

16 January: GPEDC Workshop: Learning from PSE in South-South and Triangular Co-operation

Moderators: Paloma Duran Y Lalaguna, Head of Division, Global Partnerships and Policies, and Ana Fernandes, Head of Unit, Foresight, Outreach and Policy Reform, both DCD/OECD, as well as Stephan Klingebiel, Head Bi- and Multilateral Development Co-operation, German Development Institute

Speakers: Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Center; Zeki Kocaata, University of Bonn; Jing Gu, Director, Center for Rising Powers and Global Development; Vandana Prakash Nair and Jarmila Sarda Souckova, International Trade Center; Rogelio Rodriguez, Development Director, Mexican Retailers Association (ANTAD)

Summary of Session

This workshop kicked off a discussion on what shapes private sector engagement (PSE) through South-South and Triangular Co-operation as input to emerging PSE principles and guidelines to be launched at the 2019 GPEDC Senior Level Meeting. The context of the upcoming BAPA+40 conference made this dialogue particularly timely and relevant, and participants encouraged continued inclusive exchanges on this topic.

Participants welcomed a proposed conceptual framework to classify PSE by emerging economies and agreed with the need for more structured policy dialogue to encourage greater collaboration among diverse partners and to foster common practice to ensure PSE provided by Southern partners benefits the poor and helps deliver on the SDGs. This is relevant in view of the diverse PSE approaches and coordination mechanisms that govern South-South co-operation.

Informed by findings of mini-case studies (China, Indonesia and Turkey), participants shared lessons, challenges, opportunities and knowledge gaps that exist to scale up private sector partnerships leveraged through South-South Co-operation, reaffirming priorities from the study: policy coherence, inclusive ownership, LDC focus, leveraging benefits of co-operation and demonstrating impact. Encouraging trends shared by researchers from China also showed that strategic efforts to improve the effectiveness of its PSE programmes are emerging.

The workshop also explored PSE in triangular development co-operation, which is increasingly linked with financing innovations, such as guarantees and private investments. Participants discussed challenges and opportunities in engaging the private sector in triangular co-operation arrangements – the need to converge interests among diverse partners, to facilitate learning and knowledge sharing, and to prepare projects with all partners thoroughly, building trust at the local level. Participants concluded that PSE in triangular co-operation could benefit from greater collection of data and information and discussion on more structured impact measurement.

