

Second High-Level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40)

Triangular Co-operation in the Era of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

20th March, 2019, 13:00-15:00

Auditorium, National Museum of Fine Arts
Buenos Aires, Argentina

SUMMARY OF THE SIDE EVENT

I. Background context

The side event was co-organized by the core group members of the Global Partnership Initiative on Effective Triangular Cooperation (GPI): Canada, IsDB, Japan, Mexico, OECD, PIFCSS, and UNOSSC. It gathered over 100 representatives from international organizations, national cooperation agencies, civil society, and academia to discuss the relevance of enhancing the effectiveness of triangular cooperation to advance the 2030 Agenda. The GPI members regarded the Second High-Level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA +40) as a unique opportunity to promote triangular co-operation as one way to achieve the 2030 Agenda and received a mandate to follow up from BAPA +40 through a reference to the GPI in the Outcome Document. The event aimed to share evidence and field stories of triangular co-operation projects and raise awareness regarding the importance of continuing to build the evidence base and systematically learning about the results of triangular co-operation.

II. Main messages and outcomes

Triangular co-operation complements South-South and North-South co-operation, yet it is often regarded as a niche activity, and needs to be systematically included in the set of co-operation instruments of all stakeholders. To guide triangular co-operation initiatives, it is necessary to have more knowledge sharing of good practices and find common understanding for effective delivery. All stakeholders are invited to the discussions in GPI as well as supporting its voluntary guidelines.

III. Knowledge, ideas and solutions shared

The event served as a platform to share success stories and good practices for effective triangular cooperation; discuss the comparative advantages, opportunities and challenges for triangular co-operation, as well as how to scale up this modality; launch the Voluntary Guidelines for Effective Triangular Co-operation and the Report on Triangular Co-operation in the Era of the 2030 Agenda; and discuss the way forward for the GPI to develop as a broader multi-stakeholder platform for knowledge sharing and mutual learning.

The Voluntary Guidelines were conceived as a tool for all actors to increase effectiveness in this cooperation modality. Additionally, the aforementioned report gives voice to the inspiring experiences of 44 contributors and around 100 cases that show how innovative solutions to similar challenges and ideas for creative problem-solving are developed, by highlighting how strong

partnerships are built by engaging in triangular activities. Main messages from the report and the side event include:

- Triangular co-operation is on the rise. It connects all continents, is increasingly multi-stakeholder, contributes to achieving the SDGs in innovative and collaborative ways and can provide solutions to overcome today's most pressing challenges.
- Success factors in triangular co-operation include: aligning the project with the national development priorities of the beneficiary partner; ensuring ownership of all partners; building on existing bilateral experiences; openness among partners to test and jointly develop solutions.
- There are numerous ways of scaling up triangular co-operation, e.g. to other countries, regions or continents; extending to other levels of governance; scaling-up the partnership over time; or scaling-up towards alliances that address global challenges.

The following speakers participated in the panel:

- Noel González, Director General for Planning, Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation
- Jorge Chediek, UNOSSC Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation
- Eliana Beraún, Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru
- Riad Ragueb, Manager Reverse Linkage, Country Strategy and Cooperation Department of the Islamic Development Bank
- Ryutaro Murotani, Deputy Head, Office for Global Issues, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director of the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate
- Anthony Liverpool, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Antigua and Barbuda
- Marc-André Blanchard, Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations
- Deirdre Kent, Director General of International Assistance, Global Affairs Canada

IV. Moving Forward

Against the backdrop of the 2030 Agenda, the GPI Voluntary Guidelines for Effective Triangular Co-operation provide support in implementing impactful projects. The GPI continues to serve as a global platform for exchange and joint learning on triangular co-operation for all stakeholders including non-state actors and discussions will continue. The GPI remains open for new members, ideas and inspiration to tackle development challenges through triangular cooperation. In the near future, the GPI will also present these results in the framework of the GPEDC's first Senior Level Meeting, which will take place on 13-14 July 2019 in the context of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The GPI report can be accessed at: https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/446910/GPI_report_BAPA_40.pdf