

Editorial

Development Cooperation Review (DCR) brings its second volume forward continuing the aspiration to capture holistic narratives around development cooperation and contributing towards the sharing of knowledge on theorisation, empiricisation and documentation of South-South Cooperation (SSC). This edition presents a set of articles discussing key issues that were underlined at the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) to chart the way forward for SSC post-BAPA+40.

Gulnaz Atabaeva in her paper titled, 'South-South Cooperation and Central Asia: Efforts towards the Achievement of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development', presents a case for strengthening SSC in Central Asia. She asserts the need for a collective regional and global commitment to meet the targets of the SDGs. The paper also discusses the unique capacity of SSC to ensure knowledge and technical flows as imperative to meet the real-time demands of developing countries. Jordi Ramirez Orihuela illustrates upon this unique nature of Southern cooperation in a project between Peru and India for the exchange of 'know-how' in the energy sector. In the paper, 'India-Peru Cooperation: Sharing Knowledge on Liquid Petroleum Gas', Orihuela details the institutional and management framework of the bilateral project between Peru and India, which was initiated to meet the targets set under SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy) and improve the safety of liquid petroleum cylinders. The paper elaborates on the need for a two-way flow of knowledge and capacity to ensure the sustainability of initiatives and projects that 'leave no one behind'.

BAPA+40 emphasised upon the need to capitalise on the unique capabilities and comparative advantages of all countries, developed and developing, to address common goals and challenges. One such model that has emerged overtime is of triangular cooperation. Karin Costa Vazquez, Mak Khan & Artemy Izmistiev in the paper, 'Innovating Triangular Cooperation' shed light on the evolution, technical advantages and multiplicity in the working definitions of triangular cooperation. In doing so the paper highlights the lack of conceptual clarity in respect to triangular cooperation and presents innovative models for taking forward an approach that accommodates the views from the South.

Ambassador Akhilesh Mishra, provides a brief account of 'Indian Development Assistance in Maldives'. The perspective is a glimpse into the multifaceted nature of India's development cooperation highlighting various projects that address the development needs of Maldives, ranging from health and education infrastructure to training centres and capacity building.

In this edition, Amika Bawa & Kartikeya Dwivedi review the first Independent Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation published by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. The review highlights that the report presents a comprehensive collection of SSC and explores measures towards scaling up South-South and triangular cooperation to strengthen cooperation for development. The review reiterates for the need to address key issues Post-BAPA+40 that demand further deliberations among all stakeholders and detailed analysis from a Southern perspective, which is essential to take SSC forward.

The section on SSC in Statistics draws attention to the increase in Intra-Regional Trade among BIMSTEC countries. Sushil Kumar underlines that the trade performance of BIMSTEC, a sector-driven organization, shows a higher compounded annual growth rate between 1997 and 2017, compared to trade amongst EU and NAFTA countries.

As DCR moves into its second year, it invites policymakers, officials, researchers, academics and development practitioners to contribute to the forthcoming issues to share their ideas, experiences and concerns vis-à-vis development cooperation.