

Ibero- American Program for the Strengthening of South South Cooperation and Report on South South Cooperation in Ibero-America

Partners: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay, Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB)



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Background

Increasing South South Cooperation (SSC) has demanded Ibero-American countries better institutional capacities at the country level to ensure results and regional political dialogue to agree on SSC characteristics.

Ibero- American Secretariat (SEGIB) has facilitated dialogue among its country members in order to jointly generate mechanisms allowing information access on what is happening on South South and Triangular Cooperation in the Region, political discussion about this cooperation and national capacities to manage it.

Objectives

Encourage political dialogue between Ibero-American countries on South South and Triangular Cooperation (SS&TC).

Build more and better institutional capacities in order to manage SS&TC among member countries .

Annually report on projects and actions taken in Bilateral South-South, Triangular and Regional Cooperation carried out between Ibero-American countries.

Innovation

Ibero- American countries, with the support of the Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB), jointly designed: a mechanisms to annually report and publish information about their SS&TC projects and activities; and a program focused on strengthening countries' National Cooperation Office capacity to manage SS&TC.

In its two years of operation, the Program has focused its work on its member's demand concerning developing staff capacities on SS&TC, contributing to the consolidation of member's cooperation information systems, promoting discussion forums, and systematizing experiences. Currently, 19 countries are formal members of the Program.

The report, published since 2007, focuses on achieving political and technical agreements among countries on what to report and how to report it. The report enhances SS&TC visibility and transparency and encourages countries to consolidate their information systems.

Results

Report:

- Five annual reports on South South Cooperation in Ibero-America since 2007.
- All 22 Ibero-American Countries reporting their SSC activities and projects according to commonly agreed definitions.

Program (preliminary results of its two years of implementation)

- An agreed action plan, combining political, theoretical and technical aspects
- Trust-building relationships among Member States' technical and political staff
- Baseline of countries' information systems and work plan for their improvement
- Better trained staff on South South and Triangular Cooperation
- Shared criteria and methodology for cases systematization

Applicability

The Program and the Report are forerunner experiences on South Regional spaces for political and technical agreements on SS&TC. They can be taken as examples in other regions as Asia and Africa.



Programa Iberoamericano para el Fortalecimiento
de la Cooperación Sur Sur



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