

Editorial

Development Cooperation Review (DCR) in the eighth edition brings forth an assortment of articles that call attention to the variety of country experiences in the evolving development cooperation architecture.

The pool of articles highlight the diversity in country perspectives ranging from Poland to Ecuador. The articles take up case studies, showcase good practices, and explicate challenges that serve as a guide for Southern countries to take on their own development trajectory.

In the first special article, Grzegorz Mazur delves into the legal and institutional challenges faced by Poland towards articulating a development cooperation policy. The article by Shereen Anwar Sherif shifts the focus southwards giving the readers a kaleidoscopic view of Egypt's engagements with its peers in South-South Cooperation (SSC) and presents the case of the Cairo-Cape Town Highway as a good practice. In the third special article, Ousmane D. Mahamane Anouar critically reflects upon the areas of cooperation between China and African countries. Anouar draws upon the nuances and critiques of Sino-African relations pushing for African countries to take ownership in their own development, which Anouar asserts can be complimented by external partnerships. In the fourth special article, DCR takes cooperation to the southern cities in a contribution by Maria Cristina Molina Galarza, which draws upon the role of local governments towards achieving the goals of Agenda 2030. The focus here is on the Ecuadorian city of Cuenca and its aspirations to meet the target of SDG 11 through increased South-South and Triangular Cooperation efforts. Galarza presents the readers with a pilot development initiative of Cuenca which resulted in the creation of a framework, serving as a guide for Southern cities in meeting their development goals.

Bangladesh-India partnership has evolved and grown multi-fold over the years. DCR this time bring out a brief account of the bilateral partnership by Ambassador Harsh Vardhan Shringla during his appointment as High Commissioner to Bangladesh. Ambassador Shringla is now appointed as Ambassador of India to the United States of America. He sheds light on India's cooperation with Bangladesh focusing on three modalities under the Development Compact, namely, capacity building, grants and lines of credit.

In the ongoing section of Lexicon and Syntax of Development Cooperation, Milindo Chakraborti in 'Sustainable Development Goals - an Access Perspective', delves into the multi-dimensional nature of poverty between the national and international levels determined by the lack of access to basic resources. Wherein, deprivation in access to resources at the individual and household level needs to be taken into account for an inclusive approach towards the establishment of a database of indicators for the SDGs, this augments the proverb, 'a chain is as strong as its weakest link.'

In the Book Review section, DCR takes up a study by Mihir Kanade, namely, 'The Multilateral Trading System and Human Rights: A Governance Space Theory On Linkages'. Reviewing the work, Pratyush Sharma brings Kanade's perspective to the fore as it attempts to fill a theoretical gap between the WTO-led trading system and the United Nations centred human rights regime.

The report section presents a brief on the first edition of the Paris Peace Forum held from 11 to 13 November, 2018 in Paris. Amika Bawa and Kartikeya Dwivedi detail the event, bringing out nuances from the flagship session called Dialogue of International Organisations on Global Governance, along with the selection of the Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) as a good governance project that uniquely contributes towards capacity building and knowledge exchange in SSC. The Forum reflects the simultaneous interactions between peace-creating prosperity and prosperity inducing peace, taking a multi-stakeholder approach towards peace-building and good governance.

SSC in statistics underlines the growth in resource flows to the South primarily due to an increase in South-South investment flows, followed by a surge in remittances since 2000.

DCR provides a glimpse into RIS/ITEC course on Learning South-South Cooperation, held from November 12 to 23, 2018, aimed towards providing the participants with a nuanced understanding of the various facets of SSC.

Development Cooperation Review solicits comments and feedback from its readers and invites policymakers, officials, researchers, academics and practitioners to contribute to the forthcoming issues.