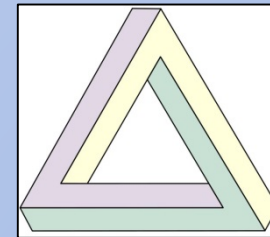




Cooperatives, SSE and SSTC



Anita Amorim
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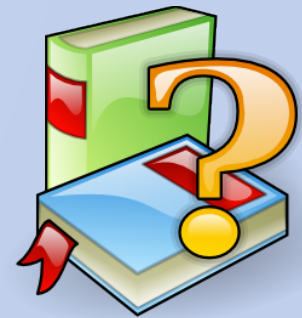
South – South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)

Definition:

- ✓ Partnership among equals involving a learning process or exchange of expertise derived from effective initiatives for development that have been implemented in southern countries.
- ✓ SSTC initiatives can be held in the form of study tours, knowledge-sharing platforms, among others, with the purpose of exchanging resources and technology or facilitating the transfer of knowledge and experience to develop skills and capabilities.
- ✓ SSTC can be carried out between two or more countries from the South and all stakeholders can benefit from the learning process. Implementation can take place at regional, subregional and inter-regional levels.

Objectives:

- South-South and triangular cooperation aims at promoting self-sufficiency and strengthening ties between partners whose characteristics, challenges and areas of opportunity are more equally matched.
- Partners can help each other in numerous vital areas such as social security, labour standards, labour law, social dialogue, human rights, child labour, education, energy, and environment. Moreover they can collaborate on joint advocacy campaigns and other communication activities.



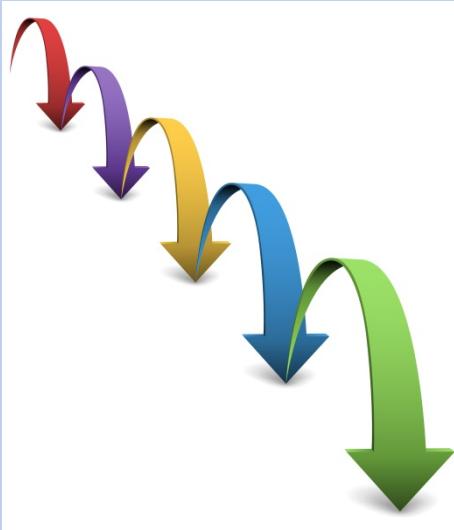
Principles of South – South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)



- ✓ *Respect for national sovereignty and ownership*
- ✓ *Partnership among equals*
- ✓ *Non-conditionality*
- ✓ *Non-interference in domestic affairs*
- ✓ *Mutual benefit*
- ✓ *Mutual accountability and transparency*
- ✓ *Development effectiveness*
- ✓ *Coordination of evidence-and results-based initiatives*
- ✓ *Multi-stakeholder approach.*

SSTC Process

✓ Needs-matching



- ✓ Stakeholder Consultations
- ✓ Project Design
- ✓ Monitoring and evaluation
- ✓ Implementation
- ✓ Knowledge
- ✓ management &
- ✓ information sharing

SSTC and SSE

- ✓ The innovation component of Social and Solidarity Economy brings it closer to the concept of South-South and triangular cooperation. The idea behind South-South cooperation is that it allows countries to interact at a horizontal level, promoting solutions that are the outcome of an exchange of skills, resources and technical expertise, while promoting solidarity.



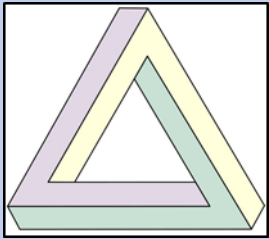
- ✓ The South-South cooperation model is complementary to the North-South dimension, in a dynamic that aims at promoting equality among peoples and democracy among states.
- ✓ Such dynamic can expand the impact of Solidarity Economy in national contexts by building regional and inter-regional networks of knowledge and sharing of experiences. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

SSTC and SSE

- ✓ From an ILO perspective, SSE is both an opportunity to build up cooperation in a South-South triangular context and a means to propagate the Decent Work Agenda. The concept of Decent Work has four pillars, which are the promotion of jobs, the enforcement of rights at work, the increase in social protection and the establishment of social dialogue. Such concept guides the functioning of the ILO as a direct reflection of the common interests of workers, employers and governments.
- ✓ The ILO sees the application of SSE practices as a step forward towards the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda, which, in its turn, is a means to achieving SDG.



Cooperatives and SSTC



- ❑ The presence of cooperatives worldwide and the relevance of their work for socio-economic development are unquestionable today. On trying to fill existing needs in the various fields of society, cooperatives enable people to get involved in a more active and democratic way in decision-making and changes, thus becoming a pole of participation and citizenship.

The outcome of Cooperatives related initiatives through SSTC:

- ✓ Developing, at a local and community level, well-being and quality of life, to fight against poverty, and to promote employment creation and access to education, training, health and credit.
- ✓ Developing a key role in empowering women and stimulating their autonomy and their entrepreneurial and leadership ability
- ❑ SSE, defined more distinctively by the International Labour Organization (ILO), is comprised of “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

Cooperatives Programmes in Turkey

According to 2011 data, there are 84 232 cooperatives comprising 26 different types. These are under the mandate of 3 ministries:

- Ministry of Customs and Trade
- Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock
- Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning

As of 2012, the total number of cooperative members is 8 109 225 that makes 11% of the population of Turkey (9). About 90% of these cooperative members are organized under 8 types of cooperatives.

Great Potential for SSTC



Turkey: Agricultural Development Cooperatives in Turkey and SSTC

ADCs constitute an interesting example of Cooperatives programs which can be replicable through the South – South and Triangular Cooperation.

Mechanism:

- Share of knowledge and experience
- Technical Support
- Funding

Reasons of reproducibility:

- ✓ ADCs Take all kinds of measures to improve the agricultural productivity,
- ✓ ADCs Carry out technical activities for profitable production of agricultural products
- ✓ ADCs Take measures to improve the quality of produce and products
- ✓ ADCS Assist members in financing, provide advance payments proportional to the financial standing of the cooperative and also to the produce/product



Cooperatives Programmes in Brazil

- ✓ OCB – Brazil's Cooperatives Organization, a confederation established by Federal Law No. 5,764, which has promoted the unity of the national cooperative organizations. The other is represented by all those cooperatives which do not feel represented by the OCB and that call themselves authentic cooperatives, given that they are productive organizations organized by and for the workers, also called as Solidarity Economy and Economic Solidarity Projects (EES).



- ✓ These EES derive from 3 institutions – UNISOL, CONCRAB and UNICAFES, respectively: Central of Cooperatives and Solidarity Enterprises; Confederation of Cooperatives of Agrarian Reform in Brazil; and National Union of Cooperatives of Family Agriculture and Solidarity Economy – and represent 32,000 solidary economic enterprises (EES). More recently, these 3 institutions formed the UNICOPAS – National Union of Solidarity Cooperative Organizations.

Brazil's cooperatives related initiatives and SSTC



- ✓ The relations between Brazil and the Southern Cone (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay) are articulated by Mercosur, Southern Common Market, since 1991. (i.e. MERCOSUR SOLIDARIO)
- ✓ Institutionally there are several joint technical initiatives between the ministries of these countries, from a perspective of trade coordination and exchange of organizational technical experience. In the field of Solidarity Economy, the most remarkable experience is the organization of the Cooperative Without Borders) – a joint 34 cooperatives from Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Central America (Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala) and Italy for the purpose of the generation of trade products and strategic cooperation services from the solidarity economy enterprises.
- ✓ One of the most emblematic actions of South-South Cooperation within the Solidarity Economy in Brazil is called the Bi-national Solidarity Chain of PET in association with neighbouring Uruguay. In 2014 involved more than two hundred cooperatives and about nine thousand workers, were still benefiting about forty-five thousand people indirectly.

Cooperatives in Sao Tome and Principe

- ❑ In 2005 the first bio cacao producing cooperative – CECAB/STP – was founded as a result of cooperation through public private partnerships and producers such as PNAPAF, FIDA, KAOKA and NGOs. Based on this model, other agricultural cooperatives were developed. Examples: CECAQ-11 – High quality / bio cacao producing and exporting cooperative; CEPIBA – Bio pepper and vanilla producing cooperative; CECAFEB – Bio coffee producing and exporting cooperative.
- ❑ COOPA Fresco, an association of farmers, and PICA-PAU are two examples of successful cooperatives operating in the fishing sector.



Cooperation beyond frontiers (presence of SSTC):

- ❖ Côte d'Ivoire (fair market), Cameroon and Ecuador (techniques for the production of cacao) and Madagascar (techniques for the production of pepper) show the success of South–South cooperation. In the framework of the CPLP, the sharing of experience in fishing between São Tomé and Príncipe, Mozambique and Cabo Verde is worth being mentioned.
- ❖ Brazil also cooperated in the sharing of experience and training in cultivation techniques. In conclusion, we can confirm that solidarity economy has widely contributed to the progress of São Tomé and Príncipe through both South–South and North–South cooperation. Seminars, training workshops and the sharing of experience in food security in the framework of the CPLP have borne fruit to all CPLP Member States.

Cooperatives Programs in India (AMUL)



- ❑ AMUL, India which is a \$3.5 bn. Dairy cooperative of 6 million farmers. It exists to serve the dairy farmers of Kheda district of Gujarat.
- ❑ Formed in 1946 as a result of the rebellion of the dairy farmers against the then Colonial Government in Bombay which controlled the supply of milk, AMUL's politically engaged leadership stood out for its ability to vigorously lobby the state and national governments.
- ❑ Faced with extreme competition, they convinced the government to enact policies to substantially curb or ban cheaper imports from multinationals, thus enabling India to be self-sufficient through AMUL's 'import-substituting' product development strategy.
- ❑ This allowed AMUL to survive market competition from much bigger MNCs and over time achieve economies of scale and scope, ultimately making India self-sufficient in dairy products
- ❑ POTENTIAL FOR SSTC: India-Brazil Cooperation (ongoing, on SSE and SSTC)

Cooperatives Programs in Ethiopia

Ambo University through its Department of Cooperatives had much south – south and Triangular cooperation development projects funded by the British Council, ILO-CoopAfrica, and comic relief fund.

The University completed a project called England Africa Partnership project which enabled to have a capacity building programme for cooperative stakeholders in Oromia region of Ethiopia.

The Department of Cooperatives had gone for training need assessment among cooperative stakeholders, designed participatory curriculum, developed 18 different modules, and test course / training delivery was made. Another project called Capacity building of smallholder cooperative coffee farmers in Kenya was funded by the ILO-CoopAfrica.



Ethiopia's cooperatives programs and SSTC



□ There are number of evidences for south-south cooperation on strengthening Social and Solidarity Economy of Ethiopia by way of different partnership projects in the field of cooperatives.

□ An ILO South-South and triangular cooperation programme for the development of Social and Solidarity Economy in Africa could be considered, which would be geared towards strengthening institutional and business linkages between helping professional organizations and solidarity-based community enterprises.

SSC and Cooperatives in Africa

- ✓ Mali shows an interesting SSE profile. Some 27,878 cooperatives, 201 mutual societies, 125 social finance institutions and more than 8500 associations have been registered so far. The National Federation of Association of Community Health and the National Federation of Artisans are cooperating in the development of SSE.
- ✓ In Guinea, which created a network for Social and Solidarity Economy, the SSE components represent 45% of GDP and 50% of new jobs. In Madagascar some 28% of people are benefiting from microfinance. In Togo some 307 cooperatives have been created, but 129 are not registered and 29 are technically illegal.

Challenges:

As for regulations governing the ESS, laws on cooperatives, microfinance, associations and NGOs exist in most of African countries. However Africa is lacking support policies facilitating their development. In fact, only a few initiatives supported by development partners and private initiatives are pushing forward the development of SSE. Most of the regulations aim at restructuring the development of cooperatives, mutual organizations and associations as well as improving strategies to reduce poverty and create jobs.

Good Practices in Africa through SSTC

- The areas of co-operation between EA countries and their Southern partners have included infrastructure, health, agriculture, human resources development, and water supply.
- In this regard, co-operation has resulted in major projects including:
 - ✓ South Africa–Kenya—Pan African Infrastructural Development Fund.
 - ✓ Pan African e-network for medical services and human resources where India is an important partner;
 - ✓ India-Tanzania-Uganda dairy Cooperative program where India shares its experiences on improving diary cooperatives with Uganda and Tanzania. TC is also helping to deepen collaboration between Southern states by providing additional resources through partnering with the North

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Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation and the ILO

by Cruciani, Antonio (Italy) & Amorim, Anita (Brazil)

- ✓ “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.



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Social and Solidarity Economy and the IBSA Dialogue Forum
by Dash, Anup (India)



- ✓ **The South is a tremendous source of innovative solutions to development challenges (low-cost, home-grown, community-driven, solidarity-based, and embedded in the local cultural contexts), marking a departure from the earlier paradigm of “Northern medicines for Southern diseases”.**
- ✓ The SSE landscape is filled with these indigenous local inventions across the Global South, IBSA is a good forum to promote SSE
- ✓ Current India-Brazil SSE mission in India: gathering a knowledge base for joint cooperation between universities, SSE institutions and cooperatives (November 2015)

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Gender concerns and Social and Solidarity Finance

by Villarreal, Magdalena (Mexico)

- ✓ SSF organizations live in very complex forms of give and take with capitalist ideas, practices, events and relationships and obviously cannot abandon market-oriented options.
- ✓ Gender concerns are an important issue in Social and Solidarity Finance. Financial inclusion must include women on an equal basis, promoting values and principles that focus on their needs and those of their families. Women are not excluded from “the economy”, in which they in fact play a critical role. However, the nature and scope of their participation tends to be overlooked



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- **Social and Solidarity Economy and South-South and triangular cooperation: Social innovation possibilities from the IBSA Forum (India, Brazil and South Africa)**

by Moraes, Leandro (Brazil)



- ✓ “South-South cooperation is complementary to traditional North-South relations and embodies the idea that “through a spirit of solidarity, developing countries can provide sustainable solutions to their own problems and at a lower cost” ...
- ✓ “South-South cooperation is an important addition to the dissemination of results of Decent Work in the four strategic objectives of the ILO”. “It allows, at the same time, the establishment of networks among developing countries and traditional donors in triangular arrangements, contributing to a fair globalization”.

Conclusions

- ❑ Social and solidarity economy has been recognized on various key occasions by the ILO and in its South – South and Triangular cooperation development
- ❑ Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and its main component (cooperatives) aims at being a model of market exchange among people-centered organizations. This objective allows this type of Economy to be a privileged “locus” for advancing the Decent Work Agenda.
- ❑ Cooperatives seek, on the one hand, resources to guarantee their financial viability, and, on the other one, concrete results to promote sustainable development initiatives.
- ❑ It is important to note that the concept of sustainable development that guides the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 is based upon three pillars: social, economic and environmental. In this context, Social and Solidarity Economy paves the way to a more just process of globalization. SSE is a work in progress that depends on the contributions of actors directly involved with it: especially employers and workers.