



MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN



SPANISH AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CO-OPERATION

AECID's APPROACH AND EXPERIENCE IN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Presentation in the Small Group discussion
“Triangular co-operation – opportunities and challenges” (Gr. A-Capacity)

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Points covered in presentation

1. What is triangular cooperation for AECID?
2. Spain's triangular co-operation: background, main objectives and selection of operations
3. Engagement of partner countries
4. Main challenges in implementing triangular cooperation
5. Monitoring and evaluation of AECID's triangular co-operation?
6. Next steps

1. What is triangular cooperation for AECID?

- A brief note of conceptual clarity: the term “triangular cooperation” is used to describe many different types of joint cooperation (NNS, NSS, SSS,...).
- For AECID, triangular cooperation is, primarily, **one way in which we support inter-governmental South-South Cooperation** between partner countries:
 - For AECID, it is not a subcategory of South-South cooperation
 - Nor is it just another channel for North-South cooperation
 - It is an **intermediate space or nexus between both types of cooperation**
- Other ways Spain supports SSC:
 - Ibero-American Cooperation (Programs and Annual Report)
 - Support to Task Team on SSC (WP Aid Effectiveness)

2. Spain's triangular co-operation: background and main objectives

Background

Favorable policy framework:

- III Master Plan of Spanish Cooperation calls for increased triangular cooperation, particularly with middle income countries
- AECID's Management Contract commits the institution to advance towards this goal

External factors that support increased AECID activity in this area:

- The incorporation of **South-South cooperation in the aid effectiveness agenda**
- The **Ibero-American Cooperation system** has involved continuous contact with Latin American cooperation directors, opening up numerous opportunities to get involved in existing horizontal cooperation initiatives (i.e., Haiti)



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Objectives of Spain's triangular cooperation

- **Overall objective:** *provide support to development efforts of a partner country/countries in collaboration with a middle income partner country*
- **Specific objectives:**
 - Contribute to strengthening the capacity of Southern cooperation providers (and recipients)
 - Encourage horizontal collaboration between 2 or more partner countries
- **Emerging principles:**
 - AECID seeks deep partnerships that go beyond merely filling funding gaps
 - Actions should incorporate principles of aid effectiveness as much as possible (respecting different perspective of partners)

Selection of AECID Triangular Cooperation Operations in LA

Name of project/program	LA partner-provider	LA partner-Recipient	Sector	AECID contribution
<i>Rehabilitation of water supply systems</i>	Mexico	Haiti	Water and sanitation	Co-financing and technical support
<i>PROHUERTA –Promotion of production of fresh produce</i>	Argentina	Haiti	Multi-sector, particularly food security	Funding and technical support
<i>Program for investments in mid-size cities in water supply</i>	Brazil	Bolivia	Water and sanitation	Technical support
<i>Training of forest rangers</i>	Chile	Haiti	Environmental protection	Co-financing
<i>Strengthening Public Administration in Central America</i>	México	Central America and Caribbean	Governance	Technical support and training

3. Engagement of partner countries

- Normally triangular cooperation is initiated because Latin American provider contacts AECID to engage it in existing program agreed with “recipient” partner with which AECID has established cooperation.

– Example:

Haiti (Rec.) ↔ Argentina/Chile (Provider)

↳ AECID





- In some cases, AECID and LA provider are working in similar area and decide to combine forces, in agreement with recipient partner(s).

– Example:

AECID
Mexico (Provider) ⇒ Central America
(public admin.)

- Since 2009, AECID seeks to develop broad framework agreements with main LA providers to facilitate longer-term commitments, reduced transaction costs and greater predictability of resource flows

4. Main challenges (1) (SWOT analysis of AECID experience)

Strengths 	Opportunities 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Positive synergies between TC projects and other AECID activities</u> - Possibility to put to learn from <u>best practices and know how of Latin American partners</u> - <u>Linguistic and cultural proximity</u> facilitates exchange of experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Transform classical cooperation</u> with middle income countries - <u>Coordination with other donors</u> engaging in this field - Provide <u>content to “strategic partnerships”</u> Spain has established with LA countries.
Weaknesses 	Threats 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Recipient country participates insufficiently in identification, design and execution</u> - <u>Internal coordination in AECID needs to be strengthened.</u> - <u>Weak on-the-ground presence</u> of LA providers - Difficult to <u>adapt different procedures</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Complex operations</u> require much resources and time - <u>Foreign policy interests</u> may have excessive influence - <u>Harder to adjust</u> when situation in recipient country changes. - <u>Recipient may lack adequate national plan</u>



Main challenges (2)

- Go beyond increasing number of discrete operations to **more strategic approach** (framework agreements)
- Support **strengthening of capacities** to manage triangular cooperation in providers and recipients
- **Systematize lessons** learned (M&E: see next slide)

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

- M&E has been done **mainly at the project/program level**
- **Need to systematize** these efforts; important to have a unit specifically dedicated to this modality
- **SEGIB report** (*Cooperation in Ibero-America*) is key **opportunity to bring together information** to have a more complete overview of AECID's activities in this area
- AECID supports **Ibero-American Program to strengthen capacities in SSC** which is a potentially useful mechanism for joint monitoring and evaluation efforts.



6. Next Steps

- **Maintain and increase dialogue** with Latin American partners (through bilateral commissions, seminars, workshops, etc.)
- Sign **framework agreements** with main LA providers
- Open **new avenues for Spain-LA-African triangular cooperation**
- Prepare document with **strategic and operational guidelines** (a preliminary version was drafted in May 2009)
- Contribute to international discussions (Ibero-American community; Task Team on SSC; UNDCF; 2010 HLM in Colombia...)

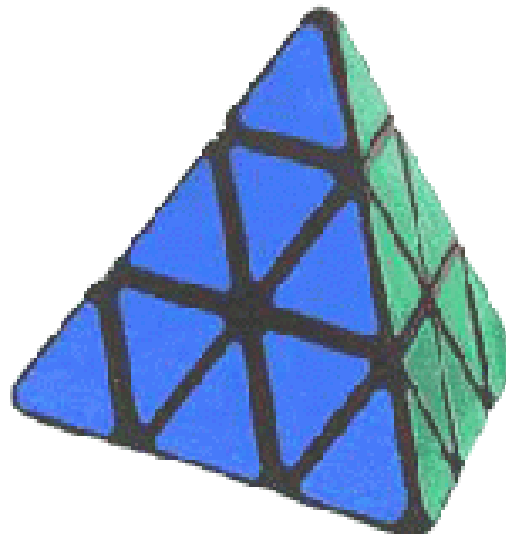


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THANK YOU



MUCHAS GRACIAS

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