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South Africa and the DRC: Evaluating a South–South Partnership for Peace, Governance and Development

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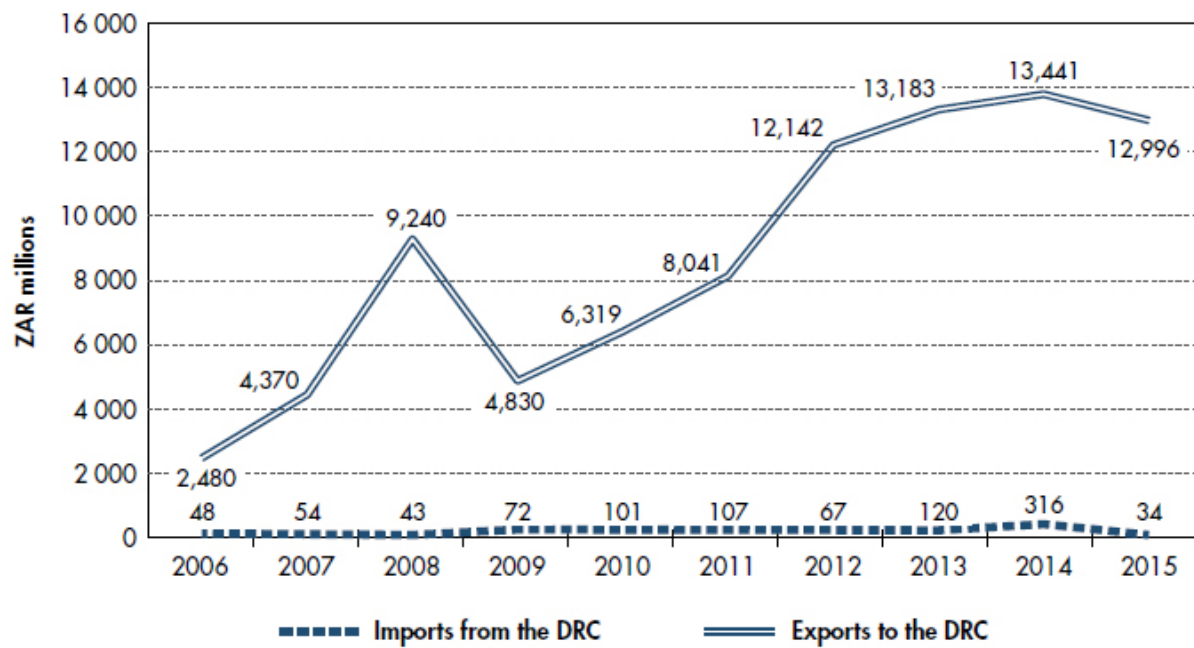
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The ‘Rise of the South’ and the role of ‘emerging powers’ in global development has animated much of the political and economic discourse of the past decade. There is, however, little empirical evidence on the contribution that emerging Southern partners make to sustainable development, due to the lack of common measurement systems for South–South cooperation (SSC). The following case study utilises the analytical framework developed by the **Network of Southern Think Tanks (/nest)** (NeST) to assess the range, extent and quality of South Africa’s peace, governance and economic support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The study reveals that South Africa, in absolute financial terms, is a significant development partner in the DRC, and even exceeds the traditional donors when its aid is measured in proportion to gross national income. The qualitative field research highlights that South Africa’s approach to development co-operation to a large extent reflects the core values of SSC, although with a mixed bag of successes and failures in terms of the results of co-operation activities. This pilot study of the South Africa–DRC development partnership is one of the first in which the NeST conceptual and methodological framework has been tested for the purpose of further refining tools and indicators for SSC analysis, so as to assist the future monitoring and evaluation endeavours of South Africa and other emerging development partners.

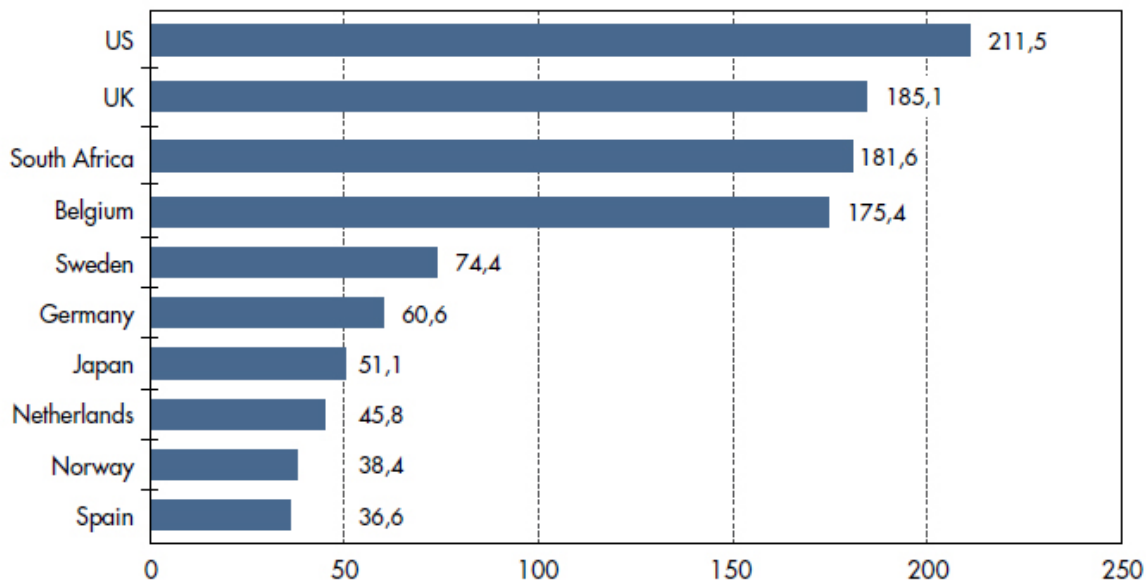
[Below are some of the key charts from the new paper.](#)

FIGURE 2 TRADE BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE DRC, 2006–2015



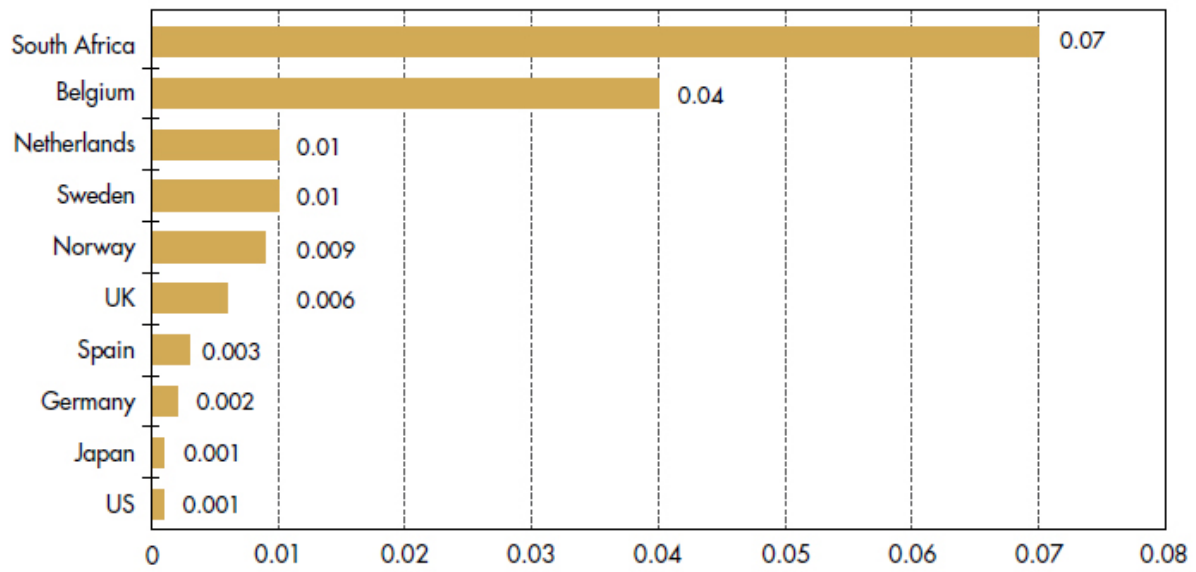
Source: Authors' compilation using data from SARS (South African Revenue Service), 'Trade statistics data', http://tools.sars.gov.za/tradestatsportal/data_download.aspx, accessed 27 April 2016; and DIRCO (Department of International Relations and Cooperation), 'SA and DRC bilateral relations', <http://www.dirco.gov.za/kinshasa/bilateral.html> accessed 27 April 2016

FIGURE 4 TOP 10 DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS TO THE DRC IN 2008, \$ MILLIONS



Source: Authors' compilation; OECD, 'Creditor reporting system', <https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=CRS1>; AidFlows, 'Sources of ODA: Top 15 donors', http://www.aidflows.org/index.html?id=ZR&m=be_1_1_4&mif=false&wbg=false, accessed 29 March 2016

FIGURE 5 TOP 10 DONORS TO THE DRC IN 2008, BASED ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AS A PERCENTAGE OF GNI (ATLAS METHOD)



Source: Authors' compilation; OECD, *ibid*; AidFlows, *ibid*

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