



# The South-South Opportunity

## South-South cooperation in the context of aid effectiveness

### Call for Case Stories

#### Objectives and framework

The Task Team on South-South Cooperation (TT-SSC), a Southern-led platform hosted at the OECD-DAC, brings together partner countries, middle income countries, donors, civil society, academia, regional and multilateral agencies under a common **objective of collecting, analyzing and disseminating evidence on the synergies between the principles of aid effectiveness and the practice of South-South Cooperation (SSC)**. Committed to the evolving aid effectiveness agenda, the TT-SSC will address a three-fold mandate emerging from the **Accra Agenda for Action** (article 19):

- Adapting the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action principles for SSC (AAA art. 19a);
- Enriching the effectiveness agenda with the practices and experiences of SSC (AAA art. 19b);
- Identifying complementarities between SSC and North-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation (AAA art. 19e).

#### What is aid effectiveness?

The aid effectiveness agenda builds upon the Paris Declaration and was reinforced with the Accra Agenda for Action. Its five principles aim to facilitate a better way of achieving development results: Through consistent country leadership of developing countries and more adapted contributions by donors.

In order to generate high-quality evidence, the TT-SSC will conduct analytical work based on case stories from around the world featuring South-South cooperation in practice. The TT-SSC is especially interested in discovering and documenting **the practice of technical cooperation and capacity development** among developing countries. The case stories will showcase SSC practices and their synergies with the aid effectiveness agenda.

#### What is South-South cooperation?

South-South cooperation can be loosely defined as an exchange of resources and expertise between governments, organizations and individuals in developing countries. Today, more and more developing countries are helping each other with knowledge, technical assistance, and/or investments. This call is interested particularly in *technical cooperation* between Southern partners, involving support through technical assistance, capacity building, transfer of knowledge and technology, etc.

**You are invited to submit a case story** which describes a South-South cooperation activity in a light format of 2,000 words or less (about three pages). The case stories will be featured online and during the High-Level Event (HLE) on South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development in Bogota, Colombia on March 24-26, 2010.

This is an important opportunity to help grow the global knowledge-base on South-South cooperation and to influence the policy making process through highlighting how SSC works in practice.



## Eligibility

This call for cases is interested in all forms of South-South technical cooperation in the context of aid effectiveness, presented by countries, organizations, companies and individuals from the public, private and social sectors. All case stories should fulfill the following criteria:

1. The case story should **address South-South technical cooperation**, including those aiming to foster capacity development, in the context of aid effectiveness
2. The project should preferably **have taken place within the last five years**
3. Case stories should be **less than 2,000 words**—following the guidelines of the entry form
4. The Case Story **should highlight one or more of the following aspects**:
  - Horizontal relations and mutual learning among the involved partners
  - Lessons learned for understanding SSC in the context of aid effectiveness
  - Adaptation of the principles and commitments of the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action
  - Coordination of the activity with the national development planning and aid coordination context
  - Lessons learned on the capacities of the SSC providers
  - Innovative approaches in thematic sectors and modalities, including triangular cooperation
  - Relation to regional agendas of SSC and aid effectiveness
  - Support of capacities to cope with global challenges, for example through capacity development and an improved enabling environment

### Why does capacity development matter to South-South cooperation?

South-South cooperation is a tool for capacity development, i.e. an improved and “good-fit” technical cooperation aiming to create an enabling environment, i.e. a better institutional and human context in which development takes place. SSC is of particular relevance in the context of capacity development, since it creates more choices for support and tends to boost a more horizontal, peer-to-peer cooperation.

### Triangular cooperation: Bridging SSC with North-South cooperation

As a quite under-explored modality, triangular cooperation entails the collaboration between Southern and Northern providers in benefit of Southern recipients. Its multiple expressions (trilateral, regional, multilateral, etc.) have in common that know-how, skills, experiences and resources from North and South are combined.

## How to apply?

There are **two ways to submit a Case Story**. 1) Visit [www.southsouthcases.info](http://www.southsouthcases.info) and fill in the online entry form; or 2) Enter your responses within the attached form, or separate document, and submit via email to: [southsouthcases@gmail.com](mailto:southsouthcases@gmail.com)

Case stories can be submitted in English, French or Spanish. Regional TT-SSC focal points such as the NEPAD Secretariat in the Africa region and the Asia Development Bank in the Asia region will be available to help applicants submit cases, and translate from additional languages.



**Do you know of an interesting example of South-South technical cooperation? Send an alert!**

If you have implemented, participated in or just heard of an interesting SSC activity that you feel would meet the criteria of this call for case stories but you can't write it yourself, please send us an alert. Please send your alerts to: [southsouthcases@gmail.com](mailto:southsouthcases@gmail.com)

## How will the cases be processed?

Based on the above mentioned criteria, all SSC case stories submitted which meet the basic eligibility criteria will become official entries listed on the South-South Opportunity web site. Once all official entries are collected:

- An evaluation team representing deep subject-matter expertise and regional diversity will review all official entries and qualify a pool representing the most complete and relevant entries based on scoring around clearly defined criteria.
- The pool of top quality cases will be translated into additional languages among Spanish, French and English for broader international dissemination
- A selection of top quality cases will be further refined and presented at the Colombia HLE
- During the Colombia HLE, conference participants will review and score the case stories and three SSC People's Choice Award Winners will be named

## Important dates

- The invitation to submit cases will be **open until Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010** at 6:00 pm EDT (New York)
- The top quality case stories will be announced on **February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010**
- A selection of the top quality case stories will be presented at the Colombia HLE on **March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

## Incentives

- The case stories will be featured on the South-South Opportunity web site and at the Colombia HLE—**providing vital evidence to improve high-level policy making**
- A selection of people representing the top quality case stories will be **awarded an expense paid trip to personally present their case** at the Colombia HLE<sup>1</sup>
- Some of the best case stories may be funded for additional research and **development into full case studies** leading up to the IV High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Seoul 2011

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the TT-SSC has achieved funding commitment for these awards, but given complex donor procedures still cannot guarantee that the funds are available on time.



## Important Dates

Open Call  
23-11-09

Deadline for entries  
29-01-10

Regional meetings  
Jan/Feb

Top cases announced  
15-02-10

Bogota HLE  
March 24-26  
2010

IV High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness  
Seoul  
2011

