

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Celebrating BAPA+40

DELHI Process - IV

South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities

13-14 August 2018
New Delhi

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RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

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for Developing Countries**

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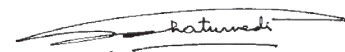
Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General, RIS

RIS has consistently strived to bring together multiple stakeholders to deliberate upon the nature, contours, challenges and way forward for South-South Cooperation (SSC) through a series of conferences articulating the unique features of SSC. With wider covenant and its effectiveness the endeavour is being referred to as the Delhi Processes.

In 2013, RIS initiated the first 'Conference of Southern Providers' on South-South Cooperation, held on 15-16 April 2013 in New Delhi, thereby creating a platform for strengthening the exchange of knowledge and ideas. This was followed by the second conference on 'South-South Cooperation: Issues and Emerging Challenges' held on 10-11 March 2016 in New Delhi, with an aim to bring forth the plurality and diversity South-South Cooperation (SSC) and focused on better understanding emerging challenges as the global architecture evolved. The third edition of the conference which by then became known as the Delhi Process, focused on 'South-South and Triangular Cooperation'. The conference took place on 24-25 August 2017 in New Delhi, and was organised by RIS in partnership with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. The process delved deeper into understanding the increasing complexity of the development engagements as actors moved towards triangulation of partnerships guided by the sustainability goals of Agenda 2030. The fourth conference on 'South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities' held on 13-14 August 2018 in New Delhi, was the collective outcome of the rich deliberations of the first three Delhi processes. Thus the Fourth Delhi Process moved towards understating SSC through a theoretical lens armed with a deeper knowledge of southern and triangular cooperation, and in light of the changing empirical realities.

RIS is pleased to present key takeaways emerging from the various plenary and technical sessions at the fourth Delhi Process. With the expanding nature of SSC towards growth and development of Southern countries guided by the principles of solidarity, horizontality, mutual benefit, respect for national sovereignty and ownership, and demand driven cooperation, this report aims to contribute towards a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities as one works towards articulating a theoretical framework for southern cooperation. This report also seeks to evolve a convergence of ideas on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, a step towards meeting the objectives of SDG 17.



Sachin Chaturvedi

Celebrating BAPA+40

South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities

DELHI Process - IV

13-14 August 2018

India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

Background and Key Observations

The South-South Cooperation (SSC) and recent efforts towards the conceptualisation of Triangular Development Cooperation (TDC), have come a long way from their modest beginnings and have emerged as an integral aspect of the global development architecture. Establishment of institutions like New Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and the International Solar Alliance, bear testimony to the growing impact of the SSC in the global arena. The IBSA Declaration on SSC made in Pretoria on June 4, 2018 reiterated further the principles of SSC as the cornerstone of development cooperation by the members of the group. The forthcoming United Nations commemorative conference on the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA+40) rests on this checkered and proactive history of SSC.

The mission of Southern countries is to cooperate with each other by sharing technical and economic knowledge and skills. In 2013, India initiated an international platform for knowledge creation and sharing by organising a *Conference of Southern Providers* at New Delhi, known as the first Delhi Process. This conference, hosted by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), in collaboration with United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and supported by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, began a dialogue on the nature and contours of SSC, with the aim of enhancing knowledge sharing which led to the conceptualisation of a Forum for Indian Development Corporation (FIDC) and the Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST).

In 2016, the second Delhi Process continued to highlight the plurality and diversity in perspectives on SSC, focusing on sectoral issues engaging academicians and researchers, policy-makers and practitioners, as well as civil society and businesses from across the globe. The second Delhi Process also formally

launched NeST, which is a think tank and academic forum that evolved through multiple deliberations to become a collaborative initiative for the South and by the South. Subsequently, the third Delhi Process (2017) with a focus on Triangular Development Cooperation delved into the notion of triangularity to create linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals, South-South cooperation and the traditional North-South cooperation.

Some of the challenges concerning the conceptualisation of SSC are three fold. First, it is imperative to develop a southern narrative in international development cooperation. Second, this narrative needs to have a southern voice coming from developing countries themselves, for engaging southern actors. Third, given the converging nature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there is a need to deliberate upon institutional mechanisms for South-South and Triangular cooperation. The preceding three Delhi Processes, in a step-wise manner, aimed to address these challenges. The cumulative contribution of these processes facilitated the fourth Delhi Process to move towards reflecting upon South-South cooperation through a theoretical lens in the light of empirical realities.

Thus, fourth Delhi Process initiated a journey to deliberate on the theoretical premise of SSC and how to carry the process forward. RIS, jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC); NeST; and FIDC, organised the International Conference on “South-South Cooperation and BAPA+40 – Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities,” during 13-14 August, 2018 at New Delhi. The focus of this conference was to strengthen theoretical nuances of SSC and study expansion of the global understanding of development cooperation – its conceptual frameworks and relevant empirical validation. The theoretical construct that was taken up for deliberation at the fourth Delhi Process focused on creating a structure and an agreement on some of the non- negotiable principles of the SSC and emergence of the development compact as a theoretical modelling of modalities involved in the SSC.

H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President-Elect of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly, delivered the inaugural speech, and Prof. Amitav Acharya, Distinguished Professor, American University, Washington D.C. gave the keynote address. Ambassador Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS, chaired the inaugural session and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC; H.E. Mr. Daniel Chuburu, Ambassador, Embassy of the Argentine Republic, New Delhi; and Shri T. S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India gave special remarks.

The two-day Delhi Process IV carried out deliberations through a number of sessions. The themes included the theoretical framework of SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation (TDC); a Southern Methodology for Impact Assessment; the role of SSC and TDC in Peace and Conflict Management; the role of Civil Society Organisations for Financial Inclusion in SSC and TDC; among others. Some sessions also delved into sectoral level analysis of SSC in health, science and technology, agriculture, trade and investment that drew upon selective case studies. This was complemented by a special side event on an Independent Comprehensive Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation lead by Mr. Hany Besada, a senior research coordinator, at the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. Day two of the Delhi Process IV brought academicians, practitioners, experts together in a roundtable of Partners of NeST and FIDC. Following which the sessions opened up to debate and discussed the complementarity between SSC, SDGs and development finance. Drawing upon the emerging Indian experience, a special session was held on development partnerships. The final session was dedicated to Plurality and Heterogeneity which drew upon a wide range of perspectives on SSC and TDC.

Discussions towards establishing a theoretical framework for SSC brought forth the perspectives of the Monetarist and Structuralists schools of thought with debates on moving forward with either a hybrid model or a new approach in economics. On one side is the merging of the approaches where the Monetarists strongly view development and growth taking place with macroeconomic stability and the Structuralists believing that the structure of the economy matters more in terms of building capacity of the population to undertake sustainable growth even if it is at the cost of macroeconomic stability in the short term. Either creating a synthesis or a new approach, the deliberations asserted that a theoretical framework should incorporate the core principles of SSC.

The conference collectively underscored the importance of building domestic capacity as a pillar of SSC, not just for countries to take ownership of their own growth narrative but also to benefit better from North-South as well as South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Deliberations on impact assessment of SSC saw the emergence of two levels of analysis, at the macro and micro level. The macro level analysis dealt with the contributions focused on the reductions of inequalities drawing from the works of Raul Prebisch and Albert Hirschmann, in a multidisciplinary way. The micro level analysis looked at how SSC initiatives contribute towards departmental processes, i.e. local conditions and the respect for various idiosyncrasies. Prominent debates within SSC look at primary questions – What should be the basis for an assessment methodology and what should be the accounting framework for SSC? These questions are not independent of each other and are often juxtaposed. The possibility of applying the principles of SSC in impact assessment add to the opportunity to improve the initial diagnosis resulting in an improved designing of projects and deliver a more rich impact assessment. To that effect, projects aligned with localised needs will allow for ownership even at the community level. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi noted that SSC works best on the level of project initiatives, drawing upon the micro level.

Availability of Development Finance at a viable rate and its various sources were discussed. The sessions observed that trade flows are considered natural but investments are strategic and possess the potential of capacity building which is an important consideration for Southern countries. Furthermore, it is imperative for them to realise the effectiveness of local currency in international trade to address their vulnerability. The international rupee SWAP exchanges emerged as a key example. The presence or absence of conditionality is going to define the distinct nature of SSC vis-a-vis credit risk, indebtedness and financial uncertainties from other forms of development cooperation especially Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Knowledge flows mark the progress of development and build capacity to improve the process inherently. Civil Society Organisations also have a major role to play in the process of SSC in setting standards and building successful linkages between the government and the private sector.

The conference opened avenues for a continued dialogue that aimed to seep into the debates at the G20 as well as the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 20 to 22 March 2019. Development of the future of work, agriculture and infrastructure were the repeated priority areas for collective Southern development, as highlighted by the G20 Sherpa and the Argentinean Ambassador. The Roundtable brought new research agendas to the fore that impinged upon the running themes of the Delhi Process IV, namely, the methodology for impact assessment and curricular pedagogical initiatives. Realising its aim, the Fourth Delhi Process moved towards establishing a network of policymakers, civil society and academicians to bring together various stakeholders for collective action.

The concept note and detailed agenda of the conference are as annexed to this document for ready reference.



DAY I

13 August 2018

NeST
Network of Southern Think-Tanks

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for Developing Countries
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Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

UNITED NATIONS
संयुक्त राष्ट्र

FIC
FORUM FOR
INDIAN DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION
भारतीय विकास सहयोग मंच

Celebrating BAPA+40

South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities

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T.S. Tirumurti

Amitav Acharya

H.E. Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

Mohan Kumar

Inaugural Session



Ambassador Mohan Kumar
Chairman, RIS

MOHAN KUMAR (Chair)

- There is a need to understand the role of South-South Cooperation and what it will do with regard to emerging challenges such as cyber security, artificial intelligence, robotics, and their impact on developing countries. India has recently implemented the recommendation of the Srikrishna Committee Report on Data Protection.
- It is important to look at the impact of the emerging challenges on developing countries and whether the South requires a unified position to address these challenges
- As the global development architecture is changing, it is imperative to assess the existing architecture and address its challenges before articulating the vision of a new global development architecture.



Professor Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General, RIS

SACHIN CHATURVEDI (Welcome Remarks)

- Shedding light on Delhi Processes I, II and III, the welcome remarks highlighted the trajectory of the various processes that have delved into the idea of “One World” with an approach towards Triangular Cooperation and also emphasised on key details of SSC.
- Delhi Process IV aimed to create the space to discuss issues related to theoretical perspectives in the light of the empirical realities. Given the need for theorising SSC, the South has to make efforts for deepening of the work initiated by Raul Prebisch and the vision of the rise of the South as a peaceful phenomenon.
- The Conference brought national and international institutions like the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST), China International Development Research Network (CIDRN) together to foster an ecosystem for collective deliberation.
- The focus was on a demand driven engagement with the idea of mutual gain, as SSC is not just about Government to Government engagement, but also requires engagements from civil society and private sector.



Mr. Jorge Chediek
Director, UNOSSC

JORGE CHEDIK (Remarks)

- In the new objective reality of a different changing political-economic geography at the global level the international community through the General assembly would commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.
- The idea of having the commemorative conference is to reflect upon the new realities of the South. The South of 1978 is not the South of the Nairobi Outcome of 2009, nor will it remain the same as all countries work towards Agenda 2030. Thus the changing South and the global agendas of

SDGs, Rio, Sendai need to come together to have policies for better SSC.

- In outlining the next steps of UNOSSC, the roadmap to BAPA+40 was laid out. Beginning with an independent comprehensive report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation that will serve as a repository for what has been done under the aegis of SSC, it will also highlight the challenges and issues to be addressed by BAPA+40. After this a process will be initiated under the UN General Assembly to negotiate the outcome document of the Conference. The core themes of the BAPA+40 Conference is to be linked to the UN Agenda 2030, with subthemes on comparative advantages and opportunities of SSC; challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of SSC and triangular cooperation; sharing of experiences, best practices and success stories; and scaling up the means of implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development in support of SSC and triangular cooperation.
- The thinkers of the South and the member states are required to facilitate the processes of preparatory meetings, as UN agencies are going to concentrate on thematic areas, to enrich the perspectives of the member-states and to share their ideas.
- Applauding the work of India, gratitude was expressed towards the intellectual leadership of RIS, and the political leadership of India and its committing of resources to make SSC a reality.
- The India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) fund, established 10 years ago, and the India-UN Development Fund, where India is committing USD 50 million for SSC, were recognised as credible efforts in SSC in meeting financial commitments.



H.E. Mr. Daniel Chuburu
*Ambassador, Embassy of the
Argentina Republic, New Delhi*

DANIEL CHUBURU *(Remarks)*

- The BAPA+40 Conference would be a great opportunity to discuss and redefine the dynamics of South-South and Triangular Cooperation.
- The past years have witnessed an increased multilateral activity in which Southern countries demonstrated a great dynamism and decision-making process at the global and regional level. Nevertheless, it is necessary that the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation should be done in a complementary way with traditional cooperation and the historical commitments of SSC regarding capacity building, transfer of technology and provision of financial resources to developing countries.
- There is a need for institutional strengthening of SSC, for an adequate development of cooperation projects for promotion of a better regional and inter-regional articulation and synergies. Regional and interregional platforms have great potential for building networks, establishing peer review mechanisms and to coordinate positions in global forums.
- Based on the principle of the SSC, promotion of triangular cooperation and strengthened mechanisms for joint implementation and shared governance need to be prioritised.
- The absence of monitoring and evaluation systems, focussing on impact as well as processes, based on both quantitative and qualitative matrix,



Shri T. S. Tirumurti
*Secretary (ER), Ministry
of External Affairs,
Government of India*

makes it impossible to have accurate and comparable information and data related to the contributions of SSC.

T. S. TIRUMURTI (*Remarks*)

- In a world where everything is being reduced to monetary terms, predictable financing is essential for developing countries. The commitment to meet their obligation for development from the financing being made available to them is important.
- The North is taking note of the growing development cooperation within the global South. However, it is looking at SSC only in monetary terms by following the traditional template for accounting. This highlights the problem of viewing South from a Northern Perspective.
- SSC is becoming critical for bolstering the productive capacities of developing countries and acting as the fulcrum around which several sustainable linkages can be created beyond government to government initiatives.
- There is a growing reluctance on the part of North to shoulder its own responsibilities, which is becoming increasingly apparent when meeting the climate change obligations under UNFCCC or in assisting for the realisation of the SDGs.
- The South is not in favour of dilution of the ODA nor does it undermine the growing emphasis on private funding.
- Facing these circumstances, the Global South has had to come up with its own paradigm, its own principles for SSC. There is no single universal template for South-South partnership. Each country has its own priorities that need to be respected.
- SSC is a manifestation of solidarity of the South to promote sustainability, national wellbeing and self-reliance. Consequently, it is imperative that this cooperation is determined by the countries of the South guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, sharing, non-conditionality, being demand driven, with non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit.
- India's approach has always been sensitive to the needs and requirements of its development partners. This has never resulted in any indebtedness or disruption of their economies.
- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi outlined 10 guiding principles for India's engagement with Africa, a major platform for its engagement in SSC, generating enthusiasm and vigour in India-Africa relations.
- Establishment of the BRICS New Development Bank and Contingent Reserve Arrangement have been major achievements of the global South towards economic and financial governance. The pioneering IBSA Fund for poverty and hunger alleviation partnering with the UN system, the UNOSCC, has met with success. It has been able to identify replicable and scalable projects in the fight against poverty and hunger by undertaking 27 projects in 15 developing countries.

- However, there are no significant efforts to address the matters related to the reform of multilateral institutions and institutions of global governance and to acknowledge the growing role of the global South especially in development partnership.
- Prime Minister Modi pointed out that while India does not support the growing unilateralism and protectionist tendencies of the day, at the same time the world cannot go back to the status quo on multilateralism and of the current international world order. PM Modi called for a reformed multilateralism around which the Global South can coalesce. Reform should go hand in hand with acknowledgment of the rising South.
- SSC has traditionally been an important pillar of India's foreign policy, covering areas like development, defence and security, health, science & technology, and education. It is through the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) scholarships and fellowships, capacity building, Lines of Credit and grants that these efforts are made to strengthen India's development partners, in its neighbourhood, Africa, the Arab World, Small Island States, South East Asia and beyond.
- Triangular cooperation and SSC can only supplement international obligations to development assistance. India will be happy to partner with countries, even from the North willing to join in providing assistance to India's developing country partners.
- The Prime Minister's initiative of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an example of how SSC and Triangular Cooperation can co-exist for a better world.
- As a note of caution, the remarks guarded against coming up with a well-meaning yet restrictive template which may constrict rather than facilitate SSC.



H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés
President-Elect of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly.

MARÍA FERNANDA (*Inaugural Address*)

- The Inaugural Address outlined the trajectory of the BAPA where 138 countries came together to agree on a plan to share technical knowledge and enhance cooperation amongst developing countries. With a singular goal, there was need to expedite and streamline development through shared knowledge, technology transfer and joined efforts to strengthen sustainable development. At its core, BAPA was and remains an acknowledgement that achieving the well-being of humanity requires one to look beyond sectors or borders and to find common shared solutions.
- It is a critical moment to reflect and reinvigorate on the current status of SSC particularly in the context of geopolitical and fiscal challenges and to take action that help revitalise the plan and approach for South-South and triangular cooperation in achieving development objectives and the sustainable development goals.
- Enhanced South-South and Triangular cooperation, that is facilitated and encouraged at all levels, will enable countries to compensate for potential setbacks through mutual support and through strengthened regional trade, investment and development.

- SSC can boost pre-existing efforts that might have slowed down, pave the way for new opportunities and make important contributions in helping countries to undertake necessary changes – institutional, structural, technological or otherwise – that can enable their advancement.
- SSC is not about replacing North–South cooperation, rather it is complementary. For sharing lessons, experiences, technologies and opportunities amongst our peers, therefore, it is imperative.
- The address shed light on the IBSA dialogue forum, and the recent reaffirmation to its commitments on sharing technologies through a joint declaration. The declaration went on to emphasise that measures to ensure technology transfer must be in place.
- She acknowledged India’s leadership in the ISA, which brings together countries to support energy access, create jobs, spur innovation, protect the environment and enhance the market share of solar power.
- If Agenda 2030 is to be met, then the aspirations of BAPA, IBSA, ISA and many such examples should not only be continued, but also reinforced and built upon.
- BAPA+40 conference will be an opportunity to emphasise on such engagements and the future of international development cooperation.
- There is a need for stronger integration coupled with the expansion of regional infrastructure, the building of equal South–South trading relationships and greater regional policy coordination.
- As by President of the UN General Assembly, the inaugural address reinstated the international commitment to supporting the BAPA plus 40 process and the effort to produce a strong and meaningful outcome document by February 2019. The aim is to boost cooperation, integration, solidarity as a means to transform lives and well-being of all.



Prof. Amitav Acharya
*Distinguished Professor,
 American University,
 Washington D.C.*

AMITAV ACHARYA (*Keynote Address*)

- The Keynote Address reflected on the current state of global affairs in the world as a ‘Multiplex World’. The globalised world has a lot of linkages, presenting a complicated and complex picture. It is neither unipolar nor bipolar, nor does it create a picture of multipolarity.
- Setting the vision of a multiplex world, also being called an MGO, the address visualised a world with no dominant power. A multiplex world is defined by diversity, as opposed to traditional concept of polarity.
- The actors in the MGO are not just great national powers, but also have a blend of non-state actors. In the absence of a global hegemony, the MGO will have persisting cultural and political diversity with a fragmented global governance framework.
- Globalisation is likely to be led more by the “rest”, as opposed to the dominant players of the past. Thus greater focus in a multiplex world would be more on an equitable just world.
- A multiplex world will have new actors, including institutions like

the BRICS, groupings like G20, regional organisations, inter regional groupings as well as private actors from the corporate sectors.

- Issues like climate change, terrorism, refugees and migration will continue to be at the forefront.
- Despite all the inequality evident in today's world, global governance agenda would increasingly have to embrace more and more issues of justice and ethics, primarily in the current international development agenda.
- It concluded with the narrative of an "ideas shift" and not just "power shift" with solutions and visions emerging for the South.

Plenary Session I: Theoretical Framework of SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation

Chair: Dr. Carlos M. Correa, South Centre, Geneva.

Co-Chair: Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka.

Panelists: Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS; Dr. Emma Mawdsley, Cambridge University; Dr. Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil; and Dr. Anthea Mulakala, The Asia Foundation

Special Comments: Mr. David Rasquinha, Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai; Prof. Aristides Sitas, University of Cape Town, South Africa; and Prof. Sreeram Chaulia, O.P. Jindal Global University, New Delhi.

Key Takeaways

- The theoretical constructs brought into focus the heterogeneity within the South and the distinctive features of Southern institutions.
- One perspective on a theoretical framework is that the models of Monetarism and Structuralism converge to form a middle ground, as SSC is not just about technical projects but also regarding policy.
- Another perspective emerged that the theoretical framework should not be trapped within a paradigm of either Monetarism or Structuralism but toward something new with terms of measurements.
- Trade and investment in the South is surging. The share of the South in the global trade was about 32 per cent in 2000 and is 44 per cent today; FDI inflows over the same period have also increased from



17 per cent to 47 per cent. The South-South exports also grew to almost six-fold from US\$644 billion in 1996 to US\$4 trillion in 2016.

- The South-South trade has been particularly increased due to intra-regional exports, which increased from about 42 per cent in 1996 to 57 per cent in 2016. The highest share of the intra-regional trade out of total trade in developing Asia was at about 53 per cent, followed by developing Africa at 18 per cent and then developing America at 16.5 per cent.
- Larger financial and trade flows are imperative to better understand the dynamism of the growth in developing countries. For instance, between 2005 and 2008 Ethiopia's growth rate of 12 per cent per annum did not make much sense when one solely observed a country's possession of raw materials.
- South-South practices are being emulated by the North and this is reflected in the narrative shift.
- Two concepts emerged from the discussions: first one is the fact that in SSC, all countries can simultaneously provide and receive assistance, overcoming categorisation; and the second concept highlights the end of an era of conditionalities, as countries move from a vertical approach to a horizontal approach, from donor-ship to partnership.
- The South is not uniform but solidarity is at its core, based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. Even though the South recognises that diversity exists, it is necessary that it is also able to unite.
- As 15 countries graduate from low-income countries to middle-income status, they would neither be eligible for preferential treatment and market access nor will they be eligible for the World Bank IDA type assistance with 0.75 per cent interest rate. Thus these countries need to deepen SSC to ensure that none is left behind.
- Developing local capacity is an utmost priority along with capacity building. Focus on local capacities forms a pillar for SSC, distinct from North-South Cooperation. Domestic resource mobilisation and a strong financial ecosystem are crucial for development.



Parallel Session IA: SSC at Sectoral Level: Health, Science and Technology Sector

Chair: Ms Sanusha Naidu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa.

Panelists: Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil; Prof. T.C. James, RIS, New Delhi; Ambassador Bhaskar Balakrishnan, RIS; and Ms. Jessica Alejandra Figueroa Del Valle, Florales Vogue, Guatemala.

Key Takeaways

- Based on the Indian experience, the challenges in most of the developing countries would be in four areas: infrastructure (adequate number of hospitals, dispensaries or even Primary Health Centres); human resource; medicines (availability of, access, affordability and also the quality); and diagnostics (medical devices).
- Science and technology is an area that lies at the base of all economic prosperity, growth and competitiveness. The health sector is one such area where science and SSC have a rich scope for converging for development in the pharmaceutical sector, innovation for medical devices, use of ICT in medicine and health care services.



- A case presentation of the Brazilian SSC in health sector has drawn upon a distinctive approach. This has been historically and traditionally based to a large extent on the successful policies and programmes implemented domestically highlighting how the domestic realm informed foreign policy.
- Taking example of the pan-African e-Network, covering 53 countries of Africa and using technology in health cooperation, lessons were drawn from looking at how projects should be oriented to the needs of the South and for each different country. Ownership should be local and innovative approaches are needed to reduce cost by judicious use of technology.
- Agenda 2030 is a global agreement in order for governments to assume development objectives and responsibilities and is important to address climate change. The challenge however lies in implementation. For example, financial poverty does not mean that everyone should be on a social benefits programme, but the focus has to be on generating investment and employment.
- There is a need to understand varying needs of the countries, their respective ideologies and plans to achieve the global and domestic development goals.

Parallel Session IB: SSC at Sectoral Level: Agriculture

Chair: Prof. R. B. Singh, Global Forum for Farmers, New Delhi.

Panelists: Dr. Bernabe Malacalza, National Scientific and Technical Research Council, Argentina; Dr. Fanwell Kenala Bokosi, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development, Zimbabwe; Mr. Alvaro Moreira, IDS, Sussex, UK; Mr. AravazhiSelvaraj, ICRISAT, Hyderabad and Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS.

Key Takeaways

- In the Global South, agriculture is the most important sector for livelihood security; therefore there is a high dependence on agriculture to the extent of 40-60 per cent of the population.
- Dependence on the agriculture continues to be high, even though contribution of agriculture to the GDP of nations has declined by 25-30 per cent while income disparity within the agriculture sector is increasing.
- Majority of the farmers in the Global South are smallholder farmers and feminisation in agriculture predominates, particularly in Africa and India.
- In assessing effects of the SSC, two level of analysis have emerged – the macro level and micro level. Macro level is the extent to which SSC contributes to reduction of inequalities and improvement in access to food, drawing from the views of Raul Prebisch and Albert Hirschmann.



- The micro level of analysis reflects upon the extent to which the SSC initiatives contribute to the developmental process, such as being culturally appropriate to local conditions and respectful of idiosyncrasies.
- In the context of Africa, a continent that has 55 countries, five regions, 52 republics, three monarchies, 1.1 billion people and over 1500 languages, agriculture has become the common link. If one looks at the primary source of income and food, agriculture provides 60 per cent of all the jobs on the African continent. If the population continues to grow at the current rate, Africa would need to increase its food needs by 60 per cent in the following 15 years.
- It is assessed that by 2030, Africa's food and beverage market in terms of value would be over one trillion dollars. Africa has over 200 million hectares and represents half of the world's uncultivated land, which can be potentially brought into production. Also, Africa uses only 2 per cent of its renewable water resources.
- Given the diversity of Africa, technologies cannot be transferred in a vacuum; they must have a human face, be contextual, differentiated, and disaggregated.
- SSC is based on the issues of solidarity and mutual concerns. Looking at agriculture, similarities can be found in Brazil, India and China, which faced agricultural problems having large populations but have progressed through development in agriculture systems. Thus, sharing of experiences is crucial in SSC.
- The agribusiness and innovation platform, which is a public-private partnership initiative of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), aims to commercialise various technologies developed over years exploring various ways of working with the private sector, especially "Start-up" enterprises and companies to collaborate on different research platforms.
- SSC in agriculture can play more than one role. There are multiple actors, including UN agencies, civil system, private sector, and thus SSC is not just cooperation between governments. This increases complexity at the ground level when private-public partnerships are launched or when private sector adds on itself to SSC. However complex, various engagements should be encouraged.
- A major issue with SSC in agriculture is that there is a lack of verified data. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has made an effort to provide some data; however, International Funds for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and China have separate sources of data. No single source of data exists in which country-wise, donor-wise, recipient-wise or sector wise projects, beneficiaries or investments in the agriculture sector can be identified.

Parallel Session IC: Case Studies on SSC and TDC (Trade & Investment)

Chair: Mr Rajeev Kher, RIS, New Delhi.

Panelists: Mr. Rajan Ratna, UN ESCAP, New Delhi; Ms. Hanna Bucher, ITC, Geneva; Ms. Chanda Ashley Mwali, Zambia; Dr. Gulnaz Atabaeva, Alatoo International University, Kyrgyz Republic; Mr. Nitya Nanda, TERI, New Delhi; and Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, RIS.

Key Takeaways

- South-South trade is essentially a manifestation of the SSC but it only gives the current paradigm, which is that trade is not flowing from North to South but at a much greater rate from South to North and South to South. The new paradigm of trading among developing countries is increasing.
- One of the first SSC initiatives which came up in the South Asian region was the 1975 Bangkok Agreement, which was a preferential trading agreement for all developing countries of Asia and Pacific. Subsequently, a global trade agreement came out as GSTP, which is catered by UNCTAD in Geneva. Unfortunately, none of these two preferential trading agreements became effective in promotion of South-South trade.
- The Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa (SITA) project, funded by the Department for International Development, UK, mandated to the International Trade Centre (ITC) is engaged with



India and five east African countries of Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Taking on a triangular approach, SITA aims at strengthening trade and investment relationships between African countries and India. The focus of SITA is to locate investment opportunities for Indian businesses in selected African countries. The project aims at finding the appropriate African businesses for Indian investments to create productive capacity and enhance incomes.

- Access to good and timely market information is a real key in achieving business success in South-South trade and investment.
- Considering the case of Zambia's investment, opportunities are available in different sectors of the economy that include manufacturing, tourism, and energy. Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) is a one stop-shop for all import-related transactions. Given Zambia's energy shortage, its government has prioritised the energy sector and road infrastructure. In this vein, the government has set up an office to help investment licenses and statutory obligation within the energy sector.
- A recommendation has emerged on the 'one size fitting all' models of cooperation. What may work for one through collaborating on SSC may not work for the other. So the need for tailor-made collaboration is crucial. Adoption of development policies should be based on the national needs and capacities.
- Central Asian countries, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, lost their earlier markets and were unable to compete under the new market conditions. The transformation of former Soviet administrative borders into borders between newly independent Central Asian countries have created an enormous challenge to intra-regional trade and for the domestic movement of people and goods within individual countries, especially in the densely populated Ferghana Valley shared between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- Central Asia at a crossroad has a potential for sustainable development innovation. Achieving SDGs through SSC in Central Asia is the key. SSC presents innovative and vibrant network system connecting countries of the global South on mutually agreed terms to address common challenges and opportunities by logic of sharing.
- Trade does not always follow the strategic and political relations between countries. Rather, trade can also be largely market dependent. Investment, on the other hand, is always strategic. If two countries do not have political relations, they may not have a lot of investment funding. Thus political cooperation should precede or follow trade relations.
- While trade is a natural flow, investment can actually create flows and create capacities. Thus the importance of regulation and how regulation can actually open a market or close a market is high.
- There is some rationale to argue for trade in the local currency. Owing to the severity of exchange rate fluctuations and the cost of converting hard currency or availing hard currency in the market which adds to transaction costs, small countries face the difficulty to remain competitive on ground. Therefore, it is important to protect LDCs and small countries, especially

those having less foreign exchange reserves and having less deep forex markets. The point here is that the emerging market currencies are gaining acceptability as South-South trade intensifies.

- Historically, India and Nepal have maintained a rich and comprehensive relationship. This includes non-reciprocal market access, duty- free and quota- free access. In addition to that they have a rupee trade scheme, where the Nepalese traders can pay in rupee and can utilise INR proceeds to buy goods from India. The same has been extended to Iran also after 2012.
- The utility and effectiveness of rupee trade or trade in the local currency as such is an attempt towards addressing vulnerability of Southern countries in the international trade. The idea is to overcome exchange rate volatility and its implications on trade and put in place risk mitigation mechanisms.

Parallel Session IIA: Quest for Southern Methodology for Impact Assessment

Chair: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS, New Delhi.

Panelists: Dr. Martín Rivero Illa, Coordinador, Área de Cohesión Social y Cooperación Sur Sur (SEGIB), Madrid; Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, RIS, Dr. José Claudio Klein de Moura Junior, Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), Brazil; Ms. Luara Lopes ArticulosoSul, Brazil, Mr. Rex Joshua, DFID, New Delhi; and Mr. Bulama Dauda, Nigeria.

Key Takeaways

- There are two prominent debates on the forum of the SSC. What should be the assessment methodology and what should be the accounting framework for the SSC? These two issues are not independent of one another and are often juxtaposed with one another.
- There are two key emerging factors. First, the degree of monetisation in SSC. The second is conditionality, its increase or lack of it or decrease in the process. There are issues raised in terms of risks, uncertainties and indebtedness vis-à-vis SSC. There exists a very clear distinction between the 'west' and the 'rest'. There were movements in favour of beyond government, to think of SSC in terms of people-to-people connect.
- One important issue is the lack of national capacity to absorb resources given in terms of development assistance or development cooperation.



- The case of the Ibero-American Secretariat SEGIB, accounts for 22 Ibero-American countries in Latin America and the Ibero countries of Portugal, Spain and Andorra. SEGIB has a data collection process which began from paperwork, and evolved to become an automatic web and sophisticated information system to collect and process all data. More than 1000 SSC projects are included in the database and have more than 8000 projects to date. The information is cross-checked on both sides, with triangulation in information verification.
- On the quest for a Southern methodology for impact assessment, one cannot disregard aspects of lower degree of monetisation and the factors necessary to develop an effective methodology. Referring to the work of Ben Porath in 1980, which characterised the exchange of resources within a family, it was highlighted that transactions in a family cannot be contracted before-hand. SSC and its identification of solidarity as the main force draw theoretical insight from the work. SSC interventions generally are sequential and therefore methodologically not fit for evaluation.
- Assessment is to improve future performance. Evaluation is an effort to measure something against a given benchmark or a given norm, thus it moves to judge the worth of a performance against a predefined standard. Under an assessment, both the assessee and assessor set the criteria, which in evaluation it is determined by the evaluator.
- Assessment is formative whereas evaluation is summative. The focus on measurement is process-oriented under assessment, while being product-oriented under evaluation.
- Standards of measure are absolute in assessment without comparison.
- SSC needs assessment and not OECD DAC's model of evaluation of impact, i.e. not one-way impact but impact on both the partners keeping the issue of mutual benefits in mind.
- Questions on evaluation emerged on why and what to evaluate. From the point of view of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), there were technical and political aspects for the organisation to evaluate in favour of institutional learning process mainly to develop better initiatives, to reduce errors and to promote transparency and accountability of the SSC outcomes between partners and society.
- On impact assessment, ABC pointed out the challenges on how to determine the incidence of SSC actions in a particular project as well as the issue of availability of resource in undertaking comprehensive assessments.
- The opportunities that emerged from the perspective of ABC on impact assessment highlights the possibility to rethink the SSC models and develop its implementation actions.
- The possibility of applying principles of SSC in impact assessment in the mid-term or internal evaluation adds to the opportunity to improve initial diagnosis. This would result in better design of projects and consequently more objective and rich impact assessment.
- Question was raised whether there is a conceptual clarity when designing assessment indicators in the SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation projects. Indicators of ABC have a South-South technical cooperation management manual that describes the project cycle orientation and execution of South-South technical cooperation and offers guidelines for the formulation of SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation assessment indicators.
- Brazil has some initiatives on the SSC measurement. However, an official report called Brazilian Cooperation for International Development (COBRADI) emerged as a complex one. It is not just for the SSC but also has every contribution that Brazil does to international development.
- Bringing DFID India's experiences and perspective, which moved for some time from financial aid to technical assistance which resulted in reduction in DFID India portfolio of more than 300 million pounds to about 60 million pounds. From grants, DFID has now moved to development capital assistance and technical assistance.

- The Paris Declaration principles are closely aligned to the principles of ownership, wherein developing countries have set their own strategies for poverty reduction, improving their institutions, tackling cooperation. The traditional donors such as DFID, can then align behind these objectives and use local systems in the achievements of goals, resulting in a harmonised triangular approach.
- When looking at the impact of ODA in Nigeria, it was negligible. While donor funding was available, the counterpart funding was not as the problems associate with the high cost of technical assistance, taking a donor-driven approach, issues in aid delivery and proliferation of aid agencies, as well as uneven spread of aid persisted. Moreover, inadequate control of the portfolios of the project and corruption added to project and institutional weaknesses.
- It is important for both provider and recipient countries to strategically plan and channel incoming assistance for economic development by aligning projects to national priorities. The coordinating agency should make more efforts to ensure capturing and updating of all information regarding aid activities. This would help in continuous improvement of projects.
- In SSC, the projects should be aligned to localised needs. A project should be such that the community should be able to own it. There must be transparency and having a database is important as everybody in the community would be able to see what type of programmes are taking place in the community, and what kind of contributions can be provided. Assessments help achieve these objectives.

Parallel Session IIB: Role of SSC and TDC in Peace and Conflict Management

Chair: Mr. Thomas Fues, Germany.

Panelists: Mr. Denis Nkala, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Bangkok; Mr. Carlos E. Timo Brito, The Pandia Calogeras Institute, Ministry of Defense, Brazil; Mr. Deepak Kumar Adhikari, Neeti Anusandhan Pratishthan, Nepal (NeNAP), Kathmandu; Dr. Ruchita Beri, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi; and Dr. Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay, PRIA, New Delhi.

Key Takeaways

- Peace and conflict management is very important in a global development process. The focus is to come up with the an understanding of the fundamental element of sustainable development. To achieve the 2030 agenda or sustainable development goals, countries need peace and proper management of conflicts.
- Over 170 wars are ongoing globally, and most of them are in the South. This is an important statistics as it indicates that a lot of work has to be done through SSC in the area of peace building and conflict management.
- For a long time countries have been open to the prospects of the regional institutions, promoting peace and forming them for the purpose of promoting peace. But the question that needs attention is: How are they trying to reconcile with the work that is being done under the SDGs?



- It is important that peace-building and conflict management should involve a country to work with its neighbours. The main reason is that a lot of the conflicts happen because a neighbour or another country or some countries in the region may actually provide safe havens for people who are fighting within a country. It is important to have a good neighbour policy for the other countries in the region to be supportive.
- Another point is whether the principles of SSC about non-interference actually make it difficult for the cooperation to be applied in the area of peace-building and conflict management.
- Looking at the theoretical side of the conference, we need to assess to what extent we need theories of SSC and maybe one basic argument is how we can support any policy today without evidence, theories and science. They are all interlinked.
- There is a need to challenge basic assumptions of International Relations theories, in the light of the emergence of SSC, especially as the assumptions were created or constructed or crafted during the Cold War or immediately after the Cold War and do not make sense in a rapidly changing world. One of the assumptions is based on the cost of non-cooperation in the traditional theories. Some recent developments related to stochastic games and other forms of rationalities, that sometimes people cooperate just because it is good to cooperate and it is based more on principles and feelings and are not necessarily for immediate or automatic payoffs.
- Taking the issue of non-proliferation, successful cases of SSC that have supported non-proliferation are seldom highlighted in Western narratives. For example, South Africa is the only country that has voluntarily denuclearised while most nuclear free zones are located in the Global South. This was an outcome of sheer political will and engagement amongst Southern countries and the existence of such nuclear free zones emerged from the needs of the South.
- So far as SSC is concerned, engagement of the youth and students to bring peace and resolve the conflict is essential. Students play an important role in social transformation and add to leadership. Therefore, it is of a prime importance to think about a country's educational system within a SSC forum. An education system works towards developing a national character and discipline amongst the youth. Without youth participation, countries would face challenges to bring peace and resolve conflicts.
- In terms of security and conflict prevention, one of the important factors which the Southern countries have highlighted is the linkage between security and development, which are the two sides of the same coin, and this is something which is increasingly being recognised across the world, and Indian leadership has been emphasising this perspective time and again.
- India during the discussions on the SDGs said that the task of development agenda must be to create conditions for rapid economic growth, eradication of poverty, want, hunger and holistic and sustainable development.
- The traumatic deterioration of civil liberty and spaces for civil society are some of the early warnings which could be seen more or less across the globe in all the conflict regions. Indeed the inequality and exclusion manifest most starkly in political policy arena, related to the access to political power and governance, land, water, extractive resources, delivery of basic services, justice and security.
- What are the new paradigms for peace-building? Within this understanding there is now a kind of paradigm shift in the way peace-building and conflict management strategies are now being considered. This is premised on the understanding that violence and conflict cannot be resolved by short-term partial solutions and in the absence of institutions, which provide people with security, justice and developmental opportunities.

Parallel Session IIC: Role of CSOs in SSC and TDC: Efforts for Financial Inclusion (in partnership with Sa-Dhan)

Chair: Mr. P Satish, Executive Director, Sa- Dhan, New Delhi.

Panelists: Ms. Jackie Mbabazi, Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda; Mr. Atul, M2i Consulting, New Delhi; Ms. Caroline Karanja, Association of Micro Finance Institutions, Kenya; Ms. Giselle Mendez, The Volunteer Centre of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad & Tobago; and Mr. Pranay Sinha, RIS.

Key Takeaways

- The first effort with regards to financial inclusion in development finance was immediately after the Second World War when developmental efforts and theoretically Keynesian developmental economics with regard to role of the state and in support of the state were prominent.
- India has microfinance institutions coming up. Private sector financial institutions are growing all across the world, especially for micro finance and financial inclusion.
- There are five pillars on which SSC operates with every pillar interlinked. The first one is financial cooperation where more than two actors cooperate at the government to government level or at civil society to civil society level or people-to-people connect or it could be government to civil society. The second one is technology transfer. The third is training and capacity building. The fourth is knowledge and experience sharing and the fifth is in kind contributions.



- Financial inclusion means that individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services meeting one of their five needs that are transaction, payments, savings, credit and insurance, delivered in a responsible and sustainable manner.
- Civil society can play the role of a watchdog to avoid financing gone wrong. Who are going to be responsible actors and to report to whom? Another role CSOs can take up is in advocating the need for various policy changes; that is taking on an advocacy role.
- As a service provider, CSOs can ensure financial inclusion. There could be microfinance institutions which are private, public or quasi-official in nature.
- As an incubator, CSOs can draw from engagement through SHG bank linkages programmes.
- For capacity building, microfinance institutions can play a crucial role in cross country learning or cross organisational learning.
- A key role for CSOs can also emerge in defining standards and the role of building relationship with the key opinion makers to influence policy for private sector.
- The role of the government lies in promoting transparency and accountability in the microfinance sector. CSOs can act as enabler of cross sectoral change as they have first-hand experience dealing with the individual; they can also be part of the policy formulation.
- The Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda (AMIU) is an umbrella body for all the microfinance institutions operating in the country similar to the status of Sa-Dhan in India. It has 124 members that command 78 per cent of the market share in the microfinance sector. AMIU carried out a study on financial inclusion within the country and results show that only 58 per cent of Ugandans are able to access formal financial services. Only 20 per cent can access formal financial services through informal groups wherein money is mobilised at the village level and 22 per cent are excluded completely from either formal or informal financial services. This data is only for adults in Uganda.
- The example of the Volunteer Centre Trinidad & Tobago (VCTT) demonstrated how the organisation leverages volunteerism to support the global development agenda. The focus is on the importance of understanding the most valuable asset behind this agenda, that is the people and how CSOs can broaden people's engagement with mobilizing and activating people around the critical issues. It is all about deconstructing and breaking down the high level rhetoric to engage individuals from ground-up.
- A Kenyan perspective in financial inclusion sphere looks at development of an inclusive financial market regulation. Supply side barriers in Kenya to financial inclusion are related to high costs of accessing financial services, costs of maintaining bank balance, high ledger fees and accounts. Physical barriers stem from the distance between people's residences to financial institutions, branches or financial touch points and, lack of traditional physical collateral. There is also provision of inappropriate products, not suited for customers with low and irregular income. Perceived high risk and lack of information, increased costs and premiums placed on the poor and low income borrowers by financial institutions are also matters of concern.
- On the demand side, the barriers in Kenya emerge from low levels of income and lack of permanent employment; low education and financial literacy levels; cultural, religious and social barriers; risk factors like lack of confidence and insurgence in cybercrimes.
- Kenya has witnessed significant growth and development of the microfinance industry, which plays a pivotal role in deepening financial markets by expanding access to affordable and appropriate financial services and products to majority of Kenyans.

Special Side Event on Independent Comprehensive Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Moderator: Mr. Hany Besada, Senior Research Coordinator, UNOSSC

Key Takeaways

- The United Nations Office for the South-South Cooperation has initiated a process of putting together a comprehensive independent report on South-South and triangular cooperation in time for BAPA+40.
- The report aims to reflect priorities of member-states. It is important to see what have been successes, challenges, opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation over the last forty years and to see how this report can promote further dialogue and understanding of some of these opportunities.
- The report has been divided into three parts. The first quarter of the report looks at what has taken place over the last forty years in terms of successes, challenges, case studies of cooperation based on what has happened. The second quarter looks at present realities and present dynamics. The last quarter of the report is a forward looking scenario in terms of key issues and areas of points of importance for South-South and Triangular cooperation.
- Knowledge extension and mutual learning is important, and there is a need to decipher that in more practical terms for how those countries, which are recipients of development cooperation, aid and investments. The report would bring forth case studies in terms of economic and social order as well as political and security dimensions on how the global system has changed and would continue to change and evolve with more centring among developing countries playing a leading role in the



global South. Institutionalisation and operationalisation of South-South and triangular cooperation is the cornerstone from which one can better understand through some of the leading inputs into how South-South and triangular cooperation has been defined, addressed, understood and further developed. Along with the roles and responsibilities of institutions and players come values, and ethics; it is something that would have to be reflected upon.

- Having a look at the effectiveness and how to actually promote change that is in line with some of the values, ethics and norms of these developing countries is essential. With this in mind, the SDGs would come in the forefront of this report; with a study of the institutions that are essential for the achievements of the development goals.
- In terms of the future of institutionalised South-South and triangular cooperation, there is need to look at the structures that have to be put in place or currently are in place and could be strengthened further. In this context, one needs to revisit the role of organisations, that are part of this institutionalisation of South-South and triangular cooperation, in terms of the future of existing global sustainable development systems.
- Chapters also reflect on the diversity of actors both state and non-state levels. There has been a lot of literature that describes state actors in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation but gaps remain in understanding and examining the role of some of the non-state actors. The report discusses the role of philanthropists, including that of the private sector.
- Technological innovation and the revolution is also focused upon, in respect of its importance in South-South and triangular cooperation. The role of actors in the global South who are actually promoting it and are an integral part of it is also discussed. It also studies the tools for participation and leadership in the technological innovation space. It also looks at communication technology, for strengthening cooperation. This is something that has been done not only through the internet but also by using other modes of communication.
- Digital democracy is an important factor for digital revolution. The Report discusses how it is used in communication by non-state actors and how average citizens in the Global South use digital technology to promote better dialogue, communication, understanding as key actors and what is their role and responsibility within that. The role of technology in promoting the SDGs in the Global South and its importance in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation is also highlighted.
- There is a need to contextualise to what extent South-South and triangular cooperation could be a meaningful platform can be and responsible to promote SDGs.
- China is leading from the middle, not from the back or from the front, and India is leading in terms of projecting its economic growth and cooperation with developing countries for promoting SDGs using the private sector. There are different modes of engagement and achievements of the SDGs through different actors. The multidimensional aspect of it is important in terms of addressing effectiveness to address sustainability issues.
- It is important to look at how this report would help in generating some important ideas for future research. This may help putting in place a building block for future research programme that not only partners with the UN system but also with other state and non-state actors, think-tanks, private sector and civil societies.
- Questions were raised regarding evolving a common definition of SSC, the emerging challenges to development cooperation and the need for a theoretical understanding, thus concluding the first day of deliberations on South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

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Breakfast Roundtable with Partners of NeST and FIDC

Chair: Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, RIS.

Co-Chair: Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil.

Panelists: Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani, Symbiosis University, Pune; Prof. Sandhya Aiyar, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai; Prof. Abraham George, Institute for Sustainable and Governance, Thiruvanthapuram ; Mr. Ambuj Kishore, ARAVALI, Jaipur; Prof. Shivali Lawale, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Pune; Ms. Wu Jin, College of Humanities and Development Studies (COHD), China; Ms. Luara Lopes Articulaso Sul, Brazil; Prof. Thomas Fues, Germany; Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Centre for Global Cooperation Research, France; and Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, German Development Institute, Germany.

Key Takeaways

- The session focused on the idea that Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST) and the national network of researchers from China, NeST Brazil, NeST Africa, and the FIDC can contribute towards the BAPA+40 process for cross hybridisation of ideas and their delivery.
- The discussions focused upon methodology for impact assessment; curricular and pedagogical initiatives; and creating a network of stakeholders inclusive of policy-makers, civil society organisations and academia.
- The global economy has become irreversibly complex yet integrated. The axis has shifted towards the



South while the policy-driven environment of financialisation and speculation originating in the North.

- Global debt today is around 300 per cent of global GDP and would affect the future. It is important to account for factors like volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity, as FIDC and NeST continue to prepare for a future roadmap.
- FIDC to-date has encouraged detailed analysis on SSC, contextualizing Indian policies by facilitating discussions across various stakeholders, based on the theoretical and empirical analysis. It has worked towards creating awareness through seminars, discussions and publications while keeping in view the concept of development compact.
- Academicians and practitioners need to work together to create a curriculum of research with the kind of pedagogy that is involving, engaging and innovative in its perspective. The curriculum should be put forward clearly and correctly for the research to address gaps through an interdisciplinary approach. The limitations of empirics and the lack of transparent systematic and disaggregated data, is a challenge for research in the future.
- The case of Aravali, an organisation based in Rajasthan, highlights the focus on building and strengthening local voluntary civil society organisations to capture their credibility and make them effective institutions to address development challenges.
- The key domain areas in terms of the work between the civil society organisations (CSOs) and the government focus on human and institutional capacity enhancement; research and knowledge building; innovations to address challenges such as extreme poverty, focusing on the ultra-poor; and undertaking participatory assessments and evolutions, having documentation of best practices and dissemination among key stakeholders for policy change and programme formulations.
- Aravali's experience of working with multi-stakeholders suggests that there is a greater opportunity and significance for having an effective network and partnership among policy-makers, CSOs, and academia towards addressing challenges within SSC.
- CSOs strengths lie in their ability to be innovative, flexible, and have greater outreach among poorer sections of the society with a focus on participatory approaches and methodologies. Academia brings in its expertise in theoretical frameworks and scientific research. Policy-makers have the resources and decision-making powers. There is a greater need for collaboration among civil society organisations, academia and policy makers to address larger global challenges such as poverty, climate change, health, conflict, peace and security, agriculture and food security, and energy.
- Cooperation in the South needs to be in terms of breaking out of the identity of South which has been considered as being too heterogeneous and diverse with no common identity; this can be overcome with partnering across multiple stakeholders for generating diversity in information.
- Curriculum development has to be more in synergy across various institutes that are working on development cooperation; this would link theory with praxis. Creating a working group constituted of academicians, think-tanks, and policy-makers who meet at least twice a year and review content would help overcome disconnect between what happens in classrooms and what happens on the field.
- The Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance recently conducted a research study on Indo-Sri Lanka Development Cooperation. Focus of this research was the Indian housing project, which involves construction of 50,000 houses for internally displaced people owing to prolonged civil war in Sri Lanka. The project followed an owner-driven strategy, which has active involvement of beneficiary families. The results reflect that the quality of construction was better and suited to needs of the people and environment of the region.

- As part of promoting trade and investment, more space is given to private companies and governments to ensure that investment and production activities do not have a negative impact on the recipient country's economy, its environment or its local governance. Participation of CSOs can play an important role in promoting effectiveness and transparency.
- Recipient countries are fetching infrastructure projects to enable themselves towards achieving sustained economic growth in the long-term. Equal focus needs to be given to social sector investment, particularly in health and education.
- Question also emerged related to the global thinkers' network on SSC, which is hosted by UNOSSC and UNDP. NeST is a member of some of the networks included on this platform. However, which goals NeST intends to pursue at this platform is an issue to be articulated.

Plenary Session II: SSC, SDG and Development Finance

Chair: Dr Nagesh Kumar, UN ESCAP, Thailand.

Panelists: Mr Yuri Afanasiev, United Nations Development Programme, New Delhi; Ms Sanusha Naidu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa; Prof. Wu Jin, College of Humanities and Development Studies, Beijing; Dr Adriano Timossi, South Centre, Geneva; Ms Roxana Mazzola, Centre for Studies and Policy Development, Argentina; and H. E. Mr Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner, High Commission of the Republic of Rwanda, New Delhi.

Key Takeaways

- Focusing on SDGs and development finance, UNESCAP made a calculation a few years ago on what it might entail to achieve some of the social goals – poverty, hunger, job security, health, education, etc. It found out many countries would require up to 20 per cent of GDP to be deployed over the period up to 2030. Domestic resource mobilisation would be the primary source, but savings rates in many developing countries, especially least developed countries, are very low and need to be supplemented from outside or external development finance.
- The 0.7 per cent target for ODA continues to remain elusive. ODA in real terms and nominal terms is declining over the past few years, and the reason given by traditional donors is migration and refugee's crisis.



- Interestingly, SSC is supplementing and complementing the ODA. If one observes the figures of SSC and resource flows, the increase has been at an impressive rate. SSC capital is catalyzing larger resources for investment in developing countries.
- SSC in financing for SDGs is beyond the creation of new multilateral development banks and the development partnership of resource transfers. It includes, for instance, sharing of development experiences for mobilizing finance, domestic resources, innovative taxes and innovative mechanisms for supporting and building SDGs. An experience from India, for instance, where it is funding its primary education programme of Universal Literacy through a cess imposed on the income tax, becomes knowledge and experience for countries facing similar challenges.
- Experiences from across developing countries related to micro pension, micro insurance and impact investments, social impact bonds, fintech and mobile banking and providing access to the poor sections of society to modern financial services would enhance capacities of developing countries to achieve SDGs.
- Mobilising private investments for SDGs is also key. India has done this through CSR regulation, which requires companies to set aside 2 per cent of their profits for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). This has mobilised about US\$8 billion of additional resources every year for attaining SDGs.
- The Paris Agreement, which was dedicated to the means of implementation, was largely around two important aspects, one was financial resources and the other was technology transfer.
- Looking forward, there will be countries requiring development finance in the traditional sense such as LDCs and small Island development states, who cannot rely solely on SSC or Triangular Cooperation mechanisms. Thus such countries would still require significant transfers of ODA from traditional donors.
- Development finance is not about dealing not with intangible issues, rather one needs to also bring the focus to see its impact on human livelihood and how finance affects the standards of living. Thus there is a need to find the link between theory and evidence, where evidence based research should inform theory.
- Another important point is about the tools and the resources used in development finance and its evolution from ODA to blended finance. Here the moot point is how it makes a meaningful contribution to this motto of SDGs: 'leave no one behind'.
- By utilising the SDGs as an extendable framework, the diversity and vibrancy of SSC becomes evident. At the same time, it is important to ensure that SSC does not become a status quo approach. Therefore, there is a need to link-up technology advances for a low cost high impact actionable framework.
- 'Leave no one behind' means that after 2030, the world should be verifiably better in terms of inequalities. People should feel included in the financial system, they should be able to enjoy blended finance, access their savings and not feel like that they have been over-taxed and overburdened. There should not be a widening salary gap.
- An M&E framework report is being developed with the support of the UNDP Beijing office with the College of Humanities and Development Studies at the China Agriculture University (CAU). The framework looks at the case studies of China-Tanzania Cooperation and strictly follows concepts and principles of SSC given by the UN. The framework serves two main purposes. One to provide suitable information on the partner-country of Chinese projects, so as to engage the Chinese public. The second is to analyse outcomes and impact of Chinese projects from the perspective of the partner countries, so that policy makers in China can learn relevant lessons and act on improved actions in future.
- SSC is in the DNA of RIS, New Delhi, and the South Centre, Geneva. Both the organisations were created as developing countries had the vision that they need their own institutions to help them to work towards development, have collective self-reliance and be able to do better for their people.

When one talks about SSC, it is not about competition between North and South or which one is better, rather the focus is on the development for the benefit of all.

- Latin America presents a vast inequality, which has implications for all manners of distribution of resources in a world where capital reproduction demands specific role in the International labour divisions. The vision has not succeeded in designing institutional framework that can mitigate this global disparity.
- SSC has to promote debate on questions related to development finance for SDGs. One of them is in relation to classification of countries for aid receipt that is whether they have to receive the development finance according to the structural characteristics of the countries or according to their income.

Special Session on the Development Partnership and Emerging Indian Experience

Chair: Ambassador Amar Sinha, RIS, New Delhi.

Panelists: Mr. Prashant Agrawal, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Participatory Research in Asia, New Delhi; Mr. Rajeev Mehrotra, RITES Ltd., Gurgaon; Mr. Surender Makhija, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., New Delhi; Mr. Vineet Shankdher, Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi; and Mr. Vishal Bajpai, KEC International Limited, New Delhi.

Key Takeaways

- India was an early starter with its development partnership; even before its own independence. It was in 1946 in preparation for the Asian Conference that the Government of India decided to start with fellowships for two countries, namely, China and Indonesia. Two thought processes explain India's early start, one was the internationalist view of the leadership and the other is the philosophy of Vasudeva Kutumbakam which has been articulated in different ways even today. The current view of India is best articulated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas that means collective effort for inclusive development.
- There are three important pillars in India's development cooperation; the first being is Capacity-building. India's capacity-building programme pre-dates Independence, and the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme has been the flagship programme since 1960s with



more than 165 countries as partners. Today, India has almost 11,000 training slots available to experts, to government officials and practitioners from a large number of partner-countries. There are more than 300 courses being managed by more than 70 premier institutions in the country under the ITEC programme. India's development partnership is need-based and demand-driven. It is as per the national priorities of the partner countries. Currently ITEC is being reviewed to make it more future oriented for areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Industry 4.0 and solar energy.

- The second component in India's development cooperation is grants, which complement India's effort in capacity-building. As part of this several entrepreneurship development centres, vocational skilling centres were setup in different countries. Through grants, India also supports infrastructure development such as the Bhutan hydroelectric dams or heritage preservation and restoration.
- The third element in India's development cooperation is Lines of Credit (LoCs). India started its Concessional Credit Programme in a structured manner about 13-14 years ago. In a short span of time, it has expanded its outreach rapidly with 61 partner-countries. There are more than 262 LoCs which have been operationalised and currently an aggregate commitment is at almost US\$25.7 billion.
- Most development models are dominated by government to government modalities where partnership arrangements are within government protocols. Public accountability mechanisms are still weak in South-South Cooperation, and need to be strengthened where oversight parliamentary standing committees debate and deliberated on these issues on the basis of evidence.
- Businesses both in the public and private sector in India – as private sector is a large part of India's business environment – act predominantly as a contractor once an agreement has been signed.
- A gap emerges in the case of India where engagement of academia in research is somewhat ambivalent.
- FIDC as the platform has been around for three and a half years, however the relevance of the civil society is not fully understood in development cooperation. Three years ago FIDC and RIS had put together a compendium, which described 20 case studies of Indian Civil Societies working with the modalities of SSC internationally in South Asia, Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, but they were not necessarily a part of the official development cooperation mechanism.
- The role of civil society needs to be better understood for enhanced cooperation at varying levels of engagements. In India, at the level of domestic development in varying sectors of agriculture, microfinance, health, education, local governance and urban development, civil society has actively engaged with the government and helped in formulation of policies and implementation of programmes. The same experience does not necessarily translate when it comes to South-South Cooperation internationally.
- There is a high potential for governments to engage with business, academia and civil society as they have independent global partnerships. Indian civil society has actively participated in most of the United Nations programmes; which has created its own global networks.
- Civil society development needs to be given attention as it is very uneven in many Southern countries. Inequalities exist here as well where, international NGOs predominantly located in OECD-DAC countries continue to occupy most financial and media space.
- In the agriculture sector, a key Indian success story that led to a large growth in Indian farm and rural credit was due to expansion of agricultural development branches through the nationalised banks as the banks enhanced availability of credit in the rural sector. This was a major catalysts taking forward the gains of the first Green Revolution of 1970s.
- Complementing this in the Indian industrial sector, was the availability of the research in small and medium scale sector industries in India. In the 1970s and 1980s, there was proliferation of the small scale industries that supported Indian agriculture by a way of manufacturer of diesel pump sets, electric pump sets or the farm machinery, which was not available earlier in the country.

- Due to strong development in key sectors in India over time, between 2000 and 2010, at the time of the global financial crisis, there was a reverse flow of capital from South to North as large number of Indian companies made investments in the North.
- Looking at Africa, one of the key problems was that the financial institutions were not large enough to facilitate dynamic business development. Farm credit in Africa was not available to the families that owned farms. In some countries, farm credit was available but at a very high rate of interest. Thus farm mechanisation remained import-dependent owing to the absence of the small and medium scale industries in most African countries .
- Development partnership should foster Southern partners to emulate and develop financial Institutions to spur and support rural and farm credit. An good experiences shared was of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in India, which helps in catalyzing farm credit and manages large amounts of government funds for rural and skill development to catalyse growth of small-scale industries.
- It is also essential to fill the knowledge gap to make partnerships more successful. All partners must be sensitised to the nuances of the development objectives, which has often been lacking and has resulted in products which were not very suitable and sustainable. Thus a needs-based demand driven approach ensures efficiency in outcomes.
- There is also a need to create bankable projects, through doing projects on PPP basis or on private investment.
- Another good practice from India is in the area of taxation with the establishment of an Authority for Advanced Ruling (ARR). Under this, any foreign investor interested in India can clear doubts about the applicability of certain tax provisions through the ARR before making an investment. This was system was replicated in one of the biggest tax reforms done in India, namely the Goods and Services Tax (GST), with a provision of Advanced Authority for Rulings. One key challenge, however, is on the issue of Value Added Tax (VAT), which undergoes multiple refund processes, disputes, delays and rejections of duties.
- Taking the example of KEC International Limited, which is an engineering procurement and construction company, its biggest challenge has been in respect of finding skilled manpower. Second challenge comes in the availability of raw material followed by availability of funds. Based on experience and learning from KEC, an increase in flow of the funding through multilateral agencies was suggested.

Plenary Session III: Plurality and Heterogeneity: Perspectives from SSC and TDC

Chair: Dr. Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil.

Co-Chair: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS, New Delhi.

Panelists: H.E. Prof. Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Ambassador, Embassy of Nepal, Colombo; Prof. Aristides Sitas, University of Cape Town, South Africa; Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Paris; Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, German Development Institute, Germany; Dr. Philani Mthembu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa; Ms. Shahd Salah and Mr. Jaleel. M. J. Qare, Palestinian International Cooperation Agency, Palestine.

Key Takeaways

- There seems to be a fragmentation of the South with multiplication of modalities in South-South and Triangular Development Cooperation, and a set of challenges are emerging that need to be addressed.
- Heterogeneity is the common ground in the South. When looking at the BRICS grouping, heterogeneity is reflected in the decisions where consensus becomes of primary importance.
- Responsible clustering is also important, such as civil society to civil society, institution to institution, and health system to health system. It is an enormous effort with a lot of resources moving forward; therefore, responsible clustering is vital.



- Even within south, regions such as Africa are also heterogeneous. There are big countries and small ones with diversity in culture, politics and economy to name a few. There is Egypt and Nigeria, and there is Ethiopia and Botswana. There is a need for Africa to establish an African Pathways before it can connect with Indian-led corridors and Chinese road and belts. Within Africa, responsible engagement with its neighbours is vital followed closely by engagements with SSC partners.
- Even within the understanding of SSC there is plurality and heterogeneity. Broadly speaking there are two main understandings of SSC. One is the Asian approach and the other one is the Latin American approach. The Asian approach takes a holistic perspective of South-South Cooperation and tends to look at old linkages between the South. These linkages can go on from economic, financial to cultural linkages. This holistic approach of South-South Cooperation was brought through the Bandung conference in 1955.
- The Latin American vision of SSC comes to a very narrow practical definition of South-South Cooperation, as a technical cooperation and this takes us back to Buenos Aires meet in 1978. The Buenos Aires meet was even called the Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. So the main exponent today of this vision of SSC is mainly technical cooperation. This vision is grounded in the working of the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB).
- The soft power potential of development cooperation is really important. The main question here is whether it makes sense to continue talking about North-South. Other pertinent questions are: What is the global South and OECD today, and what the implications of the fundamental changes and evolution of development cooperation are. These questions need to be addressed when looking at the changing development cooperation architecture.
- Looking at OECD's ODA approach, OECD is struggling with what is called the Southern rationale. The issues related to TOSS-D indicate a growing pressure on the OECD approach.
- History and identity matter when looking at development cooperation. There is not one consistent picture as multiple perspectives exist. At the same time, there are a number of hybrid situations and flexible formats. There are controversial debates on development cooperation and SDGs, especially SDG 17. The Agenda 2030 and the SDGs can be the starting point for a joint cooperation narrative for ODA with SSC providers, and to create a space for other types of cooperation.
- On development diplomacy, which has been the main task of the Institute for Global Dialogues (IGD), South Africa, five key points were highlighted.
 - » First, related to the emerging powers versus Southern powers narrative, where the question emerges on how long the emerging powers of India, China will remain to be "emerging" and when the narrative will shift to calling them powers.
 - » Second, the importance of a consistent definition for South-South Cooperation and more specifically, on development cooperation from the South.
 - » Third, as there is a plurality and heterogeneity of definitions, there is also no common definition of trilateral cooperation; not only in the global South but also in the North. Among OECD countries themselves they do not have a common definition of trilateral cooperation.
 - » Fourth, diffusion of power and ideas, the global South should be seen as contributors to development experience and knowledge production. The South must be an entrepreneur in terms of their development experience and in terms of the kind of concepts that they are bringing onboard.
 - » Fifth, there are endogenous systems of development, and Africa must be seen as a contributor instead of a perpetual recipient either through North-South, South-South or trilateral cooperation.
- To shift the narrative of Africa solely being a recipient of development assistance, it is important to look at what Africa contributing is to the world. For instance, pharmaceutical companies have found

innovative ways to use traditional medicines from the African continent. One need to move beyond viewing Africa as a perpetual recipient, and ask what other countries have learnt from engaging with the African continent. This is essential for SSC, to embody the idea that Africa is not just a recipient of development from other countries.

- In 2016, through a presidential decree, the Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA) was launched, as a mechanism to share contributions, promote solidarity through development and foster SSC. The establishment of PICA is an expression of gratitude for the international community and the international support that the state of Palestine has received throughout centuries.
- PICA is creating a new culture of international cooperation in Palestine. It is guided by the concept of solidarity through development for a more resilient world and it seeks to share contribution, transfer knowledge and supply development aid and technical assistance to developing countries with the aim of promoting SSC through various modalities including reverse linkages.
- PICA relies on Palestinian know-how and capital through its local experts, and in the diaspora to match fellow countries' needs with the Palestinian capacities and to implement bilateral, trilateral and multilateral SSC programmes in the field of health, agriculture, education, renewable energy, information technology, civil engineering and volunteerism.
- PICA gives many of us hope for a better future. The shift towards sustainable development and cooperation between countries of the Global South is a major significance; especially as all cooperating parties realise that a positive outcome will be the result of a positive action working towards for a better world for everyone together.

Valedictory Session and Way Forward

Chair: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, Director, Council for Social Development, New Delhi.

Panelists: Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC; and Mr Alok A. Dimri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

Valedictory Address: Shri Shakti Kant Das, G20 Sherpa, New Delhi.

Vote of Thanks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS

Key Takeaways

- The session began by recalling the great thinker, Samir Amin who shaped the thinking of North-South relations through his Dependency Theory and subsequent works.
- An attempt has been made to rebuild the historical narrative of SSC and build a narrative on legitimacy for SSC, vis-à-vis those who have questioned its importance.
- Triangular cooperation provides a third party support to SSC, where the third party has a passive role mainly in financing or providing institutional support. This is the debate at the United Nations, as it is making advancements towards legitimizing qualitative engagement of the third parties in this relationship and also incorporated it in other non-state elements.



- Reporting is a challenge in SSC as the countries of the South do not have spaces where they can share their achievements and challenges.
- How the impact of SSC is measured, is a key question. There is a need to emphasise the importance of a qualitative dimension but currently there are no methodologies that have been validated or have been accepted at a broad scale.
- Institutional set up and the capacity of the countries of the South to promote SSC is another key focus. The South is lagging behind in this regard, and needs strengthening of the national capacity of member states.
- The Northern and Southern narratives need to be seen in the global narrative of development cooperation and the narratives should be further contextualised in today's multilateral context.
- The voluntary nature of SSC does not reflect itself as vividly as it should. Looking at the number of actors, partners, and emerging institutions such as the BRICS led New Development Bank, AIIB or IBSA Fund, they add value to the approach.
- Plurality and heterogeneity of SSC was reflected in the mandate of the Palestine International Cooperation Agency (PICA) which articulates that no country is poor enough to give, as Palestine shares even with limited resources.
- The beginning of the SSC traces back to the Asian Conference of March 1947, Bandung conference of 1955 and the Non Alignment Movement. The main theoretical underpinning of SSC reflected in the declarations of these conferences focused on the course of development per se and how they would contribute to the development of the countries concerned.
- Collective self-reliance, another key underpinning in the conferences of SSC, was designed to enable the South to emerge as a force in the world. By doing so the aim was to acquire and enhance bargaining position of the South in its negotiations with the North on development issues, regional integration and economic cooperation among developing countries as the major item on the agenda of UNCTAD.
- Another development of great theoretical importance was the second wave of regionalism which traces back to early 1980s, coinciding with the onset of globalisation. The first wave was very much inspired by the Treaty of Rome.
- Theoretical underpinning provided by Raul Prebisch resulted in special groups set up by him, as they emerged with pioneering reports. Ideas on international monetary issues and a group on supplementary financing emerged but they were not adopted as such but could be seen in different forms in the practices of the World Bank and the IMF. This new grouping that came up apparently proved very successful, sustainable, and in fact has become a very dominant feature of the world economy today. This has taken the form of mega groupings which have now brought together countries from North and South.
- When the economy is in a flux there are strong reasons for communities to get together and think how to develop strategies to deal with that. The world economy which is today much more integrated than ever before, the question of alternative to North-South is no longer stressed upon. SSC too has become an integral part of the system because of the changes brought in the world economy.
- SSC is now universally being regarded as something capable of imparting stability and dynamism to the world economy. This was demonstrated in 2008 with the world economic and financial crisis and its ramifications, where the Global South retained the much needed economic stability.
- A neoliberal model is becoming dominant in the debates and discussion around SSC. However, any development of SSC cannot ignore the fact that the economies of several Southern countries are still fragile in many ways. There is a vast number of poor people and there are frequent examples of market failure. This is happening in the spheres of public goods such as education and health and has been also regarded by developed countries that cannot be left to the mercy of the market forces.

- Diversity is reflected very prominently in the character of SSC. It brings richness, different approaches and innovation to the fore.
- The South could have a level of generalisation in an area where there may not be much scope for difference. Generalised norms can be of immense importance from the point of view of carrying conviction with the countries of the South which are still at the receiving end.
- There is a fundamental difference between the assistance given among developing countries and aid that North gives to the South. Why cannot these principles be codified to carry conviction with the vast number of fellow developing countries? The problem emerges when considering 'where to do that'. Unfortunately, it can't be done in exclusive groups, it can't be done in groups of both developed and developing countries. UN is an apparent forum but UN itself does not inspire total confidence in this respect.
- Ultimately the success of SSC will depend upon the way it is accepted, and the way it carries convictions among the vast number of countries, which are still in the need of such cooperation.

Annexures



Concept Note

CONTEXT

South-South Cooperation (SSC) and recent efforts at conceptualizing Triangular Development Cooperation (TDC) have come a long way with an humble beginning during the middle of the previous century and emerged, by now, as an important contributor to the global development architecture. The history of SSC, however, took an interesting turn by the beginning of the present millennium where some Southern economies, thanks to their impressive growth rate, started playing a decisive role in development cooperation. The onslaught of recession in 2008 made their importance all the more visible. The apparent shift in global centre of gravity towards the East During this period helped the practitioners of SSC exert their influence in shaping and re-designing multilateral platforms, engage in meaningful contributions to international agreements and contribute to formation of several effective regional blocks like African Union, Mercosur, ASEAN, Indian Ocean Rim Association, IBSA, BRICS and many others.

Establishment of institutions like New Development Bank, Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank, International Solar Alliance, etc. also bears testimony of the growing impact of SSC in the global arena. A strong bilateral relation created between Southern partners is also an important hallmark of the spread of SSC. The icing on the cake is, of course, the adoption of Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Climate Change Agreement all in 2015.

The recent IBSA Declaration on SSC made in Pretoria on the 4th June, 2018 further reiterated the principles of SSC as the cornerstone of development cooperation by the members of the group. The forthcoming United Nations Commemorative Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA+40) Conference also rests on this checkered and proactive history of SSC.

According a prominent role to the importance of SSC in realizing the 2030 Agenda also speaks volume of the role and relevance of SSC in shaping the development architecture in the future. Increasing

commitment to contribute to development finance – against the contested background of the principles of Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) – is also putting the Southern nations in positions of responsibility to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within a specified timeframe so that “no one is left behind”.

The evolving and expanding nature of SSC and TDC has also been accompanied by series of debates and contestations about their nature and structure. Theoretical formulation and their empirical validation are necessary to facilitate effective operationalization of the spirit behind them and ensure the desired impacts on global development processes.

EVOLUTION OF SSC

Even though BAPA signals the beginning of the institutionalization of the spirit of SSC through a global platform the idea had been in practice since the countries of Asia and Africa attained freedom in late 1940s and throughout the 50s and 60s with the aspiration of a better future. A remarkable initiative in this regard was the Asian Conference held in April 1947 in Delhi. Twenty eight countries sent their representatives which included still colonised countries of Malaya, Indonesia and Vietnam; China and Tibet were represented separately; seven Asian ‘republics’ of the Soviet Union and Korea; and the Arab League were represented too, along with a Jewish delegation from Palestine. Few months before the conference in September 1946, the interim Indian government established a fellowship programme for trainees from China and Indonesia.

The Afro-Asian conference of Bandung, popularly known as Bandung Conference in 1955 and subsequent emergence of its development offshoot (SSC) must be seen under the wider sphere of global IR as it was for the first time that a framework of enquiry in all its diversity, especially with due recognition of the experiences, voices and agency of non-Western peoples, societies and states, who were marginalised in the discipline of economics, development and international affairs, came to limelight. The achievements of BAPA were further consolidated through resolutions adopted by the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Nairobi from 1 to 3 December 2009. The Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011 in Busan, in spite of associate contestations, identified a formal space for SSC in global architecture of development cooperation, a resolve that was reiterated in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in 2015.

The initiation of this Southern solidarity was a response only after the South was left highly challenged and frustrated with its dealing with the North. However, owing to financial, technological and informational challenges faced by the South, solidarity driven SSC was low on flow of tangible resources across the Southern world in its early years. The geographical expanse of SSC was limited with Southern countries generally, engaging only with their immediate neighbours. It was only with the emergence of some Southern nations that posted significant growth in their productivity and output during the last couple of decades, that SSC attracted attention as being engaged in transfer of tangible resources across Southern partners.

The establishment of United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) dedicated to take the spirit forward is a clear indication of what lies in future for this parallel idea in development cooperation. An effective collaboration among India, Brazil and South Africa to form a coalition for pursuing SSC and set up IBSA is also a clear indicator of intents to institutionalize a Southern perspective of developmental efforts that honour the principles of access, equity and inclusion.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SSC

These events were taking simultaneously with intellectual upsurge of the South, where academicians produced literature explaining the problems of poverty and destitution in the developing world. The

seminal work by Raul Prebisch in late 1950s, entitled. “Terms of Credit Deterioration for the Primary Producers” was considered path breaking. Other interesting studies in the Latin American region lead to the Centre-Periphery Theory and the Dependence Theory which were also postulated around the same time. Riding on this academic and intellectual base, the leaders of developing world started to work together with the intention of narrowing the gap vis-s-vis developed countries.

Taking a cue from the powerful Prebisch-Singer “Dependency Theory”, BAPA looked at ways to reduce the level and extent of dependence of South on its northern counterparts. The solution was more in terms of creating a political solidarity in helping one another through building capacity of the Southern citizenry to facilitate import substitution. Sharing of experiences, knowledge and technologies in fostering a higher level of productivity that is achieved through augmentation of human capital was the intended strategy. The strategy fit well with the evident scarcity of physical and financial resources plaguing the South then and their undeniable dependence on Official Development Assistance (ODA). On its part, BAPA primarily aimed at creating a platform for political solidarity that would simultaneously

- Enlarge the bargaining power of the South vis-à-vis the prevailing global order and
- Create enhanced human capital in the Southern nations that would also contribute to crafting of domestic social and institutional capitals capable to help them shrug off the yoke of dependency.

The call for “Technical Cooperation and Economic Cooperation” (TCDC) was then positive strategy in the right direction. The non-negotiable principles of SSC that subsequently emerged therefrom are still honoured today by the practitioners of SSC.

Lewis model of development in a dual sector economy published in 1954 also added theoretical strength to the ideas of SSC. There have been some sporadic efforts for example, by Chaturvedi (2016) while espousing the idea of development compact, Chakrabarti (2016) that looked at SSC deriving positive externalities to the participants and Acharya (2007) who argued in favour of formulating a theoretical framework of Global International Relation as opposed to that of Western International Relations Theory, not much efforts have been made to take the ideas of Prebisch-Singer and Lewis further and capture the present day realities to strengthen the conceptual framework for SSC – both theoretically and empirically.

Over the years there has been an increase in quantum, sectoral specificities and geographical expanse of SSC. The first Afro-Asian Conference, also known as the Bandung conference is worth mentioning to exemplify the thought of SSC from a development perspective. Southern leaders in Bandung Conference (1955) called for structural changes in the world economic order and expressed their willingness to partner to gain more bargaining power on the global stage. Following years saw establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM, 1961); the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD, 1964) and the Group of 77 (G-77, 1964) to achieve the aforementioned purposes. United Nations established a working group towards technical cooperation among developing countries in 1972.

However, these historic events could not attract more scholars from the South adequately to frame a theoretical foundation for SSC. Northern scholars often assessed SSC in the light of the extant model of NSC, by now evidenced as a working model of cooperation with numbers of empirical support from across the globe. Needless to add, their efforts have been mainly confined to finding deviations of SSC from the so called standardised features of development cooperation as referred to as the OEDC/DAC model from a critical angle.

Under this situation the practitioners of SSC are hard pressed to lean on some available theoretical models and empirically validate the impact of SSC on the developmental outcomes. The issue of impact assessment of development partnership interventions is also debated across the stakeholders. While the idea of “Development Compact” is gradually taking root as a possible tool capable of capturing the plurality of interventions across the Southern partners, its empirical validation requires attention from researchers. The Agenda 2030 also requires incisive attraction from researchers – theoretical and empirical alike – in the same vein.

KEY QUESTIONS

RIS initiated an effort to put India's development cooperation activities in a structural framework of what is now termed as 'Development Compact'. According to this, India's 'development compact' rests on five action pillars: capacity-building and skills transfer, concessional finance (further divided into grants and lines of credit), preferential trade, investment, and technical cooperation. It implicitly depends on the principle of equitable accesses to trade, investment, and technology in SSC initiatives. India's deployment of a broad portfolio of modalities allows for flexibility that makes it much more attractive and appropriate for partner countries in the South. India and other emerging (BRICS) nations have a broader concept of development cooperation that goes beyond giving hand-outs, and generates economic activities in the recipient country. Significantly, this 'compact' rests solidly on the concept of mutual gain. 'Development Compact' is, therefore, something less than the articulated policies of the DAC members, but more than a string of unrelated aid programmes, and intimately related to broader economic strategies of the recipient country.

RIS intends to embark on organising the fourth Delhi Process on SSC in August, 2018. An account of the previous Delhi Processes (three held so far) is given in the Annexure. The focus of this conference is to strengthen the theoretical nuances of SSC and expanding the global understanding of development cooperation – its conceptual frameworks and relevant empirical validations. The theoretical construct is to be deliberated in this year's Delhi Process with focus on the non-negotiables principles of SSC and emergence of development compact as theoretical modelling of the modalities involved in SSC. Even though, there have been significant advancements in identifying the spirit and operational tools of SSC, their empirical validation have been very few. Delhi Process IV aims to fill this knowledge gap. Strengthening and validating the theoretical understanding of SSC becomes all the more important in the era when the global community has negotiated the SDGs and Paris Climate Change Agreement. The South-South community is also looking forward to the 40th anniversary of BAPA process. Delhi Process will go a long way in richly contributing to the understanding of SSC and in bringing about a clear way forward for SSC towards achievement of global goals. In the process, it would engage stakeholders in extensive dialogues to concretise the ideas on impact assessment, facilitate policy discourse and inform the present practices of SSC.

The issues to be highlighted during the forthcoming Delhi Process would include:

- Alternative South-led financing models for Development Cooperation;
- Conceptual frameworks for Triangular Cooperation models;
- SSC-SDG linkages – theory and practice
- Necessity or otherwise in practicing the pluralities in modalities and accounting processes of SSC;
- Technology Facilitation Mechanism and RRI to facilitate South-South technology transfer and
- Extension and/or revalidation of Prebisch-Singer Hypothesis vis-a-vis the rising trends in South-South Trade and Investment.

Celebrating BAPA+40

**South-South and Triangular Cooperation:
Theoretical Perspectives and Empirical Realities
DELHI Process - IV**

13-14 August 2018
India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

Agenda

DAY I : Monday, 13 August 2018	
9:30-10:00	Tea and Registration
10:00-11:15 (Venue: Silver Oak)	<p>Inaugural Session</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS</p> <p>Welcome Remarks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS</p> <p>Remarks by Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC</p> <p>Remarks by H.E. Mr. Daniel Chuburu, Ambassador, Embassy of the Argentina Republic, New Delhi</p> <p>Remarks: Shri T. S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</p> <p>Inaugural Address: H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President-Elect of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly</p> <p>Keynote Address: Prof. Amitav Acharya, Distinguished Professor, American University, Washington D.C.</p>
11:15-11:30	Tea Break

11:30-13:00 <i>(Venue: Silver Oak)</i>	Plenary Session I: Theoretical Framework of SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation		
	<p>Chair: Dr. Carlos M. Correa, South Centre, Geneva</p> <p>Co-Chair: Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka</p> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS • Dr. Emma Mawdsley, Cambridge University • Dr. Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil • Dr. Anthea Mulakala, The Asia Foundation <p><u>Special Comments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. David Rasquinha, Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai • Prof. Aristides Sitas, University of Cape Town, South Africa • Prof. Sreeram Chaulia, O.P. Jindal Global University, New Delhi <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>		
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-15:30	Parallel Session IA: SSC at Sectoral Level: Health, Science & Technology Sector <i>(Venue: Silver Oak)</i>	Parallel Session IB: SSC at Sectoral Level: Agriculture <i>(Venue: Jacaranda)</i>	Parallel Session IC: Case Studies on SSC and TDC (Trade & Investment) <i>(Venue: Magnolia)</i>
	<p>Chair: Ms. Sanusha Naidu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil • Prof. T.C. James, RIS, New Delhi • Amb. Bhaskar Balakrishnan, RIS • Ms. Jessica Alejandra Figueroa Del Valle, Florales Vogue, Guatemala <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>	<p>Chair: Prof. R. B. Singh, Global Forum for Farmers, New Delhi</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bernabe Malacalza, National Scientific and Technical Research Council, Argentina • Dr. Fanwell Kenala Bokosi, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development, Zimbabwe • Mr. Alvaro Moreira, IDS, Sussex, UK • Mr. Aravazhi Selvaraj, ICRISAT, Hyderabad • Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>	<p>Chair: Mr. Rajeev Kher, RIS, New Delhi</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rajan Ratna, UN ESCAP, New Delhi • Ms. Jarmila Sarda Souckova, ITC, Geneva • Ms. Chanda Ashley Mwali, Zambia • Dr. Gulnaz Atabaeva, Alatoo International University, Kyrgyz Republic • Dr. Nitya Nanda, TERI, New Delhi • Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, RIS <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>
15:30-16:00	Tea Break		

16:00-17:30	Parallel Session IIA: Quest for Southern Methodology for Impact Assessment <i>(Venue: Jacaranda)</i>	Parallel Session IIB: Role of SSC and TDC in Peace and Conflict Management <i>(Venue: Silver Oak)</i>	Parallel Session IIC: Role of CSOs in SSC and TDC: Efforts for Financial Inclusion (in partnership with Sa-Dhan) <i>(Venue: Magnolia)</i>
	Chair: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Martín Rivero Illa, Coordinador, Área de Cohesión Social y Cooperación Sur Sur (SEGIB), Madrid 	Chair: Prof. Thomas Fues, Germany <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Denis Nkala, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Bangkok 	Chair: Mr P Satish, Executive Director, Sa-Dhan, New Delhi <i>Panellists:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Jackie Mbabazi, Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, RIS • Dr. José Claudio Klein de Moura Junior, Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), Brazil • Mrs. Luara Lopes Articulosul Sul, Brazil • Mr. Rex Joshua, DFID, New Delhi <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Carlos E. Timo Brito, The Pandia Calogeras Institute, Ministry of Defense, Brazil • Mr. Deepak Kumar Adhikari, Neeti Anusandhan Pratishthan, Nepal (NeNAP), Kathmandu • Dr. Ruchita Beri, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi • Dr. Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay, PRIA, New Delhi <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Atul, M2i Consulting, New Delhi • Ms. Caroline Karanja, Association of Micro Finance Institutions, Kenya • Ms. Giselle Mendez, The Volunteer Centre of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad & Tobago • Mr. Pranay Sinha, RIS <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>
17:30-18:00 hrs <i>(Venue: Magnolia)</i>	Special Side Event on Independent Comprehensive Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation Moderator: Mr. Hany Besada , Senior Research Coordinator, UNOSSC		

19:30 hrs <i>(Venue: Magnolia)</i>	Dinner hosted by Dr. Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS
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DAY II: Tuesday, 14th August 2018

<p>8.30-9.30 (Venue: Jacaranda)</p>	<p>Breakfast Roundtable with Partners of NeST and FIDC</p>		
	<p>Chair: Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, RIS Co-Chair: Dr. Andre de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="358 422 1474 961"> <tr> <td data-bbox="358 422 919 961"> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani, Symbiosis University, Pune • Prof. Sandhya Iyer, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai • Prof. Abraham George, Institute for Sustainable and Governance, Trivandrum • Mr. Ambuj Kishore, ARAVALI, Jaipur • Prof. Shivali Lawale, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Pune </td> <td data-bbox="919 422 1474 961"> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Wu Jin, College of Humanities and Development Studies (COHD), China • Mrs. Luara Lopes Articuloso Sul, Brazil • Prof. Thomas Fues, Germany • Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Centre for Global Cooperation Research, France • Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, German Development Institute, Germany </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani, Symbiosis University, Pune • Prof. Sandhya Iyer, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai • Prof. Abraham George, Institute for Sustainable and Governance, Trivandrum • Mr. Ambuj Kishore, ARAVALI, Jaipur • Prof. Shivali Lawale, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Pune 	<p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Wu Jin, College of Humanities and Development Studies (COHD), China • Mrs. Luara Lopes Articuloso Sul, Brazil • Prof. Thomas Fues, Germany • Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Centre for Global Cooperation Research, France • Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, German Development Institute, Germany
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<p>9:30-10:45 (Venue: Silver Oak)</p>	<p>Plenary Session II: SSC, SDG and Development Finance</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, UN ESCAP, Thailand</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, United Nations Development Programme, New Delhi • Ms. Sanusha Naidu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa • Prof. Wu Jin, College of Humanities and Development Studies, Beijing • Dr. Adriano Timossi, South Centre, Geneva • Mr. Nazir Kabiri, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan* • Ms. Roxana Mazzola, Centre for Studies and Policy Development, Argentina <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>		
<p>10:45-11:00</p>	<p>Tea Break</p>		

DAY II: Tuesday, 14th August 2018

<p>11:00-12:00 (Venue: Silver Oak)</p>	<p align="center">Special Session on Development Partnership and Emerging Indian Experience</p> <p>Chair: Amb. Amar Sinha, RIS</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Prashant Agrawal, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India • Mr. Rajesh Tandon, Participatory Research in Asia, New Delhi • Shri Rajeev Mehrotra, RITES Ltd., Gurgaon • Mr. Surender Makhija, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., New Delhi • Mr Vishal Bajpai, KEC International Limited, New Delhi <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>
<p>12:00-13.30 (Venue: Silver Oak)</p>	<p align="center">Plenary Session III: Plurality and Heterogeneity: Perspectives from SSC and TDC</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil</p> <p>Co-Chair: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Prof. Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Ambassador, Embassy of Nepal, Colombo • Prof. Aristides Sitas, University of Cape Town, South Africa • Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Centre for Global Cooperation Research, Paris • Dr. Stephan Klingebiel, German Development Institute, Germany • Dr. Philani Mthembu, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa • Ms. Shahd Salah and Mr. Jaleel. M. J. Qare, Palestinian International Cooperation Agency, Palestine <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>
<p>13.30-14:15</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p>
<p>14.15-15:15 (Venue: Silver Oak)</p>	<p align="center">Valedictory Session and Way Forward</p> <p>Chair : Prof. Muchkund Dubey, Director, Council for Social Development, New Delhi</p> <p><u>Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC • Mr. Alok A. Dimri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India <p>Valedictory Address: Shri Shakti Kant Das, G20 Sherpa, New Delhi</p> <p>Vote of Thanks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS</p>

Address by Shri T. S. Tirumurti



Shri T. S. Tirumurti

*Secretary (ER), Ministry of
External Affairs, Government of
India*

Amb. Dr. Mohan Kumar, Chairman of RIS

HE Ms Maria Fernanda Espinosa, President-Elect of the UN General Assembly

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS

Distinguished dignitaries on the dais

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

2. It is my pleasure to attend the inaugural of Delhi Process-IV on “South-South and Triangular Cooperation” as we celebrate Buenos Aires Plan of Action’s 40th Anniversary. I felicitate the RIS for taking this important initiative.

3. We are living in a world where everything is being reduced to monetary terms. For many developing countries, predictable financing is survival. Their commitment to meet their obligations, flows from such financing being made available to them. Their commitment to their people for socio-economic development also flows from such financing. That was being provided, though in a much reduced quantum of late, by the North.

4. However, the North has suddenly taken note of, not all of it for altruistic reasons, what they see as the growing development cooperation between the Global South. They see the need to reduce this South-South cooperation to monetary terms by following the same accounting and other templates that they are used to and bring it within the ambit of a donor-donee relationship. And this is precisely where we have a problem.

5. Growing South-South cooperation is becoming critical in bolstering the productive capacity of developing countries and has impacted the international developmental landscape positively. It has been able to act as the fulcrum around which several sustainable linkages beyond G2G as well have been made, whether in trade or investment or MSMEs or Science and Technology or in a range of other areas.

6. Against these success stories of the Global South, we have to juxtapose the growing reluctance of the North to shoulder its own financial and other responsibilities, which is becoming increasingly apparent when meeting the climate change obligations under UNFCCC or in assisting the realization of the SDGs. We are also not in favour of dilution of ODA or the growing emphasis on private funding, whose motivations are completely different. In the face of such a situation, the Global South has had to come up with its own paradigm, its own principles, for South South cooperation in order to clearly distinguish the two.

7. Naturally, there is no single universal template for South-South partnership and there should not be. Each country has its own priorities and we need to fully respect that. For us, South-South Cooperation is a manifestation of solidarity of the South to promote sustainability, national well-being and self-reliance. Consequently, it is imperative that this cooperation is determined by the countries of the South, guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, sharing, non-conditionality, demand-driven, non-interference in domestic affairs and for mutual benefit. Accordingly, our approach to development cooperation has always been voluntary in nature.

8. And in this compact which I have just outlined, it goes without saying that when such development assistance results in indebtedness of a developing country or infringes on their sovereignty, then it cannot be sustainable. India's approach has always been sensitive to the needs and requirements of our development partners and has never resulted in any indebtedness or disruption of their economies.

Friends,

9. Foreign Ministers of India, Brazil and South Africa, recently adopted IBSA Declaration on South-South Cooperation in Pretoria on 4th June, 2018. This Declaration enunciates key principles of South-South Cooperation. Solidarity and spirit of sharing, inter alia, are listed as primary motivations.

10. During his recent visit to Africa, in his address to the Ugandan Parliament, Prime Minister Modi outlined 10 guiding principles for our engagement with Africa covering the entire gamut of our strategic partnership. These have generated tremendous enthusiasm among our African partners and our development cooperation in Africa is one of the largest.

11. Establishment of the BRICS New Development Bank and Contingent Reserve Arrangement have been major achievements of the Global South towards global economic and financial governance. The pioneering IBSA Fund for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, partnering the UN system - the UNOSSC, has met with success. It has been able to identify replicable and scalable projects in the fight against poverty and hunger and take up 27 projects in 15 developing countries. We have established the India-UN Development Fund to take our South-South engagement even further.

12. However, while we have the clamour from the North for bringing this growing South-South cooperation within their accounting and other templates, on the other hand, there is no movement to address the matter of reform of multilateral institutions and institutions of global governance to acknowledge this growing role of the Global South, especially in development partnership.

13. In his meeting with BRICS leaders in South Africa last month, Prime Minister Modi pointed out that while we do not support the growing unilateralism and protectionist tendencies of the day, at the same time we cannot go back to status quo on multilateralism and of the current international world order. He called for reformed multilateralism around which the Global South can coalesce. Reform should go hand in hand with acknowledgment of the rising South.

14. Therefore, friends, the discussion and debate you are having now has the potential to influence a much larger debate on the nature of multilateralism itself and the international order. While welcoming your efforts to flesh out the principles and build on the theoretical perspectives and empirical realities, I would guard against coming up with a well-meaning but restrictive template, which may constrict rather than facilitate South South cooperation. Kindly capture its diversity of forms, modalities and practices.

15. South-South Cooperation has traditionally been an important pillar of India's foreign policy, covering areas like development, defence and security, health, science & technology, education etc. and through ITEC scholarships and fellowships, capacity building, Lines of Credit, grants, etc. It will only continue to strengthen as we reach out even more to our development partners, in our neighbourhood, Africa, the Arab World, Small Island States, South East Asia and beyond.

16. Triangular and South-South Cooperation can only supplement international obligations to Development Assistance. India will be happy to partner countries, if countries from North or other parts of world wish to join in providing assistance to our developing country partners. The Prime Minister's initiative of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an example of how South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation can co-exist for a better world.

17. To conclude, I am happy to note that the Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST), which is housed at RIS, is also engaged in advancing South South Cooperation. I am confident your Consultation over the next two days will help to shape the Southern narrative and the approach to the second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation – the BAPA+40 Conference – taking place next March in Buenos Aires.

Thank you

List of Speakers

Dr. Abraham George

Director
Institute for Sustainable Development &
Governance
Trivandrum, India

Mr. Adriano José Timossi

Senior Programme Officer
Global Governance for Development Programme
South Centre, Geneva

Mr. Alok A. Dimri

Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India

Mr. Alvaro Moreira

PhD candidate in Development Studies
Institute of Development Studies
University of Sussex, U.K.

Ambassador Amar Sinha

Distinguished Fellow, RIS
New Delhi

Mr. Ambuj Kishore

Program Director
ARRAVALI
Jaipur

Professor Amitav Acharya

UNESCO Chair for Transnational Challenges and
Governance
Distinguished Professor, School of International
Service, American University, Washington, D.C.

Dr. André de Mello e Souza

Senior Research Fellow
Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA)
Brazil

Dr. Anthea Mulakala

Director of International Development Cooperation
The Asia Foundation

Mr. Aravazhi Selvaraj

Chief Operating Officer of Innovation and
Partnership, International Crops Research Institute
for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Hyderabad, India

Professor Aristides Sitas

Chairperson, South African BRICS Think Tank
South African representative on the BRICS Think
Tanks Council

Mr. Atul Anand

Co-Founder
M2i Consulting, New Delhi

Dr. Bernabé Malacalza

Research Fellow, National Scientific and Technical
Research Council
National University of Quilmes (UNQ), Argentina

Ambassador Dr. Bhaskar Balakrishnan

Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS
New Delhi

H.E. Professor Bishwambher Pyakuryal

Ambassador of Nepal to Sri Lanka and Maldives
Chairman of South Asia Co-operative Environment
Program (SACEP)

Dr. Carlos María Correa

Executive Director
South Centre, Geneva

Mr. Carlos Timo Brito

Career Public Policy Specialist, Ministry of Planning
Chief Research Officer, Brazilian Institute for
Defense Studies
Ministry of Defense, Brazil

Ms. Caroline Karanja

Chief Executive Officer
Association of Microfinance Institutions, Kenya

Ms. Chanda Ashley Mwali
Legal Officer–Property, Legal Directorate
ZESCO Limited, Zambia

H.E Mr. Daniel Chuburu
Ambassador of Argentina to India
Embassy of Argentina, New Delhi

Mr. David Rasquinha
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of India, Mumbai

Shri Deepak Kumar Adhikari
Founder–Director
Neeti Anusandhan Pratishthan (NeNAP), Nepal

Dr. Denis Nkala
Regional Coordinator
Representative, United Nations office for South-
South Cooperation, Asia and the Pacific Office

Dr. Emma Mawdsley
Reader in Human Geography, University of
Cambridge
Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge, U.K.

H.E. Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo
High Commissioner of Rwanda to the Government
of India Accredited to Sri Lanka and Bangladesh

Dr. Fanwell Kenala Bokosi
Executive Director, AFRODAD
Zimbabwe

Professor Gerardo Bracho
Senior Expert Fellow
Centre for Global Cooperation Research, France

Ms. Giselle Mendez
Founder and Chief Volunteer
The Volunteer Center of Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Gulnaz Atabaeva
Senior lecturer and PhD candidate
Department of Economic Theory
Alatoo International University in Bishkek,
Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Hany Besada
Senior Research Coordinator
United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
(UNOSSC)

Ms. Jackie Mbabazi
Executive Director of the Association of Microfinance
Institutions of Uganda
Board Chairperson, Microfinance Regulatory
Authority
Uganda

Mr. Jaleel. M. J. Qare
The Palestinian International Cooperation Agency
(PICA), Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
Expatriates

Ms. Jarmila Sarda Souckova
Investment Advisor
International Trade Centre, Geneva

Ms. Jessica Alejandra Figueroa del Valle
CEO and Founder
Setesik, Guatemala

Mr. Jorge Chediek
Director of the United Nations Office for South-
South Cooperation
Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on
South-South Cooperation

Dr. José Cláudio Klein de Moura Junior
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Brazilian Cooperation Agency, Brazil

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Director, Symbiosis School of Economics
Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
– SIU India

Dr. Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay
Director of Society
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Consultant, RIS, New Delhi
Managing Editor of *Asian Biotechnology and
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Research Coordinator for South-South Cooperation
Research and Policy Center Articulação SUL, Brazil

H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

President-Elect of the 73rd Session of the United
Nations General Assembly

Dr. Martin Rivero Illa

Coordinator, Social Cohesion and South-South
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Professor at O.P Jindal Global University, Sonipat

Ambassador Mohan Kumar

Chairman, RIS, New Delhi

Professor Muchkund Dubey

Director
Council for Social Development, New Delhi

Professor Mustafizur Rahman

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Dr. Paulo Esteves

Director
BRICS Policy Center
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Executive Director
Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa

Mr. Pranay Sinha

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Lead of Global Secretariat of Network of Southern
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Former Commerce Secretary, Government of India

Mr. Rajeev Mehrotra

Chairman and Managing Director, RITES Ltd.
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Africa, Latin America, Caribbean and United
Nations Centre at Institute for Defence Studies
and Analyses, New Delhi.

Dr. S. K. Mohanty
Professor, RIS, New Delhi

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General, RIS, New Delhi

Professor Sandhya S. Iyer
Associate Professor, Chairperson, Centre for
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Habitat and Human Development, School of
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Tata Institute for Social Sciences

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Senior Research Fellow
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Ms. Shahd Salah
Diplomatic Attaché
The Palestinian International Cooperation
Agency, Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and Expatriates.

Mr. Shakti Kant Das
G20 Sherpa, New Delhi

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Director, Symbiosis School of International Studies
Symbiosis, Pune

Professor Sreeram Chaulia
Professor and Dean, Jindal School of International
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Mr. Surender Makhija
Strategic Advisor
Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd, New Delhi.

Professor T. C. James
Visiting Fellow, RIS, New Delhi
President, NIPO, New Delhi

Shri T.S. Tirumurti
Secretary (Economic Relations)
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

Professor Thomas Fues
Senior Researcher, Germany

Mr. Vineet Shankdher
Deputy General Manager - International Marketing
Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Pvt Ltd.

Mr. Vishal Bajpai
Marketing and Business Development
KEC International Limited, New Delhi.

Dr. Wu Jin
Associate Dean, College of Humanities and
Development Studies,
CAU China Agricultural University, Beijing

Mr. Yuri Afanasiev
UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident
Representative in India.

RIS A Think-Tank of Developing Countries

Research shaping development agenda

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (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.

For more information about RIS and its work programme, please visit its website: www.ris.org.in



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**Research and Information System
for Developing Countries**

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

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