

DCF Argentina High-level Symposium

South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda Building Innovative and Inclusive Partnerships

San Martín Palace, Buenos Aires: Friday 8 September 2017

Concept Note for Session V [09:00 AM – 11:00 AM, Libertador Room]

Building and strengthening institutions of South-South cooperation and reaching outcomes

Countries in all regions are adapting their development cooperation institutions to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development and Paris Agreement on Climate Change. This reflects the recognition that development cooperation can play a strategic role in supporting the change in mindsets and concerted efforts to make the transition from sectoral to more integrated approaches, to localize solutions in support of developing country priorities, and to find greater synergies in implementing the internationally agreed goals.

In the past decades, a number of countries have established and developed South-South cooperation government agencies or departments that continue to evolve; others are currently setting up such institutional arrangements to manage and assess South-South cooperation. A recent UN-DESA Survey shows of 129 developing country respondents, almost two-thirds provided South-South cooperation; of this group one-third had a dedicated entity responsible for South-South and triangular cooperation. Building on the 2009 Nairobi outcome and 2015 Addis Agenda, Southern partners are working to build the evidence base on the value added of South-South cooperation in achieving sustainable development results.

In the run-up to both the 2018 High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum and the Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held in 2019, the DCF Argentina High-level Symposium will explore “South-South and triangular cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda. Building innovative and inclusive partnerships”.

Considering development cooperation in its broad sense of financial and non-financial aspects, Session V of the Symposium will adopt an institutional perspective to explore initiatives by Southern partners to identify the contribution of their cooperation to sustainable development. It will reflect on what this means for the implementation of internationally agreed goals, and aim at generating useful lessons for development cooperation actors. It will also consider how these national and regional initiatives could be applied to support regional clusters of cooperation in key areas, such as financing and statistics.

Focus questions

- What have been the main institutional advances in relation to the objectives, measures and recommendations outlined in the BAPA? What are the main challenges in the matter towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

- How is South-South cooperation being assessed by different governments of the South?
- What do 'results' mean for different Southern partners?
- What is the potential of these initiatives to further the contribution of South-South cooperation to the achievement of the 2030 and Addis Agendas and Paris Agreement?

Format

20-minute plenary session with brief presentations by speakers, followed by 90-minute break-out groups, with reporting back to the Wrap-Up session.