Conference Report

Middle Income Countries’ Development
Cooperation Experience Exchange

International Conference organised by:
Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) and
United Nations Development Programme, China (UNDP China)
Beijing, 17 – 18 January 2013

Penny Davies, February 2013

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SUMMARY

The conference “Middle Income Countries’ Development Cooperation Experience Exchange” was co-hosted by the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) and UNDP China, in Beijing 17 – 18 January 2013. The conference brought together participants from 15 countries, with an even balance of representatives from governments and civil society organisations/academia (participant list in Annex 1). The aim of the conference was to look at challenges, best practices and lessons learned in development cooperation that may be transferable and would be of practical use for the participants in their respective roles.

The conference was organised into three main themes/sessions: 1) Institutional Structures and Functions; 2) Policy-making, Monitoring and Reporting; 3) Operational issues. Each session consisted of presentations and discussions in plenary, followed by group discussions. The fourth and final session explored suggestions for how to move forward.

Evaluations completed by the participants indicated that the conference was helpful in enhancing the understanding of challenges of development cooperation and the experiences across a range of MICs. (See evaluation summary in Annex 4).

Key findings

1) Session One: Institutional Structures and Functions

The discussions in this thematic session demonstrated that institutional settings for development cooperation vary across countries and time, and that they are not the decisive factors in explaining effectiveness of interventions. Several MICs are in the process of developing institutional models, such as setting up agencies or developing legal and policy frameworks for development assistance, or are in transition from one model to another. Regardless of institutional set-up, measures to ensure coordination are key for effectiveness. MICs often face challenges of coordination as often multiple ministries and actors are involved in delivering assistance. Participants shared some of their own experiences of measures taken to improve coordination. Likewise, ensuring policies from different areas of government do not undercut or contradict one another (policy coherence), was emphasised as a key factor for development effectiveness. This is not only a challenge for MICs but is also common among other providers of development assistance.

There was general agreement on the importance of political will and public support for development cooperation. Participants noted that it can be difficult for governments in MICs to communicate the rationale for providing assistance, given domestic development challenges. Sharing of challenges and lessons learned demonstrated that legal frameworks could provide favourable conditions for development cooperation in the form of institutional stability over time. Participants stated that they would be very interested in being able to access more information about different countries’ approaches to legal and institutional issues.

MICs often face capacity and resource constraints for development assistance, including shortage of staff to manage the scaling up of assistance. Capacity development, knowledge management, information gathering systems and quality assurance were said to be of key interest for MICs to develop further. Participants pointed at the need for some kind of professional standard/code of conduct for MICs, when engaging in development assistance.
2) Session Two: Policy-making, Monitoring and Reporting

Basing assistance on local demand: During the workshop, the point was made that for both short and long-term development effectiveness, assistance needs to be based on the requirements of the local people and communities involved. Lessons were shared on how to engage with and base assistance on partner country and local development plans to enhance ownership and sustainability of interventions.

Reporting, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E): M&E is a common challenge for MICs, often due to lack of resources. There was general agreement that MICs/SSC providers should develop their own joint definitions of, and standards for reporting on, development assistance, while learning from the experiences of OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors where appropriate. Some MICs report their overseas assistance to the DAC and have used DAC structures and processes to create similar frameworks, but with their own components. Future collaboration among MICs on reporting and M&E was called for, including peer-to-peer learning.

MICs and the international agenda: There was general agreement on the need for platforms where MICs and providers of SSC can get together to share experiences, promote best practices, and develop joint agendas at a global level. Various reflections were made on MICs in the context of the post-MDG/Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness. For example, some participants were of the view that while the Global Partnership has good intentions, they regarded it as “old wine in new bottles”, while others were more optimistic of its inclusive character. Participants also noted how MICs are facing increasing expectations from the international community to take on more responsibilities.

3) Session Three: Operational issues

Various modalities of MICs’ development cooperation were presented together with key challenges, including how to secure long-term sustainability of projects. Several MICs are making attempts to move from project-based to sector-wide approaches to improve effectiveness of interventions. Trilateral cooperation has become a key modality for many MICs. Participants shared challenges to be overcome to make this more effective, as summarised in the report.

Participants explored MICs’ experiences in cooperating with civil society organisations (CSOs) and, to a lesser extent, the private sector. The extent to which CSOs and governments cooperate varied among participating countries. Lack of trust between governments and CSOs was identified as a common, but not universal, challenge. Overcoming this and allowing governments and CSOs to see each other as partners in development cooperation was seen as a key question for MICs to consider.

Suggestions for ways forward

Participants identified several key issues that could benefit from further experience sharing and practical steps for moving forward, elaborated in more detail on p. 16 and summarised below.

A) Key issues of interest:

- Institutional arrangements for coordination and policy coherence
- Finding the best legal framework
- Generating political will and public support for development assistance
- Overcoming capacity constraints, including for monitoring and evaluation
• Better understanding of recipient demands and needs
• Reporting on aid expenditure and setting common standards
• Creating platforms for MICs to coordinate positions at global level
• Ensuring long-term sustainability
• Making a success of trilateral cooperation
• Cooperating with CSOs
• Working with the private sector
• Knowledge-sharing with an impact

B) Mechanisms for moving forward:
• Online platform/Community of Practice for experience sharing
• Mechanisms for MICs to meet before and between major international events
• Coordination of initiatives to enable synergies
• Research and synthesize information

Future workshops for MICs could include practical discussions about how to develop these mechanisms, including defining and assigning roles and responsibilities. The report ends with suggestions of issues that could be taken into consideration in any future experience sharing, and/or issues for further action.

• Inclusivity in experience sharing among MICs – when and how?
• How to ensure mutual learning is effective?
• How to ensure synergies in future initiatives of mutual learning?
• The institutional set up and practices of MICs – how to share transparently?
• Policy coherence in a MICs context – what are the experiences?
• Lessons learned in triangular cooperation – who has learned what?
• Broad based participation in development assistance – what best practices exist?
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Backdrop for and purpose of the conference

A growing number of Middle Income Countries (MICs) are becoming international development assistance providers as they are increasing their contributions to and engagement in various types of development cooperation. As a result, the global development landscape is changing and there is a need to respond to this new dynamism. MICs are in no way homogenous and have very different experiences of providing assistance; some have long histories of doing so, while others are new or re-engaging. Some had until recently, or still have, dual roles as “providers” and “recipients”. Some MICs make use of the standards of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD, while others provide assistance under the framework of South-South Cooperation. From this variety of approaches arises an opportunity for MICs to share and learn from each others’ experiences of both good practices and challenges.

The conference “Middle Income Countries’ Development Cooperation Experience Exchange” was co-hosted by the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) and UNDP China, in Beijing 17 – 18 January 2013. The conference was generously sponsored by UK Department for International Development (DFID).

The aim of the conference was to look at challenges, best practices and lessons learned which are transferable and of practical use for the participants in their respective roles working with development assistance/cooperation. The conference brought together participants from 15 countries, with an even balance of representatives from governments and civil society organisations/academia. While the majority of participants were from MICs, several non-MICs were invited to share their experiences of development cooperation as well. (See participant list in Annex 1).

1.2 Conference preparation and agenda

A questionnaire was developed ahead of the conference with the purpose of ascertaining the interests and learning needs of participants. The responses (collected online and via telephone interviews) were summarised in the pre-conference report. Participants’ responses informed the finalisation of the agenda; including what topics to focus on and how to allocate time. The pre-conference report also included country pages put together by UNDP with basic information on the development assistance/cooperation systems of participating countries. The idea was to provide participants with this information so that the workshop could concentrate on qualitative discussions. The country pages are included in Annex 5.

The conference agenda was organised into three main themes/sessions: Session One: Institutional Structures and Functions; Session Two: Policy-making, Monitoring and Reporting; Session three: Operational issues. Each session consisted of presentations and discussions in plenary, followed by group discussions to explore in-depth the issues raised.

The aim of each plenary session was: to identify major advantages and challenges related to each main theme; to draw out transferrable good practices and lessons; and to identify issues

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that could benefit from further discussion in the future. The groups were asked to draw conclusions and present to the plenary: 1. three to four general lessons learned of relevance for MICs related to the issues discussed; and 2. suggestions of processes/fora where MICs could discuss these issues further, and, if they currently do not exist, suggest further action to be taken and by whom. A final and fourth session explored suggestions for how to move forward.

In addition to the thematic sessions, two special presentations were held. One presentation was on “China’s Foreign Aid Programme”, given participants’ expressed interest in learning from the host country; and the other on “Challenges and Contradictions in the Current Organisation of Aid”. (The agenda is included in Annex 2).

1.3 Outline of the report

The report follows the logic of the conference agenda and is organised into four different sections: Institutional Structures and Functions; Policy-making, Monitoring and Reporting; Operational issues; and finally Suggestions for Ways Forward. Each section summarises the general conclusions of the discussions (in plenary and groups) and key messages from the presentations. The identity and affiliation of individual participants are not referred to as the conference took place under Chatham House Rules, to allow for an open and frank experience exchange.

The report was written by Penny Davies, Consultant, contracted by UNDP to write the pre-conference report, facilitate the conference and summarise the findings in the post-conference report.

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2 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatham_House_Rule
3 Many thanks to UNDP staff who took notes at the conference.
2. SESSION ONE: INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS

The first conference session addressed “Institutional Structures and Functions” of delivering development assistance and engaging in development cooperation. The aim of the session was to identify major advantages and challenges of different institutional approaches, to draw out transferrable good practices and lessons, and to identify issues that could benefit from further discussion in the future.

Four presenters presented different models of institutional set up and lessons learned, followed by discussions in plenary and groups that explored the issues more in-depth. A special presentation on China’s foreign aid programme also shared some of its institutional lessons and challenges. The main conclusions, lessons learned and challenges are presented below.

2.1 Conclusions and lessons learned

*Institutional settings vary across countries and time, and are not the decisive factors for effectiveness*

The discussions demonstrated that different countries have different models for delivering assistance, and that these models are not static but change over time in MICs as well as DAC-donor countries. Several MICs are in the process of developing their institutional models, or are in transition from one model to another.

As noted by participants, the way overseas development assistance is structured and delivered is rarely entirely separate from the broader government policy context. In particular the position of the agency in charge of delivering assistance vis-à-vis the Ministry (most often the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) varies. In this respect, four common aid management models were presented: 1) Development Co-operation integrated within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 2) Development Co-operation Department/Agency within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 3) Policy Ministry with separate Implementing Agency; and 4) Ministry/Agency responsible for policy and implementation. The presentations for example demonstrated that Australia has a ministry responsible for both policy and implementation, and China has an aid agency within the Ministry of Commerce. Participants noted that these four examples are not exhaustive and other models also exist.

It was concluded that different settings can work in different countries. One model does not automatically produce a better result than any other, and no particular set up can be recommended over any other. Experience shows that the institutional set up is not the decisive factor for explaining performance, and other factors such as policy coordination and coherence play key roles, as discussed in more detail below.

*Coordination is essential regardless of institutional set up*

Participants’ discussions showed that MICs often face challenges of coordination across several ministries (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, as well as various line ministries), and actors involved in delivering assistance. Measures to ensure coordination were seen as key to effectiveness regardless of institutional set up. Participants agreed that some kind of centralised policy-making mechanism is necessary, in the form of an agency or an agreed strategy. Participants however stated that one overarching institution should not be seen as a panacea as there will still be a need for mechanisms and ongoing processes to ensure inter-agency coordination. Likewise, the sharing of experiences demonstrated that as long as there is one agreed and coordinated strategy to guide policy and activity, different institutional
set ups can deliver positive results.

Examples of measures taken to improve coordination were shared. For example, the presentation on Indonesia showcased a new “National Coordination Team on South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation” which has enabled stronger coordination and revitalized the institutional framework.

**Policy coherence is key for development effectiveness**
Policy coherence was emphasised as a cross-cutting issue in the discussions, i.e. ensuring that all government agencies contribute to development outcomes and preventing any one government branch from contradicting another. This is a challenge for all providers of development assistance, not just MICs. The presentation on Australia’s aid demonstrated measures taken to ensure policy-coherence across government. A Development Effectiveness Steering Committee (DESC) has been set up that provides strategic advice to the government on Australia’s aid program. Although policy-coherence was seen as key for ensuring development effectiveness, the issue was not explored in detail, and could be a topic for further in-depth discussion at a future conference or workshop.

**Political will and public support are key challenges**
There was general agreement on the importance of political will and support from the government for a functioning institutional design, as demonstrated by the presentation of the evolution of Japan’s and Thailand’s aid institutions. Gaining public support for development assistance was seen to be equally important, and is a challenge many MICs face. It was stated that the creation of a centralised aid agency, and the visibility this entails, is dependent upon broad political support. If there is no public support for providing assistance it can be difficult for the government to make necessary institutional reforms. The experience sharing among participants showed that it is often difficult for governments in MICs to communicate the rationale for providing assistance, given the prevalence of poverty and development challenges domestically. It takes time to switch from being a recipient to a donor country in this respect. Discussions demonstrated that the win-win logic of South-South cooperation could help to muster public support. Also, it was argued that governments could appeal to enlightened national self-interests for providing assistance, such as regional prosperity and stability.

**Legal frameworks can contribute to long-term effectiveness**
The legal setting in which development cooperation operates can provide favourable conditions for the institutional set up. The presentation of the Mexican International Development Cooperation Law demonstrated how this law helps to ensure institutional stability for development cooperation over time and across changes of government. It was stated that a strong legal framework can help protect development assistance and support the institutional framework at times of low political will.

Participants mentioned several key features of a functioning legal framework: it should enhance transparency; it should promote accountability; it should include all actors at national level engaged in providing assistance; it should ensure monitoring and evaluation; and it should be revised systematically. From the discussions it was not clear to what extent MICs have legal frameworks for development cooperation in place, and if so, how these relate to policy.
Capacity and resources for delivering results are key challenges

Participants shared challenges related to capacity and resource constraints for engaging in development assistance/cooperation. Some MICs are rapidly scaling up assistance while facing staff shortages to manage this increase. Furthermore, lack of resources for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and information-gathering in partner countries were in particular seen as common challenges for MICs.

Participants underlined the importance of having staff specialised in development cooperation and implementation, as well as experts in policy and diplomacy. To have line ministries engaged in development cooperation was mentioned as an advantage as they often “have their ears closer to the ground”, and have technical counterparts in other countries engaged in South-South Cooperation. At the same time, this can also add to complications around coordination.

Regardless of institutional set up, capacity development and knowledge management were said to be of key interest for MICs to develop further, together with information gathering systems and databases.

Quality assurance was also mentioned as a key issue to explore further. Participants pointed to the need for some kind of professional standard/code of conduct for MICs when engaging in development assistance. It was stated that this does not necessarily have to be the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, although several MICs do adhere to this and the subsequent Accra Agenda for Action and the Busan Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation.\(^4\) The issue was not explored in further detail.

Looking ahead, participants suggested various ways for improving aid management systems, including: scaling up assistance gradually; providing assistance more targeted at improving people’s livelihoods; promoting capacity development; improving planning of assistance over the medium term; putting in place policies and strategies and, when needed, legal frameworks for development cooperation; improving intergovernmental coordination to enhance synergies; strengthening research and M&E; and finally, engaging in international knowledge exchanges and capacity building events.

\(^4\) For further information see http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/thehighlevelforaonaideffectivenessahistory.htm
3. SESSION TWO: POLICY-MAKING, MONITORING AND REPORTING

The second session of the conference addressed a wide range of issues related to A) policy making with a focus on how to base assistance on local demand; B) reporting, monitoring and evaluation; and C) how MICs relate to international policy processes on development assistance.

The aim of this session was to identify major advantages and challenges with different policy-making, monitoring and reporting approaches; discuss how MICs relate to international processes; draw out transferrable good practices and lessons, and identify issues that could benefit from further discussion. Six presentations were made followed by discussions in plenary and in groups that explored the issues more in-depth. The main conclusions, lessons learned and challenges are presented below.

3.1 Conclusions and lessons learned

A. Basing assistance on local demand

Communication with and involvement of beneficiaries and local expertise

Lessons were shared on how to engage with and base assistance on partner country and local development plans. The presentations on Czech Republic assistance to Afghanistan and Indian project assistance to Nepal demonstrated the importance of building and maintaining effective communication channels with beneficiaries and development partners. Furthermore, the examples showcased how direct involvement of local stakeholders can build a sense of ownership, which in turn enhances the long-term sustainability of projects after the termination of interventions.

Other lessons shared include the importance of respecting partners and building their capacity, and of spending time with local beneficiaries to facilitate mutual understanding. Outsourcing projects to local companies and making use of local materials and human resources were also presented as key lessons for long-term sustainability and cost-effectiveness of projects.

B. Reporting, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

Resource constraints remain a challenge for M&E

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) can be a common challenge for MICs due to lack of resources. This was identified as an area where capacity could be strengthened including among staff operating at a local level. Many MICs are in the process of developing reporting standards and collecting data. Participants underlined the importance of engaging a diversity of stakeholders, including the intended beneficiaries, in all stages of M&E, although this is demanding. It was stated that it is important for MICs to learn from others on finding the right balance between spending resources on M&E and on “action on the ground”.

Developing MIC standards whilst learning from DAC-donors

Participants discussed whether MICs should develop their own definitions of “aid” and standards for reporting as opposed to making use of those of DAC-donors. Participants pointed to the limitations of the DAC ODA definition for capturing SSC, which, they argued, is a much broader concept. Furthermore, the win-win and demand driven characteristics of SSC were underlined. There was general agreement that MICs/SSC providers should develop their own joint standards for development assistance. Several participants however stated that
MICs/SSC providers could do so by learning from and building on the standards of DAC donors.

In this regard, the presentation of how UAE reports to the DAC demonstrated how UAE has established a reporting framework compatible with that of the DAC (using the Creditor Reporting System (CRS)) and the UN, which at the same time captures all UAE aid, not just ODA compatible aid. Reasons for reporting with the DAC were said to be, among others, that doing so ensures consistency with international standards, which enables internationally recognized comparisons of performance and provides all UAE donors with a common framework. The discussion demonstrated that other MICs have created similar frameworks to those of the DAC, but with their own components.

**Peer-to-peer learning**

Future collaboration among MICs on reporting and M&E was called for. Suggestions were made to create fora for sharing and developing standards and/or to engage in peer-to-peer learning, which could possibly be developed into peer reviews in future.

**Reporting fosters transparency and accountability**

Participants pointed at the need for documentation to ensure transparency and accountability. Lessons from the UAE example were, among others, that standardised approaches promote transparency among donors and the quality of project level information has provided a base for impact evaluation.

**C. MICs and the international agenda**

**Platforms and fora for MICs to develop joint agendas and share experiences**

There was general agreement on the need for platforms where MICs and providers of South-South Cooperation can get together to share experiences, promote best practices, and above all develop joint agendas at a global level. While DAC donors have their own platforms, it was stressed that there is no equivalent for MICs/SSC providers to get together. According to the participants, MICs often meet on the sidelines of international meetings, or meet at informal forums over and over again without any concrete action plan being developed.

**Post-2015 and the Global Partnership processes – where do MICs fit in?**

Various reflections were made related to MICs’ positioning in on-going international processes, in particular the post-MDG/Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness. For example, some participants were of the view that while the Global Partnership has good intentions, they regarded it as “old wine in new bottles”. Some felt that this is not the right forum for standardising principles on South-South Cooperation. Some participants said they will focus their attention on the Post-2015 agenda rather than the Global Partnership.

Other participants stated that the idea of the Global Partnership is to include all stakeholders and get away from “the donor - recipient logic”. They were of the view that the creation of MIC platforms for experience sharing etc., does not necessarily exclude participation in the Global Partnership. Several questions were raised, and remained unanswered, on how the Global Partnership and the Post-2015 processes relate to each other and how MICs can engage.

On a general level, some participants emphasised that they are in favour of UN-led processes at global level, and that discussions on SSC experiences and practices should take place.
within the UN. The Task Team on South-South Cooperation was mentioned by some as a useful platform for sharing information, while others regarded this as a DAC-led process.

**Challenges of fulfilling international obligations**

Participants mentioned several challenges MICs face in their role as providers of assistance. Whilst MICs are themselves increasing engagement in development cooperation, there are also pressures from traditional donors for MICs to take on more responsibilities, including engaging in trilateral cooperation. Likewise there are increasingly higher expectations from partner countries requesting support, in particular for infrastructure projects. International Organisations (IOs) also ask for more donations from MICs. Although the different expectations are positive in the sense that they give recognition to MICs as key development players, they also make demands on national management structures that are often not yet fully developed.

The discussion on MICs and the international agenda raised many questions and reflected the state of flux of the global development landscape within which MICs are trying to position themselves.
4. SESSION THREE: OPERATIONAL ISSUES

The final thematic session addressed operational issues of delivering assistance: different modalities used by MICs and experiences of trilateral cooperation and cooperation with other actors with a focus on CSOs and, to a lesser extent, the private sector. The aim of the session was to identify major advantages and challenges of different approaches for delivering assistance including trilateral cooperation; how to involve the private sector and CSOs; draw out transferrable good practices and lessons; and identify issues that could benefit from further discussion.

Five presentations were made followed by discussions in plenary and in groups that explored the issues more in-depth. The main conclusions, lessons learned and challenges are presented below. A special presentation on “Challenges and Contradictions in the Current Organisation of Aid” provided insights into trends and contradictions in aid and how to overcome them.

4.1 Conclusions and lessons learned

Ensuring long-term sustainability of projects is a key challenge

The discussions on modalities for disbursing assistance demonstrated that MICs are in no way homogenous and that modalities change over time, based on the changing aspirations of partner countries as well as national priorities.

How to ensure long-term sustainability of projects and, related to this, how to make technical cooperation effective were mentioned as key challenges in discussions of aid modalities. These are challenges shared by MICs as well as DAC donors. Based on lessons learned, the presentations described how some MICs are putting more focus on the training of local staff to enable the transfer of operations after project completion. Several participants described similar challenges, and how attempts are made to move from project-based to sector-wide approaches to improve overall effectiveness of operations. However, it was recognised that a simple question of efficiency ends up in complex discussions on policy choices for providing assistance. There was expressed interest in exploring modality-related issues further, and learning from each other as well as from recipients and DAC-donors.

Lessons learned in trilateral cooperation

Participants gave examples of how trilateral cooperation has become a key modality for many MICs and how this often has enabled MICs to play a leading role in regional development. Trilateral cooperation in the form of North-South-South cooperation has the advantage of combining the resources of “traditional donors” with the technical skills and know-how of “Southern partners” in the assistance of a third country. South-South-South trilateral arrangements also exist.

The presentation of Thailand’s experience of N-S-S trilateral cooperation showed how this has allowed Thailand and traditional donor countries to add value to South-South Cooperation and support regional integration. Whilst there is interest in developing trilateral cooperation further, Thai and other experiences showed that there are a number of challenges to be overcome: MOUs do not always provide the needed common understanding; lack of joint mechanisms and regular dialogues; uncertainty in the form of budget constraints and policy changes; as well as concerns about aid effectiveness and duplication of resources, harmonization, alignment; and how to ensure ownership of interventions. Participants in particular mentioned the importance of enhancing leadership and ownership of recipient
countries, and working towards horizontal partnerships, e.g. engaging in knowledge-sharing as opposed to knowledge-transfer.

*Increasing cooperation with CSOs - ensuring independence and an enabling environment*

The two presentations on the role of CSOs in Russian and UK development cooperation outlined the main functions CSOs can have in development processes: a) as deliverers of aid - CSOs deliver goods and services to poor communities that governments can find difficult to reach; and 2) in an advocacy role - CSOs can scrutinise government policies (not just aid), push for reforms, and present alternative and visionary views; and 3) as channels for and influencers of public opinion - CSOs can give voice to the public as well as influence public opinion.

The relationship between CSOs and governments in MICs varies considerably. In some MICs, the government and CSOs work together in providing assistance, while in others this cooperation is non-existent. In some countries there is mutual suspicion between the two. How to overcome this lack of trust, and for governments to see CSOs as a resource, not just in their capacity as deliverers of assistance, but also as “development actors in their own right”\(^5\), was seen as a key question for MICs. Collaboration with CSOs in the “recipient” country was also noted as having many advantages. For example, local CSOs can help ensure sustainability of assistance, particularly in contexts of instability. Likewise, CSOs in MICs can be a useful partner as they often have experience in managing incoming development assistance.

There was general agreement on the importance of CSOs being able to operate independently and for governments to provide an enabling environment for CSOs, as per the Accra and Busan commitments.\(^6\) However, there were different experiences of to what extent CSOs can be independent actors, and questions were raised as to whether CSOs can still be independent actors if they receive government funding. Questions were also raised as to when it is appropriate to support CSOs in recipient countries and how to balance this with the principle of non-interference in domestic political and economic affairs, which some providers of SSC emphasise.

CSO participants shared information on how over the past years they have worked with each other at a global level both with their own commitments to effectiveness (the so-called Istanbul Principles) as well as advocating for better aid. This work is to be taken forward by the newly created CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE).\(^7\)

*Private sector cooperation – on the increase*

The pre-conference survey demonstrated that there was interest in sharing experiences on the role of the private sector in development assistance. However, this issue was not explored in detail at the conference. Participants recognised private sector cooperation as an area that is “up and coming” given the inclusion of the private sector in the Busan outcome document.\(^8\)

There was general agreement on the importance of cooperating with and involving the private sector through the CSR activities of companies and, more importantly, by exploring ways to make their core business activities more development friendly.

\(^5\) CSOs were given recognition as “development actors in their own right” in the Accra Agenda for Action, the outcome document of the 3rd High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness.

\(^6\) For further information about the High Level Forum processes and outcomes see http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/thelhighlevelforumonaideffectivenessahistory.htm

\(^7\) For further information about CSO processes see Better Aid: http://www.betteraid.org

\(^8\) See in particular paragraph 32: http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/en/component/content/article/698.html
5. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR WAYS FORWARD

The conference enabled a rich sharing of experience among MICs on a wide range of different aspects of development assistance and cooperation. The three main thematic sessions covered lessons learned, challenges, and best practices from the perspective of MICs. The fourth and final session was devoted to discussing suggestions for how to move forward on a more practical level.

During the final session, a list of key issues that participants had shown most interest in was compiled (5.1). This was followed by a discussion on non-issue specific mechanisms for taking some of these listed issues forward, summarised below (5.2). Finally, drawn from this is a set of questions for consideration in planning future experience sharing events (5.3).

5.1. Summary of key issues of interest

- **Institutional arrangements for coordination and policy coherence** – share experiences on government mechanisms in place to coordinate development assistance and promote policy coherence for development
- **Finding the best legal framework** – share experiences on institutional set ups of MICs, including legal frameworks for development cooperation
- **Generating political will and public support for development assistance** – share experiences on how to best manage this in a MICs context
- **Overcoming capacity constraints, including for Monitoring and Evaluation** – how to overcome challenges MICs face (staff, resources, skills etc.) in this regard
- **Better understanding of recipient demands and needs** – share experiences on best practices for how to ensure assistance is based on local demands and needs
- **Reporting on aid expenditure and setting common standards** – MICs/SSC providers to develop their own, joint standards for what counts as “aid” and report on these
- **Creating platforms for MICs to coordinate positions at global level** – creating space for MICs to meet, develop standards and joint agendas/positions at global level
- **Ensuring long-term sustainability** – how to move from stand-alone isolated projects to broader approaches to delivering assistance
- **Making a success of trilateral cooperation** – share practical lessons of what works well and what does not
- **Cooperating with CSOs** – how to involve and work with domestic CSOs and CSOs in partner countries
- **Working with the private sector** – how to make use of private sector expertise and incentivise the private sector to contribute to development objectives
- **Knowledge-sharing with an impact** – how to share knowledge effectively

5.2. Suggestions for how to move forward

At the conference there was common agreement on the need for finding concrete ways to facilitate further information and experience sharing among MICs. Participants identified four suggestions for moving forward, summarised below.

*Online platform/Community of Practice for experience sharing*

There was general agreement that it would be very useful to set up an online forum/Community of Practice (COP) to share documents on development assistance. Making use of ICT was seen as a resource-efficient way to share and access information. In addition,
physical meetings can be held when this is needed. The online platform could be a space to share lessons, challenges, practices, research etc. on a range of key issues of interest as listed above (under 5.1). There are initiatives to learn from according to participants, e.g. the Capacity Development for Development Effectiveness (CDDE) facility for Asia and Pacific was mentioned. It was suggested that a COP for MICs could be managed by a multilateral organisation like the UNDP and/or MICs on a rotational basis.

Mechanisms for MICs to meet before and between major international events
Participants identified a need for fora at which MICs could get together and develop joint agendas and coordinate positions, ahead of and in-between global meetings on development assistance in order to come better prepared. Currently, MICs meet on the sidelines of such international meetings, or meet at informal meetings with no concrete action plan and follow up. It was suggested that the hosting of such meetings could rotate among MICs, and/or UNDP could help convene meetings.

Coordination of initiatives to enable synergies
Participants were of the view that workshops like this one are very useful for bringing different actors together, in this case both government representatives and academia/CSOs, to exchange experiences in an open manner. However, it was also stated that there are several initiatives (conferences, trainings etc.) targeted at MICs and there is a tendency of international organisations to set up initiatives of their own. Participants noted a need to coordinate and find synergies between initiatives, to avoid repetition and ensure follow up. It was suggested that UNDP could play a role in coordinating seminars etc. globally to ensure progression from one initiative to the next. Participants also pointed at the usefulness of activity-oriented programs targeting aid practitioners in addition to policy-oriented discussions.

Research and synthesize information
Participants identified a need for further research and the utility of collecting case studies setting out MICs’ positive experiences and challenges faced in development cooperation. It was suggested that the case studies could be sector specific. While some saw a need for more information, several participants noted that there is actually a lot available, but there is a need to synthesize the information and make it more accessible. Existing information could be shared via an online platform, as suggested above. Academia and CSOs can play a key role in identifying and filling information gaps. It was suggested UNDP could facilitate the synthesizing and sharing of available information.

5.3. Questions for further consideration
The conference was successful in enabling participants to share experiences and lessons learned. Based on participants’ contributions, suggestions are made below of issues that could be taken into consideration in any future experience sharing.

Inclusivity in experience sharing among MICs – when and how?
The conference clearly demonstrated the value of and interest in experience sharing among MICs on different aspects of development assistance and cooperation. MICs often face similar challenges and have relevant lessons to share with each other. Experience sharing among MICs can contribute to mutual learning with the purpose of increasing the effectiveness of development cooperation so that it makes a difference for people living in poverty. At the same time, building on lessons learned, it is important for any constellation of actors providing assistance to be inclusive of those countries/stakeholders that are intended
beneficiaries. Questions to consider could be: How to ensure initiatives among MICs are inclusive of other stakeholders, in particular beneficiaries of development assistance? When is the right time and place for MICs to meet exclusively to share experiences, and when is the right time and place for inclusiveness to avoid becoming an exclusive club?

How to ensure mutual learning is effective?
The global development landscape is going through major changes as the diversity of actors engaged increases. This brings opportunities as well as challenges, at local and global levels. There is widespread agreement on the need for global development cooperation dialogues to incorporate the diverse experiences of all actors beyond those who have traditionally dominated these discussions. Similarly, the need for mutual learning between different stakeholders is often repeated; between MICs, DAC donors and partner countries and various constituencies within these countries. This requires willingness to listen and learn from past mistakes and to find common ground based on joint interests in achieving development results. What concrete examples of mutual learning activities in partner countries and at global levels exist to learn from? How could synergies be enhanced between them to avoid repetition, and how could they be documented to share examples to inspire further initiatives?

How to ensure synergies in future initiatives of mutual learning?
Participants underlined that there are several initiatives set up by various organisations targeting MICS with the purpose of facilitating mutual experience sharing, and that there is a tendency of organisations to set up their own initiatives. This raises questions of how to ensure that the various initiatives build upon another, and that synergies are created between them. Questions to consider for all those engaged in the facilitation of experience sharing among MICs, and between MICs and other stakeholders, could be: How could information from the various initiatives be collected and shared so that each new initiative can draw lessons from past initiatives and build upon these when developing next steps? Could UNDP and other multilateral organisations play a role in facilitating this progression of mutual learning?

The institutional set up and practices of MICs – how to share transparently?
Participants at the conference identified the need to document the institutional set up and modalities of MICs for development cooperation, to enhance mutual learning. Whilst there is a lot of information available, which, as stated by participants, needs to be synthesized, there are also information gaps. Studies on development cooperation of MICs frequently refer to secondary sources. The sharing of information is of interest for stakeholders beyond MICs to enhance transparency and accountability. How could such information best be compiled and made available to a broad range of stakeholders, to prevent the reinventing of the wheel and increase transparency?

Policy coherence in a MICs context – what are the experiences?
There is widespread recognition that policy coherence is key for development outcomes. Development assistance, even when it is effective, cannot end poverty. At the same time, as demonstrated by this conference and other discussions, to translate policy coherence into practice remains a challenge for all development actors. Questions to consider in the context of experience sharing between MICs could be: What are the specific challenges MICs face to ensure policy coherence and how can they be overcome? What lessons do MICs and providers of South-South Cooperation have to share with other development actors on how to promote coherent policies that contribute to development objectives? Such questions could be addressed in a comparative analysis to enable mutual learning on policy coherence.
Lessons learned in triangular cooperation – who has learned what?

MICs and other providers of development assistance often bring up the merits of trilateral cooperation, and there is traction in the international community to increase this. The conference demonstrates that MICs have lessons to share on how to make trilateral cooperation successful. The following questions could perhaps be useful to address ahead of future experience sharing: What are the ten key lessons of each partner; those of MICs, the other Southern partner and those of the “traditional donor” in a N-S-S trilateral cooperation? What lessons do the different stakeholders share, and what are specific to MICs and how can they be overcome?

Broad based participation in development assistance – what best practices exist?

Participants at the conference repeatedly emphasised the importance of ownership of partner countries and, in particular, ownership and engagement of local stakeholders in development assistance. Examples of successful cases were presented.

CSOs often have first-hand experience of the impact of development cooperation on intended beneficiaries. At the same time, many MICs have limited experiences of involving CSOs in development cooperation. Discussions at the conference however demonstrated that there is interest in involving CSOs, and the private sector, to a greater extent. Future experience sharing events could consider what best practices exist among MICs to involve local stakeholders (CSOs, local private sector etc.) in development cooperation, according to local stakeholders themselves? How was a broad range of stakeholders engaged, what were the challenges and how were they overcome? What were the long-term effects? It could be useful to compile 10-15 cases looking into such questions, to provide a basis for mutual learning.

Overall, participants felt that the conference was very useful for sharing experiences and enabling mutual learning, as demonstrated by the comments made in the evaluation. (See summary of the evaluation in Annex 4). Participants stated that topics covered were useful and applicable, and the conference was helpful in enhancing understanding of development cooperation experiences, good practices, and challenges.

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9 Cases of trilateral cooperation have also been documented, see The Task Team on South-South Cooperation website: http://www.southsouthcases.info/casostriangular/
ANNEX 1: Participant list

**MICs countries:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Position and institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Ms. Vera Masagao</td>
<td>Executive Director, The Brazilian Association of NGOs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Mr. Lu Feng/</td>
<td>Director/Deputy Director, Department of Foreign Aid, Ministry of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Tian Guanglei</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms. Mao Xiaojing</td>
<td>Research Director, CAITEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi</td>
<td>Senior Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Mr. Tubagus Achmad Choensni</td>
<td>Director, International Development Cooperation National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Don K Marut</td>
<td>Coordinator of Indonesia CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Ms. Fabiola Soto Narvaez</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Policy Planning of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professor Citlali Ayala</td>
<td>Dr Jose Maria Luis Mora Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Mr. Vadim Karp</td>
<td>International Development Cooperation Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Mark Rakhmangulov</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Global Governance Research Centre, International Organizations Research Centre, National Research University Higher School of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>Dr. Mahfoodh Al Saadi</td>
<td>Executive Director, Reach Out To Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Mr. Banchong Amornchewin</td>
<td>Director, Planning and Monitoring Branch Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof. Siriporn Wajjwalku</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of International Relations Dean, Faculty of Political Science / Director of International Program, Thammasat University, Bangkok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Mr. Hacı Ahmet DAŞTAN</td>
<td>Expert Turkish International Coordination and Cooperation Agency (TIKA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Erdal Tanas Karagöl</td>
<td>Faculty of political Sciences, Department of Economics, Yıldırım Beyazıt University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position/Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>Mr. Sultan Al Shamsi</td>
<td>Executive Director, UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-MICs donors:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Mr. Geoff Bowan</td>
<td>AusAID China Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Mr. Richard Krpac</td>
<td>Counsellor, Embassy of the Czech Republic, Beijing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Dr. Lars Engberg-Pedersen</td>
<td>Senior Researcher/Head of Research unit on Politics and Development, Danish Institute for International Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>Dr. Duol Kim</td>
<td>Director, Division of Development Research, Center for International Development, Korea Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Ms. Joy Hutcheon</td>
<td>Director General for Country Programmes, DFID UK</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Chris Chalmers</td>
<td>DFID UK, China Office</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Richard Garratt</td>
<td>DFID UK, China Office</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Participants/observers:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CAITEC</td>
<td>Song Wei</td>
<td>Department of Development Aid</td>
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<td>Cao Jinli</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chen Xiaoning</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>Mr. Nils Boesen</td>
<td>Director, Knowledge, Innovation and Capacity Group, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms. Renata Lok-Dessallien</td>
<td>Resident Representative, UNDP China</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr. Christophe Bahuet</td>
<td>Country Director, UNDP China</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Steven Sabey</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms. Merriden Varrall</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms. Kathy Huang</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms. Chen Qingzhen</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms. Song Qi</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Adam Ertur</td>
<td>Strengthened Partnership and Policy Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Mr. Michael Laird</td>
<td>Senior Policy Analyst, OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX 2: Agenda

DAY of ARRIVAL – Wednesday 16th January

Workshop participants arrive in Beijing
Conference venue and hotel: AIBO (Academy for International Business Officials), Dongsanqi, Changping District, Beijing, PRC
商务部国际商务官员研修学院，北京市昌平区东三旗

Dinner arrangement: buffet from 6.30 – 8.30 pm

WORKSHOP DAY ONE – Thursday 17th January

7.00 – 8.00 am Buffet breakfast

8.20 – 8.45 am Registration and sign up for breakout group sessions
Conference room

8.45 – 9.20 am Welcome remarks and introduction, hosted by Ms Renata Lok Dessallien, UNDP China Resident Representative
Conference room
• Mr Huo Jianguo, President, CAITEC
• Mr Nils Boesen, Director, Knowledge, Innovation and Capacity Group, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP
• Ms Joy Hutcheon, Director General for Country Programmes, DFID UK

9.20 – 9.30 am Welcome remarks and outline of the workshop/first day
Professor Penny Davies, workshop Chair and Facilitator

9.30 – 11.05 am Session One Plenary: Institutional Structures and Functions
Goals and key questions for the session:
- What institutional options/structures have different countries adopted?
- Why have these been adopted over other options?
- What have been the advantages/challenges?
- What changes might be being considered, and what good practices and lessons can be learned?

By the end of the session, aim to identify major advantages and challenges with different institutional approaches, draw out transferrable good practices and lessons, and identify issues that could benefit from further discussion in the future.

• New law and new development cooperation agency; Ms. Fabiola Soto Narvaez, Mexico (10 mins)
• Institutional challenges – national coordination teams, managing and implementing institutions; Mr Tubagus Achmad Choesni, Indonesia (10 mins)
• Comparative study into Thai and Japanese institutional structures; Professor Siriporn Wajjwalku, Thailand (10 mins)
• Australia’s Aid Institutional Set-up; Mr Geoff Bowan, Australia (10 mins)
• Discussion
• Summary and wrap-up by facilitator
11.05 – 11.25 am  

*Tea/coffee break*

11.25 – 12.45 pm  

*Session One Breakout Groups*

Group discussions 50 mins; report back to plenary 20 mins; summary by Chair 5 mins.

- Supporting legal environment, with Ms. Fabiola Soto Narvaez, Mexico
- Centralised vs. multiple development agencies, TBC
- Implementing institutions and models for managing institutions, with Mr Tubagus Achmad Choens, Indonesia

12.45 – 2.00 pm  

*Lunch*

2.00 – 2.30 pm  

*Special Presentation*

Introduction to China’s Foreign Aid Programme

Mr Lu Feng, Director, Department of Aid to Foreign Countries, China Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) (20 mins)

Discussion (10 mins)

2.30 – 4.30 pm  

*Session Two Plenary: Policy-making, Monitoring, and Reporting*

Goals and key questions for the session:

- How is policy research and analysis undertaken? By whom?
- How is long-term assistance/cooperation planning undertaken and by whom?
- How is demand for assistance/cooperation ascertained? What relationships with partner countries exist? Does assistance/cooperation fit within partner countries’ own national development plans?
- How are links made with international policy processes (post-2015, Busan etc)?
- How are monitoring and evaluation and reporting on assistance/cooperation conducted, and by whom?

By the end of the session, have identified major advantages and challenges with different policy-making, monitoring and reporting approaches, how MICs relate to international processes, and draw out transferrable good practices and lessons, and identify issues that could benefit from further discussion.

- ‘Indian Experience with Small Development Projects: Lessons from Nepal’ - working with local partners in ascertaining demand, aligning with national (and also local) development plans, and sharing space with other development partners; Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, India (10 mins)
- What constitutes success, and for whom? How much money spent (Afghanistan case study)? Mr Richard Krpac, Czech Republic (10 mins)
- Reporting to the DAC; Mr Sultan Al Shamsi, UAE (10 mins)
- Challenges with monitoring and evaluation; Professor Citlali Ayala, Mexico (10 mins)
- Moving from a non-DAC to DAC country; Dr Dual Kim, South Korea (10 mins)
- The international agenda/global development norms – developing a MIC position; Ms. Fabiola Soto Narvaez, Mexico (10 mins)
- Discussion

• Discussion
• Summary and wrap-up by facilitator

4.30 – 4.45 pm  Afternoon tea break

4.45 – 6.05 pm  Session Two Breakout Groups
Group discussions 50 mins; report back to plenary 20 mins; summary by Chair 5 mins.
• Sectors and countries: development cooperation decision-making, with Dr Mahfoodh Al Saadi, Qatar and Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, India
• Relating with international development agendas, with Ms. Fabiola Soto Narvaez, Mexico; Dr Dual Kim, South Korea; and Mr Sultan Al Shamsi, UAE
• Challenges around monitoring and evaluation, with Professor Citlali Ayala, Mexico

7.00 pm  Conference dinner
WORKSHOP DAY TWO – Friday 18th January

7.30 – 8.50 am  Breakfast

9.00 – 9.15 am  Welcome remarks and outline of the workshop/second day
Professor Penny Davies, workshop Chair and Facilitator
Conference room

9.15 – 11.15 am  Session Three Plenary: Operational Issues
Goals and key questions for the session:
- What are the technical modalities for disbursing
assistance/cooperation?
- What is the role of line agencies, CSOs such as NGOs, think tanks, the
private sector, and other actors in assistance/cooperation?
- What are the challenges and opportunities MICs have experiences
with trilateral cooperation?

By the end of the session, have identified major advantages and
challenges with different approaches for delivering assistance, including
how to involve the private sector and CSOs, trilateral cooperation, draw
out transferrable good practices and lessons, and identify issues that
could benefit from further discussion.

- Role of the private sector; tensions and synergies with development
cooperation and commercial/business interests (energy sector case
study); Dr Duol Kim, Korea (10 mins)
- China’s Aid Modalities – some challenges and reforms, Ms Mao
Xiaojing, China (10 mins)
- Importance of CSOs in Russia’s development cooperation; Mr Mark
Rakhmangulov, Russia (10 mins)
- The role of CSOs in British aid; Mr Richard Garratt, UK (10 mins)
- Triangular cooperation – experiences of working with Germany; Mr
Banchong Amornchewin, Thailand (10 mins)
- Discussion
- Summary and wrap-up by facilitator

11.15 – 11.30 am  Tea/coffee break

11.30 – 12.50 am  Session Three Breakout Groups
Group discussions 50 mins; report back to plenary 20 mins; summary by
Chair 5 mins.
- Trilateral cooperation, with Mr Banchong Amornchewin, Thailand;
and Professor Citlali Ayala, Mexico
- Working with CSOs and the private sector, with Mr Mark
Rakhmangulov, Russia; Mr Don K. Marut, Indonesia and Dr Duol Kim,
Korea
- General operational challenges and approaches, with Ms Mao
Xiaojing, China

12.50 – 2.00 pm  Lunch

2.00 – 2.30 pm  Special Presentation
Challenges and contradictions in the current organisation of aid
Mr Lars Engberg-Pedersen, Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for
International Studies (20 mins)
Discussion (10 mins)

2.30 – 3.50 pm  
**Session Four Plenary: Ways Forward and Other Outstanding Issues**

Goals and key questions for the session:
- To discuss suggestion for how to move forward on the issues discussed over the course of the workshop
- To discuss outstanding issues raised over the course of the workshop which have not yet had an opportunity to be addressed

3.50 – 4.10 pm  
*Afternoon tea break*

4.10 – 4.30 pm  
*Wrap-up and summary of workshop*

Professor Penny Davies, workshop Chair and Facilitator

4.30 – 5.30 pm  
*General discussion session*

5.30 – 6.00 pm  
*Concluding remarks*

Ms. Mao Xiaojing, Research Director, CAITEC (10 mins)

Mr Christophe Bahuet, Country Director, UNDP China (10 mins)

*NB – for those participants departing on Saturday 19th, a buffet dinner will be available from 6.30 – 8.30, and breakfast will be available from 6.00 am Saturday morning.*
ANNEX 3: Reports for further reading

Participants recommended the following reports and websites about the development assistance/cooperation of the participating countries for further information:

Government respondents

Australia:

China:

Czech Republic:
• Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (2012), Czech Development Cooperation

Mexico:
• Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (November, 2012), 2012 Catalogue of Mexican Capacities for International Development Cooperation [http://mexidata.info/id3502.html] (Link to Spanish version, also available in English)

Thailand:

United Arab Emirates (UAE):
• UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA) (September 2012), United
Arab Emirates Foreign Aid 2011
http://ocfa.gov.ae/EN/ResourceGuidelines/Pages/Reports.aspx

• UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA)
http://www.ocfa.gov.ae/EN/Pages/Home.aspx

• UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA) (2013), Foreign Aid Reporting Framework of The United Arab Emirates

• Development Evaluation Quality Standards, DAC/OECD (English, French, Arabic), translation to Arabic by OCFA, African Development Bank, and Islamic Development Bank, 2011:

• Country profiles, OCFA:

• Musa’adat newsletter (Aid newsletter), monthly newsletter, OCFA:
http://ocfa.gov.ae/EN/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsLetter.aspx

• OCFA’s Publications: http://ocfa.gov.ae/EN/MediaCenter/Pages/Publications.aspx

CSO respondents

Brazil:

http://www.abong.org.br/lutas_e_acoes.php?id=412&it=4590


Czech Republic:

• FoRS - Czech Forum for Development Cooperation
  o The Involvement of Development NGOs from Visegrad Countries in the Financial Instruments of the European Commission (2011)

Denmark:

Russia:

Thailand:
- TICA (2010) Thailand's Best Practice and Lesson Learned in Development
**General (not country specific):**

- Website of the former Task Team on South-South Cooperation, which provided the evidence and analysis of the proposal for the Building Block on SSC within the Global Partnership of Effective Development: [www.southsouth.info](http://www.southsouth.info)
- Website of Practical Initiatives Network (PIN), a free, public, worldwide network providing a platform for development organisations to share ideas and learn from each other’s successful (and less successful) initiatives: [www.practicalinitiatives.org](http://www.practicalinitiatives.org)
Participants of the Middle Income Countries’ Development Cooperation Experience Exchange Workshop in Beijing were asked to evaluate the workshop. The evaluation is divided into two parts – overall and session evaluation.

**Overall evaluation**

In the overall evaluation section, it can be concluded that all the respondents are satisfied with the content of the workshop. They find the content followed the workshop’s objectives and was well-organized, easy to follow and helpful in better understanding the challenges of development cooperation. They all agree that topics covered were useful and applicable. Concerning their overall assessment of the workshop, all the participants agree that the workshop met their expectations, helped them understand development cooperation experiences across a range of middle income countries and strengthened their network of people for development cooperation in the future. It should also be noted that 17% of respondents report that their understanding of development cooperation experiences was not significantly clearer after the workshop.

**Suggestions for improvement**

Two respondents suggest that the workshop could have focused more on limited topics and facilitate in-depth discussions. Some also suggest the workshop could have worked more to uncover trends and strengthen groupings. More emphasis on procedural aspects of establishing institutions, decision making and negotiations concerning South-South partnerships may also help further improve future similar workshops. One participant notes that he/she would like to see more of topics like reporting MICs coordination on global development issues, and effectiveness of technical cooperation. Another participant suggests more coverage on trilateral cooperation, and more detailed information on institutions and legal aspects (NB relevant publicly available information was included in pre-workshop report). Another participant feels that more coverage on experiences of the beneficiary countries would have been useful (NB this was an aspect of the original agenda but unfortunately the workshop organisers were unable to secure representation by partner countries at the event). Another participant noted a particular interest in learning more about best practices so far. There was interest in further similar seminars and research projects in the future.

**Session Evaluation**

90% of all the respondents report Session I (Institutional Structures and Functions) and Session III (Operational Issues) met their expectations. They noted that participation and interaction were encouraged; adequate time was provided for questions and discussions; and this was greatly appreciated. Compared with Session III, Session I scores lower (20% neutral)
when participants are asked whether they learned interesting and useful new things. For Session I, one participant suggests more background information should be provided before the meeting, but did not clarify whether UNDP or the presenters should be responsible for this. Another participant notes that he/she had hoped presenters would be more prepared to avoid improvising. Another respondent felt that that the presentations could have been enhanced by referring more to the Busan Partnership Document, and recognizing CSOs as independent development actors. 80% of the participants report they will be able to apply the knowledge they learned in Session I, while 82% of the participants claim that the information is applicable in Session III. The lowest satisfaction rating is for Session II with 63% of the participants feeling that the information is applicable.

Session II (Policy-Making, Monitoring, and Reporting) did not perform as well as the other two sessions. An overall 72% of the participants agree it met their expectations. For Session II, one participant asks for more examples and hope the topic could be narrowed for a better exchange of ideas. 9% of the respondents found the time provided for questions and discussions in Session II was not adequate. In Session II 73% of respondents agreed with the statement “I learned interesting and useful new things”, the lowest among all three sessions.

A statistical breakdown of questions and answers is provided below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The content of the workshop followed the workshop’s objectives</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Topics covered the workshop were useful and applicable to my function and my application</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. The content was organized and easy to follow</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. The information obtained with other participants is useful</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The content of the workshop is helpful in better understanding the challenges of development cooperation</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Assessment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. I now have a clearer understanding of development cooperation experiences across a range of middle income countries</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I now have a stronger network of people with whom I can discuss development cooperation in the future</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The workshop met my expectations</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Overall, how would you evaluate the workshop</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Session I: Institutional Structures and Functions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. The session met my expectations</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I learned interesting and useful new things</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I will be able to apply the knowledge I learned</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Participation and interaction were encouraged</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Adequate time was provided for questions and discussions</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. How do you rate the session overall?</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session II: Policy-Making, Monitoring, and Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Rating 1</td>
<td>Rating 2</td>
<td>Rating 3</td>
<td>Rating 4</td>
<td>Rating 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. The session met my expectations</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I learned interesting and useful new things</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I will be able to apply the knowledge I learned</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<td>4. Participation and interaction were encouraged</td>
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<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Adequate time was provided for questions and discussions</td>
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<td>45%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. How do you rate the session overall?</td>
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<td>36%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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**Session III: Operational Issues**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Rating 1</th>
<th>Rating 2</th>
<th>Rating 3</th>
<th>Rating 4</th>
<th>Rating 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The session met my expectations</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I learned interesting and useful new things</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I will be able to apply the knowledge I learned</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<td>4. Participation and interaction were encouraged</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Adequate time was provided for questions and discussions</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. How do you rate the session overall?</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<td>9%</td>
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</table>
ANNEX 5: Country pages

The following pages include “country reports” with basic information on the development assistance/cooperation systems of the respective participating countries. The information was put together by UNDP, and the government representatives were asked to verify and/or make any eventual changes to the documents. Due to time constraints not all country pages have been verified; when they are not verified this is stated. The following countries are included below: 1. Brazil, 2. China, 3. Czech Republic, 4. India, 5. Indonesia, 6. Mexico, 7. Qatar, 8. Russia, 9. Thailand, 10. Turkey and 11. United Arab Emirates (UAE).
1. Brazil (not verified)

1) **Key points**

- Brazil’s foreign aid program, headed by the Brazil Cooperation Agency (ABC), focuses on helping countries that have had a development experience similar to its own.
- ABC claims that, Brazil’s reporting technique requires refinement, and that the agency lacked sufficient resources to pursue further data collection for the report.
- Regulatory framework is a challenge for ABC----The agency needs to execute its budget with more reasonable flexibility and supply other kinds of development assistance such as in-kind donations, loans and grants.

2) **Facts**

**Total**

Official development cooperation funds doubled between 2007 and 2008 and tripled from 2009 to 2010, when they totaled 50 million dollars. But studies by ODI and Canada’s international Development Research Centre estimate that other Brazilian institutions spend 15 times more than ABC’s budget on their technical assistance programme. An Economist’s article in 2010 implies that, Brazil’s development aid broadly defined could reach 4 billion a year.¹⁰

**Channel**

Brazil contributes 76% of its total assistance to multilateral institution, whether they are international organizations or regional development banks, and the remaining 24% is disbursed through bilateral partnerships (SSC), or with a traditional donor partner (trilateral cooperation). Approximately one fifth of Brazil’s current projects are trilateral cooperation. (2011)

**Geographical Focus**

ABC’s total expenditure per region is shown in figure 1:

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¹⁰ Source: Brazil’s foreign-aid programme: Speak softly and carry a blank cheque, link: [http://www.economist.com/node/16592455](http://www.economist.com/node/16592455)
Sectoral Concentration
Figure 2\textsuperscript{11} shows classification of SSC per segment:

![Sectoral Concentration Pie Chart](image)

3) **Aid Modalities**
In terms of the forms of aid, Brazil divides its aid activities into five categories, as below.
- **Humanitarian assistance**
- **Technical, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation**
- **Scholarships for foreigners to study in Brazil**
- **Contributions to international organizations and regional banks**
- **Peace operations**

4) **Govt systems – who manages what?**
- At the highest level are the ministries engaged in international cooperation, representing the primary focal points for policy-making and policy coordination for development cooperation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is intended to be responsible for articulating the actions of each ministry according to foreign policy priorities and ABC is its main executive body. (See figure 3)
- At the lower level are the various institutions involved in development assistance with ABC acting as both a coordinating body and a financial instrument.
- ABC is tasked with the role of overseeing the conception, approval, execution and monitoring of the projects and programs. But ABC’s centrality in the system is fragile and the system is operationally fragmented. Evidence suggests that a range of other entities, both public and private, is involved in the design, negotiation and provision of assistance with limited ABC involvement.
- ABC has 107 employees at the headquarters and only 10 in the field acting as focus points in some of the priority recipient countries (2010 figures). Most expertise lies outside of ABC and its staff are not permanent.

\textsuperscript{11} Source: Brazilian Technical Cooperation, link: [http://www.oecd.org/swac/events/49257793.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/swac/events/49257793.pdf)
Figure 3\textsuperscript{12}: Organogram of ABC

\textsuperscript{12} Source: Brazilian Technical Cooperation, link: \url{http://www.oecd.org/swac/events/49257793.pdf}
2. CHINA

1) **Key points:**
   - Identifying accurate aid information is difficult as much data is not published, and aid is intertwined with trade and investment.
   - In April 2011 MOFCOM released its first Aid White Paper which although brief indicates a tendency towards increased openness.
   - Despite ongoing negative coverage, more careful analysis of Chinese aid suggests that its purpose is mutual benefit including benefits for domestic purposes.
   - China established the country’s foreign aid inter-agency liaison mechanism in 2008, led by MOFCOM together with MOFA and MOF. In February 2011, this liaison mechanism was upgraded into an inter-agency coordination mechanism.

2) **Facts**

**Total**
Chinese aid consists of grants and interest free loans ($1.5b) administered by DFA, concessional loans ($1b) administered by China EXIM Bank, and debt relief ($0.5b) administered by the Ministry of Commerce. The Ministry of Finance releases the financial expenditure and budget for foreign aid annually, which includes the grants, interest-free loans and subsidies for the concessional loans, but not include the capital of concessional loans. The financial expenditure of foreign aid in 2011 was 15.897 billion RMB and the budget for 2012 was 19.217 billion RMB.

But there is a caveat to these figures: understanding Chinese aid is complicated as comprehensive data is not available, and it is tied with trade and investment. For example, Beijing secured a major stake in Angola’s future oil production in 2004 with a $2 billion package of loans and aid that includes funds for Chinese companies to build railroads, schools, roads, hospitals, bridges, and offices; lay a fiber-optic network; and train Angolan telecommunications workers.

**Geographical Focus**
As the graphs from the White Paper show (below), much of the aid is spent in Africa, and nearly 40% is distributed to least developed countries.
Sectorial Concentration
The major areas that Chinese aid is directed towards include agriculture, industry, economic infrastructure, public facilities, education, and medical and health care. The White Paper also notes that climate change has become a new area of Chinese aid in recent years.

3) Aid Modalities
According to MOFCOM 2007, there are three kinds of overseas aid provided by China – grants, interest-free loans and preferential loans.

- Grant aid
- Interest-free loans
- Preferential (or concessional) loans

In terms of the forms of aid, China divides its three kinds of aid activities into eight categories, as below.

- Complete set of projects (At present, 40% of China’s foreign aid expenditure is in the form of ‘complete projects’)
- Technical Cooperation Projects:
- Cooperation on human resources development projects
- Sending Chinese medical teams
- Emergency humanitarian aid
- Providing foreign currency cash aid (Where China provides a “small amount” of foreign currency in cash to the recipient country to meet urgent needs of production or in the case of emergency disaster relief.)
- Preferential loan projects
- Sending youth volunteers
- Commodity Aid (Goods and Materials)
- Debt Relief

4) Govt systems – who manages what?
- Policy direction is set by the State Council, and projects on the ground are often carried out by Chinese private or state-owned enterprises – who may in fact have very little to do with Chinese bureaucracy in the recipient country after having been granted the right to implement the project.
- Bilateral aid is managed by MOFCOM, Multilateral aid is scattered to various ministries. MOF is in charge of donation to the World Bank and Asia Development Bank, MOFCOM in charge of donation to UN agencies, Ministry of Health to WHO, Ministry of Agriculture to WFP and FAO, the People’s Bank of China to Regional Development Bank except ADB, etc.
- MOFCOM has about 70 officials dealing with Chinese aid. Within MOFCOM, the Department of Aid to Foreign Countries is the responsible Dept.

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13 MOFCOM 2007 p. 8
14 Information pamphlet, “Brief Introduction of China’s Aid to Foreign Countries”, Ministry of Commerce of People’s Republic of China, December 2007, p. 6
3. CZECH REPUBLIC

1) **Key points**
   - OECD has conducted a special review of the Czech Republic in 2007, in response to a request of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The data in the review is quite old, so the main source of this summary is statistics and strategic papers of the Czech MFA. Czech Republic reports its development assistance to the DAC, so the data up to 2011 could be found also on OECD website.

2) **Facts**

**Total**
Czech Republic has a steadily increasing Net ODA disbursement, from USD 90.55 million in 2003 (0.101% GNI) to USD 250.46 million in 2011 (0.12% GNI).

**Channels**
In 2011, Czech Republic disbursed 70% of its total ODA as multilateral assistance, and 30% as bilateral assistance. Contribution to the UN and EU takes a large share of its multilateral ODA.

**Geographical Focus**
In line with international recommendations, the Czech Republic, within the drafting of the new Strategy 2010-2017, reduced the number of programme countries (i.e. those having the highest priority) to five: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Moldova and Mongolia. Bilateral development cooperation also takes place with project countries: Georgia, Cambodia, Kosovo, the Palestinian Autonomous Territories and Serbia, as well as the former programme countries of Angola, Yemen, Vietnam and Zambia, that continue receiving assistance of redefined focus and scope. The individual countries have been selected based on criteria that strike a balance between development assistance as a poverty-reducing tool that promotes further achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

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Table 1: Top ten recipients of Czech ODA (mil. USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>42.10</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>6.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>7.60</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>4.70</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>4.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) **Aid Modalities**

Modalities of Czech development cooperation include, most notably, development projects implemented in the partner countries, transition promotion projects, including projects administered by the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan, scholarships for students from developing countries, humanitarian aid and assistance to refugees in the Czech Republic.¹⁷

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**

- The basic legislative and strategic framework of Czech development cooperation is defined by the *Act on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid* that became effective in 2010, as well as by the *Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic 2010-2017*, also approved in 2010. Besides its other aims, the Strategy updated the goals of Czech development cooperation, as well as its principles, while also defining new priority territories and sectors.
- The *Ministry of Foreign Affairs* prepares strategic documents, annual Plans of Bilateral Development Cooperation as well as mid-term forecasts, provides for the evaluation of development projects and programmes and manages the Czech Development Agency. It also oversees the implementation of transition assistance.
- The *Czech Development Agency* is responsible for the implementation of development cooperation, including the identification of suitable projects, organisation of selection procedures (both public tenders and subsidies), signing of contracts and project monitoring.
- Representatives of ministries meet in the *Council on Development Cooperation*, which provides for inter-ministerial coordination and coherence of the goals and priorities of development cooperation and other instruments of government policy, within the scope laid down in the Council’s Statute and approved by the government.

• **Embassies** in the priority countries play an important part in the identification and formulation of suitable projects, including implementation monitoring; they are an important contact point for state and other institutions from the partner countries, as well as for Czech assistance providers. A number of commitments vis-à-vis partner countries also arise from the commitments adopted within the EU.

Table 2:
4. INDIA (not verified)

1) **Key points**

- India has established a national aid agency, the Development Partnership Administration (DPA) in March 2012, in an effort to improve transparency of its foreign aid operations and streamline the delivery process of India’s partnership projects with developing countries.

- There is disagreement on whether India should give a large amount of aid, as it is the home to the largest number of poor people of any country. Over the last two decades, assistance from west and multilateral agency have been reducing, some argues that set up of an aid agency will portend a further dip in assistance for India.

2) **Facts**

**Total**

An article in India’s Sunday Guardian reported that, the newly established DPA will be funded to the tune of $15 billion over five years. Global Humanitarian Assistance—a non-profit group estimated that India had given a total aid of USD 639 million in 2010. Among which, humanitarian aid is USD 37 million.  

**Channel**

India’s humanitarian aid was mainly channeled through multilateral organizations in 2010 and 2009 (USD 30.5m and USD10.4m respectively).

**Geographical Focus**

- India’s development projects overseas have expanded considerably geographic reach. A reported 60 countries already benefit from India-sponsored projects. Many of these projects are in India’s immediate neighborhood, namely South Asia, which accounts for about 70% of India’s total commitments under grant assistance.

- Altogether, there are 121 Indian operational lines of credits to 54 countries. African countries are major beneficiaries of India’s assistance under Lines of Credit Programme. 87 LOCs currently in operation in -Africa covers 39 countries (2011 figure).

- Top recipients of India’s humanitarian aid in 2009 are Pakistan ($26.15m); Haiti ($5.04) and Afghanistan ($3.96)/ Top recipients of India’s humanitarian aid in 2010 are Afghanistan ($14.36m); Sri Lanka ($1.02m); and Palestine/OPT ($1m).

3) **Aid Modalities**

India provides its aid through the following activities:

- **Project and project-related activities** (India’s aid is fundamentally project-oriented)

- **Programme Based Approaches** (More aid has been channeled through Programme Based Approaches (PBAs), mainly in Afghanistan)

- **Technical assistance**

- **Humanitarian assistance**

- **“Lines-of-credit: (LOC)** (LOC extended by the Export-Import Bank of India are generally extended to overseas financial institutions, regional development Banks, sovereign governments and other entities overseas to enable buyers in those countries to

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18 Global Humanitarian Assistance website, Link: [http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/india](http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/india)

19 Global Humanitarian Assistance website, Link: [http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/india](http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/india)
import goods and services from India on deferred credit terms)

- **HIPC initiative** (India has committed to relieve the debt of 5 HIPC countries for a total of USD 38 million. (2007 figure))

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**

- Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has overall responsibility for aid and technical assistance, and advises other ministries, notably the Ministry of Finance, on assistance to other countries. It mainly channels its aid in the form of grants.
- The Department of Economic Affairs within Indian Ministry of Finance is responsible for most of the bilateral loans extended by the GoI, and most of India’s multilateral assistance.
- EXIM Bank of India, fully owned by the GoI, is India’s main conduit for providing concessional loans to developing countries. This mainly happens through the LOC facility.
- DPA is headed by MEA’s and will bring under one umbrella all agencies involved with foreign aid and development projects within the MEA.
- DPA will oversee all the development partnership projects that India will undertake in developing countries around the world.
5. INDONESIA

1) Key points

- The Government of Indonesia has stated South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as one of the national priorities in its National Medium Term Development Planning (2010-2014). It then has developed the Grand Design and Blue Print of South-South and Triangular Cooperation to identify further the policy, strategy, and implementation for the Cooperation.

- Indonesia has established the National Coordination Team on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, co-chaired by the Minister of National Development Planning and Minister of Foreign Affairs. The National Coordination Team consists of 4 core ministries, namely Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas), Ministry of Finance and Ministry of State Secretariat, and also other line ministries including private sector. The task of National Team on SSTC is to coordinate the implementation of SSTC program in Indonesia to be in line with the Government priorities.

- Indonesia endeavours to play a leading role in South-South and Triangular Cooperation, evidenced by its hosting of a high-level forum on knowledge exchange involving more than 300 policy-makers and practitioners from 46 countries in July 2012.

- During this event, Indonesia has launched its knowledge hub in 3 main areas of development issues, namely: disaster risk reduction and climate change, human development, and poverty reduction; peace building and good governance issues including peacekeeping, law enforcement, and democracy; and economic issues, including macro-economic management, public finance, and micro finance.

- Moreover, during 2010-2012, Indonesia has provided more than 700 activities within South-South Cooperation and participated by approximately 3,800 participants from Asia, Pacific, Africa, Middle East as well as Latin America. In Asia, partner countries of Indonesia SSTC are: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Timor Leste. Meanwhile, in Africa partner countries of Indonesia SSTC are: Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, and in Pacific Islanda, they are Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa.

- Information regarding Indonesia SSC programs and activities can be accessed through:
  - http://www.ssc-indonesia.org
  - http://isstc.setneg.go.id

2) How much?

Total

- Indonesia has provided approximately USD 50 million of foreign assistance from 2000 – 2012. For 2013, Indonesia approximately has allocated USD 2.5 million (and will increase) from state budget to support the implementation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation activities.

- Indonesia has provided more than USD 7 million in humanitarian assistance in the past 2 years alone, e.g. aid to Japan after the 2011 earthquake, Haiti, Pakistan, Turkey and others. Within ASEAN, Indonesia has recently provided a combined of USD 3.1 million of grants to six flood affected countries.

- Indonesia has agreed to contribute $1.5 million to the World Bank’s South-South Exchange Facility.
3) **Aid Modalities**

Indonesia provided its aid through:

- **Technical assistance** including short training program/workshop that has been specifically developed by line ministries inviting participants from Southern countries, as well as tailor-made program based on the demand of specific country to Indonesia.
- **Humanitarian Aid** for example to Haiti, Pakistan, and Japan
- **Expert Dispatch**
- **Scholarship program (for Master degree)** for developing countries to study at the university around Indonesia.
- **Project Support** such as strengthening infrastructure in road sector project by Ministry of Public Work Indonesia in Timor Leste, as a triangular cooperation with JICA.
- **Equipment supports**, including agricultural machinery such as hand tractor, rice milling and powerresher.

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**

- Following the establishment of National Team on South-South and Triangular Cooperation in 2010, the Government of Indonesia intended to strengthen the implementation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation., where it becomes the focal point of SSTC. The Government has applied ‘one gate policy’ for the implementation of SSTC to be more integrative and to achieve better results.
- In the absence of specific entities for the SSTC, the National Team on SSTC that consist of 4 central agencies as mentioned above, work under the each ministerial mandate, coordinated within the National Team. The national team consist of 3 working groups that work on to strengthen: 1) the institutional and regulatory framework; 2) program and funding; and 3) monitoring-evaluation, knowledge management and promotion and publication. The diagram of the national team stated below.

![Diagram of National Team](image)
Each line ministry involved in the National Coordination Team also has specific role and function aligned with its mandate. For example, Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ role is in foreign policy and diplomacy; Ministry of Planning’s role is in national priority, development cooperation and budgeting; State secretariat’s role is in support and facilitation; Ministry of Finance’s role is in fiscal policy and state budget; while technical line ministries will become implementing agencies for Indonesia’s SSC programs. The division of labour between line ministries within Coordination Team is described below.
6. MEXICO

1) **Key points**

• Mexico is becoming an active player in the promotion of cooperation for development, under its multi-dimensional role.

• Mexico has been active in South-South cooperation and trilateral cooperation projects. It also has a bridging function between North and South. In particular, its membership of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and its role as observer in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) allows Mexico to often act as facilitator of the dialogue between emerging providers of cooperation and traditional donors.20

• In the past, Mexican development cooperation has been characterized by fragmented actions and limited resources. The establishment of The Mexican International Development Cooperation Data System (SIMEXCID) and The Mexican International Development Cooperation Agency (AMEXCID) in 2011 are acts to improve the Mexican aid system. A new Law for International Development Cooperation (LCID) was also established in 2011.

2) **Facts**

**Total**

There is no source on the total volume of Mexican cooperation for development given in the 2011 Annual Report on International Cooperation for Development (AMEXID and SRE, January 2012),

**Channels**

Mexico’s international Cooperation is channelled through 3 means: Bilateral cooperation; multilateral cooperation and Regional cooperation. Bilateral has the largest share (See figure 1 demonstrating the types of collaboration for 2011).

Figure 121

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Regional Distribution and Country Selection
In 2011 Mexico’s contribution to international cooperation was primarily directed toward Latin America and the Caribbean, a region with which 161 projects were developed: 126 were done as bilateral cooperation, 23 involved regional cooperation, and 12 involved triangular cooperation.\(^{22}\)

3) **Aid Modalities**
Mexico provides its aid through the following activities:
- **Projects** (in sectors such as education, science and technology, agriculture, the environment, public administration, health, statistics and information technologies, and public safety..)
- **Exchange of experiences and development of capacities** (e.g. Mexico Schools program, on the occasion of the Mexican Independence Bicentennial, the number of facilities and support contributions were increased, benefitting about 35,000 Central American students.)
- **Disaster relief and humanitarian aid** (Mexico had responded to humanitarian crisis with promptness and sense of creativity, e.g. to crisis in Haiti, Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize, Colombia and Venezuela)
- **The main focus**, 75% of the actions, is on human resources development, promoting capacity building in partner countries. In this regard, the most used modalities of collaboration are workshops, seminars and counselling, followed by joint research as part of technical and scientific cooperation.\(^{23}\)

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**
- AMEXCID is headed by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SRE).
- AMEXCID, established in 2011, is the main instrument for the implementation of International Development Cooperation Law, also put in place in 2011, to provide financial, strategic and information tools needed to effectively coordinate and foster all cooperation initiatives. The Law consists of four pillars for its implementation:
  - The Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID):
  - The Programme for International Development Cooperation (PROCID);
  - The National Registry, which will provide data for an Information System of International Development Cooperation, administered by AMEXCID;
  - The National Fund for International Development Cooperation.\(^{24}\)
- Mexico believes that its new institutional system of international cooperation, which is aligned with the principles of Paris Declaration, is a major innovation for a MIC. (See figure 3)

\(^{22}\) Ibid.
\(^{23}\) 2012 Catalogue of Mexican capacities for international development cooperation, published by The Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Link: http://mexidata.info/id3502.html
\(^{24}\) Ibid.
Figure 3\textsuperscript{25}: Mexico’s institution system for international cooperation

\begin{itemize}
\item Law
\item Strategic Programme
\item International Cooperation for Development System
\item AMEXCID
\item Information System
\item National Fund
\end{itemize}

\textsuperscript{25} The 2010 Mexico Report on International Cooperation (SRE), Link: \url{http://dgetc.sre.gob.mx/pdf/The-2010-Mexico-Report-on-International-Cooperation.pdf}
7. QATAR (not verified)

1) **Key points**
   - Qatar’s assistance is reflective of the objectives of international cooperation in Qatar National Vision for the year 2030 in order to achieve security and stability through development and humanitarian initiatives.
   - The minister said that Qatar gives high priority to discussing the related issues with many countries, various organizations as well as national and regional bodies for better-coordinated efforts.
   - In an effort to achieve high transparency and improve effectiveness of aid, The International Development Department has issued a report that provides detailed information and statistics on Qatari aid. (But haven’t found the report on web)

2) **Facts**
   **Total**
   According to the Department of International Development, the total developmental and humanitarian aid provided by Qatar (governmental and non-governmental) in the years 2010-2011 amounted to QR533.74mn distributed to 108 countries worldwide.

   **Channel**
   Qatari humanitarian and developmental work used the multiple numbers of channels in providing assistance, including direct bilateral support to beneficiary governments as well as multilateral support with international organizations through financial or executive partnerships.

   **Geographical Focus**
   Qatar’s humanitarian assistance is not limited to Arab and Islamic regions, but has widened to include distant and many geographical areas around the world, e.g. aid was provided during a number of major disasters such as floods of Pakistan, Haiti and Japan earthquakes, to drought-hi Horn of Africa, in addition to Palestine and Darfur which suffer from humanitarian crises.

   **Sectoral Concentration**
   Qatar’s assistance was aimed at alleviating poverty, spreading basic education and providing emergency response, urgent relief to face disasters and crises, and contributing to MDGs.

3) **Aid Modalities**
   Aid is administered in the following forms:
   - Contributions
   - Donations
   - Material, in-kind, and technical grants
   - Support of humanitarian or developmental projects

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**
   Qatar’s assistance is administered by The International Development Department, headed by the Ministry of Foreign Affair. The objectives of the department is available on MOFA website

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8. RUSSIA

1) Key points

- Russia has regained its official status of a donor in recent years and is undergoing the process of creation of an institutional base and legal framework of the national system of development assistance.
- The volume of Russian development assistance has been gradually increasing since 2000s.

2) Facts

Total

According to the Ministry of Finance’s reports in the period 2003-2005 Russia allocated 50-100 mln. USD (excluding debt reductions) for the international development assistance (IDA) purposes annually. In 2008 the assistance counted for 220 mln. USD, in 2010 this indicator grew to 470 mln.USD. The record was set in 2009 – 785 mln. USD – which was linked to the financial crisis of 2008 when Russia was actively increasing its support to neighboring countries. In 2011 the amount of the Russian IDA counted for 514 mln. USD.

Channel

The multilateral assistance is prevailing in the Russian IDA structure and counts for about 60% of the total allocated resources.

Geographical Focus

The current distribution of the development assistance of the Russian Federation by region is as follows: Eastern Europe and Central Asia – 29%, Sub-Saharan Africa – 29%, Latin America and Caribbean – 19%, South Asia – 11%, East Asia and Pacific region – 9%, Middle East and North Africa – 3%.

Sectoral Concentration

Among the main thematic priorities of the Russian IDA are fighting hunger, maternal and child mortality, health care, technical cooperation, training of national experts and other.

3) Aid Modalities

Development assistance is provided through the following means: disaster relief, humanitarian aid including food supplies, projects of technical assistance, training and education, debt relief, loans etc.

4) Govt. systems – who manages what?

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia assumes the organizational and coordinating roles in disbursing of IDA. At present the process of empowering of the Federal Agency Rossotrudnichestvo (belongs to the structure of the MFA) in the field of bilateral development assistance is being conducted.
9. THAILAND

1) **Key points**
   - Thailand is keen to share its development expertise and reach out to other countries to advance poverty reduction. It is the only non-OECD country in the world to have produced a report on MDG 8: the Global Partnership for Development.
   - Thailand has changed its significant move to be an aid provider since 1992 as a new development partner
   - Thailand’s development cooperation policy aims 1) to strengthen and promote relationship between Thailand and her neighbouring countries (particularly in Mekong Sub-region); 2) to promote economic and social development in developing partners (especially in neighbouring countries).

2) **Facts**

   **Total**
   Table 1 shows the total value of Thailand International Cooperation Program (on technical assistance only)(2001-2010):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Value ('000 Bht.)</th>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Value ('000 Bht.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>113,036</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>320,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>117,540</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>325,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>192,105</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>374,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>170,474</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>468,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>209,608</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>374,583</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   **Channels**
   - Thailand carries out regional and sub-regional cooperation through bodies, mechanisms such as: ACMECS (Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy) Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) and the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC). Colombo Plan, BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) and IMTGT(Indonesia Malaysia and Thailand Growth Triangle)

   **Geographical Focus**
   - Over last decade, 60% of TICA’s assistance goes to CLMV, namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Thailand has contributed to other tsunami-affected countries in the region and ongoing assistance to neighboring countries.
   - But the regional focus is now extending more to Central Asia and Africa. Increasing engagement in programmes for development assistance to African countries in notable in the field of HIV/AIDs prevention and agricultural sector.

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Sectoral Concentration

- In terms of sector, Thailand’s development cooperation programs give priority to agricultural development, public health, and education.
- For bilateral framework (South-South Cooperation): TICA focuses on human resources and capacity building. Activities include training courses, dispatching of Thai experts, and provision of equipment. NEDA’s approach in providing soft loan is completely different, it’s assistance is characterized by “tied aid”, which requires neighbouring countries to use no less than 50% of total value of goods and services from Thailand in each project.
- For trilateral framework: under TICA, Thailand serves as a hub for transferring technical know-how, skills, appropriate technology and best practices to third party countries from within the region and beyond.

3) Aid Modalities

Thailand has adopted the demand driven approach and the concept of mutual benefits in development cooperation, and development cooperation is based on the principle of “self-help”. TICA and NEDA have encouraged the developing partners to participate in all levels of project management including planning, formulating, implementing and evaluating. Various mechanisms have also been utilized, such as, needs assessment, brainstorming seminars, preparatory workshops, etc.

4) Govt. systems – who manages what?

- In October 2004, Thailand established Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) TICA is responsible for coordinating the technical cooperation received from foreign donors and coordinating the technical assistance Thailand extends to other developing countries.
- In 2005, “The Neighboring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency” (NEDA) was restructure and modernized to take the responsibility of aid delivery to neighboring countries in terms of financial support. NEDA is a public organization under supervision of Ministry of Finance.
- TICA and NEDA have different objectives:

  **TICA**

  TICA aims to be a leading agency with high expertise in managing international development cooperation in order to enhance socio-economic development and promote cultural and technical ties with other developing partners. It implemented the following activities: dispatch of Thai experts, provision of fellowships, allocation of technical equipment and implementation of developing projects.

  **NEDA**

  NEDA serve as a partner in providing economic development cooperation with neighboring countries to ensure prosperity and betterment in the Mekong Sub-region. It functions both as a funding source for development projects (especially for infrastructure construction) and a promoter of Thai private sector in neighboring countries. Apart from TICA and NEDA, several ministries have also actively involved in aid provision, such as Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Education, etc.

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30 See page 85 of “Emerging Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation” for more info on projects Ministries have administered.
10. TURKEY (not verified)

1) **Key points**
   - Turkey is a founding member of OECD, TIKA collects and reports Turkish ODA data to OECD

2) **Facts**

**Total**
Turkey plays an increasingly important role in international aid community as emerging donor. It increased its ODA from USD 64.1 million in 2001 to USD 967 million in 2010\(^{31}\). In 2010 alone, Turkey provided development assistance to 131 countries that appear on the OECD/DAC list of aid recipients.

**Geographical Focus**
TIKA’s activities concentrates on regions which Turkey share language and culture. In 2009, South and Central Asia are the main partners, followed by Balkan and Eastern European countries with a share of nearly 27%. Africa and Middle Eastern countries, which are Turkey’s relatively more recent partners, received a share of almost 1/4 of Turkish ODA.\(^{32}\) See figure 1 for a chart on regional distribution.

Figure 1: Turkish ODA by region\(^{33}\)

**Sectoral Concentration**
Turkey concentrated its aid efforts on Education; health; and economic and social infrastructure. Figure 2 shows Turkish ODA by sector.

\(^{31}\) Data from Global Humanitarian Assistance website: [http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/turkey](http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/countryprofile/turkey)

\(^{32}\) Source: Turkey’s development cooperation: General Characteristics and The Least Developed Countries: [http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-development-cooperation.en.mfa](http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-development-cooperation.en.mfa)

3) **Aid Modalities**
Development assistance are provided through the following means

- **Humanitarian assistance**
- **Technical assistance** (focus on education, global health, economic infrastructure and services provided by Turkish public sector institutions and enterprises to developing countries)
- **Building capacity**
- **Dispatching experts**
- **Providing equipment**
- **Financing infrastructure and construction projects**

4) **Govt. systems – who manages what?**

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs oversees Turkey’s development institutions and policy priorities.
- The Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) is the principal body of MFA for administering aid with 275 employees and 25 coordination offices in 20 countries. TIKA operates in the area of technical development and implements projects in health, education, agriculture, capacity building and vocational training in developing countries.
- Humanitarian aid is administered through the Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay) and Turkey’s Disater and Emergency Management Office.
- Turk Eximbank is involved in the financial and investment dimensions of Turkey’s aid programs and provides low interest and long-term loans to developing countries.

Figure 3: Inter-organizational structure

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34 Source: Development Cooperation Report 2011, link as above.
35 Source: [http://www.ecocci.com/DC/PDF/19.04.201017_34Presentation%20of%20TIKA.pdf](http://www.ecocci.com/DC/PDF/19.04.201017_34Presentation%20of%20TIKA.pdf)
11. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

1) **Key points**
   - UAE office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA) has a well-established system and website\(^{36}\) that provides detailed information on UAE aid.
   - OCFA also produces the UAE Foreign Aid Reports (soft copies can be downloaded from OCFA website\(^{37}\)) on an annual basis since 2009.
   - In 2010, UAE became the first non-DAC donor to report its Official Development Assistance to the OECD/DAC using the DAC’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS). The UAE also reports humanitarian aid to the UN’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

2) **Facts**

**Total**
According to OCFA, in the three years from 2009 to 2011, the UAE has contributed more than AED 15.23 billion (US$ 4.14 bn) in grants and loans for development, humanitarian and charity projects to more than 140 countries around the world. In 2011, the figure was AED 7.74 billion (US$2.10 bn), of which 88.6% was for development projects.

**Channel**
While much of the assistance is provided on a government-to-government basis, a substantial part is delivered by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) in the form of project aid, mainly for major infrastructure. The country also contributes to multilateral agencies. From 2009 to 2011, 5.4% of the UAE’s total aid was delivered through multilateral agencies.

**Geographical Focus**
The majority of the UAE’s assistance goes to Asia (see figure 1). Top recipients were Palestinian Territories, Pakistan and Yemen in 2010, and Oman, Jordan and Pakistan in 2011.

Figure 1\(^{38}\): UAE Funds disbursed by Continent 2010-2011(in AED million)

![Pie chart showing geographical focus of UAE aid]

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\(^{36}\) Link: [http://www.ocfa.gov.ae/EN/AboutOCFA/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.ocfa.gov.ae/EN/AboutOCFA/Pages/default.aspx)


\(^{38}\) Source: OCFA facts, Link: [http://ocfa.gov.ae:2233/Main_English.aspx](http://ocfa.gov.ae:2233/Main_English.aspx)
Sectoral Concentration
Funds are disbursed across various sectors; spending on commodity aid and general program assistance is the heaviest (see figure 2).

Figure 2 Funds disbursed by sectors 2010-2011:

3) Aid Modalities
Aid is provided through the following means:

- **Development Programs and Projects** - 86.8% of aid went to development from 2009 to 2011.

- **Humanitarian aid** - UAE responded generously to humanitarian crises such as the earthquake in Haiti and the catastrophic flooding in Pakistan: overall, AED 1.55 billion (US$ 423.9 million) (10.2% of total aid) was provided from 2009-2011. UAE donors respond to major emergencies, such as the Libya crisis in 2011, in a unified way as the UAE Relief Team.

- **Charitable projects** - this accounted for 3.4% of funds from 2009 to 2011.

4) Government systems – who manages what?
The UAE uses various government entities and foundations to deliver aid, including Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) (1971), the Red Crescent Authority (1983), the Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation (1992), the Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation (2007), the Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum Charity and Humanitarian Establishment (1997), Dubai Cares (2007), International Humanitarian City (2007), etc. The UAE government was the largest donor from 2009 to 2011, followed by ADFD, which disbursed AED 2.22 billion.

- In 2008, the government of the UAE established UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA) to improve coordination of the foreign aid efforts undertaken by the UAE.

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• OCFA’s key objectives include documenting foreign aid provided by UAE-based donor organizations and reporting it to relevant international organizations; building individual and organizational capacities of UAE donor organizations; helping UAE donors improve delivery of humanitarian and development programs worldwide and advising them on best practices; raising the UAE’s foreign aid profile, including by building and strengthening ties between the UAE foreign aid sector and the international aid community.