
Your Excellencies, Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues,

I very much appreciate being part of this policy dialogue on South-South, triangular and decentralised cooperation, and having the opportunity to contribute to this panel from the perspective of GTZ, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation. I am speaking from the point of view of a bilateral implementing agency, as a practitioner, not as a politician or as a government representative.

In my short input I will refer to the following topics

- I) What is the origin of the increasing importance of South-South or triangular cooperation?
possible 'complementarities' between South-South and North-South cooperation?
- II) What can we do in order to make these new forms of cooperation most effective and efficient? Here I will refer mainly to the example of the Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI).
- III) What is the role of 'the North', for example of a bilateral agency such as GTZ, in these new South-South or triangular network approaches?

I) What is the origin of South-South and triangular cooperation, what are the specific contributions and what are the 'complementarities' between the new actors in South-South cooperation and so

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Is 2008 TFD 00012019 (s35/25) 7.35.0710 is organised. We should not fall into the same trap we fell into with budget aid. Budget aid is as a matter of general principle not a better nor more effective mode of development cooperation, either. It is only suitable in specific circumstances (for example when money, and not capacity or know-how, is the problem) and only if certain conditions are met (like good governance, transparency, checks and balances etc.). When it comes to different modes of development cooperation, there is no better or worse; the issue is rather one of complementarities, and what fits best in which contexts?

It is therefore worthwhile defining the purposes



III) The role of the bilateral GTZ in this new South-South network approach

In this case GTZ is acting as a mediator and facilitator, not as a bilateral advisor.

As we can see from the example of AFI, peer learning plays a key role. How can we successfully learn together? How can experiences be transferred into learning? What are the methodologies for successful learning? How can we support innovative and results-based mechanisms that allow several participants to increase joint learning and further enhance desirable structural changes within their own country or group? For all of these methodological questions, GTZ possesses a wealth of practical experiences, instruments and knowledge that we can provide to these new networks and arrangements. Furthermore, GTZ is closely aligned with its partners and has been cooperating with members of these new networks on the basis of trust and respect for a long time. We can also make these practical cooperation experiences available.

As a bilateral agency GTZ supports South-South cooperation in several ways. As the example of AFI has shown, this also helps create multilateral networks of global dimensions.

IV. Concluding remarks

There is no need to be 'afraid' of the 'new actors' and new forms of development cooperation. We should not focus so much on the issue of how these new actors can best be harmonised with what has been defined in the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA). The Accra Agenda for Action is not the end of the story. Rather than defining new aid architectures and bureaucratically controlled modes for delivering aid, we have to allow for competition of ideas and innovations, in order to identify effective forms of international cooperation for sustainable development in a new multipolar world order. Those new forms have to reflect better the interests of all parties involved and have to move beyond traditional development policy. In this context the so-called 'South-South' and triangular cooperation arrangements will play an important role. They offer new ideas and innovations, which should be jointly used. We see this as an important step toward broadening the understanding of 'development' and toward increasing awareness of the need for 'aid effectiveness'.

Thank you very much for your attention.