



The Task Team on South-South Cooperation at a Glance

1. WHAT IS THE TASK TEAM ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION?

The Task Team on South-South Cooperation (TT-SSC) brings partner countries, especially middle income countries, donors, civil society, academia, regional and multilateral agencies together under a common objective of mapping, documenting, analyzing and discussing evidence on the synergies between the principles of aid effectiveness and the practice of South-South Cooperation (SSC).

Derived from the Accra Agenda for Action's commitment to inclusive partnerships, the TT-SSC is a southern-led platform hosted by the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF) at the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The TT-SSC is chaired by Colombia and co-chaired by Egypt with active support from the World Bank Institute and regional platforms in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The TT-SSC's activities search to contribute in defining the role of partner countries and Southern perspectives in the evolving global aid architecture. The TT-SSC is contributing to global policy-making, leading up to the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Korea, 2011, and other influential regional and global fora and platforms.

2. WHY DOES SSC MATTER IN THE CONTEXT OF AID EFFECTIVENESS?

In the ever-changing global development governance, SSC entails diverse forms of cooperation among developing countries. In this context, the TT-SSC focuses on documenting, analyzing and discussing practice of SSC and their synergies with the aid effectiveness agenda, particularly addressing a "threefold mandate" emerging from the Accra Agenda for Action (article 19):

- Adapting the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action principles for SSC (AAA art. 19a);
- Enriching the effectiveness agenda with the practices and experiences of SSC (AAA art. 19b);
- Identifying complementarities between SSC and North-South cooperation (AAA art. 19e).

The TT's analytical work focuses on the practice of technical cooperation particularly led by Middle Income Countries as both providers and recipients of development assistance. At the global level, the TT-SSC aims to contribute to the evolving global effectiveness agenda by boosting horizontal partnerships and peer learning, making technical cooperation more useful, promoting Southern expertise and contributing to develop capacities.

Being a young but vibrant platform, the TT-SSC has identified key aspects to guarantee the quality of its analytical work as a real learning process and not just a marketing exercise of South-South Cooperation. In this sense, identifying what works but also those aspects that do not work so well in SSC practices has emerged as a critical challenge to ensure straightforward messages.



3. 110 CASES FOR THE BOGOTA HLE

Created in September 2009, the TT-SSC focused its attention on two main aspects during its first six months: strengthening regional platforms, and collecting and analyzing South-South cooperation cases stories within the framework of aid effectiveness.

The support of NEPAD Secretariat in Africa, Asian Development Bank in Asia, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Organization of American States in Latin America and the Caribbean is crucial consolidating regional platforms and involving countries and organizations in the analytical work and the regional meetings.

The TT-SSC's aim of building an evidence base for mapping South-South and triangular Cooperation practices in the context of aid effectiveness was materialized in 110 case stories involving more than 130 countries and organizations. These cases were essential inputs to the discussions at the Bogotá High-Level Event on South-South cooperation and Capacity Development held in March 2010, ensuring a broad diversity of perspectives toward effective South-South cooperation. The call for case stories remains open, in order to gather more experiences and engage even more actors in the TT-SSC.

3. NEXT STEPS: CONSOLIDATING THE WAY TOWARDS KOREA

Inspired by the strong response from countries, organizations and practitioners during the call for cases and by the critical outcomes of the Bogotá HLE, the TT-SSC designed its work plan 2010-2011 intending to consolidate its mandate to identify good practices of South-South cooperation in the context of aid effectiveness.

The TT-SSC second phase's work plan focuses on three concrete lines of work, hoping that their results will contribute to implement the Bogotá Statement recommendations and help compile good practices to be shared at the Korea High Level Forum.

- Deepening analytical work with case studies and case stories: identifying and agreeing on good practices of SSC in the context of aid effectiveness, generating clear-cut policy recommendations for the Korea HLF.
- Creating a Community of Practitioners (CoP): discussing and exchanging solutions around key challenges and boosting capacities of members to link up practice with policy.
- Investing in a sound information platform on SSC in the context of aid effectiveness: boosting dissemination and creating transparency around SSC policy and practice.

Complete information about the TT-SSC at www.southsouth.info. Synthesis report of the cases and all the cases can be consulted at www.southsouthcases.info.

For further information and feedback on the TT-SSC, please contact southsouthcases@gmail.com