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Step-by-Step SSTC



International Training Centre

South-South and Triangular Cooperation can promote decent work for all as well as become a strategic mechanism to promote learning and cooperation to mutually benefit the 2030 Agenda.

This module explains step-by-step how to carry out South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

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South–South and Triangular Cooperation is **demand-driven**, meaning when a stakeholder in a country identifies the need to find a solution to a specific challenge. For the ILO and UN, the key actors of South–South and Triangular Cooperation are:

- Governments and national, regional, and local officials from countries in the South**
- Social partners (employers and workers organizations)**
- International organizations**
- Scientific and technological communities**
- Religious organizations**

- International and regional development banks**
- Foundations and reflection groups**
- Non-profit and civil service organizations**
- Private sector**
- Volunteer groups**

There are fundamental steps for successful South-South Cooperation:



These steps are recommended for the application of all types of South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Step 1

1. Definition of Needs and Stakeholder Inclusion



- Define the **topic** and **results** to which the cooperation will contribute.
- Identify **potential partners** and **actively involve** them in matching needs.
- Sign a **cooperation agreement** or memorandum of understanding, especially if the activities will be carried out over several months or years.
- Identify **sources of funding** (may be bilateral, regional, subregional, etc.). In the case of Triangular Cooperation with funding from the North, this should not be a factor that generates conditionality or interference.

Step 2

2. Elaboration



- Define, together with stakeholders, **strategies** to achieve mutually beneficial results for all stakeholders. Linking the cooperation design to the outcomes of the **Decent Work Country Program** is of utmost importance.
- Partners should **map the process** to achieve the cooperation objectives. That is, establish inputs and outputs, plan activities, and define teams, responsibilities, and timelines. In addition, include budgets and define indicators to monitor progress.

Step 3

3. Implementation



- All partners should act as **active facilitators** in the cooperation process.
- When an unexpected situation arises, all partners should have a **clear understanding** of the situation in order to adapt activities accordingly.
- The implementation process should be **documented** to facilitate subsequent sharing of the knowledge gained.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation



- All stakeholders should be **kept informed** throughout the process and should **be consulted** at all stages of evaluation.
- Monitoring should provide useful information that facilitates decision-making throughout the implementation process and the evaluation should respond to the needs and **interests of all stakeholders**.

Step 5

5. Knowledge and Information Management



- It's very important to **demonstrate** how the objectives were achieved, how cooperation contributed to the objective, and why the activity is a good practice.
- **Knowledge dissemination** plays a key role in promoting South-South Cooperation and international networks.

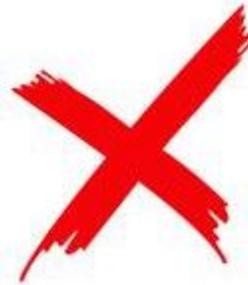


In summary, a South-South and Triangular Cooperation process must be well-planned and organized, but in a highly participatory and horizontal manner. All partners are active facilitators and knowledge dissemination plays a key role.

What **SHOULD** or **SHOULD NOT** be done in South-South and Triangular Cooperation?

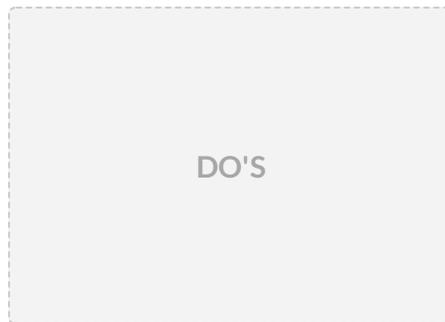


Do's



Don'ts

To see what you should and should not do, try to drag the cards to the correct pile:



<p>Call involved stakeholders "development partners."</p>	<p>Tripartite partner inclusion is of utmost importance.</p>
<p>Allow for revisions throughout the course of the project.</p>	<p>Create communities to facilitate knowledge and information sharing.</p>

Have participatory monitoring and evaluation processes.

Implementation should be a horizontal learning experience for all.

Partners should be the ones who identify challenges and opportunities.

Project design should emphasize participatory processes.

All partners should have a voice.

All partners should participate starting from the beginning of the process.

DON'TS

Call involved stakeholders "donors" or "recipients."

Disseminate knowledge within a limited group of interested individuals.

Transform a traditional North-South project into a South-South Project.

Disregard culturally sensitive contexts.

Carry out the evaluation with consultants applying the North-South approach.

Design the project without consulting the officials or other key stakeholders.

Congrats! This module is complete. Explore the other SSTC mini-lessons.