ACTION AREA 2.3:
“SUPPORTING COUNTRY-LED DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS OF SOUTH-SOUTH CO-OPERATION”

What?
Under the leadership of Colombia, and building on a previous initiative by Mexico, Action Area 2.3 will bring together relevant stakeholders from the Global South to examine how the GPEDC effectiveness principles could be applied and adjusted in the context of South-South Co-operation (SSC), in order to maximise development impact.

Why?
Paragraph 11 of the Report of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Co-operation (BAPA+40) call for enhanced development effectiveness of SSC and has heightened Souther Partners’ attention to this topic, as they continue to explore their own criteria and methodologies to assess the effectiveness of their SSC.

The GPEDC applies a methodology for monitoring the effectiveness of development co-operation that is geared more towards the delivery of Official Development Assistance (ODA), giving great importance to financial flows. Conversely, at the heart of SSC is the importance of technical assistance/knowledge exchange.

However, Colombia believes that the guiding principles of SSC, as defined in the original 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action, are fully compatible with the GPEDC effectiveness principles and thus proposes to expand the GPEDC monitoring process by including a perspective on SSC with a view to increasing its relevance for Southern Partners and reducing administrative and reporting burdens.

How?
1. By increasing knowledge of SSC effectiveness through
   a. promoting research on how Southern providers are striving to improve the effectiveness of their co-operation efforts and examining the data systems being used to collect information on SSC activities; and
   b. collecting data on SSC effectiveness through ad-hoc monitoring exercises in different countries that will feed into a synthesis report;
2. By increasing dialogue around SSC effectiveness. Under this sub-objective, the Action Area will organise events to bring together a wide variety of actors to share perspectives on different aspects of SSC effectiveness.

When?
During 2020 the focus is on the conceptual work of defining indicators for each country and the relevant data sources to monitor them. In 2021 monitoring pilots will be conducted gathering knowledge and insights. In 2022 the results of this exercise will be published and shared at the Third High-Level meeting of the GPEDC. Throughout the entire period Colombia and the Action Area members will promote dialogue on SSC effectiveness through different events.

Who?
The following group of pioneers have confirmed their participation, while there is openness for other countries that are interested to get engaged. 1) Africa: Rwanda. 2) Asia: Indonesia and Myanmar. 3) Latin America: Colombia and Mexico. Members engaged in this Action Area, that is supported by Switzerland and the UNDP, also include several multilateral partners such as the FAO, ILO, NEPAD, UNEP and UNODC.

Contact
If you wish to learn more, please refer to the detailed project proposal available here and/or contact Luis Roa (luisroa@apccolombia.gov.co) copying Jonas Deusch (jonas.deusch@undp.org)