



BAPA+40

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION



United Nations
Office for South-South Cooperation

Side Event



Advancing Frontier Research on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

19 March 2019

9:30 am -11:00 am

Museo De Arquitectura Y Diseno (MARQ), Buenos Aires, Argentina

BAPA+40 Side Event Concept Note
Advancing Frontier Research on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

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9:30 am -11:00 am
Museo De Arquitectura Y Diseno (Pabellon Ternium Siderar)
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background

The world has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an agenda calling for a new and inclusive global partnership, of which South-South and Triangular cooperation (SSC and TrC) forms an integral part. Goal 17, in particular, places emphasis on the critical role of SSC and TrC in achieving this ambitious development agenda. It places importance on the need to enhance knowledge sharing through improved coordination among existing mechanisms.

Yet, the potential of SSC and TrC to contribute towards sustainable development and poverty eradication has not been fully leveraged. Knowledge gap and uneven access to solutions and resources are major obstacles hindering progress and the full realization of the SSC potential and its impact on sustainable development. The availability of information and quality of research on the scale and impact of SSC and TrC have not kept pace with the growing demand among Southern partners for peer learning to further improve results. In addition, policy incoherence, together with a lack of understanding of the respective legal and policy environments for cooperation, can create ‘thick borders’ between countries and hinder the expansion of SSC and TrC. Addressing these knowledge gaps will be critical in the context of scaling-up SSC for sustainable development.

Think tanks, research institutions and academia globally, and especially from the Global South, are best positioned to tackle these challenges. As public policy research, analysis and engagement organizations, they can strategically champion the thought leadership on SSC and TrC. They can play a vital role in the political and policy arenas at the local, national level, and global levels and assist governments in understanding and in making informed choices about issues of domestic and international concerns on South-South and triangular cooperation.

Objective of Side-event

This side-event aims at sharing evidence-based research on South-South and triangular cooperation to better inform global policy dialogues and agenda setting on SSC. At the side-event, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) will conduct a soft launch of the Independent Annual Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, which has been requested by the UN Secretary General. As we are heading toward the 40th anniversary of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA +40), there is an opportunity to review the history and transformation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation and

explore how these partnerships can be best supported given the changing global context. Targeting a wide audience, this report will provide an overarching perspective and establish a strong basis for potential future technical publications. As an information tool for political leaders, practitioners and academics, it will explore the diversity of cooperative models, the impact of these models on current global challenges, including sustainable development and poverty reduction, and the need for more innovative and inclusive strategies to develop as part of the multilateral and bilateral cooperation system. Through this looking forward document, we hope to provide innovative and disruptive analysis of local, regional and global southern cooperative initiatives to scale up understanding and support for models of cooperation. Based on experience-sharing and promoting the replicability of development strategies, South-South and Triangular cooperation should benefit from an increased visibility in the global cooperation framework.

In addition, under the South-South Global Thinkers: the Global Coalition of Think Tank Networks for South-South initiative which pools over 200 think tanks from across all regions, UNOSSC and UNDP have supported think tank networks from the South to develop research studies to contribute to growing body of evidence and knowledge on issues pertinent to South-South cooperation. Topics range from impact assessment, monitoring and evaluation, multi-stakeholder engagement in SSC (education, innovation, women and IT, peacebuilding), Economic Structural Transformation, Renewable Energy, trade and investment policies of Southern Finance Providers, and SSC coherence. The outcomes from these commissioned research studies have informed into the Independent report and will be launched and discussed during the side-event.

Format

- 1.5 hours
- Panel discussion with think tanks and research institutions
- Soft launch of the Independent Annual Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation and eight research studies developed by Southern Think Tanks.
- The side event will be open to all BAPA+40 participants

Agenda

9:30 – 9:40	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <p>Mr. Jorge Chediek <i>Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation</i></p> <p>Ms. Margaret Thomas <i>Director, Effectiveness Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP</i></p> <p>Soft Launch of <i>“Independent Annual Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation”</i></p>
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	<p>Launch of <i>Eight research papers on South-South cooperation developed by members of the South-South Global Thinkers (South-South Ideas)</i></p>
<p>9:40-10:40</p>	<p>Moderated Discussion</p> <p><i>Moderator</i> Ms. Xiaojun Grace Wang <i>Deputy Director of Programmes and Operations, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)</i></p> <p><i>Discussants (authors of the Annual Independent Report)</i></p> <p>Mr. Hany Besada (8 min) <i>Senior Research Coordinator of UNOSSC</i></p> <p>Ms. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos (8 min) <i>Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), South Africa</i></p> <p>Dr. Jorge Heine (8 min) <i>Public Policy Fellow, Wilson Centre, United States</i></p> <p><i>Discussants (authors of South-South Ideas research papers)</i></p> <p>Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi (8 min) <i>Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i></p> <p>Ms. Ana Patricia Munoz (8 min) <i>Executive Director, Grupo FARO, Ecuador</i></p> <p>Dr. Adedeji Adeniran (8 min) <i>Senior Research Fellow, Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa, Nigeria</i></p> <p>Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya (8 min) <i>Board of Trustees and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh</i></p>
<p>10:40-10:55</p>	<p>Q&A / Open Discussion</p>
<p>10:55 – 11:00</p>	<p>Summary and Closing Remarks Ms. Xiaojun Grace Wang <i>Deputy Director of Programmes and Operations, UNOSSC</i></p>