



NEW DYNAMICS OF SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION:

Capacity Building in Higher Education

Joseph N. Ngu, Director,
UNESCO-IICBA
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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Outline of the Presentation

- **Overview** of South-South Cooperation (SSC)
- South-South Cooperation for **Capacity Building**
- The **Role of the UN** in Promoting SSC
- **Challenges** of Higher Education in Africa
- **Opportunities** for SSC with Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

Definition of South-South Cooperation (SSC)

- "a means of promoting effective development by learning and sharing best practices and technology among developing countries " **(UNDP)**
- "Mutual cooperation aimed at fostering self-sustaining development, involving deepening relations among developing countries while conducting technical and economic cooperation“ **(JICA)**

Evolution of South-South Cooperation

- The notion of international cooperation came to existence with the UN charter, which pledges to “**employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social development of all people**”
- has its origins in the liberation and anti-colonial movements after the Second World War.
- *Emerged in 1970s to setup cooperative links among developing countries*

Evolution of South-South Cooperation ... *contd*

- **Areas of cooperation included:** *trade, investment, transfer of technologies, enterprise-level interactions, creation of S-S institutional networks*
- **Successful areas:** *macroeconomic cooperation, financing for development and technical cooperation*

South-South Cooperation for Capacity Building

BENEFITS OF SSC

- ❑ Costs much less than education in the North
- ❑ Reduces brain drain and isolation of scientists in the South
- ❑ Enhances ability of scientists to work in Third World environment and address real-life problems
- ❑ Facilitates building long-term links between institutions of learning and research in the South

Role of the UN in Promoting SSC

- For almost 30 years, the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (housed in UNDP) has worked:
 - *to share technical competencies*
 - *to strengthen Southern negotiating capacities and*
 - *to advocate and facilitate catalytic South-South and triangular initiatives.*

Role of the UN in Promoting SSC ... contd

- The UN has a unique role to play in supporting South-South cooperation through:
 - *sharing development experience.*
 - *continuing to promote private sector development*
 - *supporting national capacities for South-South cooperation and coordination; and*
 - *scaling-up global support and enhancing United Nations coherence and coordination through consolidating United Nations South-South support platforms.*

Challenges of SSC in Higher Education

- ❑ *Lack of sustained institutional support*
- ❑ *Inadequate mainstreaming of SSC in national policies and programs*
- ❑ *Inadequate information flow*
- ❑ *Lack of inter-regional payment arrangements*
- ❑ *Lack of resources and information about developing countries*
- ❑ *Traditional inclination and preferences to do business with the North*

Enhancing the Role of **UNESCO/IICBA** in SSC

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) facilitate the harmonization of education systems to meet the needs of the globalized world;
- b) build a broader partnership by working with regional and sub-regional organizations to focus on commonly shared priority issues in LAC & Africa; and
- c) perform proactive roles of facilitator, innovator and catalyst in the international community to make it more effective.

International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa

Introduction

- one of six UNESCO institutes and centres under the administrative direction of the UNESCO Secretariat.
- mandated to strengthen the capacities of teacher education institutions of its 53 member States.



International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa

Strategic Objectives

- Develop capacity within African teacher training institutions, including teacher training colleges, higher education institutions and teacher organizations, making use of distance education and ICTs for educating teachers as appropriate
- Design and promote methods of training African teachers to address the specific needs and challenges faced in the African context, including HIV/AIDS and gender issues
- Develop capacity within the African education ministries to support teacher education in Africa



International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa

Programmatic Priorities

- Research and Advocacy (in support of teacher education in Africa)
- Teacher Education and Training
- Knowledge Management and Dissemination



Opportunities for SSC with LAC

- 1. Exchange Programmes for Teachers in Higher Education**
- 2. Provision of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Programmes**
- 3. Capacity Development in Science and Technology Teaching**
- 4. ICT for Education**
- 5. Research Networks on Higher Education**



Opportunities for SSC with LAC ... contd

6. Agricultural and rural development

7. Training of Doctors and Health Care Professionals

8. Regional and Global Trade

9. Climate Change for Adaptation and Mitigation

A sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and a dark landscape below. The text is overlaid on this background.

THANK YOU!

Joseph Ngu

jngu@unesco-iicba.org

www.unesco-iicba.org