

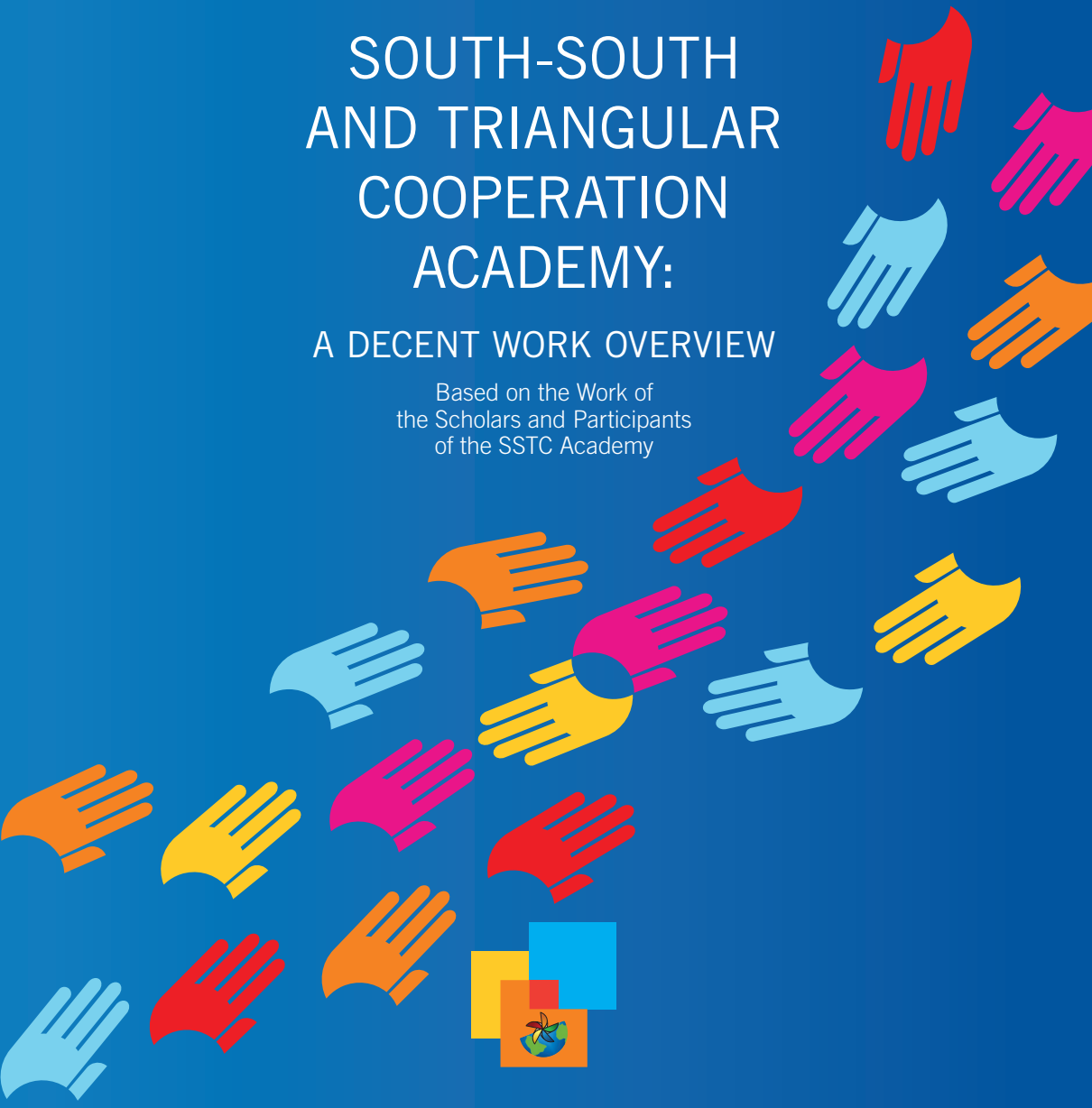


International  
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# SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION ACADEMY:

## A DECENT WORK OVERVIEW

Based on the Work of  
the Scholars and Participants  
of the SSTC Academy



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AND TRIANGULAR  
COOPERATION  
ACADEMY:  
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Anita Amorim, Fernando Baptista, Alessandro Ippolito,  
Samar Djacta and SSTC Scholars

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## **Preface by Virgilio Levaggi, Yanguo Liu, Anita Amorim, Linda Deelen**

South-South cooperation complements traditional North-South by incorporating the idea that, “through a spirit of solidarity, developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems and at lower cost.” Thus, “the efforts of South-South cooperation, including identifying successful experiences in one country and their adaptation and application in another, are an important contribution to the dissemination of the results of decent work for the four strategic objectives of addition ILO.” At the same time, it allows networking among developing countries and traditional development partners through triangular schemes that contribute to a fair globalization.

Hence, South-South cooperation is recognised as an important means to address the challenges of the least developed countries. This is because South-South and triangular cooperation has within its, the following fundamental constituent elements: (a) the promotion of initiatives to social, economic, environmental, technical and political level, and from this perspective is a useful tool to involve partners social of developing countries in promoting the Decent Work Agenda through development cooperation; (b) the manifestation of solidarity between the countries and peoples of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance, and to achieve development goals. It is regarded as official development assistance, but as equal partnership based on solidarity, not a replacement, but a complement to North-South cooperation. Hence the concept of “triangular cooperation”, defined as South-South cooperation supported by a partner of the North takes different forms, including the sharing of knowledge and experience, training and technology transfer.

These findings are clear, according to certain initiatives proposed in the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation. Initiatives that have contributed to mitigate the effects of the current crisis, placing employment and social protection at the center of recovery policies, including identifying successful models in developing countries and the sharing of experiences, particularly collaborating with the Decent Work Agenda of the ILO.

This publication presents an overview of the modules presented at the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Academy in Turin, from 11-15 July 2016. The Academy, joint initiative of the ILO, and its International Training Centre, was an opportunity for all selected representatives, practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and ILO Staff to engage in an interregional and networking forum event for the orchestration of high-level strategic initiatives, and political advocacy related to South-South and triangular cooperation, in support to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and decent work, in particular. On a global level, the United Nations system has been engaging actively in this modality through the South-South Development Expos, which the ILO has taken an active part since its inception. South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) can be defined as the collaboration between two or more developing countries, often supported by traditional partners, guided by the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality, aiming at implementing inclusive and distributive development models that are driven by demand. SSTC complements North-South cooperation in a concerted effort to promote development opportunities. Over a five day period, participants have taken part in a rich programme that offered a wide variety of learning, strategizing and networking tracks. The SSTC Academy also provided a unique opportunity for exchanging knowledge and forging connections with key players and scholars from the field of international development, as well as with ILO tripartite constituents and representatives from governments, international organizations and civil society. South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) has recently taken a particularly important role and became a trend in the worldwide debates and practices related to Development Cooperation, emphasizing on the following topics such as:

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and South-South cooperation;
- Triangular cooperation: good practices;
- The road to Buenos Aires + 40: from technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) to South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC);
- Good SSTC practices in the elimination of forced labour and child labour;
- SSTC in job creation and vocational training;
- Extending social protection floors: a South-South perspective;
- City-to-City cooperation and local economic development (LED);
- Fragile-to-Fragile cooperation and Decent Work;

- Social Dialogue and SSTC: experiences related to workers and employers' organizations;
- SSTC and labour migration;
- The role of the ILO in promoting and supporting SSTC.

As reflected in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) has become a key modality in international development cooperation and an essential tool for the United Nations Development System. The global trend of higher engagement with the Global South is reflected in the ILO's Development Cooperation Strategy 2015-17 and the ILO's Strategy for South-South Cooperation (GB, 2012). The Academy, in partnership with the United Nations system, has focused on SSTC's theories and practices, concepts, principles, modes and policies underpinning the SSTC and core of the programme. Its flexible and interactive dynamics have allowed for an enriching experience, both for long-experienced experts and newcomers in the context of sharing international practical experiences, making way for notable collaborative opportunities.



## Note about the SSTC scholars' contribution

This thematic summary per module, was written on the basis of the articles written by the following scholars that attended the academy (the full publication is available in <http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/> order of appearance of names corresponds to modules 1-10):

Canares, M. South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the Role of Data in the Sustainable Development Goals; Dash, A., Managing for Development Results in Decent Work through SSTC: ILO's Challenges for the Agenda 2030; Karthikikeyan, M. SSTC and SDGs: Good practices from Ethiopia; Leiva, G. Cooperación Sur-Sur Triangular en Chile; Lund, J. Transfer of Social Technology: Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos (PAA) and Brazil's South-South cooperation with Africa; Martinez, I. The potential contributions of South-South Cooperation to the Sustainable Development Goals; Ouedrago, A. Expérience avec le BIT et coopération Sud-Sud; Ramirez, J. ¿Será posible? Movilizar recursos y el desafío de las nuevas oportunidades en la Cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular.; Rocha Mattos, D: The 2030 Development Agenda under the perspective of the South-South and triangular cooperation and the Social and Solidarity Economy; Salinas, L. Chile y la cooperación sur-sur y triangular. El caso de la cooperación para mejorar las condiciones de empleabilidad de jóvenes en situación de vulnerabilidad en la República Dominicana; Stahl, Anna Katharina, Development Cooperation in a Changing Global Context: Rethinking Triangular Cooperation; Jaya, V. Indonesia's South-South and Triangular Initiatives: Contributing to Southern Countries Capacity Development; Weixia, L. Promote China-ASEAN Cooperation in Occupational Safety and Health through Training Program on Chinese Occupational Safety and Health Management System; Xiadong, Yao. The Sustainable Technical Action of China: On Promoting Of South-South Cooperation; Castillo, Carmen. La Cooperación Sur-Sur: Una respuesta al flagelo del trabajo infantil; Diallo, A. Article sur la coopération Sud-Sud –Le Travail des Enfants; Gomes, J. Academia Sobre a Cooperaçao Sul-Sul e Triangular; Kyaligonza, B. Disguised Child Labor in the Eastern Africa Region; Loritz, E. Del taller clandestino a la cooperativa textil - Una trama virtuosa de Cooperación Sur- Sur desde abajo; Pivotte-Cyrus, E. The Elimination of Child Labour and SSTC; Qureshi, U. Child Labor in Pakistan and Linkages with SSTC; Sosa, N. Propuesta de Intercambio entre el Ministerio de Trabajo de Colombia y el Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social de Paraguay; Silva, K. O Trabalho Infantil em Angola; Agbénozan, K. Coopération Sud-Sud et triangulaire, création d'emploi et formation professionnelle. Quelle utilité pour les pays africains? Cas du Togo; Chinguwo, P. Job Creation, Environment and Sustainable Development; Deveaux, I. South-South Cooperation: A critical component to Climate Change Mitigation in The Caribbean; Ghosh, S. Forest Investment Program (FIP), Women Empowerment and South-South Cooperation: An Asian Perspective; Ghader, A. Expérience avec le BIT et coopération Sud-Sud; Gueye, M., Amorim, A., South-South Cooperation, Climate Change and Green Jobs: an ILO Perspective; Kimanzi, N. South-South and triangular cooperation as a mechanism for attaining sustainable development goals; Ramjuthan, N. Triangular Cooperation between South Africa, Mozambique and Flanders to boost capacity development in the Port Sector; Sotomayor, B. Sustainable Development Goals and the Role of South-South Cooperation: Perspectives from Peru; MIDES: Fortalecimiento a Emprendimientos Productivos liderados por personas en situación de vulnerabilidad socio económica. Articulación con Argentina; Arce, Roxana. La dimensión del dialogo social expresado en algunas experiencias de Cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular entre Argentina y Cuba; Bravo Vera, Patricio. Perspectivas de la cooperacion sur-sur y triangular a la agroecología en el marco de la economía social y solidaria; Chaloba, D. Cooperaçao Sul-Sul: um breve levantamento das relações econômicas entre Brasil e África do Sul e sua contribuição para o

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# Module 1: South-South Cooperation and the Sustainable Development Goals

## Introduction

After many years of intensive negotiations and dialogue, bringing together not only governments and civil society actors but also millions of ordinary people around the world, UN member states have unanimously agreed upon what the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, described as the “most inclusive development agenda the world has ever seen. The 2030 Agenda embraces the three inclusive dimensions of sustainability – economic, social and environmental. Composed of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which have for goal to build on the progress achieved under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), it was formally adopted by world leaders gathered at a United Nations special summit in September 2015 in New York.

The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development puts people and the planet at its central focus and gives the international community the impetus it needs to work together in order to tackle the tremendous challenges confronting humanity today, including those in the world of work. It is estimated that over 600 million new jobs need to be created by 2030, to keep pace with the growth of the global working age population. That is around 40 million jobs per year. Additionally, we also need to improve the conditions for approximately 780 million women and men who are not earning enough through their work, to lift themselves and their families out of the \$2 per day (USD) poverty line. The importance of **decent work** in achieving sustainable development is highlighted by **Goal 8** which aims to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”. This global goal, strengthened by reference to aspects of decent work such as social protection and skills development under other proposed goals, is an indispensable response to the concerns of many governments and to the demand of people in countries in all regions.

## Sustainable Development Goals, SSTC and the ILO

The Nairobi Outcome document (2009), subsequently endorsed at the High Level

United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation by the General Assembly (Resolution 64/222), recognizes the importance and particularities of South-South Cooperation (SSC), reaffirming it as “a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.” SSC constitutes a complementary path to traditional North-South development cooperation and encapsulates the idea that through a spirit of solidarity, equality, and non-conditionality developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems at lower costs and with better results. Practices that encompass triangular cooperation include the cooperation of one ‘North’ country, and two or more ‘South countries. Assistance from the North could take the form of financial contribution or technical expertise. Triangular cooperation does imply support to “South-South Cooperation”, thus, must be “driven” by the developing countries involved, and in line with their national priorities. The 2030 Agenda further reaffirms the role of South-South Cooperation (Goal 17). Under the principles of solidarity and non-conditionality, South-South and triangular cooperation is considered as an approach compatible with the promotion of the Decent Work Agenda in regards to the exchange of knowledge, experiences and best practices and in supporting the development capacity building, technology transfer, resource mobilization, training of international chains and networks of social innovation. The ILO has participated in initiatives that have demonstrated the complementarity between the SSTC and DWA in the past 15 years.

The importance of the Global South in the development processes is evident. New actors are shaping the development agenda, and increasingly innovative responses to global challenges are coming from emerging countries, forging strategic partnerships with other southern countries. As such, there is a significant need for practical clarifications regarding the definition of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), its main principles, the differences between South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, the process that should be followed to implement projects in a South-South and triangular framework, and the actors involved. In addition, SSTC is also explicitly mentioned in targets under the UN Sustainable Development Goal 17 (“strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”) as a significant tool for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

The main Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) related to job creation and decent work is the goal 8: “to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”. This global goal –reinforced by specific targets on the provision of social protection, eradication of forced and child labour, increasing productivity, youth employment, SMEs and skills development– is an indispensable response to the economic and social needs of people and governments everywhere. However, job creation and decent work is not just a goal, it is also a major driver of sustainable development. As such, ILO’s work and mission is crucial to advance the entire 2030 Agenda.

It is very important to expand the understanding of South-South and Triangular Cooperation at the global level by targeting and informing the actors who can make it possible. This is also a critical step towards the achievement of the SDGs by 2030. The 2030 SDGs are a big challenge for the International Community, nevertheless, the development networks are equipped with effective tools that will assure success in achieving the objectives. The global south needs, now more than ever, accelerated cooperation efforts in developing capacities, building resilience and mitigating risks. They have currently become critical actors as many of them have shown impressive economic growth making their place as leaders of trade in goods and services; and are now Middle-income countries. I. Martinez (2016)<sup>1</sup> mentioned that the ILO has demonstrated that there is still work to be done in terms of scaling up SSTC and strengthening interregional cooperation in the global South, It has also highlighted the crucial role of SSC in helping to raise the living standards of a big segment of the population through the creation of decent jobs. In this context, the United Nations has urged all relevant UN organizations and multilateral institutions to “intensify their efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes and to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for supporting South-South cooperation initiatives.

## The ILO Strategy in South-South Cooperation

In view of its overarching objective (to better deliver decent work outcomes at all levels), the ILO Development Cooperation Strategy 2015–17 is built around four major components: Focus, Effectiveness, Capacity Development and Resource Mobilization. In this context, the ILO is strongly grounded to converge in a common

<sup>1</sup> ILO, 2016, [http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS\\_496952/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS_496952/lang--en/index.htm) and <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9BX0GCP9Kv2ZzdXWmZjTXMxNzQ>

agenda to enhance, and improve, the bridges between North-South and SSC, and empower horizontal partnerships with an adequate policy framework to facilitate a game-changing move in development cooperation with a view to 2030. According to A. Dash (2016, op.cit.), the ILO can support SSTC agents moving towards a results-orientation approach in the field of decent work, with a clear monitoring and evaluation framework, involves building better capacities in South-South partners to address institutional and operational constraints through knowledge exchanges and sharing of best practices, supported by enhanced reporting and knowledge management systems, as well as increased staff development in the area. This requires strong leadership from the ILO, given the high expectations placed on it to deliver results on decent work, and the Department of Partnerships and Field Support (PARDEV) of the ILO, through its Emerging and Special Partnerships Unit (ESPU) should further deepen and enhance its efforts to open up further new partnerships, including with social partners and civil society organizations within its declared *results-based* framework, particularly in respect of the strategy stated in outcome (2): The Decent Work Agenda is advanced through SSTC with the engagement of an increasing number of governments, social partners, UN agencies and non-state actors.

According to A. Dash (2016)<sup>2</sup>, in comparison to the different UN agencies, the ILO has had a strong background in SSTC for several years. For the ILO, South-South and Triangular Cooperation is regarded as a way to draw on its particular advantage, namely the experience and knowledge, of its tripartite constituents, as an effective means to capacity development, knowledge sharing, exchanging of experiences and best practices, and interregional cooperation, and as a means of mobilizing resources. SSTC embraces a multi-stakeholder approach and in this regard, due to its tripartite nature, and social partners, the ILO can play a key role in promoting SSTC as well as providing a useful platform for consensus building and cooperation between the developing countries' actors. Member States' Governments, employers and workers make up the largest network of expertise in the world of work – which is paramount to the mainstreaming of its Decent Work Agenda. SSTC is a “natural fit” for the ILO. Thus, the ILO places a special emphasis on South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of achieving the organization's objectives: Promote and realize fundamental principles and rights at work; create greater opportunities for women and men to decent employment and income; enhance the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all;

2 ILO, 2016, [http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS\\_496952/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS_496952/lang--en/index.htm) and <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9BX0GCP9Kv2ZzdXWmZjTXMxNzQ>

and strengthen tripartism and social dialogue.<sup>3</sup> Thus the ILO is deeply aware of the opportunities that this approach to development cooperation (SSTC) holds in the mainstreaming of the Social Justice and the Decent Work Agenda (DWA); as well as of the centrality that the SSTC has in pursuing the mandate of the ILO and fulfilling its mission.

A very important strategy on the part of the ILO has been to disseminate information on good practices through the various publications and knowledge sharing forums such as the annual Global South-South Development Expo. More recently, the ILO has provided assistance to South-South and triangular cooperation activities by facilitating, organising and supporting financially a number of international forums for dialogue on labour issues, such as the sessions of the ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), the conference on the “Potential and Limits of Social and Solidarity Economy” (2013), the conference on Social and Solidarity Finance: Tensions, Opportunities, and Transformative Potentials” (2015), the international research conference on Assessing Green Jobs for evidence-based policy making. These events are forums open to tripartite partners to be able to share their knowledge and experience of the links between South-South and triangular cooperation and specific labour-related topics, while also providing them with networking opportunities. For example, a direct outcome of the ILO Academy on SSE in Johannesburg (2015), is the India-Brazil Academic cooperation programme on “Mapping the SSE Landscape in India and Brazil: With Reference to Gender-based initiatives in Social and Solidarity Economy” led by Anup Dash (India) and Leandro Morais (Brazil), and supported by the ILO.

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3 ILO, 2016, [http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS\\_496952/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS_496952/lang--en/index.htm) and <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9BX0GCP9Kv2ZzdXWmZjTXMxNzQ>



## Case Study: Chile & triangular cooperation

According to the International Cooperation Agency of Chile (AGCI), Chile's role as a country of upper-middle income currently has a dual function. On the one hand, it remains a beneficiary (under cost-sharing schemes) of technical cooperation, and, on the other, has become a South-South provider, making available to Latin America and the Caribbean its capacities and experiences in specific fields, in which it has clear strengths. According to G. Leiva (2016) Chile currently has a network of twelve triangular cooperation partners: Germany, Spain, United States, Japan, Mexico, Australia, Canada, South Korea, France, Portugal, Singapore and Switzerland. The priority areas of cooperation are: Institutional strengthening and modernization; social development; economic cooperation for development; environment, natural resources and energy; agriculture and food security; local territorial development; disaster prevention and human capital formation.

The country has taken up the challenge and has adopted a deliberate strategy of cooperation with countries of equal or lesser development, which has been conducted through the International Cooperation Agency of Chile, strengthening ties with a dozen “traditional cooperation” partners from the North. Along with Germany, Chile has developed and continues to develop triangular cooperation projects in the Dominican Republic (youth entrepreneurship / youth employability), Guatemala (food safety /consumer information), Haiti (youth employment and environment), El Salvador (youth employment) Honduras (solid waste management), Colombia (solid waste management) and Paraguay (territorial and local development). Another good example for the active role that Chile has been taking in cooperation with other Southern countries has been a project to improve employment conditions and access to the labour market of vulnerable rural youth in the Dominican Republic. This experience was based on the bilateral cooperation that Germany and Chile had developed in the 2000's called “Interjovem”, aimed to improve the skills and entrepreneurship skills of young people to improve access to better job opportunities.

## **The Sustainable efforts on promoting SSTC in ASEAN: the Cases of China, Indonesia and ASEAN cooperation**

When Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Central Asia and Southeast Asia in September and October 2013, he raised the initiative of jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (hereinafter referred to as the Belt and Road), which has attracted close attention from all over the world. At the China-ASEAN Expo in 2013, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang emphasized the need to build the Maritime Silk Road oriented towards ASEAN, and to create strategic propellers for hinterland development. Accelerating the construction of the “One Belt One Road” can help promote the economic prosperity of the countries along the “One Belt One Road”, regional economic cooperation, strengthen exchanges and mutual learning between different civilizations, and promote world peace and development. It is a great undertaking that will benefit people all around the world.

According to Weixa (2016), under the guidance of sustainable development principles, China has undertaken many south-south and triangular cooperation programs, including regional and sub-regional cooperation such as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road Initiative (the Belt and Road Initiative). At the 16th, 17th and 18th China-ASEAN Summit (10+1), Premier Li Keqiang noted that the China-ASEAN relations have gone far beyond the bilateral scope to become a major cornerstone underpinning peace, stability and development in East Asia; China has always regarded ASEAN as a priority in its neighborhood diplomacy; China firmly supports ASEAN’s integration and community-building efforts, and its centrality in regional cooperation. He also stressed that China and ASEAN need to synergize the Belt and Road Initiative with the development strategies of other countries in the region and jointly elevate the security cooperation, both in traditional and non-traditional fields.

The formation and implementation of ILO/China South-South Cooperation Project to Expand Employment Services and Enhance Labour Market Information in Cambodia and Lao PDR is a good demonstration of SSTC within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals. Throughout 2014-15, both Cambodia and Lao PDR had greatly benefited from the Chinese experience, especially through the study tour and exposure to the advanced, comprehensive and extensive employment services system in China. It is noted herein that the ground work supported by Phase 1 have delivered the quality employment services and a keen intention

to strive in attaining the status of a non-fee charging multi-employment service facility, as is the case in China.

According to Xiaodong (2016), given the main purpose and the strategy towards employment, the outcomes of the China/ILO South-South Cooperation Project will contribute to the 2030 Agenda that embraces the three dimensions of sustainability – economic, social and environmental. More specifically, the Project's outcome would feed into the UN Agenda's calling "By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship". The Project continues to be implemented, under the ILO South-South Triangular Cooperation Framework, within which China's support will combine the provision of financial resources and a wide range of knowledge exchange initiatives based on experiences at both national and provincial levels. Central to this cooperation will be its technical assistance, advisory services and sharing of good practices and experiences by China with Cambodia, Lao PDR, together with ILO's expertise and drawing upon a large inventory of practical case studies from Asia and other regions. The Project will contribute to a more developed labour market and human resources to achieve the economic and social growth.

## Occupational safety and health in China and ASEAN

It is well known that occupational health and safety (OSH), often referred to as "work safety" in China, is directly relevant to the security of people's life and wellbeing, to the robustness of economy and social harmony. Developing rapidly, most ASEAN countries are confronted by serious challenges posed by OSH situation, and have accumulated systems and practices to ease the problems through many years of efforts; this will be of significant meaning considering China faces the very same situation.

The Chinese government attaches great importance to occupational safety and health and inspires its policy from the prescriptions of the SDG 3: "*Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*". In 2010, SAWS adopted the Basic Code for Chinese Occupational Safety and Health Management System, and gained effect and experience through comprehensive undertaking. It is proven that standardization in work safety can function as long-term mechanism in capability building for enterprises, an important point of reference for governmental inspection, and a useful method to prevent accidents from happening. China-ASEAN

cooperation faces broad prospects and opportunities. It is hoped that more and more cooperation in occupational safety and health between China and ASEAN countries will be carried out, which will further help people work and live in safe and healthy environments, promote common prosperity, and make new contributions to peace and development in East Asia, and the world at large. These initiatives give impetus and help in the achievement of the SDG 3: “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”.

### **Indonesia, SDGs and SSTC**

According to Jaya (2016) from 2006 to 2014, Indonesia has engaged in SSTC programmes worth an estimate of 49.8 million USD. The portfolio comprises of more than 700 individuals programme with close to 4,000 participants from Asia and the Middle East (75%), Africa (17%), Pacific (5%), and South America (3%). There are three flagship programs of Indonesia’s SSTC: development issues, good governance and peace building and economic issues. Each of these issues reflect the comparative advantages of Indonesia and also a field to create regional and global knowledge hub. In 2014, there were 26 SSTC initiatives which absorbed approximately USD 1.18 million from the stage budget, along with the fund from development partners or partner countries.

In its efforts to contribute to global development, especially after the establishment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, Indonesia has determined several core fields reflecting Indonesia’s commitment to the SDGs, called flagship programs. There are several flagship programs which have been implemented by Indonesia’s SSTC such as Capacity Building on Community Empowerment Program, Artificial Insemination of Beef Cattle, Revitalization of Farmer’s Agricultural and Rural Training Center, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Program, Capacity Building on Democracy Program and Conflict Resolution, Capacity Building on Trade and Export Program, Infrastructure Program for Road Sector, Population, family planning and reproductive health program, Scholarship for Developing Countries Partnership Program and Capacity Building on Macroeconomic, public finance and micro finance program.

## Social Technology Policy and South-South Cooperation (extract from Lund, 2016, op.cit.)

Social Technology Policy comprises products, techniques or methodologies that are replicable, and developed in collaboration with a community, and represents effective solutions for social transformation. One of the most successful social technology projects up to date is the Brazil's Public Food Acquisition Programme: Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos (PAA). PAA has been leveraging social technology to address the challenges of rural poverty child malnutrition for more than a decade. PAA is a programme that makes both short-term impact while building local resilience and long-term sustainable development in communities. It presents solutions to multiple pressing challenges and is being replicated through South-South cooperation across the developing world, with the support of governments. Inspired by the lessons from "Brazil's Zero Hunger Programme" to eradicate hunger and promote food and nutrition security. The Purchase from Africans for Africans (PAA Africa) programme is a result of the commitment made by the Government of Brazil during the High-Level Brazil-Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Fighting Hunger and Rural Development (Brasília, May 2010). With the aid and financial support from the Government of Brazil and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), PAA Africa has been partnering with Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal, with technical cooperation from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Program's Purchase for Progress (P4P). PAA Africa is currently working in partnership with governments, UN agencies and civil society to link food assistance in schools to support local agriculture. It has been coordinating efforts to support small-scale family farmers accessing institutional markets and promoting the food security of students. The South-South cooperation modality is a pillar of PAA Africa. It offers, national ownership, continuous exchange and learning among developing countries participating in the programme. It also offers opportunities for triangular cooperation with development partners from the North and multilateral UN agencies: WFP, FAO, and Brazil enable capacity building among the five partner countries with Brazil and with regional stakeholders. PAA Africa is in line with the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) for feeding African school children with adequate nourishment. School feeding programmes, with local food purchases from small-scale family farmers, have multiple short and longer-term benefits. Innovation is at the heart of South-South initiatives and can be fostered through the sharing of southern expertise, joint design, planning and technology transfer activities.

## The Role of Data in the Sustainable Development Goals

As a response to wider challenges in monitoring progress of the SDGs, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data was created as a “global network of governments, NGOs, and businesses, working together to strengthen the inclusivity, trust, and innovation, in the way that data is used to address the world’s sustainable development efforts” (GPSDD, 2015). This is a concrete acknowledgment that, without reforming data collection, aggregation, and analysis processes, ascertaining whether or not countries are able to achieve SDG commitments will be a difficult task.

The United Nations, in a report highlighting the need for a data revolution argued that “Data are the lifeblood of decision-making and the raw material for accountability. Without high-quality data providing the right information on the right things at the right time; designing, monitoring and evaluating effective policies becomes almost impossible” (UN, 2014:2). As this is a gigantic task, it was argued that people need to have access to the data, so that all people will be able to “monitor progress, hold governments accountable, and foster sustainable development” (UN, 2014:2). Hence, the call for open data is sounded, so that different stakeholders would be able to access the data and use them for various purposes towards the achievement of the SDGs.

According to Canares (2016, op.cit), data-driven and evidence-based practices present new opportunities for public and social sector leaders to increase impact while reducing inefficiency. Decent work agenda should pursue data-driven social change efforts. There is both an economic and a moral imperative for the adoption of data-driven approaches. Given the persistence of limited budgets, we must direct funds to programs and initiatives that do use data to show their achieving impact, and direct funds away from practices, policies, and programs that are consistently failing to achieve measurable outcomes. Therefore, it is of a paramount importance that we need to build evidence about the practices, policies, and programs that will achieve the most efficient results in order to help policymakers make better decisions. In adopting such approaches, conventional donors will work under the temptation to act in a top-down manner. Given the horizontal nature of the SSTC (which has an “equity” lens), it is important to structure bottom-up processes and implement programs that will engage community members directly in the work of social change, based on the idea of “ownership” at a systemic level to achieve a complex community-wide goal.

This disparity in data quality and openness needs a certain frame of cooperation that would help improve data quality and openness across the developing world. This frame of cooperation has to acknowledge that developing countries are at different starting points while at the same time acknowledging that these countries can learn from the experiences of advanced economies. For example, countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines, with more or less the same institutional arrangements in terms of open data initiatives, can learn from each other while at the same time emulate the practices of advanced countries like South Korea or Australia. In this context, south-south triangular cooperation (SSTC) is important and critical.

## Legal Challenges for SSTC Networking<sup>4</sup>

SSTC forms a coordinated action between various actors, who seek many different purposes ranging from simple information exchange, to joint tasks, in order to tackle the same problem, through the implementation of joint diagnostics, public policy planning, development and training staff, among numerous possibilities of cooperation. Unlike private legal relations, regulated by contracts – challenges involving social issues do not have the same development time. Due to their core quality difference in the domain of private legal relations, the relationships established in the South-South cooperation, just as the North-South cooperation, have a social nature.

As stated above, by Nagao Menezes (2016, *op.cit.*), triangular relationships are composed of employers, workers and state. Each of these agents are created and organized by specific legislation, having varied organizational capabilities under the legislation of each country. This fact alone adds to the uneven part in the cooperation agreements' conclusion, due to the challenges it inflicts to one of the fundamental modern law pillars: equality between the parties.

When cooperation involves the state, the issues become extremely complex, especially considering the political divisions within the states. Rare are the countries labeled as clusters or “unit”, who only possess political powers. Generally countries are divided into central and regional governments. However, not all regional and local governments have legal authority, competent enough to conclude cooperation agreements, especially when it comes to contract international obligations. Thus, in order to enhance SSTC, some really critical legal barriers must be dealt with systematically.

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<sup>4</sup> Extract from Menezes, 2016, *op.cit*





## Module 2: Combatting Child Labour, Trafficking and Modern Slavery through SSTC (ILO)

### Introduction

Today, 168 million children still endure child labour. Half of them, around 85 million girls and boys, are engaged in the worst forms of child labour, while the remainder are considered as too young to be working. 21 million women, men and children are in forced labour, trapped in exploitative work and services that generate at least an amount of 150 US\$ billions of illicit profits annually. Child labour and forced labour affect the most vulnerable and least protected people, perpetuating a vicious cycle of poverty and dependency.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation Pilots started in 2005, when MOUS signed with the government of Brazil. The 2009 ILO/Brazil Partnership Programme for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour includes several joint activities in a broad range of developing countries. Ten sub-regional and national projects were implemented in eleven countries. The programmes were first developed in Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay, and later extended to the MERCOSUR region (Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay), the PALOP countries<sup>5</sup>, and then to Tanzania (Africa), Timor-Leste (Asia) and Haiti (Caribbean). The projects related to Haiti and PALOPs were co-financed with United States funds through partnership with the Department of State (USDOS) and the Department of Labour (USDOL), respectively, and were implemented under an innovative triangular cooperation agreement (the first in ILO's history). A project funded by the Ministry of Social Development entitled "Strategies for Accelerating the Pace of Eradication of the Worst Forms of Child Labour" supported the preparation and implementation of the Third Global Conference on Child Labour (III CGTI, Brasilia, and October 2013).<sup>6</sup>

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5 The Portuguese-speaking African countries consist of six African countries in which the Portuguese language is an official language: Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Equatorial Guinea.

6 During the year 2013 the following projects were active: MERCOSUR PALOPs, Ecuador, Haiti and Tanzania, as well as the project to support the CGTI III through SSTC. Between January and December 2013, ILO Brasilia focused on finalizing their work plans and actions for the dissemination and promotion of the arrangements needed for participation in the III CGTI.

The projects in combating child Labour in Bolivia, Paraguay and Ecuador were the first implemented under the SSTC programme of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency and represented good cases of coordination with USDOL through the triangular cooperation modality. SSTC mechanisms and practices between the different actors involved, were developed such as joint study tours related to the themes of conditional cash transfers, labour inspection, child labour and youth employment and skills development.

### **The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)**

The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) was created in 1992 with the overall goal of progressively eliminating child labour, achieved through the strengthening of capacity of countries in being able to deal with the problem and promote a worldwide movement to combat child labour. IPEC currently has operations in 88 countries, with an annual expenditure on technical cooperation projects of US\$61 million in 2008. It is the largest programme of its kind globally, and the biggest single operational programme of the ILO.

The number and range of IPEC's partners have expanded over the years and now include employers' and workers' organizations, international and government agencies, private businesses, community-based organizations, NGOs, the media, parliamentarians, the judiciary, universities, religious groups and, of course, children and their families. IPEC's work to eliminate child labour is an important facet of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda. Child labour not only prevents children from acquiring the necessary skills and education for their own future, it also perpetuates poverty and affects national economies through losses in competitiveness, productivity and potential income. Withdrawing children from child labour, in providing them with a proper education and assistance to their families in training and employment opportunities, contributes directly to the creation of decent work for adults.

### **Setting target group priorities**

While the goal of IPEC remains the prevention and elimination of all forms of child labour, the priority is to target the worst forms of child labour, defined in the ILO Convention on the worst forms of child labour, 1999 (No. 182) as: all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery; such as the sale and trafficking of children; debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or

compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

### **SSTC and the Latin American Initiative: The case of the Caribbean (Pivotte-Cyrus, E, 2016)**

The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines the term “Child Labour” as, “work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development.” It is to be noted that in both definitions, child labour causes disturbances and serious disruptions in the lives of children and that both organizations are adamant to the situation. In order to achieve a world free from child labour an alliance was created twenty years ago among the countries and was named *The Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of Child Labour*. The Regional Initiative aimed to declare Latin America and the Caribbean, as the first developing Region in the world, free from Child Labour. Therefore, in order to accomplish this goal, the participation of all the countries in the Region, together with Latin America was essential. This gave rise to SSTC and their campaign in ratifying the roadmap for achieving the elimination of Child Labour in Latin America and the Caribbean. In order to achieve its goal in the eradication of Child Labour, SSTC will put proper monitoring systems in place by giving member states specific tasks and roles to perform which will include tasks such as: Achieving the highest level of political backing to the actions of the Regional Initiative; provide advocacy at National, Sub-regional, Regional and Global forums to ensure implementation of the Regional Initiative; interacts effectively with the Technical Secretariat for implementing all components of the plans and programmes of the Regional Initiative; establishes links with the regional and national levels of the Regional Initiative, disseminating information, socializing agreements and ensuring the flow of coordination and feedback among stakeholders; as delegated by the Focal Points Network, ensures compliance with, follow-up on and management of policies and strategies; coordinates with the Focal Points Network on the design, follow-up and implementation of the advocacy and resource mobilization strategy of the Regional Initiative.

## **SSTC and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries: Cabo Verde, Angola, Mozambique and Brazil**

In Cabo Verde, the Cape Verdean Institute for Children and Adolescents - ICCA is the institution highlighted by Jairson Gomes (Gomes, J., 2016, op.cit) in the prevention and elimination of child labour. This institution is preceded by the Cape Verdean Institute for Minors, ICM, created in 1982, which was assigned the responsibility to “promote and safeguard children and adolescents well-being and protect them from situations that somehow could endanger their harmonious and integral development.” Currently, the ICCA has been changing its approach and intervention through the ownership of new concepts and treating the child as a subject of rights. Therefore, ICCA has participated in a workshop in 2010 dedicated to the planning and design of a project for the eradication of child labour by the Brazilian government in the promotion of South-South cooperation in the child labour area, for is not an unfounded perception that Brazil has accumulated experiences and has consolidated itself as a country with good practice in the prevention and eradication of child labour.

From the partnership proposed between the Brazilian Government, the ILO and the countries of Tanzania, Ghana, Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome & Principe, emerged a collaboration that carried out various joint activities that positively influenced the actions of national authorities to prevent and eliminate this phenomenon. The results were satisfactory and sparked an intense debate on child labour, through various workshops conducted at national level, focusing on awareness of public administration and labour, social partners and non-government organizations for the elimination of child labour. In addition, within the project, Portuguese Speaking African countries prepared and approved the National Action Plan for Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour; establishing a list of hazardous work prohibited to children and adolescents and to establish tripartite national committees or other advisory bodies to deal with matters relating to the Children’s work in relation to existing policies and legislation. Furthermore, the project has managed to strengthen social dialogue, and allows for the sharing of experiences among member countries of the CPLP, strengthening the South-South cooperation in the CPLP countries, and particularly between Portuguese speaking African countries. The project helped make possible the ratification of conventions 138 and 182. For example, the completion of the ratification of Convention 138 by Cabo Verde was pushed forward through the regional meetings, given that Cape Verde was the only one within the CPLP, referenced in

the presentations of the ILO as not having ratified C.138,<sup>9</sup> which would eventually come into place in February 2011. In a broader sense, the aim of this proposal in Cabo Verde was to boost the consolidation of national policy, in regards to combating child labour through a consultancy to review and update the National Action Plan with a view to its adoption by the Council of Ministers, as well as ensuring at a national level, a mechanism for information and awareness of different target groups in the field of child labour and its worst forms. The primary objective of the initiative was to strengthen the institutional and local capacity, as well as to consolidate the process for the approval of the National Action Plan in the Council of Ministers, as a public policy for the Prevention and Elimination of the phenomenon of child labour in the country.

Silva, K. (Silva, 2016) provides another shining example of South-South cooperation and good social dialogue on child labour in CPLP countries: the SCREAM training, a result of the project, was a training where ILO experts in Angola worked with the government and its social partners. The project consisted in the formation of about 40 teachers from Luanda on SCREAM methodology, including two Angolan teachers who travelled to Mozambique to replicate the Supporting Children's Rights through education, arts and the media (SCREAM) training to Mozambican teachers. This activity strengthened relations between teachers of Angola and Mozambique and they have since discussed joint strategies to combat child labour.



# Module 3: Job Creation, Climate Change and Just Transitions

## Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and climate change commitments cannot be achieved with governments acting alone. Social partners, namely employers and workers' organizations will have a central role to play to generate and diffuse the solutions we need on a global scale. The ILO is well positioned, with its tripartite constituency to facilitate and promote such interactions of various actors within and among countries. In November 2015, the ILO Governing Body adopted Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all. The Guidelines covering nine policy areas, offer a comprehensive guiding framework for Governments, workers and employers to work together within and among countries to give a practical meaning to the three dimensions of sustainable development, by promoting environmentally sustainable economic growth, job creation and social inclusion – leaving no one behind.

The increasing role of so-called “emerging” countries including Brazil, China, Turkey, South Korea, India, South Africa and others in the trade, finance, investment and global economic governance has upset the rules and historical dividing lines in the area of international cooperation. For years, development cooperation has been associated with a unidirectional and one-dimensional transfer of resources, knowledge, expertise and technologies of the North (Western) to the South (developing countries the majority of which consist of African countries). “Even if the North-South cooperation is still the dominant form of cooperation, both in terms of value and volume, cooperation between the South has increased dramatically in recent years, from a relatively marginal phenomenon in the late 1970s to a global economic reality that has earned its place internationally in developing financing mechanisms “(Centre of International Trade-OIF, 2014, p 5)”.

The UN Secretary General's reports on South-South Cooperation in recent years are evidence that SSTC is increasingly significant. This is reflected in the fact that the South has not only augmented in individual financial strength, but its collective impact on the global economy has also increased exponentially. Currently, over



US\$5 trillion reserves are held by developing economies, which also account for 47% of global trade, with South-South flows making up about half of this total. This is going to be one of the main engines of growth in the years ahead. These trends are evidence that there is demand and opportunity for turning SSTC into a massive growth engine in achieving the SDGs. Indeed as the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, said at the High-Level Round Table on South-South Cooperation, United Nations Sustainable Development (UNSD) Summit in 2012, “South-South Cooperation will play a key role in the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”.

According to Kimanzi, (2016, op.cit), the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015 is a historic turning point in multilateral diplomacy to enable global action on climate change. Employment, environmental and social development are essential and closely interrelated dimensions of sustainable development. The Agreement also states that Parties’ actions to address climate change should respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights including gender equality and women’s empowerment. Action on climate change should also consider the imperative of a just transition of the workforce and the promotion of decent jobs. Such an integrated approach turns the drive towards environmental sustainability into a significant avenue for development, with more and better jobs, social inclusion and poverty reduction. It has been well documented that unabated climate change efforts are likely to magnify existing patterns of gender-based disadvantage (UNDP, 2007). This includes the worsening of gender gaps which could affect the capacity of women in particular to adapt to change, due to lower access and control over productive means such as land, credit, agricultural inputs, technology, and equal representation in decision-making. (Aguilar, 2008) In many countries, droughts, floods and deforestation increase the unequal burden of work on girls and women, leaving them less time to be educated and engaged in paid work (ILO, 2013).

Appropriate policies to address climate change can yield opportunities for gains which may in fact be greatest in developing countries and emerging economies. This is why South-South and triangular cooperation exchanges are of importance in this field. Climate change is a global problem for which solutions are often context specific. However a number of countries, in particular emerging economies, developing countries and island states, share similar socio-economic conditions and face the same kind of climate-related challenges for agriculture, rural economies, tourism and the industrial sector. Many technical and policy responses to

enhance the resilience of economic and social systems have been tried in different parts of the world - with lessons learned, successful practices identified and potential for replication assessed. South-South and triangular cooperation can go a long way to enable countries to learn from such experiences and increase momentum in our action to address climate change and achieve the 2030 agenda. Such cooperation can also include sharing of good practices concerning gender mainstreaming. Examples could include on capacity building, which the Paris Agreement states in its Article 11(2) should be country-driven and should be an effective, iterative process that is participatory, cross-cutting and gender-responsive. The Paris Agreement also calls for gender balance in decision-making – for example in paragraph 103 concerning “Facilitating Implementation and Compliance”, it states that decision-making committees should take into account among other factors the goal of gender balance.

The ILO has been an active participant in the Global South-South Development Expos and hosted the 2010 GSSD at the ILO headquarters. In 2013, the Global South-South Expo Show-Cased South-South Cooperation work of Brazil with other countries in the Americas on a “Green Grant” entitled “Bolsa Verde”: The Support Conservation Program - Green Grant was established in October 14, 2011 as part of one of the government’s strategies namely the “Brazil without Poverty” Plan (Brasil sem miséria). This initiative is already benefiting important actors of environmental conservation in the country, such as indigenous peoples, riverine, and the descendants of the Maroons, extractive traditional communities, rural settlements and family farmers. Its objectives are: Encourage the conservation of ecosystems (maintenance and sustainable use); the Promoting citizenship and improve living conditions; Raise the income of the population in extreme poverty exercising natural resource conservation activities in rural areas; Encourage the participation of beneficiaries in environmental training activities, social, technical and professional. Brazil has taken the initiative to cooperate with other countries of the Global South in the fields of sustainable development and decent work (<http://www.ilo.org/pardev/south-south/lang--en/index.htm>).

We have learned that South-South experiences in knowledge sharing through approaches based on the creation of global and regional networks of practitioners, researchers and training institutions can be a powerful way of institutionalizing learning and experience sharing among countries. For example, the Green Jobs Assessment Institutions Network (GAIN) is a collaborative network of national research and policy institutions in over 20 countries. The GAIN Network promotes

South-South and triangular collaborative research and exchange of experiences to build the capacity of national institutions in developing countries to better inform policies and investments on green growth and green jobs.

A number of programmes and intervention models, critically important both to climate change and decent work such as employment intensive investment programmes, skills development for green jobs and green entrepreneurship, social protection in response to climate-induced disasters, and the promotion of just transitions in labour markets – have proven to offer valuable experiences and learning to share and nurture among countries. With the right investment and policy conditions, the transformation to environmental sustainability also offers the possibility of greater social inclusion including better opportunities for women and thus contributes to gender equality. New services, and related employment opportunities, can open up for persons previously excluded or disfavored in the labour market. Two examples where this is beginning to happen are access to cleaner energy and payment for environmental services (op.cit, p 42). Capitalizing on this body of knowledge, in July 2016, the ILO will initiate a new Academy on South-South and Triangular Cooperation including modules on the inter-linkages between climate change, South-South cooperation and just transitions. Experiences in the field of Social and Solidarity economy were also show-cased. The convergence between the Social and Solidarity Economy as a thematic area and SSTC as a cooperation modality is a strategic opportunity for the ILO. This new academy constituted an opportunity to demonstrate the collective response of the UN to relevant provisions of the SDGs and the Paris agreement on climate change, and its capacity to facilitate South-South cooperation and an exchange of experiences in these areas.

### **SSTC and the SDGs and climate change**

At the 2015 UN Summit, world leaders adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), replacing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which marked the beginning of the next concerted push by the global community to work towards attaining some common sustainable development goals.

One of the implications of this is that the global community is now called upon to progressively look at development more as a cooperation issue than the traditional development assistance approach. The international development cooperation community, previously driven by development assistance mainly funded by gov-

ernments has been called upon to focus their resources, expertise and capacities towards attaining the ambitions contained in the 17 Goals of the 2030 Development Agenda through multi-sectorial partnerships. These partnerships bring together interregional, regional and sub-regional actors from the academic, government and private sectors, all with the common goal of solving common problems facing humanity today.

The UN Secretary General's reports on South-South Cooperation in recent years are evidence that SSTC is increasingly significant. This is reflected in the fact that the South has not only augmented in individual financial strength, but its collective impact on the global economy has also increased exponentially. Currently, over US\$5 trillion reserves are held by developing economies, which also account for 47% of global trade, with South-South flows making up about half of this total. This is going to be one of the main engines of growth in the years ahead. These trends are evidence that there is demand and opportunity for turning SSTC into a massive growth engine in achieving the SDGs. Indeed as the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, said at the High-Level Round Table on South-South Cooperation, United Nations Sustainable Development (UNSD) Summit in 2012, "South-South Cooperation will play a key role in the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals".

The UN and other development cooperation partners have a wonderful opportunity and obligation to serve the nations of the world, from both the global north and south, using the unique advantages that are contained in the SSTC Framework. The global south is now firmly engaged in the development of ideas, sharing of knowledge, good practice and setting up of financial instruments and mechanisms that go into driving the rapid transition of the global south. The regional development banks in the countries of the south have also been very active in driving the changes that are being seen. The surge in the economies of Brazil, China, India and South Africa a few years ago saw them come together with Russia to form the New Development Bank. The New Development Bank is a great example of SSTC becoming a major influence in geopolitical and economic areas and a critical ingredient for a new dawn in global priority setting and engagement towards a more equal relationship between regions considered largely traditional recipients and regions considered largely traditional donors.

SSTC, naturally, has sustainability built into the programming approach to designing and implementing projects through the extensive use of tried and tested

methods that have been applied in similar/related projects in locations of similar/close-to-similar environments and context. Countries of the global south are serious and expert contributors to the advances in technologies and knowledge that are appropriate and suited to their circumstances as well as those that can be consumed anywhere else in the world.

This combination of growing wealth, technological advancement, political stability and the ambition of becoming generally middle-income, or better, is a boon for sustainable development. The UN and other organizations involved in ODA have an opportunity to leverage the goodwill of governments to achieve the SDGs. Governments have in the wake of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda rallied around issues needing immediate global action and formulated binding agreements to address these issues. Some of these include the Addis Ababa Agreement, the Sendai Framework, the Samoa Pathway and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. At the national level, countries are working to align their national programmes to these goals. SSTC would be a popular and practical approach to enriching the individual efforts and catalyzing a multiplier effect for the array of initiatives addressing the 2030 Development Agenda.

### **Togo's South-South Cooperation: A case study by Agbénozan, K.(2016, op.cit.)**

#### **Togo and China**

Togo and China have had fruitful cooperation in the political, economic, technical, financial and socio-cultural domains since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on September 19 1972. Sino-Togolese cooperation, based on a set of values and ideals such as those of peace, solidarity and South-South cooperation promotion, rest on several agreements and Memoranda of Understanding whose implementations are testimonials of the strengthening of Sino-Togolese bilateral cooperation, maintained and reinforced by official visits of high level partners. The first China-Africa Summit held in 2006, attended by African Heads of State including the President of the Togolese Republic and His Excellency Faure Gnassingbe Essozimna as well as the Declaration of 12 January 2006 laid down the guidelines of Chinese policy cooperation in Africa such as the absence of interference in the internal affairs of States, untied aid, the lack of budgetary support and no requirement for good governance. The 2010 Shanghai World Expo resulted in the implementation in Togo of the eight measures announced by the Chinese Government. If we use the economic and financial aspect of this south-south cooperation between Togo and China as an example,

it should be noted that China attaches each year in Togo, a budget of approximately 7 billion FCFA in grant and interest free loan. Moreover, through this cooperation, China provides technical support for the implementation of certain projects and micro-projects. Therefore, we believe that China- Togo cooperation is an emerging trend in development cooperation and can bare fruits also in the areas of social development.

### **Togo and Brazil**

The cooperation between Togo and Brazil began in 1972 with several agreements and memorandums of understanding signed between the two countries. According to Komlavi Agbénozan (2016, op. cit, in order to strengthen relations between Togo and Brazil, it is necessary to infuse dynamism and innovativeness in cooperation by including a decentralized partnership.

As for technical education and vocational training, Togo may prompt Brazil to establish a partnership between the federal center for technical education and the National Industrial Apprenticeship Service and technical training structures. In addition, the Government of Togo could enable collaboration with Brazil's Secretariat for Women's issues and the protection of children victim of sexual exploitation, in order to benefit from the Brazilian experience. Cultural exchanges between Togo and Brazil must also be intensified with the mixing of the Brazilian Party Ewole festival and the festivities of afro-Brazilian traditions.

## **Climate Change and South-South Cooperation in the Caribbean: a Small Islands Perspective**

According to Deveaux (op.cit, 2016), Climate Change has become one of the most widely discussed global issues in international fora. For most countries, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and low lying coastal states, this global challenge is a major priority. Within the last several decades, a plethora of meetings have been held, organizations have been formed and reports have been written to address this urgent challenge. The world at large has concluded that climate change is a rapidly growing problem which should not be ignored and there must be a concerted plan of action to help mitigate its effects. Countries have also realized that in tackling the issue of climate change, 'no man is an island', and that there is a vital need for close collaboration among countries and organizations such as South-South Cooperation, who are willing and able to provide the support and assistance needed to combat the issue of climate change.

There are now new opportunities for unions to network more efficiently across geographical regions and to co-operate effectively to overcome sectional rigidities and stubborn particularism. In recent years new internationalist networks or reconfigurations trade unions have emerged in the South (the Southern Initiative on Globalization and Trade Union Rights, SIGTUR), in Latin America (thanks to reforms to the *Organización Regional Interamericana de Trabajadores*, (ORIT) and new international strategies have been developed by South African trade unions. Unions have vigorously contested violations of labour standards among signatories to the North American Free Trade Agreement and others have organized to support, or promote, ethical trading initiatives such as in the garment industry (Waterman & Wills, 2001). A certain labour environmentalism has also emerged from concerns over occupational health and safety, environmental justice issues and a recognition that unrestrained capitalist economic growth is bad for people and the planet.

The Caribbean region, made of a diverse collection of small island nations, are particularly susceptible to climate change and its effects, predominantly those resulting from sea level rise. Although they are not industrialized countries like China and do not produce greenhouse gases, the production of electricity by power companies consume fossil fuels which in turn contribute to global warming and climate change. It is therefore necessary for the islands to carefully monitor and understand climate change and avail themselves of opportunities to learn how to combat and diminish its devastating effects. In a 2002 report on the regional synthesis of the vulnerability and adaptation component of Caribbean National Communications by The Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project, ten Caribbean countries outlined their climate change concerns. Among these concerns were the increase in number and intensity of tropical storms, increase in droughts, negative impact on water resources, agriculture, and health, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, just to name a few. A major concern common to the majority of the Caribbean is the effect climate change has had and possibly will have on the tourism industry. For many of the countries of the Caribbean, Tourism is the number one industry and if these effects continue to plague these island nations, their economies will suffer.

The islands of The Bahamas are very reliant on the Tourism industry for economic stability and are also very susceptible to climate change and its effects. Unlike most of the Caribbean islands, The Bahamas is an archipelagic nation made up of 700 islands and cays, all of which are very flat. Eighty per cent of The Bahama

Islands are below three meters or five feet. The highest point in The Bahamas is located on a central island called Cat Island. Mount Alvernia (also known as Como Hill) rises to 206 feet (63 m). Therefore rising sea levels is a major concern for these islands because of their low-lying state. Almost every year during the hurricane season, severe tropical storms and hurricanes pass through at least one or more of the Bahama Islands, causing severe flooding due to heavy rains and high water tides. In October 2015, The Bahamas recorded, what was deemed to be one of the most destructive hurricanes in the history of that nation, according to Prime Minister of The Bahamas, The Right Honorable Perry Christie. Hurricane Joaquin, as estimated in a Report by the United Nations with support from the Inter-American Development Bank, caused damages in excess of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) to several islands in the south and central Bahamas.



## Women Empowerment and South-South Cooperation: An Asian Perspective (Gosh, 2016)

The entire world today has accepted the fact that peaceful economic prosperity cannot be achieved or sustained unless women, around the globe, are adequately empowered. Accordingly, the United Nations being the highest multilateral agency, has set a number of targets in this regard. Goal-5 and the related issues represent the importance of women empowerment in the matter of the sustainability of the human civilization worldwide. The paper, submitted by Ghosh, S. to the SSTC Academy in July 2016, has been designed to consider the linkage between women empowerment and climate finance. More specifically, his study intends to review on the basis of published policy documents in respect of climate financing projects in the countries belonging to Asia the recognition of the need for women participation in the implementation of the climate change related program.

With a view to support climate change mitigation program in the developing nations, climate finance schemes have been developed under the leadership of the developed nations. While the need for such funds is beyond question, debates are now centering on the issues like climate justice (Barrett 2014) and effectiveness of the use of such funds (Bird et al, 2013). The issue of global warming is often viewed from the point of view of ethics and politics. Consequently, environmental justice and social justice have emerged as important matters which require due attention while developing mitigation and adaptation program for the developing nations.

Climate Change is an emerging development challenge for the world and some countries are more susceptible than others to its effects. In the coming years, South-South Cooperation will be critical to fighting climate change and more countries will anticipate cooperation among the Global South because of its successes thus far. The Caribbean, with all of its vulnerabilities, will be looking to SSC to play a major role relating to climate change. It is hoped that developed countries will continue to lend their support to developing countries and that South-South Cooperation will remain unified, focused and actively in pursuit of comprehensive strategies to mitigate the issue of climate change.

## Perspectives on Sustainable development from Peruvian SSTC

In the last two decades, Peru has been actively participating in promoting South-South cooperation, mainly in the Latin American region. It has also worked on incorporating these actions among Asian and African partners under bilateral schemes (country to country), as well as in regional and sub-regional frameworks (agreed on in regional conferences and regional organizations) and lastly, at the multilateral level.

Peru, as a middle-income country, has become a “dual country” in the international cooperation arena which means that it is still a country that requires cooperation from the international community in order to meet the different development needs of its population and to promote the exchange of technology, knowledge, and experiences. At the same time it is responsible for and committed to cooperating with other countries.

Furthermore, the country’s economic growth during the last decade and the progress made in certain areas concerning sustainable development, has given it the opportunity to extend and transfer its experiences and capabilities in Latin America. In this dual context, South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation have played a constantly greater role in Peru’s national development policies. According to Sotomayor, 2016 (op.cit), all the factors mentioned above have facilitated Peru the development of special skills and expertise in diversified sectors such as health issues in tropical terrains and highlands, agribusiness involving native products, as well as mining and fishery technologies, artisanal fisheries, customs, pest control, statistics and censuses. In cultural and professional aspects, it is important to highlight Andean and Amazonian intercultural education, rural tourism, and diplomatic training. However, regarding of successful practices, we can cite for example, agricultural techniques in potato crops and seafood processing using low-cost technologies. South-South cooperation is an important tool not only to achieve the SDGs, but also for promotion of solidarity and leadership. The Peruvian Government, in particular, the Peruvian International Cooperation Agency (APCI) has demonstrated that it has a strong commitment and willingness to promoting South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC). Proof of this is the recently launched Peruvian Catalog of International Technical Cooperation proposals, which systematizes, organizes and identifies SSTC in Peru. APCI is also promoting SSTC and sustainable development in its guidelines and technical documents. For instance, our National Policy for Technical International Coopera-

tion and the International Cooperation Annual Plan are a great example of how our institution promotes SSTC as a helpful tool in sustainable development.

### **Conclusions: on our way to achieving sustainable development**

The international community has undertaken a great initiative to establish a new development agenda in order to meet the world's needs in development and, in this respect, adopted the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This initiative involves efforts from all stakeholders and takes into account different global and constantly changing aspects such as social, economic, political and geopolitical.

This new development initiative also influences the modalities of international cooperation. In this regard, South-South cooperation is a powerful modality to increase coherence. Horizontal dialogue and South-South cooperation, especially when focusing on ownership and mutual benefit, are complementary and valuable modalities as they can increase coherence among development cooperation actors and strategies in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. It is important to understand that SDGs are universal and concern both developed and developing countries. They are integrated, indivisible and involve different dimensions of sustainable development. From a South-South perspective, it is necessary to strengthen a model of SSTC that involves working around a common purpose between partners with shared responsibilities and complementary solutions for the benefit of international and regional development. It should not be forgotten that the purpose of sustainable development is that no one must be left behind.

# Module 4: City-to-City Cooperation, Social and Solidarity Economy and Local Economic Development

## Introduction

The SSTC Academy that was held in Turin, in July 2016, had a module covering new forms of South-South Cooperation, including, City-to-City Cooperation (C2C), SSTC through Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and Local Economic Development (LED). In the context of globalization, local development has become critical due to the fact that the local context is largely determinant to the social and economic well-being of the population. In this regard, city-to-city cooperation and initiatives are considered as an important means of promoting local economic and social development that promote human progress. This form of cooperation is often enabled and supported through South-South and triangular cooperation, due to its peer-to-peer methodologies.

Cities and towns are increasingly becoming drivers of change, often at the forefront of addressing global challenges related to globalization, growing urbanization, climate change and increasing inequalities. National development is considerably dependent on processes occurring at the local level; in this regard, the need for localized approaches to decent work has gained importance. As governments increase the level of governance over their people, Cities and Local Authorities (CLA) have greater understanding and awareness of the challenges, concerns and opportunities facing their communities and can play a leadership role in social and economic development to reduce poverty and enhance social dialogue. They are able to foster an environment of collaboration across a diverse range of stakeholders, ensuring a participatory approach to decision-making.

South-South and triangular cooperation is complementary to traditional North-South relations and embodies the idea that “through a spirit of solidarity, the developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems and at a lower cost.” Thus, “South-South cooperation efforts – including the identification of successful experiences in one country and their adaptation and application in another – is an important addition to the dissemination of the results of decent

work in the four strategic objectives of the ILO”. At the same time, “allows the formation of networks among developing countries and traditional donors in triangular arrangements that contribute to a fair globalization”. In this perspective, it is understood that “the ILO can play an important role not only as a support channel but also as a means to maximize the financial, logistical and technical” (Amorim, 2013, p.8). In these terms, Leandro Morais (2016), while referring to social and solidarity economy, introduces an innovative focus of South-South and triangular cooperation and its proposals, centered on the idea that the development project should be built in the existence of a “territorial pact” mediated and driven by the articulation of key actors (government, producer organizations, cooperatives, trade unions, business associations, educational and research institutions etc.).

South-South cooperation and triangular therefore allows an exchange between the different ways that the challenges can be addressed in their territory, contributing in addition to the generation of jobs, employment and income, to the economic and social development site. This finding is supported by some of the initiatives proposed in the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation, which helped to mitigate the effects of the current crisis, placing employment and social protection at the center of solidarity policies, including the identification of models successful in countries and sharing these experiences, collaboration, including with the ILO’s Decent Work agenda.

### **The importance of decent work**

Decent work is both a universal global concern and a key objective to be achieved at the local level, necessitating effective cooperation at the local, national and international level; however, there are numerous difficulties in implementing the Decent Work Agenda. In many parts of the world, enormous challenges persist, including youth unemployment, child labour, forced labour, discrimination, and a lack of workers’ rights, gender inequality, and inadequate social protection. The quest for more and better jobs is a global common denominator for any local authority, in both developing and developed countries.

Decent work addresses the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development where jobs are scarce and where there is less growth, less security and less human and economic development. The creation of decent jobs is critical to poverty eradication and provides the foundation for equitable, inclusive and sustainable economic transformation; it is for this reason that decent

work should be placed at the heart of the UN's development agenda, and mainstreamed across internationally agreed goals as a means to promote social justice and respect for human rights.

The ILO report “World of Work 2014: Developing with Jobs” confirms that conventional development approaches are not conducive to decent work. A common theme in all such initiatives is the need for integrated approaches to development and policy making. They also acknowledge that development strategy in a context of multiple crises (economic, social and environmental) and complexity cannot be driven by top-down policy making but must be informed by active citizenship and participatory governance. Thus, the Local Economic Development (LED) strategies plays a crucial role in optimizing local employment generation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

**The Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE)**, has emerged as a relevant driver for developing a new model of production and consumption. One product of this rethinking has been the emergence of social enterprises – business with primarily social objectives. In countries like France, Italy and Spain, the employment share of the SSE is more than 10%. Furthermore, by facilitating both economic and political empowerment of vulnerable groups through collective action, SSE actors are proactively engaged in the realization of a broad range of human and labour rights.

Decentralized cooperation, city to city cooperation and other territorial forms of cooperation represent an important instrument in the context of **South-South and triangular cooperation** to raise awareness, increase the capacity and advocate for the role of local and regional actors in the promotion of employment. Multi-level and multi stakeholders approach enables to identify affordable, innovative and sustainable solutions to achieve decent employment strategies at the local level. Networking, and partnership are not an added value, but an essential component in developing such strategies.

## SDG 3 and Gender: The case of Ethiopia

Karthikieyan (2016, op.cit) mentioned that in Ethiopia, World Learning and the ILO have joined forces and used their skills and resources to create sustainable and gender-responsive HIV and AIDS response programmes in 100 workplaces in the country, using both public and private structures to ensure increased workers' access to HIV services. ILO has used this partnership to promote the ILO Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work (2001); the ILO Recommendation concerning HIV and AIDS and the World of Work, 2010 (No. 2010); and other international labour standards when considering workplace HIV and AIDS response policies and programs. This partnership has allowed workers and employers, as well as the Ministry of Labour to link with health facilities at state and regional level to ensure their members and affiliates can benefit of HIV prevention and care services. According to Karthikieyan (2016, op.cit), LED is to be implemented within the broader framework of decentralization and under complete ownership of government: The Ethiopian decentralization recognizes central government and local governments. The former is responsible for policy setting, support and supervision, while local governments are responsible for development and delivery functions. The decentralized structure provides autonomy to regions, woredas, and urban local administrations by decentralizing political, financial, administrative, planning, legislative and judicial powers. Under the principles of the developmental state, the government has a critical role to play in local economic development by leading the process, creating enabled mechanisms and embracing ownership.

Local Economic Development should promote participation and partnership among and between different local, regional and national actors. LED envisages partnership of different actors in which stakeholders will contribute their unique knowledge, resources and skills for common purposes of stimulating local economy and the creation of jobs. Partnerships should be formed horizontally at different levels of regional government as well as vertically through inter-governmental coordination. Unleashing the growth potential of a locality is critical to ensure dynamic and sustained growth.

## SSTC, SDGs and Social and Solidarity Economy

The principle of solidarity establishes a close link between the South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) on one hand and the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE), on the other. It enables the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices in the support of capacity building, technology transfer and resource mobilization.

The article by Dominique Rocha Mattos (2016) seeks to demonstrate that, in addition to this, the interaction between the SSE and the SSTC is an excellent opportunity to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the 2030 Agenda, collaborating directly with global partnership for Sustainable Development, based on the spirit of global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all people. According to Mattos (op.cit.), the principles of solidarity and non-compliance, shared by SSTC and the SSE, mean that both models of development cooperation are fully compatible in sharing knowledge of experiences and best practices, support for capacity building, technology transfer and mobilization of resources and in establishing international chains of networks and social innovation. In addition, the SSE innovation component also resembles that of the SSTC in many ways: SSTC allows countries to interact on a horizontal level, promoting solutions, resulting from the exchange of skills, resources and expertise, and promoting solidarity. The model of South-South cooperation, complementary to North-South dimension, aims at promoting equality between peoples and democracy among states. This dynamic can amplify the impact of SSE in national contexts through the construction of regional, inter-regional knowledge and experience sharing. South-South and Triangular arrangements can therefore amplify the impact of SSE in national contexts through the building of networks and regional and inter-regional platforms for knowledge and exchange of experience.

Ms Rocha Mattos (2016, op.cit.) also mentions that there are already many SSE networks among the countries of the South such as: the Coordinating Bureau Latin American Fair Trade, the Social Mercosur Program and Outreach (PMSS), the Asian Coalition of Solidarity Economy (ASEC) and the Intercontinental Network Promotion of Solidarity Economy (Ripes). The African continent particularly has seen the establishment of many specific networks for each type of SSE. As an example, the ILO has created a partnership with the African Network of Social Entrepreneurs (ASIN) to facilitate the exchange of good practice initiatives and to



help develop the social business space in Africa. As a direct offshoot of the Johannesburg conference, 14 African networks of social economy gathered in Mehdia, Morocco, in October 2010, to create a regional network of SSE as part of Ripes, the African Network of Social Economy (Raess). The ILO believes that SSE is an opportunity to build cooperation in a South-South and Triangular context and to propagate the Decent Work Agenda. In its capacity of tripartite institution par excellence, comprised of governments' representatives, employers and workers, the ILO uses its strategic advantage for a wider application of SSE and a greater impact on public policies and programs. Therefore, in recent years, the ILO has participated in initiatives demonstrating the complementarity between SSTC and SSTA. These activities were presented in SSE academies in Agadir (2013), Campinas (2014) and Johannesburg (2015), Puebla (2015) and preparations for San Jose (2016). To conclude, it can be said that the SSTC has helped globalize the SSE in many ways because of its function as a driving force in development. For example, fair trade and good practice, models of Sustained Agriculture by the Community (ASC), promote the globalization of SSE by linking community enterprises in developing countries with buyers of fair trade and organic products in developed countries. SSE initiatives such as these are increasing in Asia and widespreading through Latin America and Africa. The Asian Council of Solidarity Economy (ASEC), as an example of that, over the years has strengthened its ability to promote dialogue. SSTC, initiated by ASEC coordinators, and its national coordinators, resulted in a collection of studies on the SSE practices in Asia, currently used as a reference for research, training, round tables and exchange visits with partner organizations.

## **Social and Solidarity Economy and SSTC: Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **Women Empowerment and South-South Cooperation: An Asian Perspective (Gosh, 2016)**

Argentina and Cuba have supported each other on several SSTC projects on social dialogue and decentwork, putting Integration as a central focus. Integration.

In view of the relations process with Cuba, the technical assistance project was implemented in Formation Cooperatives Grade 1 and 2 by the National Institute of Cooperatives and Social Economy (INAES). Its aim was to strengthen organizations of associations and cooperatives of Cuban workers and show a qualitative and technological leap over the existing agricultural cooperatives on the island

by developing financing tools organized and managed by the same organizations. The advice given was to cooperate with the development of associative groups of workers as well as the agricultural cooperatives, in order to generate new economic sectors and strengthen existing ones. Thus, as a result of this cooperation, the partners would benefit of an increase of experience exchange and promotion of their visibility within the process of decentralization of economic activities, developed by the Cuban State. As organic dialogue and in contribution to sustainable development of the Cuban agricultural sector, a group of professionals, from the Experimental Station of Pastures and Forages Indio Hatuey, received technical training of experts from the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) in production and breeding silkworms, obtaining fiber, mulberry cultivation, productivity calculation and analysis of raw silk.

In the recent years, many Latin American countries have promoted cooperation activities including the integration processes and sub-regional blocs such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Andean Community (CAN) and the South American Community of Nations.

In the article of Rosana Arce (SSTC Academy 2016), she mentions that the strategy of Argentina, as an example of South- South cooperation, is based on three basic areas: economic development, knowledge and social development. In the domain of economic development, Argentina's cooperation prevailed transfer capabilities in the agricultural and industrial sectors (one third of total projects), especially from related cattle interventions and strengthened processes of transformation for derivative products (dairy, textiles and footwear). In the domain of knowledge, such as education, science and technology, technical and professional capabilities were consolidated. 12.1% of the projects were directed to the health sector, promoting medical research, controls on drugs and strengthening health institutions. Following the establishment of the SDGs, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly, and aimed at governments and societies to work towards a harmonious development in the economic, social and environmental aspects, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has made strenuous efforts aiming to promote fairer and more equitable employment for groups of population with limited opportunities and inclusion relationships.

As an example, P. Bravo (2016)<sup>7</sup>, mentions that in the Republic of Ecuador, the economy system demonstrates a deep solidarity between its public, private, mixed and popular forms and thus of democratic work. Through its application as an element of family and community claim, it seeks progress towards a dignified, supportive and democratic work, whose constitution dignifies the worker as “devoted full respect their dignity, decent living wages and fair remuneration ... “in the country. In this scenario, the social and solidarity economy maintains its partnerships, inspired by traditional and new cultural values, which enshrines the person as the center of economic activities, from which we hope to propose a course of action that articulates productive activities, derived from the social economy to local and regional development. South-South and triangular cooperation, enriched with a series of conceptual visions, practices and methodological experiences, is a fulfilling space for exchange and confrontation and must necessarily respect the geographical and cultural connotations and diversity existing in Latin America and advance the construction and strengthening of an economic and social system justice and solidarity.

### **Cooperation between Brazil and South Africa on the Promotion of Decent Work**

Brazil and South Africa are members of G-77<sup>8</sup>, whose main objective is the increase of South-South relations in response to the decisions of the G-7 (currently G-8) worldwide have been participating in this mechanism since its inception. The Group of 77 (G-77) was established on 15 June 1964 by seventy-seven developing countries signatories of the “Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Developing Countries” issued at the end of the first session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva. The Group of 77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations, which provides the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interests and enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promote South-South cooperation.

According to Chaloba (op.cit. 2016), Brazil and South Africa, under the BRICS, took the opportunity to further strengthen their relations, allowing possibilities to

7 Bravo Vera, Patricio. Perspectivas de la cooperacion sur-sur y triangular a la agroecologia en el marco de la economia social y solidaria; (2016)

8 <http://www.g77.org/>

finance joint projects and improve their economic and social relations. Under the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) they have tried to further their economic, social and political order to develop together. Lyal White explains that (2009, p. 2), “IBSA has significantly improved relations between India, Brazil and South Africa with a platform for dialogue, exchange between ministries, non-governmental organizations and, most importantly, has created a common culture of constructive cooperation between these countries. According to Chaloba (op.cit. 2016), these relationships are not merely associative acronyms without actual practices of involvement of its people, as has happened in most international multilateral agreements that are less effective rhetorical acts. Brazil and South Africa have remained constant and permanent missions/delegations of businessmen, government people and academics engaged in contacts, conducted at least once every six months, negotiating possible economic and commercial transactions and creating mechanisms to facilitate such transactions.

In Brazil, at the federal level, structures to support small and medium enterprises, include a secretariat of the Federal Government (Department of Small and Medium Enterprises), but given the continental dimensions of Brazil, efforts of this office appear to be scattered. SEBRAE - Brazilian Support Service for Micro and Small Enterprises has provided technical support and training for micro businesses in entering the international trade, but with little result, since it acts only when requested, rather than identifying companies as potential for internationalization and take the initiative to internationalize them. At the municipal level, there was a time when the international cooperation departments had a presence and greater strength in the most strategic program of municipalities. Sustainable growth of the expansion of Brazilian foreign trade passes firstly through small businesses, qualifying them and identifying partnerships for them in South Africa, seeking joint efforts in maintaining these partnerships.

To conclude, it is important to recommend to both countries to keep meetings of business delegations in order to bring further business leaders of small and medium enterprises, as well as LED and SSE to encourage networking among its small and medium enterprises, including SSE enterprises, to establish follow up proposals and negotiations; including, where possible, road shows of small and medium-sized enterprises of the two countries in each of them. There is constant and permanent interaction between these small and medium-sized enterprises in these countries and encouraging these small and medium enterprises of both countries to participate in common meetings is equally important to both.

## Informal Workers' Organizing: An Agenda for SSTC (extracted from Choudhary, N., 2016)

Traditionally, labour unions and scholars dismissed informal workers as “unorganizable” due to their lack of legal protections, absence of recognized employers or other obvious negotiating counterparts, lack of institutional experience, and surplus income for dues. Some of the recent literature captures, seminally the experiences of organization among informal workers. However, they do remain limited and are largely research oriented. Lessons from scattered initiatives, including the enabling condition, motives, strategy and gains, need to be learned and shared mutually in a way that a shared platform for elevation of organizing a social and solidarity economy (SSE) framework including, social protection and sustainability - could be initiated. It is in this regard that the role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), with its deep scope for shared knowledge and practice comes to play. Data on informal economy in general and informal workers' organizations in particular, is sporadic. However, the global network, WIEGO – Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing, has done the herculean task of compiling a list of informal workers' organizations working across world countries. Though the WIEGO database may not be exhaustive, it gives a fair idea of the scale and the extent of the organization across countries.

The lessons and implications of such trends must be synchronized as far as the potential for an alternate economy is concerned. Experiences reveal that the organization of informal women workers in registered unions, requires innovative and institution experimentation. The linking of cooperative economic activities with trade unionism has proved to be effective in mobilizing workers especially, around the generating of income for poor women (Martens and Mitter 1994). While there are still evidences on the way the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) has improved, the bargaining position of its female workers vis-a-vis the contractors they work for and the local authority they deal with is still very fragile. One of the goals of SSTC, in this regard, could therefore be to identify such innovations and facilitate their contextualized replication in other parts of the countries. At many places, umbrella organizations often have separate wings for cooperative activities along with trade unionism. Such plurality in ways and forms of organization among informal workers clearly carries the spirit of a solidarity economy.

## Cooperation within the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP)<sup>9</sup>

In 1997, the CPLP - Community of Portuguese Language Countries, was created as a platform for the joint debate on the challenges, opportunities and requirements that the Lusophone cooperative sector is facing, with a view to develop joint projects that will contribute to the strengthening of cooperatives in the Portuguese-speaking world and a more united economic and social development. It is made of 32 organizations spread over four continents - Africa (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe), America (Brazil), Asia (Timor-Leste) and Europe (Portugal) - the OCPLP demands taking into account the different realities of cooperatives in each country, enhancing relations between the Lusophone cooperatives, in a logic of comprehensive and inclusive partnerships, sharing knowledge and experiences, in a perspective of learning and mutual benefit with a view to implementing joint actions.

In this regard, South-South cooperation approaches and triangular cooperation, under the OCPLP, knowledge sharing, joint learning and capacity development based on skills and competencies of each partner, the complementarity of actions, the implementation of joint projects and the better use of available financial resources. Cooperation and actions with the EU institutions - the European Union, MERCOSUR – Common Market of the South, the UNDP – United Nations Development Programme, the ILO – International Labour Organization, WHO - World Health Organization, the ICA – International Cooperative Alliance, the CPLP – Community of Portuguese Language Countries and other international organizations to which any of OCPLP members belongs, are one of the key strategies in the implementation of joint projects for the development and strengthening of Lusophone cooperatives.

Within the framework of partnership, it is important to note that the Agenda 2030, to the UN Sustainable Development, shows the commitment to define a new strategy for global development cooperation, constituted of multi-sectoral partnerships, which is the fundamental core in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular the objective 17: “Strengthen the means of

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9 The following article draws information from the following articles : Cohen, C. O Cooperativismo e a Cooperação Lusófona; Pinto, C., Agenda 2030 – O Contributo da Economia Social e da Cooperação Sul-Sul e Triangular; Santos, J. O Papel da rede Lusófona de desenvolvimento e da ess e das redes nacionais no espaço CPLP.

implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”, thus highlighting the importance of South-South and Triangular Cooperation to achieve all the other goals.

In fact, the 17 SDG, added to the 169 goals that make the UN action plan for sustainable development, reflect the importance of the participation of all countries in their implementation, based on the spirit of cooperation and global solidarity, with a view to “Transform the world”. It is therefore recognized, that the key role of partnerships, in a perspective of mobilization and sharing of knowledge, experience, technology and financial resources is crucial in supporting the implementation of SDG in all countries, particularly in developing countries.

The OCPLP, based on the cooperation between various Lusophone cooperative structures, can make an important contribution to the achievement of certain SDGs, notably through the establishment of broader strategic partnerships, with a view to strengthen South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation for the promotion and defense of the cooperative model. It is undeniable that the contribution of cooperatives to the integrated development of the people and to the communities in which they operate, is a necessity towards the affirmation of democracy and towards active citizenship and a more inclusive, consolidated and fair globalization.

Several South-South triangular cooperation experiences, privileging the CPLP, were implemented in the program framework and projects, including:

- i) Strengthening and capacity building of social and solidarity economy organizations (Community Development Associations );
- ii) Support for the creation and assistance to network organizations;
- iii) Professional training of young, single women;
- iv) Micro-credit for the promotion of income-generating activities in agriculture, livestock, crafts, fishing and trade;
- v) Construction of collective equipment (education, health, sports, community animation);
- vi) Sanitation and environmental education (connection of water supply and sewage, health fairs, trees and street cleaning plantation) and vii) education for citizenship and participatory democracy. These experiments have launched seeds, however, being held in the project framework have had

difficulties in maintaining and developing a dynamic sustainability and disseminating good practice due to the lack of an adequate regional scope structure that might have used networking and take advantage of the knowledge and successful experiences and resources across the Lusophone. The CPLP also has the CPLP Cooperative Organization, which groups several organizations under federal unions of Lusophone organization and important networks of countries, including Brazil.

A network structure could enhance the political and institutional dialogue on the basis of programs and regional intervention strategies, and at the same time be a potentiating action factor for both national networks and the sectoral nature of networks, in two or more countries of the CPLP and for dialogue with partners in the North. In view of a more effective intervention, the “ecosystem” of social and solidarity economy CPLP may favor a specialization in the field of South-South and Triangular cooperation, both in building partnerships for project development, such as technology transfer, trade and encourage cultural exchanges, putting social actors in direct communication, thus contributing to mutual understanding and increasing the confidence of capital among citizens, the globalization of multicultural dialogue and the development of market. In conclusion, The Lusophone Development Network and the Social and Solidarity Economy can play important roles in implementing the objectives of sustainable development, without prejudice to actions that each National Network may undertake in a concerted framework with governments and other social and economic actors.



## Fostering city-to-city cooperation through a South-South and triangular cooperation approach to promote the Decent Work Agenda

City-to-city cooperation, increasingly seen as a form of development cooperation, is a useful tool in implementing LED and decent work strategies and achieving development objectives at the local level. This form of cooperation between peers is growing in scope and practice, bringing cities to work together on issues of common interest and to exchange knowledge on a peer group basis, as well as to transfer successful practices to new contexts. City-to-city cooperation has been increasingly linked to, and has benefited from, the practice of South-South and triangular cooperation as an innovative means to develop local solutions to often global issues.<sup>10</sup> SSTC constitutes an exchange among equals, the identification of innovative practices, and promotes collaborative initiatives at the national, regional and interregional levels<sup>11</sup> (see “Localizing the Decent Work Agenda”, ILO, 2016).

Local authorities are already actors in SSTC as they are those who are in direct contact with the needs of the people and those that implement the public policies that affect them the most. SSTC enables Southern countries and Southern cities to benefit from experiences developed in similar contexts, and therefore better adapted to their realities. Using an SSTC approach, local authorities from the South are able to make use of strategic partnerships to share knowledge, experiences and good practices. The ability of countries to attain higher levels of growth and achieve a better quality of life for their population greatly depends on the capacity and potential of their local authorities to put in place conditions for the creation of quality jobs, provide services and guarantee the rights of their population. In order to fully tap into the potential of cities and towns as engines of economic development – and to ensure long-term sustainability – attention must be given to employment generation, improvement of working conditions, enterprise development, and supportive labour policies at the local level<sup>12</sup>.

Rossi, A. (2016), gave some examples of the establishment of city-to-city cooperation in his article for the academy, within the global trend. Some, were highlighted:

10 See, for example: ILO (2013) “City-to-City and South-South and Triangular Cooperation” [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---exrel/documents/publication/wcms\\_222208.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---exrel/documents/publication/wcms_222208.pdf)

11 See, for example: ILO (2014) “How-to Guide on South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Decent Work” [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---exrel/documents/publication/wcms\\_315233.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---exrel/documents/publication/wcms_315233.pdf)

12 See, for example: “A Multi-Sectoral Approach to Decent Work in the Urban Economy”: [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_dialogue/---sector/documents/publication/wcms\\_162876.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/publication/wcms_162876.pdf)

i) **Mercociudades** is a network of cities of the countries that make up the Southern Common Market, created in 1995, to allow municipal authorities to participate in regional integration decisions. Currently, it has 181 cities in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, divided into thematic units.

Its objectives are: a) create communication and exchange mechanisms between member cities and between networks, fostering the exchange of information and experiences; b) establish agreements and services among municipalities; develop common programs in urban planning; c) economic development and the environment;

ii) **Cities for Mobility:** “Cities for Mobility” is an international network aimed at working with all issues involving urban mobility. The network is coordinated by the city of Stuttgart (Germany) and promotes triangular cooperation between local governments, transport companies, other companies and civil and scientific societies, in order to support the development of efficient and sustainable transport systems;

iii) **Mayors for Peace:** The network is an international organization that protects cities from war and the threat of mass destruction.

### Shekar, C. South-South Initiative- Job Creation & Social & Solidarity Economy<sup>13</sup> - INDIA / INTUC

India is the world's largest democracy with a progressive Constitution based on fundamental rights and freedom, periodic elections, multi-party system, representative parliamentary form of government, federal structure and 5 yearly national development plans. Although the Constitution has been amended on several occasions to keep pace with developments, it provides a firm foundation to promote socio-economic transformation of a society marked by diversities of various kinds, through rights to equality and equal opportunities. India has broad legal means to deal with human rights violations through ratification of 6 major international human rights instruments and a National Human Rights Commission. It has been a dynamic and independent civil society with a free media, intellectual academia, a thriving human rights movement and a strong private sector, whose presence in the global market is becoming increasingly conspicuous. The system

13 Country: India – Sustainable Development Goal target:-Decent Employment for Youth  
Development Partner: Creation of Decent Jobs – Implementing Agency:-Government & Employers & Trade Unions – Project Status: Creation of Decent Jobs

of tripartite consultations has existed for many decades, with the first full-fledged Tripartite Labour Conference in 1942. Even before that, government of India had practices of holding consultations on labour questions separately with representatives of workers and employers in different forms. This was strengthened by the formation of tripartite industrial committees for important industries and the established practice, both at central and state level, to adopt tripartite principles for labour policy and administration areas. Regular participatory tripartite consultative mechanisms include the yearly Indian Labour Conference, Standing Labour Committees and Tripartite Committee on Conventions.

### Objectives

The Indian economy has witnessed steady growth, but almost wholly in the vast informal economy consisting of the informal sector and informal employment in the formal sector. The increase in the share of self-employment is viewed as a matter of concern since decent work deficits are quite serious and these are mostly home based workers, street vendors, small shopkeepers, small workshops and so on. The conditions of the casually employed, both in agriculture and non-agriculture, is no better with irregular work, poor working conditions and low wages. INTUC is very much concerned about workers welfare and raising its voice in every forum. Ratification of ILO Core Conventions, Social Security for unorganized workers, Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Elimination of Child Labour, Better Working Conditions, Removal of Ceiling on Bonus, Enhancement of Gratuity Limit, Fixation of National Minimum Wage, Equal Wage for Equal Work, among others, are some of the main issues focused now.

According to Viloría (2016)<sup>14</sup>, the countries of the South appear to be moving towards a more formalized and coordinated form of South - South Cooperation and have turned into the UN system for support to their South-South initiatives by requests to support their cooperation with other countries in the South. They look for multi-lateral cooperation that will enable them to gain increased access to knowledge and expertise of other Southern countries and to identify partners in key strategic areas such as economic growth and employment, industry and trade and investments, knowledge and technology transfer, environmental and natural resource management.

<sup>14</sup> Viloría, J. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), for the Rural Economy on South- South Cooperation & Social and Solidarity Economy.

## South-South Cooperation and Community Supported Agriculture

According to Vilorio (op.cit. 2016), Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to an organic farm operation so that the farmland becomes, either legally or spiritually, the community's farm, or farms, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production. Typically, members or "shareholders" of the farm or garden pledge in advance to cover the anticipated costs of the farm operation and farmer's salary. In return, they receive shares in the farm's bounty throughout the growing season, as well as satisfaction gained from reconnecting to the land and participating directly in food production. Members also share in the risks of farming, including poor harvests due to unfavourable weather or pests. By direct sales to community members, who have provided the farmer with working capital in advance, growers receive better prices for their crops, gain some financial security, and are relieved of much of the burden of marketing.

CSAs generally focus on the local production of high quality foods for a local community, generally using **organic** or **biodynamic farming** methods with yet other methods including permaculture, and a shared risk membership–marketing structure. This kind of farming operates with a much greater degree of involvement of consumers and other stakeholders than usual — resulting in a stronger consumer-producer relationship. The core design includes developing a cohesive consumer group that is willing to fund a whole season's budget in order to get quality foods. The system has many variations on how the farm budget is supported by the consumers and how the producers then deliver the foods. CSA theory purports that the more a farm embraces whole-farm, whole-budget support, the more it can focus on quality and reduce the risk of food waste. Community-supported agriculture was influenced by the ideas of **Rudolf Steiner**, an Austrian philosopher. He developed the concepts of anthroposophy and biodynamic agriculture.

The first initiative to start in the United States used the ideas of the founder to develop three main goals of CSAs:

- New forms of property ownership: the idea that land should be held in common by a community through a legal trust, which leases the land to farmers
- New forms of cooperation: the idea that a network of human relationships should replace the traditional system of employers and employees
- New forms of economy: that the economy should not be based on increasing profit, but should be based on the actual needs of the people and land involved in an enterprise.

Good Food Community (GFC) in the Metro Manila, Philippines. A case in point on South-South Cooperation and Social Solidarity Economy is the GFC providing community shared agriculture (CSA) services to about 500 members in various parts of Metro Manila. This started two years ago with just 50 members. The idea came from the experience of the Teiki in Japan and in collaboration with similar undertakings in China, and Malaysia. Members of these countries (Philippines, China and Malaysia), share their experience on various topics including lessons learned and current innovations from the approaches applied in local circumstances. In the case of the Philippines, CSA is a model of food production, sales, and distribution aimed at connecting local farmers with local consumers. Members of a CSA pledge their support towards a portion of the farms operating budget by purchasing a share of the yield. In return members receive a weekly portion of the farm's harvest. Members share in the risks of farming, including poor harvests due to unfavorable weather or pests. Becoming a member of a CSA creates a responsible relationship between people and the food they eat, the land on which it is grown and those who grow it. This is clearly a collaborative partnership between the members and the farmers. This approach is now being replicated in a number of cities outside of Metro Manila. It would be interesting to follow up on this very interesting South-South Cooperation and social solidarity economy on CSA in East Asia.

## The Union for the Mediterranean and South-South and triangular cooperation (extracted from S. Seghier, 2016)

The Union for the Mediterranean, launched in 1995 by the countries of the Southern Mediterranean and co-funded by the European Union, is a very thorough simplification of the previous and ambitious Barcelona Process (PB). The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is an intergovernmental organisation bringing together the 28 European Union Member States and 15 countries from the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean. It provides a unique forum to enhance regional cooperation and dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The UfM gathers the 43 Member States' representatives together on a regular basis. It serves as a framework for policy dialogue and exchange of project ideas, experiences and best practices among governments, key international institutions and cooperation structures. The UfM provides a unique platform to formulate regional priorities and decide on specific cooperation initiatives to be put in place and the presence of institutions within the framework of the UfM is necessary to encourage dialogue or limit the risk of "clash of civilizations", predicted by Huntington. Indeed, the Barcelona Declaration itself could be analysed, according to these constructivist authors as a declaration of the will to create a security community in the long term, especially if we take in account the three parts of the Partnership, namely the political and security aspect, the economic and financial situation, and especially the human, civil and social aspect.

Unfortunately, and as Adler and Crawford rightly pointed it out in 2002, even though the Barcelona Process contains all the elements of a plural security community, the evolution of the security community is far too slow. Without being too pessimistic, it is true that the UfM remains unbalanced and we will only be successful with the development of a real South-South cooperation.

## **The dynamics of the RIPESS Asia/ASEC SSTC-LED Program is through the following regional forums:**

According to Quiñones Jr, B. (SSTC: A Vehicle for mainstreaming the SSE life learning community in ASEAN, ILO Academy, 2016), the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM), a civil society platform aimed at enabling stronger civil society organization (CSO), cross constituency coordination and ensuring that voices of all sub-regions of Asia Pacific are heard in intergovernmental processes both at the regional and global levels. Established under the auspices of UN-ESCAP, AP-RCEM seeks to engage CSOs with UN agencies and Member States on the 2030 Development Agenda and related issues/processes. As an open, inclusive, and flexible mechanism, RCEM is designed to reach the broadest number of CSOs in the region, harness the voice of grassroots and peoples' movements to advance development justice that address the inequalities of wealth, power, resources between countries, between rich and poor and between men and women. RIPESS Asia/ ASEC is a lead organization in convening the SME workshop of AP-RCEM (Asiapacificrcem.org, 2016). ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's forum (ACSC/APF): The ACSC/APF is a space for civil society organizations (CSOs) from ASEAN member States to meet every year before the ASEAN Summit with the aim of: building community and solidarity amongst ASEAN peoples, creating space for engagement with ASEAN Heads of State, and contributing towards Institutionalization of engagement mechanisms and processes in ASEAN. According to Quiñones Jr, B. (op.cit. 2016). There remains a great challenge for participants since the independency and inclusiveness of the ASEAN People's Forum depends on the level of social and political freedom allowed in the host country and resources available for such civil society gathering. RIPESS Asia/ASEC conducts a workshop on SSE among ASCS/APF participants (op.cit., 2016).

Since its inception in 2007, the Asian Solidarity Economy Forum has been instrumental in advancing SSTC among SSE networks and partner organizations of RIPESS Asia in many countries of Asia by documenting, disseminating, and facilitating field visits to, and discourse on, SSE live cases that have become sustainable in one country and highly adaptable and replicable in another location

or time<sup>15</sup>. According to Quiñones Jr, B. (op.cit. 2016), egalitarian partnership, the sharing of knowledge and experiences, and respect for autonomy of partners are important elements of the RIPESS Asia/ASEC SSTC programme. Following the RIPESS Asia/ASEC SSE Course on March 14-18, 2016 in Manila, the participating SSE networks are expected to cascade the SSE course in their respective native languages as a means of building the capacity of solidarity-based community enterprises. An important aspect of the SSTC action plans of the local SSE networks is the commitment to send at least one resource person to the SSE course organized by their counterparts in other ASEAN countries.

H. Villegas Román (2016, op.cit), mentioned that in the International Labour Conference in 2010, constituents have emphasized the need to strengthen the work of the Office in relation to the social and solidarity economy as an important area of creating decent work. With the support of the Regional Office of the ILO for Africa, the Regional Office of the ILO for Latin America and the Caribbean and the International Training Centre of the ILO decided to hold this second Inter-regional Academy in Quebec to strengthen the capacity of ILO constituents and other partners in the social and solidarity economy. In Costa Rica, one of the three pillars of the government program included in the National Development Plan (NDP 2014-2018), proposed by the present Government Administration: Solis Rivera, is economic growth and the increase creation of better jobs, thus with a consequent reduction in poverty and inequality. This coincides consistently with the objectives of sustainable Goals (SDG) and the Decent Work agenda of the ILO. Due to the momentum given by the Social Solidarity Economy in Costa Rica, it is a necessity to expand the South-South and triangular cooperation relations. The conducting of the July Academy in Turin is an opportunity to share experiences and implementation of the ESS in our societies to generate employment, and fight poverty and inequality under the SDG and the ILO Decent Work Agenda. In Costa Rica, the ESS, in its wide range of organizations and practices, has been an essential tool for development and social inclusion, whose characteristics the territory and its sectoral composition. In conclusion, we do consider essential participation in the Academy on SSTC to be able to share and support the process of learning, networking, strategy formulation and cooperation in South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) for participants.

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<sup>15</sup> Adaptability is the ability of an entity or organism to alter itself or its responses to the changed circumstances or environment. Replicability relates to the positive features of an activity, process or test result that allows it to be duplicated at another location or time (Source: <http://businessdictionary.com/definition>). And sustainability is the endurance of of systems and processes in balancing social development, economic development, and environmental protection. (Source: <http://www.sustainability.com/sustainability>).





# Module 5: Social Protection Floors & Public Employment

## Introduction

Social protection floors are nationally-defined sets of basic social security guarantees which secure protection aimed at preventing or alleviating poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion. These guarantees should ensure at a minimum that, over the life cycle, all in need have access to essential health care and basic income security. The ILO strategy on the extension of social protection is based on the two-dimensional strategy adopted by the 100th Session of the International Labour Conference in 2011. This two-dimensional approach aims at the rapid implementation of national social protection floors containing basic social security guarantees that ensure universal access to essential health care and income security at least at a nationally defined minimum level (horizontal dimension), in line with the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), and the progressive achievement of higher levels of protection (vertical dimension) within comprehensive social security systems according to the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102).

National social protection floors should comprise at least the following four social security guarantees, as defined at the national level:

1. Access to essential health care, including maternity care;
2. Basic income security for children, providing access to nutrition, education, care and any other necessary goods and services;
3. Basic income security for persons in active age who are unable to earn sufficient income, in particular in cases of sickness, unemployment, maternity and disability;
4. Basic income security for older persons.

Such guarantees should be provided to all residents and all children, as defined in national laws and regulations, and subject to existing international obligations. About 80 per cent of the global population lives in social insecurity, unable to enjoy a set of social guarantees that enables them to deal with life's risks. Approx-

imately 1.4 billion people live on less than \$1.25 a day, according to recent World Bank estimations. Most of them are women and children, work in the informal economy, and/or belong to socially unprotected groups such as people living with disabilities, HIV/AIDS or migrant workers.

A national social protection floor is a powerful instrument for addressing this ongoing human crisis. The social protection floor (SPF) approach promotes access to essential social transfers and services in the areas of health, water and sanitation, education, food, housing, and life- and asset-saving information. It is an approach that emphasizes the need to implement comprehensive, coherent and coordinated social protection policies to guarantee services and social transfers throughout the life cycle, paying particular attention to vulnerable groups. The challenge is how to cover, sustainably, the entire population effectively, especially those at risk or who are already in a situation of deprivation. Many developing countries have already successfully taken measures to build their nationally defined social protection floors or to introduce elements thereof. The results of programmes in these countries show us that the impact of the social protection floor on poverty, vulnerability and inequality can be dramatic. The knowledge, expertise and experience that these countries have gained in their own efforts at establishing a social protection floor represents a valuable source for other countries interested in planning, expanding, extending or reorienting their social protection systems. It is well recognized that the knowledge, skills and technical expertise that can be exchanged through South-South cooperation are, in many cases those that are particularly suitable for meeting similar development challenges faced by other countries of the South.

### **Innovative Experiences in the South**

Each country has different needs, development objectives and the fiscal capacity to achieve them and will choose a different set of policies.

A country will have to establish minimum performance standards of national social protection policies by seeking to ascertain that all its people have a right to social transfers that guarantee effective access to a minimum set of goods and services and hence will allow a life in dignity for all. By presenting a comprehensive and integrated approach that exploits the complementarities of policies addressing different but related areas, the social protection floor goes beyond a list of development objectives to be achieved. It provides a framework for exploring

synergies across sectors and setting priorities, thus avoiding a compartmentalized view of how to achieve progress without taking the holistic picture into account. Some of the schemes described in the case studies contained in this volume are already being shared. For example the *Oportunidades programme* in Mexico, *Bolsa Familia* in Brazil and the *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act* in India have contributed to exchanges of information with countries in different regions of the world. Some countries are going through the first stages of developing a social protection floor. Burkina Faso is reforming its social protection mechanisms to implement universal health coverage following in the successful footsteps of Ghana and Rwanda. Other countries have already gone further in developing social protection schemes. For example, Bolivia in 2008 created a universal non-contributory pension for all people 60 years of age and over, financed by a share of the special hydrocarbon tax and dividends from capitalized public enterprises. Finally, other countries have been able to capitalize on their own experience with social protection in order to improve their social protection systems following the logic of the social protection floor concept.

The case of Chile shows how a country constantly adjusts its social protection system in light of different social, economic, political, demographic and intellectual developments. Indeed, the logic of combating widespread poverty through emergency policies targeting the most vulnerable is being progressively replaced in Chile by a logic oriented towards guaranteeing and extending rights to the entire population and institutionalizing essential social protection policies. Building a social protection floor is an incremental process; access to essential health services is generally a top priority at the starting point. Burkina Faso and Rwanda, for example, have begun to develop a pluralistic approach, based on the synergy between Introduction 21 traditional mechanisms of social security, micro-insurance and social transfers. The mechanisms of social insurance, micro-insurance and free care often already exist in a fragmented and sometimes competing fashion and cannot individually solve the challenge of extending social protection. It is thus indispensable to coordinate these elements to ensure efficient coordination and complementarity – instead of wasteful fragmentation and competition. The principles of universality, progressiveness and pluralism underpin the overall construction of the social protection floor. They also rely on the two dimensions of the social protection floor: vertically, they generate investment in human capital that will enable people to move out of a vicious poverty cycle and low-productivity activities into formal employment and self-financing, contributory, higher-level social security benefits, and horizontally, they promote the right of everyone to a

minimum level of social protection. Innovative financing mechanisms could also play an important role in the future. Some countries do not have the resources necessary to build a social protection floor in the short term. These countries will need to call for external solidarity in order to take the first steps towards this goal. The concept of the social protection floor is rights-based but it leaves a maximum of flexibility for national adaptation with respect to how and through which entitlements transfers in cash and in kind are organized. What is important is that everyone who is in need of protection can access essential goods and social services and essential social transfers. The concept thus sets minimum standards with respect to the access, scope and level of social protection provided by national social protection systems rather than prescribing their specific architecture.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has been associated with public investments in a number of countries in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa since the mid-1970s and, more recently, in Latin America and Eastern Europe. The main objectives of this collaboration between governments and partners in development have been to:

1. Influence investment policies so as to optimise their impact on employment, poverty reduction and on socio-economic development;
2. Build capacities in the national private sector, which is indispensable in the execution of public works with a high labour input, through capacity building in research centres and SMEs with the aim to improve the environment and the conditions of work in the sector;
3. Direct social and economic investments towards the local level in order to maximise the impact on the reduction of rural and urban poverty while, at the same time, improve the social participation and organisation in sectors which are still informal and less organised.

## Social protection for women: towards gender equality (Sarojini, Arnold and Johnson, 2009)

Social protection has an important contribution to make to achieving gender equality and social protection benefits invariably have an impact on the dynamics of gender equality and gendered societal norms, whether or not this is intentional. Given that throughout the world, women tend more often to be affected by a lack of adequate coverage than men, social protection floors are particularly relevant from a gender equality perspective. Social protection floors have the potential to be central tools in enhancing gender equality, women's labour market participation and women's empowerment. For this potential to be achieved, a gender mainstreaming strategy should be followed throughout the assessment of coverage gaps, policy and programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SPFs. To this end, the new international standard in the form of the ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), provides guidance and key principles for building effective, gender-sensitive SPFs. In effect, to properly address gender inequality, social protection schemes should be designed to guarantee equality of treatment between men and women, take into account different gender roles and should serve as a mechanism for the promotion of gender equality. SPFs can and should be a gender-sensitive tool for helping individuals facing life contingencies and reducing poverty and inequality. They are effective instruments for achieving such objectives as they can promote equal treatment for men and women, and equitable outcomes which can partly compensate the effects of discrimination and inequalities outside the social security system. Social protection floors, however, should be part of a broader framework at the macroeconomic level. In the current context of the aftermath of the global economic crisis, SPFs are even more critical to alleviate the economic burden on poor and vulnerable groups of society. Building national social protection floors can contribute to achieving sustainable growth and more inclusive and equitable societies. National social protection floors, as part of broader social protection systems, therefore need to be designed and implemented in a broader framework of economic and social policies.

## Conclusions

South-South cooperation on social development includes the promotion of technical assistance from an expert country of the South to other Southern countries in the development of social policies and programmes.

Many developing countries have already successfully taken measures to build their nationally defined social protection floors or to introduce elements thereof.

The results of programmes in these countries show us that the impact of the social protection floor on poverty, vulnerability and inequality can be dramatic. The knowledge, expertise and experience that these countries have gained in their own efforts at establishing a social protection floor represent a valuable source for other countries interested in planning, expanding, extending or reorienting their social protection systems.

It is well recognized that the knowledge, skills and technical expertise that can be exchanged through South-South cooperation are in many cases those that are particularly suitable for meeting similar development challenges faced by other countries of the South.

## Module 6: Fragile-to-fragile Cooperation

### Introduction

On the 30th November 2011, at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, the g7+ advocated for a New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. The g7+ is a group of the conflict-affected and fragile countries that came together in a response against the unsuitable international approaches that were being applied to them, mainly regarding international aid, interventions and cooperation programs. The New Deal policy document, which builds on the vision and principles articulated from the Millennium Declaration to the Monrovia Roadmap, proposes key Peacebuilding and State building Goals, focuses on new ways of engaging, and identifies commitments to build mutual trust and achieve better results in states in fragile situation. The basis for this new paradigm was the acknowledgment that some beneficiary countries have learnt sufficiently from past development efforts and have mastered approaches and techniques that can now be shared with other countries. There were different international initiatives pertaining to the peacebuilding and development in the conflict-affected and fragile countries that were established in the last decade before the creation of g7+. For example, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness of 2005 and the Principles for Good International Engagement in Fragile States and Situations of 2007, which were both promoted under the mandate of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). However, these initiatives carried a top-down approach, where resource partners were stipulating all the political and technical conditions.

As a follow up to the Forum, the g7+ started promoting the idea of “Fragile-to-Fragile” (F2F) cooperation, which consists in:

1. Sharing good practices and experiences to promote peaceful societies;
2. Placing common issues and goals in international agendas and forums; and,
3. Mutually supporting one another through exchange programs and resource mobilization from a fragile to another fragile country.

In the last few decades, the main factors of fragility involve the following: lack of social concerns in national development agendas, high levels of corruption, slow economic growth, lack of jobs, and absence of social protection systems. South-



South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) aims to provide an innovative response to global challenges that can be well adapted to the needs and development policies of the partner countries in fragile situations. The objectives and practices of SSTC are aligned with the principles of national ownership and self-assessment of F2F cooperation mechanisms as outlined in the Dili Consensus of the g7+. These countries experience similar situations and face similar challenges and as they develop solutions to cope with current difficulties, the potential for South-South Cooperation increases taking into account the sharing and adaptation of these solutions into analogous contexts. Through peer sharing and lessons learned, their successes and failures inform a new and better understanding of their own conditions and necessary steps for transition.

### **The ILO's Involvement in F2f Cooperation within the Framework of the g7+**

Since its foundation, the ILO has highlighted the role of socio-economic programs and policies in peace building and recovery. The Employment (Transition from War to Peace) Recommendation 1944 (n. 71) proposed a pioneering approach to promote peace and social justice in the aftermath of World War II through employment-based recovery and reconstruction. The international community recognizes the centrality of Decent Work for peace, security and social justice even in the most complex and fragile settings. The UN has acknowledged that employment creation is essential for political stability, reintegration, socio-economic progress and sustainable peace.

The ILO's strategy for supporting Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation is built upon, and in accordance, with the defined new Post-2015 Development Agenda. One of the 17 proposed new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) includes full and productive employment and decent work for all, which is at the heart of the ILO's mandate and is critical to ending poverty and contribute to peace building. However, priorities are also reflected in various other proposed SDGs that specifically include strategic areas directly referring to the ILO's mandate and calling for ILO's involvement, such as:

- Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
- Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (including through North-South, South-South and Triangular cooperation)

Following the discussions on States in fragile situation held in the ILO Governing Body, on 20 March 2014, during the High-level Panel on Decent Work in Fragile States, Mr. Guy Ryder, ILO Director-General, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Dr. Helder da Costa, General-Secretary of the g7+. The agreement foresees joint efforts to adapt the ILO's involvement in g7+ Member States to specific contexts, in close cooperation with governments, in particular through joint programs and projects.

The ILO would provide technical and organizational support – in collaboration with all institutional partners, including governments, workers' and employers' organizations, civil society leaders, academics and donors – to cement initiatives, build partnerships and launch projects to bring tested solutions to be scaled up and address the challenges of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The ILO is available to jointly develop with the g7+ a coherent proposal for F2F, contribute to resource mobilization and assist in the backstopping of F2F peer-learning activities.

### **Improving conditions for domestic workers**

According to Bah (2016, op.cit.), South-South Cooperation and Triangular (SSTC), allows domestic workers to better to defend their rights, given that domestic workers are systematically exploited and abused in their workplace. The historic adoption of the Convention 189 of the ILO on domestic workers (and Recommendation No. 201) on 16 June 2011, has promoted respect and recognition to the 50 to 100 million domestic workers worldwide. In most cases it concerns women, large numbers of migrants and children. Many domestic workers in several countries are still employed within the informal economy, committed to individuals or insufficiently regulated through employment agencies. They earn a pittance and have no opportunity to benefit from paid sick leave, maternity leave, paid leave or social security. In fact, this is an area where slavery still exists in the world. There are probably hundreds of thousands of migrant domestic workers whose work is not “declared” due to the existence of discriminatory work permit systems. This makes them extremely vulnerable to exploitation or even slavery by individuals or by unscrupulous employment agencies.

The objectives South-South and triangular cooperation can complement organizations of domestic workers in the context of improving their living conditions and work through training, strategic and methodological exchanges that will certainly allow to achieve the ILO agenda for decent work: access to productive work and fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their demands, to organize and to participate in decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.

### **Good Practices in F2F Cooperation: The case of Solidarity Economy and SSTC<sup>16</sup>**

The social and solidarity economy (SSE) is a concept that refers to enterprises and organizations, in particular cooperatives, mutual benefit societies, associations, foundations and social enterprises, which specifically produce goods, services and knowledge while pursuing economic and social aims and fostering solidarity. The International Labour Organization (ILO) has built a long tradition and developed a thorough expertise on SSE enterprises and organizations (SSEOs).

The role of SSE in fragile states is of great importance as they address the root causes of poverty as is the case of Africa. The three components of SSE, cooperatives, associations and mutual societies, are important employment sources in most sub-Saharan countries. Despite the fact that an important part of the economy of most Sub-Saharan African countries is based on SSE, cooperatives are insufficiently developed and mutual organizations are only visible in microfinance. SSE components have diversified activities. The main objective of SSE organizations in rural areas is to increase rural productivity, and for this purpose, they focus on structuring farmers' organizations, facilitating access to productive resources such as credit, access to land, production inputs, improvement of production techniques, and access to markets and information systems. In urban areas, SSE organizations develop several programs, including structuring and supporting the development of trade unions, and capacity building of informal economic actors to facilitate their gradual transition into the formal economy.

All African countries have great potential for developing Fragile-to-Fragile (F2F) cooperation programs. Some African countries have undertaken cooperation

<sup>16</sup> Soares, M: South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) and Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation (F2F) in the reshaping of International System: new forms of resistance

programs with their peers through international organizations such as the CPLP. Guinea Bissau has, for example, greatly profited from the support provided by Timor Leste through the CPLP, especially with regard to logistics, census and development of cartography during the 2014 elections. Yet, the intentions of governments for moving deeper through F2F cooperation are rampant. For many fragile states, the role of the international community, the ILO and g7+, is crucial, particularly in defining F2F cooperation framework.

At the national level, some African governments have made considerable efforts to transform the legal, political and economic structure and adapt it to the Social and Solidarity Economy model, thus moving forward in overcoming fragility. In Rwanda, for instance, the SSE has played a major role in the promotion of development and the reduction of fragility. In the Rwandan agriculture and food sector, numerous initiatives were undertaken to support value chains, in particular in the areas of horticulture and seeds, which became representative of the SSE due to the participation of farmer's organizations and the use of financing tools. Rwanda's success in the SSE could be replicated in other African countries through South-South and triangular cooperation. Another good example of cooperation is the response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa.

The fragile countries such as Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Nigeria have cooperated closely, in order to tackle the virus, guarantee national integrity and ensure health care to citizens. Under the g7+ principles and the F2F Cooperation framework, Timor-Leste has pledged US\$2 million in resources for actions to be taken in fast and opportunistic. Sierra Leone, exercising its national ownership while seeking for cooperation, has launched in July 2014 its "Accelerated Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak Response Plan" Such SSTC based initiatives as well as those undertaken at the national and local levels could be implemented through fragile-to-fragile cooperation mechanisms. Fragile-to-fragile is, therefore, a harmonizing approach both within and parallel to SSTC in the process of building a regional economy based on solidarity and social values.

SSTC is clearly aligned with the pillars that constitute the F2F Cooperation, especially regarding the need to value the national ownership, self-assessment, active political voice and solidarity. Also, the notion of the shared experiences is of paramount importance in these cooperation frameworks, given that the countries with the same fragile conditions can share their failures and successes and build a common understanding on how to act politically. Hence, any support coming from

the North (either in the SSTC or in the F2F models) should respect the political autonomy and agency of these countries, According to M. Soares (2016), given the recent emergence of SSTC and F2F Cooperation in the international setting, it may be still early to state what will be the impact of these alternative models in the long run and how effective they will be in respect to the configuration of the relations of power in the international system. However, on the basis of the aforementioned cases, it is already possible to identify the incremental changes that are increasingly gaining the strength and proportion, and therefore creating the incentives for new and alternative initiatives to be taken – always aligned with the SSTC and F2F Cooperation.

## Module 7: Social Dialogue

### Introduction

The internationalism of the Trade Union movement pays special attention on the South – South Cooperation with a common goal: Sustainable development including four dimensions at the same time: social, economic, environmental and politic, and, in addition, from the Decent Work approach. The trade unions present in the SSTC Academy, recognized the need to work together through a strong South – South network for finding common solutions for common challenges.

**South-South Cooperation** can be defined as an exchange of knowledge and resources in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental or technical domain, between governments, organizations, and individuals in developing nations. It can take place on a bilateral, regional, sub regional or interregional basis and can involve two or more developing countries.

SSC, based on the attainment of internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, is meant to strengthen developing countries' voice and their bargaining power in multilateral negotiations. It also gives them the opportunity to promote self-sufficiency among them and strengthen their economic ties.

However, despite the fact that SSC can be more sustainable than traditional North-South cooperation allowing better adaptation to the country situation, in practice there is still no shared understanding on the very nature and goals of SSC. This is true on the basis of the various and sometimes divergent “interpretations” on SSC given by both emerging economies and developed countries. Some argue that South-South Cooperation should not be seen as a substitute for, rather a complement to North-South cooperation, while others argue that the two models can't be placed on an equal footing.

Finally, **Triangular Cooperation (TC)** involves two or more developing countries in collaboration with a third party, typically a developed country government or organization, contributing to the exchanges with its own knowledge and resources. Sound industrial relations and effective social dialogue are a means to promote better wages and working conditions as well as peace and social justice. As instru-

ments of good governance they foster cooperation and economic performance, helping to create an enabling environment for the realization of the objective of Decent Work at the national level.

**Social dialogue and tripartism covers:**

- Negotiation, consultation and information exchange between and among the different actors;
- Collective bargaining;
- Dispute prevention and resolution; and
- Other instruments of social dialogue, including corporate social responsibility and international framework agreements.

**Preconditions for sound social dialogue:**

- Strong, independent workers' and employers' organizations with the technical capacity and access to relevant information to participate in social dialogue;
- Political will and commitment to engage in social dialogue on the part of all the parties;
- Respect for the fundamental rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining; and
- An enabling legal and institutional framework.

**How the ILO helps:**

The ILO aims to assist member States in establishing or strengthening legal frameworks, institutions, machinery or processes for sound industrial relations and effective social dialogue in member States. It also aims to promote social dialogue among member States and regional or subregional groupings as means of consensus building, economic and social development, and good governance. It supports the development of knowledge on global industrial relations, in particular the actors and institutions involved in cross-border social dialogue and agreements.

### The role of social partners in promoting and supporting South-South and triangular cooperation as demonstrated between The Commonwealth of The Bahamas and Barbados, Griffin, K. (2016)

“The social dialogue between The Bahamas and Barbados promotes the role of social partners and supports the objectives of SSTC through concrete examples such as the creation of the National Tripartite Council, the increase of national minimum wage, the expansion of the Labour Market Information System and the on-going review of redundancy and severance. The SSTC can further support addressing the specific development needs of The Bahamas and Barbados through identifying triangular partners which have successfully implemented labour models. In addition, The Bahamas can benefit from partnering with the SSTC to develop tools such as virtual meeting spaces, study tours, memorandums of understanding, and networking platforms to address specific development needs. These tools will promote good practices between South- South and triangular cooperation in order to improve industrial relations and decent work for all social partners.”

### South-South Cooperation and Social Dialogue in Ghana

The Health Services Workers’ Union (HSWU) of TUC, Ghana, has been praised by many as a unique industrial organization of workers, some on account of a trade union having won the global Quality Public Services Award in 2011 from the Public Services International (PSI), a global trade union federation with more than 20 million workers, represented by 669 unions in 154 countries and territories and the HSWU was described as a small union with a big heart.

The HSWU is a trade union organisation dedicated to promoting quality public services in every part of Ghana extending to the West Africa Sub-region at large. The PSI recognised the role played by the HSWU in pioneering the establishment of a sub-regional network of health workers in West Africa. In this Network, HSWU demonstrates a South-South Cooperation principle of solidarity by assisting weaker Unions in the Network. In this Network, the stronger Unions like HSWU and Medical and Health Workers Union of Nigeria (MHWUN) assists the weaker unions from Sierra Leone and Liberia. For instance, the HSWU buys computers, laptops, furniture and pays for airfares and per diems of the Health Services Workers’ Union of Sierra Leone, a sister union, whereas the MHWUN does same for its counterpart in Liberia. With such eulogy, the HSWU becomes a subject of interest when social dialogue as a concept including social protection



persons involved in championing the course of socio-economic growth of the working class. Social dialogue as a conduit for the social cohesion of bodies and groups of mutually engaged in the promotion and protection of the socio-economic rights and interests of working people is universal with Ghana not an exception. A typical example is the bilateral relationship between HSWU and the Botswana Public Employees Union on areas of investment and exchange of ideas including staff. Social dialogue has become a major source of concern in many countries not excluding Ghana. Virtually, at all levels of socio-economic development, the need for partnerships are being echoed and so with such drives, it is rare for projects to be jeopardised because we learn and share experiences among ourselves. It is with such spirit that in the world of work, workers organisations try through Collective Bargaining and at times in participation in public or private bodies to defend and improve living and working conditions. Sometimes the use of common campaigns and advocacy strategies cannot be discounted. Obviously the internal policies of government, in the case of Ghana, which motivated the country to ensure that social legislation makes provisions for social parties to engage in collective bargaining which is as a result of social dialogue. The Labour Act, 2003 (Act 651) enjoins social partners to sit and collectively bargain for the betterment of labour management relations and better working conditions for members.

It is with such developments of social dialogue evident in other parts of the West African Sub-region that had encouraged trade unions in the sector to forge ahead with a body invested with dynamism to ensure its members or the working peoples' social protection is promoted and protected. With the birth of the West African Health Sector Union Network (WAHSUN) which is a collaboration of health unions in the West African sub-region, the envisaged social dialogue is accomplished, with the body committed to the promotion of quality health care and the protection of health workers in the area of socio economic rights and interests.

### Strengthening trade union organization of informal market vendors: South-South Cooperation between Mozambique and Brazil

The cooperation project between Brazil and Mozambique, with the support in the first phase of the AFL-CIO (The American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations), is based on the determination of the Brazilian CUT (Unified Workers' Central) to cooperate with African trade unions, particularly with Portuguese-speaking countries in strengthening their empowerment strategies for tripartite social dialogue. CUT Brazil has a policy priority for cooperation with African countries, considering that trade unionism in these countries and social dialogue have important roles to play in overcoming conditions of precarity. Thus, the CUT Brazil, gives priority to Mozambique in terms of training in financial investment, know-how transfer and trade union organization, with a view to consolidate autonomous and independent unions. Thus, CUT Brazil continues to finance with its own resources the union training activities carried out under the project. Periodic reports are prepared by the national coordinator of the project in Mozambique, allowing permanent contact with local coordinators to report the progress of the planned actions.

According to J. Ortiz (2016), multiple legal instruments, issued of the agreements concluded in the Latin America process of democratic institutionalization have served as a nutrient to feed the trend towards participatory and equitable relationship between the different actors of social dialogue. The presence of different organizations promoting decent work, led by the ILO, carried out efforts to strengthen the social development in countries around the world, which offers to the least developed countries, in the field, the technical experiences and the results generated by the good practice of agreements on cooperation. To this fact is added the importance of its operating policy internally in the organization, which is a fundamental reference for understanding the enormous influence of the ILO in the different areas of regional integration in bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements, in free trade agreements, in the various summits and agreements and the various protocols that are held in the Latin American space. Since the advent of social dialogue, issues arising from the labour and social context have represented a key element in the growing dynamics of triangular cooperation with Latin American countries. It is also notably due to the presence of points on labour issues in recent trade agreements, that have stipulated, in their documents, the most advanced gains generated by social dialogues conducted in the region.

However there are still areas which we must follow up with determination to achieve greater social cohesion and dynamism to economic policy. Among the tasks that remain pending in the context of social dialogue in the countries of Latin America is social security, youth employment, decent wages and gender equality in pay. These are goals that are still under construction and which constitute the great challenges of our region for the implementation of dialogue as a tool for finding solution. The progressive strengthening of democracy and the existence of increasingly strong trade unions, create the necessary conditions for the establishment of social dialogue as one of the fundamental principles of South-South cooperation.

## Module 8: Labour Migration

### Introduction

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has established the promotion of decent working conditions for migrant workers as one of its global priorities, given that the quest for better employment and income opportunities is one of the main factors driving migration. The ILO estimates that more than 50 percent of migrants are workers, a figure that rises to 90 percent when you include their families. Almost half of all migrants are women, many of whom are also in search of better jobs.

Indeed, the ILO has been concerned with labour migration since it was founded in 1919, and its mandate includes the “protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own”. In this context, the ILO created two Conventions – the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) – and two Recommendations – the Migration for Employment Recommendation (Revised), 1949 (No. 86) and Migrant Workers Recommendation, 1975 (No. 151) – that set out principles of equality of treatment and opportunities between migrant and national workers. These international labour standards deal directly with issues such as the following: social dialogue and tripartism as instruments for defining labour migration policy; the regulation of recruitment, transport and placement of migrant workers under bilateral agreements on labour migration; their working and payment conditions; the reunification of families and recognition of occupational qualifications, certificates and diplomas; the right to make the free choice of employment following two years’ residence in a country; the role of public employment services in the recruitment and placement of migrant workers; the protection of migrant workers against discrimination and exploitation while they are employed in a country other than their own; the fundamental rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation and the issue of regularization; trade union rights and rights deriving from social security and other benefits; and the prevention of migration in abusive conditions and other minimum protection measures.

Recently, migration for labour purposes has become a central theme on the ILO agenda once more, both at global and regional levels. The International Labour Conference dedicated an important debate to various aspects of labour migration in 2004. This resulted in the adoption of the **Conclusions and Resolution concerning a fair deal for migrant workers in a global economy** and the **ILO Plan of Action for Migrant Workers**, agreed by a consensus of representatives of the 176 tripartite delegations involved. The backbone of this Plan of Action was the Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration adopted in 2006. In the follow-up to this work, a Tripartite Technical Meeting on Labour Migration was held in November 2013.

In June 2014, the ILO Director-General presented the report *Fair migration: Setting an ILO agenda* before the International Labour Conference, which suggested establishing eight specific ILO lines of action in this sphere:

- a) Promoting decent work in countries of origin, including the contribution of migrants;
- b) Formulating orderly and fair migration schemes in regional integration processes;
- c) Promoting bilateral agreements for well-regulated and fair migration between member States;
- d) Instituting fair recruitment processes;
- e) Countering unacceptable situations;
- f) Realizing the rights-based approach;
- g) Contributing to a strengthened multilateral rights-based agenda on migration;
- h) Tripartism, knowledge and capacity building as cross-cutting issues.

The aforementioned report contains the general guidelines for the organization's current and future action in the form of activities and projects, as well as more general debates such as the one planned for the next Conference, to be held in June 2017.

Similarly, the ILO's Programme includes **Outcome 9: Promoting fair and effective labour migration policies**. Outcome 9 aims to strengthen governance in labour migration in order to guarantee conditions of decent work for migrant workers,

respond to the needs of the labour market, and promote inclusive economic growth and development. The ILO's global strategy in this sphere consists in increasing the capacity of its constituents to participate in the creation of policies founded on empirical data and aimed at promoting fair and rights-based labour migration for all workers. The ILO also works to improve labour migration governance in conditions of equality, within the framework of regional integration processes and along the main migration corridors, based on social dialogue and collaboration between the ranges of partners.

There has been significant work in recent decades to consolidate and expand a system of South–South migration corridors with an estimated minimum 50 percent participation on the part of migrant workers overall. This principally involves cross-border or interregional migration, in which borders and geographic proximity favour the coupling of labour markets between sending and receiving countries. In fact, South–South migration is distributed over a large number of interregional corridors that differ in terms of geography, the interdependence of their labour markets, and their migration mechanisms.

The growing pace of economic globalization has created more migrant workers than ever before. Unemployment and increasing poverty have prompted many workers in developing countries to seek work elsewhere, while developed countries have increased their demand for labour, especially unskilled labour. As a result, millions of workers and their families travel to countries other than their own to find work. At present there are approximately 232 million migrants around the world, representing 3.1 per cent of the global population. Women make up almost half of migrants. It is estimated that one in eight migrants are between the age of 15 and 24. Migrant workers contribute to the economies of their host countries, and the remittances they send home help to boost the economies of their countries of origin. Yet at the same time migrant workers often enjoy little social protection, face inequalities in the labour market and are vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking. Skilled migrant workers are less vulnerable to exploitation, but their departure has deprived some developing countries of valuable labour needed for their own economies. ILO standards on migration provide tools for both countries of origin and destination to manage migration flows and ensure adequate protection for this vulnerable category of workers.

## Latin America & the Caribbean

Labour migration in South America and the Caribbean is linked to the increasing internationalization of labour markets and the global integration of societies and economies of the region, resulting in a new configuration often associated with intra-regional integration processes. On the one hand, considerable progress has been made in terms of policies, regulations and practices, as well as the realization of forward-looking statements and practices of countries. On the other hand, a large number of challenges persist in terms of migration governance at the national, regional and multilateral levels.

According to Almeida (op.cit, 2016), in South America, the creation of an area of free movement of persons has developed in the context of a regional integration process (MERCOSUR) in which virtually all countries of the sub region participate. This is an important area of cooperation between developing countries in the field of migration. There is a migration process in Latin America and the Caribbean that needs to be better known, and a greater degree of cooperation between countries can make this a safer and more ordered phenomena. There is much discussion on south-north migration, but the reality is that a large part of the migration processes, as demonstrated by current statistics, are between the so-called southern developing countries. It is essential that the countries of the region have appropriate migration policies and legal frameworks in accordance with the relevant ILO Conventions, such as 97 and 143, and the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Workers and their Families.

## SSTC and the case of Migrant children: The case of Guatemala (Castillo, 2016)

### Guatemala

According to the Guatemalan newspaper Prensa Libre (9 May, 2016) the number of Guatemalan migrant children in the Mexican cities of Chiapas and Tapachula, among others, continues to grow; Mexican authorities recognize that there are no real statistics, but explained that many of these children remain on the streets and are victims of labour exploitation and sexual trafficking.

Temporary indigenous labour migration was installed as a substantive component of the Guatemalan economic model. This practice has been employed internally as well as externally, particularly towards the Mexican city of Chiapas. Thus, women, children and adolescents were involved in work spaces, without even being taken into account in the valuation of work. All this must be developed alongside regulatory provisions which establish the principles, rights, institutions and procedures that all children and adolescents require for their actual recognition as individuals with rights; yet must count with models and effective strategies to intervene on the issue of child labour – South-South and triangular cooperation aims to implement models of inclusive and demand-driven distributive development, promote learning, organization, strategic initiatives to achieve the sustainable development goals, which have been recognized by the State of Guatemala and so it is vitally important to interact with other countries, strengthen networks, create circles of professionals and partnerships based on the good practices and lessons learned. It is worth mentioning that in 2015, Guatemala and Colombia exchanged good practices on the topic of child labour prevention, where they have used effective technical cooperation tools and knowledge. There is no doubt that South-South cooperation benefits the economic and social development of member countries, as long as there is a willingness on the part of countries to further promote the exchange of knowledge and work among them. International cooperation for developing countries such as Guatemala, will be transcendental for the eradication of child labour, thanks to international financial assistance to programs and projects, awareness raising of the local population and the promotion and enhancement of social dialogue among countries.



## Brazil: SSTC and Labour Migration

The Brazilian government and the ILO began implementing the project “South–South Cooperation for the protection of the rights of women and men migrant workers in the Latin American and Caribbean region”. The project has as its main objectives the effective recognition of the rights of women and men migrant workers in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the contribution to labour integration in the region through the exchange of best practices on policies and actions that can protect migrant workers. In 2014 a study was conducted entitled ‘Law and Migration Policies in Brazil (2010-2013)’. The study aims at systematizing the advances of Brazil on migration issues inspired by the principles and guidelines of the National Immigration Policy drafted in 2010 by the Brazilian National Immigration Council (CNIg) with the technical support of ILO. In the collection of best practices, the project is supporting the initiatives of the Policy Coordination for Migrants (CPMIg) of the Municipal Secretariat of Human Rights and Citizenship of São Paulo. According to L. Mourad (2016), in February 2015 work started to systematize the experiences on the access of immigrants to public policies on employment and training services in the city of Sao Paulo with a view to promoting labour migration initiatives. The project will also technically assist the meetings of the Municipal Committee for Immigration and Refugees that will lead the debate and the drafting of a Participatory Bill for the Municipal Migration Law.

The participation of ILO’s experts in relevant fields of the project will assure a permanent and qualified technical assistance. In the framework of the project, the ILO wants to promote South – South and Triangular Cooperation as a model to strengthen decent work and achieve the sustainable development goals of the Agenda 2030. It is expected that the lessons learned during the project will positively influence future international, national and regional forums related to migration.

**Project: “Promoting gender-sensitive labour migration policies in Costa Rica, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic” (Salinas, 2016)**

In June 2012 the Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the International Labour Organization - ILO and the Organization of American States - OAS, in order to implement the project “Promoting gender-sensitive labour migration policies in Costa Rica, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic” funded by the European Union.

One of the activities undertaken was the proposal for a Management Model for the temporary labour migration of Haitians, in coordination with the ILO and existing binational efforts. The aim of the resulting document was to present a proposal for a gender sensitive management model for temporary labour migration of Haitian workers, where stages of recruitment, training and agreements on participation to temporary work programs are considered. To this end, an exchange of experience and training for officials was carried out, aimed at complementing the technical assistance provided to Haiti to develop a temporary employment program with direct advice from other Labour Ministries from English-speaking Caribbean States with similar programs.

The ILO is convinced about the benefits of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) to promote the Millennium Development Goals, other international development goals, and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda. Socio-economic development and the position of global responsibility actors provide impetus to scale up efforts in increasing the volume and effectiveness of international cooperation. Work can be advanced by institutionalizing cooperation mechanisms, prioritizing according to each country's capabilities and engaging with innovative modalities such as South-South and triangular cooperation. Global migration flows are increasingly including a strong South-South connotation. Labour mobility from one country to another has a key role to play in economic development and mutual growth of both the receiving and sending countries. As migration has increased in many regions, so too have recruitment agencies, many of which remain effectively ungoverned and which exploit migrant workers. Hence the need to improve recruitment, registry and governance processes of migration flows in order to provide adequate protection to migrant workers.

Migrant domestic workers provide indispensable services to the countries where they go, contributing to the wealth of ageing societies and to the sustainability

of these countries' welfare and employment systems. Yet, as with other migrant workers, migrant domestic workers can be confronted with additional vulnerabilities, leading to violations of their human and labour rights. Their vulnerabilities are often linked to precarious recruitment processes (including passport and contract substitution as well as charging of excessive fees), the absence of adapted assistance and protection mechanisms, the social and cultural isolation they can face at the destination due to language and cultural differences, lack of advance and accurate information on terms and conditions of employment, absence of labour law coverage and/or enforcement in the country of destination, and restrictions on freedom of movement and association, among other things. The ILO recognizes the specific vulnerabilities to which migrant domestic workers are exposed and the need to improve labour and migration laws and policies, including policy coherence between them. In the spirit of the new ILO Convention and Recommendation – Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers, 2011 (No. 189) and Recommendation No. 201 – the ILO has developed a Global Strategy to support its constituents in achieving decent work for domestic workers. According to A. Bah (2016, op.cit), within its objectives, South-South and triangular cooperation could cooperate with domestic workers organizations in the context of improving their living conditions and work through training, strategic and methodological exchanges that will certainly help achieving the ILO decent work agenda.”

## Migration along the Mexico-Guatemala border: A SSTC perspective (Sandoval, 2016)

Throughout history, through the border between Guatemala and Mexico, which has an approximate length of one thousand kilometres, every year around 35,000 Guatemalans travel accompanied by their families in order to work temporarily in coffee, papaya, sugar cane plantations, or provide cleaning or construction services, thus constituting one of the largest temporary labour migration flows in Guatemala. It is estimated that 90% of Guatemalan workers are concentrated in the State of Chiapas, and the remaining 10% distributed in the states of Tabasco, Yucatan, Campeche and Quintana Roo. The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare of Guatemala, since 2002 opened the Office of Labour Mobility in two Guatemalan border points located in Tecun Uman and El Carmen, Malacatán, both in the Department of San Marcos. These offices now have a record of recruiters or contractors, as well as a record of Guatemalan migrant workers and their contracts, so in many cases, recruitment is carried out in a regular manner. It is however required to clearly define whether it is implied that migration becomes regular upon registration of the contract. As good practice of South-South cooperation, and in response to this urgent need for progress in achieving equality and development in terms of labour migration, the Head of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare of Guatemala (MINTRAB) and his counterpart the Head of the Secretariat of Labour and Social Welfare of Mexico (STPS) signed on August 7, 2014, an Agreement on Labour Cooperation between the Republic of Guatemala and the United Mexican States.

The Cooperation Agreement includes the following objectives:

- Establishing the basis to carry out cooperation activities and exchange of information on labour issues to have quantitative and qualitative information on the characteristics of temporary migrant workers, allowing the proper design of active labour market policies.
- Creating an employment observatory to analyse the conditions faced by temporary migrant workers and strengthening monitoring mechanisms for labour migration flows between Mexico and Guatemala, in coordination with other relevant agencies.
- Designing Active Employment Policies to generate legal, safe and orderly mechanisms between the two governments, for both temporary Mexican migrant workers seeking employment in Guatemala, and Guatemalans seeking employment in Mexico, in coordination with other relevant agencies in the field of migration.
- Collaborate to ensure full respect for the rights of workers in both countries, through appropriate dissemination and verification schemes between immigration authorities, to ensure conditions of decent and dignified work.

The human desire to seek decent employment and livelihoods is at the core of the migration-development nexus. As more people cross borders to work in the coming years, fair and effective migration policies that protect the rights of migrant workers and reduce the costs of labour migration will be essential for achieving economic growth and enhancing development outcomes for migrant workers and their families, and for countries of origin and destination. The ILO works with governments, employers' and workers' organizations to improve labour migration policies that can achieve more equitable development with a focus on the needs of working men and women who generate the benefits towards development and who support their families and communities in countries of origin and destination. In today's globalized world, labour migration is a rising policy priority. Economic hardship and geopolitical crises leading to the lack of decent work are resulting in growing and diverse migratory movements. In many economies, including emerging economies, ageing populations and declining labour forces are also contributing to the growing mobility of workers. Women are joining migration flows in growing numbers as independent workers, with important consequences for gender equality in countries of origin and destination alike. Migration flows have changed over the past few decades, growing significantly in some corridors and between countries of the South. The governance challenges have increased in complexity. There is a need to understand these dynamic migrant flows and their implications for labour markets, particularly in migrant-dominated sectors. New thinking and new approaches to the governance of labour migration are needed: a fair sharing of the prosperity migrant workers help to create, and policies that respond equitably to the interests of countries of origin and destination, as well as to migrant workers, employers and national workers.

## “Promoting Development Initiatives for Migrant workers through better South-South cooperation between Mauritania and Senegal”

The Financial Education trainers' training workshop which was held from the 17th to the 20th of November 2013 in Rosso, Mauritania, is part of the ILO Project “Promoting Development Initiatives for Migrant workers through better South- South cooperation between Mauritania and Senegal.” It aims to build the Participants' capacity for the increasing number of training sessions on financial education for migrants and their families. This initiative contributes to better support stakeholders in the effective and efficient use of the resources generated by migrants. Seasonal migration has been a major factor in the process of organising labour migration for Senegal. According to Diop (2016, op. cit), human mobility is one of the most determining phenomena of our time. In Africa, migration has existed since the dawn of time. However, the types and destinations of migrants are not static and the type of migration and mobility drastically changes with time. As such, Mauritania and Senegal, like many countries in the world, have become countries of immigration, emigration and transit. If migration is currently attracting much attention due to political instability in most countries in West and North Africa, it is still necessary however to understand the migration in its various forms and consider the national and international context for the development of comprehensive policies for migration management while ensuring full rights of migrant workers and their family members. Mauritania and Senegal are facing such diverse types of migration.

Within the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), Mauritania and Senegal occupy a significant share of inter-regional migration. Whether in terms of Mauritanian and Senegalese migration to the countries of the subregion, or the West African migration to Mauritania and Senegal, the two countries are important witnesses of South-South migration. Worker mobility is facilitated by adherence and compliance by the national authorities to the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Establishment of the ECOWAS and bilateral agreements between Mauritania with most of its neighbours. This migration context has led to the update of the National Migration Strategy (SNGM) in Mauritania and should encourage Senegal to initiate various administrative, legislative and programmatic measures to meet the needs of managing a migration of a diverse kind.



## Module 9: SSTC and Public Private Partnerships

### Introduction

As a growing form of partnership, South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC) is playing an increasingly important role in the ILO's public-private partnerships. Southern partners, with similar experience in development, bring particularly relevant and helpful experience in assisting PPPs. This module pays particular attention to the resource constraints and a limited administrative capacity of the existing public vocational/professional education and training systems that confront many of the developing countries. Our discussions in the module therefore highlight the importance of promoting demand-driven skills training through effective and viable public-private partnership (PPP). The module demonstrates how PPP can be established and strengthened, and how SSTC can help address common challenges of skills development in the South. The discussions in the session therefore highlighted the importance of promoting demand-driven skills training through effective and viable public-private partnership (PPP) in the framework of SSTC. Through interactive peer learning sessions, this session demonstrated how PPP can be established and strengthened, and how SSTC can help address common challenges of skills development in the South.

Skills development plays an important role in supporting sustainable development. Skills enhances productivity and resource efficiency at the macro level. It facilitates jobseekers' access to employment, which helps reduce poverty in a sustainable manner. Nevertheless, unequal access to skills development opportunities and modest labour market relevance of skills development leave full benefit of skills development untapped. This two-day elective module encourages the participants to discuss skills development issues through interactive sessions. Moreover, the global economic crisis has deteriorated the difficult situation that already existed in youth labour markets. The crisis resulted in a dramatic increase in the youth unemployment rate jumping from 17.0 per cent in 2008 to 20.5 per cent in 2009. After having decreased between 2009 and 2011, the rate has stabilized at 13 per cent, but it is still well above the pre-crisis level of 11.7 per cent. There has been a drop in the number of unemployed youth to 73.3 million in 2014. That is 3.3 million less than the crisis peak of 76.6 million in 2009. Because of the economic outlook and the absence of sufficient decent jobs, many young people have turned



into underemployment, informal employment, low-quality and temporary jobs that do not provide sufficient opportunities for them to contribute to economic and social development.

Unemployment and underemployment tend to have adverse longer-term consequences for young people. These include deterioration of skills, negative perceptions of youth who have been in short-term and informal jobs for prolonged periods. The observed results on young people's labour market achievements can be a long period of transition before finding decent jobs. This has an impact on wages and spending capacity of individuals and families throughout working life. In addition, youth unemployment and inactivity can lead to social exclusion, as the inability to find employment creates a sense of idleness and frustration. As experience by countries of the Middle East and North Africa, youth discontent can lead to social unrest and disruption of economic activity in a country. Social exclusion and a sense of unfairness might provide the oxygen in which disaffection spreads and extremism flourishes.

The crisis of youth employment was a main subject discussed by the Conference of the International Labour Organization in June 2012. Representatives of governments, employer organizations and trade unions of 185 countries called for urgent and immediate action to reverse the youth employment crisis and the threat of losing a generation of young people whose skills and talents are under-estimated or wasted. They also called for the ILO to provide global leadership in addressing the crisis through partnerships and alliances at global, regional and country level.

The ILO Resolution concerning the second recurrent discussion on employment (July 2014) stressed on importance of expanding initiatives to better understand what works for youth employment., developing knowledge and policy tools and widely disseminating them. PPPs and SSTC have potential in the fields of youth employment in the framework of SSTC, with emphasis of youth labour market, youth employment challenges, ILO approach and policy instruments, anti-crisis measures suggested, and current results of policy interventions

## SSTC and PPP's in Africa: The Pan African Institute for Development

There have been significant changes in recent years in the structure of the development co-operation and partnerships. South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) is increasingly playing an important role in global trade, finance, investment and governance. These changes have opened up opportunities for further partnerships between Africa and countries in the South, as evidenced by the plethora of new initiatives aimed at fostering political, economic and social relations. Alaoui Solaimani (2016, op.cit.) mentioned that one such institution with a longstanding reputation in the development field is The Pan African Institute for Development (IPD). The IPD is an international organization created in 1964 in Switzerland. It is managed by two interrelated structures. The first ensures from Geneva, a liaison between the institute and its partners. The second manages from Yaoundé a general secretariat. The IPD, according to Solaimani (op.cit), is responsible for training African executives, board support, project management and research action. Its activities are spread across Africa, through 5 regional institutes. The implemented structure, allows the institute to train thousands of students from different African countries. It is a prime example of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), for which the IPD is a key actor. The IPD has developed constructive relationships with African governments and with African organizations. The relationship then evolved towards technical cooperation between the institute and a number of United Nations organizations. In the past decade, South-South trade has expanded more quickly than North-South trade. South-South investment has also shown unprecedented dynamism. Africa's total merchandise trade with non-African developing countries increased from US\$34 billion in 1995 to US\$97 billion in 2004, and then jumped to US\$283 billion in 2008 and US\$595 billion in 2012.1 (UNCTAD, 2010 and UNTAD, 2014).

## Peer-to-Peer Study Visit on Formal Apprenticeships in Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and Zambia

East African countries are at similar stages of development and face common skills development challenges, notably skills mismatch (i.e. gaps between skills demanded and skills possessed by workers). In response, the ILO piloted a formal apprenticeship programme in the hotel industry, establishing a close collaboration between hotels and the National College of Tourism. The employer-led and demand-driven pilot programme has turned out to be a success.

The ILO organized a study visit, inviting relevant government officials and social partners from Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and Zambia to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The delegations saw work performances of apprentices, visited the college and hotels where apprentices were trained. They also visited the Ministry of Labour and Employment, as well as the authority in charge of technical and vocational education and training, in order to understand the overall apprenticeship system in Tanzania. Through workshops and groups discussions, Tanzania's case and lessons learned were shared with the country delegations.

The peer-to-peer study visit was organized with the aims of 1) disseminating the good practice in Tanzania (i.e. formal apprenticeship programme in hotel operation) for possible replication in the participating countries, and 2) deepening discussions on work-based learning at the sub-regional level. This initiative contributes to the Goal 8 of the SDG.

## Review of the Role of Business Firms in Implementing the SDG's in Asia

According A. Gosh, (2016, op. cit), other than bringing down the economic disparities between rich and poor, the New International Economic Order (NIEO) resulted in enhancing the gap in wealth distribution during the last few decades of the 20th century. As a consequent to this, the UN had to propose the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were to be pursued by the governments of all of the member states and the business community as well. Among the various initiatives to achieve the stated goals, was the establishment of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC); the participation of world business leaders to become associated with it was undoubtedly a remarkable step forward.

An analysis of the role of the business community in achieving the MDGs was conducted by Mondal & Ghosh. Their research focused on the number of companies participating in UNGC suggested programs from 9 selected countries. These were: UAE, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Korea, Indonesia, Japan, China, India, and Bangladesh. The data provided by the UNGC website notes that during the period 2001-2006, the number of participating companies varied between 8 and 125. Starting with 16 companies in 2001, the number went up to 125 in 2011 which gradually has come down to only 8 in 2016. This clearly indicates the declining role of the corporate sector in pursuing the MDGs during the first 15 years of this century. Also, based on this data it may not be unwise to consider that the corporate sector in the region is less interested in pursuing the SDGs. Under such a situation, steps from the UN or on behalf of governments of the respective countries should be adopted to stimulate the organized sector of the economy to pursue the targets set in the Sustainable Development Goals. In this respect, partnerships at the institutional level may also be helpful in pursuing some of the goals. Job creation, skill development and employment of the youth of the region are some of such agenda in respect of which innovation may be possible.

Successful co-operation between various governments in the region is demonstrated by projects such as the Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability (APCD) which partners the governments of Thailand and Japan in the effort to improve the conditions for persons with disabilities. In addition to the cooperation between the governments, active cooperation from the private sector is also essential. Examples of partnership between public and the private are many. Mention may be made of one such initiative which has started just this year.

A new Multilateral Development Bank namely the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has been launched this year in Beijing, China. Its objective is to promote “sustainable economic development” primarily through making infrastructure investments. Its capital base is \$100 billion of which \$50 billion has been initially subscribed, mainly by China and other countries. This institution has been promoted by 58 founding members which includes 21 European countries. However, in order to ensure dominance in respect of governance of this organization by the Asian countries only, 75 percent of the shareholding (voting distributed according to size of gross domestic product or GDP) has been reserved for Asian members.

According to A. Gosh, (2016, op. cit), this situation prompts us to argue that the partnerships between the governments are certainly the essential component of SSTC, but to achieve the SDGs it is the pre-requisite that everyone play a positive role towards these declared targets. Business enterprises which constitute the main element of the market, cannot avoid the responsibility. It would be unwise to expect that the world would be able to achieve the target of job creation for youth only through government provisioning. It is in this context that we propose to consider the need for partnership between the multi-national companies operating around the globe and the educational institutions of the developing nations. Many such partnerships might have taken place, but that may not be adequate to meet the actual requirement in the context of growing population in some of the developing countries.

## Conclusions

PPPs and Skills development play an important role in supporting sustainable development. Skills enhances productivity and resource efficiency at the macro level. It facilitates jobseekers' access to employment, which helps reduce poverty in a sustainable manner. Nevertheless, unequal access to skills development opportunities and modest labour market relevance of skills development leave full benefit of skills development untapped. Discussions in the module therefore highlighted the importance of promoting demand-driven skills training through effective and viable public-private partnership (PPP). The module demonstrates how PPP can be established and strengthened, and how SSTC can help address common challenges of skills development in the South.

## Module 10: Virtual Spaces supporting South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Decent Work<sup>17</sup>

SSTC, as a strong horizontal cooperative effort –characterized by an emancipatory feature and as conducive to the balance of power in the field of international relations– is also considered an important element in the debates and practices related to Sustainable Development. This was recently affirmed by the significance and importance attributed to South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 17 of the UN 2030 Agenda (Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development).

Concerning practical implementation, one of the major challenges in cooperation processes extending beyond national borders refers to the conservation of “interactive coupling” amongst people involved in collaborative initiatives. In a few words, the existence of interactive coupling means that people keep engaged in constant conversations and carry out a diversity of joint activities with high and regular frequency. The formats of interactive coupling which are more conducive to the emergence of collective intelligence and to the maximization of synchronisms and synergy amongst complementary activities are the ones characterized as “distributed networks”, that is to say, when all people have the means for easily and directly accessing all other implicated persons as well as potential new partners (situation also known as “peer-to-peer”). The Internet stands today as a very promising means for complementing face-to-face interactions and minimizing some of the major barriers in sustaining high levels of interactive coupling in distributed networks of South-South cooperation: a) barriers of geographical distance, and b) language barriers<sup>18</sup>. Particularly with the increasing expansion of “mobile technologies” and with interfaces which become more and more friendly and natural, it is already possible to notice the feasibility of instantaneous interactive connection amongst people located in different parts of the world who have decided to act together. Virtual interaction, if combined in a safe, appropriate and clever way

<sup>17</sup> The chapter on Module 10 was written by Fernando Baptista, ILO consultant.

<sup>18</sup> Regarding the minimization of language barriers, nowadays the use of Internet tools for instant translation of text and even speech is becoming increasingly reliable and widespread. In addition, this is a field which is receiving significant investments and is quickly evolving. Moreover, the Internet has also become a considerably important means for language learning and practicing.

with the possibilities of face-to-face interaction, leads to the generation of an interactive continuum which can significantly boost initiatives of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the field of Decent Work and Sustainable Development.

In recent years, attempts to use the Internet in creative, innovative and emancipatory ways are proliferating in many areas related to sustainable socioeconomic development –approach broadly known as “information and communication technologies for development (ICT4D)”. An example of this was the conception and implementation of virtual interactive spaces for knowledge sharing and South-South cooperation designed to complement and enhance the ILO Academy on Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and other related initiatives advanced by ILO and UN. These multilingual virtual spaces were named “Collective Brain” of the SSE Academy (existing since 2012) and “Meeting Point” for South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the SSE (existing since 2013):

**“Collective Brain” of the SSE Academy** ( <http://www.sseacb.net/> ):

The Collective Brain is a virtual interactive space aiming to enrich the ILO Social and Solidarity Economy Academy<sup>19</sup>. Its purpose is to allow that participants, former participants and other people interested in the SSE Academy remain involved, cooperate and deepen knowledge in real time through the Internet. This is a virtual multilingual space which tries to reproduce and enhance the interactive dynamics of the SSE Academy on a permanent basis. The ILO has built a long tradition and developed a thorough expertise on SSE enterprises and organizations and believes that tools such as the Collective Brain can help to strengthen continental and inter-continental networks in the field of SSE. This space was developed in 2012 with the support of the International Labour Office and of the International Training Centre of the ILO.

**“Meeting Point” for SSTC in the SSE** ( <http://www.sstesse.net/> ):

This is a virtual meeting point where people from different countries can meet, engage, exchange and cooperate on the field of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) within the perspective of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC). Its main goal is to increase the direct connectivity and the interactivity amongst people interested in this proposition. This space was developed in 2013 with the support of the ILO Partnerships and Field Support Department (PARDEV) in the framework of the Social and Solidarity Economy Academy. Based on its com-

<sup>19</sup> More information about the ILO SSE Academy: <http://socialeconomy.ilo.org/>

prehensive expertise on SSE enterprises and organizations, the ILO believes that SSTC can provide a tool to build continental and inter-continental networks in the field of SSE. In addition, the concepts of SSE and SSTC cut across all four dimensions of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda.

It is possible to notice that, since their launches, the “Collective Brain” and the “South-South Meeting Point on SSE” are having a significant positive impact on the dynamics of innovation and levels of interactivity of the SSE Academy and other ILO-related initiatives in the field of Local Economic Development (LED), including the cooperation between cities (City-to-City). This is confirmed by substantial increases in numbers of accesses to these virtual spaces coming from multiple countries and by the growing engagement of key people from the fields of SSE and LED in their conversation groups in the social media. As an example of these increases in numbers of hits, it is possible to notice that the “Collective Brain” and the “Meeting Point on SSE” websites had respective increases of 217.3% and 274.8% in access numbers during the second four-month period of 2015, and these growth levels are similar to what was also observed in previous four-month periods. Following the success of this strategy underpinned by the use of the Internet to boost projects and activities in the SSE and LED, the ILO Partnerships and Field Support Department (PARDEV) has recently decided to extend the initiative also to other ILO key topics: the elimination of child labour and modern slavery; job creation; skills development; social protection; social dialogue; labour migration; and cooperation between fragile countries (Fragile-to-Fragile). In 2016 the “South-South Meeting Point” was reshaped and enlarged to cover all these areas related to Decent Work and Sustainable Development and a new home page was launched (<http://www.southsouthpoint.net/>)<sup>20</sup>. The links presented below provide direct access to the main areas and social media of the new “South-South Meeting Point”:

- Home page in English: <http://www.southsouthpoint.net/>
- Home page in Spanish: [http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index\\_es.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index_es.html)
- Home page in French: [http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index\\_fr.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index_fr.html)
- Home page in Portuguese: [http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index\\_pt.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/index_pt.html)
- Conversation group on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/109476326723517>

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20 To learn how to use the new “South-South Meeting Point”, visit the web address <http://www.southsouthpoint.net/> and then click on “About”.



- Conversation group on LinkedIn:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8490914>
- Conversation group on Google+:  
<https://plus.google.com/communities/110273953357697404735>
- YouTube channel (videos):  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4CKRQWOpW0x0vVac49SoEA>
- Main collection of documents and materials: <https://goo.gl/G6tkbw>
- Twitter (news): [https://twitter.com/sstc\\_mp](https://twitter.com/sstc_mp)

In addition, the use of the Internet also becomes especially important in the “1st ILO Academy on South-South and Triangular Cooperation”<sup>21</sup> (held in Turin, Italy from the 11th to the 15th July 2016). An interactive pre-learning phase was conducted by Internet and will introduce basic principles and key questions related to the topics which will be later tackled during the face-to-face sections of the Academy. Throughout this phase participants started knowing each other and will have the chance to express their views, concerns and needs before they meet in person in Turin. This interactive space was primarily designed for participants of the SSTC Academy, but it will also be open for anyone who is interested in the topics covered by the Academy or is willing to know and interact with its participants. The following links allow direct access to the main web spaces related to the 1st ILO Academy on SSTC:

- Pre-learning spaces in English: <http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016.html>
- Pre-learning spaces in Spanish:  
[http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016\\_es.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016_es.html)
- Pre-learning spaces in French:  
[http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016\\_fr.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016_fr.html)
- Pre-learning spaces in Portuguese:  
[http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016\\_pt.html](http://www.southsouthpoint.net/sstcacd2016_pt.html)
- Facebook page of the 1st ILO Academy on SSTC:  
<https://www.facebook.com/sstcacademy>

As such, through its innovative, creative and emancipatory stance towards the use of the Internet, the ILO stands out and becomes an interesting example related to the use of information and communication technologies to promote and advance

<sup>21</sup> More information about the ILO SSTC Academy: [http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS\\_458078/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/pardev/partnerships/south-south/WCMS_458078/lang--en/index.htm)

the SSTC in the field of Decent Work and Sustainable Development. At the same time, it attests that the organization recognizes the growing importance of global communities of debate and practice which are horizontal, active, innovative and cooperative, in a changing world that is increasingly interconnected and less restricted by geographical distances and national borders.



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**Sites Pesquisados** Obs: Todos os sites foram acessados em abril de 2016.

- Asociación Internacional de Ciudades Educadoras: [www.edcities.org](http://www.edcities.org)
- Centro Regional de Informações das Nações Unidas: [www.unric.org](http://www.unric.org)
- Cities for Mobility: [www.cities-for-mobility.net](http://www.cities-for-mobility.net)
- Mercociudades: [www.mercociudades.org](http://www.mercociudades.org)
- INTELI Smart Cities Portugal: [smarcitiesportugal.net](http://smarcitiesportugal.net)
- Instituto Municipal de Desarrollo Económico y Empleo de Córdoba: [www.imdeec.es](http://www.imdeec.es)
- Mayors for Peace: [www.mayorsforpeace.org](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org)
- Observatorio de Cooperación Descentralizada: [observ-ocd.org](http://observ-ocd.org)
- Parque Industrial da Cidade de Obregón: [www.parqueindustrialobregon.com](http://www.parqueindustrialobregon.com)
- Réseau International des Villes de L’Aérostale: [www.toulouse.fr](http://www.toulouse.fr)
- WRI BRASIL – Cidades Sustentáveis, [wricidades.org](http://wricidades.org)
- Solutions, [www.urban-mobility-solutions.eu](http://www.urban-mobility-solutions.eu)



This publication presents an overview of the modules presented at the South-South and triangular cooperation academy (SSTC Academy) in Turin, that took place from 11-15 July 2016, illustrating different solutions that countries from the South have put into application, working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The SSTC Academy, a joint initiative of the ILO, and its International Training Centre, was an opportunity for all ILO partners to discuss South-South good practices in the following areas: elimination of forced labour and child labour, labour migration, social dialogue, climate change, green job creation and vocational training, social protection floors in the Global South. New South-South Cooperation modalities, such as City-to-City and Fragile-to-Fragile cooperation were also discussed. This compilation of articles aims to contribute in sharing international experience in view of fostering cooperation between the countries of the South and increase engagement vis-à-vis SSTC modalities through peer-to-peer approaches in sub-regional cooperation projects. South-South cooperation complements traditional international cooperation, by incorporating the idea that through a spirit of solidarity, developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems.



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