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DÍA DE LA COOPERACIÓN SUR SUR

ANNUAL MEETING OF EMERGING DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS (EDPS)

Quindío, Colombia.

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AGENDA

9:00 – 9:20 | Opening remarks

9:20 – 9:30 | Objectives of the meeting and links to parallel events

9:30 – 9:35 | Official photo

9:35 – 9:50 | Introduction to the EDP Network and Thematic Working Group Sessions

9:50 – 10:35 | Session 1: Strategies of Developing Countries

10:35 – 11:35 | Session 2: Statistics and Evidence-Based Policy Formulation

AGENDA

11:35 – 12:35 | Session 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

12:35 – 14:00 | Lunch

14:00 – 14:45 | Open Dialogue: Recommendations and Priorities of the Countries

14:45 – 15:30 | Closing session

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MAURICIO JARAMILLO JASSIR

Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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ELEONORA BETANCUR GONZÁLEZ

Director - Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia APC Colombia

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SIDIKA ZEYNEP ORHUN GIRARD

Chief, Capacity Development and Partnerships Section - Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Capacity Development Agenda for Emerging Development Partners in Asia and the Pacific and beyond

Second Meeting of Emerging Development Partners

10 September 2025

Zeynep Orhun Girard

Chief, Capacity Development and Partnerships Section

Strategy and Programme Management Division

ESCAP

ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

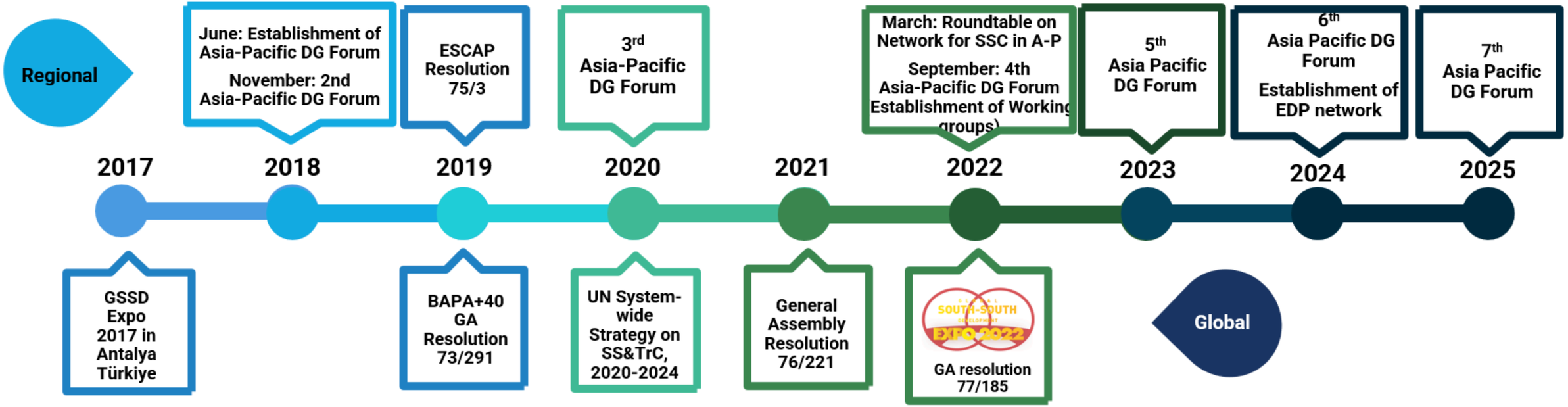
"The mandate of ESCAP, as provided by the United Nations General Assembly, is to promote regional cooperation on sustainable development among the countries of Asia and the Pacific. Therefore, South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTrC) are part of our DNA. They underpin our research and analysis, our intergovernmental and normative work, and technical assistance programmes."

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and
Executive Secretary of ESCAP

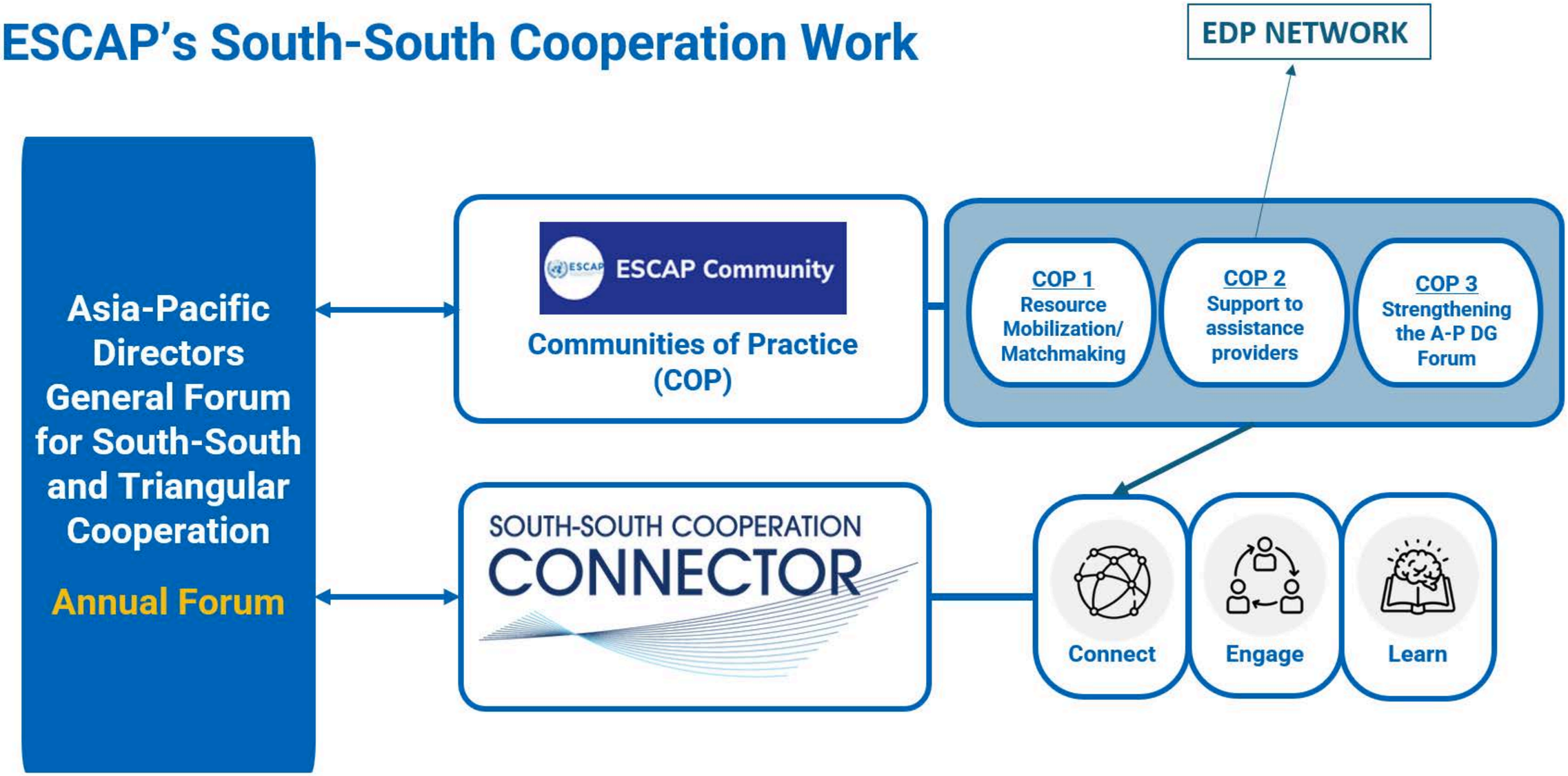
South-South Cooperation Milestones

Asia-Pacific Directors General Forum

- The Only regional platform of its kind that annually gathers heads of development cooperation and SSTrC agencies of member States in Asia and the Pacific
- **Objective**: to set the agenda around their priorities and allow for deepening exchanges among technical cooperation agencies from around the region.
- **Key components**: plenary sessions, breakout sessions, bilateral meetings, exhibition, and field visits.



ESCAP's South-South Cooperation Work



Capacity development for EDPs

- Discussion paper *"Towards a Capacity Development Agenda for Emerging Development Partners in Asia-Pacific and beyond" was developed*, which presented 5 key areas, based on the outcome of the 5th Asia-Pacific DG Forum on South-South & Triangular Cooperation in November 2023.
- During the EDP brainstorming event on 25 November 2024, members agreed on four priority areas.
  - Priority area 1: Developing country strategies
  - Priority area 2: Structuring funding for technical assistance
  - Priority area 3: Statistics and evidence-based policy making
  - Priority Area 4: Monitoring and evaluation & International norms, standards and frameworks

4 Areas of capacity development

1. Developing country strategies – ESCAP lead

- Conducting country assessments, taking into account local needs including communities and NGOs
- Developing country strategies, including sector-based country strategies and priorities
- Implementing strategies through funding and technical assistance

2. Structuring funding for technical assistance – TICA lead

- Substantive training on various funding and technical assistance options (e.g., loans, grants, etc.)
- Strategic review of mix of options and their implementation by technical cooperation agencies themselves
- Peer-to-peer exchanges with other technical cooperation agencies on funding and technical assistance structures

3. Statistics and evidence-based policy making – APC Colombia lead

- Basic statistical training to understand development indicators and descriptive statistics
- Good practices for effective technical assistance in selected areas, e.g., disaster risk reduction, MSME development, etc.
- Defining and measuring South-South cooperation [by geography, sector, etc.]

4. Monitoring and evaluation & International norms, standards, and frameworks – ESCAP lead

- Monitoring and evaluation methods and practices, including the creation of feedback loops to planning
- Knowledge of different types of evaluation e.g., end-of-project evaluation, impact evaluation
- Analysis of value-for-money and cost effectiveness
- **Organized one webinar on 26 June 2025 with JICA**

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Session 1: Developing Country Strategies

Second Meeting of Emerging Development Partners

10 September 2025

Zeynep Orhun Girard

Chief, Capacity Development and Partnerships Section

Strategy and Programme Management Division

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Background and parameters for country strategies

Premise for work on country strategies

- Ensure ownership, relevance, and alignment of support with the needs of partner countries.
- Prerequisite for targeted assistance and sustainable outcomes.

Scope of Work

- Support participating EDPs with the tools and skills to strengthen their approaches to formulating and implementing country strategies for the provision of technical assistance in partner countries.
- Focus on comprehensive country assessments and strategies for development cooperation, including sector-based strategies.
- Cover engagement with local stakeholders, and alignment of assistance with the priorities identified by the partner countries.

Resources

- Existing UN and multilateral assessments can enhance strategic planning.
- More established technical assistance providers with methodologies for developing country strategies.

Proposed activities

- **Repository of Approaches and Methodologies**: A survey of approaches and methodologies on formulating and implementing country strategies among existing EDPs and more established partners, will be conducted by ESCAP. The collected information, including, tools, guidelines, templates etc. will be placed online.
- **In-Person Workshop**: An in-person workshop will be organized. The workshop will offer a platform for peer learning, showcase successful case studies, and provide opportunities for networking among EDPs and established partners.
- **Coaching sessions**: If needed, the in-person workshop can be followed up with virtual bilateral coaching sessions on specific elements of formulating and implementing a country-level strategy with a relevant experienced partner.
- **Online training courses**: Based on the outcomes of the workshop and the information in the online repository, a self-standing online course will be developed for EDP staff to continue to learn from EDPs and more established development partners on formulating and implementing country strategies for the provision of technical assistance in partner countries.

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Discussion points for EDPs

- Feedback from EDPs on the scope of country strategies capacity development work and proposed activities
- Sharing on country strategy practices, strengths and/or challenges

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SESSION 2: STATISTICS AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY FORMULATION

1 Opening the South-South Conversation

2 Energizing the Conversation: Collective Learning Map

3 Shared Path: Closing and Next Steps

1. OPENING THE SOUTH SOUTH COOPERATION CONVERSATION

1. Legal Framework

5/10 Legal frameworks or decrees that make reporting mandatory.

4/10 They have no specific laws, and reports are voluntary.

1/10 Constitutional or sectoral regulations, but without a clear reporting obligation.

1. OPENING THE SOUTH SOUTH COOPERATION CONVERSATION

2. Institutional structure

6/10 Clear coordinating institutions.

4/10 Fragmentation, with multiple entities producing data

Reporting levels

4/10 National and subnational level

6/10 National level

1. OPENING THE SOUTH SOUTH COOPERATION CONVERSATION

3. Reporting systems and tools

5/10 Digitization, with real-time systems

5/10 Depend on manual systems

4. Institutional resources and capabilities

5/10 Dedicated teams, although in some cases small

5/10 Depend on a small number of civil servants who are not exclusively dedicated to this task.

1. OPENING THE SOUTH SOUTH COOPERATION CONVERSATION

5. Common challenges

- Institutional and information fragmentation
- Limited technical capacity and specialized staff
- Lack of mandatory legal frameworks in several countries
- Reliance on manual or non-integrated systems
- Difficulty measuring non-financial cooperation (e.g., knowledge transfer, training)

1. OPENING THE SOUTH SOUTH COOPERATION CONVERSATION

6. Shared opportunities

- Transition to digital and integrated systems
- Train technical teams and standardize methodologies
- Promote regional harmonization using existing international instruments
- Incorporate technological innovation: AI, impact indicators, new monitoring methods

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Digitization, technological innovation, and institutional coordination

Institutionalization and construction of regional frameworks that promote integration

Consolidation of regional platforms

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¿QUÉ NOS MOTIVA HOY A REPENSAR CÓMO MEDIMOS Y REPORTAMOS NUESTRA COOPERACIÓN DESDE EL SUR?

WHAT MOTIVATES US TODAY TO RETHINK HOW WE MEASURE AND REPORT ON OUR COOPERATION FROM THE SOUTH?

2. ENERGIZING THE CONVERSATION: COLLECTIVE LEARNING MAP

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1. WHAT ARE WE REALLY MEASURING?

How do you define priority dimensions for measurement in your cooperation?

What kind of information do you currently collect? (beyond financial flows)

What challenges do you face in advancing toward more comprehensive and transformative measurement that includes projects, human resources, and qualitative results useful for decision-making?

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How do you define priority dimensions for measurement in your cooperation?/ What kind of information do you currently collect? (beyond financial flows)/ What challenges do you face in advancing toward more comprehensive and transformative measurement that includes projects, human resources, and qualitative results useful for decision-making?

MX:
Cooperación técnica
OCDE
Cuantificación de becas
Ayuda Humanitaria.

MX:
Retos Cooperación técnica:
- Cuantificación per diem.
- Importancia en hablar de los resultados de la CSS (transformaciones en las comunidades)

MX:

- Medir y evaluar
- Comunicaciones, reflejar los resultados

UY:
- Participación en diversos espacios y marcos internacionales, medición al desarrollo TOSSD, SIDICSS.
-

UY:
Retos:
- Medición
- Metodologías que se apliquen a nivel regional deben tener sinergias con las otras regiones
- Capturar la información de los gobiernos nacionales

UY:
Avances en pilotos de evaluación - trabajo articulado con México y Colombia.
- Trabajando metodologías propias para aportar insumos a nivel regional.

UY:
Fortalecer los sistemas nacionales de cooperación
- Buenas prácticas en los gobiernos locales (avanzar en la identificación y presentación de estas buenas prácticas)

UY:
Información de calidad

Indonesia:
- Cooperación alineada a sus prioridades nacionales

Indonesia:
- Definición de prioridades según la respuesta de los socios

Indonesia:
- Información de proyectos (actividades, sectores, etc)
- Flujos financieros de Indonesia
- Beneficiarios - participantes, entidades, etc

Indonesia:
- Resultados - intercambios de conocimientos

Indonesia:
Sistemas de colección de datos fragmentados

Indonesia:
- Resultados - intercambios de conocimientos

Indonesia:
Se requiere mayor información para la toma de decisiones

Indonesia:
-Monitoreo y evaluación

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2. DATA THAT MATTERS: PLATFORMS AND SYSTEMS

What tools or platforms do you use to manage and publish SSC and TrC information?

How do you ensure data quality and comparability?

How do you strengthen coordination between national actors and partners to feed and update these systems?

What tools or platforms do you use to manage and publish SSC and TrC information? / How do you ensure data quality and comparability? / How do you strengthen coordination between national actors and partners to feed and update these systems?

Tailandia:
- Sistemas internos y plataformas públicas
- Base central para proyectos
- Informes anuales para compartir

- Uso de indicadores entre ministerios y socios implementadores
- Dificultades en la implementación
- Comparabilidad entre pares

RD:
- Instrumento de equivalencias entre conceptos y variables frente a los sistemas de ONU y la región

RD:
- Cuantificación y establecimiento de prioridades alineados con ODS

- Formación y capacitación a funcionarios y oferentes de Cooperación

-Participación de instituciones y actores locales
- Apoyo de socios internacionales para fortalecer datos
- Informe de monitoreo

-Se nos escapan aún datos
- No hay metodología para asistencias técnica, que las haga comparables y costeables
- No hay obligatoriedad en la generación de reportes

3. BEYOND FINANCIAL RESOURCES: DIFFERENT FORMS OF CONTRIBUTION

How do you capture and value non-financial contributions (technical work hours, knowledge transfer, training, in-kind assistance)?

What methodologies or innovative indicators have you developed—or could be developed—for this purpose?

What good practices can inspire other countries?

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How do you capture and value non-financial contributions (technical work hours, knowledge transfer, training, in-kind assistance)? / What methodologies or innovative indicators have you developed—or could be developed—for this purpose? / What good practices can inspire other countries?

MX: Cuantificación Coop Tecnica (antes solo costo de Oportunidad) Solo cuantificación no valorización (conocimiento)

MX: Discusión profunda para valorar conocimiento, así como el uso de las nuevas TICS

Trascender los indicadores tradicionales (Ej. técnicas aplicadas)

SA: Mismos desafíos para medición de intervenciones (áreas construcción de paz). Si de ayuda humanitaria

SA: Desafío de la sostenibilidad

SA: Evaluación muestra que si hay impacto pero el reto es la sostenibilidad

PERÚ: Acompañar la CSS de marco normativo. Necesidad de medir, visibilizar resultados (transparencia)

PERÚ: Si, medir costos directos. Complejo lo no financiero (conocimiento)

PERÚ: Importancia enfoque multinivel, multiactor, multisectorial

PERÚ: Necesidad de fortalecer la CSS. Acciones político, legal, técnico

(gestión circular)

Reto de la evaluación (una vez concluida la CSS)

TK: Soft power. Estamos en respuesta a esta pregunta con la presencia acá

TK: Hay cosas que no se pueden contar. Por ello "tocar los corazones". Mostrar buenas intenciones hacia el resto del mundo.

Cuentan con sistemas para contar beneficiarios.

TK: Miden las contribuciones al mundo (tocar corazones)

beneficiarios de los proyectos

4. CAPTURING THE COMPLEXITY OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

How do you measure contributions in Triangular Cooperation and make visible the role of each actor?

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How do you measure contributions in Triangular Cooperation and make visible the role of each actor?

ARG: Problemas de medición son comunes

CSS fundamental es fortalecer capacidades

Metodología Evolución Modular (MEM) a disposición

ARG: Rol país en desarrollo invisibilizado (esfuerzo adicional).

Contribución técnica (RR.HH() no se monetiza, eso se ve en procesos de CT

BR: Cuenta con cuantificación (personas, beneficiarios, insumos, investigaciones, patentes), equipos, becas

MX: CT asociación estratégica. Desde Sur identiicar mínimos comunes para reporte de CT. Reflejar espíritu de alianza

CH: CT modalidad debe basarse en la confianza y entre iguales

CH: En Chile se monetiza expertos, se puede mejorar

ARG: En CT depende de modalidades y partners. Sobre esa base cómo medir las contribuciones (caso a caso)

ARG: Desafío sobre visibilización más equitativa. Entre países en desarrollo más fácil / equitativo (más difícil con países DAC)

BR: Incluyen C Trilateral en bases de datos y reportes

MX: Medición más integrada de la CT que visibilice los aportes del Sur (ejemplos claros). Falta de rigor en la captura de datos

CH: Caso a caso (como mencionó Argentina

Países del Sur visibilizar su rol en CT

En Chile, Registro por socio, por modlalidad

Fondos más sencillo para definir aporte (Mx, UE)

CH: En CT Chile hace aporte técnico y financiero. Reto ¿cómo visbilizarlo?

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3. SHARED PATH: CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

Definición y alineación de prioridades

Asegurar que la cooperación responda a **prioridades nacionales y ODS**.

Crear **metodologías comunes y comparables** (costeo de asistencias técnicas, equivalencias de variables, per diem, becas).

Evitar la fragmentación → **sistemas integrados y obligatorios** de reporte.

Calidad y uso de la información

Recolección actual:

Flujos financieros, proyectos, beneficiarios, resultados de conocimiento.

Retos:

Falta de datos consistentes y comparables entre países/regione

Información fragmentada y con vacíos.

Escasa captura de **resultados cualitativos y transformadores** (impacto en comunidades).

Fortalecimiento de capacidades y sistemas

Desarrollar **sistemas nacionales robustos** de cooperación.

Impulsar **evaluaciones y metodologías propias**, con apoyo internacional cuando sea necesario.

Formación de funcionarios y oferentes para mejorar recolección y análisis.

Fomentar la **coordinación entre actores nacionales, locales e internacionales**.

Dar mayor importancia a la **comunicación y visibilización de resultados**.

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Session 3: Monitoring and evaluation

Second Meeting of Emerging Development Partners

10 September 2025

Zeynep Orhun Girard

Chief, Capacity Development and Partnerships Section

Strategy and Programme Management Division

ESCAP

Background and parameters for M&E

Premise for working on M&E systems

- Enhancing evaluation function and capacity can help EDPs improve decision-making, foster learning, and achieve better development outcomes.
- EDPs face challenges due to limited resources, inadequate evaluation capacities and skills or lack of institutional evaluation policy and frameworks.

Scope of Work

- Strengthen policies, strategies, and organizational structures to support evaluation functions within emerging development cooperation agencies.
- Provide training and capacity development for evaluation practitioners and decision-makers.
- Facilitate sharing of evaluation best practices and lessons learned among development cooperation agencies, the United Nations, and other international organizations.

Resources

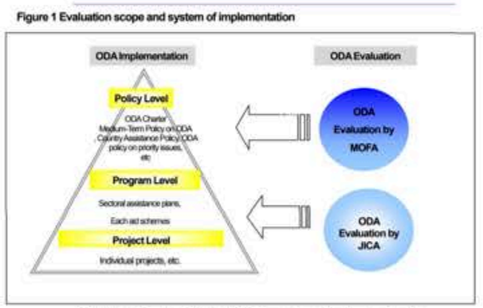
- United Nations Evaluation Group.
- More established development agencies.

Proposed activities

- **Needs assessment** of the evaluation functions of development cooperation agencies of developing countries.
- Conduct **consultations** and surveys to assess the status of the evaluation function, activities and requirements for enhancing evaluation capacities.
- Organize blended (online sessions, combined with in-person sessions) **training workshops** to learn lessons from the experiences of the United Nations and other more established developing cooperation agencies in enhancing the effectiveness of the evaluation function.
- **Short-term on-the-job training** for evaluation officers of emerging development cooperation agencies, e.g., through the ESCAP Visiting Fellows Programme.

Status of activities

- Webinar co-organized by ESCAP and JICA, 26 June 2025.
- In preparation for webinar, a baseline survey and post-webinar survey were conducted, but more detailed responses are needed.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): mainly policy-level evaluation
JICA: mainly project-level evaluation

- Possible tailored support to TICA and other interested agencies on the evaluation function on topics such as:
  - ✓ Evaluation methods
  - ✓ Designing and managing evaluations
  - ✓ Developing monitoring frameworks and indicators

Discussion points for EDPs

- Feedback from EDPs on the scope of M&E capacity development work and proposed activities
- Sharing on M&E practices, strengths and/or challenges

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Open Dialogue Guiding Questions

1. What are some of the best functioning regional or global mechanisms for South-South sharing of knowledge and expertise? What are the success criteria?

2. Are there any institutional or other challenges, e.g., capacity, for your country to engage in South-South and triangular cooperation? What kind of support would you benefit from to be an active SSTrC player?

3. What are priority sectors for your country to receive and/or provide technical assistance? How do you find the right source of technical assistance?

4. What are common issues for EDPs that you would like to see reflected and addressed in regional and/or global discussions?

CLOSING SESSION

Dima Al-Khatib – Director (5 minutes), UNOSSC, highlighting the Office's commitment to leveraging and promoting coordinated efforts with the countries of the Global South.

Selection of the host country for the 2026 EDP Meeting

Identification of key messages for the Day of South-South Cooperation

Summary and closing of the event

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DIMA AL-KHATIB

Director - United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

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