



# South-South in Action

South-South and Triangular  
Cooperation on Peace and Development



# **South-South in Action**

## **South-South and Triangular Cooperation on Peace and Development**



**United Nations**  
Office for South-South Cooperation

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# Executive Summary

At the start of 2019, the world entered its fourth year of collective action toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The global vision laid out in the 2030 Agenda placed peace, prosperity and partnership at the heart of its mission. At this crucial time, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is delighted to present this publication: “South-South in Action on Peace and Development”, which highlights the depth and breadth of South-South and triangular cooperation experiences in promoting peace and inclusive development.

Through the selection of 21 case studies, this publication will showcase diverse South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives promoting durable peace and inclusive development.

Chapter 1 will introduce policy frameworks consisting of multilateral agreements, resolutions and declarations relevant to the emerging field of “South-South and triangular cooperation on peace and development”. Chapter 2 comprises 21 case studies of Southern collaboration for peace and development, all outstanding and impactful initiatives oriented towards preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict in the Global South. Chapter 3 will offer insight into the way forward for converting promise into action through expanded partnerships, visibility and lessons learned in the field of South-South cooperation for peace and development.

# Acknowledgements

UNOSSC would like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of all parties involved in compiling this publication.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Cecilia Milesi, UNOSSC Senior Adviser on South-South Cooperation on Peace and Development and Marina Caixeta, South-South Cooperation expert consultant. As a research team, they supported UNOSSC and partners in collecting South-South cooperation case studies, undertaking a dedicated and meticulous exercise in coordination with several teams working around the world. Marina Bolfarine Caixeta, South-South Cooperation expert consultant, who has supported UNOSSC and our partners in collecting South-South cooperation case studies, undertook a dedicated and meticulous exercise in coordination with several teams working around the world. We would also like to thank UNOSSC colleagues who supported the overall process. Without them this would have been an impossible task: we extend our special thanks to Michael Stewart, former UNOSSC knowledge consultant, who contributed important ideas in the inception phase of this report; Lauren Hess, UNOSSC intern, who provided inspiration and support in the initial phases of UNOSSC efforts to support South-South Cooperation on Peace and Development; Charlotte Weekly, UNOSSC intern, who helped undertake the final review of this publication and all those colleagues involved in supporting procurement, editing, design and printing of this publication.

Further, we want to express our special appreciation to the peer-reviewers of Chapter 1: the members

of the Global South Thinkers on Peace and Development group, Meryem Aslan (Oxfam Turkey) and Amanda Lucey (Oxfam South Africa). We share special thanks to Patrice Chiwota, Senior Programme Adviser at the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), who kindly shared his insights and comments concerning the UN Sustaining Peace agenda and important UN resolutions pertinent to this publication.

Finally, the most important recognition is to UNOSSC partners who proactively worked with Marina Caixeta and Cecilia Milesi, to devise the final case studies included in this publication. They engaged with passion and commitment, providing extra data and supporting the research team in the process of final revision and approval of all the important material included in Chapter 2.

The partners who accepted UNOSSC invitation to be part of this “South-South in Action on Peace and Development” are listed below. We recognise that they work with many national and regional partners, including national authorities, regional organizations, other key stakeholders and communities with the aim to promote durable peace and inclusive development. We extend our admiration and respect to everyone directly and indirectly involved in the delivery of the projects and programmes presented in this “South-South in Action on Peace and Development”. We hope that this publication creates more opportunities for them to continue succeeding in their daily work despite the multitude of challenges they face.

## Partners<sup>1</sup> to this publication



### Argentina - FO.AR & the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF)

The General Directorate of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (DGCIN) coordinates the Technical Cooperation of Argentina with countries, regional platforms and international organizations all around the world, formulates strategies of cooperation, participates of the respective negotiations, and carries out the follow-up and evaluation of bilateral, triangular and regional projects. The Directorate is also responsible for promoting cooperation with regional commissions and multilateral agencies of the United Nations System, participating in the development of technical cooperation projects and activities with its subsidiary bodies, agencies and organizations. In order to and implement international cooperation initiatives, Argentina created the Argentine Fund International Cooperation (FO.AR). Throughout its 27 years of existence, the Fund has enabled the development and implementation of over 10.800 international technical cooperation initiatives and projects –bilateral and triangular-, through which our country's government experts and those of our partners work together to exchange, adapt and implement public policies that favour inclusive development, democratic governance, scientific and technical progress, and respect for human rights.



**The Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (Equipo Argentino de Antropología Forense, EAAF)** is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, scientific organization that applies forensic sciences - mainly forensic anthropology and archaeology - to the investigation of human rights violations in Argentina and worldwide.



### Croatia – Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia has a National Strategy for Development Cooperation 2017–2021, which includes South-South and triangular cooperation as an indispensable tool for jointly achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



### Mexico - AMEXCID

The Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) acts upon the Law on International Development Cooperation, passed in 2011. It is a decentralized body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico in charge of coordinating, implementing and evaluating activities related to both incoming and outgoing cooperation. AMEXCID works with specialists and builds strategic partnerships with multi-stakeholder development actors to coordinate Mexico's cooperation efforts in order to reduce inequality, strengthen institutions, enhance the quality of life, and, therefore, contribute to sustainable human development. AMEXCID shares best practices, knowledge, and expertise to strengthen capabilities in developing countries, particularly in Central America and the Caribbean. It also works with key partners to enhance Mexican capabilities, improve institutional frameworks, and generate tangible results for national development.

<sup>1</sup> For this publication, we considered “partners” as those organizations, government departments and UN agencies which accepted UNOSSC invitation to be part of this endeavour and, since then, facilitated the process to organize and collect information included in all case studies together with UNOSSC team. As mentioned in Chapter 1 and the Annex, they are partners of previously published UNOSSC publications. A relevant designated person working for each partner organization reviewed and signed-off the final drafts of the case studies. We acknowledge that these partners worked in coordination, consultation and partnership with several offices and other key stakeholders. The full list of organizations involved in each project/ programme delivery is included at the bottom of each case study, along with direct contact details.



**g7+**

The g7+ is an intergovernmental association of countries affected by conflict and fragility, which have come together to support each other in the transition to resilience and the next stages of development; there are 20 Member States from diverse regions, cultures, traditions and historical contexts in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific.



**Turkic Council**

The Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council) was established in 2009 as an intergovernmental organization, with the overarching aim of promoting comprehensive cooperation among Turkic Speaking States. Its four founding member states are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey. Turkic Council is an organization dedicated to strengthening peace and stability, promoting wide-ranging cooperation and disclosing the potential for common development among its member states. By promoting deeper relations and solidarity amongst Turkic speaking countries, it aims to serve as a new regional instrument for advancing international cooperation in Eurasian continent, particularly in Central Asia and Caucasus.



**IOM**

Established in 1951, IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. With 172 member states, a further 8 states holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants.



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

**UNDP**

UNDP works to fit the needs of countries and communities on their development challenges; it works to eradicate poverty in all forms and dimensions, accelerate structural transformations and to build resilience to shocks and crisis.



**UNFPA**

"The Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council) was established in 2009 as an intergovernmental organization, with the overarching aim of promoting comprehensive cooperation among Turkic Speaking States. Its four founding member states are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey. Turkic Council is an organization dedicated to strengthening peace and stability, promoting wide-ranging cooperation and disclosing the potential for common development among its member states. By promoting deeper relations and solidarity amongst Turkic speaking countries, it aims to serve as a new regional instrument for advancing international cooperation in Eurasian continent, particularly in Central Asia and Caucasus



**UNESCO**

UNESCO's mission is to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

# Foreword

South-South cooperation is contributing to preventing conflict and sustaining peace. The 21 case studies presented in this thematic publication are tangible examples of how Southern collaboration for peace and inclusive development is more than just a promise. Multiple southern-led and demand-driven initiatives are adding value to the efforts to realize the global vision offered by the 2030 Agenda and the Sustaining Peace Agenda.

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is committed to contributing to these efforts by supporting horizontal opportunities for mutual learning, involving the great diversity of actors striving to create a world of dignity, peace and freedom for all.

Despite multiple challenges, many countries in the South are creating innovative initiatives to build peace and address the root causes of conflict. As many Global South countries experience similar challenges, they are better positioned to share and support the adaptation of effective alternatives for peace and development. Southern solidarity is a pathway to share options based on mutual respect and empathy.

South-South and triangular cooperation are in a process of constant adaptation to respond to the needs and complex demands arising in an interconnected and multipolar world. This publication provides insights and lessons from practice on how multi-stakeholder partnerships are vital to promote conflict prevention. We hope it provides inspiration, nurturing the emerging field of Southern partnerships for peace and development.

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation stands ready to facilitate and support more and better knowledge sharing for peace and development.

I especially thank all our partners and the team who worked so efficiently to showcase all these South-South case studies with all of you.



**Jorge Chediek**

Envoy of the Secretary-General  
on South-South Cooperation  
and Director, United Nations Office  
for South-South Cooperation

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>BRICS</b>	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
<b>G77</b>	Group of 77
<b>GIZ</b>	German Society for International Cooperation
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organization
<b>OCHA</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>P&amp;D</b>	Peace and Development
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SSiA</b>	South-South in Action
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNOSSC</b>	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation



# Chapter I

South-South cooperation as a catalyst  
of peace and inclusive development

South-South and triangular cooperation is now recognized as a driving force and enabler of a world of peace, equality and dignity for all. Once passive recipients of assistance and support, today Global South actors are proactively and more confidently offering their knowledge, resources and perspectives to shape the multilateral agenda for peace and inclusive development. South-South cooperation on peace and development is an emerging area of Southern-led collaboration with the potential to build on the successes and lessons learned over decades of history of South-South cooperation mainly dedicated to other areas ranging from economic, social and technical collaboration<sup>1</sup>.

With the aim of creating contexts free from fear, instability and violence, several Global South countries and people directly affected by conflict and humanitarian crises, in coordination with regional and subregional organizations, United Nations (UN) agencies, intergovernmental organizations, think tanks and civil society organizations, are innovating and taking risks to collaborate, learn from each other and explore alternatives for durable peace and inclusive development.

The UN System and its agencies are more committed to facilitating and promoting South-South cooperation, identifying ways in which the experiences of Southern actors can be leveraged to create more effective and transformative pathways to peace. They also recognized past flaws, when working for peace was, sometimes, to the detriment of legitimate solutions relevant to the local context, regional organizations and actors. As part of the UN family, the United Nations

<sup>1</sup> For chronology and history of South-South cooperation please refer to: <https://www.segib.org/wp-content/uploads/Chrono-South-South2014.pdf> . For a SSC definition, summary of guiding principles and policy documents see: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-ssct/> & <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/library/policy-documents/>

Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) aims to raise the profile of these efforts, creating opportunities in both on-line and off-line spaces that will serve as catalysts for increased dialogue and equal partnerships for peace and development.

This publication aims, succinctly, to **present policy frameworks** consisting of a number of multilateral agreements, resolutions and declarations<sup>2</sup> -with the hope of raising awareness and enhancing the perception of the United Nations, Member States, intergovernmental organizations and civil society actors in their current efforts to establish more integrated and context-specific South-South initiatives oriented towards sustaining peace.

At the same time, and to link policy and practice, this publication showcases existing experiences of **South-South cooperation on peace and development**. The 21 case studies are intended to highlight impacts, lessons learned, and the implementing partners' own narratives on how each concrete initiative has increased durable peace and development. The cases studies were harvested from the publications, "South-South in Action" and "Good Practices Volume I and II", both flagship UNOSSC knowledge products co-produced with UNOSSC partners from around the world<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> We recognize that policy guidance also derives from many other important frameworks and agreements such as the 2063 Agenda, the outcomes documents derived from Heads of States Summits of the Ibero-American States, the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and many others. In this section, and considering the brevity of space, we focus on policy more directly linked with multilateral United Nations processes/agendas. More diverse policy perspectives are listed in Annex 2 of the research paper "The Case of South-South Cooperation on Peace and Development (P&D)" authored by Dr. Isabel Rocha de Siqueira, BRICS Policy Centre, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

<sup>3</sup> For the full list of UNOSSC publications reviewed to identify SSC on P&D case studies and our partners for this

Chapter 1 focuses on policy frameworks, Chapter 2 presents the collected case studies, which provide an opportunity to learn more about the emerging field of South-South cooperation on peace and development. It is worth reiterating that these examples are not comprehensive nor exhaustive; they are a collection of experiences harvested from existing 17 UNOSSC publications. However, the research team collected supplementary data and information by conducting brief interviews and/or exchange of communications with the partners. We appreciate their dedication and support for this effort. Chapter 3 offers some specific insights into how UNOSSC, in dialogue and active cooperation with its partners around the world, could continue facilitating the emerging and demand-driven agenda of South-South cooperation for peace and inclusive development. The Annex presents the details of the research<sup>4</sup> methodology used to select the case studies included in this report, the sample profile based on some specific characteristics of the case studies.

UNOSSC expects this publication to be an initial example of its long-term commitment to highlighting, supporting and enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation in pursuit of peace and inclusive development at a moment of pressing need, and when multiple and ever more complex forms of violence keep erupting worldwide.

publication, please see Annex.

4 South-South and triangular cooperation on peace and development is an emerging agenda and also a new "field of study". This field of study constantly derived from action, research and narratives of multiple actors, including academia, "experts" in specific thematic area but more importantly, it's a field that should emerge considering the narratives and perspectives of those directly affected by violence, conflict and insecurity

## 1. Policy guidance from the G77 and China, the 2030 Agenda and United Nations Resolutions

In late 2018, the G77 and China<sup>5</sup> put forward a bold joint outcome document stressing the importance of South-South cooperation and dialogue for the promotion of peace and development. In the **2018 Ministerial Declaration agreed by all Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the coalition of 137 Global South developing nations solemnly declared:** *"The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of building a **culture of peace** by strengthening multilateralism and developing friendly relations among nations, based on international law, dialogue, respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and of taking other appropriate measures to **strengthen universal peace and the fulfilment, promotion and protection of all human rights including the right to development**. They recognized that peace not only is the absence of conflict, but also requires a **positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged**, and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation. **They reaffirmed that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development**."*<sup>6</sup>

Through this and other sections, the Declaration provides a policy framework that encourages collaboration and dialogue among Global South

5 The Group of 77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of **developing countries in the United Nations**, which provides the means for the countries of the South to articulate and promote their collective economic interests and enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international issues within the United Nations System, and promote South-South cooperation for development. The full 2018 Ministerial declaration can be accessed here: <http://www.g77.org/doc/Declaration2018.htm>

6 Op. Cit. Paragraph three of the 2018 G 77 + China 2018 Ministerial Declaration.

nations in order to achieve durable peace and inclusive development. While encouraging collaboration, the Declaration stays true to the guiding principles of South-South cooperation, notably, respect for **national sovereignty** and the dynamic **horizontal relations between partners based on mutual support and a spirit of solidarity and respect**. Importantly, this coalition of Global South nations notes the intrinsic interrelation between creating the socioeconomic conditions for human security and peace and vice versa. The G77 and China Ministerial Declaration also emphasizes the importance of addressing the root causes of conflict and invites countries to address the structural drivers of conflict that force peoples and countries to use violent means to achieve their objectives. The policy document seems to indicate that there are no shortcuts to durable peace: countries should work towards addressing the structural conditions that generate violent conflicts. The Global South coalition observes that peacemaking is a multifaceted challenge in which the social, economic, environmental and political

realms must be considered in a holistic and integrated way and in which national ownership is more than a mere motto. The right balancing of all these factors requires a cross-cutting approach and the solid implementation of responses in which all human rights are considered impartially.

It is perhaps no surprise that this outcome document was agreed at a time when multilateral efforts towards the achievement of **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**<sup>7</sup> were creating renewed and innovative partnerships at all levels. South-South cooperation is one of the modalities explicitly recognized as one of the catalysts of the achievement of the SDGs (see Goal 17) and the solid implementation of the United Nations twin resolutions -a backbone of the **UN Sustaining Peace Agenda**<sup>8</sup>.

7 For a full description of the Sustainable Development Goals see UN dedicated website: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

8 For an overview of the so-called “Sustaining Peace Agenda” see the Report by United Nations Secretary-General



In relation to the 2030 Agenda, the G77 and China Ministerial Declaration cited above resonates well with the **2030 Agenda preamble** stating: *“Peace - we are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are **free from fear and violence**. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development”*. As the case studies in this publication demonstrate, the “peace and development” efforts of Member States, UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations are linked to an interrelated series of SDGs<sup>9</sup>. Although SDG 16 is highlighted by most partners as one of the SDGs to which they are contributing, they also list others that are **equally relevant** in their efforts to achieve a life free from fear, violence and instability. Thus, initial evidence emerging from this publication suggests a strong interrelation of multiple factors as the pathways to peace.

South-South and triangular cooperation provide relevant pathways to increase the likelihood of achieving the SDGs and are emerging in a dynamic context where they could support existing efforts towards peacemaking and sustaining peace.<sup>10</sup> In all, it seems that South-South and triangular

cooperation for peace and development represent far more than just a promise of future collaboration.. Here we offer concrete positive examples of Southern-led and multi-stakeholder efforts for peace. This Global South commitment should continue and expand, always learning from practice and the experience of those directly affected by violence.

In relation to the **Sustaining Peace Agenda**, the following paragraphs explore some salient policy guidance provided by the “twin resolutions” and other important UN resolutions. Again, this “breakthrough”<sup>11</sup> policy guidance links well with the lessons learned and impacts briefly presented in the case studies. Those already leading innovative South-South collaboration for peace and development seem to support some of the key messages and consideration of the Sustaining Peace vision to prevent the outbreak, escalation and recurrence of violent conflict.

Firstly, the principled approach of South-South cooperation recognizes the vital need to **adapt policy and programming solutions to the national priorities identified by sovereign member states**, while considering the explicit demand from the Global South member states and their citizens. This is well aligned with the Sustaining Peace agenda which clearly notes that in each context the challenges and dynamics of conflicts are unique and different. Recognizing this “uniqueness”, it is vital to do the utmost to promote partnership, dialogue and mutual support around the priorities, needs and demands of local, national and regional stakeholders. Policy and programmatic options and pathways to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation

António Guterres on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace released in the lead-up to the U.N. General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace held on April 24-25 2018 in New York and in accordance with the UN General Assembly and Security Council “peacebuilding resolutions” (A/RES/70/262 and S/RES/ 2282).

<sup>9</sup> In all the case studies included in Chapter 2, the reader will be able to visualize this interconnection between various SDGs. Also, in the Annex we present an overview on this aspect.

<sup>10</sup> SDG 17 makes explicit mention of South-South cooperation as follows: SDG 17, Target 17.9 “Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation” and SDG 17, Target 17.9.1: “Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries”

<sup>11</sup> An interesting article exploring the Sustaining Peace agenda as a “breakthrough” achievement is the UN’s new “Sustaining Peace” Agenda: A Policy Breakthrough in the Making” which can be accessed here: <https://www.stimson.org/content/un-new-sustaining-peace-agenda-policy-breakthrough-making>.

and recurrence of conflict need to be defined at national and regional levels, with solidarity, coherence and cooperation among those most directly affected by violence, fear and conflict. In short, if the traditional “one-size-fits-all” approach is to be transformed, as proposed in the Sustaining Peace Agenda, then the voice of the Global South countries and their peoples can no longer be dismissed or marginalized in peace processes. A “whole of society approach” and multi-stakeholder dialogue and cooperation is vital for sustaining peace. The case studies suggest concrete ways in which these statements can be put into practice. In a nutshell, the case studies presented in Chapter 2 are examples of attempts to increase coherence, placing value on crucial factors such as “proximity”<sup>12</sup>. Closeness and a solid approach to partnership building are distinguished by the partners as a key component of ensuring durable and legitimate peace. This is aligned with the South-South cooperation principles.

Secondly, it is important to note that the Sustaining Peace twin resolutions encourage all “United Nations leadership to support South-South and triangular cooperation in peacebuilding”<sup>13</sup>. The assembly of nations very clearly invites all UN agencies that serve it to promote peace, security and development around the world by developing a model of work which is truly responsive to the needs and demands of the citizens in the Global South. In this regard, UNOSSC is leading the way in the process of setting up an UN inter-agency

mechanism which will serve as an additional driver of strengthened cooperation across UN agencies, especially in the light of the complexity of interlinked factors in the pursuit of peace and development.

Finally, we would like to highlight two more UN resolutions which make a clear plea to promote Global South leadership in the massive efforts required to promote peace. For example, the resolution “**Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict**” states that “*Learning from the experiences of other countries that have gone through comparable transitions from conflict or crisis can help national authorities decide which approaches to institution-building best fit their needs*”<sup>14</sup>. In the same resolution, there is a call for peacebuilding efforts to benefit from the contribution of neighbouring countries sharing similar socioeconomic characteristics. All the case studies provided in this publication are examples of countries that faced similar problems which, after developing practical solutions, opened up to engage in dialogue and cross-fertilization of ideas and options for peace with other Global South counterparts. UNOSSC is confident that many more examples could be documented as it continues to implement a knowledge generation strategy which supports and facilitates rapid, relevant and forward-looking sharing of lessons in safe, coherent, on-line and off-line peer-to-peer initiatives.

12 Op. Cit. For a more in-depth argument on the relations between South-South principles and approaches and the Sustaining Peace agenda please see: “The Case of South-South Cooperation on Peace and Development (P&D)” authored by Dr. Isabel Rocha de Siqueira, BRICS Policy Center, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

13 See paragraph 44 Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Resolutions (A/72/707- S/2018/43), including examples of how UNOSSC has provided SSC support in various countries.

14 For more details, see paragraph 47 of the resolution “Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict (A/67/499 – S/2012/746) which also gives as good practice, the example of the civilian capacities initiative (CAPMATCH).



## 2. South-South cooperation for peace and development in practice

Beyond policy agreements and resolutions, however, the purpose of this publication is to **reveal that the emergence and consolidation of the field of “South-South cooperation for peace and inclusive development” is a reality.** South-South and triangular cooperation is happening in practice, through multiple, diverse, demand-driven forms of collaboration aiming at sustaining peace by addressing the drivers of violent conflict. **Action seem to be moving faster than declarations.** The case studies are an example of sound and solid peacebuilding, state-building and people-centred humanitarian responses led by Southern actors and developed in many countries of Latin America, Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. Together, they show that,

beyond, above, around and in alignment with the policy guidance presented above, there is a growing number of national, regional and global actors already committed to creating South-South dialogue and cooperation to foster the necessary reconfigurations and mutual learning to sustain peace. This publication is one effort to give visibility to the tangible, transformative and powerful examples of South-South cooperation for peace and development that already exist.

Furthermore, with the creation of Programme “South-South cooperation for Peace and Development<sup>15</sup>”, UNOSSC is responding to

15 For more details on the Programme Theory of Change and initial work please see UNOSSC website: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/our-work/knowledge-and-advisory-services/south-south-cooperation-on-peace-and-development/>

the demands from an increasing number of Member States, UN Agencies, intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, think tanks and civil society organizations which are saying that South-South cooperation must play a stronger role if the world is going to find locally owned, innovative and reinvigorated avenues for sustainable peace. For example, UNOSSC has launched a joint initiative to promote solidarity for peace and development with more than 30 so-called Small States in association with the Commonwealth Secretariat. In the initial open consultations with Member States' representatives,<sup>16</sup> they recognized the unique added value of UNOSSC facilitating horizontal and innovative learning spaces and tools which can bring together Southern actors to share good practices, challenges and solutions in a context of mutual respect and non-conditionality. UNOSSC is also facilitating the formation of a group of Global South think tanks<sup>17</sup> which offer cutting-edge and

relevant knowledge in the peace-development nexus, working closely with Member States and UN agencies to provide expert and timely support to implement transformative peace initiatives. UNOSSC is in dialogue with countries such as Colombia, Rwanda and the g7+ member countries - coalition of 20 fragile states that came together to share experience and knowledge<sup>18</sup> to find the best avenues to leverage the potential of Southern leadership for peace. As UNOSSC establishes the UN Inter-Agency Mechanism to support South-South Cooperation, we are advancing dialogue and coordination with relevant agencies, notably the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), UN-Women, UNESCO, UNDP, OCHA, IOM and others. Through these dialogues and partnerships, UNOSSC aims to support further harnessing of the existing knowledge and experience and contribute to leveraging the potential of Southern leadership for peace.

Examples from practice are showcased in the case studies initially collected for this publication as well as ongoing programmatic efforts guided by the long-term vision of promoting peace and development.

16 For more information about this initiative and results from the consultations in New York and London please see: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2019/01/25/joint-unOSSC-commonwealth-initiative-for-peace-and-development-in-small-states-launched-at-unOSSC/> & <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/12/12/south-south-commonwealth-consultation-forges-a-path-to-peace-and-development/>

17 For more information about the Global South Thinkers on Peace and Development please see: [https://](https://www.ssc-globalthinkers.org/group/9/about)

[www.ssc-globalthinkers.org/group/9/about](https://www.ssc-globalthinkers.org/group/9/about)

18 Up-to-date information on the g7+ membership and work can be found in their official website: <http://www.g7plus.org/>



### 3. Emerging framework to guide the identification of “peace and development” experiences: Brief methodological notes

As the research team initiated the meta-analysis to review the 17 publications to harvest existing documented experiences of South-South cooperation for peace and development, it was necessary to set up an evolving framework to guide the selection of cases from the plethora of examples provided in UNOSSC publications. The key question was:

#### ● WHAT MAKES AN INITIATIVE A CASE OF SSC FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT?<sup>19</sup>

The challenge of working across pillars, beyond thematic (and SDG) silos, and considering the so-called “development-peace-security-humanitarian nexus” is understanding that “there is no peace without development and no development without peace” had a direct impact on the methodology devised for this piece of work and, indeed for the emerging field of South-South cooperation on peace and development. As some partners and peer reviewers noted, the complex interdependence of factors associated with creating a context of peace means that, in reality, everything could be “peace and development”.

Considering this methodological challenge, the research team could not simply work under the assumption that only those experiences directly aligned with the achievement of SDG 16<sup>20</sup> were relevant and should be included in this publication. Thus, recognizing the interrelated

<sup>19</sup> Please see more details of the research methodology in the Annex

<sup>20</sup> For more details about SDG 16 and all SDGs and major framework agreements please access: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg16>

nature of “peace and development”, the theory and practice of peace studies as well as lessons on conflict prevention in the light of the contextual dynamics, the research team developed a set of criteria to support the coherent identification and selection of experiences<sup>21</sup>.

#### The criteria for selection of SSC peace and development (P&D) case studies for this publication is as follows:

- I. Explicit intention to **transform identified root causes of conflict** and/ or drivers of violence, insecurity, instability and crime in a given context(s)
- II. Clear purpose to promote peace during one or more simultaneous phases of the “peace continuum”:
  - **Preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict** – addressing the root causes generating violent conflict, insecurity and instability
  - **Preventing the continuation of conflict:** mediation and conflict/crisis/tensions management
  - **Preventing the recurrence of conflict:** conflict transformation and long-term gains to achieve durable peace
- III. **Partners’ self-assessment on the South-South and triangular nature of the documented initiative:** this means partners’ recognition of the effort as an SSTC endeavour led by Southern actors

<sup>21</sup> It is important to note that the setting up of these criteria was informed by multiple listening exercises conducted by the UNOSSC SSC P&D team over the past months, notable the joint work with the Global South Thinkers on Peace and Development, the consultations with Commonwealth Small States, the ongoing dialogue with specialized UN agencies working tirelessly to support peace around the world and the principled approach of the g7+ countries working under the auspices of the so-called “New Deal for Fragile States”

As the research team reviewed all the UNOSSC publications, they sought to identify whether the documented experiences met all three criteria. After careful consideration, and in dialogue with our partners, it was decided to include the 21 cases<sup>22</sup> described in Chapter 2. The cases are presented as more in alignment with one of the above phases of the “peace continuum”.

To further explore the linkages between “peace and development” and the interrelated purposes and impacts of the case studies, all partners were invited to respond to one common question “which will hopefully shed more light on the challenge of identifying how and why one intervention is directly contributing to peace. This question was:

### ● HOW DOES THIS INITIATIVE CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE?

As the reader will see in Chapter 2, all partners responded to this question. Even though this research process did not request independent findings based on in-depth evaluations to explore the answers in context and through a more objective lens, the responses nevertheless offer interesting insights which can guide future action and research and joint reflection to guide future South-South collaborative work for peace and development.

The research team cautions that this is merely an initial first attempt to define a thematic field in which very rich multi-stakeholder South-South initiatives are evolving. The multi-dimensional and cross-pillar approach oriented towards conflict prevention is slowly but surely emerging. Only with time and by generating systematic opportunities for knowledge generation

from the practical experience of those directly implementing cutting-edge initiatives, will it be possible to continue redefining the “peace and development field”.

Finally, it is important to note, that as the research team reviewed all UNOSSC publications, a good number of cases were found with the potential to be widely shared across regions. These additional examples will be kept in UNOSSC's database<sup>23</sup>, and should soon be available to many Global South countries, based on the demand from countries and with the support from Member States.

UNOSSC recognizes that this is only the beginning of a more in-depth process of self-reflection and mutual learning in which Southern actors involved in South-South cooperation endeavours could share their perspectives and knowledge gained from the concrete lessons gained from practice. By sharing these initial insights in this publication, we hope to inspire all those undertaking or planning South-South dialogues for peace to dedicate time and resources to systematically organize invaluable opportunities to cross-fertilize ideas for action. These spaces for knowledge sharing are catalysts and multipliers of further positive change. UNOSSC recognizes the value of peer learning and mechanisms for mutual support and feedback in bringing together peers from Southern countries and regions. This why one of UNOSSC's strategic objectives is to document lessons from South-South practice and, subsequently, create the safe spaces to share lessons and ideas. Chapter 3 briefly suggests options for moving forward in our joint endeavour to ensure that South-South and triangular cooperation expands its potential as a catalyst for peace and development.

22 All the cases are presented in Chapter 2. The Annex contains an easy-to-reference index of case studies included in this publication.

23 UNOSSC is about to launch the “South-South Galaxy”, an on-line platform to promote partnership building, connecting “demand” and “supply”.



## Chapter II

South-South and triangular cooperation experiences to promote peace and development

This chapter presents 21 case studies on South-South and triangular cooperation on peace and development harvested from existing 17 UNOSSC existing publications and following the methodological process briefly introduced in Chapter 1 and the Annex.

With the aim of suggesting through analysis how the experiences are linked to the “*peace continuum*”, the case studies are ordered under three main sections:

- **Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**  
– addressing the root causes generating violent conflict, insecurity and instability
- **Experiences oriented towards preventing the continuation of conflict:** mediation and conflict, crisis and tensions management
- **Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict:** conflict transformation and long-term gains to achieve durable peace

The description of and information about the South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives are presented in accordance with the following key points:

- Title: as far as possible the main themes and focus of the initiative are indicated in the title.
- Brief description
- Participating countries and regions
- Geographical scope
- Description of the South-South and triangular cooperation initiative
- Impacts demonstrated so far
- Lessons learned with special focus on SSC and peace and development (P&D)
- The full list of SDGs involved
- Participating institutions,
- Sources: the original UNOSSC publications
- Contact details including website information.

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South peer learning to support access to justice**

Round tables, study tours, reports and peer learning notes on how to improve access to justice in g7+ countries



**Challenge**

Access to justice is one of the areas in which countries affected by conflict and fragility have more to learn from each other. Justice is a universal human aspiration, but its application needs to be contextually grounded. In countries recovering from conflict, there are often tensions as well as complementarities between restorative and retributive justice, and between formal and traditional justice systems.

The g7+ Member States: a total of 20 countries

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions<sup>1</sup>  
Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Caribbean

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Peer learning has been a central pillar of F2F (fragile-to-fragile) cooperation and as a modality of South-South cooperation since the inception of the g7+. It is based on the recognition of the value of the g7+ countries' knowledge and experience of challenges related to the transition to resilience. The g7+ F2F programme has seen the implementation of a variety of peer-learning modalities, including round tables, study tours and the elaboration and dissemination of peer-learning notes in relation to access to justice.

Specifically, the g7+ organized two high-level round tables to exchange experiences on how to address the challenges of ensuring access to justice for all. These round tables took place in Monrovia in 2014 and at the g7+ European office in Lisbon in 2017. They brought together ministers of justice from various g7+ countries to discuss how to address the capacity, financial, IT and other constraints that beset the justice sector in countries in fragile situations, and how best to make use of international assistance to the sector. The New Deal for engagement in fragile states (International dialogue on peacebuilding and state building, 2011) set out five new goals, with justice as the third goal.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Limited access to justice disempowers individuals and communities from claiming their rights and defending themselves from injustice. Access to justice is connected with economic growth and investment as well as equity and social justice.

**SDG INVOLVED**



1. According to the UN Statistical Commission <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>



## IMPACTS

- Two g7+ high-level round tables: one in Monrovia in 2014 and another at the g7+ European office in Lisbon in 2017;
- Participants in the latter round table agreed to undertake a process of mapping lessons from across the g7+ in the area of access to justice, which is due to begin in the near future.

## PARTNERS

18 States: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo with the exception of Sao Tome and Principe and Yemen that were not members at that time.

The g7+ Secretariat

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** Countries experiencing crises or transitioning to resilience are the holders of much knowledge of great relevance to other countries in similar situations.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation"<sup>2</sup> (2017) – page 27

### Contact details

g7plus.secretariat@gmail.com

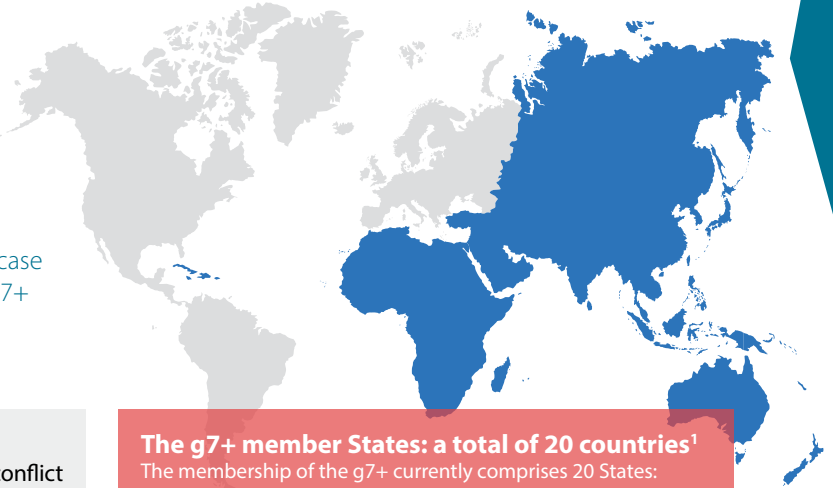
g7+ Headquarters | [www.g7plus.org](http://www.g7plus.org)

2. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/11/29/fragile-to-fragile-cooperation-voluntarism-cooperation-and-solidarity-2017/>

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South knowledge generation on natural resource management**

Member countries of the g7+ shared knowledge and lessons on natural resource management, producing a publication to scale up learning. The case demonstrates the wealth of knowledge that the g7+ countries possess on this key domain pertinent to conflict prevention



**Challenge**

While the g7+ countries struggle with issues of conflict and poverty, most are also endowed with vast natural resources of high economic and strategic value to the global economy. Instead of making a major contribution to financing public services and boosting economic development, the extractive industries present challenges at a variety of levels (economic, social, political and environmental), and that avoiding the “natural resource curse” is a difficult task for most of these countries. Positive management of natural resources has a great added value in complex processes of conflict prevention and post-conflict developmental gains

**The g7+ member States: a total of 20 countries<sup>1</sup>**

The membership of the g7+ currently comprises 20 States: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Yemen. Membership is voluntary, subject to no objection from the existing members. (SSiA on the g7+ page 15)

**Cross-continental cooperation**

**Geographical regions<sup>2</sup>**  
Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Caribbean

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

A survey of natural resource management in g7+ countries was undertaken in 2013 to consolidate existing knowledge amongst the group and support ‘peer learning events’ among countries. A publication was produced in 2014 containing 18 country profiles. It provides key information on natural resources in each country, the main extractive industries, the legal and fiscal frameworks in place for managing natural resources and issues related to governance and transparency. It forms part of an emerging g7+ research programme and is designed to be a practical source of knowledge sharing on the extractive industries, and will be continuously updated and developed over time.

A summary of emerging lessons, shared challenges and opportunities draws together some of the emerging themes from the country profiles, linking natural resources to the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States and the New Deal’s five peacebuilding and state-building goals. Severing the link between resource extraction and conflict requires better risk identification, improved monitoring and safeguarding measures such as wealth sharing agreements, sovereign



1. The membership of the g7+ currently comprises 20 States: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Yemen. Membership is voluntary, subject to no objection from the existing members. (SSiA on the g7+ page 15)  
 2. According to the UN Statistical Commission <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

wealth funds and efforts at greater transparency. In the future, the g7+ Secretariat plans to organize additional peer learning events and study tours on this topic, potentially involving relevant multilateral actors such as the United Nations Environmental Programme, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. A revised and expanded edition of the publication, with updated in-depth information on each of the g7+ member countries is planned for 2019, following the already published edition.<sup>3</sup>



### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

Many conflict affected countries have significant natural resource endowments. However, mismanagement of the natural resources has often undermined the potential for growth and stability that could be achieved from the natural wealth. The publication helps in gathering relevant experiences in effective management of resources and is used for peer learning purposes.

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## IMPACTS

With regard to the assessment and mapping exercise, it is clear that there are many positive trends and opportunities that can be capitalized on in the years ahead.

- Firstly, much of the resource wealth of g7+ countries remain unexplored, but is estimated to be sizeable and leaves ample room for growth.
- Secondly, as demonstrated by the country profiles, g7+ countries are already taking positive steps to improve the benefits accrued from their endowments of natural resource, for example by amending laws, reviewing contracts and building institutional capacity and accountability.

## PARTNERS

18 States: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, with the exception of Sao Tome and Principe and Yemen that were not members at that time.

The g7+ Organization

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## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** SSC is playing an important role with the sharing of knowledge, as there is a wealth of lessons and experiences that can be mobilized from conflict-affected countries in the area of natural resources management.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation"<sup>4</sup> (2017) – page 27

### Contact details

g7plus.secretariat@gmail.com  
g7+ Headquarters | www.g7plus.org

3. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/276288380\\_Natural\\_Resources\\_in\\_g7\\_countries](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/276288380_Natural_Resources_in_g7_countries)

4 <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/11/29/fragile-to-fragile-cooperation-voluntarism-cooperation-and-solidarity-2017/>

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to enhance natural resources management (water) for conflict prevention in the Lake Chad Region**

The biosphere and heritage of Lac Chad (BIOPALT) project aims to support member States of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) in safeguarding and sustainably managing their shared hydrological, biological and cultural resources



**Chad, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Niger and Nigeria**

**Cross-regional cooperation**

**Geographical regions<sup>1</sup>  
West Africa and Central Africa**

**Challenge**

The Lake Chad region is facing a combination of the most devastating crises of our times; over the past decades, it has witnessed an escalating security crisis combined with humanitarian and large-scale ecological crises. The Lake's shrinkage (as the rainfall has declined over the past 50 years); the lake's surface area has shrunk by more than 90 per cent between 1960 to 1985 and has forced a large number of people to migrate. It has also created the conditions for some of the most vulnerable among them to be recruited by violent extremist groups, such as Boko Haram.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

To provide solutions for the Lake Chad Basin, a financing agreement was signed between UNESCO and the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) in 2017 to fund the BIOPLAT project.<sup>2</sup> This project is a component of the Programme to rehabilitate and strengthen the resilience of Lake Chad Basin Systems (PRESIBALT), funded by the African Development Bank.

The project will specifically provide early warning systems for droughts and floods to strengthen the resilience capacities of local communities to climate change; train 300 policymakers, scientists and community leaders and mobilize 30,000 lake residents for the peaceful management of natural resources, including water resources. It will also rehabilitate degraded ecosystems, such as ponds, oases and flood plains, to implement income-generating activities based on a green economy that seek to improve the livelihoods of local communities. The project also aims to promote transboundary inscription of the lake as a biosphere reserve and World Heritage site.

All of these activities will encourage the return of displaced populations and encourage existing populations to remain there, especially young people and women. It also aims to rebuild hope and approach the future with optimism, in a climate of peace and sustainable development for the various communities living near the lake.



<sup>1</sup> According to the UN Statistical Commission <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

<sup>2</sup> For the infographic on the project refer to: [https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/biopalt\\_infographic-en\\_digital.pdf](https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/biopalt_infographic-en_digital.pdf) and for any other detailed information on the project : <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-launches-biopalt-project-safeguard-lake-chad>



### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

Under the BIOPALT mandate, the project is designed to contribute to peace through the following activities: sustainable management of resources to prevent scarcities that may generate conflict; fostering cooperation through managing water resources using the Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential (PCCP) concept; increasing knowledge and information sharing for better understanding of the dynamics of the Basin; creating livelihoods and wealth through green economy activities for communities, thus reducing conflict and wars; reduction of youth radicalism, as youth are more committed to green livelihoods and advocacy and reversal of the negative spiral in the Basin through ecological restoration, which can contribute to a reduction in conflict arising from depleted and scarce resources.

## IMPACTS

- Data on the impact is being collected by UNESCO and partners and will be reported in the future.

## PARTNERS

Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC); International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); AGRHYMET Regional Centre International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Regional Post-graduate Training School of Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT)

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** BIOPALT is funded by various loans and credit from countries which are managed as a pool;
- **On SSC:** financial solidarity gives flexibility to facilitate project management;
- **On SSC:** maintaining permanent dialogue between stakeholders, empowering all stakeholders and ensuring their active participation and cooperation in the sustainable management of Lake Chad;
- **On P&D:** transboundary cooperation is important to build common management, promote traditional management systems for conflict resolution and promote peace building through intercultural dialogue.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action "UNESCO South-South and Triangular Cooperation"<sup>3</sup> (2018) – page 36

### Contact details

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c.stark@unesco.org and j.zheng@unesco.org | <https://en.unesco.org/biopalt>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/12/unesco-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-in-action-2018/>

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South cooperation and diplomacy: Junior diplomats training programme (JDTP)**

JDTP fosters understanding and cooperation among young diplomats

**Challenge**

Diplomats are at the forefront of promoting their nation's interests and forging bilateral and multilateral relationships for peace and security. The effective engagement of diplomats is also essential for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, given that ministries of foreign affairs serve as direct links between the multilateral, regional and national authorities. In order to support the evolution of cooperation among young diplomats, the Turkic Council has devised a tailored training initiative.



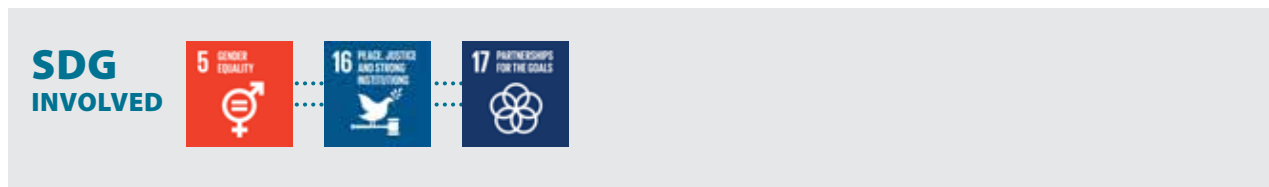
**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

This annual programme brings together aspiring young diplomats from all four Turkic Council member States. The main goals of the programme are: a) to raise awareness of the Turkic Council, its member States and cooperation structures in the Turkic world; b) to bring junior diplomats closer as they are expected to collaborate throughout their careers; c) to contribute to their knowledge of the theory and practice of diplomacy. The two-week programme takes place in a different member State each year and is a combination of lectures, language training, and trips. Lecturers from all over the world share their knowledge on various areas of international cooperation, and ambassadors offer their wisdom from decades of diplomatic experience.

A noteworthy feature of the Junior Diplomat Training Programme is the visits to important historical and tourist sites, familiarizing participants not only with the history and culture but also with the developmental challenges of the host country. At the end of the two weeks, young diplomats have not only met colleagues from other member States but they have also learned from each other and passed through a common capacity-building process that will further ease their cooperation in the future.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Diplomacy dates back to the history of humankind and is an essential apparatus for the establishment and development of contacts between the governments of different states. It is usually considered to be the primary peacemaking tool of a states' foreign policy and improves relations among nations by influencing the direction of negotiations and their outcomes. With this initiative, the Secretariat of the Turkic Council is focused on the creation of strong friendship bonds among young





diplomats, building a sense of regional ownership, improving their capacity for dialogue, and other technical skills, believing that they will take forward the long-lasting friendly relations among the Turkic speaking States, as these young diplomats in their career paths will become ambassadors and high-ranking government officials of their respective countries.

## IMPACTS

- Since the inception of the programme in 2014, 113 junior diplomats have benefited from the training programme, 51 of them women;
- The programme has recently also been opened to junior diplomats from other countries. For example, invitations were extended to Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Hungary, which has an observer status at the Turkic Council
- Trust created through shared experiences, strengthened technical capacities of young diplomats and increased understanding and cooperation in bilateral, regional and multilateral fora;
- The Secretariat is determined to keep gender balance and to update the JDTP every year based on evaluations and recommendations of the participants and will continue to serve as a platform for young diplomats with high-level officials of the Turkic Council.

## PARTNERS

Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey and of Hungary  
The Secretariat of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States \*(Turkic Council)

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** The talks by high-ranking officials and peers were found to be very informative, interesting and highly motivating.
- **On SSC:** The young diplomats were especially interested in hearing about each other's professional experiences, learning practical solutions related to diplomatic service.
- **On SSC:** Experience built over the years indicates that it would be more effective and better serve the objectives of the JDTP if junior diplomats had previous knowledge of national sensitivities.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSIA) "Council of Turkic Speaking States"<sup>1</sup> (2017) – page 42

### Contact details

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ceyhun@turkkon.org

1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/09/25/the-cooperation-council-of-turkic-speaking-states-the-turkic-council-2017/>

2. [http://www.turkkon.org/en-US/general\\_information/299/308](http://www.turkkon.org/en-US/general_information/299/308)

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South cooperation to promote citizens' coexistence through arts and human rights education**

Addressing the educational needs of vulnerable populations to prevent violent behaviour in early childhood through art and culture



Mexico and Uruguay

Cross-regional cooperation

Geographical regions  
Central and South America

**Challenge**

Ciudad Juárez in Mexico has been one of the municipalities most affected by violence over the last few years. High homicide rates have left a significant number of orphaned children. They are neglected by their families and teachers and also by public policies. Children and adolescents experience family and gang-related violence, stress, anguish and anxiety, as well as other disorders and addictions. These issues are reflected in school violence, bullying and other behavioural problems.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Mexico and Uruguay have developed an initiative called “Early childhood: Art, human rights and citizen coexistence” to strengthen human rights education from early childhood through art in schools located in violence-prone areas intended to reduce all forms of social discrimination. The initiative targeted children from 3-8 years old, their families, teachers and tutors. The starting point in both countries was to invite schools to join the project by carrying out activities to prevent violence and discrimination. Each participant/partner - Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, and Ciudad Juárez - addressed these objectives taking different curricular and methodological approaches.

The main project activities were structured around two intervention areas: developing an artistic dimension in institutional education projects (Proyecto educativo institucional - PEI) by promoting a sense of belonging, cooperation and respect for differences within the learning communities; and enhance teaching skills by addressing problems in teaching practices, using case studies as a problem to be solved, to contribute to children’s development in terms of creativity, emotional expressions and affection. In the pilot schools, four types of workshops were conducted for parents who were educated in performing arts (puppetry), visual arts and human rights. The workshops achieve progress towards an effective pedagogical transformation by designing an intervention model in which the educational community is responsible for designing and putting into practice actions that integrate human rights and arts in each school.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

The foundations of any society are children. Whenever we make improvements related to human rights, we can expect that we will create and strengthen a culture for peace, once it promotes a culture of respect for others. This fosters an incentive in the community towards a different direction other than violence.

**SDG INVOLVED**



## IMPACTS

- In Mexico, the series of DENI programme (Derechos de las niñas y los niños) [www.deni.org.mx](http://www.deni.org.mx) – a by-product of the main programme) is currently being produced. They incorporate the project's themes in a language and format adapted to children and have been incorporated as a work tool in Mexican schools;
- In Uruguay, under the National Human Rights Education Plan, the Ministry of Education and Culture has committed funds to finance additional hours for teacher training activities in Montevideo and follow-up in three new schools pilot.

## PARTNERS

Uruguay – Montevideo City Council and Teatro Solis  
Mexico – Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua State Human Rights Commission (CEDH) and SUPERARTE A.C.  
Instituto Interamericano de Derechos Humanos

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On P&D:** The project was successful in advancing a pedagogical model that efficiently integrated art and human rights. The model proved suitable for implementing prevention actions targeted at children and adults and for developing workshops to train educators using the methodological guide;
- **On SSC:** Although it is still too early to measure the actual effectiveness of those materials as a contribution to social impacts, they have become a permanent reference material for users since the end of the project;
- **On SSC:** By designing projects with a multidimensional approach, there is a need to involve different levels of government and as well as civil society organizations to provide for a sustainable initiative and a multiplication effect.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

SSTC Good Practices for SD, Vol. 2<sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 95

### Contact details

Roberto Mohar Rivera | AMEXCID<sup>2</sup> (<https://www.gob.mx/amexcid>) , Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico  
[rmohar@sre.gob.mx](mailto:rmohar@sre.gob.mx) | <http://www.cndh.tv/ninos.php> & [www.deni.org.mx](http://www.deni.org.mx)

1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/09/25/the-cooperation-council-of-turkic-speaking-states-the-turkic-council-2017/>  
2. [http://www.turkkon.org/en-US/general\\_information/299/308](http://www.turkkon.org/en-US/general_information/299/308)

**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to support freedom of expression, public access to information and safety of journalists in Latin America and Africa**

The judiciary system plays an essential role in the “three Ps” (Prevent, Protect, and Prosecute) to ensure journalists’ safety and end impunity for crimes and attacks against them. This initiative aims to train members of the judiciary to protect freedom of expression in Latin America and Africa.



**Latin-American countries: 16 countries**  
**Africa: 42 countries**

Regional cooperation in both continents

**Geographical regions**  
**Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and Africa and expanding soon to Asia.**

**Challenge**

There is a high level of attacks against journalists and the deterioration of freedom of expression and press freedom for all in society. In the past 12 years (2006 to 2017), UNESCO’s Director-General reported the killings of 1009 journalists and media workers in the world. Less than 10 per cent of these cases have been resolved judicially.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Since 2013, UNESCO and its partners have been facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation to train members of the judiciary on freedom of expression, public access to information, and safety of journalists. The initiative is built on a massive open online course (MOOC). The online courses are organized in five- or six-weekly thematic modules and address the international legal framework on freedom of expression; access to information, the role of the judiciary in the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed against journalists and media workers; the challenges related to enforcing criminal law, diversity and pluralism in the media and new challenges to freedom of expression, such as freedom of expression and the Internet. On the ground, workshops targeting judges from Supreme and High Courts and regional courts are also organized on the same themes.

In Latin America, this line of work has been undertaken in collaboration with Supreme Courts, Associations of Judiciary Operators, the Ibero-American Judicial Summit, the Ibero-American network of Judicial Schools, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Knight Centre for Journalism in the Americas. UNESO also launched a MOOC in October 2017 on freedom of expression and safety of journalists in Africa for a total of 42 countries, as well as a seminar on the same issue in Pretoria, South Africa with participation of judges from 13 countries and the court of the Economic Community of West African States Court of Justice, and the African Court and Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights were fundamental partners of the project.

**SDG INVOLVED**





### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

Freedom of expression and safety of journalists, as well as ending impunity for crimes committed against them, is of vital importance to protect rule of law, as well as human rights more broadly. Only when the rule of law is respected can citizens have confidence in democratic processes, invest in the sustainable development of their society and ensure the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. These principles contribute to promoting the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 "Peace, justice and strong institutions" of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental rights. As recognized by the international community, sustainable development would come to a standstill without encouraging respect for the rule of law and ensuring fundamental freedoms.

## IMPACTS

- 8,000 judicial actors were trained, including 1,830 judges from 22 countries in the region, with knowledge sharing among participants on their cross-country experiences;
- Resources were developed, such as a toolkit for Ibero-American Judicial Schools and several guides for judicial operators, to facilitate dialogue between them and the media; the Ibero-American Judicial Summit officially recommended the adoption of the toolkit and signed a pro SDG16 declaration in 2018. Electoral authorities have joined the discussion with special interest in developing strategies, aligned with International Standards, to fight "fake news".
- A database of jurisprudence in Spanish was developed in partnership with Columbia University in New York; this database groups key rulings from 16 countries in Latin America and others from the rest of the world
- Curriculum on bioethics, and ethics of science (Bioethics core curriculum) were developed and have been included in some law schools - this is the case of the Dominican Republic law school.
- The initiative developed in Latin America has also impacted other regions (Africa, Asia) through South-South cooperation, other sectors (Culture and Science) and other stakeholders (regulators).

## PARTNERS

**In LAC:** Associations of Judiciary Operators, the Ibero-American Judicial Summit, the Ibero-American Network of Judicial Schools, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Knight Centre for Journalism in the Americas and many countries' Supreme Courts

**In Africa:** Economic Community of West African States Court of Justice and the African Court and Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Permanent monitoring, including permanent dialogue, with key stakeholders from the South is fundamental for reassessing expectations and correcting the initial design of particular activities. Monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the South-South cooperation project is also a challenge.
- It is also relevant to foster connections with global monitoring exercises, such as the 2030 agenda, particularly related to SDG 16.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action "UNESCO South-South and Triangular Cooperation"<sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 44

### Contact details

Clare Stark and Junzhu ZHENG | UNESCO-HQ (Bureau of Strategic Planning) | [c.stark@unesco.org](mailto:c.stark@unesco.org) and [j.zheng@unesco.org](mailto:j.zheng@unesco.org) | Website: [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/school\\_for\\_judges\\_lessons\\_in\\_freedom\\_of\\_information\\_and\\_e/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/school_for_judges_lessons_in_freedom_of_information_and_e/)

<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/12/unesco-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-in-action-2018/>

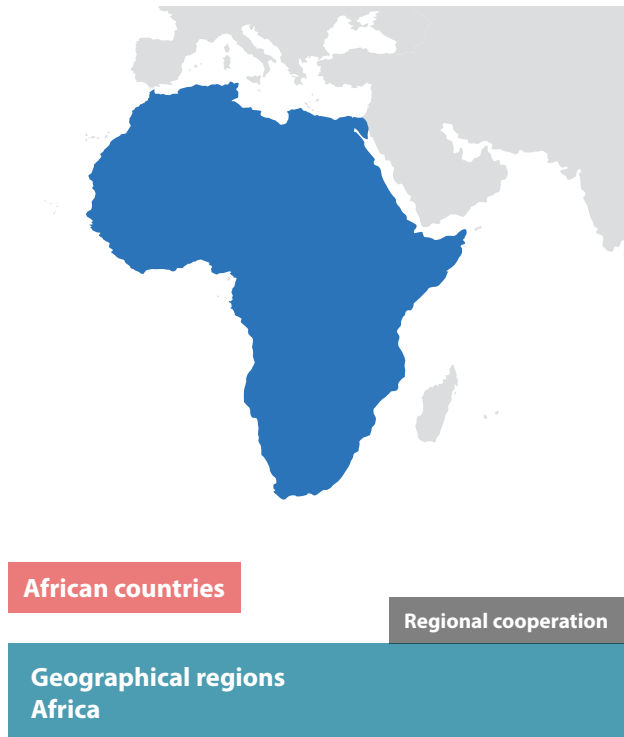
**SECTION 1: Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

## South-South and triangular cooperation to promote a culture of peace and non-violence in Africa

Building peace by fostering inclusive, peaceful and resilient societies

**Challenge**

New threats to human security in Africa, in particular cross-border threats for which the international community does not seem prepared, weigh on the construction of a culture of peace: degradation of the environment, climate change, migratory movements and population displacements, crime and international terrorism, increased illicit trafficking of all kinds (human beings, drugs, weapons, etc.), recrudescence of territorial conflicts and extremism particularly ethnic and religious, contestation of electoral processes, unequal distribution of wealth and access to natural resources, violence against women, increased vulnerability of youth and minorities.



**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

In Africa, UNESCO is supporting Member States to prevent violence and conflicts which have a negative impact on education. A project entitled "Promoting a culture of peace and non-violence through education" <sup>1</sup> began in 2012. Through this project, UNESCO developed a comprehensive mapping of current policy and resources of 45 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, which provides a picture of how a culture of peace and non-violence is fostered. In this regard, culture of peace values were found in 84 per cent of national education policies and systems. The mapping is complemented by a compilation of endogenous oral traditions (such as traditional conflict prevention and resolution practices) and elements of history of Africa from within the African subregions. Since the holding of the Pan-African Forum "Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace" organized by the Angolan Government, UNESCO and the African Union (AU) in March 2013 in Luanda, Angola, the programme "Promoting a culture of peace and nonviolence in Africa" is now the frame of reference for the "Plan of Action for a Culture of Peace in Africa/Action for Peace".

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

The overall objective of this action for Africa is to rely on the continent for sources of inspiration and the potential of its cultural, natural and human resources and to identify concrete proposals for building sustainable peace, which is the cornerstone of endogenous development and Pan-Africanism.



(See more at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/africa/priority-africa/culture-of-peace-in-africa/>)



## IMPACTS

- ◆ Creation of the Network of Foundations and Research Institutions to promote a culture of peace in Africa in September 2013, in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)
- ◆ Creation of the Pan-African Youth Network for the Culture of Peace (PAYNCOP) in December 2014 in Libreville (Gabon), and the establishment of the Pan-African Women's Network project for the culture of peace with the creation of the first section of the network in Gabon in 2018.
- ◆ A Pan-African School of peace (EPAP) was created in 2017 in Yamoussoukro (Côte d'Ivoire) and public and youth awareness campaigns were launched, many on the occasion of the celebration of 21 September, International Day of Peace, Angola, Burundi Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Liberia, Mali and Sao Tome and Principe.
- ◆ UNESCO and the Government of Angola have decided to create and implement a biennale of the culture of peace called "Biennial of Luanda", the first edition of which will take place in September 2019.

## PARTNERS

Angola - Ministry of Culture  
 Ivory Coast - Félix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation for the Search for Peace  
 Gabon

## LESSONS LEARNED

- ◆ **On SSC:** Strategic partnerships established with Member States, the African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities, civil society, private sector and specialized UN institutions, are vital for the implementation of Priority Africa (one of two of UNESCO's global priorities), in the context of South-South cooperation.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action "UNESCO South-South and Triangular Cooperation" <sup>2</sup> (2018) – page 21

### Contact details

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/12/unesco-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-in-action-2018/>

**SECTION 2: Experiences oriented towards preventing the continuation of conflict**

## South-South support to electoral processes in Guinea-Bissau

South-South financial support and technical assistance for the organization of the legislative and presidential elections of 2014 and 2018 in Guinea-Bissau



Guinea-Bissau and Timor-Leste

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions  
West Africa and South-east Asia

**Challenge**

Since gaining its independence in 1974, Guinea-Bissau has experienced conflict and political upheaval on several occasions. In April 2012, a coup d'état by members of the armed forces overthrew the President and Prime Minister, and led to the formation of a transitional government whose legitimacy was disputed domestically and internationally. After more than a year, holding fresh elections was a condition for bringing the country back to constitutional normalcy.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Timor-Leste provided support to Guinea-Bissau in the 2014 elections, helping to ensure that the electoral process - especially the electoral registration phase, which is crucial for credible democratic results – was conducted in a fair, transparent and nationally and internationally recognized manner.

Following a high-level mission led by H.E. Xanana Gusmão, the then Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, a specially-chartered cargo plane filled with materials and equipment to support the electoral registration process, including IT servers, computers, electricity generators and registration kits arrived in the last quarter of 2013. The support mission was formally extended for a second phase in February 2014 for two months. This phase included holding civic education campaigns to encourage citizens to register and vote; continuing IT and logistical support to the Electoral Commission; organizing public debates among the candidates; financial assistance to cover the costs of the electoral administration; and the donation of two pick-up trucks to Guinea-Bissau's defence and security forces in order to help maintain law and order during the elections.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

The election in Guinea-Bissau supported by Timor-Leste under the umbrella of the g7+ Fragile-to-Fragile cooperation put an end to political deadlock. The successful election unlocked the international assistance that had been for a long time under embargo by international community to put pressure on Guinea-Bissau to restore constitutional order. The successful election in Guinea-Bissau was a step towards stability and peace in the country.

**SDG INVOLVED**

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

5 GENDER EQUALITY



## IMPACTS

- This is an example of sharing homegrown solutions and resources. Guinea-Bissau was under an embargo by the international community while at the same time an election was expected that would cost around USD 35 million (UNDP assessment), a reassessment by Timor-Leste reduced it to USD 6 million.
- Considering the principle of solidarity – one of the pillars of the g7+ – the Government of Timor-Leste provided financial resources and technical assistance to conduct elections.
- Upon the successful conduct of the peaceful election, the international community removed the embargo and thereafter pledged an assistance package for Guinea-Bissau.

## PARTNERS

Timor-Leste: Ministry of State Administration, Technical Support Office for the Electoral Process (GTAPE), and Timor-Leste Cooperation Agency (ACTL)

Guinea-Bissau - Minister of Territorial Administration

The g7+ Secretariat, which served as the conduit and a base for cooperation; the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) which was supposed to be bound to respect the embargo.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- On SSC:** Solidarity enables long-lasting cooperation for electoral purposes. This is reflected in the continued cooperation between the two countries.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation"<sup>1</sup> (2017) - page 22

### Contact details

g7plus.secretariat@gmail.com | g7+ Headquarters  
www.g7plus.org

<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/11/29/fragile-to-fragile-cooperation-voluntarism-cooperation-and-solidarity-2017/>

**SECTION 2: Experiences oriented towards preventing the continuation of conflict**

## South-South dialogues and support to peace and reconciliation in the Central African Republic

Dialogue sessions in the Central African Republic (CAR) supported by g7+ members with the aim of underpinning peace and reconciliation in the country, to protect rule of law, as well as the 2015 and 2016 presidential elections and the resettlement of 24,000 internally displaced persons



The Central African Republic (CAR) and Timor-Leste

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions  
Central Africa and South-East Asia

**Challenge**

The Central African Republic has been in conflict since 2012 and is considered by some as an “aid orphan”, in the sense of being forgotten or neglected by bilateral and multilateral donors. The country is under the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA). In July 2015, the Bangui Forum on National Reconciliation (where a peace agreement was signed between the warring factions) with broad audience discussed the major threats related to peace and security; governance; justice and reconciliation; and economic and social development.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

The g7+ Secretariat and member States organized several high-level visits with the aim of supporting peace and reconciliation in the CAR.

In 2014, the g7+ organized a meeting in Dubai between key stakeholders of the CAR (government officials, religious and community leaders and representatives of civil society), the g7+ Chair and Secretariat, and focal points from several g7+ countries. The meeting aimed to gain a better understanding of the situation and paved the way for the first high-level visit by a g7+ delegation to the CAR, which was led by the g7+ Eminent Person, Xanana Gusmão, in February 2015. In May 2015, another g7+ delegation led by its Deputy General Secretary attended the Bangui Forum on National Reconciliation.

The dialogues allowed the g 7+ to have a deeper understanding of the conflict through CAR citizens' perspectives rather than the media. It helped in establishing an environment of trust for the g7+ engagement and among the various stakeholders, which resulted in the conclusion of peace agreement signed during the Bangui National Forum.

In 2015, Timor-Leste pledged \$1 million in financial assistance to the CAR to support the general and presidential elections that took place in late 2015 and early 2016. During the 3rd high level mission of the g7+ mission to Bangui in September



2016, the g7+ delegation, led by H.E. Xanana Gusmão, also spent time at an internally displaced persons (IDP) camp near Bangui. The Government of Timor-Leste which was part of the g7+ delegation pledged a further \$1.5 million to support the resettlement of IDPs. A few months later, all 24,000 persons had been successfully resettled. This donation was an expression of solidarity barely ten years after Timor-Leste had experienced an IDP crisis of its own.

### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

The g7+ facilitated dialogue between the warring factions. It was done in a step by step manner. First, the g7+ brought together representatives of religious groups, civil society, the transitional government and private sector; later the delegation brought together the leaders of the warring factions and facilitated dialogue. The integral process also took into consideration complementary support to IDPs directly impacted by the violent conflict

## IMPACTS

- This cooperation helped in promoting the principles promoted by the g7+, which include country-led dialogue and reconciliation as well as the use of country systems.
- The success of H.E. Xanana Gusmão in getting his message across to the various parties, by drawing on his own experience as an independence leader and promoter of reconciliation in his own country. This experience indicates the potential for g7+ “champions of peace” to make a positive contribution to reconciliation across other fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

## PARTNERS

The g7+ Secretariat was the facilitator of the cooperation Central African Republic and Timor-Leste

## LESSONS LEARNED

● **On SSC:** The South-South model of engagement has important potential in the facilitation of dialogue and reconciliation in conflict-affected situations.

**On P&D:** The peers involved in this engagement have relevant experience of dialogue and reconciliation that can be mutually beneficial.

● **On P&D and SSC:** The cooperation and experiences of conflict-affected countries (such as Timor-Leste) in the “South” hemisphere are received with an open mind by the people and stakeholders of other conflict-affected countries (such as the CAR) because these countries have rarely any vested interest in each other’s affairs.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) “Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation”<sup>1</sup> (2017) – page 25

### Contact details

g7plus.secretariat@gmail.com | g7+ Headquarters  
www.g7plus.org

1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/11/29/fragile-to-fragile-cooperation-voluntarism-cooperation-and-solidarity-2017/>

**SECTION 2: Experiences oriented towards preventing the continuation of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to support comprehensive migration governance**

Enhancing African governments' migration management capacities through the International Organization for Migration (OIM) African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC)



**Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda**

Regional cooperation

Geographical regions  
East Africa

**Challenge**

The African region is affected by substantial mixed migration flows, either originating in or transiting through its constituent countries. The principal characteristics of mixed migration flows include their irregular nature and the differentiated needs and profiles of the persons involved - refugees, asylum-seekers, displaced persons and migrants pursuing family reunification, education or employment. Regional dynamics are compounded by a general weakness of border and migration management regimes, characterized by porous borders and inadequately trained and poorly equipped staff.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Established in 2009 at the request of African Member States, the International Organization for Migration (OIM) African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) has a mandate to help build national capacities and shape innovative solutions in migration management, based on three pillars – capacity building in border and migration management; migration research and development, and migration advocacy and partnerships.

The ACBC's regional capacity-building activities have a strong focus on sharing practical strategies for migration governance issues as well as combating criminal activities such as people smuggling and trafficking of persons, while emphasizing best practices in cross-border, regional and international law enforcement. ACBC promotes South-South and triangular cooperation between Member States, Regional Economic Communities in Africa, as well as the African Union and the East African Community, international organizations such as INTERPOL and Frontex, academia and the IOM itself. The Centre is partnered and hosted by the Tanzania Regional Immigration Training Academy (TRITA), tasked by the EAC heads of Immigration Services with coordinating and providing specific training courses for immigration officials from the six EAC countries.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Any mechanisms that are based on sharing knowledge and experiences, addressing challenging issues through cooperation and achieving common objectives are definitely related to peace. Migration is a sensitive and important issue for the stability of this region, because it tends to be securitized and, thus relates to a tense context. Cooperation in favour of a migration agenda, instead of creating barriers, builds bridges between countries that can share data and work together on their borders.





## IMPACTS

- ACBC has trained around 5,614 migration management officials from 52 different African states.
- The expertise acquired over the years is now giving the Centre opportunities to broaden training commitments outside the continent; as a result, training has also been delivered to officials in Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Malaysia and Turkey.
- In June 2018, the IOM ACBC facilitated a 4-day capacity-building training session for law enforcement on counter-trafficking and smuggling in Cairo, Egypt, for officials from the Horn of Africa region: 30 law enforcement professionals from Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Tunisia participated.

## PARTNERS

52 African countries, mainly the EAC, as well as Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, and Turkey.

Tanzania - Tanzania Regional Immigration Training Academy (TRITA)

IOM in partnership with East African Community (EAC); African Union (AU); Interpol and Frontex

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** Ensuring national and collective ownership of the ACBC's programmes is crucial to promoting the long-term sustainability of its capacity-building, research and development and partnership outcomes.
- **On SSC:** All activities carried out by the ACBC arise from and are aligned with governments' stated objectives and needs; they are oriented towards the implementation of relevant
- **On SSC:** ACBC works closely with regional stakeholders to identify government champions that can take forward the lessons from the ACBC's activities.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

SSTC Good Practices for SD, Vol. 2<sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 157

### Contact details

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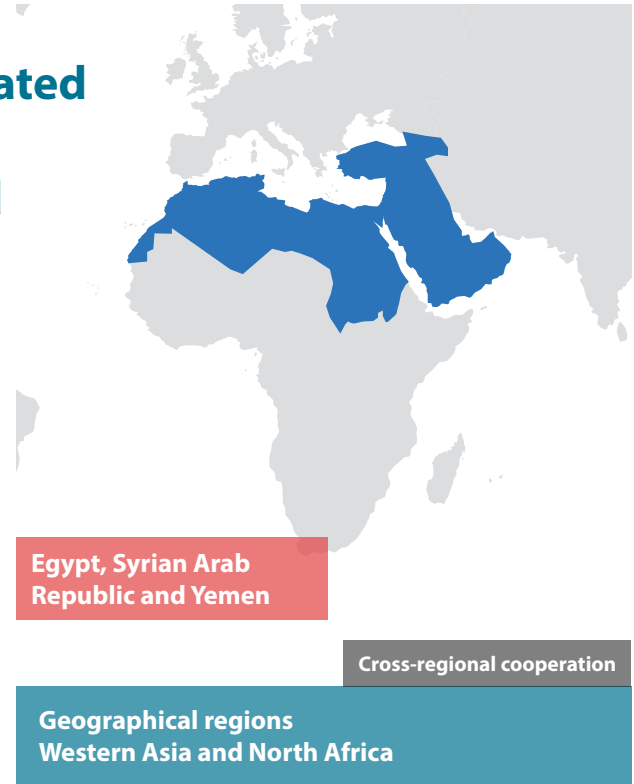
1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/11/28/good-practices-in-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-for-sustainable-development-vol-2-2018-in-seven-languages/>

2. Institutional webpage: <https://acbc.iom.int>

**SECTION 2: Experiences oriented towards preventing the continuation of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to devise accelerated and alternative learning programmes for refugees and internally displaced people in the Arab Region**

Knowledge sharing and technical cooperation on developing alternative pathways to education among Ministries of Education in Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.



**Challenge**

In the Arab region, especially the Syrian Arabic Republic and Yemen, the number of refugees and internally displaced people is on the rise. As a result, education systems are faced with many challenges and are overburdened. Alternative education methods are gaining more attention due to the solutions they can provide.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

UNESCO's Regional Office in Beirut organized a three-day study visit to Egypt in 2017 for 20 high-level education decision makers from Ministries of Education in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, including education planners, curriculum developers, teacher trainers and adult educators, to respond to the challenges in the region. The aim of the visit was to raise awareness about flexible learning strategies, particularly primary level alternative learning/schooling programmes that are officially accredited by the Government, and are flexible and effective in offering school-age children a second chance at education so that they can learn, graduate and have their right to education fulfilled.

Participants were able to visit different alternative pathways to primary and middle schooling in South Cairo, Egypt, and witness how learning happens in such settings. Participants also had one-day consultation sessions with officials from the Egyptian Ministry of Education in Cairo to discuss the alternative education programmes.

UNESCO is identifying opportunities for other such visits to further strengthen knowledge sharing and technical cooperation on developing alternative pathways to education among Ministries of Education in Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Promoting accelerated learning programmes is an important way of helping countries in crisis to provide high quality education to girls and boys who are often neglected by their education system. More importantly, alternative methods are an approach that can help schools in these communities and teachers in those schools to serve their students better by providing them an education that is both high quality and relevant to the community in which they live.

**SDG INVOLVED**

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

Addressing the educational needs of displaced populations is a global responsibility. Access to quality education should be provided to all internally displaced and refugee children and youth from the onset of an emergency and long-term. The World Humanitarian Summit (May 2016) recognized the key role that governments play in managing humanitarian situations, including ensuring education for displaced populations. Incorporating their needs in education sector planning processes can therefore help protect children's right to education. Promoting accelerated learning programmes is an important way of helping countries in crisis to provide high quality education to girls and boys often neglected by their education system.



## IMPACTS

Following the visit, participants agreed to pursue the following actions:

- develop national committees in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen to develop national frameworks for alternative education;
- share expertise and resources already developed in Egypt, including on teacher training;
- develop materials that support decision makers in promoting such concepts; and
- develop teachers' capacity-building programmes and training workshops.

## PARTNERS

Education authorities in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen  
UNESCO

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On P&D:** To further support the Arab Region in meeting educational needs in times of crisis, UNESCO launched the Strategic Framework for Education in Emergencies in the Arab Region (2018-2021) in November 2017 to provide important tools for leveraging much needed support from development partners to help mitigate the impact of the protracted crisis in the Arab Region.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action "UNESCO South-South and Triangular Cooperation" (2018) – page 25

### Contact details

Clare Stark and Junzhu ZHENG | UNESCO-HQ (Bureau of Strategic Planning) | [c.stark@unesco.org](mailto:c.stark@unesco.org) and [j.zheng@unesco.org](mailto:j.zheng@unesco.org) | <https://en.unesco.org/education-crisis-in-arab-region>

<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/12/unesco-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-in-action-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South cooperation to tackle the West African Ebola crisis**

Coordinated response to the emergency by Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Donation from the Government of Timor-Leste in the amount of \$2 million and global advocacy efforts by the other g7+ member countries.



Egypt, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen

Cross-continental cooperation

**Geographical regions**  
**Western Africa and South-eastern Asia**  
 According to the UN Statistical Commission <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

**Challenge**

The West African Ebola epidemic began in Guinea in December 2013 and quickly spread to neighbouring countries. It was declared a public health emergency of international concern in mid-2014 and eventually infected almost 30,000 people, killing more than 11,000. While a total of ten countries were affected, the crisis was largely concentrated in three g7+ member States: Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The epidemic dealt a major blow to the transition to resilience and post-conflict long-term developmental gains in these countries and had a particularly severe impact upon their health systems, which were struggling to meet public health needs even before the crisis.

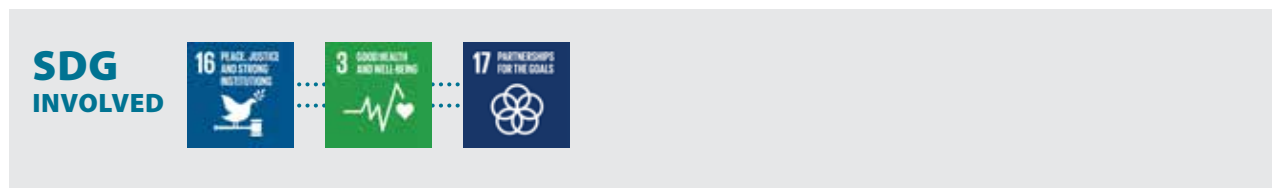
**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

The three governments elaborated their Ebola response and recovery plans in the context of the Mano River Union, a subregional cooperation organization comprised of these three countries along with Cote d'Ivoire. Under severe stress, they realized that the international character of the emergency called for a coordinated response. Broader international support, which was urgently needed, however, was not materializing in a sufficiently quick manner.

Under the umbrella of Fragile-to-Fragile cooperation of the g7+, the government of Timor-Leste pledged a donation in the amount of \$2 million to help the three countries address the unfolding crisis, as an important complement to other international efforts. The donation was used to pay for medical supplies, medical equipment for clinics and hospitals, food for quarantined homes, protective equipment, salaries of doctors and nurses, and training. Crucially, the funds were entirely channelled through the national systems of the countries in question in order to help strengthen them at a time of acute need. This constituted a practical application of the very important New Deal principle of using country systems in the delivery of external aid. All the other g7+ member countries participated in the international advocacy efforts aimed at raising awareness and mobilizing support from the international community. The g7+ used various platforms where it advocated for support for the Ebola crisis affected countries.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

A crisis like Ebola creates mistrust between the citizens and the States in the affected countries in addition to the general catastrophe it creates. Such natural crises have often led to conflicts due to that fracture of trust. The governments in the





Ebola affected countries needed resources to tackle the crisis and restore the trust of their citizens through efficient service delivery. The international support is only effective in this regard when it is provided through the state institutions and country systems. The support from Timor-Leste in the spirit of solidarity that defines one of the pillars of the g7+ and its Fragile-to-Fragile cooperation, channelled the assistance through the subject countries own systems.

## IMPACTS

- According to the Minister of Finance and Development Planning of Liberia, the money was channelled through the national budgetary systems. This was important in addressing the issues identified and confronted at national and regional level. It was a contribution to a substantive global effort to support West Africa at the time of the Ebola outbreak

## PARTNERS

Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone health authorities and the Government of Timor-Leste

G7+ Secretariat served as conduit in this cooperation

## LESSONS LEARNED

- On SSC:** The state institutions of the subject countries are best placed to lead the execution of cooperation.
- On SSC:** Such types of financial assistance and their management through government budgets are examples of good and effective cooperation in line with the New Deal Principles.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Fragile-to-Fragile Cooperation"<sup>1</sup>(2017) - page 29

### Contact details

g7plus.secretariat@gmail.com | g7+ Headquarters  
www.g7plus.org

<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2017/11/29/fragile-to-fragile-cooperation-voluntarism-cooperation-and-solidarity-2017/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South cooperation to build national capacities in forensic science for human rights**

Building local capacity in applying forensic science to human rights investigation: transferring expertise to investigate and document human rights violations



**Challenge**

An estimated 30,000 people disappeared during the Argentine military dictatorship (1976-1983). When democracy was restored, the country realized that it lacked a proper forensic science system to investigate cases related to human rights violations and a system to conduct independent investigations. Furthermore, its relationships with the victims' families were weak. A strategy was thus needed to determine the whereabouts of the "disappeared" to enable the multidisciplinary use of forensic science in legal investigations. Argentina's strong expertise and experience gained from its own past is now transferred to other Global South countries facing similar challenges.

Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kenya, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Thailand and Viet Nam

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions  
South America, Central America, East Africa, Southern Africa and South-East Asia



**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

For more than 25 years, within the framework of South-South cooperation, the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF) has trained public prosecutors, judges, lawyers, police officers, medical examiners, other forensic specialists and NGOs around the world investigating cases of human rights violations and disappearances because of violence, natural disasters, crimes against migrants and femicide. Since its creation, one of EAAF's goals has been to transfer the Argentine experience to other countries that have lived through similar processes of violence, particularly outside of Latin America. The EAAF collaborates with the Argentine Fund for South-South and Triangular Cooperation (FO.AR) and the General Directorate of International Cooperation (DGCIN) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic. This collaboration occurs within the framework of the technical assistance that Argentina provides to various countries in the world. 17 years of collaboration between the EAAF and FO.AR reached nearly 250 people in 25 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia in five integrated programmes: investigative programme; training and advisory assistance; scientific development; strengthening the field; and documentation and dissemination. <sup>1</sup>

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Human Rights has been an strategic line of the Argentinian SSC. This comprises collaboration with governments and social organizations in their search for truth, justice and reparation for cases of human rights violations and promotes the development and implementation of non-discrimination policies and human rights protection.

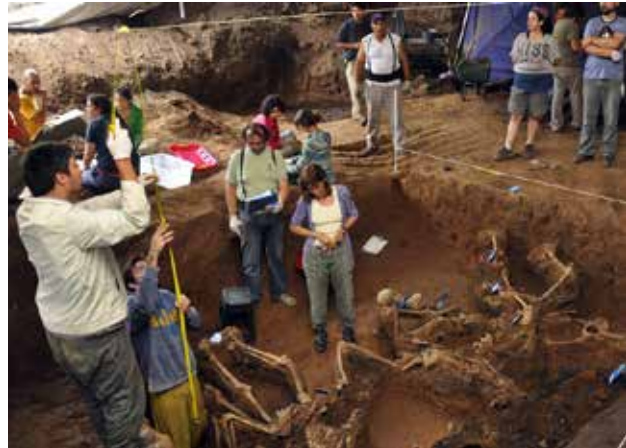
**SDG INVOLVED**

1. Argentina CSS Publication of 2010 mentions three cases to be explored in which the EAAF is involved: Bolivia "Accompanying the search, truth, memory and justice", Paraguay "Committed to the truth, memory and justice" and East Timor "The Cemetery of Santa Cruz. See 2010 Annual Journal on SSTC of Argentina at <https://www.cbd.int/financial/southsouth/argentina-2010.pdf>

## IMPACTS (EXAMPLES FROM SELECTED SSC INITIATIVES)

- In **Viet Nam**, assistance to identify the remains of Vietnamese soldiers who died during the conflict with the United States in the 1960s and 70s
- In **South Africa** in 2012, an example of the impact of assistance and collaboration is the School of Forensic Sciences and Human Rights created by the EAAF with the support of FO.AR (training 15 African forensic specialists);
- In **Bolivia**, since 2006, Argentine forensic experts have continued to support authorities in the reconstruction of the truth and historical memory, and in seeking justice for victims of forced disappearances in recent decades;
- An interdisciplinary team visited **Paraguay** to share Argentina's experience in the investigation of historical truth and the trial and punishment of those responsible for serious crimes. It also helped with excavations in an area where clandestine burials have occurred
- In **Timor-Leste**, Argentine and Australian forensic anthropologists cooperated in the identification of the bodies of victims of the Santa Cruz cemetery massacre in Timor-Leste.



## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** Another interesting aspect of this type of cooperation is that the relationship between the parties continues beyond the specific assistance, thereby creating new projects in the future;
- **On SSC and P&D:** This project has generated interest at regional and local levels, as it is often one of the few options for those who want to improve the capacity of local forensic systems to improve services to victims of human rights violations and the administration of justice.
- **On SSC and P&D:** Thanks to the strategic alliance between the FO.AR and EAAF, the state and civil society, the EAAF strengthened and expanded its expertise.

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## PARTNERS

African School of Humanitarian Forensic Action; State Prosecutor General - Institute of Forensic Investigation - Plurinational State of Bolivia; National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences – Republic of Colombia; Forensic Service – Republic of Kenya; Institute of Legal Medicine – Republic of El Salvador; General Directorate of Truth and Justice – Republic of Paraguay; Central Institute of Forensic Science – Kingdom of Thailand; Military Institute of Forensic Medicine and Bureau of National; Devotees from the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs - Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

SSTC Good Practices for SD, Vol. 2<sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 191

### Contact details

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1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/11/28/good-practices-in-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-for-sustainable-development-vol-2-2018-in-seven-languages/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation towards a coordinated multisectoral response to gender-based violence**

The programme led by UNFPA and the Romania-based East European Institute for Reproductive Health in 14 countries and territories across Eastern Europe and Central Asia is pushing for legislative reform, enforcing laws, and promoting multisectoral coordination and partnerships to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV).



**Challenge**

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, an estimated one in four women have experienced physical or sexual violence.

In times of crisis, one form of GBV, sexual violence, can become so widespread and systematic that it is considered a method of war and can escalate into a crime against humanity, a war crime or an act of genocide. Countries in the region recognized multiple stereotypes and a lack of awareness of its devastating effects, an absence of clear referral systems, lack of legislation and political commitment, limited resources and a lack of a coordinated multi-sectoral response (MSR).

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

UNFPA, in partnership with the East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH) in Romania, engaged 14 countries in the region in various initiatives aimed at addressing GBV through a multisectoral approach. These include rolling out the United Nations Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence (ESP) and the regional Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for frontline service providers (health, psychosocial and police).

In line with the South-South cooperation modality, UNFPA and EEIRH have been providing technical assistance to the multisectoral response to GBV, promoting policy dialogue, supporting capacity-building at national and local level and promoting knowledge sharing between countries and key sectors. They have also facilitated the establishment of national multisectoral working groups to adapt the above-mentioned packages, led by relevant institutions, as well as learning visits to Romania of multisectoral teams.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Prevention and response to GBV and violence against women and girls through MSR mechanisms ensures the centrality of protection of survivors in the development-emergency nexus. Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) can undermine





long-term stability and security even after states have transitioned out of conflict due to the weakening of reporting and enforcement mechanisms. Establishing high-quality, accessible MSR systems, based on relevant guiding principles (for example, safety, confidentiality and 'do no harm') is key to tackling SGBV which is a prerequisite for sustainable peace. MSR enables women and girls to fully participate in political life which lays a strong foundation for sustainable peace and development.

## IMPACTS (examples from selected SSC initiatives)

The impacts have included:

- ◆ the amendment or development of laws and policies; the introduction of protocols and guidelines on the quality and coordination of services in line with the global UN Essential Services Package (ESP).
- ◆ the expansion of services to survivors; the enhancement of capacity of service providers -- health, social, police and justice -- to provide quality services and referrals.
- ◆ in **Azerbaijan, Belarus, BiH, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine** the global UN ESP and related UNFPA Standard Operating Procedures for Eastern Europe and Central Asia were adapted and contextualized for key sectors on how to respond to GBV, including specific services for survivors. For example, in **Tajikistan** and **Georgia** the national SOPs are now aligned to global ESP for healthcare workers and have been adapted and approved by the Ministries of Health.
- ◆ With respect to the humanitarian-development nexus, sector specific SOPs and national regulations for intersectoral coordination and response in emergency situations have been developed and approved in **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia and Serbia.**

## PARTNERS

The multisectoral response to GBV envisages cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders at different levels: policy, institutional, community and individual, with high-level government officials, civil society actors, policy makers and members of parliament.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On P&D and SSC:** Having reference documents as common resources for countries in the region ensured the consistency of the approach on GBV prevention and response.
- **On SSC:** Through cross-country exchange incentives, countries that are traditionally not accustomed to collaboration can share their experiences and expertise.
- **On SSC:** SSC enabled countries to develop longer-term partnerships and networking opportunities and was recognized as an effective modality of development cooperation.
- **On SSC:** This model provides a space to share the knowledge and involvement of multisectoral teams at country level in achieving common national results.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "UNFPA: Sexual and Reproductive Health" (2018)<sup>1</sup> – page 43

### Contact details

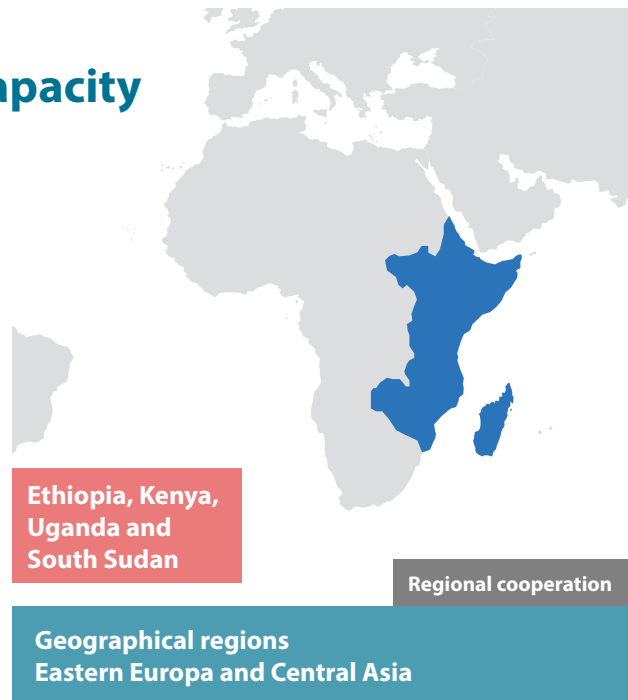
UNFPA – HQ | Bobby Olarte (olarte@unfpa.org), Yanming Lin (lin@unfpa.org) and Ramiz Alakbarov Nigina Abaszade and Nurgul Kinderbaeva | UNFPA - EECA RO abaszade@unfpa.org and kinderbaeva@unfpa.org | website: <https://eeca.unfpa.org/en>

<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/11/30/sexual-and-reproductive-health-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

## South-South and triangular cooperation for civil service capacity enhancement in South Sudan

The Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) member countries, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda deployed abroad qualified and experienced civil servants to mentor South Sudanese Civil Servants



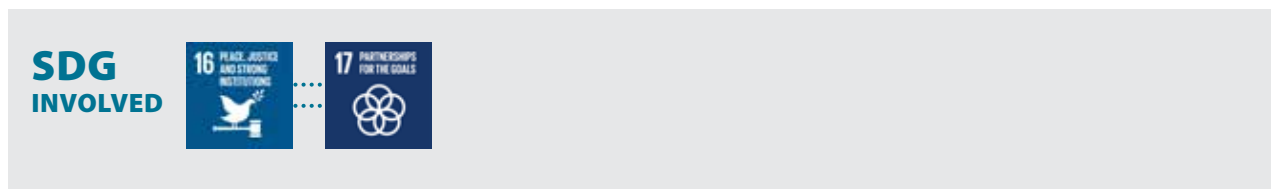
**Challenge**

Following independence in 2011, there was a widespread understanding that the South Sudan's stability and security were of prime importance. The South Sudanese people were living in some of the world's worst human development conditions and they demanded a state capable of delivering security and basic services. The functioning of the South Sudanese State depended on the emergence of a relatively viable state apparatus staffed by professional and capable civil servants – an extraordinarily scarce resource after decades of devastating conflict.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Between 2011 and 2015, the Regional Initiative for Civil Service Capacity Enhancement in South Sudan, established by the Government of South Sudan in partnership with UNDP and the IGAD member countries Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, and funded by the Government of Norway, worked together to tackle the above challenge. The Initiative built on existing bilateral agreements and IGAD provided the project's political framework and regional legitimacy.<sup>1</sup>

Under Phase I of the Initiative, the project deployed regional experts, known as Civil Service Support Officers (CSSOs), who successfully coached and mentored South Sudanese civil servants, also known as "twins", in the former 10 states of South Sudan; currently Phase II is ongoing (2013 to 2019). These deployments served as a capacity boost to developing local capacity through twinning with South Sudanese civil servant counterparts in peer-to-peer coaching and mentoring partnerships. The deployed civil servants remained on their sending countries' payroll during their two-year coaching and mentoring stay in South Sudan, making these individual contributions among the largest of any South-South assistance for post-conflict state building to date. UNDP provided technical support in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project, in addition to its day-to-day management. The Government of Norway funded the CSSOs' consolidated technical allowances and the costs of project management.



1. [http://www.ss.undp.org/content/south\\_sudan/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/12/09/the-igad-regional-capacity-enhancement-initiative-concludes-its-annual-review-workshops-in-juba.html](http://www.ss.undp.org/content/south_sudan/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/12/09/the-igad-regional-capacity-enhancement-initiative-concludes-its-annual-review-workshops-in-juba.html)



### How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?

Peace agreements are implemented through a civil service that is professional and responsive to the needs of citizens. Peace dividends are demonstrated by the establishment and delivery of inclusive frontline service delivery to the population, which was devastated by conflicts, especially the vulnerable groups. To this end, the project increased the capacity of civil servants, including those working in the national infrastructure for peace, through coaching and mentoring and building the in-house knowledge and skills which are critical in providing much needed basic services at all levels. Delivering a peace dividend through the provision of basic services increases citizen confidence and trust in their government and helps to restore the social contract between the state and its citizens, a necessary condition for stabilization, recovery, and sustainable development.

## IMPACTS

- **Improved institutional performance through increased knowledge and skills:** In the first phase, the project provided technical support for 22 national and subnational civil service institutions and 1,013 South Sudanese civil servants (257 female), through the formulation of legal, regulatory and policy frameworks, including regulation of conduct of business enacted by the National Legislative Assembly. In addition, 121 CSSOs were deployed in 18 national and 30 subnational institutions, and the CSSOs coached 694 twins (176 female) in the second phase of the project. During the two phases, more than 1,700 South Sudan civil servants benefited from the twinning arrangement.
- **Improved legal, policy, and institutional frameworks of civil service institutions:** The project helped harmonize and develop sectorial policies in support of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; the Ministry of Housing and Physical Planning; the Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development; the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development; the Ministry of Livestock and Animal Resources; and the Ministry of Interior. In the two phases, the project supported the development of 68 institutional policies, 16 bills and 49 strategic plans.

## PARTNERS

Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) member countries Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda

UNDP and financial support from Norway

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## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On P&D and SSC:** The project is a model of SSC that has been adopted to support the restoration of core governance functions in fragile states, involving neighbouring countries. This is a more suitable approach to capacity development (cultural and linguistic affinity, and knowledge of local and regional conditions);
- **On P&D:** It is important to balance the population's short-term needs while simultaneously investing in medium-term priorities for recovery and resilience-building – there are enormous challenges in prioritizing the civil service capacity development in the face of the desperate need for humanitarian assistance;
- **On SSC:** The creation of forums for direct and regular consultation with all levels of government and the donor enhanced communication and engagement in project implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- **On SSC:** The need for flexibility and context relevance, which allow projects to seize opportunities to contribute to capacity development in ways not envisaged in the original design.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

SSTC Good Practices for SD, Vol. 1<sup>2</sup> (2016) – page 117

### Contact details

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2016/05/30/good-practices-in-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-for-sustainable-development-2016/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to strengthen reproductive health in humanitarian settings**

UNFPA facilitated the exchange of knowledge and experience among reproductive health professionals in the area of reproductive health service delivery, especially for services provided by midwives in an emergency and humanitarian context.



**Challenge**

Eight-years of crisis left some 5.1 million people living in hard-to-reach and besieged areas with limited access to basic health services. More than 50 per cent of health facilities were destroyed completely or partially and the delivery of quality reproductive health services was affected. The need for skilled human resources, especially qualified nurses and midwives, was huge - the majority of them served in major cities. Moreover, like other health professionals, many midwives have either perished, been forcibly displaced, or have left the country.

Islamic Republic of Iran and Syrian Arab Republic

Cross-regional cooperation

Geographical regions  
Western Asia and South Asia

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

To strengthen access to quality maternal health care, UNFPA, in partnership with the Ministry of Health of the Syrian Arab Republic, organized a cross-country exchange of knowledge and experience study tour for reproductive health professionals to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The objective was to enhance participants’ understanding of best practices in reproductive health service delivery, especially by midwives in an emergency and humanitarian context, as well as in a post-crisis era.

The choice of the Islamic Republic of Iran was based on the country’s achievements in implementing reproductive health programmes, particularly its well-developed midwifery programme. The Syrian health professionals, especially the midwives, have benefited from the Iranian experiences, which include prenatal, postnatal care and safe deliveries in hospitals and facilities, neonatal care and resuscitation and emergency obstetric care service, among others. Public private partnerships (PPP) in supporting capacity of midwives to deliver quality healthcare was also one of the areas where participants were provided with in-depth information and experience.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Using the capacity-building of health professionals from all over the Syrian Governorates as an entry point for improving social cohesion; having a better understanding of the different categories of people that come from different geographic



locations and social backgrounds, leaving aside other types of sensitive differences; improved understanding to reduce the suffering of the population and contribute to minimizing the tension; improving the accessibility of the most vulnerable people to quality healthcare addresses one source of tensions; reducing maternal mortality and improving maternal health is fundamental to the stability and resilience of communities; provision of accessible health services could help with the rebuilding of communities and families.



### IMPACTS

- Midwifery modules in Syria are updated, benefiting from the experience in Iran;
- The Health Agreement between Iran and Syria was updated to include capacity development in health including midwifery programmes;
- A specialized study tour was organized to Iran on in-vitro fertilization (but was postponed due to the political context in Iran);
- UNFPA Syria is advocating for the implementation of the PPP approach adopted in Iran to improve the efficiency of health facilities (NGOs are renting the primary health centres (PHC) in several areas)

### PARTNERS

Islamic Republic of Iran – Ministry of Health and Medical Education; Tehran University of Medical Sciences and affiliated hospitals

Syrian Arab Republic - Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Health

UNFPA ASRO

### LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** The success of the exchange is based on its participatory approach, including the active engagement of high-ranking officials;
- **On SSC:** For learning to be incorporated into practice, the participation of Syrian senior staff in the cross-country exchange was vital;
- **On SSC:** The importance of the timely and quality implementation of the study tour includes the quality of the materials, lectures and other related logistical and operational aspects.

### SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action (SSiA) "UNFPA: Sexual and Reproductive Health"<sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 41

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/11/30/sexual-and-reproductive-health-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation to promote a culture of peace and reconstruction in Mosul, Iraq: Revive the spirit of Mosul**

Revive the Spirit of Mosul is a flagship initiative launched in 2018 by UNESCO to contribute to rebuilding the cultural heritage and revitalizing the educational and cultural institutions of Iraq, in cooperation with the Government and people of Iraq, the United Arab Emirates and other international partners.

**Challenge**

Iraq, which has stood up in the face of terrorism and triumphed, is fully aware of the power of culture to bring back hope and peace, and restore the archaeological sites, museums, buildings and intangible heritage that terrorism has destroyed. The archaeological sites of Nimrud, the Museum of Mosul, the Nabi Younes Shrine – part of the living symbol of the multifaceted identity of Iraq and in the crossroads of the Middle East and which bears witness to the wealth of the civilizations that crossed the region over centuries - have been targeted for deliberate destruction.



United Arab Emirates and Iraq

Regional cooperation

Geographical regions  
Western Asia

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

The 'Revive the Spirit of Mosul' initiative<sup>1</sup>, launched in February 2018, aims to support Iraq's social and economic renaissance and contribute to sustainable development and reconciliation between communities through the safeguarding and enhancement of the cultural heritage. The initiative foresees a joint effort to rebuild the heritage and revitalize the educational and cultural institutions of Mosul, in close cooperation with the Government and people of Iraq.

In this context, the United Arab Emirates and UNESCO signed a partnership agreement of US\$ 50.4 million, over a five-year period, with generous support from the UAE to rebuild the emblematic al-Nuri Mosque and its leaning 45-meter al-Hadbaa Minaret, which was built more than 840 years ago. The first year will focus on documenting and clearing the site, in addition to drawing up plans for its reconstruction, while the following four years will focus on the restoration and historically faithful reconstruction of the Leaning Minaret of the al-Nuri Mosque and adjacent buildings. The plan will also include the city's historic gardens and other open spaces and infrastructures, in addition to building a memorial and a museum at the mosque site. The initiative with UAE foresees a joint effort to rebuild the heritage and revitalize the educational and cultural institutions of Mosul, in close cooperation with the Government and people of Iraq, especially involving young people, including technical cooperation and capacity development.

**SDG INVOLVED**

1. A video about this initiative is available at: <https://en.unesco.org/news/uae-unesco-and-iraq-conclude-historic-50m-partnership-reconstruct-mosul-s-iconic-al-nouri> and more info on the initiative are <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1847/>



**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

It is expected that during its implementation and upon its completion, the initiative will contribute to peace by strengthening the resilience of local individuals and groups in their diversity and promoting their mutual recognition. Additionally, the initiative will foster local employment and long-term economic benefits through to the preservation of key heritage resources. This initiative illustrates how South-South and triangular cooperation can support peace building and reconstruction efforts.

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**IMPACTS**

- ◆ Even though the initiative is at its initial phase, there are high expectations that during implementation and upon its completion the initiative will contribute to peace by strengthening the resilience of local individuals and groups in their diversity and promoting their mutual recognition. Additionally, the initiative will foster local employment and long-term economic benefits through to the preservation of key heritage resources.
- ◆ UNESCO is exploring, at this moment, the extension of the project to other heritage sites affected by the conflict, notably a Christian church.
- ◆ This flagship initiative is also exploring other possible partnerships within its framework. For example, very recently, on 21 February 2019, the European Union (EU) has committed 20 million Euros, in partnership with UNESCO and other partners, to promote social cohesion and reconciliation in Iraq through the restoration and reconstruction of historic urban landscapes in the old cities of Mosul and Basra within the framework of the Revive the Spirit of Mosul flagship initiative. This is a good example of how a South-South cooperation project successfully leverages more financial resources to generate greater impact.

## PARTNERS

United Arab Emirates - Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development

Iraq - Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities; Governorate of Nineveh; the Sunni Endowment; the University of Mosul

UNESCO and other UN agencies: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), European Union

## LESSONS LEARNED

- It is important for the project to engage with civil society and local communities, in cooperation with the Iraqi national and local authorities, and the local universities.
- This project is also working in close collaboration with two specialized UN agencies, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), which demonstrates the joint commitment and efforts of UN agencies towards peace and development through South-South and triangular cooperation.

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## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

South-South in Action "UNESCO South-South and Triangular Cooperation" <sup>1</sup> (2018) – page 16

### Contact details

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/12/unesco-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-in-action-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

## South-South and triangular cooperation to support the rebuilding the social fabric in Afghanistan

Croatia's cooperation with Afghanistan is also multidimensional: it encompasses support to tackle multiple issues including education, health, development of small enterprises, women's and girls' empowerment and political participation



Croatia and Afghanistan

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions  
Southern Europe and Southern Asia

**Challenge**

After four decades of conflict in Afghanistan, a substantial peace process was still not guaranteed. The Government's goal to reduce reliance on aid and secure its own tax base require concentrated efforts to stimulate the private sector, reduce corruption and red tape, and build infrastructure, after which Afghanistan's mineral wealth could be exploited. In this process of systemic change in the country, women's economic empowerment and political participation, as well as the rebuilding of infrastructure and social services, is vital.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

In the period 2007–2013, Croatia has implemented more than 42 development cooperation projects in Afghanistan, one of Croatia's largest development partners. The following are examples:

- **Women entrepreneurship:** A number of micro-projects were designed to strengthen women's entrepreneurship and cooperatives enabling women to secure an alternative source of income. For example, the project on carpet weaving (a traditional Afghan craft) directly or indirectly employs at least 1.5 million people, of whom the majority are women.
- **Health:** The largest infrastructure project is the construction of the Zar Shakh primary healthcare centre in the village of Layoba, which was carried out in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). It is used by 23,000 of people from surrounding villages.
- **Education and local development:** Equipping of a primary school in the village of Homaro Faroq in cooperation with the Afghan Ministry of Education. The school was equipped with desks and chairs made by local craftspeople, which resulted in increased local employment



**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Croatia is a small contributor in the overall process of post-conflict recovery in Afghanistan. Nevertheless, Croatia's approach, characterized by strong engagement with local communities, is vital for the amplification of the peace impact of Croatia's support. This micro-social approach increases the chances of social acceptance – for example by religious leaders - and the overall sustainability of the initiatives. Proximity and connections established with local partners allows changes of mindset in the community. Some initiatives also were successful in involving soldiers in their activities, building bridges between foreign soldiers and Afghan communities in their every-day life. This is very important in conflict contexts.

**IMPACTS**

- The construction and opening of the school, as well as other projects, always took into consideration the challenge of acceptance of members of the Croatian military operating in the area. Positive links with broader peace operations besides the direct contributions of each project mentioned above.

**PARTNERS**

Ministries of Education and Ministries of Health of both countries  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**LESSONS LEARNED**

- **On SSC:** Multi-annual implementation can be done with relatively modest financial contributions and is the key to sustainable and meaningful results
- **On SSC:** Close collaboration with provincial authorities and local actors promotes acceptance of international support
- **On SSC and P&D:** It is possible to cooperate with military staff on security issues but also as a 'helping hand' in development actions.
- **On P&D:** The vital role of women in peacebuilding and in the rebuilding of the social structure, as well as youth and children, as multiplier effects.
- **On P&D:** It is crucial to focus on minorities, including religious ones, when dealing with post-conflict societies.

**SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE**

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Croatia: A Unique Bridge between North and South Development Cooperation"<sup>1</sup> (2018) – p.44

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/28/croatia-a-unique-bridge-between-north-and-south-development-cooperation-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

## South-South and triangular cooperation to support veterans of war, sustainable return of refugees and IDPs and mine-action in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatia’s multidimensional support to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH): veterans’ economic and psychosocial rehabilitation and re-socialization; dignified and sustainable return of refugees and IDPs to their homes; and mine action.



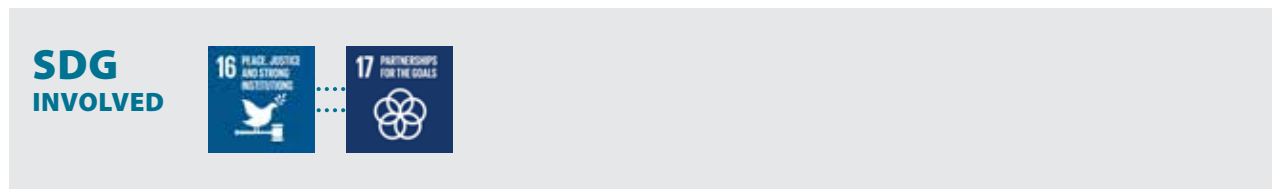
**Challenge**

Complex challenges arose from the 1992-95 conflict. The conflict was characterized by violent ethnic cleansing, shaping the politics, society and economic development of Bosnia-Herzegovina today. During the conflict there were a large number of displaced persons and refugees as well as killings. The multidimensional support provided cooperation to overcome multifaced challenges, in the light of the strong aspiration for European integration.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

BiH is a neighbouring country of Croatia. Both have faced similar challenges. In the spirit of cross-border cooperation (CBC), the main objective of which is to support progress towards shared prosperity and good neighbourliness, Croatia provided multidimensional support as follows:

- The dignified and sustainable return of refugees and IDPs: since 2001, Croatia has been active in helping create the conditions on the ground for a dignified and sustainable return. This includes helping rebuild homes and energy/water infrastructure, support in the rebuilding of hospitals, facilities for people with disabilities, schools, retirement homes, cultural centres and more;
- Mine action: Croatia and BiH are closely cooperating on demining as well as other aspects of mine action, such as mine-risk education and victim assistance. Croatia’s authorities and Bosnia and Herzegovina’s are considering clearing cross-border areas where mines are suspected.
- Veterans’ economic and psychosocial rehabilitation and re-socialization: The Ministry of Veterans’ Affairs is organizing a call for proposals for small entrepreneurship (producing honey, starting small-scale agricultural production, producing tourist souvenirs, etc);



**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Croatia is supporting BiH in thematic areas with direct positive peace impact but also under the assumption that this will support BiH process towards acceptance of EU membership. The European project is considered also a peace endeavour to overcome past conflicts. All other thematic initiatives are directly connected to peace and security: the right to dignified return, education, rehabilitation and economic opportunities for war veterans are all part of rebuilding the social fabric.

**IMPACTS**

- There are a number of long-term impacts such as the reduction in suicides because of the veteran's re-socialization, the dignified return of displaced peoples because of successful demining, etc.
- Successful exchange of best practices, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the event of floods in mined areas.

**PARTNERS**

Croatia - Ministry of Veterans' Affairs; State Office for Reconstruction; State Office for Croats Living Abroad

Bosnia and Herzegovina – several federal and local authorities

Other partners were UNDP, GIZ, EU, various foundations and trust funds

**LESSONS LEARNED**

- **On SSC:** There are important achievements whenever communities of both countries are involved in the cooperation, especially in the case of Croatia and BiH which share a common past and border
- **On SSC:** It is very difficult to implement a sustainable project without involving community leaders;
- **On P&D and SSC:** BiH is very large and has several local authorities, which can be complicated without facilitating local community engagement from both sides. When they work together, it is easier for them to exchange ideas based on the common challenges that they both face.

**SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE**

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Croatia: A Unique Bridge between North and South Development Cooperation"<sup>1</sup> (2018) – p.47/8

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<http://www.mvep.hr/en/>

1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/28/croatia-a-unique-bridge-between-north-and-south-development-cooperation-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation on psychosocial support, education, post-mortem identification and demining in Colombia**

Croatian support to Colombia in the areas of psychosocial support, education, post-mortal identification and demining in Colombia. Sharing lessons and techniques between two post-war countries



Croatia and Colombia

Cross-continental cooperation

Geographical regions  
South America and Southern Europe

**Challenge**

Violent armed conflict has afflicted Colombia for the past 50 years, destabilizing the country and causing the death of over 200,000 of people and the forced internal displacement of more than 5 million Colombians. The conflict has largely destroyed the country's social fabric, seriously affected its economic development and undermined the resilience of large parts of its population.

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Croatia's cooperation with Colombia began in 2009 in two areas of work: high-level education and mine action. In the past two years since the cessation of the armed conflict, two more relevant areas were added: psychosocial work with people traumatized by war and post-mortem identification techniques and experiences, which were developed in Croatia after the Homeland War.

- **High level education:** Croatia has provided scholarships to Colombian nationals to study in Croatia.
- **Mine action:** Project aimed at building capacity of the Colombian Ministry of Defence through a three-member delegation consisting of the Croatian Centre for Demining (CROMAC) and the Centre for Testing, Development and Education (HCR-CTRO), the aim of which was to train Colombian partners in procedures for proposing and adopting legislation on the regulation of demining activity. In 2013, the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs financed the second phase of the implementation of the project in Colombia for the transfer of knowledge and knowhow for the specific implementation of measures regulating demining. In 2014, the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs financed the third phase, which consisted of the training of supervisors to carry out quality mine action.
- **Psychosocial support:** Within the EU framework, the Croatian project Capacity development for psychosocial support – Strengthening Colombian care professionals in providing basic psychosocial services was implemented by the Society for Psychological Assistance (SPA), from Zagreb, in cooperation with Arq Psychotrauma Expert Group from the Netherlands.

**SDG INVOLVED**



**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Croatian cooperation contributes to addressing some of the challenges in post-conflict contexts: demining improves security, while the psychosocial support project is very well accepted by Colombian communities and contributes to the process of demobilization of soldiers.

**IMPACTS**

- In mine action cooperation, standardized measures were proposed, and methods, procedures, working tools, equipment, mapping of the surveyed areas and a database for the evaluation and accreditations of equipment were used in demining with ownership by the Colombian Government;
- Colombian partners were trained in carrying out further actions to create the required legislative framework on humanitarian demining;
- Croatia donated 15 complete sets of demining clothing for the training participants; this clothing complies with the highest international standards.

**PARTNERS**

Croatia - Ministry of Veterans' Affairs; State Office for Reconstruction; State Office for Croats Living Abroad

Bosnia and Herzegovina – several federal and local authorities

Other partners were UNDP, GIZ, EU, various foundations and trust funds

**LESSONS LEARNED**

- **On SSC:** The cascading training-of-trainers (ToT) model will serve to disseminate the new skills and reach new care providers who work with populations in need.
- **On SSC:** The support of and collaboration with governmental services and training institutions will ensure sustainability of the project outcomes
- **On P&D:** Conflict recovery such as mine action can easily evolve into economic cooperation, not only for the trade in machinery and equipment from one country to another, but also other issues related to support to improving the social fabric after demining.

**SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE**

South-South in Action (SSiA) "Croatia: A Unique Bridge between North and South Development Cooperation"<sup>1</sup> (2018) – p.47/8

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1. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/06/28/croatia-a-unique-bridge-between-north-and-south-development-cooperation-2018/>

**SECTION 3: Experiences oriented towards preventing the recurrence of conflict**

**South-South and triangular cooperation for family protection, support, security and justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence in Iraq**



Facilitating relief and access to justice for domestic and gender-based violence victims in Iraq through knowledge transfer from Jordan

**Challenge**

More than one in every three women in Iraq has either experienced first-hand or had a family member who has suffered devastating violence, be it sexual assault, domestic violence, kidnapping or assault. Often, these incidents go unreported and the survivors are left with no support. Lack of quality information had for a long time made it difficult to track instances of violence against women.

Jordan and Iraq

Regional cooperation

Geographical regions  
Western Asia

**South-South cooperation: Brief description**

Between 2012 and 2015, the Family protection, support, security and justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence programme developed by UNDP sought to tackle the issue of gender based violence head on. The programme supported the Government of Iraq in undertaking policy, legislative, social and economic reforms to enhance the response of national institutions, improve access to justice, and empower victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence.

UNDP facilitated South-South knowledge transfers, workshops and study tours to enable the Iraqi authorities to learn from their Jordanian counterparts how to establish family protection systems, facilitate law enforcement and ensure access to justice for victims. Through country-to-country cooperation and exchanges, the programme provided comprehensive technical and advisory support combined with extensive capacity development interventions for Iraqi stakeholders.

Learning from Jordanian experiences, the programme helped to build the capacity of formal and informal institutions to establish family protection systems and facilitate law enforcement and access to justice for the victims of violence, based on a holistic approach to domestic and gender-based violence in the Iraqi context.

**How does this SSC initiative contribute to peace?**

Through ensuring the protection of women, which materialized through a full-fledged establishment of prevention and protection of domestic violence.

**SDG INVOLVED**

## IMPACTS

- The project was able to establish family protection units within police stations across the country. In 2012, over 7,000 cases of domestic violence were reported while the number of female police recruits increased;
- The Kurdistan Regional Government adopted the Domestic Violence Bill and a similar bill is under review by the Government of Iraq
- A national pool of local trainers has also been created to enhance the capacity of Family Protection Unit representatives from the Iraqi governorates. The training of Family Protection Unit managers from all 18 Iraqi governorates and the creation of a national pool of local trainers have helped to ensure the sustainability of the capacity development activities;
- The establishment of the whole sustainable reporting system for domestic violence, the first ever of its kind in Iraq.



## PARTNERS

Jordan - Ministry of Social Development and the Jordanian Family Protection Department

Iraq - Family Protection Units at the federal level and the Directorate for Tracing Violence against Women at regional level. Other national partners include the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Human Rights, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Health, the High Council of Women in Kurdistan and civil society organizations.

UNDP in partnership with UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA as well as the Governments of Denmark and Norway

## LESSONS LEARNED

- **On SSC:** The cultural, social and linguistic similarities, including a common tribal social system, between Iraq and Jordan, made the learning of best practices in a regional context and geographical proximity a realistic, cost-effective way to fight domestic and gender-based violence; it also helped to reduce the costs of transportation for participants.
- **On SSC:** Iraq's adoption of the Jordanian organizational structure, its institutionalization of the domestic reporting mechanism within the Ministry of the Interior, its allocation of resources from the national budget, and its formulation of an Iraqi cross-ministerial strategy (establishing links among designated committees) are proof of the strong ownership and sustainability of the programme in Iraq.
- **On SSC:** it was proved that cooperation between institutions (not individuals) is more sustainable.

## SOURCE OF THE INITIATIVE

SSTC Good Practices for SD, Vol. 1 (2016)<sup>1</sup> – page 53

### Contact details

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<https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2016/05/30/good-practices-in-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-for-sustainable-development-2016/>





## Chapter III From promise to action

Through this publication, “South-South in Action on Peace and Development”, UNOSSC and its partners seek to support all stakeholders in collaborating in a coherent and integrated way to prevent conflict and strengthen national, regional and global efforts towards durable peace and inclusive development. As we go forward in supporting this strategic objective, UNOSSC would like to highlight two main areas of work to convert promise into action in the field of South-South cooperation for peace and development:

**Visibility: Action and voices from the Global South**

UNOSSC understands that an important first step to enhance Southern collaboration for peace is to make the impacts of existing experiences visible, such as the 21 cases presented in this publication. It is important to acknowledge that South-South cooperation for peace and development is no longer a promise, but a concrete result of visionary

and committed work by many organizations and teams working with determination around the world. As highlighted in the case studies, it is also clear that these initiatives are not “owned” by one region, one country, one intergovernmental or UN agency. Many Global South countries have recently experienced or are experiencing multiple and varied forms of challenges linked to violence, insecurity and conflict. They all have knowledge to offer and needs to be satisfied; the question is whether the institutional channels and platforms are there to support systematic cross-fertilization of ideas and lessons to sustain peace.

UNOSSC offers its advisory services without distinction to provide ongoing guidance and support for the documentation and dissemination to a wider audience of key Global South experiences in sustaining peace. UNOSSC will create more opportunities to produce action-oriented research products, as well as offering the on-line platform “South-South Galaxy” to facilitate knowledge sharing and building partnerships





and dialogue in innovative ways. Finally, UNOSSC also aims to provide seed capital to support the organization of face-to-face exchanges in which the lessons of practice, concrete tools and ideas can be systematically and safely discussed and shared, always guided by South-South principles of mutuality, respect, Southern leadership and horizontal dialogue.

### **Lessons learned: Increasing the impact through action across regions**

Finally, the case studies provide illuminating lessons about how and why South-South cooperation is, in fact, an outstanding way of promoting inclusive peace and development. The brief insights shared by our partners directly involved in implementing projects are telling. For example, many mentioned how and why cultural, historical and regional proximity is a vital pillar of peacemaking and sustaining peace. They also told us that, crucially, all SDGs and their targets are integrated in their endeavours. This is because the purpose is to transform the root

causes of violent conflict and promote long-term peace. Thus, they work in an integral manner on issues ranging from employment and gender to violence, climate change, citizens' participation and voice, mediation, electoral support and much more. In all, the case studies demonstrate that a holistic, integral and multidimensional approach to peace – sometimes perceived as mere “buzzwords” detached from action – are much more than that. They are real and vital guidance.

UNOSSC also seeks to become a knowledge hub in which lessons learned from South-South collaboration to sustain peace across regions can be systematized and shared. Only by embracing the importance of adapting experience drawn from practice, valuing the outstanding efforts of others and connecting cutting-edge, innovative ideas beyond borders, will we create the conditions for a humanity fit to realize the vision of a world of peace, dignity and freedom for all in which no one is left behind. UNOSSC stands ready to support our partners far and wide.





# Annex

## Methodology and sample profile

This annex explains the methodology used to produce this publication with its sample of 21 cases of “South-South cooperation on peace and development”.

It also provides quantitative data relating to the sample of 21 case studies presented in Chapter 2. The research teams created a number of categories in order to generate information on the salient general characteristics of the cases studied. Thus, it seeks to provide a brief overview of the sample profile which could be useful for future follow-up research work in this emerging field.

### I. Methodology and research techniques

Firstly, the research team devised an overall research methodology for the purposes of this thematic South-South publication. The methodological process consisted of the following key activities:

- 1) Harvesting the cases from all publications/ reports published by the UNOSSC between 2016-2018 (see list of publications reviewed at the end of this annex below)
- 2) Selecting criteria that would show the relevance of the case studies to both peace and development and South-South cooperation (see below criteria used);
- 3) Engagement with partners to:
  - i. Supplement the data collection and approve the draft case studies. All the drafts were prepared using existing information contained in the UNOSSC publications and with additional inputs from the partners. These additional inputs were provided in remote interviews and/or exchange of emails.
  - ii. Produce the final draft sent for final approval to all the partners.

### Research techniques

The main research techniques aligned with the steps described above were as follows

- Desk-review of all the 17 publications to select case studies. Desk-research on partners’ websites and other on-line sources, including UN reports and other relevant publications.
- Interviews with the partners and email exchange to collect qualitative data
- Meta-analysis: Clustering to quantify information
- Data aggregation in a database to consider and identify categories of interest and, if applicable, include additional cases.

### II. Selection of the sample of 21 case studies

The sample consists of **21 case studies selected from 17 UNOSSC publications**. Relevant case studies were selected from the following 17 publications of the United Nations Office on South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC):

### • South-South in Action (SSiA) Series<sup>1</sup>

- Palestinian International Cooperation Agency: Solidarity through Cooperation and Development (2018)
- UNFPA: Sexual and Reproductive Health (2018)
- Scaling-up Private Sector Enterprises in OIC Member Countries – Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (2018)
- Human Welfare and Peace through Development of Science and Technology - Mustafa Foundation (2018)
- Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund (2018)
- Global SSD Expo 2016 – United Arab Emirates (2018)
- 60 Years of Israeli Development Cooperation – MASHAV (2018)
- A unique bridge between north and south development cooperation – Croatia (2018)
- UNESCO – South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Action (2018)
- From Cuba to the world (2018)
- Fragile-too-Fragile Cooperation – Voluntarism, Cooperation and Solidarity (2017)
- The Union for Mediterranean – an action-driven organization for regional cooperation (2017)
- Inspiring Sustainable Development with Bamboo – INBAR (2017)
- The Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States – The Turkic Council (2017)
- Citizen – Friendly Public Service Innovation in Bangladesh (2017)

### • Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development series<sup>2</sup>:

- Vol. 1 (2016)
- Vol. 2 (2018)

## Criteria applied to select cases relevant to “South-South cooperation on peace and development”

As briefly described in Chapter 1, in order to select the case studies constituting this publication sample, the research team applied a set of criteria relevant to the emerging field of South-South cooperation on peace and development, in particular, the interrelated nature of “*peace and development*”.

1 UNOSSC website to see all the published “South-South in action” editions: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/library/publications/south-south-in-action-series/>

2 The two “Good Practices volumes” can be accessed and UNOSSC website: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/library/publications/good-practices-in-sstc-for-sustainable-development/>

**The criteria for selection of SSC P&D case studies for this publication is as follows:**

- i. Explicit intention to **transform identified root causes of conflict** and/ or drivers of violence, insecurity, instability and crime in a given context(s);
- ii. Clear purpose to promote peace during one or more simultaneous phases of the “peace continuum”:
  - **Preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict** – addressing the root causes generating violent conflict, insecurity and instability
  - **Preventing the continuation of conflict:** mediation and conflict/crisis/tensions management
  - **Preventing the recurrence of conflict:** conflict transformation and long-term gains to achieve durable peace;
- iii. **Partners self-assessment on the South-South and triangular nature of the documented initiative:** this means partners’ recognition of the effort as an SSC endeavour lead by Southern actors

After reviewing all the publications and applying these criteria, including in discussion with our partners, the research team finally selected 21 case studies from all the UNOSSC publications reviewed.

The research team considered it useful for the future analytical process to distinguish where the cases could “sit” considering the different moments of the “*peace continuum*”. Our analysis suggests that:

- **in 7 of the case studies**, the aim is to prevent the outbreak and escalation of conflict.
- **in 4 of the case studies**, the aims is to prevent the continuation of conflict;
- the remaining **10 cases studies** are oriented towards **preventing the recurrence of conflict.**

The detailed list of case studies divided into the three stages of the peace continuum is as follows:

**Experiences oriented towards preventing the outbreak and escalation of conflict**

1. South-South peer-learning on access to justice
2. South-South knowledge generation on natural resources management
3. South-South and triangular cooperation to enhance natural resources management (water) for conflict prevention in the Lake Chad Region
4. South-South cooperation and diplomacy: Junior Diplomats Training Programme (JDTP)
5. South-South cooperation to promote citizens’ coexistence through arts and human rights education
6. South-South and triangular cooperation to support freedom of expression, public access to information and safety of journalists in Latin America and Africa
7. South-South and triangular cooperation to promote a culture of peace and non-violence in Africa

**Experiences oriented towards preventing continuation of conflict**

8. South-South support to electoral processes in Guinea-Bissau
9. South-South dialogues and support to peace and reconciliation in Central African Republic (CAR)
10. South-South and triangular cooperation to support comprehensive migration governance –
11. South-South and triangular cooperation to devise accelerated and alternative learning programmes for refugees and internally displaced people in the Arab Region

**Experiences oriented towards preventing recurrence of conflict**

12. South-South cooperation to tackle the Ebola Crisis in West Africa
13. South-South cooperation to build national capacities in forensic sciences for human rights
14. South-South-South and triangular cooperation towards a coordinated multisectoral response to gender-based violence
15. South-South and triangular cooperation to strengthen reproductive health in humanitarian settings in Syria
16. South-South and triangular cooperation for civil service capacity enhancement in South Sudan
17. South-South and triangular cooperation to support the rebuilding of the social fabric in Afghanistan
18. South-South and triangular cooperation to support veterans of war, sustainable return of refugees and IDPs and mine action in Bosnia and Herzegovina
19. South-South and triangular cooperation on psychosocial support, education, post-mortem identification and demining in Colombia
20. South-South and triangular cooperation for family protection, support, security and justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence programme in Iraq
21. South-South and triangular cooperation to promote a culture of peace and reconstruction in Mosul/ Iraq: Revive the spirit of Mosul

**III. The sample case studies and the 2030 Agenda**

All the partners were asked to list all the SDGs and targets relevant to each one of the peace and development initiatives. The aim is to demonstrate the multidimensional and interrelated nature of conflict prevention and sustaining peace. The frequency of cases per SDG is as follows.

- SDG 1: No poverty - 2 cases
- SDG 3: Good health and well-being - 4 cases
- SDG 4: Quality education - 5 cases
- SDG 5: Gender equality - 7 cases

- SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation - 1 case
- SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth - 5 cases
- SDG 10: Reduced inequality - 2 cases
- SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities - 3 cases
- SDG 13: Climate action - 1 case
- SDG 15: Life and land - 3 cases
- SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions - 18 cases
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals - 10 cases

As we can see, almost all partners indicated that they were working towards the achievement of SDG 16 and SDG 17. Notably, they all indicated that they are also working towards the achievement of one or more SDGs to deliver positive peace: only 4 cases identified only one SDG as a target –3 of them working towards the achievement of SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions. All the other cases identified at least 2 SDGs, 6 cases have triple SDGs and another 6 cases have 4 or more SDGs indicated as targets.

#### IV. Type of geographical cooperation

The countries were classified according to the United Nations Statistical Commission for geographical regions<sup>3</sup>. We did this with the objective of first scoping the regional reach of the South-South exchanges. After identifying the countries involved, we associated them with their geographical region in order to classify them in three types of geographical exchange: cross-continental, cross-regional and regional.

The **cross-continental cooperation involves at least two different continents**. Here, we consider as continents: Africa, Asia, Americas (notably, Latin America and the Caribbean - LAC), Europe and Oceania.

○ **There are 11 cases that show a cross-continental type of geographical cooperation.**

The other two types of cooperation are related to the regions we have considered in this research. In LAC, we have South America, Central America and the Caribbean. In Asia, we have South-East Asia, Southern Asia, Central Asia and Western Asia. In Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa, Central Africa and North Africa. In Europe, we only consider the Southern and Eastern Europe region, due to the Global South scope adopted here. Oceania also participated in some cases.

Cooperation between different regions within the same continent is termed cross-regional cooperation and exchanges between countries within the same geographical region is termed regional cooperation.

3 The list of geographical regions presents the composition of geographical regions used by the Statistics Division in its publications and databases. Each country or area is shown in one region only. These geographical regions are based on continental regions; these are further subdivided into subregions and intermediary regions drawn so as to obtain greater homogeneity in sizes of population, demographic circumstances and accuracy of demographic statistics Please, refer to: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

- **There are 3 cases that show a cross-regional type of geographical cooperation.**
- **There are 7 cases that show regional cooperation.**

## V. South-South or South-South and triangular cooperation

In this section we explain the modality of cooperation agreements identified by the research team from an analysis of this sample which reflects the common terminology<sup>4</sup> used to describe the South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives.

The categories distinguished are: a) “country-to-country modality” (or bilateral cooperation involving two or more countries), b) triangular cooperation. Triangular cooperation involves, beyond the developing countries, traditional donor countries and multilateral organizations that facilitate the cooperation process in different ways.

The first category is the country-to-country modality. Some case studies relate to the exchange between countries. They explicitly show that there are countries requesting cooperation and others that are offering knowledge and experiences recognized as ‘good practices’. They are also usually called a bilateral type of agreement. It is noteworthy that the cooperation agreements sometimes involve more than one country seeking or offering cooperation.

### ○ **There are 5 cases of country-to-country” cooperation**

There are other triangular cooperation cases in which we found a UN agency facilitating the South-South exchange. This support, which can involve the provision of funding, training, management and technological systems, is important to build bridges between requesting countries and good practices identified abroad. In the sample, 5 cases were identified involving UNESCO, 2 cases for UNPA, 2 for UNDP and 1 for IOM.

### ○ **There are 10 SSTC cases with the support of a UN agency**

The third group is the SSTC with facilitation of an intergovernmental organization. These 10 have mandates very much in line with the South-South cooperation principles and objectives, to respond to their common challenges and objectives. The g7+ organization and the Turkic Council cases of relevance and which can be highlighted in the context of SSC on peace and development.

### ○ **There are 6 cases facilitated by other intergovernmental organizations**

The research team developed an initial database considering the categories of analysis above. In this publication, we conducted a very preliminary analytical exercise which might be continued as UNOSSC and its partners further explore avenues to systematize and document good practices and experiences on South-South Cooperation on peace and development.

<sup>4</sup> For more detailed information, please, refer to: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-sstc/>



**United Nations**  
Office for South-South Cooperation