

United Nations South-South Cooperation Day

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND IN ACHIEVING SDG2

Opportunities for the RBAs to broker South-South and Triangular Cooperation after “BAPA+40”

Key messages

Rome-based agencies celebration of the 2019 United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation

Key messages from the Rome-based agencies

06 September 2019, WFP Headquarters in Rome

One of the key issues at the heart of the discussions this year at the High-level Political Forum and which was also highlighted by the Secretary-General at the United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation (“BAPA+40”) in Buenos Aires, is the **need to strive towards inclusive and equitable development** and to **ensure no one is left behind in benefitting from South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC)**.

For the work of the Rome-based agencies (RBAs), this means placing a focus on **ensuring that all developing countries and their people can benefit from progress towards zero hunger through SSTC**, which adds to the complexity of the challenges to respond to needs of the rising number of hungry and malnourished people worldwide (820+ million in 2018).

The RBAs are addressing this need through their work at different levels, building on their respective mandates and strengths. Examples include their efforts to facilitate SSTC in the context of family farming by **empowering rural women to better access markets** and **creating opportunities for the rural youth**.

Building on the [RBA Joint Roadmap towards BAPA+40](#), the RBAs reaffirm their commitment to joining efforts in leveraging SSTC in the fight against hunger. The strong spirit of collaboration that has guided the RBA work in SSTC will continue to be the engine to generate benefits for local populations and host governments.

While a lot has been achieved in the past years, there are still opportunities to further strengthen RBA collaboration in SSTC. Taking stock of their progress as well as forward-looking opportunities to strengthen RBA collaboration, the following **key RBA messages** have emerged:

1. Women account, on average, for 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries, while 77 percent of the youth labour force aged 15–24 will be in the developing countries of Africa, Asia and the Pacific. In order to ensure everyone is benefiting from SSTC, the RBAs will place **women and young farmers at the centre** of the joint activities to achieve zero hunger by 2030.
2. Investing in **family farming is key to ensure no one is left behind in hunger**. RBAs-supported SSTC can serve as a catalyser for strengthening investment capacities and local innovations by and for family farmers. This should also trigger a major RBA initiative for implementing access to innovation.



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations


Investing in rural people



World Food
Programme

3. The RBAs recognize the many opportunities that exist to expand SSTC, including the need to bring more partners onboard to explore its full potential, such as brokering partnerships with the **private sector and establishing blended finance mechanisms**.
4. Building on each other's strengths, the RBAs will be able to expand their collaboration through **pilot projects in the field in order to reach more people in need**. The RBAs will capture lessons learned from their collaboration to develop working mechanisms that are scalable and adaptable in other countries with similar social and economic contexts.
5. In order to ensure effective assistance and sustainability of results, the RBAs will ensure that they **build on synergies among existing and upcoming projects** to strengthen the capacity of host governments and generate development benefits for the most vulnerable local populations.
6. The RBAs will continue their joint efforts in **assessing the results (quantitative and qualitative) and generating evidence** of the contribution of SSTC to local populations and host governments in their fight against hunger. Through these efforts, the RBAs will be able to capture the added value of jointly brokering SSTC. These results will contribute to creating an evidence base for future initiatives with a focus on enhancing impact on the field.

