potential they need to be aligned, enhanced and structured to correspond with the needs and priorities of developing countries. These issues are to receive prominence in the forthcoming session in 2019 to commemorate Buenos Aires Plan of Action 40th Anniversary (BAPA+40).

In line with the above mandates and given the prominence of the South-South and triangular cooperation in achieving the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and the Government of Thailand jointly organized the Regional Consultation on South-South Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific: Towards the Buenos Aires Plan of Action 40th Anniversary, from 27 to 29 June 2018, at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok.
The Regional Consultation reviewed the South-South cooperation trends, challenges and opportunities in the region in support of the SDG implementation. It provided countries with a platform to share their experiences as providers or users of South-South and triangular cooperation, their institutional arrangements, policies and lessons learned. The Regional Consultation also discussed and suggested how to leverage the partnerships with the various stakeholders, including the civil society, think tanks and the private sector.

**Themes and issues discussed at the Regional Consultation**

The themes and issues discussed at the Regional Consultation are as follows:

• Trends and diversity of the South-South cooperation landscape in Asia-Pacific – turning challenges into opportunities
• Institutional arrangements and management of South-South and triangular cooperation – experience and good practice
• Modalities to strengthen regional and sub-regional cooperation through South-South and triangular cooperation for sustainable development
• Roles of the United Nations Development System and other stakeholders including the civil society organizations and the private sector
• Alternative approaches to sustainable development.

Separate sessions for civil society organizations and the private sector were also organized to allow inputs into the regional outcomes.

Within the conference there was a session specifically on the institutional arrangement of South-South and triangular cooperation. More than any other regions, Asia-Pacific has seen the emergence of countries that have graduated to developed country status and the growth of strong emerging economies. The region has been instrumental in the new global order driving growth not only in Asia but other Regions as well. The panel is designed to be forward-looking in its review of South-South and triangular cooperation institutionalisation that includes: the definition of South-South cooperation, the principles of South-South Cooperation, legal frameworks for South-South Cooperation, Roles for stakeholders in South-South Cooperation, institutions supporting South-South Cooperation, tools for management of South-South Cooperation including its measurement, monitoring and evaluation, and financing for South-South Cooperation.

The points of discussion in this important session were as follows:

• What are the issues in institutionalisation of South-South and triangular cooperation?
• Is definition of South-South Cooperation an issue?
• What is the comparative advantage of South-South and triangular cooperation?
• Are the principles of South-South cooperation still relevant?
• Is South-South Cooperation being implemented in consistency with the Principles?
• What are the main tools that have been developed for management and implementation of South-South and triangular cooperation?
• Are the institutions for South-South cooperation adequate and poised to
lead the next phase of South-South Cooperation.

- Does the separation of South-South from North-South (with complementarities) serve the Global South well or should there be greater rapprochement?
- What is the role of Science and technology in strengthening South-South cooperation?
- Has South-South and Triangular cooperation focused enough on gender issues? What more can be done?
- Reflect and explore on the merits of approaches to enhance effective and practical ways of applying and scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation in the region.
- What are the most relevant ways to create an enabling environment for a supporting institutional framework at regional and national levels for South-South and triangular cooperation?
- Is funding for South-South and triangular cooperation adequate?
- Have Inter-governmental institutions created to scale up South-South Cooperation been effective?
- What are the issues for South-South Cooperation at Regional and National Level, e.g. ASEAN Region.

Morocco, Nigeria vow to create model of South-South Cooperation

Moroccan King Mohammed VI and Nigeria’s President Muhammadu Buhari reaffirmed their willingness to create a model of South-South Cooperation. In a joint statement following Buhari’s visit to Morocco, the two leaders commended the positive bilateral relations between Morocco and Nigeria since the the king’s visit to Abuja in December 2016. In this regard, they welcomed the significant progress made in various areas of cooperation, such as agriculture, fertilizer production, energy infrastructure and mining.

Source: Morocco, Nigeria vow to create model of South-South Cooperation, Xinhua, 16 June, 2018

Korea Hands over $15m Model School to Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) over the weekend handed over an ultra model school valued at $15 million to the Federal Capital Territory Administration as part of efforts to deepen ties between Nigeria and Republic of Korea.

The Korea model school located along the International Airport road is touted as the first purpose built secondary school in Nigeria to impart Korean culture in addition to Nigerian curricula.

For further details see: https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2018/07/01/korea-hands-over-15m-model-school-to-fct/
Book Review

South-South Cooperation Beyond the Myths Rising Donors, New Aid Practices?

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan, London, 2017
Edited by: Isaline Bergamaschi, Phoebe Moore and Arlene B. Tickner

The collection has served an important role in laying bare the qualitative – non-economic – perspectives of SSC and their implications for both the provider and recipient countries. Since the beginning of the present millennium, SSC also appears to have been instrumental in bridging gaps in terms of financial resources. Such a shift, even though still an insignificant part of the total support provided under SSC, -- capacity building support still plays the most important role -- needs to be looked at in detail.

South-South Cooperation (SSC) has been attracting considerable attention from diplomats, policy makers, development practitioners, media persons and academics during the last couple of decades. The attraction appears more visible with several global forums that accepted SSC as a prominent component in global development architecture. During 2017-18 about 5 full length books have been published with South-South Cooperation mentioned in their titles; more than 75 journal articles have appeared in print during this period. The present book under review is one of such recent additions to the literature on SSC.

Veering away from the traditional academic approach to SSC, the compilation of essays, mainly with contributions from Southern scholars, has been an effort to look at the issues from the perspectives of the “recipient” countries. Thus instead of looking at the spirit of and the guiding principles followed by the “providers” of SSC in extending development support to partner countries, the book tries to consider the implications – or better to put in a more technical term – impact assessment of SSC in the countries who were at the receiving end of such assistance programmes. The book also stands out in terms of its attempt to go beyond the “traditional” emerging nations engaged as providers of SSC to capture the efforts of assistance by countries like Turkey, Colombia, Cuba, Venezuela and United Arab Emirates. A more interesting addition to the book, however, could have been a few cases involving countries, specially from Latin America, who have been mutually engaged in SSC between one another, providing development assistance on a reciprocal basis. The SEGIB Report on South-South Cooperation (2017) records a number
of such instances. During 2015, Brazil and Argentina helped each other through reciprocal interventions under SSC. Similar instances are reported between Chile and Mexico. Such cases are very important to highlight that SSC need not necessarily be a unidirectional process in flow of resources and knowledge and that its strength can be better leveraged by recognizing the possibilities of bi-directional – and even, if needs be, multidirectional support – across countries. Recognition of such possibilities can take the process towards further horizontality and break the provider and recipient barriers.

The publication under review, as already mentioned, is a collection of case studies spread across a number of countries like Mozambique, Senegal, Lao PDR, Somalia among others, even though the experiences from Mozambique are a little extensive covering three articles. Besides experiences through the lens of recipients, the book also captures the experiences of providers who are often not highlighted as a part of the group in the existing literature. The experiences, as the researchers chronicled, are varied and cannot be generalized as characterizing the ‘true’ model of SSC. Perhaps this is the only generalized assertion that emerges from this book. This finding is relevant enough to contribute meaningfully to the present day debate about the need or otherwise, for a standardized template to describe resource flows in the name of SSC. The cases argue that the actors in SSC are influenced by a myriad factors ranging from historical links, shared past or cultural links, religion and ideology, among others. SSC also involves export of sector specific knowhow from a particular country, for example, health services by Cuba, agriculture and food security by Brazil, among others.

The book appears fascinating in terms of its approach in going beyond the debate about the normative perspectives of SSC and exploring the ground level realities pertaining to this idea. Thus it goes beyond the macro impact of SSC on global aid architecture and concentrates beyond the “idealistic” structure of SSC to debate as to whether it is “desirable or dangerous”. To facilitate such a query, most of the contributions across this volume consciously move away from the analytical economic model and borrow immensely from methodological insights of political sociology, international relations etc., where SSC is treated as a social construct, shaped by the “dialectical relationship between knowledge and power”.

In the process of developing their understanding of SSC, some authors noted the connection with domestic development imperatives of provider countries in promoting their domestic enterprises as a part of their efforts to sustain economic growth. Contributors also underscored the emergence of post-Washington Consensus that led to revamping of the core principles of “aid mechanism” by the Northern donors. Emergence of poverty reduction strategic plans (PRSPs) – a pluri-annual plan to be designed by the recipient countries in collaboration with the donors from OECD/DAC to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – as a new normal of conditionalities also received considerable attention in this volume. They appear to have replaced the conditionalities ushered in terms of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) as a part of the Washington Consensus. The growing importance of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and private enterprises in facilitating SSC has also been identified.
By its own elaboration, the volume claims to have looked into the following aspects of SSC.

(1) Whether SSC has been instrumental to promote a development model that claims to be different from or alternative to the one promoted by traditional donors;

(2) Do the practitioners of SSC endorse and implement the OECD–DAC aid effectiveness agenda; and

(3) Whether they agree to participate in triangular cooperation initiatives with traditional donors or prefer to protect their independence through isolated, bilateral intervention or with other Southern donors.

Besides the introductory and the concluding sections, it has 10 chapters, looking into the practices of 10 emerging but non-traditional actors in development cooperation and their apparent implications for those who received support thereof.

The editors assert in the concluding chapter that the book is not a comparative exercise. Even though a guideline was shared and discussed with the contributors, they were free to emphasize certain aspects of the reality that obtains in their respective cases and best reflects the specificities. This editorial freedom given to the contributors constitutes the most important achievement of this collection and captured the diversity of contemporary SSC exercises – role of religion, private sector, security objectives, triangular cooperation – among others.

This collection is a welcome addition to the literature on development cooperation in general, and SSC in particular. It will whet the appetite, to a considerable degree, of those who keenly follow the trends in global development architecture.

However, to conclude, one may like to raise an issue that needs to be resolved urgently. Reading the contents of the present book under review brought such an issue under more refined focus. One may recall that the OECD/DAC approach towards development cooperation was designed around the idea of “two gap” theory that identified gaps firstly, in investible funds and secondly, in terms of foreign exchange reserves necessary to procure capital goods from the advanced nations, that necessitate flow of resources – financial and technical – to the developing nations from the OECD members. The Southern version of development cooperation did not emerge out of such a conceptual framework. It was more of a response to the apprehension of being forced to surrender their sovereignty again, in some way or other, to the countries that are politically and economically stronger than them. Thus was articulated the centrality of solidarity and horizontality in SSC. The collection has served an important role in laying bare the qualitative – non-economic – perspectives of SSC and their implications for both the provider and recipient countries. Since the beginning of the present millennium, SSC also appears to have been instrumental in bridging gaps in terms of financial resources. Such a shift, even though still an insignificant part of the total support provided under SSC, – capacity building support still plays the most important role – needs to be looked at in detail. Such an exercise will also involve use of quantitative tools in measuring the extent of “mutual benefit” enjoyed by the partners in cooperation. A similar volume that captures the insights from impact assessment of interventions carried out in the spirit of SSC is perhaps the need of the day to strengthen the principles and practice of SSC.
IBSA Declaration on South-South Cooperation

The following is the declaration issued by the heads of delegation from India, Brazil and South Africa on the 4th of June 2018.

- The External Affairs Minister of the Republic of India, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, Ms. Lindiwe Sisulu and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Mr. Marcos Bezerra Abbott Galvão, met in Pretoria on 4th June, 2018. The Ministers agreed as under:

**Preamble**

- IBSA brings together India, Brazil and South Africa, three large democracies and major developing economies from three continents.
- IBSA is bound together by a shared conviction in the universal values of democracy, plurality, diversity, human rights, rule of law and commitment to sustainable development, inclusivity of all communities and gender, and respect for international law.
- IBSA recalls all efforts over the decades to bring about greater solidarity among South-South countries, including the Bandung Conference 1955, NAM 1961, UNCTAD, G-77 grouping, BAPA 1978, Nairobi Declaration 2009.
- IBSA has, over the years, emerged as a grouping supporting welfare and developmental concerns for the Global South, which have been pursued in the spirit of access, equity and inclusion.
- The IBSA’s 2007 Tshwane Declaration; 2008 Delhi Declaration and 2010 Brasilia Declaration underscored SSC as a common endeavour of the Global South guided by equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs, and mutual benefit. They also provided the blueprint for IBSA partnership with countries of the South.
- Recalling the commitments and the means of implementation for the development agenda, IBSA stresses the centrality of the SDGs and the Rio principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) and respective capabilities.
- IBSA recalls the development commitment enshrined in the 2008 Doha Declaration and of the Monterrey Consensus of 2002 of providing 0.7 percent GNI as ODA by developed countries and the measures contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for making finance available for achieving 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- IBSA calls upon the global North to honour its ODA commitments fully, scale up existing resources and commit additional resources to provide the necessary means to implement SDGs.
• IBSA reiterates the balanced emphasis on the social, economic, and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

• IBSA recognizes, inter-alia, capacity building, skills and technology transfer, food security and industrialisation as key to sustainable development.

**IBSA Mechanism for Development Cooperation**

• The IBSA Fund for the Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger was set up with the objective of facilitating the execution of human development projects to advance the fight against poverty and hunger in developing countries and to pioneer and lead by example the SSC agenda by building new partnerships.

• The IBSA Fund is managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), which lends its professional expertise to multiple stakeholders in promoting the development of the Global South.

• With a cumulative contribution of $35mn, IBSA Fund has thus far partnered 19 countries from the Global South for implementing 26 projects over the last decade. 62.4 percent of the IBSA Fund has been devoted to Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

• The IBSA Fund has been recognised for its good work, including through the United Nations South-South Partnership Award 2006; the UN MDG Award 2010 and the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Champions Award 2012.

**Principles and basis for South-South Cooperation**

• The basic principles of SSC were particularly emphasised in the IBSA Summit Declaration of 2010 in Brasilia. It underscored SSC as a common endeavour of peoples and countries of the South. It outlined IBSA partnership based amongst equals which is guided by principles of respect for national sovereignty; national ownership and independence; equality; non-conditionality; non-interference in domestic affairs; and mutual benefit.

• The Brasilia Declaration of 2010 states that SSC is not aid and developing countries engaged in SSC are not donors and recipients but developing partners.

• IBSA notes the shared histories, understanding and beliefs and developmental experiences, and consequently adheres to the principles of SSC which have been incorporated in IBSA funded projects.

• Solidarity and the spirit of sharing are the primary motivations for SSC.

• IBSA recognises that SSC is voluntary in nature and not obligatory like ODA is.

• SSC is a demand driven process whereby it is the partner countries that determine the priorities in IBSA projects.

• Respect for national sovereignty is at the core of SSC. SSC is about interdependences and not ‘new dependencies’. The partner countries themselves initiate, organise and manage SSC activities. IBSA believes that the primary responsibility towards development rests with the States themselves under their ownership and leadership.
The aim of SSC is to create higher levels of capability and economic opportunity for both the partners. Capacity building and technology transfer continues to drive SSC in the spirit of solidarity among partner countries.

South-South Cooperation serves as a complement to and not as a substitute for North-South cooperation, in supporting the acceleration of the development agenda.

IBSA is convinced that SSC is completely different from the North-South/donor-donee cooperation, and that ODA templates are not a good basis for SSC.

Further, South-South Cooperation does not imply reducing the responsibilities of developed countries with respect to their ODA commitments, new and additional financing, provision of means of implementation to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change as well as implementation of the SDGs.

Economic and political non-conditionality is essential and is reflected in the IBSA projects, as clearly demonstrated from the fact that the fiscal independence is maintained by partner countries.

Sustainable projects under IBSA Fund provide partners with ownership of projects through various capacity building measures. Involvement of relevant stakeholders of partner countries in projects’ initiation, implementation and delivery phases is ensured.

**Emerging Focus Areas**

IBSA will step up advocacy for reforms of global governance institutions in multilateral fora.

The 2011 Tshwane Declaration brought people to the centre of the discourse on global governance. The Declaration considered people-centric social policies as the driving mechanism for restructuring the international financial architecture and reforming international organisations, thereby strengthening SSC.

IBSA is committed to the realisation of the SDGs. In this regard, IBSA considers responsible financing an essential component of development cooperation and would like to underline that such efforts should not potentially hamper the long term interest of partner countries.
Development Cooperation has always been prominent in India’s overall bilateral cooperation with Myanmar. Our involvement and assistance in this field extends from the setting up of major connectivity infrastructure as well as significant initiatives in setting up long-term, sustainable and relevant institutions for capacity building and human resource development in critical areas such as agricultural research and education, IT and skill development. In addition, India also extends a considerable amount of concessional finance for projects ranging from transport and communications to agriculture and farm mechanisation and highway development.

In the field of infrastructure, the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP) is perhaps the most significant project undertaken by India. The project will connect Kolkata by sea to Sittwe in Rakhine province and then, through the Kaladan river and a road connecting Paletwa in Chin State of Myanmar to Zorinpui in Mizoram, and extend this corridor all the way to India. Work on the development of the port at Sittwe, the Inland Water Terminal (IWT) in Paletwa and the navigational aids in the river channel has been completed. Work on the final stage of the project, consisting of a 109-km road from Paletwa to Zorinpui, is now underway and expected to be completed in 2020.

The India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway is the other major connectivity project, India is involved in. Work is now underway on the reconstruction of 69 bridges on the Tamu-Kalewa-Kyigone sector and on the 120-km long Kalewa-Yargi sector. Both these are also expected to be completed by 2020-21. In addition to these projects, India is also working on developing the Rih-Tedim road, on which final approvals are awaited from the Government of Myanmar.

In the area of capacity building, two flag-ship projects that India has been involved in are the Myanmar Institute of Information Technology in Mandalay and the Advanced Centre for Agricultural Research and Education in Nay Pyi Taw. Both these are among the most well regarded institutes...
in their respective fields in Myanmar and are contributing to building up a highly skilled and well-qualified cadre of IT professionals and agricultural research scientists for future. In addition to these, India has also set up a Rice Bio-Park in Nay Pyi Taw that aims to demonstrate the full potential of paddy/rice value chain. This is particularly important in the context of Myanmar, which is a significant producer of rice, and farming communities can benefit enormously by exploiting the commercial opportunities offered by rice husk and rice bran oil. Assistance to centres that India has set up earlier, such as the India-Myanmar Centre for Enhancement of IT Skills, the Myanmar-India Centre for English Language Training and the Myanmar-India Enterpreneurship Development Centre, all in Yangon, is also continuing and being enhanced wherever necessary. India has also set up two Industrial Training Centres in Pakokku and Myingyan, and is providing maintenance support to these centres. In addition, two new centres will be set up in Thaton and Monywa.

In the cultural field, India has contributed to the spectacular restoration of the Ananda temple in Bagan and will shortly begin undertaking an extensive project on the restoration and conservation of as many as 92 structures that were damaged following an earthquake in Bagan in 2016. In the health field, India has undertaken projects to upgrade facilities in the Yangon Children’s Hospital, the Sittwe General Hospital and the Monywa General Hospital. India also continues to extend assistance under the Border Areas Development Programme to assist projects in the neighbouring regions of Chin and Sagaing.

Indian assistance is directed not only at the creation of hard infrastructure but also focuses on the potential that they have for furthering peace and reconciliation in this country. The KMTTP is particularly important in this regard. Once fully completed, the potential of the project to generate economic opportunities for the populations living in its vicinity will undoubtedly contribute to development and peace in the troubled areas that this transport corridor passes through. Similarly, the upgradation of connectivity corridors in the neighbouring regions of India and Myanmar promises to significantly enhance cross-border trade and commerce and give a boost to sectors such as tourism. When supplemented with institutional mechanisms such as a Land Border Crossing Agreement and a Motor Vehicles Agreement, these corridors will have a truly transformative impact across this entire region.

Indian participation in development cooperation in Myanmar is tailored firmly to Myanmar’s national priorities. The projects are fully cognizant of and sensitive to the need for pursuing good governance practices, conform to the requirements of environmental and social impact assessments and mindful of the imperative of transferring skills and technology to local communities. Given that the bulk of Indian development assistance is under the ‘Grant-in-Aid’ window and that concessional finance is offered on very generous terms, such assistance also does not result in creating any kind of financial unsustainability for Myanmar. India remains committed to a peaceful, prosperous and stable Myanmar and looks forward to continuing its multi-faceted development cooperation partnership with it.
Domestic financial sectors in the South have undergone substantial transformation over time, particularly in the 2000s. This is reflected in higher financial system deposits especially in the LDCs and transition economies and impressive growth in domestic credit flows to the private sector. Deep domestic long-term debt markets are well-positioned now to cater to the financing requirements in the Southern economies. Even though the public and private bond markets remained subdued because of the first episode of the global economic recession during 2007-09, corporate bond issuance in the emerging markets grew from 1.1 per cent of GDP in 2001 to 3.1 per cent of GDP in 2013.

Over the years, equity markets in the South witnessed significant growth in terms of overall market capitalization and dynamism in the developing economies and the LDCs. With greater financial market integration, the South would reduce its dependence on foreign capital markets and contain external vulnerabilities to a great extent. Financial markets in some emerging countries such as Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, India and China are viewed as potential regional financial hubs for raising capital in the South.

* Resurging South Stylized Facts, (2016): Prepared by RIS Team
In recent years, the global dialogue on South-South Cooperation (SSC) has become more prominent in discussions on international cooperation, highlighting the importance of SSC in the global arena. There is evidence that substantial attention is being paid to discussions on SSC including intensified intergovernmental dialogue on SSC in international fora where a larger role has been assigned to SSC. In these discussions, there have been serious efforts at viewing SSC as a process that is distinct from the North-South Cooperation (NSC).

This course on Learning South-South Cooperation held at Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi will be 5th annual course which started in 2014 and is intended to familiarise the participants to a broader concept of SSC. This year the programme has been scheduled between November 12 and November 23, 2018.

Get in touch with Indian embassy of your home countries to apply for Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) course on Learning South-South Cooperation.
Introduction of a Section on Peer Reviewed Articles/Essays

In keeping with suggestions, feedbacks and accumulated experience, we have decided to introduce a section, containing peer reviewed full length articles/essays. Interested scholars willing to contribute are requested to send in their manuscripts (preferably in not more than 5000 words) to the editorial office.

Call for Contributions

We invite contributions from interested readers on issues related to development cooperation in general and South-South Cooperation in particular. Contributions may also capture theory, practice and associated debates on development cooperation. Reviews of latest publications - books, monographs, reports - are also welcome. Any institutional upcoming events on development cooperation may also be captured in DCR. The contributions should be restricted to not more than 1500 words.

For editorial information, contributions, feedback and comments: mail to milindo.chakrabarti@ris.org.in and dgoffice@ris.org.in

Guidelines for Contributors

1. DCR is a refereed multi-disciplinary international journal. Manuscripts can be sent, as email attachment, in MS-Word to the Managing Editor (milindo.chakrabarti@ris.org.in).
2. Manuscripts should be prepared using double spacing. The text of manuscripts should not ordinarily exceed 1500 words. Manuscripts sent for peer review section may be limited to 5000 words. Such submissions should contain a 200 word abstract, and key words up to six.
3. Use ‘s’ in ‘-ise’ ‘-isation’ words; e.g., ‘civilise’, ‘organisation’. Use British spellings rather than American spellings. Thus, ‘labour’ not ‘labor’. (2 per cent, 3 km, 36 years old, etc.). In general descriptions, numbers below 10 should be spelt out in words. Use thousands, millions, billions, not lakhs and crores. Use fuller forms for numbers and dates — for example 1980-88, pp. 200-202 and pp. 178-84. For example ‘the eighties’, ‘the twentieth century’, etc.

Reference Style: References should be appended at the end of the paper. References must in double space, and should be same author(s) is cited, then arrange them chronologically by year of publication.

All references should be embedded in the text in the APA style. For details please refer to Course and Subject Guides: https://pitt.libguides.com/c.php?g=12108&p=64730

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**About Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)**

RIS is a New Delhi–based autonomous policy research institute that specialises in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. RIS is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on global and regional economic issues. The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and collaborate with developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. RIS is engaged across inter-governmental processes of several regional economic cooperation initiatives. Through its intensive network of think tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues and the development partnership canvas. @RIS_NewDelhi

**About Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST)**

NeST was established on the sidelines of the first high-level meeting (HLM) of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) in Mexico in April 2014, and as a follow-up to the Conference of Southern Providers held in Delhi in April 2013. The network has committed itself to ‘generating, systematising, consolidating and sharing knowledge on South–South cooperation (SSC) approaches to international development’. A collaborative initiative for the South by the South, NeST is primarily a think tank and academic forum that provides policy inputs into the arena of SSC. NeST welcomes inputs from a diversity of Southern stakeholders, through the open engagement of governments, civil society organisations (CSOs), private sector institutions and various Southern practitioners, to contribute towards creating a unified understanding and framework for debates around SSC. @NeST_SSC

**About Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC)**

FIDC aims to encourage detailed analysis of broad trends in South-South cooperation and contextualise Indian policies by facilitating discussions across various subject streams and stakeholders based on theoretical and empirical analysis, field work, perception surveys and capacity building needs. At the domestic level, the FIDC has worked towards raising the awareness about various dimensions of the development cooperation policies through seminars, discussion meetings and publications and focused on sectoral analysis in the areas of agriculture, health, education, human resource development, infrastructure projects, environment and other social areas including gender and humanitarian assistance. @FIDC_NewDelhi