

**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

Cancels & replaces the same document of 12 June 2013

Policy Dialogue on Triangular Co-operation (16-17 May 2013, Lisbon)

Emerging Messages and Follow-up Actions

DAC Meeting, 21 June 2013

This Room Document is submitted FOR INFORMATION under item 6 of the draft annotated agenda [DCD/DAC/A(2013)9].

It presents messages emerging from discussions at the Policy Dialogue on Triangular Co-operation that took place on 16-17 May 2013 in Lisbon. It also lists the follow-up actions agreed at the meeting.

Modification to Annex.

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1. The OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD) and the Camões – Institute for Co-operation and Language (Portugal) co-hosted a Policy Dialogue on Triangular Co-operation on 16-17 May 2013 in Lisbon. A previous policy dialogue meeting on triangular co-operation was co-hosted with the Mexican government on 28-29 September 2009 in Mexico City [DCD/DAC(2009)45].

2. Representatives from all constituencies involved in triangular co-operation participated in the Policy Dialogue: DAC members, providers of South-South co-operation, developing countries and international organisations. In total, the meeting brought together 69 people from 24 OECD member countries, 19 developing countries and 4 international organisations to share experiences in triangular co-operation (see Annex for the list of participating countries and organisations).

3. Discussions were informed by recent analytical work carried out by the DCD in collaboration with a broad range of partners, namely:

- A literature review [DCD(2013)4], up-dating the 2009 study “Triangular Co-operation and Aid Effectiveness”.
- A survey report based on responses from 73 countries and organisations [DCD(2013)3].
- The conclusions from an informal brainstorming meeting with 24 experts with in-depth knowledge and practical experience of triangular co-operation.

4. These three pieces of work map the current “state of play” in triangular co-operation. Participants felt that this work makes an important contribution to filling the gap in analytical work on triangular co-operation. The findings emerging from this work resonated well with participants.

5. The Policy Dialogue provided an opportunity to build consensus on the main characteristics of triangular co-operation. Some of the messages emerging from the discussions are:

- Triangular co-operation is a type of co-operation that focuses on development, promotes a sharing of knowledge and development solutions for capacity development and poverty reduction, and involves partners playing three types of roles – facilitators, pivotal countries and beneficiary countries – sometimes simultaneously.
- Triangular co-operation is an innovative instrument that reconciles North-South and South-South co-operation. However, as a modality, triangular co-operation should not be seen as a substitute for bilateral co-operation.

6. There was also emerging consensus that good triangular co-operation promotes sustainable development results through a sharing of knowledge and development solutions that would not be possible through bilateral co-operation. Good triangular co-operation thus complements bilateral co-operation. Some of the necessary elements for good triangular co-operation discussed at the meeting include:

- Good triangular co-operation should be based on a common development objective, on mutual learning among partners, and on adaptation of knowledge and experiences to local context.
- Partners should be strongly committed and actively involved in the initiative, with beneficiary countries in the lead. Partners should also bring sustained political buy-in to triangular co-operation.
- Good triangular co-operation should be based on mutual respect, trust and shared responsibilities.

- Some elements that can contribute to good triangular co-operation are: clear division of roles and responsibilities; common agreement on planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and funding mechanisms; and strong communication among all partners.

7. Participants recognised that there is currently little tracking, monitoring and evaluation of triangular co-operation. They agreed on the need to fill this analytical gap, as well as to promote the exchange of experiences on different mechanisms for promoting and funding triangular co-operation. These are areas where the international community could do more work.

8. Seven areas for follow-up were identified:

- Tracking triangular co-operation flows
- Producing case studies on triangular co-operation
- Promoting further monitoring and evaluation
- Sharing information on mechanisms for promoting triangular co-operation
- Sharing information on funding mechanisms that can support triangular co-operation
- Analysing the role of the private sector in triangular co-operation
- Disseminating the messages of this meeting to a broader audience

9. Different countries and organisations volunteered to lead the work under each follow-up area. DCD offered to monitor implementation of these activities. DCD will also assess the need for another policy dialogue in 2014, possibly back-to-back with an international event.

10. The conclusions of the Policy Dialogue will be presented at the next meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (11-12 July 2013) with a view to encouraging debate and joint action in the area of triangular co-operation.

ANNEX: PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS

OECD Members	Non-OECD Members	International Organisations
Australia	Armenia	Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
Austria	Bangladesh	Organisation of American States
Canada	Benin	UN Food and Agriculture Organisation
Chile	Cambodia	UN Office for South-South Co-operation
Czech Republic	Cameroon	
Finland	Cape Verde	
France	Colombia	
Germany	Egypt	
Greece	Gambia	
Ireland	Guyana	
Israel	Madagascar	
Japan	Mauritania	
Korea	Mozambique	
Luxembourg	Paraguay	
Mexico	People's Republic of China	
Netherlands	Peru	
New Zealand	Republic of Moldova	
Portugal	Uruguay	
Slovak Republic		
Spain		
Switzerland		
Turkey		
United Kingdom		
United States		