

**NeST AFRICA**  
NETWORK OF SOUTHERN THINK-TANKS, AFRICA, CHAPTER

# **Africa's road to BAPA+40 Network of Southern Think Tanks meeting 12 – 13 June 2018**



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## Background to the workshop:

In 2019 Argentina will host the Second United Nations (UN) Conference on South-South Cooperation, otherwise known as BAPA +40. The conference marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ground-breaking UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries that was held in 1978 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The outcomes of this conference, known as the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (BAPA), provided a roadmap for these countries to promote cooperation amongst themselves. The BAPA+40 conference presents an opportunity for reflection and review of SSC since then and consideration of its roles and functions in the evolving global development landscape of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Against this backdrop, the Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) held a meeting themed 'Africa's road to BAPA+40' from 12-13 June which brought African stakeholders together to exchange experiences on SSC, both nationally and regionally, on the key priority areas that civil society identify as important for feeding into the discussion on BAPA+40.

## Day One, 12 June 2018

### Welcome and introductory remarks on behalf of the NeST Africa and partners

The meeting was opened by **Ms. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos**, Chief Executive of the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). She gave the background to NeST, noting that the secretariat of the African chapter was made up of the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD), SAIIA, Oxfam South Africa-OZA.

She then outlined the latest thinking of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) – the secretariat for BAPA+40 - on this forthcoming conference. The office has identified five thematic areas for BAPA+40 to scale up the agenda and support to SSC and has approached member states for their contributions. The overarching theme is the role of South-South cooperation and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: challenges and opportunities. It has the following sub-themes:

- Comparative advantages and opportunities of South-South cooperation
- Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation
- Sharing of experiences, best practices and success stories
- Scaling up the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in support of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

Ms Sidiropoulos noted the challenges of bringing the G7+ and member states such as China on to the same page and stated that politics is prevalent throughout SSC discussions. She also noted that the UNOSSC was eager to see the outcomes of the NeST meeting and that this was a real opportunity to provide policy recommendations that could impact on BAPA+40 process.

## Session 1: New narratives in SSC: ensuring key African priorities in BAPA+40

**Bárbara Aubert Casas** from the Technical Cooperation Section at the Embassy of Argentina in South Africa began by noting the momentum for BAPA+40 at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. She stated that Argentina had taken up the Group of 20 (G20) presidency in 2018 and had realised this was the right time to set up a fruitful exchange in the G20 working group on SSC and North-South Cooperation (NSC) by means of promoting triangular cooperation. She stated that the BAPA+40 conference presents a real challenge as it compels us to go beyond the usual area of work and consider inputs from regions and continents. She added that there is a need to exchange knowledge and lessons learned.

She then outlined how SSC has evolved since the previous conference in Buenos Aires and what the new conference should consider. She observed that since the previous plan the world has become more diverse, multipolar, vocal and dynamic and that we have gained a level of specificity with different political systems and economic capabilities. Ms Casas added that the G77 and China have been instrumental in pushing forward SSC. The 2030 agenda is an opportunity to enhance SSC. There is a need to adapt to local capacity in context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a need to adapt to regional realities and to focus on a holistic understanding of sustainable development. She also added that BAPA+40 must go beyond the status quo. Ms Casas stated that improving the quality of SSC and Trilateral Cooperation (TrC) will contribute to assessing its potential for achieving the SDGs, as well as planning, management and orientation. In this regard there is a need to study projects and their benefits. SSC requires continuous and coherent policies building on southern frameworks that foster regional and interregional cooperation. It will need to examine new areas for impact, enhance the UN system and coordination and look at qualitative and quantitative processes. In sum, she concluded that Buenos Aires is a unique opportunity to review and add new commitments for an action-oriented outcome document and to promote an environment for all to achieve the SDGs.

**Mr Bwalya** from African Union NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency addressed the topic of ‘Achieving Agenda 2063 through intra-African cooperation.’ He began by emphasising that poverty and inequality is growing. There has been a population increase, particularly in Africa with increasing urbanisation but no increase in jobs. Rural productivity is declining and there is a youth bulge, with near-stagnation in employment and entrepreneur opportunities. There are limited markets for domestic demand. NEPAD found that the enablers of poverty and inequality included education, literacy and skills; science, technology and innovation, energy and water security, infrastructure, institutions and peace and security. The drivers included industrialisation, agriculture transformation, rural and urban transitions, markets and trade and globalisation. He noted that NEPAD’s strategic impact areas have been aligned to Agenda 2063 and that there is a push to develop Agenda 2063 in national development plans. One major focus area is wealth creation. NEPAD has also looked at strategic impacts, programmatic outcomes and intervention areas for development to assist this process.

Table 1: Alignment and Domestication of Agenda 2063 in NDPs

## Alignment and Domestication of Agenda 2063 in NDPs

Alignment of A 63 Goals and Priorities to National Priorities	Country Prioritization
4. Transformed Economies	43
2. Well Educated Citizens and Skills Revolution Underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation	32
12. Capable Institutions and Transformative Leadership in place	27
1. A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well-Being for all Citizens	25
7. Environmentally Sustainable, and Climate Resilient Economies and Communities	20
10. World Class Infrastructure Crisscrosses Africa	17
11. Democratic Values, Practices, Universal Principles of Human Rights, Justice and Rule of Law Entrenched	11
13. Peace, Security and Stability is Preserved	11
5. Modern Agriculture for Increased Productivity and Production	9
3. Healthy and well nourished Citizens	6
19. Africa as a Major Partner in Global Affairs and Peaceful co-existence	6
20. Africa takes Full Responsibility for Financing Development	6
17. Full Gender Equality in all Spheres of Life	3
18. Engaged and Empowered Youth and Children	2
16. African Cultural Renaissance is Pre-eminent	1
6. Blue/Ocean Economy for Accelerated Economic Growth	
8. United Africa (Federal or Confederate)	
9. Continental Financial and Monetary Institutions Established and Functional	
14. A stable and Peaceful Africa	
15. A fully Functional and Operational APSA	

Mr Bwalya noted that NEPAD's value addition was strengthened and aligned national-regional capacity to implement strategic policy and investment interventions and to deliver results on set economic growth and development targets. NEPAD offers services such as Foresight, Analysis and Integrated Planning for Results; Brokering & Leveraging Partnerships to Strengthen Implementation and Delivery; Catalytic Financing and Project Preparation Support and Impact Assessment, M&E, Reporting and Learning. NEPAD supports implementation at national, regional and continental levels. NEPAD also focuses on regional integration.

**Mr Dalamba** from the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) described South Africa's preparations for the BRICS summit from 25-27 July 2018. He noted the focus of this year's summit as "BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for Inclusive Growth and Shared Prosperity in the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution" and outlined South Africa's priorities for the summit, namely 1) The establishment of a Working Group on Peacekeeping 2) Establishment of a Vaccine Research Centre 3) Establishment of a BRICS Gender and Women's Forum 4) Leveraging the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership towards the pursuit of Inclusive Growth and Advancing the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution 5) Establishment of a BRICS Tourism Track of Cooperation. He stated that DIRCO wrote a paper on the industrial revolution that has been supported by China. He also mentioned that a BRICS-Africa outreach dialogue and BRICS Plus initiative will be held the summit. For the BRICS-Africa dialogue, South Africa suggested inviting the African Union and Regional Economic Communities, to which Heads of State agreed. This was initially started in China in 2017. The BRICS Plus initiative aims to get more countries involved. He stated that a permanent vaccine centre will be launched on the margins of the summit.

Mr Dalamba stressed that South Africa has hosted a number of events and meetings including the BRICS Think tanks and Academic Forum from 28-31<sup>st</sup> May, a meeting of BRICS special envoys in June and a number of other initiatives. He stated that BRICS is a platform to highlight and strengthen causes for the developing world.



**During the discussion**, participants pointed out that there is a need to look at conceptual issues, such as how to define the global south. It was also noted that SSC continues to face challenges such as relying on existing international fora such as the International Monetary Foundation while trying to distance itself. In this regard it was pointed out that some emerging economies see themselves as big enough to engage with such organisations such as the Organisation for Economic Development (OECD) whilst not fully buying into this. If Russia were to go to the G8 for example it could be part of the global north and global south. Southern partners still place an emphasis on northern partners – such as India and China’s continued engagement with the US. There was also a discussion on the importance of economics and regional integration.

Regarding BAPA+40, it was stated that there is a need to go beyond superficial themes or to get involved in bureaucracy. As such it would be important to challenge the UN – even on its definition. Another focus should be on the value that SSC has as a proposition. Participants noted that in some cases, the underlying principles such as solidarity and non-interference have been degraded. China is part of global south but is the next super power. Turkey is an example of how definitional categories have shifted and what activities are undertaken. There are different dynamics between southern partners, as witnesses by Mexico leaving the G77.

## Session 2: Strengthening institutions of SSC

**Mr. Francois Ekoko**, the Regional Coordinator for Africa at the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation spoke on the role of the United Nations in BAPA+40. He explained that the UNOSSC’s role in BAPA+40 comes from UNGA Resolution 71/244, which requests the office to effectively provide the secretariat to member states in marking the fortieth anniversary of BAPA. He stated that a number of OECD countries had joined the G77 to support this resolution and that SSC/TrC was now accepted as key to international development. He stressed the linkages to the SDGs and Agenda 2030, noting that while SDG 17 on partnerships was important, SSC featured in almost every SDG. He located his comments in the context of the UN reforms, which has met some resistance from the G77, and countries such as Russia. He noted that the UNOSSC has been promoting the role of BAPA+40 at a global, regional and country level. At a global level UNOSSC serves as the secretariat, prepares the Secretary General’s notes, sends messages to countries, promote their confidence and encourage general discussions.

Regionally, the African Peer Review Mechanism held a workshop on BAPA+40 with support from the office. UNOSSC has also been supporting the African Union Commission in formulating a common position and there has been some discussion in Asia. At a country level, UNOSSC provides technical support and expertise such as at a recent workshop in China and a forthcoming dialogue in Egypt end of the month.

Francois stated that economic communities play a special role in SSC by virtue of their status but that the Economic Commission for Africa at present doesn’t have the technical capacity. Other institutions such as the UN Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) also play a technical role along specific themes.

However there remains a coordination challenge which impacts in levels of preparedness and harmonization. It is important to consider comparative advantages among different organisations, and statutory versus specific mandates.

**Dr Philani Mthembu**, Executive Director at Institute for Global Dialogue described the South African experience of engaging through SSC: a multi-stakeholder approach. He began by pointing out that in 2007 the African National Congress (ANC) decided to establish a South African Partnership Agency that would coordinate South Africa's development efforts across multiple departments and ministries, but this had not been done and by December last year, the ANC had urged government to fast track the agency. He noted that many people like to focus on the work of the African Renaissance Fund but that research had shown this was responsible for less than 5% of South Africa's development cooperation.

He stated that South Africa utilised a number of departments for SSC, including the police, public service and department of trade and industry. As such, he pointed out that the approach within government is already a de-facto a multi-stakeholder approach, which makes it difficult for government to have just one view. He argued that there has been pressure from below on exercising oversight over South Africa's engagements but this varied across departments. Between 2003 – 2013, there was a discrepancy of funds allocated to what was spent – either much lower or higher. He has now observed a qualitative difference to reporting that focusses not just on how much was spent but what the impact was. There has also been a growing resolve within DIRCO, aided by pressure from Parliament to carry out more actual reporting.

Dr Mthembu then went on to talk about trilateral cooperation looking at a project between South Africa, Ireland and the United States (US) that provided food security to Malawi and Lesotho. The Irish and the US provided the funding. South Africa was the project manager – mainly the Department of Science and Technology. There were issues due to strict limitations on money disbursement from the US and Ireland meaning that South Africa wasn't able to act quickly. As an alternative it explored opening up to private companies but this was also slow. Dr Mthembu argued that trilateral cooperation does not mean we are always engaging on the same terms. The funders should not necessarily determine the mechanisms and this is something to guard against.

**Dr Fanwell Bokosi** from Afrodad spoke on 'Understanding the African context and priorities for African civil society: What institutions are important for them and what issues should be paramount?' Dr Bokosi started by stating that the continent never lacks initiatives – there are a multitude. Overall, agenda 2063 should be the priority as it was unique compared to the others because it was people-driven. He outlined a number of issues that CSOs face, including the absence of clear African civil society frameworks in SSC, a lack of integrated overview in Africa's responses (i.e. that CSOs have not collectively worked out what they want), that Africa's CSOs seem muted in SSC as they can't agree, poor accountability, and that in mechanisms for resource governance, human rights and so on, civil society either marginally participates or is left out of it. Dr Bokosi outlined platforms for engagement with CSOs, including SSC CSO platform, GPEDC, BRICS Think Tank, China-Africa Think Tank Forum. He stressed that SSC should be related to governance issues, including inclusive development, democracy, human rights, transparency and accountability.

During his presentation, DR Bokosi outlined CSO interests as being dialogue, prioritisation, collaboration, cooperation, learning, visibility and monitoring and evaluation. He also pointed to the

notion of African economic communities which came from the Abuja Treaty in 1991. These were important for scaling up SSC, but there is a need for them to put resources into CSO engagement to ensure that is not elitist. He argues that SSC discourse has primarily existed in the domains of international think tanks and NGOs, which continued to be led by donor priorities. He also argued that the current mode of engagement by CSOs is paternalistic whereby CSOs play a subservient and dependent role on interactions with governments. Dr Bokosi stressed the importance of CSO synergies and the need to address local policy concerns in order to favour project affected communities.

The discussion raised concerns that SSC is often used to shift the burden of development to southern countries. Participants argued that there is not always a need to enforce a common position. It was also pointed out that successful engagements by civil society must be celebrated and knowledge transferred.

Some participants critiqued countries now wanting to be part of the triangular cooperation movement and suggested there is just a recycling of money within the OECD. The role of the private sector was also discussed, and to what extent business and investment can be part of SSC. It was pointed out that China's foreign aid document is quite clear that its contribution from the development bank does not count as aid.

### Session 3: Thematic priority areas for Africa: key points for discussion

**Sanusha Naidu** from the Institute for Global Dialogue spoke on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She stated that NEPAD's approach of finding the connections between the SDGs and Agenda 2063 was useful, as well as using poverty and inequality as points of departure. Ms Naidu raised the question of defining who the African consumer is, and the linkages to purchasing power parity. She questioned where the middle class comes from and pointed out the shift from rural to urban living, which then impacts on supply and demand dynamics. She questioned whether cheap manufacturing bases in Africa would be useful and argued that the youth bulge is particularly important to consider.

There's a need to think much more critically and sustainably, especially regarding how to leverage resources, and in domesticating the goals. Here, the dynamics of the continent including urbanisation, unemployment, the youth bulge and de-industrialisation are key. Finally Ms Naidu stated that goal 17 was critical in finding different connections between different agendas.

**Yared Tsegay** from African Monitor spoke on development financing for basic infrastructure. He began by mentioning Africa's inadequate and disjointed infrastructure, which is reflected in limited access to transport infrastructure, ICT, power generation and transmission, and water and sanitation. He pointed out that in Sub Saharan Africa, 43% of people have access to electricity (23% in rural areas), with nearly 588 million people not having access to electricity. He further outlined that only 34% of rural Africans live within two kilometres of an all-season road. He noted limited resources for infrastructure in low-income countries. Mr Tsegay argued that effective implementation all Africa's programmes, such as Agenda 2063 and NEPAD's Programme for Infrastructure for Development in Africa, has been weakened by the lack of both financial and



technical capacity at a country level. He then went on to describe the funding gap for infrastructure in Africa.

Mr Tsegay argued that there are now various forms of South-South partnerships in bilateral and multilateral formats. These focus on different capabilities in different sectors. Examples of bilateral cooperation in Africa include Ethiopia- Djibouti, South Africa – Botswana, South Africa – Mozambique and Ethiopia-Sudan. Multilateral engagements include the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FACOC), the India - Africa partnership, the Brazil - Africa partnership and the Arab Co-ordination Group (ACG). He stated that Chinese funding of Africa's infrastructure development has fluctuated substantially over recent years, but India and South Korea are also important contributors. The New Development Bank also offers new opportunities for infrastructure development. He concluded by stating that SSC employs different modalities to NSC and that there have been various attempts to document project-level partnerships but there was an ongoing need for knowledge generation on SSC infrastructure development at a project level.

**Christopher Wood** from TIPS spoke on economic structural transformation. He first noted that there is little empirical data available on SSC and economic transformation and that he has not come across much talk on SSC in economic planning. He compared this with the Chinese that have more capacity to do so but welcomed regional industrialisation programmes that the Department of Trade and Industry is planning. He noted that institutional structures don't lend themselves to economic planning as decisions made through conferences and unstable funding and so on.

Mr Wood outlined three issues to consider: 1) How do we respond to transformations in the global economy such as technological changes? He argues that these changes actually hollow out the middle class because those high skilled jobs are made easier and so people are rewarded less. High skilled people are earning more and so there is a polarization of jobs. This undermines social mobility and so we don't see progress. Need stepping stones across the economy. There is a need to prepare for these technologies and think about how to redistribute the gains. 2) How we think about sharing the benefits of growth? There is a need for progressive redistribution mechanisms. He pointed out that there are less traditional inequalities, but also new ones. For example, there is the issue of spatial dynamics. Big cities create high costs for the poor and there is poor spatial structure for growth. As such, the benefits of integration accrue to a couple of economies. 3) There is a need for institutional reform as policy makers who do the planning don't have the tools. In this regard, a knowledge sharing platform would be helpful to see how other states implement this, including unpacking the role of local government.

**Amanda Lucey** from Oxfam pointed out that the original 1978 BAPA document does not mention peace or security at all but does emphasise a new international economic order that impacts on global governance and stresses the need for developing countries to develop strategies for national and collective self-reliance. As such it focusses on the principles of sovereignty and non-interference. Ms Lucey argued that the links between peace and development are increasingly recognized, as seen in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (and SDG 16 on 'Peaceful, Just and Inclusive societies' in particular) as well as the twin resolutions by the General Assembly and Security Council on sustaining peace and recent report by the UN Secretary General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.

She argued that the links between peace and development have also been raised by southern providers, including BRICS. The Xiamen declaration for example notes that development and security are closely interlinked, mutually reinforcing and key to attaining sustainable peace and calls for a comprehensive, concerted and determined approach, to addresses the causes of conflicts, including their political, economic and social dimensions. Agenda 2063's seven aspirations also link the idea of peace and development. In this regard she stated that peace is a thematic area that needs to be considered at BAPA+40, especially from the African context.

There are some overlaps between the concepts of SSC and sustaining peace including principles of national ownership and self-reliance. However, developing a joint agenda raises other questions for implementation. For example, BRICS leaders have stressed the importance of African regional and sub-regional organisations and committed to contribute peacekeeping troops. Yet their emphasis on non-interference and sovereignty then raises questions over how peacekeepers should engage in terms of acting preventatively and upholding the responsibility to protect. When is the right time to intervene?

**During the discussion**, participants raised the importance of having someone who could work on strategic planning at DIRCO within the new administration. The importance of developing economic models was also discussed. It was pointed out that Oxford University has done some work on purchasing power parity and developed a model, but to what extent has this been disseminated? Participants also questioned whether there were any models of a strong, rather than cheap labour driven economy. It was argued that Ethiopia's recent agreement with China will work because it has the capacity to absorb and will become Africa's first shoe exporter. It was also claimed that South Africa didn't make a mistake by deindustrializing but that there is a need for economic diversification. Participants noted the importance of reflecting more on what is happening with our southern partners who have policies and strategies. At the same time, some countries that have promoted a developmental state have not based this on any theory.

The discussion raised the issue of sequencing and getting Africa to engage with itself through intra-African trade. Institutional bottlenecks have to be removed in this regard and there needs to be greater examination of tariff barriers. It was also argued that Africa should stop aiming for international standards and outsourcing its thinking but start looking inwards and thinking what Africans need. In this regard civil society needs to consider how it can feed the dialogue.

On peace and security, it was argued that southern providers are still thinking in terms of securitization rather than a development and holistic approach. It was questioned whether South Africa would have a change of position following its new term on the UNSC.

## Day Two, 13 June 2018

### Session 1: Experiences, best practices and successes

**Ms. Marianne Buenaventura Goldman** from Oxfam South Africa spoke on “The NeST Africa conceptual framework: a qualitative approach.” She explained that in South Africa in March 2015, 25 experts from the Global South came together to discuss a common analytical framework for south-south cooperation. This was the first technical workshop of the Network of Southern Think-Tanks and the countries represented included Brazil; China; Colombia; India; Kenya; Malawi; Mexico; South Africa; Turkey; Uganda and; Zimbabwe. The framework is flexible, adaptive and evolving. It is primarily offered for academic purposes but also for policy and has been translated to mandarin and Spanish. It offers a guide to measure quantity, quality and impact.

The aim of the framework was to bridge the wide information gap currently present in SSC; allow more transparency and accountability towards citizens of developing countries (in both partner countries) and provide standardised data that will allow for comparison of SSC flows between Southern providers as well as traditional OECD-DAC donors.

Ms Buenaventura explained the difference between SSC, SS Development Cooperation (SSDC) and Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), which are three distinct concepts, each defined to cover a more restrictive domain than the previous one. SSDC is a subset of SSC which refers to wider south-south relations which are not all necessarily based on promoting developmental objectives. SSDC is broader than the OECD-DAC’s definition of ODA and includes peace keeping missions, debt relief, student scholarships, humanitarian/refugee support and possibly some trade facilitation and investment promotion measures. The OECD defines ODA as: *flows to countries and territories on the DAC list of ODA recipients and to multilateral development institutions which are:*

- a) provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies;*
- b) administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective;*
- c) concessional in character and conveys a grant element of at least 25% (calculated at a rate of discount of 10%).*

SSC is broadly defined as the exchange of resources, technology, skills and technical know-how among countries of the South to promote social, economic, cultural, political and scientific development. The Buenos Aires (1979) Conference outlined SSC as made up of both technical and economic cooperation between developing countries. SSC is therefore multi-faceted and includes trade, investment, aid, loans, capacity development, technology and knowledge transfer, and capacity development. All together these elements contribute to a larger ‘development compact’ of SSC. She noted that SSC should include not only ‘official’ cooperation between governments but also cooperation between peoples and CSOs of developing countries.

However, definitions are still controversial. She noted that Articulação SUL (Brazil) defines SSDC as: An intersection between international development cooperation and south–south cooperation, comprehending the flows of technical cooperation, financial or in-kind donations and concessional loans among developing countries aimed at tackling primary development problems. South Africa has previously referred to development cooperation as “The co-operation between countries in the field of aid, trade, security and politics to promote economic and social well-being in developing countries.”

Ms Buenaventura argued that it was important to start with measuring what was easier and less controversial but stressed that BAPA+40 must come up with a common definition to allow for a standard process of data collection, analysis, reporting and publishing. She noted that this would involve jointly agreed standards of frequency and quality and level of detail in the development cooperation reports from Southern partners. She argued that if there is a common template and system to collect SSC data nationally by the different countries, then such info can be consolidated at regional and global level through the information management systems of relevant multilateral institutions. She also proposed that the development of a central database on SSC data will facilitate research and comparative analysis on SSC, and improve transparency and accountability for all partners and stakeholders involved in SSC. This endeavour would require strong political traction but also technical and statistical expertise, which could potentially originate from within the NeST

Ms Buenaventura stated that 25+ indicators and seven dimensions were agreed upon at a NeST technical working group meeting in Johannesburg, 30 September 2015 that built on principles agreed upon at historical southern conferences such as Nairobi and Delhi. A year after the framework was published, six case studies were conducted that used the M&E framework.

TABLE 2 INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE QUALITY OF SSC					
DIMENSIONS	INCLUSIVE NATIONAL OWNERSHIP	HORIZONTALITY	SELF-RELIANCE & SUSTAINABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY	DEVELOPMENT EFFICIENCY
INDICATORS	Multi-stakeholder partnerships	Mutual benefit	Capacity building	Data management & reporting	Flexibility & adaptation
	People-centred inclusivity	Shared decisions & resources	Knowledge & technology transfer	M&E systems	Time & cost-efficiency
	Demand-driven	Trust & solidarity	Use country systems & human resources	Transparency & access to information	Internal & external coordination
	Non-conditionality	Global political coalitions	Domestic revenue generation	Mutual accountability & joint reviews	Policy coherence for development

In Mexico in 2016 there were further discussions. Of particular importance within this framework was the idea of inclusive national ownership (dimension1). This is in line with global trends including people-centred development and the 2030 Agenda. As SSC is demand driven, there is also the notion that the recipient of SSC should be in the driving seat of development initiatives. Multi-stakeholder partnerships are again emphasized. Dimension 2 on self-reliance emphasizes the increase in local capacity and knowledge and technology transfer. Discussions made it clear that this dimension should highlight the importance of building recipient countries' capacity to raise domestically diverse sources of financing to support long-term national development processes. Ms Buenaventura stressed the importance of M&E in SSC. In sum she stated that debates held within NeST in global development cooperation reveal the growing political momentum to move towards the development of an accountability framework for SSC from the theoretical to the practical. She ended by stating that the stakes are high given the growing value & contribution of SSC, both in

terms of quantity as well as the potential to create new models of development in the context of the 2030 agenda.

**Laura Trajber Waisbich and Luara Lopes** from Articulação SUL talked on Brazil's experiences of measuring SSC and its application for Africa. Ms Lopes outlined some concurrent Brazilian initiatives on SSC measuring and reporting. The first, COBRADI is not called an SSC report but essentially is one. It consists of survey and individual reporting from federal institutions. It is the only official report on international cooperation. It involves a number of institutions and 9 years of historic qualitative and quantitative data. However, the database is inaccessible and the 2014 report is yet to come out.

Secondly, there is also a new initiative of the Presidency to develop a platform for cooperation - the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) reference platform. It will aim to systematize and quantify a diverse range of inputs; development flows; non-financial resources and contributes to national SDG reporting. However, this has been a top-down process and it is unclear how data will be collected and how transparent and accessible it will be. For ABC the rationale is to display not a number for SSC as there are fears it may be too small or too big and scare national constituencies. This is also an avoidance of the term SSC, and they are trying to measure it whole.

Finally, there is ASUL's initiative, developed in partnership with Oxfam Brazil and civil society. This project is independent and dedicated to SSC. It involves data collected from national accounting systems and is updated regularly. It measures cooperation-related expenses; makes use of existing national systems; fosters active budget transparency and is directly related to national planning and decision-making process. For the process to be applicable to other countries, a level of budget openness and accessibility is required.

ASUL realised that the lack of a common definition of SSC continues to hinder efforts to carry out assessments using comparable methodologies. They then made an effort to develop more flexible tools and embrace differences of opinion. Because it is not based on single definition, the methodology offers the possibility to include or exclude different aspects that are currently under discussion such as in-country expenses related to refugees

The project has had accomplishments in fostering public accountability and dialogue among stakeholders (governmental and nongovernmental). It makes use of existing national open/public information systems to estimate national contributions to SDGs and increase accountability, bypasses conceptual impediments by offering the possibility to include or exclude different aspects and builds scenarios for evidence-based discussions. As such it has greater data ownership – in other words the idea that civil society actors and those in a multi-stakeholder setting can create and modify, co-construct the data and debate. It is also cost-effective and adaptable to different national realities.

The ASUL methodology looks at national development plans as well as SSC-related expenses. This allows researchers to look at planned and executed activities. It carried out mappings of SSC clusters, and screened key words. It also looked at individual entries. ASUL will now produce a Brazilian SSC Database (2000-2016), a final report called "Chasing Brazilian SSC in the federal budget" and in-depth sectoral case studies. In terms of policy, dialogue and advocacy activities they presented the final report in Brasilia and are in dialogue with the COBRADI team to assess possibilities of complementarity and collaboration.



The results have demonstrated some differences to other Brazilian initiatives. For example, there is a significant amount of work that is done by UNDP due to Brazil's legal framework and therefore not visible from ABC. In sum, the project offers an open and participatory methodology which is applicable in different contexts and provides evidence-based perspectives to support current debates on SSC, including M&E.

**Dr Philani Mthembu** from the Institute for Global Dialogue talked on approaches to measuring South Africa's Development Cooperation. Dr Mthembu explained that as a starting point we have a comprehensive report that was carried out by Daniel Chiwandamira which looked at South Africa's trilateral cooperation from 2004 – 2014. This report was funded by the treasury and some additional European funding, including German and Spanish. He noted that while there is always some level of critique over data interpretation, the report was the first of its kind.

Dr Mthembu stated the importance of getting government buy-in on debates on SSC. He noted that DIRCO presented a report to the Portfolio Committee on International Relations last year and that there has been an effort to do more M&E on South Africa's development cooperation. The committee is paying attention to how the budget was used and where it was used. South Africa is relatively transparent but this hasn't translated into how we utilize the budget.

In addition, there are different initiatives among different departments. For example, the Department of Science and Technology already had a paper on SA trilateral cooperation even before DIRCO presented to Parliament. However, there needs to be one definition in government for things to move forward.

There have been recent changes with DIRCO, and namely the Policy, Research and Analysis unit. IGD has offered to provide additional capacity to the unit by providing an overview of South Africa's development cooperation. This report was endorsed and approved but the SA government has still not reached a consensus on a definition of SSC, with resistance in some departments. IGD had set up a reference group to grapple with these issues, but just before the meeting took place a new administration came in and so the meeting has been postponed until all stakeholders are ready for the discussions. At the same time there are continued discussions between DIRO and the treasury on the South African Development Agency that is meant to be set up and signing of documents. IGD does not want to create two parallel tracks on South African Development Cooperation and so is waiting for government to arrive at an official definition on SSC. It may be possible to have informal discussions in the meantime, and to share examples from the rest of the global south as well as to show government why it is in their interest.

The discussion focused on the power dynamics within different government departments, and power struggles to protect South Africa's political principles. While South Africa has a lot of open information there is also a lot that the government doesn't want to reveal. The discussion also focused on the pros and cons of using a budget methodology, supplemented with qualitative research. Finally, participants discussed the need for continued pressure by civil society on governments ahead of BAPA+40.

## Key issues and recommendations: the BAPA+40 that Africa wants

In this final session, Dr Fanwell Bokosi outlined the main takeaways from the discussions. These included:

- 1) The opportunity to rediscover and to adapt global commitments to local capacities
- 2) A holistic understanding of sustainable development
- 3) Moving beyond the status quo for BAPA+40
- 4) The need for a common (and African) definition and measurement
- 5) New commitments for an action-oriented outcome document
- 6) Multi-stakeholder initiatives
- 7) Southern frameworks at 2 or 3 tiers (national and regional)
- 8) A focus on inclusivity and environment
- 9) Southern alliances and groupings – challenging structurally or just to change who is at the top?
- 10) Needing to recognise the role that think tanks can play in producing and documenting evidence and disseminating evidence into right for a
- 11) Civil society organisation and coherence
- 12) Coordination amongst stakeholders
- 13) Institutional politics and mechanisms – UNECA vs AUC vs NEPAD etc
- 14) Trilateral cooperation – developing accountability measures
- 15) Development financing and infrastructure through the ARC/NDB
- 16) Contextualising the SDGs
- 17) What Africa wants for SSC in terms of Agenda 2063
- 18) Role of the African consumer, purchasing power parity
- 19) Free trade agreement
- 20) Institutional structures and economic planning on technologies, inclusive economies and implementation
- 21) Issue of sequencing and economic growth
- 22) Advocacy

From these themes, the group agreed to draft a number of short papers (a maximum of 1500 words) to send to the UNOSSC by the beginning of August, that would in turn feed into their discussions on BAPA+40. These include: Definitions, measurement and limitations; M&E; Civil society's role in BAPA+40; Peace and security; Agenda 2063 and the SDGs and Inclusive economic growth.

The meeting was then closed by the NeST secretariat.

## Annex 1: List of participants

Surname	First Name	Organisation
Adams	Adriaan	DTI
Belle	Themba	CSIR
Bokosi	Fanwell	African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)
Buenaventura Goldman	Marianne	Oxfam South Africa, NeST Secretariat Member
Bwalya	Martin	NEPAD Agency
Casas	Barbara Aubert	
Dalamba		DIRCO
Ekoko	Francois	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, UN Development Programme (UNDP)
Emmer	Vladimir	Embassy of Russia in SA
Engel	Lara	High Commission of Canada
Garbharran	Prathima	Department of Basic Education
Gopaul	Pamla	NEPAD Agency
Kabengele	Kizito	University of Pretoria
Khambule	Happy	Greenpeace
Király	András	Embassy of Hungary in SA
Lucey	Amanda	Oxfam
Marzuk	Juhairul	High Commission of Singapore
Mkhize	Nonhlanhla	Department of Science and Technology
Mohamed	Basheerah	Oxfam
Moteane	Bertha	Crisis Action
Mthembu	Philani	IGD, NeST Secretariat Member
Muresan	Arina	Institute for Global Dialogue
Naidu	Sanusha	Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD)
Papa Magueye	Diop	Embassy of Senegal in SA
Rabohale	Keletso	Department of International Relations and Cooperation
Rawhani	Carmel	Formerly SAIIA
Sidiropoulos	Elizabeth	SAIIA, NeST Secretariat Member
Tsegay	Yared	African Monitor
Wood	Christopher	Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies
Luimes	Wilma	Wits

