

# REPORT ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN IBERO-AMERICA 2018











#### Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB)

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Back cover photos from left to right: (1) Strengthening biotechnological knowledge to scale-up bioprocesses between Colombia and Mexico; (2) Ecological Blue Flag Program between Costa Rica, Spain and Honduras; (3) Triangular Project to Support the Transformation of Education in Guatemala's Rural Areas with the participation of Peru and Germany; (4) Project to find, track and identify missing persons between Argentina and Colombia; (5) Strengthening capacities for producing organic coffee between Bolivia and Colombia

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# REPORT ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN IBERO-AMERICA 2018 SOUTHSOUTH



Secretaría General Iberoamericana Secretaria-Geral Ibero-Americana

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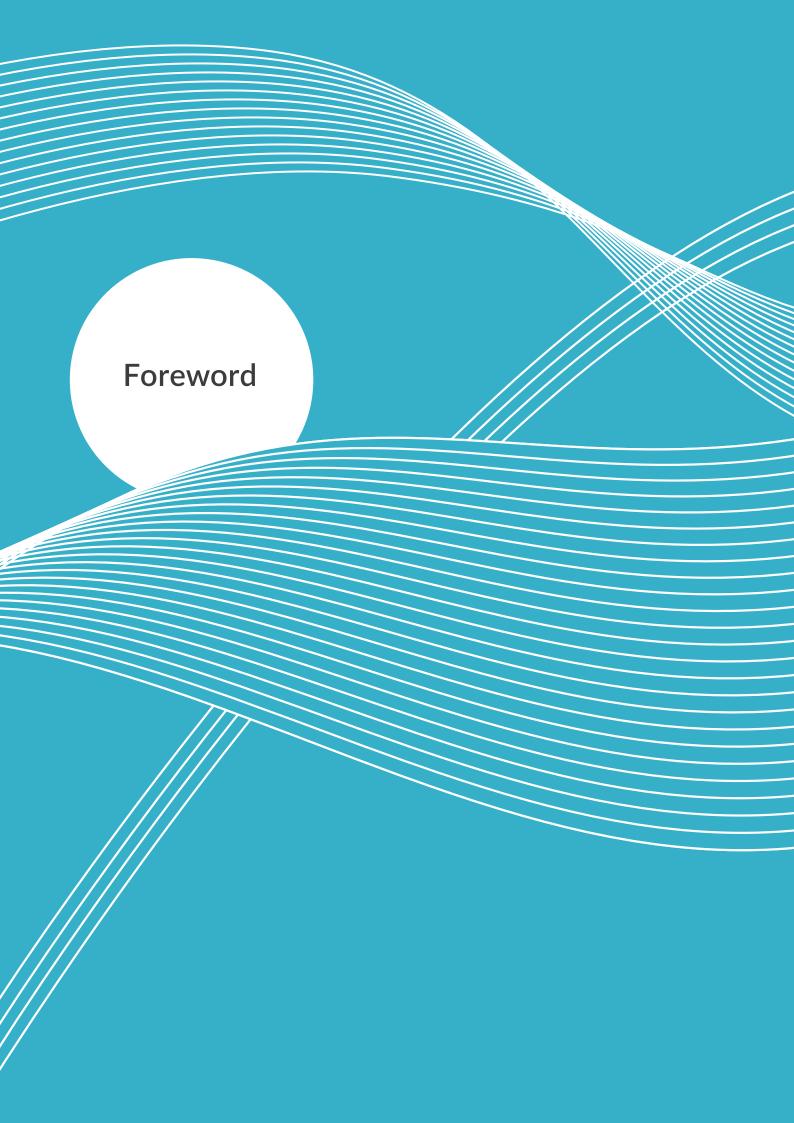
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With barely a few months to the Conference commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA), recognized as a foundational landmark of modern South-South Cooperation, the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) is delighted to present the **Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018** to the international community. This eleventh edition of the Report signals a new phase in the history of a publication that continues to be the only regional report on South-South Cooperation in the world.

The year 2017 marked the tenth anniversary of the first edition of the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America, and the mandate provided by the Heads of State and Government of our countries, within the framework of the 27th Ibero-American Summit at Santiago de Chile, to push for its annual publication. Ten years in which we have gained an unprecedented experience and knowledge, with the support of the Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS) and each of the 22 member countries. We have also designed and implemented the regional online data platform on South-South Cooperation (SIDICSS, by its Spanish acronym), unique in the world, whose greatest asset is the opportunity to learn more and better about the SSC in which Ibero-America participated through the nearly 8,000 projects registered and stored to date on our data platform.

True to the commitment to our countries and further innovation and progress, SEGIB moves forward to this new phase of the Report with as much enthusiasm as with the first one, albeit with some new features that we hope will become a hallmark for the years to come. Indeed, this Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018 has a new design that seeks to make methodological rigor compatible with an increasingly visual, friendly and relatable story. Furthermore, the Report highlights the prominent role played by our countries. To that end, and for the first time, a summary of the most relevant data on each of the 22 member countries of the Ibero-American Conference that participated in South-South Cooperation is provided at the end of the Report broken down by country. This summary offers greater insight into each country's participation and supports comparative and regional analysis, but, more importantly, it provides the countries a new tool for greater visibility and better management of SSC. Finally, the 2018 Report reasserts its commitment to the 2030 Agenda, giving a more prominent role to South-South Cooperation's contributions towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This exercise, which also falls within the joint efforts made by countries and PIFCSS to build collectively a methodology that would allow the region to make greater strides towards alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, would ultimately mark a new milestone that will make Ibero-America a benchmark for other regions.

With this interesting combination of past and future, between what has been learned over the last decade and a renewed enthusiasm for the future to come, we welcome this new Report and the phase we seek to initiate. A time of innovation that looks forward with the same dedication and hard work as always, in the certainty that our collective effort will continue to strengthen a South-South Cooperation that "leaves no one behind".



Rebeca Grynspan IBERO-AMERICAN SECRETARY GENERAL

María Andrea Albán SECRETARY FOR IBERO-AMERICAN COOPERATION

Ecological Blue Flag Program between Costa Rica, Spain and Honduras

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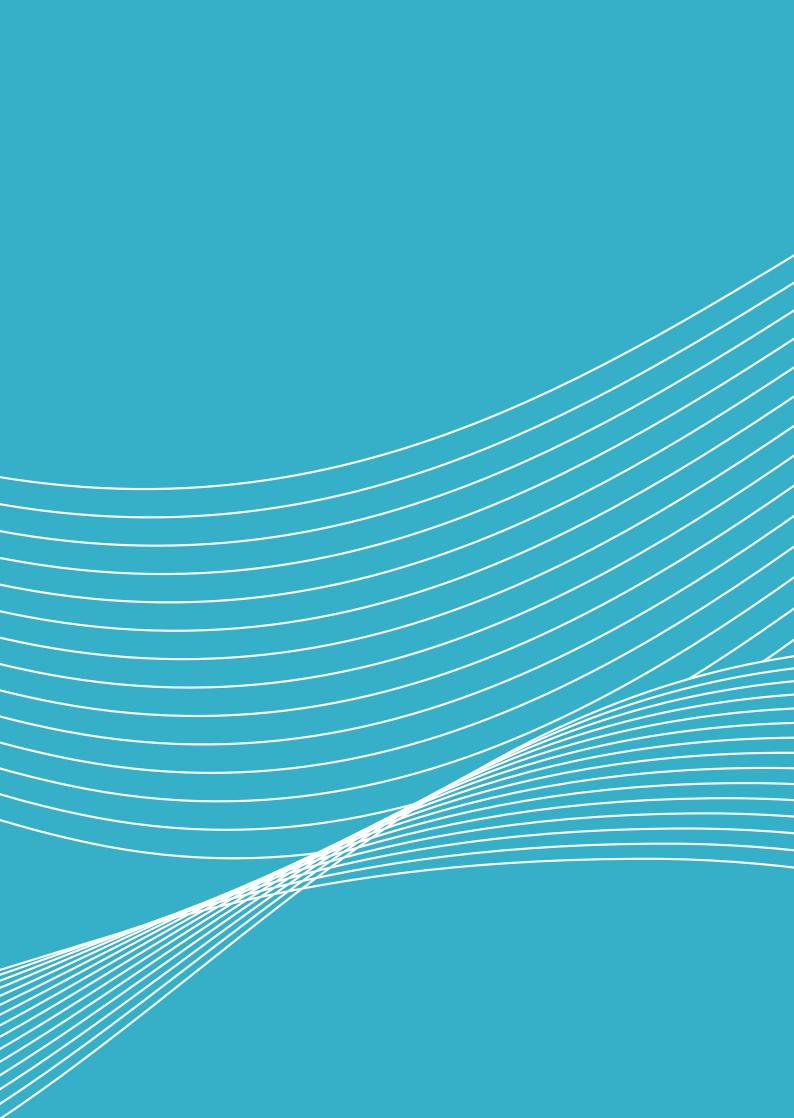
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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# Executive Summary

This eleventh edition of the **Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018** signals a new phase. This Report features developments in methodologies and information processing, as well as a new graphic design that seeks to provide a virtuous combination that ensures the usual rigor, while improving and facilitating the reading and interpretation of its main results.

> The contents of the publication, however, remain unchanged. Four chapters of this Report focus on systematizing and analyzing the South-South Cooperation exchanged between Ibero-American countries under the three modalities (bilateral, triangular and regional) recognized in this space (Chapters II, III and IV), plus another on exchanges with other developing regions (Chapter V). As has been customary since 2009, this exercise is preceded by a first chapter that includes a collective reflection by the Heads of Cooperation of Ibero-American countries on SSC and its role in the new international agenda for development, heavily influenced by the upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (PABA), considered a foundational landmark of modern SSC.



In this context, **CHAPTER I** of this 2018 Report, prepared by the Heads of Cooperation of Ibero-American countries, reflects on the region's situation and stance on the imperative need to build an inclusive international cooperation system that, in honoring the commitment to help achieve the new development agenda, "leaves no one behind". Within the framework of the new development paradigm emerging under the 2030 Agenda, countries appeal to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in which the international community recognizes the need to generate new indicators to measure progress towards sustainable development, without narrowing its focus to merely a question of per capita income. Similarly, the region also challenges the use of OECD and DAC indicators to determine a country's eligibility to receive Official Development Assistance (ODA), as well as the subsequent "graduation" of countries that, despite having improved their income level, have been excluded from the list of ODA eligible countries because their development has yet to be consolidated. The region considers that this process affects its possibilities to consolidate and deepen its development achievements, weakening, in turn, the international cooperation system, which should be adapted to the principles of solidarity and equity.

The 2018 Report then goes on to describe the South-South Cooperation implemented by Ibero-America in 2016, based on the systematization and analysis of the more than 1,300 South-South Cooperation programs, projects and actions exchanged by the region's countries that year. Indeed,

Project between Bolivia and Colombia to strengthen capacities for producing organic coffee according to the following table, which covers the three modalities accepted in our space, the different means of instrumentalization (programs, projects and actions) and the total number of initiatives exchanged among lberoAmerican countries, and between Ibero-American countries and their partners in other developing regions, it can be asserted that Ibero-American countries participated in 1,355 South-South Cooperation initiatives in 2016.

#### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION INITIATIVES PARTICIPATED BY IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES. 2016

Units

				Forms					
			Bilateral SSC	Triangular Cooperation	Regional SSC	Total			
Instruments		Programs n.a.	n.a.	46	46				
					Projects	912	112	55	1,079
		Actions	193	37	n.a.	230			
	•	Total	1,105	149	101	1,355			

Note: n/a Not applicable Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

**CHAPTER II** analyzes the 680 projects and 165 actions under Bilateral South-South Cooperation exchanged between the nineteen Latin America countries in 2016. The characterization of these close to 850 initiatives reveals that:

 a) Mexico was the top provider of projects with 155, or 22.8% of the 680 that took place. It was followed, in order of relative importance, by Argentina, Chile and Brazil, who exchanged 110, 97 and 76 projects, respectively, jointly equivalent to two thirds of all exchanges. Meanwhile, Colombia and Cuba participated in 66 and 68 projects, respectively. When Uruguay (34 projects), Costa Rica (19) and Ecuador (18) are added to the mix, these 9 countries acted as providers in about 95% of Bilateral SSC in 2016. The remaining 5% (some thirty projects) involved Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay, with 5 to 16 projects each, along with El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, who participated on an ad hoc basis. Meanwhile, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela did not participate as providers of Bilateral SSC.

 Ibero-American countries participated in 1,355 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs in 2016

- On the other hand. El Salvador was the b) top recipient country with 106 projects, or 15.6% of the 680 that were exchanged. This figure practically doubled that of the next two countries in terms of relative importance. Mexico and Colombia, with 58 and 56 projects, respectively, contributed a further 16.9% to Bilateral SSC in 2016. Two thirds of the final exchanges are accounted for when Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Paraguay and Uruguay are added to the mix. The last third is explained by the 25% contributed by Costa Rica, Guatemala, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, together with Ecuador and Peru; and the 7% of projects received by Nicaragua, Panama, Brazil and Venezuela.
- Furthermore, the bulk of the 680 Bilateral c) SSC projects (nearly 40%) implemented in 2016 were geared towards strengthening capacities in the Social sector. Another third of the projects focused on the Economic sector, mainly because three-fourth of these 202 initiatives helped strengthen different Productive sectors. Additionally, 91 projects were aimed at strengthening institutions and government policies. The last 14% was distributed between the Environment (42) and the more generic Other multisectoral (40). This distribution by areas of action was influenced by the importance of three sectors: Health, with over one hundred projects, equivalent to 17.2% of the total; Agriculture and livestock, with 75 projects (an additional 12.5%); and the strengthening of Other social services and policies (62 projects, another 10%).
- d) An alternative reading of the type of capacities strengthened through these 680 projects in 2016 allows to identify the contribution made by the region, through SSC, to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). From this perspective, it should be noted that one

 The number of Bilateral SSC projects in 2016 amounted to 680. Of these, Mexico acted as recipient in 22.8% (155) of the projects. Meanwhile, El Salvador implemented the largest number of projects as recipient (106, equivalent to 15.6%) » fifth of the projects (over 100%) could be contributing to SDG 3 on "Good Health and Well-being". Another 154 (25%) of the projects are aligned with SDG 2 ("Hunger Zero") and 16 ("Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions"). This 45% of Bilateral SSC projects were complemented by another 200 projects (one-third of the total), which aligned with SDG 8 ("Decent Work and Economic Growth") and SDG 9 ("Industry, Innovation and Infrastructures"), as well as SDG 4 ("Quality Education"), SDG 11 ("Sustainable Cities and Communities") and SDG 6 ("Clean Water and Sanitation"). The last 23%, which includes almost 140 SSC projects with different purposes, is aligned with the other 10 Development Goals.

Meanwhile, **CHAPTER III** systematizes the 100 projects and 37 Triangular Cooperation actions in which Ibero-America participated in 2016. The aggregate outcome has more than doubled from a decade ago (60). This analysis highlighted that:

- a) In 2016, slightly more than half (11) of the Latin American countries acted as first providers, transferring skills through their participation in at least one of the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects implemented. Brazil and Chile stood out with 19 projects each. Mexico, Costa Rica and El Salvador, participated in 10 to 15 projects each, which jointly accounted for one-third of the total. The last 26% was explained by the participation, in descending order, of Uruguay, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Cuba.
- b) Meanwhile, a score of actors supported 100 Triangular Cooperation projects as second providers. Eight countries acted in this capacity, including Germany (25 projects), Spain (20), Luxembourg and the United States (11 and 10 projects, respectively). The remaining 12 providers were international organizations of the United Nations System (FAO, UN Women, WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNESCO and UNICEF) and regional organizations (OAS, IDB, CABEI and CAF. Five actors accounted for three-guarters of the 100 projects finally implemented when the FAO (8 projects) is added to the mix.

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Triangular Project: Support the Transformation of Education in Guatemala's Rural Areas with the participation of Peru and Germany

- Ibero-America participated in 100 projects and 37 actions under Triangular Cooperation in 2016; a figure that, on an aggregate basis, more than doubled the amount recorded a decade ago (60) »
- c) In 2016, all 19 Latin American countries acted as recipients in a Triangular Cooperation project, either individually or together with other partners. Indeed, the most common situation (18% of the cases) was to have several countries simultaneously participating as recipients. On an individual basis, El Salvador stood out as recipient of 16 projects. This was followed by Paraguay, recipient of 11 Triangular Cooperation projects, along with Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Guatemala (between 5 and 10, in each case). The contribution of these countries, and the earlier mentioned cases. accounted for 70% of the 100 projects.
- d) With regard to capacity building, the **Environmental**, Social and Economic sectors jointly accounted for about 75% of Triangular Cooperation projects in 2016. Virtually one in four of the remaining projects was geared towards Institutional Strengthening (19%), while Other multisectoral had only anecdotal value (barely 4%). This was influenced by the relevance of the projects that focused on the following activity sectors, in descending order of importance: preservation and protection of the Environment (one in four). Health (around 12%), and development of Agriculture and strengthening of Government Institutions (10.9% each).
- In keeping with this profile of capacities, e) the analysis of the potential contribution of the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects in 2016 towards the Sustainable Development Goals revealed that one third of these were aligned with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). Another 40% of Triangular Cooperation exchanges in the region contributed towards SDG 8 (Economic Growth and Decent Work), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Up to 16% of the initiatives implemented in 2016 targeted the environmental dimension, when projects focusing on SDG 14 (Life below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land) are added to the mix. The last 20% of the projects were aligned with up to seven different Goals (in particular, SDGs 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12 and 17).

 More than half of the 46 programs and 53 projects under Regional SSC in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016 attempted to address Social and Economic problems collectively. An additional 17.1% of Regional SSC was geared towards Culture, and 10.1% focused on the Environment »

> **CHAPTER IV** focuses on the 46 programs and 53 projects under Regional South-South Cooperation in which Ibero-American countries engaged in 2016. Particularly significant were the outcomes related to the actors that participated in this modality, as well as the common problems faced by the countries and the solutions shared and instrumentalized in response to these challenges. Specifically:

> a) In 2016, Mexico was the country involved in a larger number of Regional South-South Cooperation initiatives (66). It was followed, in order of relative importance, by Colombia and Costa Rica, both with more than 60 programs and projects. Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Chile and Panama also engaged in more than fifty initiatives. Meanwhile, six countries - Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Paraguay and Uruguay- were involved in 40 to 50 programs and projects each. Bolivia,



Ecuador and the Dominican Republic participated in 30 to 39 initiatives, and Spain, along with Venezuela and Cuba, were involved in slightly more than 20 each. Finally, Andorra and Portugal engaged, respectively, in 3 and 12 programs and projects under Regional SSC in 2016.

- b) Furthermore, a multilateral body was involved in 95% of the cases. In almost one third of the exchanges, these were Ibero-American bodies, including SEGIB, COMJIB, OEI, OIJ and OISS, to name a few. A score of programs and projects were participated by SICA or one of its specialized agencies, such as CENPROMYPE. Meanwhile, MERCOSUR and the IDB were involved in 10 and 6 initiatives, respectively. The rest of the Regional SSC was implemented on an ad hoc basis by up to ten other bodies, including IAEA, ILO, Pacific Alliance partnership scheme, ECLAC, PAHO and UNASUR.
- The bulk of the 46 programs and 53 c) projects under Regional SSC (nearly one-third) in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016 attempted to address social problems collectively. A quarter (25.3%) of the exchanges had an Economic perspective, mainly oriented towards supporting the generation of Infrastructures and services (18.2%). Meanwhile, the programs and projects classified under Other multisectoral -one in five- carried remarkable weight, in particular, Culture (17.1% of the total number of programs and projects). The cooperation geared towards Institutional Strengthening (13.1%), which sought to address a number of environmental issues (10.1%), complemented the profile.

"Operación Milagro" Program between Cuba and El Salvador **CHAPTER V** closes the Report with an analysis of the 314 South-South Cooperation programs, projects and actions that Ibero-America exchanged in 2016 with other developing regions. The following table summarizes the main outcomes, including:  Together with other developing regions, Ibero-America exchanged 314 South-South Cooperation programs, projects and actions in 2016 »

#### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION INITIATIVES BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA AND OTHER DEVELOPING REGIONS. 2016

Units

Developing regions	Bilateral SSC	Triangular Cooperation	Regional SSC	Total
Africa	88	1	2	91
Asia	59	0	1	61
Non Ibero-American Caribbean	90	12	28	130
Oceania	10	0	0	10
Middle East	17	0	0	17
Various regions	1	3	2	6
Total	265	16	33	314

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

- a) The bulk of these initiatives (130, equivalent to over 40% of the total) were exchanged with non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries. The exchanges with Africa (30% of the total) and Asia (20%) were also very substantial. Consequently, 90% of the 314 actions, projects and programs in 2016 were geared towards these three regions. The remaining 10% was mainly explained by the sum of SSC carried out in Oceania and the Middle East.
- b) Virtually 85% of the exchanges in which Ibero-America engaged with these countries in other developing regions (265) were implemented through Bilateral SSC. This was clearly the preferred modality in each of the regions concerned, with shares fluctuating between 70% in the Caribbean and 100% in Oceania and the Middle East. The remaining 15% took place under the regional and triangular modalities, with the former (33) being double that of the latter (16).

### ACRONYMS

ACS	Association of Caribbean States		
АСТО	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization		
AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation		
ALBA	Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America		
AMEXCID	Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation		
BAPA	Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries		
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration		
CAF	Latin American Development Bank		
CAN	Andean Community		
CENPROMYPE	Regional Center for the Promotion of MSMEs		
CMAR	Marine Corridor of the Eastern Tropical Pacific		
COMJIB	Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American Countries		
CPPS	Permanent Commission for the South Pacific		
DAC	Development Assistance Committee		
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean		
EU	European Union		
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		
GDP	Gross Domestic Product		
GNI	Gross National Income		
HIC	High-Income Country		
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency		
IDB	Interamerican Development Bank		
ILO	International Labor Organization		
IMO	International Maritime Organization		
LDC	Least Developed Countries		
MDG	Millennium Development Goals		
MERCOSUR	Southern Common Market		
MIC	Middle Income Country		
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises		

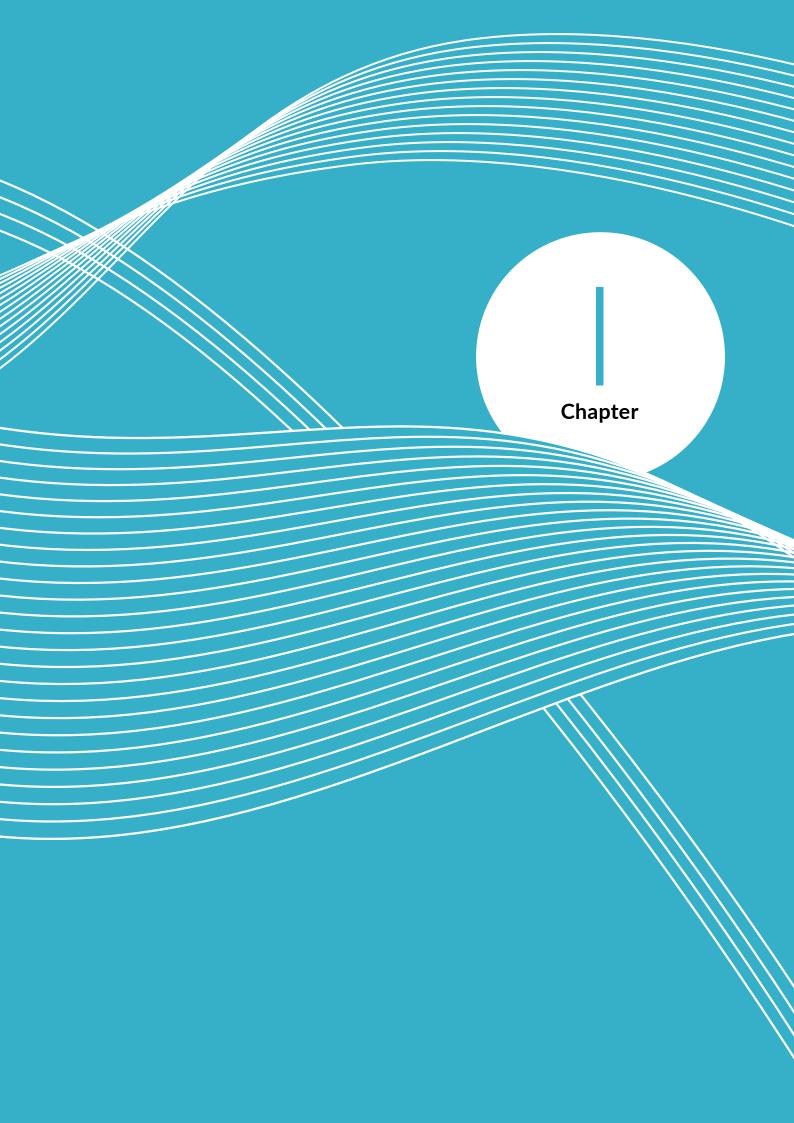
**OAS** Organization of American States

SEGIB

OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OEI	Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture
OIJ	Ibero-American Youth Organization
OISS	Ibero-American Organization for Social Security
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PA	Pacific Alliance
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PIFCSS	Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation
PIPA	Ibero-American Affiliated Programs, Initiatives and Projects
PM	Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEGIB	Ibero-American General Secretariat
SELA	Latin American and Caribbean Economic System
SICA	Central American Integration System
SIDICSS	Ibero-American Integrated Data System on South-South and Triangular Cooperation
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SSC	South-South Cooperation
тс	Triangular Cooperation
UIM	Ibero-American Union of Municipalists
UN	United Nations
UNASUR	Union of South American Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
WB	World Bank

Acronyms





# Towards an international cooperation system "leaving no one behind": Ibero-American vision

The international situation is currently undergoing significant changes which affect the relationship between different stakeholders, and on the definition of objectives and forms of international cooperation to support the transition towards the sustainable development approach.

> In this new global context, several Ibero-American countries have already begun to play a leading role on the international stage. Furthermore, the economies of most developing countries grew steadily, in what is known as the "rise of the South" (UNDP, 2013), indicating an adjustment in the economic power balance between the North and the South, and a shift towards the Pacific Basin.

However, it should be noted that this growth in the South has slowed down in recent years, owing to the drop in global demand and increased volatility of currencies and bond and securities markets. Likewise, the increase in interest rates has made it difficult for some developing countries to service debts and access new international funding. The effects of demographic transition, urbanization, premature de-industrialization, digitization and automation (OECD, 2017) have further worsened this situation. While in the 1990s, most people in poverty lived in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), the majority now reside in the so-called "Middle Income Countries" (MIC). Although these countries, as well as those which have recently moved towards higher levels of gross national income (GNI) per capita, have made progress in key areas such as social, educational and health coverage, there are still shortcomings in territorial equality, wealth distribution, rights for and recognition of ethnic groups and gender conditions. Poor infrastructure and low productivity are also common due to diminished technological, organizational and programmatic innovation, which translates into barriers for moving towards a sustainable development model. These barriers cannot be addressed with economic growth alone. They also require specific institutional and human capacities to manage change.

In addition to changes in the poverty map, deepening inequalities within and between countries, accelerating climate change from human activities and scaling-up of negative externalities associated with globalization, the global stage is undergoing drastic changes that are demanding that the concept of development should not be exclusively understood as synonymous with economic growth.

Consequently, sustainable development, as a multidimensional process, first appeared in 2015 with the adoption of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030) and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS). This Agenda is based on the principles of universality; not leaving anyone behind; common but differentiated responsibilities; and comprehensive synergy to ensure compliance with the SDGs, while respecting each country's specificities.

Agenda 2030 is an action plan for all countries. It represents a paradigm shift in development that seeks to forge links between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. It regards the participation of different stakeholders, including local governments, academia, civil society and the private sector, as a key element for enabling an environment conducive towards sustainable development and promoting coherence, while avoiding piecemeal structures and silos for implementing strategies to meet the SDGs. The identification of critical development areas and availability and collection of reliable statistical data; and the implementation of progress monitoring and assessment schemes that focus on multi-stakeholder partnerships for promoting development at all levels and in all territories are key factors in achieving the SDGs targets.

To that end, updated institutional practices within the international cooperation system are vital in keeping abreast with the new global regulatory framework for the Agenda 2030. This alone will contribute to the implementation of a comprehensive and inclusive system, which will focus on countries facing greater challenges and less capacity to mobilize domestic resources, without excluding any country in transition to sustainable development. Currently, the eligibility criteria for Official Development Assistance (ODA) from the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is solely based on the countries' level of income per capita, which is an outdated development paradigm based on economic growth. Likewise, this criterion informs the allocation of aid from other multilateral bodies and funds, and, even, the membership fees of these organizations.

This does not correlate with the great diversity of the developing world or with the scenarios foreseen in the new paradigm. Furthermore, it does not address the levels of inequality within and between countries. Indeed, the international community has recognized the need to create new indicators for measuring the sustainable development progress of countries that go well beyond per capita income, as set forth in paragraph 129 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development.

There has also been progress on developing several methodologies for multidimensional measurement of development. Likewise, new concepts are being coined, through a variety of platforms for dialogue, to deepen the understanding of the consequences of graduation, and analyze alternative criteria to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita for the allocation of ODA and other instruments in order to move towards sustainable development, without leaving anyone behind.

It is therefore imperative that the international community make a qualitative leap to establish an inclusive international cooperation system for all countries, regardless of their level of development, which takes account of each State's realities and persistent structural gaps.

This chapter seeks to drive this debate forward, respecting the specificity of the Ibero-American space -in which so-called middle-income (low, middle-high), recently graduated and former recipient/current donor countries coexist- which has built a wealth of regulatory, methodological and practical knowledge in international cooperation for development.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is important to note that in this Ibero-American space, cooperation focuses on culture, social cohesion and knowledge. This has resulted, to date, in 27 Programs, Initiatives and Affiliated Projects (in Spanish, PIPAS), as well as dialogue and agreement among the Heads of Cooperation.

#### THE CHALLENGES AND ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN IBERO-AMERICA LOOKING FORWARD TO 2030

#### 1.1

Although Ibero-America comprises countries that are heterogeneous in terms of resources and historical and cultural background, they also share numerous common challenges.

Although fragile, Latin America and the Caribbean have made significant progress over the past decades. In the 2000s, the protracted commodity boom contributed to economic growth rates higher than the average for OECD member countries, leading to a significant reduction in poverty and a huge expansion of the middle class. However, falling commodity prices in recent years have slowed down this growth, leading, in absolute terms, to a rising number of people living in poverty in 2015 and 2016; thus, highlighting the underlying structural problems and precarious nature of these achievements.

Currently, the region is in a deep period of transition and high uncertainty. In most Ibero-American countries, democratic values are stronger than a few decades ago and more robust than in other regions of the world. However, there are downside risks relating to the challenges faced by the States to reduce the levels of inequality, violence and corruption, and increase social cohesion to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of all persons, in accordance with the highest international standards. Despite the decrease of inequality in most countries in the region during the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, current levels continue to rank Latin America and the Caribbean as the most unequal region in the world.<sup>2</sup> Inequalities are more evident in certain groups, especially youth and women, as well as Afro-descendants, indigenous people, LGBTI and disabled people.

Most Ibero-American countries face the challenge of moving towards development before their aging population reduces the potential for sustainable growth. As the share of the population of working age declines, the income per capita could significantly decrease, unless productivity increases.

In terms of public health, life expectancy has increased and, the prevalence rates for contagious diseases have decreased; however, the total burden of disease has shifted towards non-communicable diseases such as cancer, diabetes and obesity, associated with unhealthy consumption patterns and habits. Likewise, the impact of climate change on the transmission of epidemics and the increase in temperatures have enabled the spreading of diseases such as malaria and Zika to previously unaffected areas.

Record high temperatures, which impact agricultural production, food and health security, and access to water, were reached across the planet with alarming regularity during the first two decades of the 21st century. IT IS NECESSARY TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ODA "GRADUATION" SYSTEM, BASED EXCLUSIVELY ON PER CAPITA INCOME, WITH A SYSTEM THAT APPLIES ALTERNATIVE MULTIDIMENSIONAL CRITERIA THAT IS BETTER EQUIPPED TO CAPTURE THE NEEDS, PRIORITIES AND COMPLEXITIES OF DEVELOPMENT IN EACH DEVELOPING COUNTRY

By 2030, it is estimated that Latin America and the Caribbean will continue to be one of the most urbanized regions in the world. However, this disorderly and rapid urbanization poses mobility, pollution and sanitation challenges. This translates into an imbalance between the intensity of demand for public services -which ensures well-being for its inhabitants and their environment, while respecting the natural environment- and the response capacity of sub-national and local governments.

In a region characterized by great dependence on the extraction of natural resources, the opportunities to achieve sustainable development are closely linked to the global challenge of decoupling economic growth from the emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants that threaten the basis of life and the economic sustenance of future generations. In this regard, it is important to ensure that the current slowdown in growth does not attract a type of investment that weakens the already precarious national environmental regimes.

Meanwhile, Ibero-America is a space predominantly comprised of qualified middleincome countries (MIC) that play a dual role in international cooperation. At a global level, in recent decades, Latin America has seen a relative reduction in ODA compared to other regions of the world, despite the obvious challenges facing the region in terms of combating poverty, migrant management and fighting climate change. Indeed, it is important to acknowledge the strategic role of ODA and other forms of international cooperation to accelerate progress on the Agenda 2030, through the provision of global and regional public goods; promotion of human and gender rights; support for transformation and innovation processes in public policies; mobilization of domestic resources and leveraging of resources from the private sector. In this regard, the effectiveness and type of technical and financial cooperation provided by most advanced countries to the relatively lessdeveloped countries to reduce their structural gaps and overcome their specific and common barriers are considered particularly relevant.

Furthermore, it is important to remember that the "graduation" of qualified MICs in the region not only affects their chances to consolidate and deepen their development achievements, but also the flow of technical assistance and transfer of skills and knowledge among developing countries. In this regard, it should be noted that the different forms of international cooperation, including South-South Cooperation, Triangular Cooperation and the innovative funds promoted by the region's countries, are seen as complementary to ODA, rather than as a replacement for the responsibilities of traditional donors, who are as far away as ever from delivering on their commitment to allocate 0.7% of their GDP to development aid.

In view of the above, the regional dimension plays an increasingly important role as a space for debate and articulation of joint solutions for similar or common challenges. The challenges faced by the region, looking forward to 2030, require gradual structural changes, based on intensive learning and innovation and dynamic fiscal policies, in line with the guidelines of productivity, employment and environmental protection. This would act as a mark of the transition to sustainable development. This should take place within a framework for strengthening international cooperation for development.

Ibero-American countries have shown that, despite their diversity and the challenges ahead, they have many experiences to share to support sustainable development and the universal implementation of the Agenda 2030. Proof of this are the annual reports on South-South Cooperation, which reveal a growing number of South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation initiatives in the region and with other countries.

This Ibero-American South-South and Triangular Cooperation has been shaped by commonalities and shared experiences, based on common goals that are inspired by the principles of horizontality, consensus, equity, solidarity, respect for sovereignty, as well as national context and priorities, free of any conditionality. In turn, both modalities stand out as a necessary complement to increase the number of successful experiences, and strengthen and build capacities, generate knowledge, encourage regional integration, and design public policies that promote equality and sustainability within the framework of the Agenda 2030, and to meet the SDGs. In view of the above, Ibero-American countries have taken the lead in integrating the SDGs into their public policies, plans and national budgets, and are seeking to engage different groups in their implementation, including parliaments, private sector, academia and civil society, all under the principle of leaving no one behind. Despite significant progress since the approval of the SDGs, there are still problems in measuring and specifying many targets.

The successful implementation of the Agenda 2030 requires strengthening political leadership based on national and local ownership, as well as providing reliable measurements and equitable criteria to identify and address skill and knowledge gaps for achieving all SDGs.

It is therefore necessary to bridge the gap between discourse and practice to move towards an inclusive international cooperation system based on the Agenda 2030, and to support and encourage all countries -according to their different histories, capacities and needs - to move steadily towards sustainable development.

### THE NEED TO ADJUST THE NARRATIVE AND PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1.2

An accurate definition for building an inclusive international cooperation system for implementing the Agenda 2030 should place the emphasis on those most in need, albeit without excluding any country in transition to sustainable development. However, to make this possible, it is necessary to replace the existing ODA "graduation" system, based exclusively on per capita income, with a system that applies an alternative multidimensional criteria that is better equipped to capture the needs, priorities and complexities of development in each developing country. All countries have strengths and weaknesses associated, inter alia, with their resources, geographical location, human capital, cultural and historical background, and past dependency, which make them more or less vulnerable to external shocks and the negative impacts of climate change. Their development needs are strongly associated with these factors.

The "graduation" process begins when countries move from one income category to another. In the case of UMICs, if they exceed -by a dollar or more- the GDP per capita threshold (USD \$12,745 in 2018) established by the World Bank for three consecutive years, they are excluded from the list of countries eligible to receive ODA from the DAC<sup>3</sup>. Included among the consequences of this exclusion are the decision of the cooperating partners to withdraw the graduates from their bilateral cooperation programs or from the specific multilateral cooperation funds; and the inability to access credits from Multilateral or Bilateral Development Banks in concessional terms more favorable than the market rate. Similarly, it should be highlighted that when a country is "graduated", it no longer receives support to manage the consequences related to this exclusion.

When can a country be considered ready to graduate? "Graduation" based exclusively on GDP per capita is bad news. It is wrong and inappropriate to consider countries as developed countries, or countries with a fully successful development process when they exceed an arbitrary threshold -created by the World Bank behind closed doors to determine their loan repayment capacity. There is evidence that countries with higher income levels do not necessarily have a greater capacity for savings, mobilization or access to financing for development. Furthermore, growth does not translate into lower levels of poverty or inequality, which are multidimensional phenomena that requires so much more than economic resources to overcome. Indeed, it involves building capacities and knowledge for structural transformation, mindful of the fact that globalization is increasingly curtailing the States' ability to promote these transformations.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the classification of countries by per capita income for many years has enabled the identification of a number of common challenges faced by the countries in each group. For instance, the middle-income country category served as a political instrument to make visible the common needs and dual role that these countries play in international cooperation.

It is necessary to recall that sustainable development is a process, not a point of arrival, and each country goes through this process at a different speed and different path, based on the circumstances of its history, structure and capacity. That said, it is no longer appropriate to think in terms of income thresholds to measure the progress and needs of developing countries effectively, because economic growth alone is not enough. It is also important to assess sustainability of such growth or the gaps in knowledge, capacities and opportunities that countries face to take a qualitative leap towards a new sustainable development model, among other issues.

<sup>3</sup> Although the concept of "graduation" is better known for its impact on Upper-Middle Income countries transitioning to the High Income Country category, meaning that the "graduated" country is no longer eligible to receive ODA, it is also used to refer to countries transitioning between other income categories, for instance, low to middle income. Graduation also means that the country can no longer access certain forms of cooperation, such as non-conditioned loans For this reason, Ibero-America considers the graduation of countries from ODA, when they exceed the middle-income threshold, as a decision with implications, not only for our common development, but also for the role that Latin America and the Caribbean have in international cooperation. This logic, whereby some developing countries are considered non-eligible for ODA, weakens the international cooperation system, and goes against the principles of solidarity and equity that must be promoted. Supporting all developing countries, according to their needs, does not imply adjusting or changing current priorities for allocating ODA, which should focus on the less favored sectors. It is about building a system that has the greatest possible impact on development.

Unlike the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that focused on the poorest countries by level of income, the commitments set forth in the SDGs for 2030 are universal and embrace all countries, on the basis that sustainability requires indicators and actions that are more complex than growth per se, and encompasses the multidimensionality of development. The qualification of some developing countries as non-eligible for ODA, solely on the basis of per capita income, reinforces the perception that the OECD's DAC is not inclusive and is reluctant to accept the SDGs as the new development cooperation framework. The perpetuation of the "graduation" criterion based on GDP per capita puts the Latin American countries at risk of being progressively excluded from the existing frameworks of their traditional multilateral and bilateral development partners.

ODA policies must adapt to this new framework and respond to universally recognized challenges in order to shore up their catalytic role in mobilizing international financing for development. In that scenario, Latin America believes that it is imperative to not exclude any developing country from ODA for strategic, SDG-related, high-impact areas, as a complement to their domestic resources.

Consequently, it is necessary to encourage the creation of new instruments, both financial and non-financial, to support the reality of these countries in their transition to sustainable development, as well as promote technical assistance, exchange of good practices, mobilization of domestic resources, and proliferation of innovative funds.

There is also a need for overcoming the zerosum mindset in the debate on ODA allocation to build an international cooperation system conducive to strengthening partnerships that encourage sustainable development, such as multi-stakeholder partnerships, on the basis of a vision that takes stock of the complexity of existing challenges, and recognizes and supports the different needs and capacities of countries looking forward to 2030.

IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES ARE CALLED ON TO WORK TOGETHER, GENERATING EVIDENCE AND THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL INPUTS THAT ENABLE THE ANALYSIS OF THE BEST ALTERNATIVE CRITERIA FOR MEASURING PROGRESS AND NEEDS OF COUNTRIES IN THEIR TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SEGIB

### IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES' REACTION TO THE GRADUATION OF COUNTRIES CLASSIFIED AS UPPER-MIDDLE INCOME WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AGENDA 2030

#### 1.3

The debate on "graduation-exclusion" from ODA should be based on a strategic approach to the challenges of this new scenario. It should support effective dialogue with and a common position among the stakeholders of the international cooperation system.

This "graduation" from the ODA eligibility list is a process hitherto unknown to most Latin American countries, and its implications, at global level, have been barely studied. Until 2018, only a few countries in the Caribbean, Chile and Uruguay were "graduates" from ODA. However, according to projections based on economic growth, a significant number of countries in Latin America and other regions will face the graduation process by 2030. Hence, there is a need to understand this phenomenon better and, in the case of Ibero-America, to contribute elements to the discussion with the aim of proposing a common position, based on alternative criteria for building an international cooperation system that leaves no one behind.

Moreover, in considering the possible implications of our graduation in the context of global economic slowdown, Ibero-American countries should focus on passing through these changes in an articulated and synergistic manner.

This common geographical area has a particularly unique feature that gives it legitimacy: most countries play a dual role in cooperation, showing that we are actively committed as a region to promoting an equitable international system, based on our common opportunities and responsibilities. Ibero-American countries are called on to lead this debate, generating evidence and theoretical and methodological inputs that enable the analysis of the best alternative criteria for measuring progress and needs of countries in their transition to sustainable development. In this regard, it is particularly important for countries that have already graduated from ODA to contribute to this debate through their experience, impact analysis and assessment of what this "graduation" involves in practice.

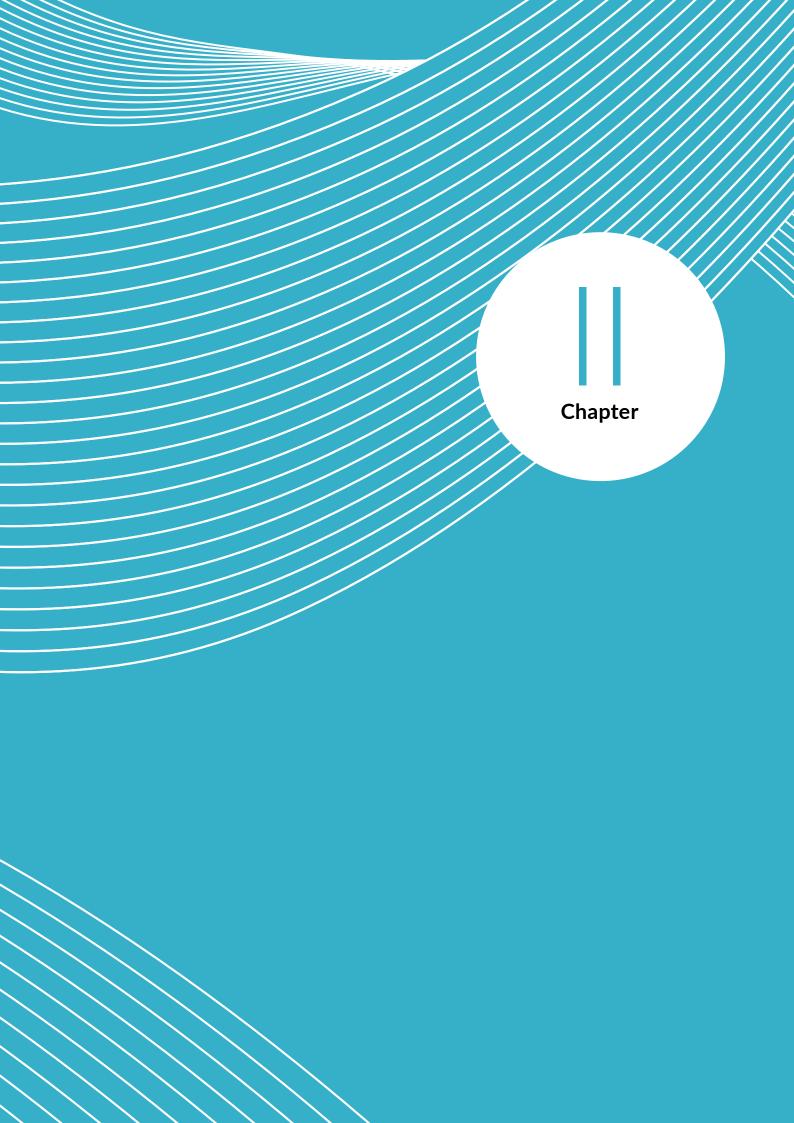
In this context, the common challenges are:

- 1 consolidating efficient and credible institutions that ensure progress towards equality, including gender equality, transparency, fight against corruption and engaging traditionally most disadvantaged groups;
- 2 consolidating government capacities and efficient public spending of sub-national governments, given the high internal asymmetries in living standards;
- 3 reducing vulnerabilities related to their integration in international financial markets;
- 4 improving competitive capacity through productive transformations and technological progress, and mobilizing inclusive value chains that allow the participation of SMEs in value aggregation; and
- 5 protecting the environment and building the capacities to fight climate change and reduce vulnerabilities to natural disasters.

To meet these common challenges, development policies and instruments need to be reviewed to reflect the current scenario, and new global tools that may be useful in the development context should be designed and created.

All this will enable us to be at the forefront of the discussion, analyzing and assessing how to adapt our relationship with traditional donor countries, bearing in mind the global commitment to 2030. This also means that the flow of funding for international development cooperation should be adapted to achieve the SDGs and their targets, so that equality and equity are not just a set of principles, but also applied in practice.





# Ibero-America and Bilateral South-South Cooperation

This second chapter of the *Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018* is built around systematization and analysis of data. The data available at the time of this Report provides a narrative of the South-South Cooperation in which Ibero-American countries participated, based on the rich insight that comes from 10 years of history.

> Indeed, as Box II.1 suggests, the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2017 was the tenth edition of this Report, which combined with the landmark on-line platform on regional South-South Cooperation, enables Ibero-America to have a robust repository of information and knowledge on the SSC taking place in the region.

This pool of knowledge is among the most significant innovations of the *Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018*, as it provides the opportunity to incorporate, for the first time, 10-year time-series into the SSC analysis, overcoming the methodological obstacles faced in previous editions. This brings a new perspective to the individual chapters, and enriches the interpretation of the findings, dynamics and trends revealed by the data on which they are built.

The 2018 edition also introduces new features. True to its will to evolve and make methodological rigor compatible with a reader-friendly format, this year, the *Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018* identifies and addresses the more anecdotal or methodology-related contents separately in short summary boxes. This separate and differentiated treatment is also applied to South-South Cooperation implemented by each country. In that respect, this 2018 Report includes an annex with a summary of the main SSC data related to each of the 22 member countries of the Ibero-American Conference. The fact that the information referred to each country is identical increases the possibilities for using the Report as a tool for analysis, visibility and comparability of SSC in Ibero-American countries, both individually and collectively.

Finally, it should also be noted that the analysis on alignment with the 2030 Agenda gains prominence in this Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018. Specifically, the Ibero-American space is developing a methodology that make it possible to identify the potential contribution of South-South Cooperation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Indeed, the 2018 edition already reflects some of the progress made, and includes in each chapter a section specifically focused on SSC and SDGs.

## BOX II.1

## THE REPORT ON SSC IN IBERO-AMERICA (2007-2017): TEN YEARS, A STORY

The Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2017 marked the 10th anniversary of the first edition. Looking back at the last decade, the Report has become a unique milestone for a developing region, not only because it has consolidated its status as an essential tool to make visible what has been happening, but also because of the way in which it has developed: an unprecedented exercise of debate and collective construction, in which every country in the region has played a leading role.

SEGIB decided to support the publication of a book entitled, A decade of South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America, that seeks to mirror this story and reflect this commitment, not just to commemorate this decade, but also to systematize this narrative and share the knowledge and information on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America accumulated over a decade.

Indeed, the book A decade of South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America, published by Turner, is divided into five chapters:

- The first chapter contains the testimony of people who spearheaded this project most directly, describing the background and reasoning for this Report.
- b The second chapter briefly describes the history of South-South Cooperation based on what may be regarded as its main milestones: more than fifty events that shaped this story, from its beginnings at the Bandung Conference of 1955 to the event held in 2019 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action.
- c The third chapter leverages the potential of the accumulated information, and focuses on the evolution of the SSC in which the region has participated over

the last decade with over 7,370 exchanges. However, the chapter takes a broader view, going into the details of a technical and political process built on a multilateral approach that is always consensual. A process participated by twenty-two countries, which is in itself an exercise of SSC.

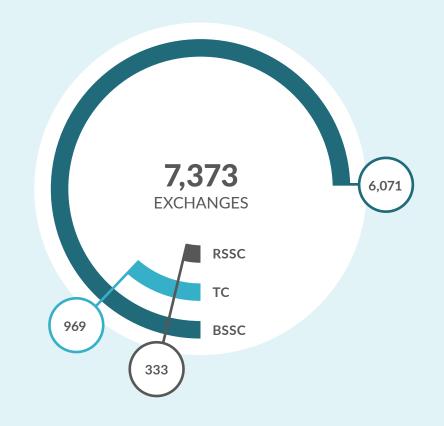
- d These ten years are also reviewed from another perspective. Chapter four describes 10 emblematic cases; 10 stories to find out more about what makes our South-South Cooperation different, what it is, how it is implemented and, more importantly, how it contributes to the development and greater well-being of the peoples of Ibero-America.
- e Finally, the fifth chapter looks forward to the future. Based on the testimonies of the Heads of cooperation agencies and/or

bureaus and other international actors knowledgeable about South-South Cooperation and the Report, this chapter reflects on the scenarios and challenges faced by South-South Cooperation to contribute to the consolidation of a development "that leaves no one behind", in keeping with the 2030 Agenda.

The book is scheduled for November 2018, coinciding with the publication of this eleventh edition of the Report on South-South Cooperation. Its global calling is made evident by the close timing of its release at three geographically distant forums of great relevance: the 26<sup>th</sup> Ibero-American Summit at La Antigua (Guatemala), the Global Expo on SSC in New York, and an event co-organized by Spain and the EC in Brussels, the EU capital.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from SEGIB (2018)

## **TEN YEARS OF SSC: 7370 EXCHANGES**



Source: Reproduction by SEGIB (2018)

In view of the above, this chapter on Bilateral SSC in Ibero-American countries in 2016 is structured as follows:

- a) Firstly, Bilateral SSC in 2016 is shaped by the number of projects and actions in which Ibero-American countries engaged under this modality during at least some time in that year. Likewise, the time series available are leveraged to contextualize the exchanges that took place in 2016, within the dynamics of this type of initiatives over the last decade.
- b) It then looks at the participation of individual countries in Bilateral SSC in 2016, i.e. the intensity of their activity and their predominant role (provider or receiver). The color-coded maps show the main findings on each country's level of participation and role.

- c) Thirdly, exchange flows between countries are characterized, i.e. who exchanged with whom, in what role and with what intensity. This type of analysis makes it possible to determine whether there were preferred bilateral relations among certain countries in the region.
- d) A sectoral perspective is used to understand the type of capacities that SSC strengthened in Ibero-America. By combining several variables (activity sector, country and role), it is also possible to find out which capacities tended to be strengthened in the countries acting as recipients, and which were transferred when they acted as providers.
- e) The chapter ends by linking South-South Cooperation to the 2030 Agenda, estimating the potential contribution of Bilateral South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America in 2016 to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), based on what was achieved in the two previous editions of this Report.

## BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ACTIONS AND PROJECTS IN 2016

## **II.1**

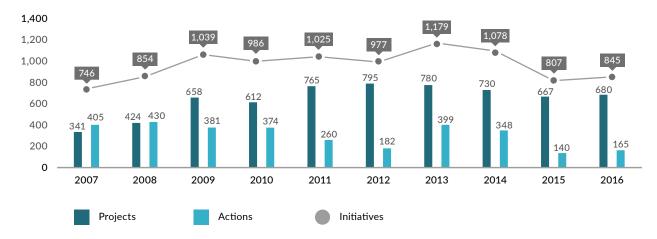
During 2016, the nineteen countries in Ibero-America executed 680 projects and 165 actions under Bilateral South-South Cooperation. As Graph II.1 shows, both figures are higher than in 2015, namely 667 projects and 140 actions, an increase of 1.9% and 17.9%, respectively.

The trend shown in Graph II.1, however, appears to suggest that the total number of projects and actions in 2016 is slightly higher than at the beginning of the decade analyzed. Indeed, the period between 2007 and 2016 can be divided into three stages, with the turning point being when the total number of initiatives is lower or higher than 1,000. In particular:

- a) Between 2007 and 2009, the total number of projects and actions increased by an annual average of 18.1%, enabling the number of initiatives to increase from 750 to almost 1,040.
- b) From 2009 until 2014, the total number of initiatives tended to remain stable, fluctuating between 977 in 2012 (the lowest) to the historical record of 1,179 initiatives in 2013. However, the apparent stability in the number of initiatives during this second stage, with an annual average growth of 1.3%, masks disparate dynamics between projects and actions: the former more stable, while the latter varies significantly between years.<sup>1</sup>

c) The third stage is between 2014 and 2016, when the number of initiatives dropped below 1,000, leveling out at 845. Yet again, the dynamics between projects and actions differed, having an impact on the outcome. In fact, 80% of the drop recorded between 2014 and 2016 (from 1,078 initiatives to 845) can be explained by the lesser number of actions, which in those years fell by almost half (from 348 to 165). DURING 2016, THE NINETEEN COUNTRIES IN IBERO-AMERICA EXECUTED 680 PROJECTS AND 165 ACTIONS UNDER BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

## → GRAPH II.1



## EVOLUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES. 2007-2016

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus and SEGIB (2018)

It should be noted that the time series shown in Graph II.1 is not comparable with those provided in previous editions of this Report. Consequently, it is not comparable either with the graph that would be plotted by successively adding the overall figures included, year after year, in these reports. As already hinted in this chapter's introduction, the accumulation of data over this decade has been accompanied by a tool that has been key to building the series with updated and refined figures: the online platform known as the Ibero-American Integrated Data System on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SIDICSS, by its Spanish acronym). This platform has enabled the elimination of methodological barriers and the building of an updated time series based on more robust data, in permanent review, and different from those contained in previous Reports. Box II.2 describes the changes rendered on the final figures and explains how to interpret them.

## SIDICSS AND AVAILABILITY OF CONTINUALLY UPDATED DATA

Since September 2015, Ibero-American countries have recorded information about their South-South Cooperation in an online platform designed and built by themselves, together with SEGIB and PIFCSS: the Ibero-American Integrated Data System on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SIDICSS). Since then, and pursuant to the reporting requirements stemming from the 2016, 2017 and 2018 editions of this Report, the countries have entered in this database the information on SSC initiatives in which they participated, primarily between 2013 and 2016. Simultaneously, SEGIB has uploaded information on SSC initiatives that nurtured the eight Reports published between 2007 and 2015, when this platform did not yet exist. Because of this shared effort, the SIDICSS now contains information on more than 7,370 cooperation programs, projects and actions under the three modalities recognized in our space.

It should be noted that the decade long "aggregation" of records was made possible by standardizing the criteria used. For instance, the South-South Cooperation initiatives in progress between 2007 and 2009 were categorized as mere "actions". It was not until 2010 when the decision was made to differentiate between actions and projects. In looking back, the uploading of initiatives in the SIDICSS was carried out after they had been re-categorized, enabling differentiation between actions and projects. This approach applies to any conceptual and methodological changes that have taken place over these years. Not only will this result in standardized database records that are equivalent, comparable and aggregatable, but will also guarantee that there are no inconsistencies or errors when counted.

The SIDICSS is a dynamic database. The ongoing review of records allows the information to be updated at any time. It could be that, for instance, a project registered in 2016 and expected to end in 2016 was started in 2015. However, it could be that new information becomes available in 2017, showing that the project was finalized, for whatever reason, during the first year of implementation. Keeping this information updated is very important, not only because it provides greater insight into how the project develops, but also because when the projects are counted and included in the time series of projects in progress in 2015 and 2016, the total may differ or may give rise (or not) to errors and/or false counting. Indeed, the continued possibility to update and adjust SIDICSS data makes the platform more valuable as it can provide more robust information and analysis than the Reports themselves.

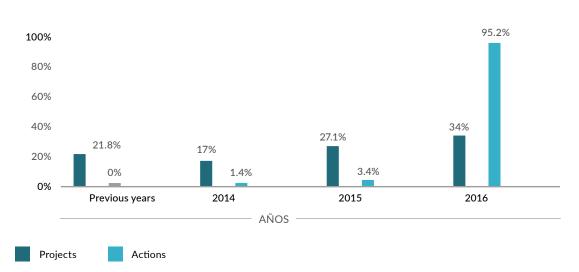
Source: SEGIB

Meanwhile, as Graph II.2 appears to suggest, one-third (34.0%) of the 680 Bilateral SSC projects in progress in 2016 started in that year. Consequently, it can be claimed that two thirds of these projects were carried over from previous years, mainly in 2015 (27.1%), 2014 (17.0%) and, even, from the period 2001 to 2013 (21.8%). These figures contrast with those relating to actions, given that most of them (95.2%) were started in 2016, and less than 5% began during the two preceding years.

TWO THIRDS OF THE 680 PROJECTS IN 2016 GAVE CONTINUITY TO EXCHANGES THAT BEGAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS, MOSTLY IN 2015 (27.1%). MEANWHILE, ALMOST ALL OF THE ACTIONS (95.2%) STARTED IN 2016

#### DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS AND ACTIONS, BY START YEAR

Share (%)



Note: "Previous years" means records with start dates from 2001 to 2013. Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

The above findings are consistent with the fact that projects are cooperation tools that with a duration longer than actions. Indeed, Graph II.3 shows the distribution of projects and actions in 2016<sup>2</sup> by time (in days) elapsed between its start and end date.<sup>3</sup> As is suggested in the Graph:

- a) The bulk (75%) of Bilateral SSC projects in 2016 would have been in progress between 512 days (one year and five months) and close to 1,600 days (4 years and 4 months). As mentioned above, the other 25% had a shorter and highly variable duration, ranging from 9 days to just over 500 days.
- b) By contrast, actions in 2016 had a much shorter duration. The implementation time for 75% of the actions ranged from 2 days to just one month (32.2 days), while the remaining 25% lasted between one month and 75 days (about two and a half months).

c) The comparison of the average time elapsed between the start and end date of projects and actions confirms, without a doubt, that these two tools have a different nature and dimension. In 2016, actions tended to be implemented in 55 days, whereas projects lasted 859 days (2 years and five months).

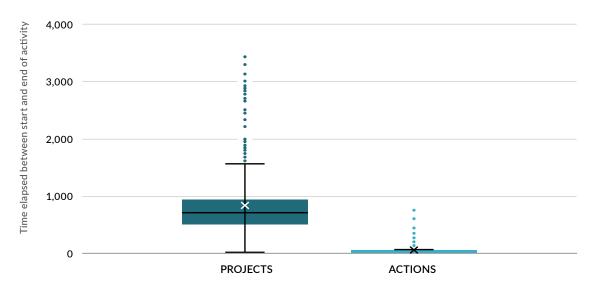
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This distribution is shown in so-called "boxplots". The values analyzed are distributed in ascending order on the vertical axis where the minimum (lower horizontal bar) and maximum (upper horizontal bar) values intersect. A box on the vertical line depicts the data by quartiles: the first 25% of values appear between the minimum bar and the bottom of the box; the second 25% is shown between the bottom of the box and the median which divides the box into two; the third quartile lies between the median and the top of the box; and the fourth, and last 25%, is located between the top of the box and the top horizontal bar (the maximum value). Furthermore, a number of dots might appear above and/or below the upper and lower bar lines. These values are plotted as outliers. Furthermore, one of the values located on the vertical line, marked with a cross, represents the mean of the data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This estimation can only be calculated for initiatives whose start and end dates are simultaneously available. In this regard, in 2016, both data were available for 66.0% of the projects and 64.8% of the actions. The results of the analysis are therefore not applicable to all initiatives implemented in 2016, but only to part of them.

### → GRAPH II.3

## DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS AND ACTIONS, BY DURATION. 2016

By number of days



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

It should finally be added that, the different nature and dimension of projects and actions could also be ascertained by comparing the costs of implementation. However, this comparison requires certain economic data that even today, despite the best efforts made by the Ibero-American countries, are partial and incomplete. Hence, this comparison is addressed in Box II.3, which closes this section, rather than in the body of this Report.

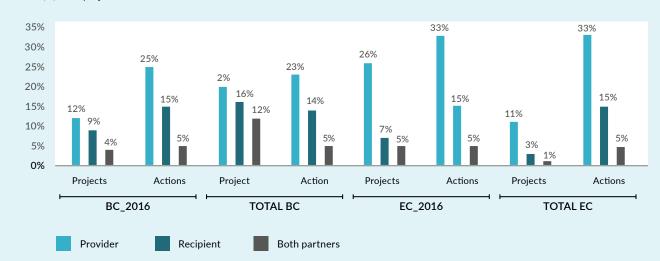
#### BOX II.3

## PROJECTS AND ACTIONS: DIFFERENT DIMENSION, DIFFERENT COST

One way to identify the different nature of South-South Cooperation projects and actions is to compare their different economic "dimensions". The formula used for that purpose calls for the comparison of the different cost of each tool.

#### AVAILABILITY OF DATA ON DIFFERENT VARIANTS OF THE COST OF PROJECTS AND ACTIONS. 2016

Share (%) of all projects and actions



Note: BC refers to Budgeted Cost and EC to Executed Cost

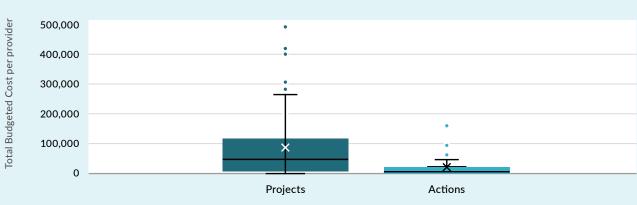
Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

SEGIB

The first graphs shows how, despite the efforts made year after year, even today, the availability of these data is relatively low. Taking as reference the 680 projects and 165 actions under Bilateral SSC and the 12 possible cost variants (executed/budgeted; 2016/entire cycle; provider/recipient/both partners), it can be argued that a possible alternative (albeit with relatively low coverage) would be to compare Budgeted Costs, borne by the provider country, for the entire implementation cycle of the action and project. The second graph shows the outcome of this comparison.

### DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS AND ACTIONS, BY TOTAL BUDGETED COST PER PROVIDER. 2016

En dólares



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Indeed, it can be claimed that, in 2016, the total budget of Bilateral SSC projects included in the sampling (one fifth of the total) were mostly borne by the provider. The budget fluctuated between US\$9,000 and US\$118,000 dollars, and rarely exceeded US\$267,200. Meanwhile, the total budget of the actions (23% of the 165 exchanges finally registered) implemented was borne by the provider, which ranged between US\$1,602 and US\$22,630 dollars in 50% of the cases, with very few exceptions, and never exceeded US\$50,000. These findings suggest that projects and actions have a different dimension, with projects being larger than actions. This can be further ascertained by comparing the average cost of both initiatives, i.e., US\$82,321 projects vs. US\$19,175 actions.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from SEGIB (2018)

## BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN 2016: A GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE

## **II.2**

Maps II.1.1 and 1.2 (in the text) and A.II.1.1 and 1.2 (in the annex) illustrate the role and intensity with which the nineteen Latin American countries participated in the 680 projects and 165 actions exchanged in the region in 2016. Based on this, the countries were distributed according to their share (%) of the total number of projects and actions provided and received, respectively. Each country is color-coded according to its share (%) of initiatives in 2016 (six colors with the intensity increasing every 2.5%, starting at 0.0% to a maximum value of over 12.6%).

In this sense, Map II.1.1., which shows each country's share as provider in the 680 projects in progress in 2016, suggests that:  $\rightarrow$  MAP II.1

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF COOPERATION PROJECTS, BY ROLE. 2016

II.1.1. Provider



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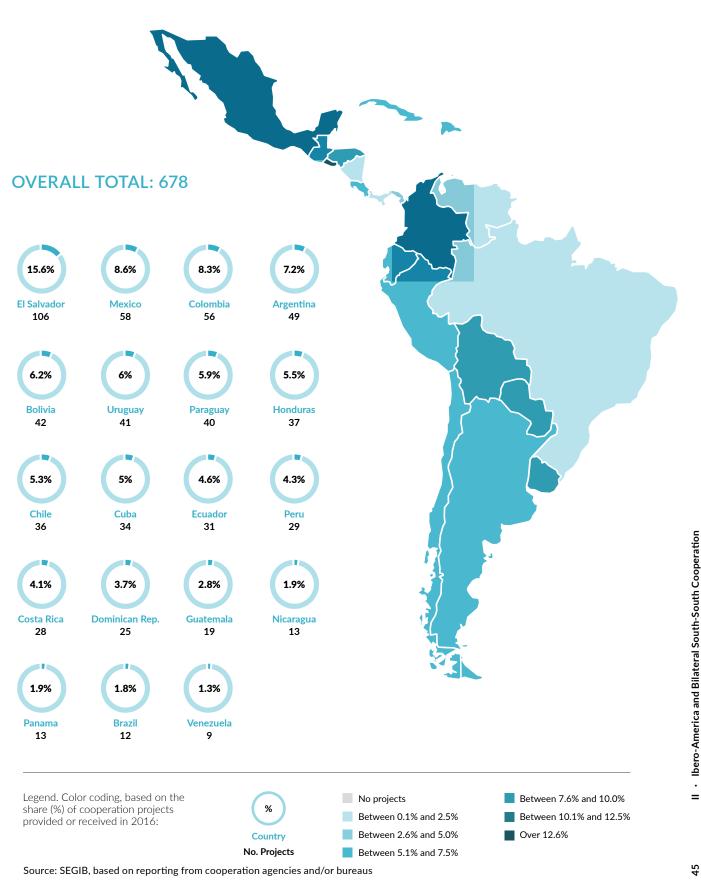
SEGIB

 $\rightarrow$  MAP II.1

## **GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF COOPERATION** PROJECTS, BY ROLE. 2016

II.1.2. Recipient

\_\_\_\_\_



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- For the first time in recent years, Mexico a) participated in more projects (155) as provider than any other country, with 22.8% of the 680 projects registered. Argentina and Chile, the second and third top providers, were next in relative order of importance with 110 and 97 projects, respectively. As shown, these three countries from the northern and southern tip of the region, jointly accounted for more than half of the projects in 2016. When Brazil, the fourth country in relative importance with 76 projects (11.2% of the total) is factored in, almost two-thirds of the final exchanges are explained.
- It should be added that these 4 countries b) also registered the largest number of projects in 2015. By contrast, the relative positions between the countries were substantially modified. Argentina and Brazil (first and third top providers in 2015) lost their positions to Mexico and Chile (who moved from second and fourth place, respectively, to occupy now Argentina and Brazil's positions). This was due to the opposing dynamics that played out in these four countries: Brazil and Argentina registered a sharp drop in the number of projects (close to 40% and 30.9% between 2015 and 2016, respectively), whereas Mexico (24.0%) and Chile (21.3%) experienced sharp increases.
- c) Meanwhile, Colombia and Cuba participated in a similar number of Bilateral SSC projects in 2016 (66-68, respectively). Therefore, they jointly accounted for onefifth of the exchanges registered. When Uruguay (34 projects), Costa Rica (19) and Ecuador's (18) exchanges are added to the activity implemented by these two countries, an additional 10% of the records in 2016 are explained. Hence, 9 countries acted as providers in about 95% of the Bilateral SSC projects in 2016.
- d) The remaining 5% of the projects in 2016 (about 30) were provided by 7 countries. Worthy of note are Peru and Bolivia, in the Andean subregion, who accounted for two thirds of the exchanges; Paraguay, also in the south of the continent, who was traditionally a recipient country, combined that role with its activity as provider in 5 projects in 2016; and finally, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, three Central American

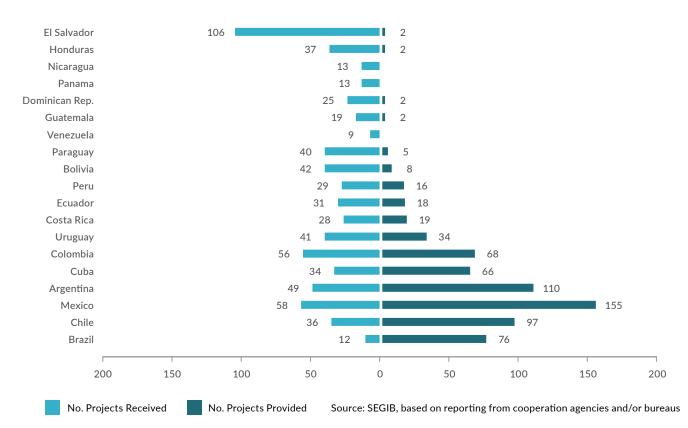
countries, and the Dominican Republic, in the Caribbean, also emerged as providers in 2 Bilateral SSC projects each. Three countries did not register any exchange: Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela.

Meanwhile, Map II.1.2 offers a snapshot of the countries share (%) in the 680 projects implemented in 2016 as recipients. In particular:

- a) As has been the case in recent years, El Salvador was the top recipient of exchanges (106), with a remarkable 15.6% of the 680 initiatives. This figure roughly doubles the number of projects implemented by the next two countries in relative importance, Mexico and Colombia who, with 58 and 56 exchanges each, accounted for another 16.9%<sup>4</sup> of Bilateral SSC in 2016.
- b) Meanwhile, just over one third of the projects (245, or 36.1% of the total), were explained by the contribution of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, in the southwestern fringe of the continent, and Honduras, in the Central American subregion, each with 36 to 49 projects.
- c) Another quarter of the projects (166) were participated by six recipient countries: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, in the Central American and Caribbean subregions, and Ecuador and Peru, in the Andean subregion. In these cases, the number of exchanges fluctuated between 19 and 34.
- d) Finally, 4 recipient countries accounted for the last 7% of projects implemented: Nicaragua and Panama, with 13 projects each, Brazil (12), and Venezuela (9). As noted, only three of the countries in the region, with the sole exception of Brazil, did not act as providers and, therefore, participated only as recipients in Bilateral SSC projects in 2016.

#### → GRAPH II.4

BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION PROJECTS PROVIDED AND RECEIVED, BY COUNTRY. 2016



In fact, and in line with the above, Latin American countries combined their roles as providers and recipients in different ways. As has been the case in recent years, these combinations produce three profiles: "primarily provider", "primarily recipient", and fairly well-balanced provider-recipient.

Graph II.4 illustrates these formulas and identifies the countries that played a leading role. The vertical axis shows the projects in which each country participated in 2016 as a recipient (bars to the left of the central axis) and provider (bars to the right of the same axis). Furthermore, the countries are ranked according to their share (%) of these two values: close to one (at the center of the distribution), moving away from one, but prioritizing projects received (upwards); moving away from one, but prioritizing projects provided (countries located at the bottom). Thus, based on Graph II.4, it can be argued that:

a) In keeping with previous years, the "primarily recipient" profile has prevailed over the "primarily provider" profile in 2016. Indeed, the bulk of the countries in the region (the 13 countries listed and referenced at the top of the vertical axis in Graph II.4) had a recipient-provider ratio greater than one. Meanwhile, less than half of the countries (the 6 countries at the bottom from Colombia to Brazil), only had a ratio greater than one when the number of projects provided exceeded those received.

- b) Nonetheless, the countries that primarily acted as recipients appear to follow three different behavior patterns. Some countries overwhelmingly acted as recipients (between 12.5 and 53 times) compared to their role as providers. This is the case of El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, as well as the Dominican Republic. This gap is still significant in the case of Guatemala, Venezuela, Paraguay and Bolivia, albeit somewhat less (between 5.3 and 9.5). By contrast, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Uruguay had a highly balanced participation in both roles, i.e. the number of projects in which they participated as provider was very similar to that as recipients, although slightly higher. This can be seen in the ratios close to one, which range from a low 1.2 to a not very high 1.8.
- c) Meanwhile, the six countries that acted as "primarily providers" tended to combine their intense activity as providers with a smaller, but equally important activity, as recipients. Indeed, in the case of Colombia and Cuba, for instance, the number of projects in which they participated as providers was significant (68 and 66), and only slightly higher than that as recipients (56 and 34). This means that the provider-recipient ratio was greater than one, but never exceeded 2. Likewise, Mexico, Argentina and Chile, three of the top providers in 2016, had a slightly higher provider-recipient ratio, fluctuating between values that suggest that the number of projects provided more than doubled those received. The only exception was Brazil. The number of projects in which it acted as provider was 6.3 times that of projects as recipient.

Multiple factors may explain the way in which the countries combine both roles. Irrespective of this, and as Box II.4 suggests, the participation in Bilateral SSC as provider or recipient can, in turn, affect the way in which the tasks and/or responsibilities are distributed within a project. For instance, the aforementioned Box provides an overview of the relationship between the role played and economic responsibility in 2016.

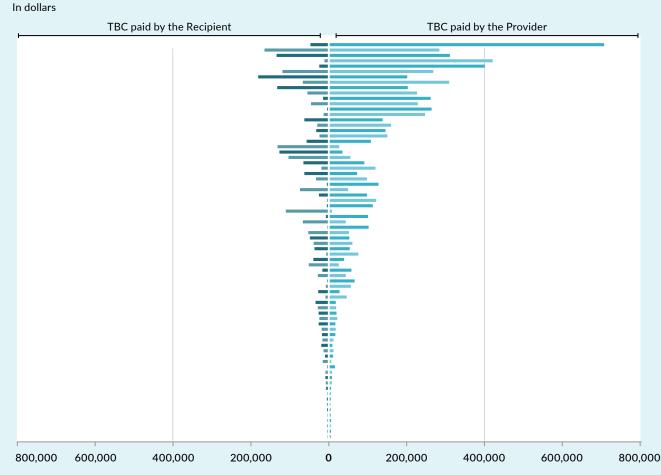
IN 2016, MEXICO PARTICIPATED IN MORE PROJECTS (155) AS PROVIDER THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY, WITH 22.8% OF THE 680 PROJECTS REGISTERED. ON THE OTHER HAND, EL SALVADOR ACTED AS RECIPIENT IN THE LARGEST NUMBER OF EXCHANGES (106), EQUIVALENT TO A REMARKABLE 15.6% OF THE 680 EXECUTED

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## THE ROLE OF COUNTRIES AND DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The distribution of roles between countries when negotiating, implementing and, even, evaluating South-South Cooperation is usually linked to different tasks and responsibilities. It is not easy to measure the extent to which these responsibilities are shared in different activities. The only exception is the economic dimension, i.e. measuring the way in which the provider and recipient shared the overall economic cost of implementing the project successfully. Although this indicator is simple to apply, there is a major constraint: the lack of data. This calculation requires the same information on costs for both the provider and the recipient. For 2016, the indicator is applied to the total budgeted cost, as the amount borne by each partner for 10.8% of the 680 projects implemented is known. This is the maximum coverage available for this year. The attached graph takes into account these constraints. This graph shows the total budgeted cost of the 74 projects included in the sample analyzed, arranging them around the central axis by decreasing magnitude, i.e. maximum value (US\$752,500) to minimum value (US\$2,000). The central axis marks the point where the amount borne by the recipient (bar to the left of the axis) is now borne by the provider (right of the central axis).

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE TOTAL BUDGETED COST BETWEEN TWO PROJECT PARTNERS. 2016



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

#### According to the graph:

- a In virtually one out of four cases, the recipient bore the bulk of the cost. Likewise, the cost borne by the recipient was generally never more than five times the cost borne by the other partner, albeit with an exception.
- b Meanwhile, 12 projects (equal to 16.2% of those analyzed) had a one-to-one ratio. In these cases, the economic responsibility was equitably shared, with each partner bearing 50% of the cost that ranged between US\$4,000 and US\$10,000.
- c Finally, in the remaining 60% of projects that make up this sample, the largest share of the total budgeted cost was borne by the provider country. Moreover, in one out of four cases, the provider bore 100% of the cost.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Finally, it should be noted that the analysis of Bilateral SSC actions in 2016 shows that Ibero-American countries also participated with varied intensity and used different formulas depending on the role they played. The combined reading of Maps A.II.1.1 and 2, and Graph A.II.1 (in the annex), suggests that:

- a) Three provider countries accounted for practically half of the 165 actions in 2016: Colombia, Peru and Mexico, in order of relative importance. More than 3 out of 4 actions implemented in 2016 are explained when Chile, Ecuador and Argentina, with 14 to 20 actions each, are added to the above. The remaining 22.6% (2 out of 3) actions were primarily driven by Uruguay, Bolivia, Panama and Cuba and, to a lesser extent by ad hoc actions implemented by Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, as well as Dominican Republic, Brazil and Paraguay. Meanwhile, Venezuela was the only country that did not participate as provider in any action in 2016.
- From the recipient's perspective, two b) clusters of countries were responsible for more than 75% of the 165 actions registered in 2016: Cuba and Peru (41.9% of the total), on the one hand, and Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia and El Salvador (34.8%), on the other. Furthermore, Guatemala and Argentina contributed to the total with almost 10% of the actions. Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras and the Dominican Republic, from the Central American and Caribbean subregions, plus Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay and Brazil, from South America, completed the headcount with ad hoc interventions that ranged from one to no more than 3 actions. In this case, two countries, Mexico and Venezuela, did not act as providers in any action.
- c) Finally, nine countries in the region (all located at the top of Graph A.II.1) had a "primarily recipient" cooperation profile, as they participated more as recipients than as providers. Among these, however, Ecuador and Peru are worthy of mention with a remarkably high number of actions (between 30 and 50), with a providerrecipient ratio very close to one. Indeed, two other countries (Dominican Republic and Costa Rica) had a ratio equal to one, as they participated in exactly the same number of actions as recipients and providers. Meanwhile, as already stated above, the seven remaining countries (positioned at the bottom of Graph A.II.1) had a "primarily provider" profile, with a provider-recipient ratio between 2 and 3.5. The only exceptions were Mexico and Chile, who had a much higher ratio (up to 22 and 6.7 times, respectively).

## COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COUNTRIES: AN APPROXIMATION

## **II.3**

Understanding the way in which countries establish their exchanges enables further characterization of the ways in which Ibero-American countries participated in the 680 projects and 165 actions implemented under Bilateral SSC in the region in 2016. For this, it is necessary to identify who were the exchange partners, what role they played and with what level of intensity. The findings will show whether there was a preferential (or even dependent) bilateral relationship between certain countries in the region.

To that end, Matrices II.1 and II.2 were plotted, with the first one focusing on projects and the second on actions. The first row of both matrices shows the 19 Ibero-American countries engaged in this form of cooperation, arranged by income category<sup>5</sup> and their role as recipients. The first column shows the same countries in the same order but as providers. Consequently, each of the boxes where a row and column meet represents the exchanges that have taken place between two partners according to the role each one played. The sum of the data included in the different boxes, aggregated for each row and column, yield, respectively, information on all the initiatives in which each country participated as provider (last column) and recipient (last row). The aggregate data for the last row and column, which refers to all initiatives exchanged in the region in 2016, should match, that is 680 projects in Matrix II.1 and 165 actions in Matrix II.2.

Indeed, bearing in mind that 19 Latin American countries participated in Bilateral SSC, and all countries could play either role, these matrices show that each exchange can be associated with 342 possible combinations of partners and roles.<sup>6</sup> However, not all possible combinations took place in 2016. Indeed, the 680 projects registered that year were the outcome of exchanges established around 139 possible partnerships. To these should be added the outliers that appear in the additional column to the right, which include the possibility that a project may be explained by the participation of more than two partners, one acting as a provider and the others sharing the role of recipient.<sup>7</sup> Meanwhile, the 165 Bilateral SSC actions implemented in 2016 were driven by 67 combinations of partners and roles, as well as, four actions in which more than two countries participated simultaneously. These cases appear in the additional column (right) and row (bottom), next to the column and rows that explicitly refer to a country.8

<sup>8</sup>As shown in Matrix II.2, there were three actions in which Brazil, Colombia and Chile, as providers, exchanged with several recipients. In another case, Chile received simultaneously from several providers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>As already explained in the footnotes of the relevant matrix, the countries are sorted by alphabetical order and classified as Low Middle-Income Country (LMIC), Upper Middle-Income Country (UMIC) and High-Income Country (HIC), according to World Bank criteria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Given that each of the 19 countries can partner with the other 18, as either provider or recipient, the different possible combinations of partners is calculated by multiplying 19 by 19, then subtracting the 19 combinations in which the country would partner with itself (342 in total). This number coincides with the total number of inner cells to be completed in each Matrix.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Although this is more common in actions than in projects, a project may be implemented with more than two countries, several of which would share the same role. For instance, in 2016, there was a project in which Mexico acted as a provider and Costa Rica and Panama as recipients, and, in another, Colombia acted as provider and Bolivia, Honduras and Peru were the recipients.



## BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION PROJECTS. 2016

				RECIPIENTS																				
			LMIC				UMIC												HIC					
PF			El Salvador	Honduras	Nicaragua	Brazil	Colombia	Costa Rica	Cuba	Ecuador	Guatemala	Mexico	Paraguay	Peru	Dominican Rep.	Venezuela	Argentina	Chile	Panama	Uruguay	Various	TOTAL		
	Bolivia		3				(1)			(2)										2		8		
LMIC	El Salvador						1										1					2		
ΓW	Honduras						2															2		
	Nicaragua																					0		
	Brazil	2	8	5	6		4	2	3	6 + (1)	5	4	2	10 + (1)	6	1	(1)	1	4	3 + (1)		76		
	Colombia	5 + (1)	9	6				4 +(2)	2	2	2 +(2)	4	7	1 + (3)	4		6 + (2)	1 + (2)	1	1	1	68		
	Costa Rica		8				3 + (2)			2		2 + (1)						(1)				19		
	Cuba	4	12	4	4	3	6	1		2	4	1	2	2	2	8	4	1	2	4		66		
	Ecuador	(2)	11			(1)	3							(1)								18		
UMIC	Guatemala						(2)															2		
	Mexico	9	40	9	1	5	4	11 + (1)	6	1	4		6	4	2		3 + (7)	(20)	3	4 + (14)	1	155		
	Paraguay			1			1								1			1		1		5		
	Peru		2	3		(1)	1 + (3)			(1)			2		3							16		
	Dom. Rep.						1							1								2		
	Venezuela																					0		
	Argentina	15	9	4		(1)	8 + (2)	2	20	6	1	5 + (7)	10	6	1			(8)		(5)		110		
HIC	Chile	3	2	5	2		7 + (2)	4 + (1)	2	8		(20)	6		6		12 + (8)		3	5 + (1)		97		
	Panama																					0		
	Uruguay	1	2			(1)	3		1		1	(14)	5				(5)	(1)				34		
	TOTAL	42	106	37	13	12	56	28	34	31	19	58	40	29	25	9	49	36	13	41	2	680		

Note: a) Countries classified according to World Bank criteria as of 1 July 2018: lower middle-income (GNI per capita between US\$996 and US\$3,895), upper middle-income (between US\$3,896 and US\$12,055) and high-income (more than US\$12,055). b) The figures in parentheses refer to the number of projects that the countries declared to be "bidirectional". Here, the two participating countries act as both provider and recipient. Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperating agencies and/or bureaus.

SEGIB



## BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ACTIONS. 2016

											REC	IPIEN	NTS											
			LMIC				UMIC												HIC					
PROVIDERS ↓		Bolivia	El Salvador	Honduras	Nicaragua	Brazil	Colombia	Costa Rica	Cuba	Ecuador	Guatemala	Mexico	Paraguay	Peru	Dominican Rep.	Venezuela	Argentina	Chile	Panama	Uruguay	Various	TOTAL		
LMIC	Bolivia													3 + (3)								6		
	El Salvador						1															1		
	Honduras																	1				1		
	Nicaragua								2													2		
	Brazil								1												1	2		
	Colombia	1	4	1				1	1 + (1)	2	1		1	3 + (8)	1		1	1			7	34		
	Costa Rica								2										1			3		
	Cuba						(1)			2 + (2)												5		
	Ecuador	1							4 + (2)					3 + (4)								14		
UMIC	Guatemala								1													1		
_	Mexico	1	1	1				1	8		4			5					1			22		
	Paraguay								1													1		
	Peru	4 + (3)			1		(8)		2	1 + (4)												23		
	Dom. Rep.								2													2		
	Venezuela																					0		
HIC	Argentina	2	1				2		2	3	1		1					(1)		(1)		14		
	Chile	1	4		1				3	1	3		1				1 + (1)		1	1	2	20		
	Panama							1	4						1							6		
	Uruguay	1	3		1	1											(1)					7		
	Various																1					1		
	TOTAL	14	13	2	3	1	12	3	36	15	9	0	3	29	2	0	5	3	3	2	10	165		

Meanwhile, each partnership between different pairs of countries and roles involved different levels of intensity of exchange. Indeed, based on a frequency analysis of the data contained in Matrices II.1 and II.2, it can be argued that:

- a) In 2016, most often than not, the countries implemented one to twelve projects with their different partners (Matrix II.1). Indeed, the average number of exchanges was 5. Although less frequent, some exchanges involved 14 to 20 initiatives, including between Argentina and Bolivia (15 projects), Mexico and Uruguay (up to 18) and Mexico and Chile (20).<sup>9</sup> However, the most intense exchange took place between Mexico and El Salvador, the two countries that were the top provider and recipient. Mexico transferred capacities to El Salvador through up to 40 Bilateral SSC projects.
- b) Meanwhile, the countries exchanged a less actions with other partners in the region (Matrix II.2), ranging from one to six, with the average number of exchanges at slightly more than two actions. Nonetheless, there were also some outliers, including the actions Peru exchanged with Ecuador (7) and Colombia (11).

Two cases involving the top provider and top recipient of Bilateral South-South Cooperation projects in 2016 have been chosen to further illustrate the exchanges between each country and its potential partners. Diagrams II.1. and II.2. show the distribution of project flows between Mexico and El Salvador and their different partners.<sup>10</sup>

#### It can be concluded that:

 a) Mexico, acting as provider, partnered with 17 countries (all Latin Americans, with the exception of Venezuela). Meanwhile, El Salvador, as recipient, engaged with a smaller number of partners (11), mostly in the South American subregion (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay), plus Mexico, Costa Rica and Cuba, in North America, Central America and the Caribbean.

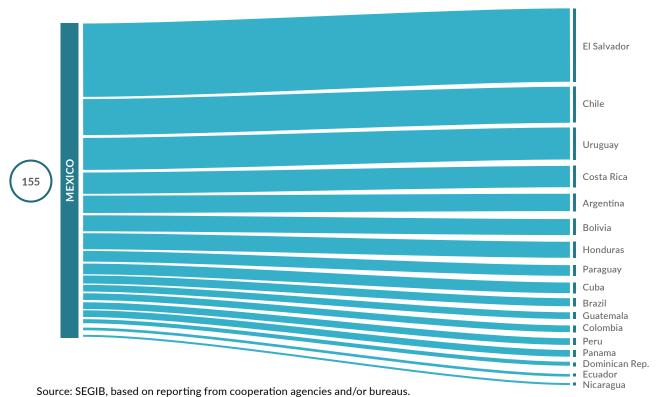
<sup>9</sup> It should be noted that some of these cases are influenced by the weight of projects classified as "bidirectional", identified in the matrix with a parenthesis. It refers to projects in which the two participating partners simultaneously act as providers and recipients; therefore, each partner is allocated each possible combination of partner and role. This means that they are counted as two projects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Flow diagrams (also called Sankey Diagrams) make this type of cooperation flow visible. As Diagrams II.1 and II.2 show, the "source flows" (i.e. the total number of projects broken down by provider country or countries) are positioned on the left, whereas the "destination flows" (i.e. the same total projects broken down by recipient country or countries) appear on the right.

#### $\rightarrow$ DIAGRAM II.1

## DISTRIBUTION OF MEXICO'S BILATERAL SSC PROJECT FLOWS, BY RECIPIENT. 2016

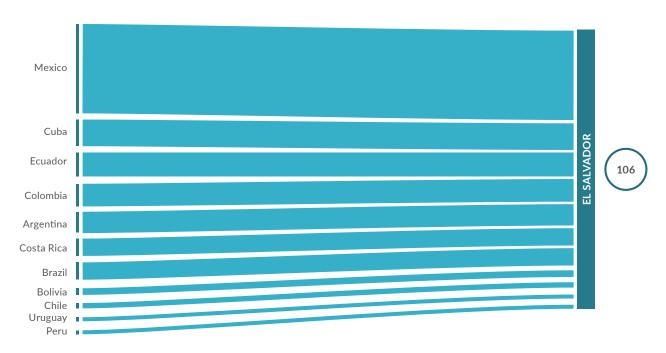
Units



#### $\longrightarrow$ DIAGRAM II.2

## DISTRIBUTION OF EL SALVADOR'S BILATERAL SSC PROJECT FLOWS, BY RECIPIENT. 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus.

EL SALVADOR, URUGUAY AND CHILE ACCOUNTED FOR 50.3% OF THE 155 PROJECTS IN WHICH MEXICO PARTICIPATED AS PROVIDER IN 2016. SIMILARLY, CUBA, ECUADOR AND MEXICO PARTICIPATED IN NEARLY 60% OF THE 106 PROJECTS THAT EL SALVADOR RECEIVED IN THAT YEAR

- b) Although each country acted as the main partner of the other, the degree of concentration (and possible "dependence") substantially varied in each case.
  Specifically, Mexico concentrated one in four of its exchanges (25.8%) in its top recipient. Although the volume is remarkable, it is still more than 10 percentage points short of the total amount received by El Salvador from Mexico (37.7%, which accounts for almost 4 out of 10 of the 106 projects implemented in the Central American country).
- c) The degree of concentration also varies when the relative weight of the three main partners is compared. In the case of Mexico, when the second and third top providers (Uruguay and Chile) are added to El Salvador, the three countries accounted for 50.3% of the 155 projects implemented by Mexico in 2016. In reviewing El Salvador's relationship with its three top providers (Mexico, Cuba and Ecuador), it reveals a higher share (59.4%) that is, yet again, 10 percentage points higher.
- d) The gap between profiles widens further when more partners are added to the mix. Indeed, the other half of the projects in which Mexico participated as provider in 2016 were geared towards Costa Rica, Argentina, Bolivia and Honduras, four countries that accounted for another 25% of the total with around 10 projects each. The remaining 25% was accounted for by another 10 countries that participated with 1 to 6 projects, respectively. By contrast, the last 40% of the projects implemented by El Salvador were received from 8 countries with highly unequal contributions, given that 4 countries (Colombia , Argentina, Costa Rica and Brazil) concentrated 8 out of 10 projects, while 4 other partners (Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and Peru, each with 2 or 3 ad hoc exchanges), accounted for the other 20%.

Finally, this serves to illustrate to what extent the role played by each country determines the number of partners involved in a partnership, which, in turn, determines the relationship's profile: less concentrated and more diversified for the provider, more concentrated and/ or dependent for the recipient. The profiles also differ when this aspect is analyzed from the perspective of Bilateral SSC "provided" or "received". Box II.5 seeks to identify this behavior pattern using the concentration and dispersion indicator, known as Herfindahl Index, which has already been used in previous editions of this Report. Indeed, when the Index is applied to Mexico and El Salvador, the outcome ratifies what already transpired above: a value of 0.1219 for Mexico and 0.1917 for El Salvador. As detailed in the aforementioned box, this means that the relationship profile with a greater degree of concentration and dispersion is linked to the Central American country rather than to Mexico.

## ESTIMATING THE DEGREE OF CONCENTRATION AND DISPERSION IN SSC EXCHANGES

As has become customary, in 2016, 19 Latin American countries acted, at least once, as recipients of projects in their Bilateral SSC exchanges with other partners. By contrast, the number of countries that acted at least once as providers was lower (16). The varying degrees of participation of countries in one role or the other appears to suggest that SSC is more concentrated in terms of provision rather than reception. However, this intuitive reading must be corroborated by a thorough analysis. The Herfindahl index, an indicator taken from international trade, can be used for this purpose in the Ibero-American space.

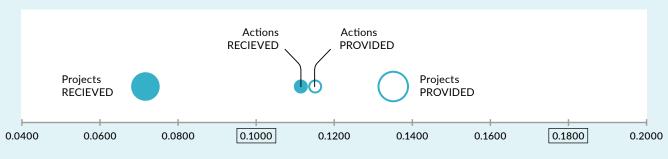
Indeed, the Herfindahl Index is an indicator that is used to measure the concentration and dispersion of international trade or a country's share in this trade. When adapted to South-South Cooperation, two types of information can be summarized as a unique value between 0 and 1: 1) the degree of "concentration" of countries (more or less) that engaged as providers or recipients in the exchange; and, 2) the degree of "dispersion" with maximum and minimum values that may be widely spread and dispersed, or very close and similar to each other. A value range scale is used to interpret the results:

- A value less than 0.1000 indicates diversified SSC in terms of participating countries and scarcely dispersed and similar relative shares;
- b Values between 0.1000 and 0.1800 reflect moderate concentration, with a smaller number of countries participating in cooperation, and increased dispersion, with a widening gap between the maximum and minimum shares, and intermediate share values tending to move increasingly closer to outliers;

c When greater than 0.1800, cooperation is concentrated in an increasingly smaller number of countries, while the relative share of each country tends to move away from each other.

Consequently, the HI for all the projects and actions, provided and received, in 2016 is calculated. The resulting values are plotted as a bubble, whose size is proportional to the number of projects and/or actions that it represents within the relevant range of values. The following figure summarizes the results.

## DEGREE OF CONCENTRATION AND DISPERSION OF BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. 2016



Herfindahl Index, to four decimal places

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

The Figure confirms a greater degree of concentration and dispersion in the cooperation flows of providers versus recipients. Thus, the projects received had the lowest Herfindahl Index (0.0716), within the (below 0.1000) range of values that appear to suggest greater diversification of participants and values. By contrast, the projects provided rendered the highest HI value (0.1351), which belongs to the next range of values, suggesting a greater degree of concentration and dispersion, albeit without exceeding 0.1800, which is the highest possible concentration. Meanwhile, the actions received had a HI of 0.1114, typical of a moderate concentration, and lower than the value for actions provided (0.1150). This means that both exchanges shared the same range of values.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

## SECTORAL ANALYSIS OF BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. 2016

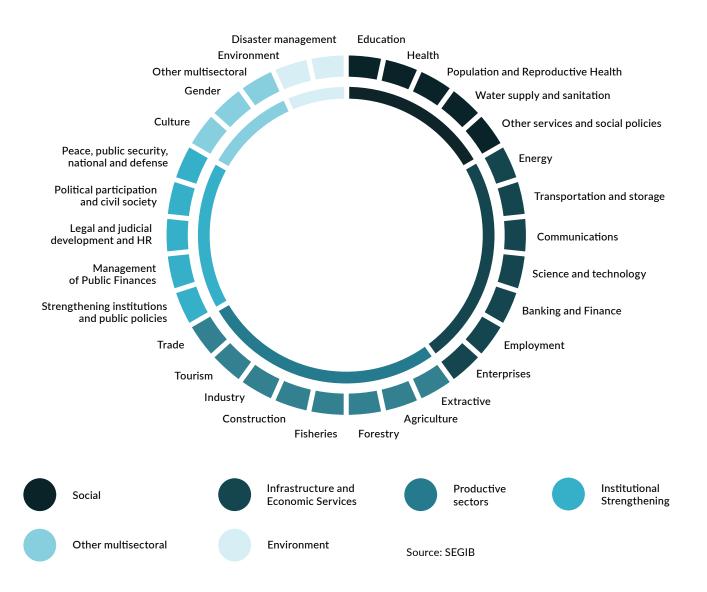
The expectation that the exchanges between countries will strengthen mutual capacities is one of the things that justify South-South Cooperation, at least in its technical dimension, which is the focus of this Report. Indeed, it is imperative to carry out a deeper analysis of the Bilateral SSC in which the countries in the region engaged in 2016 to strengthen their capacities. Nevertheless, it is also necessary to identify how these capacities were identified, i.e. based on the strengths of the countries that primarily acted as providers, or on the needs of the countries that acted primarily as recipients to overcome certain gaps.

In keeping with this purpose, the analysis should have a sectoral perspective. To that end, the classification by activity sectors and areas of action agreed by the countries, and recognized in the Ibero-American space, is used. Table A.II.1 (in the annex) details and defines each of the categories used. Meanwhile, Figure II.1 (in the text) reproduces and summarizes the information contained in the table through a sunburst chart, which represents the data and information from different hierarchies using concentric rings. Thus, the 30 recognized activity sectors are placed in the outer ring and the areas of action, under which they clustered, appear in the relevant inner ring.

The combined reading of both figures provides a better understanding of the categories that will be used in the sectoral analysis of Bilateral SSC in 2016. Specifically:

- a) Five sectors target strengthening and improvement of social areas. These include Education, Health, Population and Reproductive Health, Sanitation and water supply and Other social services and policies.
- b) Half of the activity sectors (15) are geared towards the economic dimension: seven (Extractive, Agriculture and Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Construction, Industry, Tourism and Commerce) explicitly focus on strengthening productive activities; while the others (Energy, Transport, Communications, Science and Technology, Finance, Employment and Enterprises), contribute towards building and reinforcing infrastructures and services that contribute to the effective functioning of national economies.
- c) Until the previous edition, two activity sectors aimed at strengthening institutions were identified under the generic heading Government and Civil Society. Given that its contents were too broad and ambiguous, potentially leading to simpler interpretations of the results, this edition introduces a new methodology that breaks down these two sectors into five sectors to capture the type of capabilities being strengthened better. Hence, it will now be divided into the following activity sectors: Strengthening of Public Institutions and Policies; Public Finance Management; Legal and Judicial Development and Human **Rights; Fostering Political Participation** and Civil Society; and Peace, Public and National Security and Defense issues.
- d) Two sectors focus on the environment: the first covers all issues related to Environmental Preservation; and the second focuses on Disaster Management, which encompasses any intervention related to the different phases of Prevention, Preparation, Mitigation, Emergency Aid, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction.
- e) Finally, given its specificities and difficult categorization, Culture, Gender and Other Multisectoral (which focuses on alternative development models) were treated separately under the heading Other areas of action.

## ACTIVITY SECTORS AND AREAS OF ACTION RECOGNIZED IN THE IBERO-AMERICAN SPACE



#### PROFILE OF COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS II.4.1

Diagram II.3 shows the distribution of the 680 Bilateral SSC projects in progress in the region in 2016 by area of action (central flow) and activity sector (right flow). The reading of the diagram provides a better understanding of the capacities strengthened through the exchange of these projects. In particular:

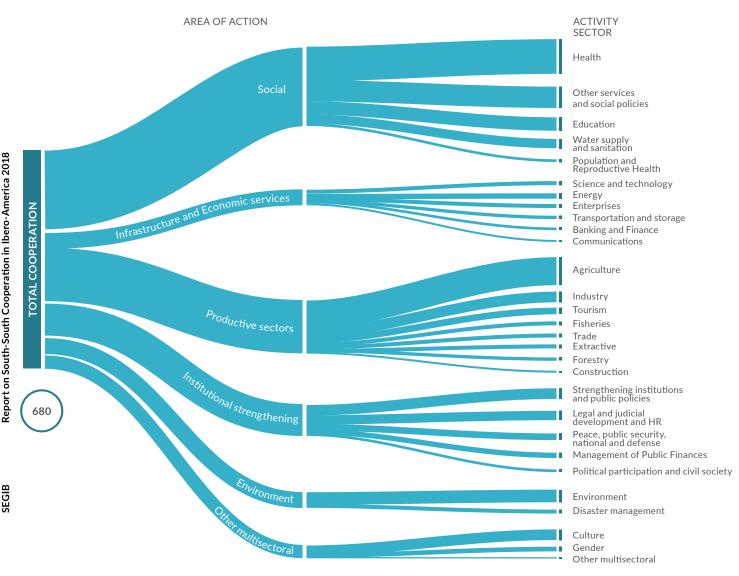
 a) The bulk of the Bilateral SSC projects promoted in 2016 (229, equal to almost 38% of the total), was aimed at strengthening capacities in the Social field. Nearly 33.4% of the initiatives (202), i.e. three out of four, were geared towards the Economic dimension because they contributed to strengthen different productive sectors. The remaining 25% focused on strengthening infrastructures and services needed to ensure a better functioning of national economies. Furthermore, about one hundred projects (91, equal to another 15.1% of the total) focused on strengthening institutions and different public policies. Finally, the last 14% of the projects exchanged regionally in 2016 was distributed equally between the Environment (42) and those classified under Other areas of action (40).

b) The highest number of projects were geared towards the Social dimension. The Health sector, with more than one hundred initiatives accounted for 17.2% of all initiatives implemented in 2016. The focus of these initiatives varied widely. Many projects were aimed at providing general training for doctors and professionals, as well as specialist medical training, including entomology, epidemiology, occupational medicine and neonatal care. Another group of projects sought to strengthen health institutions (directorate-generals for medicinal products, pharmacopoeias or national blood and blood product institutes and systems, to name a few), mainly through the exchange of experiences in management models, but also through the introduction of incentive schemes to improve access and quality of coverage. Moreover, several projects were geared towards ensuring and providing better nutrition to the entire population, in particular, children (Human Milk Banks and school gardens); and creating and developing indicators and statistical systems on various topics to support public managers in decision making. Finally, numerous exchanges addressed the need to strengthen and improve the treatment and care of certain diseases, including asthma, malaria, dengue and diabetes. Box II.6 delves deeper into the latter case to find out more about the importance of some of these projects, highlighting experiences that are tackled with a holistic approach.

#### → DIAGRAM II.3

## DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECT FLOWS, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

## COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO DIABETES: CONTRIBUTIONS BY CUBA, MEXICO AND URUGUAY

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the number of diabetes cases has increased fourfold since the 1980s to date. This means that there were 422 million people suffering from diabetes in 2016 (8.5% of the world's adult population). This chronic disease is strongly related to overweight and poor diet, and is a major cause of blindness, kidney failure, myocardial infarction, stroke and lower limb amputation. Furthermore, it was the direct cause of 1.6 million deaths in 2015 (WHO, 2016).<sup>1</sup>

Traditionally associated with developed countries and their diet, in the last decade, the prevalence of diabetes has increased more rapidly in middle-income countries. In keeping with this, the WHO estimates that this disease affected more than 40 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016; a figure estimated to continue to grow, affecting more than 70 million people in our region in 2040 (PAHO, 2017).<sup>2</sup>

Against this backdrop, governments have become increasingly aware of the need to address this disease and integrate this approach into a framework of comprehensive actions and strategies, including prevention, diagnosis and treatment for the disease. The fact that some of the measures that could be taken are low-cost (including diagnosis by blood analysis, promotion of a healthy diet and physical activity, and control of blood sugar, blood pressure and foot care) has facilitated the introduction of relevant international and regional initiatives.

In the wake of the Declaration of the Americas (DOTA) in 1996, several Latin American countries developed national diabetes programs, supported by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the pharmaceutical industry. These actions are in line with the recommendations of the WHO and the new Sustainable Development Agenda, which, under Goal 3 on Health, has included, for the first time, Target 4 on non-communicable diseases and international commitment to reduce its incidence.

In this context, South-South Cooperation has emerged as a useful tool for mutually improving and strengthening the capacities of the Latin American countries. Three projects of interest spearheaded by Cuba, Mexico and Uruguay were identified in 2016. These three countries exchanged their experience in developing and mutually strengthening their different approaches to policies and institutional response to this disease. In particular:

Cuba has a vast and acknowledged а experience in comprehensive care for diabetic foot, built on healthcare and biotechnological innovation. Indeed, Cuba pioneered the development of a special medicine to treat diabetic foot. It is so effective that it has reduced the number of amputations by almost 80%, which explains why several countries in the region are interested in this treatment.<sup>3</sup> In the case of Uruguay, this interest fleshed out in 2011 through a Bilateral SSC project that allowed the South American country to invest in this medicine and incorporate it into its health system, testing its effects on Uruguayan patients suffering from this pathology.4

h Between 2013 and 2016, Uruguay and Mexico exchanged their experience through two initiatives. The first one also focused on diabetic foot, in particular, on the use of electronic technologies to diagnose the pathology and monitor its progress. The second initiative was geared towards medical research on insulin resistance in type II diabetes. The partners in this project are the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of the Republic of Uruguay and the Autonomous Metropolitan University (UAM) at Azcapotzalco.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus, SEGIB/PIFCSS (2016), WHO (2016) and PAHO/WHO (2017).

<sup>1</sup> http://www.who.int/es/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/diabetes

<sup>a</sup> https://elpais.com/internacional/2016/04/06/america/1459975309\_076705.html

<sup>4</sup> https://www.elobservador.com.uy/crece-influencia-cubana-medicina-uruguaya-n205362

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> https://www.elnuevodiario.com.ni/actualidad/427327-mas-250-000-pacientes-mundo-usaron-farmaco-cubano-/

THE BULK OF THE PROJECTS, 38% OF THE TOTAL, WERE GEARED TOWARDS STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES IN THE SOCIAL SECTOR. A SIMILAR SHARE, 33.4%, OF THE INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON THE ECONOMIC SECTOR. AN ADDITIONAL 15.1% OF THE PROJECTS SOUGHT TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND POLICIES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. FINALLY, THE LAST 14% WAS DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN INITIATIVES GEARED TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT (42) AND THE MORE GENERAL OTHER MULTISECTORAL

- Another 62 projects (one in 10) in 2016 c) focused on strengthening Other social services and policies, the third sector in relative importance, only behind Health and Agriculture. The cooperation projects within this sector had similar features, given that the projects were heavily oriented towards overcoming poverty and fostering social inclusion. They focused primarily on groups at greater risk or vulnerability, such as early childhood, adolescents and older adults, indigenous population or people with some form of disability, among others. The experiences exchanged were built on a variety of measures, in particular, those involving rehabilitation of neighborhoods and promotion of public housing; initiatives linking sports and arts with coexistence and inclusion; or others focusing on pension policies and transfer programs, to name a few. Given the holistic approach taken, which combined health and inclusion, the projects in 2016 that contributed to strengthening public policies on disability (Table II.7) are particularly worthy of note.
- Also of special interest, within the Social d) context, were several projects that sought to strengthen Education and Water supply and sanitation, as well as 3 ad hoc initiatives (0.5% of the total) on Population and Reproductive health. Education and Water registered 36 and 24 projects, respectively, which together accounted for another 10% of the 680 initiatives implemented in 2016. A handful of projects contributed towards literacy; incorporation of digital and technological advances and, even, innovative approaches that transform the educational model and contribute to a better learning process (for instance, the use of chess and folk dances in early childhood education). Other projects focused more on strengthening education itself and the entities that oversee its quality, including sharing models to measure citizen's satisfaction with educational services. Some projects were geared towards water purification and sanitation, especially in rural areas; integrated management of water resources, development of national information systems and adoption of measures for enhanced oversight and regulation of the public utilities.

## SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND STRENGTHENING OF PUBLIC POLICIES ON DISABILITY

According to new data published by the World Health Organization (WHO), it is estimated that 1 billion people (15% of the world population) lived with some form of disability in 2010 (WHO, 2011). The lack of updated data, and the fact that this is only an estimate, underlines the difficulties that still exist today to reach a consensus on criteria and measurement methodology, despite the efforts made to improve their incorporation into the general population census.

Similarly, the most recent findings in Latin America and the Caribbean stem from the census carried out in 2010, which estimated that there were about 140 million people (12.4% of the population) living with, at least, one disability in 2010 (ECLAC, 2013). As the Graph shows, the gap between countries is enormous, ranging from 1% in Paraguay to 23.9% in Brazil. However, as already explained, these figures must be interpreted with caution.







Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from ECLAC (2013)

The term disability not only has significant medical connotations, but also political and social ones. Indeed, it is a major factor for exclusion. People with disabilities are more likely to face adverse economic situations, as well as lower levels of education, worse health conditions and difficulties in accessing employment. Furthermore, developing countries have a higher incidence of disability, meaning that the people with disabilities are more vulnerable.

In this vein, public policies on disabilities have evolved from the biomedical model, which focuses on medical and rehabilitative care, to the biosocial model, in which disabilities are conceptualized as a social problem that requires support to achieve integration into society through different actions in the physical, social and family environment to guarantee the right of disabled people to live in the community on an equal basis with others. Two events contributed towards changing this focus: the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted in 2006, and the 2030 Agenda, in 2015, which echoes these premises and

clearly states that disabilities cannot be a reason or criterion to deprive people of access to development and the exercise of human rights.

In this context, several Latin American governments have made, in recent years, specific progress in developing good practices to provide health and social protection to people with disabilities, some of which have led to exchange of experiences under Bilateral SSC. The following three cases in 2016 are worthy of note:

- Since 2011, Cuba shared with Uruguay its experience in developing a center for production, design and repair of upper and lower limb prostheses, orthoses and other orthopedic devices. As part of the Uruguayan National Disability Program, in 2016, the laboratory provided 517,000 services across the country, including delivery of prostheses, splints, foot rests, footwear, repairs, evaluations, cosmetics, controls and orthoses.<sup>1</sup>
- b Between 2014 and 2017, Chile supported Paraguay in

strengthening the management of its National Disability Secretariat (SENADIS), in line with international standards and a comprehensive approach. As a result of this effort, at the end of the project, management had been strengthened and Paraguay incorporated three new tools for its public policy on people with disabilities: a rehabilitation management and support model based on the Biopsychosocial Approach (EBSS); a technical assistance and support model; and indicators to measure the extent of effective inclusion.<sup>2</sup>

c Finally, the emerging partnership between the Ministry of Inclusion and Social Economy of Ecuador and the Ministry of Health of Cuba, which seeks to exchange their respective experiences in approaches and methodologies on intergenerational care and disability, is also worthy of note.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus, ECLAC (2013) and WHO (2011 and 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.minrex.gob.cu/es/mil-discapacitados-favorecidos-en-uruguay-con-ayuda-solidaria-de-cuba

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.agci.cl/index.php/sala-de-prensa/comunicados/1488-experto-chileno-desarrollara-asesoria-en-la-senadis-del-paraguay-en-el-marcodel-Project-ko-eti-pora

Meanwhile, 4 out of 10 projects sought e) to strengthen the Economic sector, which had the second highest relative share in 2016, in particular, Agriculture with 75 projects or 12.5% of the total. As has become customary, this cooperation sought to promote and support family farming; address issues on land use and irrigation optimization; as well as other aspects including health, reproduction and genetic management of various plant (soy, sugarcane, tropical fruits, cocoa, etc.) and animal species (cattle and sheep, among others). Furthermore, a burgeoning exchange of experiences that sought to incorporate a strong environmental component into agriculture was also identified. This would include projects promoting the use of biofertilizers, agroecological and organic production, as well as those that transferred Agriculturel systems to detect and face extreme events and, in this way, take further steps towards a management better adapted to climate change challenges. Still some distance away, but somehow

reinforcing what has already been achieved in the agriculture and livestock sectors, is the cooperation that sought to promote Industry: 27 projects, equal to 13.3% of the Economic sector and 4.5 % of all projects in 2016. Indeed, several of these projects were specifically geared towards strengthening agro-Industryl chains, and many others focused on processing industries, including timber, textiles, leather and footwear, meat, dairy and beverages. On several occasions, this approach was combined with a focus on the cottage industry, especially in rural areas or areas with indigenous majority, and sectors related to laboratories, safety, quality and certification policies. Once again, a fledgling activity to mainstream the environmental component was identified. This includes projects focusing on clean production centers, reuse of waste (banana and sawdust) and environmental improvements in sugar mills, to name a few.

The remaining Economic sector-related projects (100), which accounted for nearly 50% of the interventions in this area, were geared towards a broad range of issues. Indeed, they were associated with up to 12 different activity sectors, with projects ranging between 3 (Communication) and 16 (Tourism). Other sectors with a significant number of projects, around 10 each, were Fisheries (12), Science and Technology (12), Energy (11) and Trade and Enterprises (9). As for the contents, it is worth noting that Bilateral SSC was used in 2016 to try to link culture, environment and tourism, and enhance its capacity as a local development tool, especially in areas with the most vulnerable population. Also worthy of mention are the projects geared towards improving aquaculture techniques, phytosanitary treatment and sustainability of small-scale and recreational fishing; use of renewable sources and promotion of clean, alternative and sustainable energies; promotion of entrepreneurs and MSMEs; and support for institutions promoting a greater participation of national economies and local producers in foreign trade. Finally, a handful of projects, with a relative weight that only occasionally exceeded 1% of the total, focused on Construction, Extractive, Forestry, Banking and Finance, Transport and storage, and Communications.

Given the new break down used in the institutional capacities sector, worthy of note are the projects specifically geared towards Institutional strengthening and public policies (33 initiatives or one-third of those registered under this area, equal to 5.5% of all projects); Legal and Judicial Development and Human Rights (22 projects); and Peace, Public and National Security and Defense issues (almost another twenty). Less important was the cooperation geared towards improving Public Finance Management (11 projects), and Political Participation and support for Civil Society (6). Some of the issues repeatedly addressed in the partnerships referred to public sector management, job skills of public servants and quality of services provided; provision of tools for better planning; development of information systems to facilitate decision-making and accountability; and strengthening of national institutions responsible for International Cooperation, in general, and South-South and Triangular Cooperation, in

THE BULK OF THE BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS WERE GEARED TOWARDS THE SOCIAL DIMENSION, IN PARTICULAR, HEALTH, WITH MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED INITIATIVES, EQUIVALENT TO 17.2% OF ALL INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED IN 2016

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4 OUT OF 10 OF THE PROJECTS THAT SERVED AN ECONOMIC PURPOSE, SOUGHT TO STRENGTHEN THE SECTOR WITH THE SECOND HIGHEST RELATIVE SHARE IN 2016: AGRICULTURE, WITH 75 PROJECTS OR 12.5% OF THE TOTAL

> particular. Likewise, in 2016, the countries exchanged experiences to guarantee access to justice for all, in particular, the most vulnerable population; make progress towards eradicating child labor; improve the search and identification of missing persons; and develop a system for monitoring and evaluating the Human Rights commitments made by countries. Finally, some projects addressed post-conflict situations, focusing on issues related to economic revival of affected areas and social reintegration of affected population; as well as experiences on security, military training and fight against drugs.

- Additionally, in 2016, the countries in the region maintained in progress 42 projects (7.0% of the total) that sought to protect and preserve the Environment (8 out of 10) and provide better support for Management of the pre-, during and post-disaster phases (2 out of 10). More specifically, multiple experiences aimed to protect better the environment at three levels: soil (solid waste management and mitigation of degradation); water (support for monitoring quality and increased water efficiency); and air (reduction of pollution and use of alternative vehicles, among others). Regarding this last element, special mention deserve the projects geared towards fighting against climate change on multiple fronts: reducing greenhouse gas emissions; managing forests and forest resources to increase their GHG absorption capacity; and implementing simulations of different scenarios affected by this phenomenon to reduce their vulnerability. Meanwhile, the projects that strengthened disaster management combined various circumstances and phases of the cycle, for instance, projects focused on developing an Early Warning System; support for search and rescue in collapsed structures; and management of fire-fighting resources and techniques, among others.
- Three very different subjects were clustered under Other Multisectoral. Of these, Culture had significant relative importance, accounting for three out of four of the 40 projects, followed by Gender (9) and Other development models (1). In the case of Culturel projects, especially worthy of note were those that sought to strengthen the countries' capacities to heighten the value of popular and indigenous culture, as well as promote their use as a key driver for social inclusion and development (for instance, youth choirs and orchestras for building a culture of peace). Other experiences shared included training in Culturel management; conservation and restoration of heritage (archeology, photography, documents, bibliography and historic textiles); support for institutions specializing in arts; curbing illicit trafficking in Culturel goods; and progress in measuring culture, especially from an economic perspective. The remaining 10 projects focused on economic empowerment of women; implementation of equality policies; and establishing measures to prevent, protect and care for girls and women victims of violence and trafficking.

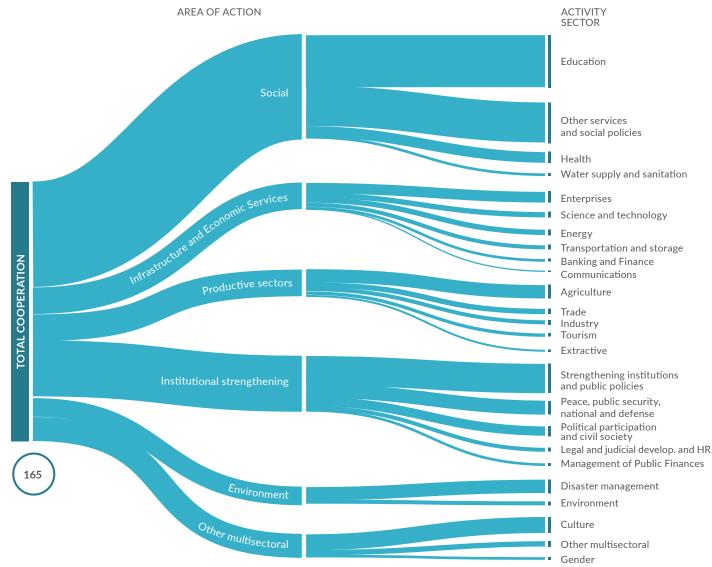
Finally, Diagram II.4 completes the analysis of capacities strengthened through Bilateral SSC, but through actions. The 165 actions implemented in the region in 2016 appear in the diagram as origin (left flow) and the relevant activity sectors and areas of action appear as destination (central and right flows). It can be concluded that:

 a) The bulk of the actions (4 out of 10) focused on the Social dimension. Next, in order of relative importance, were the initiatives that supported Institutional Strengthening (34, equal to 23.4% of all actions in 2016). Meanwhile, 20% of the actions were geared towards different economic purposes: half of these (15) sought to strengthen different productive sectors; and the other half (another 15) contributed to creating infrastructures and services needed for

#### → DIAGRAM II.4

DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC ACTION FLOWS, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016 Units proper functioning of national economies. The last 15% of the actions registered in 2016 were distributed between protection of the Environment (only 9 actions) and Other areas of action (13 in 2016).

The issues addressed were highly influenced b) by the way in which actions tend to be instrumentalized: courses, workshops and training sessions, technical assistance, scholarships, internships and occasional exchanges of experiences, among others. Hence, in sectoral terms, worthy of note were the actions geared towards Education (30, equal to one fifth of the total), Other social services and policies (22) and Strengthening of public institutions and policies (17, another 11.7%). Less frequent (between 8 and 9 actions in each case) were those that contributed to strengthening Agriculture, Culture and Peace-promoting activities, public and national security and defense.



c) There have also been numerous academic exchanges between Latin American public universities; consultancy services for these institutions; and various scholarship programs; as well as support for integrating technology into schools. The countries also exchanged specific actions to explain to their partners how to implement social programs, especially those related to children's development, childcare, financial inclusion or allocation and provision of pensions and unconditional transfers, among others. At a more institutional level, there were courses and internships to provide training on fighting against corruption, identifying fraudulent passports or on demining monitoring techniques; as well as for modernizing public management, strengthening cooperation agencies and institutions, and in the case of South-South Cooperation, exchanges on its monitoring and valorization.

## COUNTRY PROFILE

The profile of the capacities strengthened in the region through Bilateral SSC in 2016 cannot be understood without the contribution of each country involved. Indeed, the regional profile is defined by two types of contributions that, although different, are complementary: 1) the strengths transferred by the countries that acted primarily as providers; and 2) like the reverse side to the coin, the type of capacities that were strengthened in the recipient countries.

Therefore, in keeping with the above, the main activity sectors and areas of action in which each Ibero-American country focused its Bilateral SSC in 2016, as provider and recipient, are detailed below. The analysis is complemented with Graphs II.5, II.6., II.7 and II.8, which illustrate the distribution, by areas of action and sectors, of the projects implemented by the two top providers and recipients in 2016, namely, Mexico, Argentina, on the one hand, and El Salvador and Mexico, on the other. Other supporting visuals can be found at the end of the Report.<sup>11</sup>

#### II.4.2.1. Provider

In terms of the capacity profile of the countries that participated as providers in the cooperation, and based on the information available, it can be argued that:

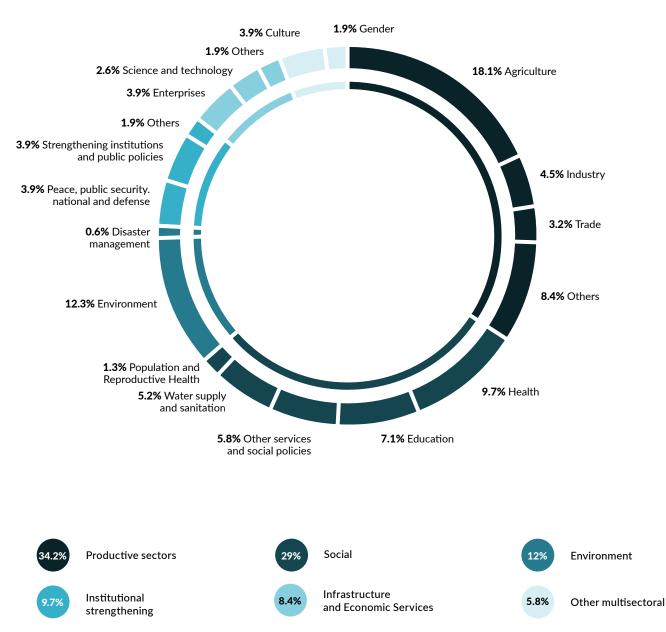
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> As already stated earlier in this chapter, a report summarizing the main data on South-South Cooperation participated by each lbero-American country in 2016 is included at the end of this Report. It includes, for each country, the information on their sector profile as provider and recipient. However, the data provided does not provide a break down by modality, but instead shows the aggregated results of Bilateral, Triangular and Regional cooperation, as already explained in the methodological note of these summaries. Consequently, the data shown below does not fully match those provided at the end of the Report. Nonetheless, the greater relative weight of Bilateral Cooperation versus other SSC modalities means that, regarding this chapter, these graphs can be referenced as an example.

 a) 42.6% of projects implemented by Mexico, the top provider of Bilateral SSC in 2016 (Graph II.5), were aimed at strengthening capacities in the Economic area. The bulk of these (8 out of 10) focused on supporting the productive sectors, in particular, Agriculture (30 projects) in which Mexico concentrated most (about 20%) of its 2016 cooperation activities. Meanwhile, 29.0% of the 155 projects served a Social purpose. The different sectors clustered under this area varied in relative importance, ranging between 5% (Water and Other social services and policies), 7.5% (Education) and 10% (Health). The only exception was Population and reproductive health (1.3%). Meanwhile, about 20 projects (12.3%) were geared towards the conservation and protection of the Environment. The cooperation profile was complemented with projects focusing on Strengthening of institutions and public policies (9.7%) and the Other areas of action (5.8%).

## → GRAPH II.5

#### CAPACITY PROFILE OF MEXICO AS PROVIDER, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREAS OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)

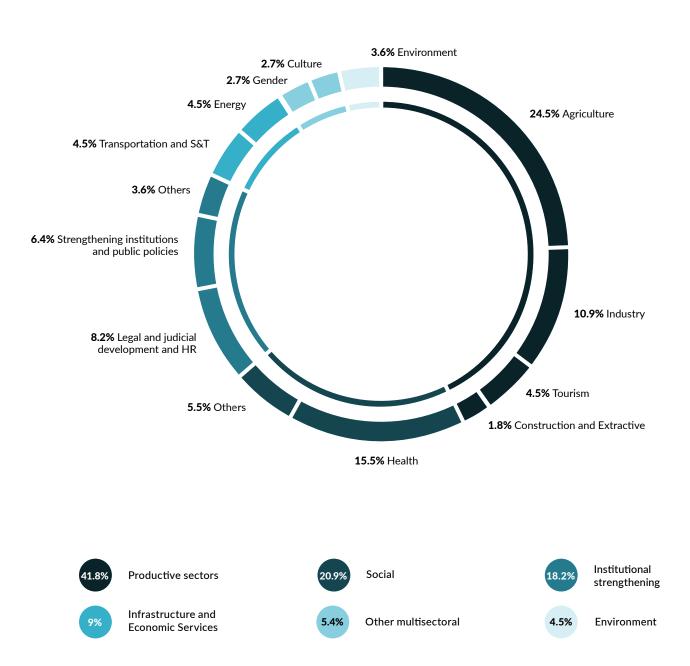


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As for the specific contents of these 155 projects, worthy of note are Mexico's strengths in the Agriculturel sector, in particular, phytosanitary techniques, genetic management and epidemiological surveillance, as well as support for agro-ecological production and bio-fertilizers. Furthermore, Mexico exchanged experiences in the environmental field, focusing on waste management and treatment, air quality monitoring, and fight against climate change, especially through projects that combined reduction and control of CO2 emission and enhanced absorption capacity through forest management. Finally, Mexico also participated in health projects specifically aimed at better prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diabetes, as well as generation of Health sector-related statistics and census.

#### CAPACITY PROFILE OF ARGENTINA AS PROVIDER, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



b) In the case of Argentina (Graph II.6), the relative importance of projects with an economic focus was even higher than for Mexico: 50.9% of the 110 projects. Notable among these were those targeting the productive sectors (8 out of 10), mostly Agriculture and Industry, with two activities that accounted for 24.5% and 10.9%, respectively, of the country's cooperation. The other 50% was distributed among Social (21%); Strengthening of institutions and public policies (18.2%); and Other areas of action and the Environment (10%). The main target sectors were Health (15.5% of the 110 projects) and Human Rights (8.2%).

Specifically, Argentina shared its acknowledged strengths in Agriculture and Livestock, through multiple projects that focused on promoting family farming, animal and plant health management, traceability and transfer of simulation models of extreme events to enable the Agriculturel sector to adapt better to the effects of climate change. In relation to the above, there were also exchanges to strengthen processing and production chains, especially in the meat and dairy industries, among others. Argentina also supported the development of capacities in Health (nutrition, drug management, pharmacopoeias and transplantations) and shared its proven experience in Human Rights, especially through projects on forensic anthropology (search and identification of victims of forcible disappearance, genetic profile banks and strengthening of institutions specializing in Truth, Justice and Reparation, as well as in International Jurisprudence).

Meanwhile, 4 out of 10 of the nearly c) one hundred projects promoted by Chile as provider were geared towards strengthening capacities in the Economic area. Indeed, 75% of the projects sought to strengthen the Productive Sectors, in particular, Agriculture and Tourism. Furthermore, the initiatives targeting the Social area also figured prominently (34% of the 97 projects). Indeed, Chile concentrated the highest number of projects (nearly a quarter of the total) in Other social services and policies. The remaining contributions by this country focused on Strengthening of institutions and public policies (15.5%); the Environment (practically another 8%); as well as some experiences in Culture and Gender (one project, in each case).

More specifically, many of Chile's experiences were related to implementing integrated and cross-sectoral policies for promoting development of early childhood and other vulnerable groups (elderly, people with disabilities, migrants and indigenous people, among others). It also participated in exchanges of programs and strategies aimed at overcoming poverty, including those focusing on activities at a neighborhood level, including housing rehabilitation and improvement policies and using sports as a tool for inclusion. Chile also targeted cooperation in phytosanitary management, in particular, of certain crops such as grape and fruit trees; promotion of binational tourism, especially in border areas; and fight against climate change and greater environmental sustainability in metropolitan regions, through more efficient water use and use of bicycles as alternative transportation.

As for the fourth top provider in 2016, d) half of Brazil's 76 projects had a Social purpose. This was due to the higher relative weight of the first and third most important sectors in Bilateral SSC in this country in 2016: Health (27.6% of the total) and Water supply and purification (13.2%). Another 30% of Brazil's cooperation exchanges were accounted for by two sectors: Productive and creating Infrastructure and economic services. More than half of these exchanges targeted transfer of capacities in the Agriculturel sector, the second most important activity in 2016, (13 projects, equal to 17.1% of the total) and second only to Health. The last 20% was distributed between Strengthening of institutions and public policies (13.2%) and protection of the Environment (7.9%).

Based on this profile, the capacities effectively transferred by Brazil were concentrated on child nutrition (promotion of school gardens and canteens; and the expansion across the region of its proven experience in building Human Milk Banks), and, occasionally, management of medicines, pharmacopoeias and blood and blood products donation systems. Brazil also exchanged numerous projects aimed at integral management of water resources, including deployment of information systems on various aspects related to water management and relevant decision-making processes. Finally, it is important to highlight the transfer of experiences on fertilizers and pest management, especially of tropical crops.

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- In 2016, Colombia concentrated more e) than a third (35.3%) of its 68 Bilateral SSC projects on improving the Social area, especially through 15 projects that transferred experiences in Other social services and policies. Another 35.3% of the projects were geared towards Strengthening institutions and public policies and Culture; the second most important sector (12 projects) in 2016 for this Andean country. The rest of the exchanges were distributed, with relative shares of about 10% in each case, between different sectors: Productive (in particular, Agriculture and Industry), Infrastructures and economic services and the Environment. Worthy of note were those addressing inclusion and overcoming poverty, and the use of sports and arts to achieve this goal; projects that sought to provide training for better management of archaeological and historical heritage, in general, and of museums, in particular; and others that focused on economic measurement and valorization of culture.
- As has become customary, Cuba, with f) 66 projects, has a prominently Social profile. Indeed, 90% of the initiatives were distributed among Health (57.6%), Education (16.0%) and Other social services and policies (nearly 10%). The profile was complemented with the transfer of experiences in Culture (4 projects, equal to 6.1% of the projects in 2016), and an occasional exchange in Industry and Strengthening of institutions and public policies. For instance, worthy of mention is its renowned and award-winning literacy program (Yo Sí Puedo); "Operación Milagro" that guarantees low-income population's access to ophthalmology operations; scholarship programs for physician and education and health practitioners; its commitment to promoting sports due to its positive impact on well-being and inclusion; and, yet again in Health, the transfer of capacities in specific treatments, such as diabetes, cancer, pain and some forms of disability, through the design and production of orthopedic devices.

- Meanwhile, 70.6% of the 34 projects g) in which Uruguay participated in 2016 as a provider were distributed more or less equally between Social (38.2%) and Economic (32.4%). In sectoral terms, these shares (%) are explained by the relative importance of Health, Other social services and policies and Agriculture, in particular, the transfer of capacities on tobacco control, treatment of diabetes, child protection policies and several other various topics linked, primarily, to livestock farming. Furthermore, Uruguay engaged in several projects geared towards the protection of the Environment, which stood out for the way in which they articulated sustainability, environmental services and fight against global warming of the planet.
- h) Finally, worthy of mentioning are two groups of countries that, having traditionally acted as recipients, have now begun to transfer part of their capabilities, proving that every country can learn and teach through SSC. These countries are playing an increasingly prominent role as providers. One group consists of Peru, Ecuador and Costa Rica (between 16 and 19 Bilateral SSC projects in 2016), and the other emerging group comprises the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador (2 projects each), together with Paraguay and Bolivia, which provided 5 and 8 projects, respectively.

More specifically, the projects participated by Peru, Ecuador and Costa Rica were highly diversified, focusing on at least ten different activity sectors. Nonetheless, it was possible to identify specific profiles and strengths. Economics was the most important sector for Peru for the way in which micro-, small- and medium artisan production was mainstreamed into Industry, Extractives or Agriculture. In Ecuador, the projects with greater relative importance were those geared towards strengthening public institutions and policies, especially through the exchange of experiences in tax matters, e-governance and public procurement. As for Costa Rica, the bulk of its cooperation was concentrated

in its acknowledged capabilities in the area of Environment (solid waste management and biodiversity) and its pairing with tourism activities. Indeed, Culture and its incorporation into tourism, and the Extractive industries played a prominent role in Bolivia's emerging capacity to transfer Bilateral SSC. Special mention should also be made of Paraguay, which started acting as a provider thanks to its successful SIMORE Program, a software that facilitates follow-up, monitoring and assessment of international and regional recommendations on Human Rights. Box II.8 describes in detail these exchanges.

### BOX II.8

# PARAGUAY AS A PROVIDER OF BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: SIMORE PROJECT

In 1948, the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly of the United Nations enshrined their recognition, placing them prominently in the international political agenda. The adoption and promotion of this commitment gradually gave rise to the emergence and articulation of a number of international, national and regional instruments that provided legal and political safeguards to protect Human Rights.

The commitments originating from these instruments are not only of a formal character, but also require the recognition of the rights and efforts for their effective protection and guarantee. In this regard, the States, as guarantors, must be held accountable for their effective enforcement. One way to do so is to report the policies and measures developed and implemented for this purpose for consideration by the bodies established under these treaties, which have the responsibility to respond through general comments and specific recommendation

Against this background, and given the need for adequate national instruments to report, formulate and evaluate public policies on Human Rights, Paraguay developed in 2014 its Recommendations Monitoring System, known as SIMORE, by its acronym in Spanish. SIMORE is a computer tool that systematizes the international human rights recommendations made to Paraguay by different special bodies and procedures of the United Nations, as well as those originating from the American Convention on Human Rights, adopted within the framework of the Organization of American States (OAS), which, since 1969 to date, is considered the most important legal instrument for the region. Its launch and implementation allows the country to have up-to-date information on the actions carried out by State institutions, in the Human Rights context, which, in turn, facilitates its monitoring, follow-up and evaluation, and ensures accountability to these supranational bodies.

Its creation and development was the result of an inter-institutional cooperative effort between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches, Public Prosecutor's Office, Public Ombudsman's Office and Ministry of Public Defense, with the technical assistance and support of the Human Rights Adviser to Paraguay of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the UN Ad Hoc Fund for Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Furthermore, the system has evolved to accommodate the new requirements of the international agenda, giving rise to SIMORE Plus, an expanded version of the original program that links the follow-up of international human rights recommendations to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its targets, approved in 2015, thus taking an innovative leap, in line with the priorities of the international community.

The success of this initiative has, in turn, allowed Paraguay, a traditional recipient of cooperation, to act as a provider of Bilateral SSC, sharing and transferring its experience on followup and monitoring of human rights.1 Indeed, in 2016, Paraguay participated in four projects to provide technical assistance to the Dominican Republic, Chile, Honduras and Uruguay to install and launch their own online systems to track compliance with international Human Rights recommendations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It provided training for their staff and strengthened their institutional capacities in terms of monitoring and implementation of these commitments.

Also worthy of note is Chile's case, where the system was primarily aimed at the rights of children and adolescents2 . In the case of Uruguay, a country that integrated this experience into a broader inter-agency project which sought the "Strengthening of the National Cooperation System from a human rights perspective", giving priority to alignment with the 2030 Agenda.3

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus; OHCHR (2012) and the digital page http://www.mre.gov.py/simoreplus.

SEGIB

#### II.4.2.2. Recipient

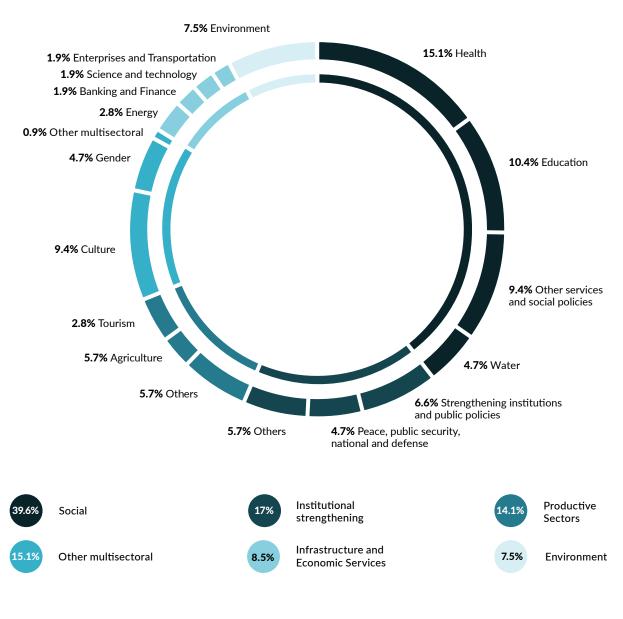
As already stated, the strengths transferred by the countries through Bilateral SSC when acting as providers have a different reading when seen through the recipients perspective, as it focuses on the capabilities strengthened in their countries. To that end, the projects in which each country participated as a recipient are distributed again by area of action and activity sector. The analysis indicates that:

As shown in Graph II.7, El Salvador, the main a) recipient of Bilateral SSC in 2016, geared the bulk of its 106 projects (39.6%) towards strengthening its capacities in the Social area. This was influenced by its commitment to close gaps in Health (with the most projects, 16), Education (11), Other social services and policies (10) and, to a lesser extent, Water (5). Meanwhile, another 20% of the projects received focused on Economics. The more than 20 exchanges geared towards this purpose had, however, different objectives, although Agriculture stood out with six (6). The other exchanges focused on Strengthening institutions and public policies (17.0% of the 106 projects in 2016), the Environment (7.5%) and Other multisectoral (15.1%). Additionally, in the latter case, the percentage shown can be broken down into Culture (10 projects) and exchanges to promote gender equality (5).

This suggests that El Salvador had a remarkably diverse cooperation profile that revolved around a broad range of issues. Nonetheless, there are recurring concerns and problems that crosscut across different activity sectors. One example of this is how Education, Other social services and policies and Culture address social inclusion of children and youth. To that end, projects that focused on certain needs were identified. The area of Education focused on projects to make the education model more flexible; introduce curricular innovations with a positive impact on learning (dance and chess in kindergartens) and improve the link between school-based training and job skills; in Social policies, extend comprehensive early childhood development programs, and use sports and art education as a tool to promote coexistence and inclusion; and, in Culture, promote children's theater, youth orchestras and choirs in a bid to reconcile the Culturel and social spheres. Likewise, in 2016, El Salvador also strengthened capacities in different areas through Bilateral SSC, including nutrition (expansion of Human Milk Banks and creation of a National Food Reference Laboratory); health surveillance and support for their national blood and blood product system and transplantations; education and financial inclusion; training for Culturel managers; solid waste management; improvement of air quality; and applying an interinstitutional approach to public policies, enabling advances in prevention and support for women victims of violence.

### DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS PARTICIPATED BY EL SALVADOR AS RECIPIENT, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREAS OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



#### Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

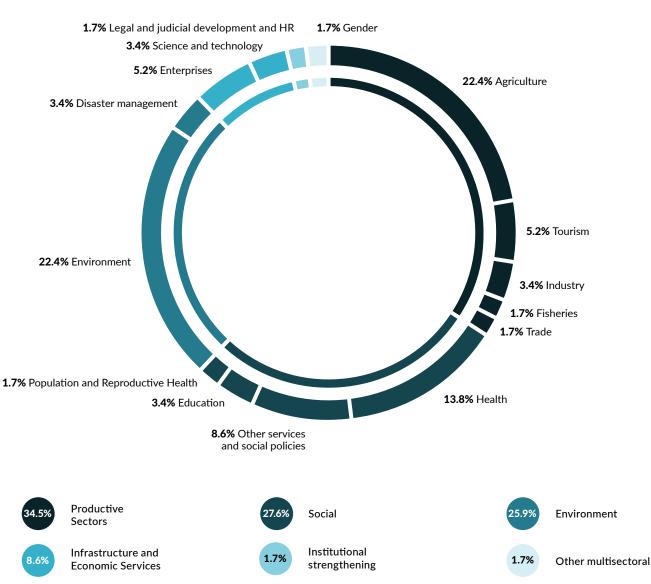
b) Graph II.8 illustrates the capacities strengthened in Mexico in 2016, as recipient of Bilateral SSC projects. In this regard, the bulk (43.1%) of the 58 initiatives registered enabled Mexico to strengthen its Economic and, more importantly, Productive capacities (more than one third of the 58 projects). Moreover, more than half (53.4%) of the Bilateral SSC received by Mexico was distributed, in similar proportions, between the Social and Environment areas (16 and 15 projects, respectively). Finally, the exchanges geared towards Strengthening of public institutions and policies and Gender were ad hoc (2 projects).

Mexico's profile was characterized by the importance of the Agriculturel and environmental sectors (13 projects each, which jointly accounted for about 45% of the 58 initiatives), Health (8) and Other social services and policies (5). Some of the capacities strengthened<sup>12</sup> were training in biotechnology

<sup>12</sup> When approaching Mexico's profile as a recipient, account should be taken that this country has participated in more bidirectional projects than any other country. That is, projects in which each country acts both as provider and recipient, and each project is counted twice (once for each role) in the overall total. Consequently, Mexico's profile as a recipient partially matches its profile as provider. For instance, out of the 13 projects implemented in the Agriculturel and environmental sectors as recipient, 10 were bidirectional, as it acted as both provider and recipient.

### GRAPH II.8 DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS PARTICIPATED BY MEXICO AS RECIPIENT, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREAS OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

applied to agriculture and livestock farming; experiences in the fight against and adaptation to climate change (ecosystem vulnerability simulation models and possible responses, as well as biodiversity studies); and training for medical professionals and sharing experiences on the treatment of diabetes and research in immunology, to name a few.

c) In the case of Colombia, one third of the 56 projects in which it participated as recipient focused on the Social sphere. In this regard, the exchanges in Other social services and policies (9) and Health (7) had a decisive impact. Nearly 30% of the projects contributed to strengthening Colombian public institutions and policies, in particular, aspects related to legality, justice, Human Rights, Peace and public and national security. Meanwhile, slightly less than a quarter of the exchanges focused on economic and productive issues, although, Agriculturel activity was the area that, yet again, concentrated a greater number of projects (8 or 14.3 % of the total). The profile was completed with the exchanges in Culture and, occasionally, the Environment.

The projects specifically targeted measures for greater control of tobacco consumption; implementation of performance evaluation indicators for the health system; strengthening of livestock farming and management of Agriculturel biofertilizers, as well as the link between musical skills and popular culture. A notable number of exchanges were geared towards post-conflict situations and response to the challenges thereof. Worthy of note are those that focused on development of social policies for integrated development of children and youth victims of conflict, as well as employability of the latter; strengthening of forensic anthropology resources (search and identification of people victims of forcible disappearance and genetic profile banks); and conceptualization and implementation of memory museums and Human Rights archives.

- Meanwhile, more than half of the 49 d) Bilateral SSC projects in which Argentina participated as a recipient in 2016 sought to strengthen economic capacities, primarily in Productive activities (80% of these experiences). Additionally, 3 out of 10 of all projects were aimed at strengthening the Social area; 14.3% were geared towards institutions and public policies; and the last 4%, ad hoc projects in Environment and Culture sectors. It should be added that the most strengthened sectors were Agriculture and Livestock (training for human resources in sectoral techniques); Industry (transfer of capacities related to micro-encapsulation for better conservation of processed foods and their properties); and Tourism (development of plans and strategies, especially on border and binational issues).
- e) Meanwhile, in 2016, Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia, participated as recipients in a similar number of Bilateral SSC projects (between 40 and 42), focusing on their particular needs. In this regard, 70% of the cooperation received by Paraguay sought to strengthen the Social area (45% of total exchanges) and government institutions and policies (25%). Virtually 3 out of 4 of the experiences exchanged by Uruguay were geared towards support for their national capacities in the Social (41.5%) and Economic (31.7%) areas; while two thirds of the cooperation received by Bolivia focused, in identical proportions, on improving the Social

and Productive areas. In the case of Paraguay, worthy of special mention are the projects aimed at strengthening their institutions and public policies (civil servant training), in particular, those focusing on management of cooperation, and others developed in the Social area (strategies for overcoming poverty and promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities). Meanwhile, Uruguay geared its Bilateral SSC towards improving its already proven capacities in Health (diabetes, transplantations, production of prostheses and vital statistics) and Agriculture (safety techniques), often through bi-directional exchanges of experiences. Finally, Bolivia focused its projects on a wide variety of topics, including Health and development of techniques to improve production of certain crops such as potatoes, corn, fruits, vegetables and coffee.

The sectoral profiles of Cuba, Chile and f) Honduras, which respectively received 34, 35 and 37 Bilateral SSC projects in 2016, differed somewhat. Cuba complemented its traditional transfer of capabilities in the Social area with projects received that were clearly oriented towards the Economic area (70% of the projects, many of which focused on Agriculture and Industry). In the case of Chile, also with numerous bidirectional projects, reception and provision were combined to exchange experiences that reinforced their specialization in social policies (and childhood), productive activities and the environment (in particular, the virtuous cycle between waste management, sustainability and climate change). On the other hand, the experiences in Social (40%), Productive (35%) and Environment (close to 10%) areas were of special importance for Honduras. In the latter case, worth highlighting is the consistency of the projects received that sought to strengthen its forestry policy. Box II.9 summarizes the above.

# STRENGTHENING FORESTRY POLICY THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: HONDURAS

Forests play a critical role in human well-being, contributing to the fight against rural poverty, achieving food security and providing livelihoods for the population. Along with the production of timber, forests also produce a wide range of non-timber forest products such as food, fodder and wildlife, among others. They are also the main sink for the gases that produce climate change.

Over the last decades, different factors have compounded the progressive loss of forest area, including growing human populations and intensification of demand for food and land. According to the FAO (2016), between 1990 and 2015, the world's forest area decreased from 31.6% to 30.6 %. The largest loss took place in the tropics, especially in South America and Africa. Despite this, even today, Latin America and the Caribbean account for 57% of the world's forests.<sup>1</sup>

Hence, deforestation has become the main cause of climate change, second only to burning of fossil fuels, and it accounts for almost 20% of all greenhouse gas emissions, an input even higher than the entire global transport sector.<sup>2</sup>

Although the rate of loss of forests has slowed down in recent years, Latin America is one of the regions where deforestation continues. Meanwhile, there has been a gradual awareness of the opportunities to be gained from the protection and safeguard of forests for green growth, biodiversity conservation and mitigation of the effects of climate change. Indeed, the number of online initiatives in sustainable forest management have surged under the Objectives of the 2030 Agenda. Honduras has 5.3 million hectares of forest lands, which cover almost half of the country's total area. Many wooded lands have been degraded due to poor logging practices and changes in land use for agriculture and extensive livestock farming. Firewood consumption (about 5.5 million cubic meters per year) has added even more pressure.

In this regard, Honduras has experienced, in recent times, climate change-related extreme events, with the longest drought and highest temperatures on record and unprecedented pest threats. In the pursuit of a balance between productive development and sustainability, Honduras has sought to strengthen its forestry policy, mainly through the development of the Forestry Law of 2007 and the creation of the National Institute for the Conservation and Development of Forests, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF, in its Spanish acronym), which has the competence in this area. Honduras has also been strengthened through **Bilateral SSC exchanges with countries** such as Mexico and Chile. Specifically:

The cooperation with Mexico а falls within the context of the consequences of the worst pest infestation suffered by Honduras in the last five decades. This infestation, which took place between 2013 and 2016, was caused by the pine bark beetle, one of the most destructive bark beetles in the world, which affected more than 600 hectares. and resulted in a declaration of Forest Emergency and Risk Zone. Faced with this situation, the country decided to allocate resources to prevent and fight

forest fires, control the infestation and restore the forest. It also started its collaboration with Mexico, which, between 2015 and 2018, sought to strengthen technical and institutional capacities for controlling the pest and applying phytosanitary treatment through a forestry cooperation agreement.<sup>3</sup>

h The collaboration with Chile took place between 2015 and 2016, when Honduras requested Chile's support for sustainable forest production. More specifically, the aggregation of small- and medium-sized forest producers in associations enabled the implementation of a sustainable, high-performance forest plantation program to restore degraded forest land and raise public and private awareness towards the sustainability of the forest business.3

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus, FAO (2016) and CFI (2010 and 2018).

 ${}^{1}\,https://www.caf.com/es/conocimiento/blog/2017/03/conservar-los-bosques-para-asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/asegurar-la-sostenibilidad-ambiental-y-economica/a$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.cooperacionsursur.org/es/noticias-de-cooperacion-sur-sur/1356-honduras-y-mexico-acuerdan-cooperacion-en-materia-forestal-turisticaigualdad-de-genero-y-derechos-de-autor.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.fao.org/americas/noticias/ver/es/c/1144235/

- Meanwhile, the sectoral diversification g) of Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Peru and Ecuador tended to be high, with the number of projects ranging between 25 and 30. Although the cooperation focused on about fifteen different activities, most of the exchanges were ad hoc (1 or 2 projects) and within the same sector. Each country focused on specific areas. The Dominican Republic focused on trade integration; Costa Rica's 9 projects were equally distributed between support for Science and Technology, Social Policies and Health; Peru geared its 8 projects towards strengthening Legal and Judicial Development and Human Rights, as well as Social Policies; and, Ecuador's 10 projects (equal to one third of the total) strengthened Agriculture (4) and Health (6) related activities.
- Finally, it is difficult to perform a sectoral h) analysis owing to the relatively low number of projects (between 9 and 19) in which Venezuela and Brazil participated as recipients in the South of the continent, as well as Panama, Nicaragua and Guatemala in the Central American subregion. Nonetheless, all projects tended to concentrate on topics that sought to strengthen capacities. Health was a relevant sector for all countries except Brazil, which concentrated the capacityrelated projects received on Agriculture, in particular, genetic and phytosanitary management. Additionally, Venezuela's profile was complemented with projects focusing on Social Policies and Culture; Nicaragua on improvements in water supply and sanitation; and Guatemala on Education and Social Policy.

### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN 2016: ITS POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO SDGS II.5

More than 150 world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015, when the Sustainable Development Summit was held at the United Nations headquarters. Since then, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with their 169 targets, have shaped the global agenda of all stakeholders, from different backgrounds, that form part of and participate in the International Development Cooperation System. The 2030 Agenda is a fundamental break from the past owing to the participatory nature of its construction process, its high degree of legitimacy, the way it integrates a multidimensional approach to development and the way it engages all countries (developed and developing). Likewise, the 2030 Agenda has additional relevance for the purposes of this Report, as it recognizes, for the first time, the role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as a means for implementing the SDGs.

In this new context, and in keeping with the above, the 2016 edition of the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America included the first exercise that sought to determine the extent to which the Bilateral SSC projects implemented by the countries could be aligned with the 17 SDGs. However, the exercise revealed a "weakness", as it could only identify the impact that the exchange had had on a single SDG, thereby disregarding its crosscutting and/or multisectoral contributions. In order to identify and give these contributions more visibility, the 2017 edition continued with this exercise, even going a step further, by making a distinction between the main SDG that benefitted from the cooperation and a "secondary" one that could also have benefitted.

In this 2018 edition, the exercise is repeated again, analyzing the countries in the region that maintained the 680 Bilateral SSC projects in progress in 2016 to determine their possible alignment with a "main" SDG and a "secondary" SDG. The new feature in this edition is attempt to replace, on a preliminary basis, the existing methodology in the Latin American space with another built collectively to enable the systematization of this potential alignment and/or contribution of SSC projects to the SDGs. As Box II.10 suggests, the countries, along with SEGIB and the PIFCSS, are working on this matter, and have already validated some of the elements involved.

### SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND SDGS: DEFINING A METHODOLOGY FROM IBERO-AMERICA

Within the framework of the Intergovernmental Councils of the Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS), the countries in the region have confirmed, on several occasions, (Panama City, 2016, Madrid and La Antigua, July and December 2017) their desire to advance further in collectively developing a methodology to identify the possible contributions and/or alignments of South-South Cooperation with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS OF A METHODOLOGY LINKING SSC AND SDGS

PHASE I: Methodological advances (SEGIB)



Socialization and validation with Working Group PHASE III: Socialization, validation and testing with all countries

WORK DOCUMENT

#### Source: SEGIB

To that end, and bearing in mind that the development of a methodology based on collective exercises and consensus is a hallmark of the South-South Cooperation work being done in this space, a process is under way that is expected to be completed in early 2019. As the first Figure shows, this process involves several phases and actors:

- a During the first phase, SEGIB made progress in preparing a methodological proposal that used as benchmarks the exercises carried out in the 2016 and 2017 editions of this Report.
- In a second phase, SEGIB shared and discussed this proposal with the countries that, since the beginning of 2017, form the Working Group created to explore the links between SSC and SDGs. These countries are Argentina, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, and the Technical Unit of the PIFCSS.
- C The third phase began in September 2018 with a workshop in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), in which the 21 Ibero-American countries members of the PIFCSS participated. The workshop "South-South

Cooperation's Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): defining a methodology from Ibero-America" paved the way for socializing and discussing the methodological proposal submitted by SEGIB and the Working Group, validating its logic and testing its results. The workshop kicked off a phase that should result in a document that collects and systematizes the methodology finally agreed by all parties, prior to its submission and discussion in other regional and international fora explore the link between SSC and the SDGs.

# BASIS FOR THE METHODOLOGICAL PROPOSAL LINKING SSC AND SDGS FROM AN IBERO-AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE



Source: SEGIB

In a nutshell, the methodology currently under discussion in the countries, identifies the potential contribution of SSC projects championed by countries in the region to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), leveraging an "intermediate" link: the one between the content of the 30 activity sectors into which SSC projects are classified in the Ibero-American space, and the 169 targets associated with the 17 Development Goals (refer to Figure). The outcome enables the systematization of SSC's contributions to the SDGs. Moreover, the final methodology is easily applicable to the Ibero-American Integrated Data System on SSC and Triangular Cooperation (SIDICSS), a step that, in the medium term, will multiply the region's power of analytics on Ibero-American SSC's alignment with the 2030 Agenda.

Source: SEGIB

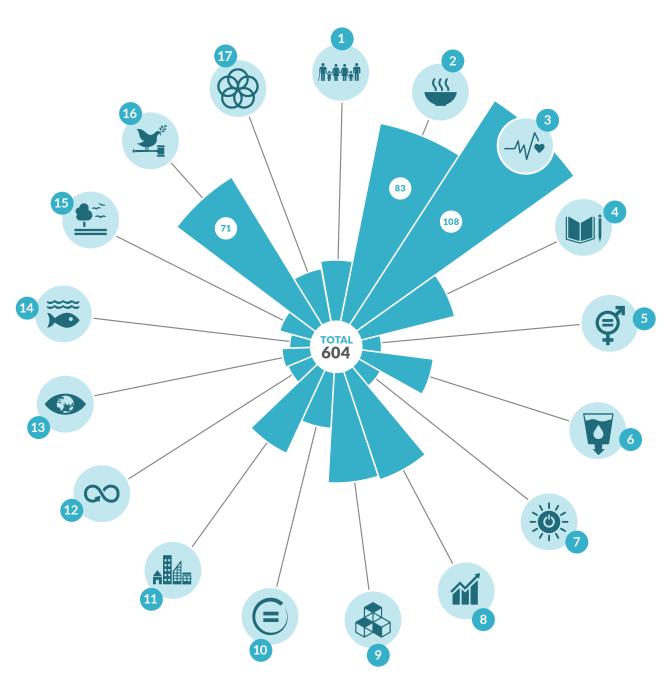
Indeed, Graph II.9 shows the distribution of the 680 projects in progress in the region in 2016 according to their potential alignment with a "main" SDG.<sup>14</sup> This radar graph, which is very similar to a pie chart, distributes the variables analyzed (in this case, the SDGs) by sectors with equivalent angles. It also arranges the variables

clockwise in ascending order, placing the first SDG at twelve o'clock. The number of SSC projects aligned with each SDG is illustrated by the area contained within each sector: the greater the number of projects covered, the further away the edge of the area is from the center of the circle.

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### DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS, BY THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A MAIN SDG. 2016

Units



<sup>14</sup> In fact, the analysis does not apply to the 680 projects counted in 2016, but only to 604. That is because the 76 projects categorized as "bidirectional" must be subtracted from the 680 projects, which, consequently, are counted twice when calculating the total (once for each role played), but only once when used in the sectoral analysis or for the SDGs.

SEGIB

Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018

It follows that:

- Overall, about one fifth of all projects (more than 100, or 18%) could be contributing to SDG 3 on "Good Health and Well-being". Another 154 (25%) of the projects are aligned with SDG 2 ("Hunger Zero") and 16 ("Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions"). This 45% of Bilateral SSC projects implemented in 2016 were complemented by another 200 projects (one-third of the total), with shares between 5% and 8%, which could be aligned with SDG 8 ("Decent Work and Economic Growth") and SDG 9 ("Industry, Innovation and Infrastructures"), as well as SDG 4 ("Quality Education"), SDG 11 ("Sustainable Cities and Communities") and SDG 6 ("Clean Water and Sanitation"). The last 23%, composed of almost 140 initiatives with different purposes, could be aligned with the other 10 Development Goals. Distinctions can be made between the 23-26 projects that, in each case, could contribute to SDG 1 ("No Poverty"), SDG 10 ("Reduced Inequalities") and SDG 17 ("Partnerships for the Goals"); 10-15 exchanges could contribute, respectively, to SDGs 15 and 13 ("Life on Land" and "Climate Action"), SDGs 7 and 12 ("Affordable and Clean Energy" and "Responsible Production and Consumption") and SDGs 5 and 14, respectively focused on "Gender Equality" and sustainability of "Life below Water".
- Many different initiatives potentially b) contributed to SDG 3, which focuses on "ensuring a healthy life and promoting well-being", in a manner consistent with the type of capabilities that were strengthened through Bilateral SSC projects. Included in the 100 plus projects identified are Human Milk Banks or school gardens, which improved child nutrition and reduced child mortality rates, as well as those that focused on the prevention, eradication and treatment of certain diseases through different channels; promotion of greater coverage and quality of the health system; improved management and safety of medicines; studies on the quality of water (a major factor in the transmission of viral diseases), air and soil; any project targeting reproductive health and projects geared towards specific issues that appear explicitly in SDG 3's targets, such as tobacco control or road behavior conducive to reducing injuries and deaths from road accidents.

Meanwhile, some 85 Bilateral SSC projects, which were geared, to a lesser or greater extent, towards "food security, improved nutrition and promotion of sustainable agriculture", gravitated towards SDG 2 "Zero Hunger". This includes, for instance, phytosanitary and animal health projects targeting, on the one hand, food safety and guaranteed access to healthy, quality food and, on the other, sustainability of Agriculturel, livestock and, even, fisheries production. Equally important was the cooperation geared towards promoting family farming and small-scale fishing, with consequential improvements in the income of small producers. The initiatives focused on genetic and biodiversity management were also linked to SDG 2, as well as those that mainstreamed environmental issues and endowed the Agriculturel sector with new capacities to improve predictability and adaptation to climate change-related scenarios and challenges.

c)

- d) Another 71 projects promoting "fair, peaceful and inclusive societies" were aligned with SDG 16. In sectoral terms, the cooperation was aimed particularly, albeit not exclusively, at strengthening government institutions. This included, for instance, projects that strengthened governments and public policies and contributed to their effectiveness; enhanced decision-making through exchanges on different information systems, statistics, and monitoring and evaluation indicators, among others; experiences on access to justice and support for national security through the fight against corruption; and initiatives on the need to guarantee Human Rights, provide training in the Culture of Peace and fight against trafficking, recruitment and other forms of violence and violation of fundamental rights.
- e) Nearly 90 other projects contributed in varying extents to "innovation, Industrylization and inclusive and sustained economic growth" and promotion of "full and decent employment", which are aligned with SDGs 8 and 9. This includes all experiences promoting the economic application of scientific and technological advances, and those supporting production and economic growth through sustainable practices in industry, in general, and in mining, extractive industries, culture and tourism (the latter sector explicitly mentioned in Target 8.9), in particular. The exchanges promoting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurship and access to employment, through, for instance, a better match between the

education syllabus and job skills would also fall under SDGs 8 and 9. Special mention should be made of the projects geared towards youth and people with disabilities, and those committed to eradicating the worst forms of child labor, one of the goals explicitly provided for in Target 8.7.

- Another 66 projects were mainly aligned **f**) with SDG 4 Quality Education (40) and SDG 1 No Poverty (26). As for SDG 4, worthy of note were the projects aimed at increasing literacy and improving access, coverage and quality of the education system; those promoting a virtuous cycle between training, technical and vocational education and employment; and others focusing on an approach to building inclusion and universality. With regard to SDG 1, it should be noted that the eradication of poverty under the 2030 Agenda must be based on improving access to not only income and resources, but also basic services and fundamental rights, an approach which clearly emphasizes human rights and non-discrimination. Consequently, the bulk of the initiatives were geared towards social policies and promotion of strategies and plans to reduce poverty, protect early childhood and assist especially vulnerable people and groups. This also included, for instance, experiences that promoted training for access to financial services for the population.
- A similar number of exchanges (69) focused g) on "inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and settlements", linked to SDG 11 and "guarantee the availability of water and its sustainable management", associated with SDG 6. The experiences worthy of note under SDG 11 focused not only housing and rehabilitation of neighborhoods from a social integration perspective, but also resilience against natural disasters; promotion of solid waste management and soil, water and air quality; and conservation of Culturel (rehabilitation of historical centers) and even natural heritage (recovery of green spaces). Meanwhile, many projects on integrated management of water resources were fully aligned with Target 6.5. The exchanges on water sanitation and efficient water use also fell under SDG 6.
- h) Another 24 projects that dealt explicitly with reducing inequalities in the countries fell under SDG 10. In this case, many experiences were aimed at promoting social inclusion of especially vulnerable groups such as children, youth, the elderly, people with disabilities and indigenous people, to name a few. There were also projects aligned with Target 10.4, which sought to strengthen fiscal policy, as well as prevention and pensions, and other strategies on targeted transfers, among others. Another 23 exchanges under SDG 17 were committed to strengthening partnerships and providing resources to help achieve the 2030 Agenda. Against this background, worthy of note are the projects that strengthened national taxation and better integration in international trade; developed science and technology; and supported the cooperation system, in particular, SSC and Triangular Cooperation and its governing institutions. Other exchanges focused on generation of data, indicators and information systems specifically provided for under Targets 17.18 and 17.19, which are linked, in turn, to accountability.
- i) Less frequent were the contributions of Bilateral SSC in 2016 to SDGs 7, 12, 13, 14 and 15: between 9 projects and 14, in each case. However, the contents enabling the projects' alignment with the aforementioned SDGs appear repeatedly in different projects. The experiences linked to SDG 7 included pricing, distribution and access to energy models, improving energy efficiency and commitment to renewable sources. Those linked to SDG 12 focused on all aspects of waste management, reuse of waste and promotion of sustainable tourism, more specifically through Target 12.b. Concerning SDG 13, the experiences were geared towards Agriculturel, environmental and disaster management sectors, which applied a holistic approach toward fighting climate change. The projects targeting SDG 14 were aimed at aquaculture and fisheries, as well as maritime ecosystems management. The exchanges under SDG 15 sought to strengthen capacities for managing forest policies, protected areas, forests and biodiversity, among others.

i) Finally, owing to its strategic importance and, its apparent weakness, also worth noting are the activities implemented, in the context of the 2030 Agenda, under SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". As stated above, only 9 projects in 2016 (1.5% of the total) targeted this Goal as the "main" SDG. The experiences aligned with this SDG sought to strengthen government institutions responsible for public policies on gender equality; support the empowerment of women, especially in rural areas; and prevent and assist women victims of violence.

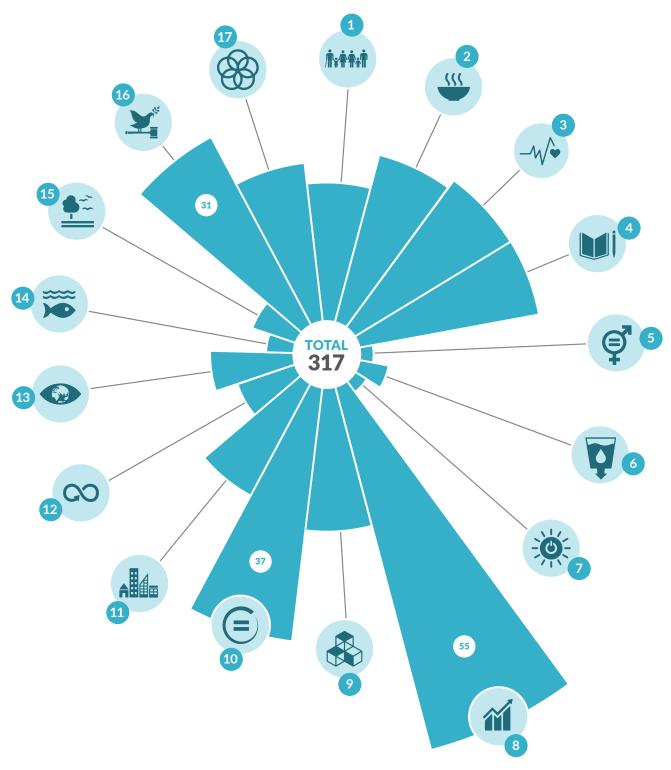
As stated earlier, the analysis of the potential contribution and/or alignment of SSC to the SDGs is completed by identifying any "secondary" SDGs that may have also benefitted in addition to the "main" SDG". Sometimes, the projects may simultaneously contribute to more than one Goal. Furthermore, such SDGs are usually interrelated, as pointed out by the United Nations (UN): "often the key to one's success will involve the issues most frequently linked to another".<sup>15</sup> Graphs II.10 and Diagram II.5 were plotted as visual support. The former, which is displayed as a radar graph, shows the number of Bilateral SSC projects in 2016 that could have been contributing to a "secondary" SDG. In this case, the number of projects that could be aligned with at least two Sustainable Development Goals were 317, that is, slightly more than half.<sup>16</sup> Diagram II.5 is an "arc diagram". The 604 projects are distributed in the diagram according to their links with the 17 SDGs. The Development Goals appear on an imaginary vertical axis, arranged from top to bottom in ascending order. The size of each SDG depends on the total number of projects that are aligned with it. To the right of the axis, the flow connecting two Development Goals indicates that they are interrelated, and the width of the line that connects them is proportional to the number of projects that contributes simultaneously to each of those two Goals. Lastly, when projects associated with an SDG are not linked to any other project (about 290), they appear to the left of the aforementioned axis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> http://www.undp.org/content/undp/es/home/sustainable-development-goals.html

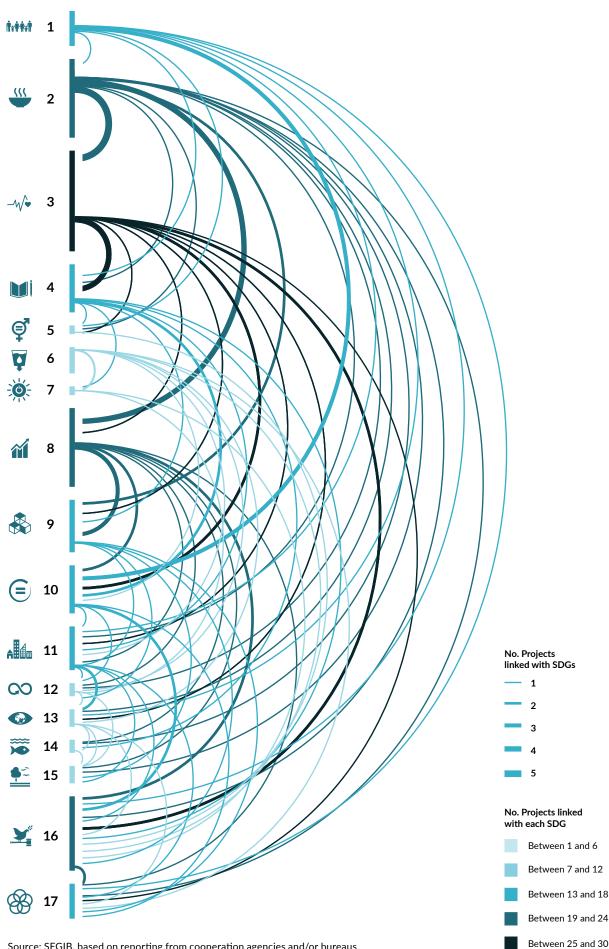
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> It is important to bear in mind that what is being estimated is the importance of these 317 projects versus the 604 (and not 680) projects, which translates into 52.5%.

### DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS, BY THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A SECONDARY SDG. 2016

Units



DISTRIBUTION OF BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS, BY THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO TWO SDGS AND THE LINK BETWEEN THEM. 2016 Units



It can be concluded from the combined reading of Graph II.10 and Diagram II.5 that:

- **Three Sustainable Development Goals** a) (Graph II.10) benefitted strongly as "secondary" SDGs, namely, SDGs 8, 10 and 16, which focus, respectively, on Decent Work and Economic Growth, Reducing Inequalities, and more effective and accountable Institutions. These three Goals jointly accounted for about 40% of the 317 projects analyzed. The outcome is consistent with the fact that multiple projects with a primarily sectoral component can affect employment and economic growth; that inequality is usually addressed as a cross-cutting issue; and that South-South Cooperation is partly based on strengthening institutions and public policies.
- As shown in Diagram II.5, some of the b) stronger links were between SDG 8 and SDGs 2 and 9. This included, for instance, all Agriculture-related initiatives (24) that sought to improve food and nutrition (SDG 2 "Zero Hunger") and raise productivity of the sector (SDG 8, "Economic growth"); as well as those committed to strengthening family farming and small producers, which potentially contributed to SDG 2 through creation of decent employment and SDG 8 through generation of own income. The links between SDG 8 and 9 ("Industry, innovation and infrastructure") were established through a number of experiences (18) that supported certain productive activities (primarily, Industry and Agriculture) and promoted technological development and innovation.
- c) SDG 10 on Reduced inequalities also had strong links with SDG 1 ("No Poverty") (17 projects), SDG 3 ("Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 4 ("Quality Education"). Worthy of note here are the experiences that sought to address poverty and social inclusion simultaneously; those geared towards health issues, with a particular focus on people with disabilities, the elderly and migrant population, among others; as others aimed at improving literacy for youth, senior citizens and people with limited resources, making education a key tool to fight social inequality.

- d) Meanwhile, a number of projects aligned with SDGs 3, 10 and 8, did so also with SDG 16 on "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions". For instance, exchanges between national institutions including health; national security, given their role in controlling illicit substances, which in turn contributes positively to welfare, disease control and reduced mortality in certain areas; those facilitating equal access to justice; and others promoting economic revival in postconflict areas and peace processes.
- e) Finally, the two most frequent links should be highlighted: SDGs 2 and 3, and SDGs 3 and 4. Included here are, on the one hand, all phytosanitary and pest control projects that ensure access to safe food, as well as those related to the creation and extension of Human Milk Bank networks, which have an impact on maternal and child nutrition and reduction of mortality; and, on the other hand, those that provided access to specialized training in medicine for people with limited resources.

 $\rightarrow$  MAP A.II.1

# GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF COOPERATION ACTIONS, BY ROLE. 2016

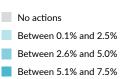
A.II.1.1. Provider



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Legend. Color coding, according to share (%) of cooperation actions provided or received in 2016:





Between 7.6% and 10.0%Between 10.1% and 12.5%Over 12.6%

 $\longrightarrow$  MAP A.II.1

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF COOPERATION ACTIONS, BY ROLE. 2016

A.II.1.2. Recipient



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Legend. Color coding, according to share (%) of cooperation actions provided or received in 2016:



No actions Between 0.1% and 2.5% Between 2.6% and 5.0% Between 5.1% and 7.5%

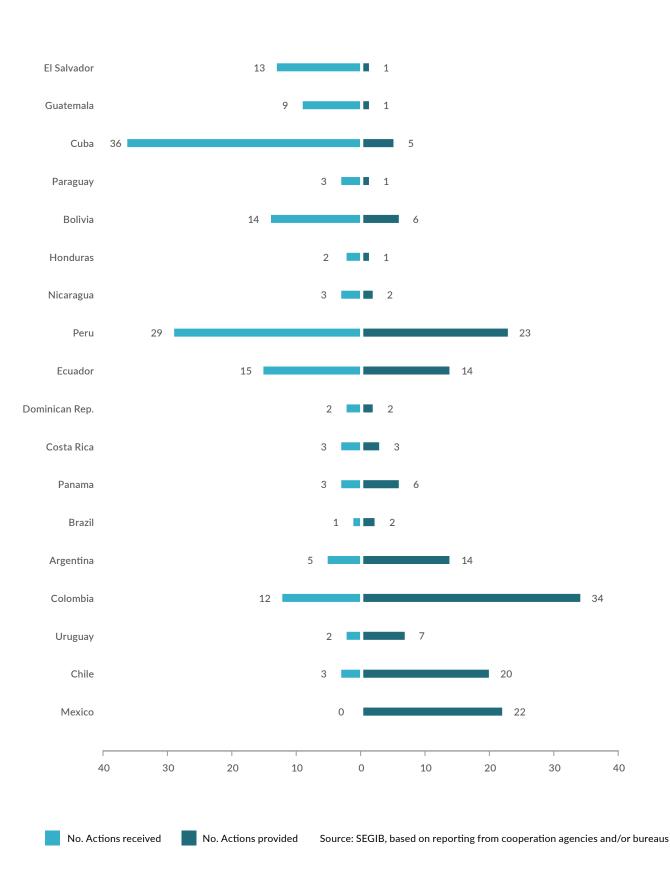
Between 7.6% and 10.0%
 Between 10.1% and 12.5%
 Over 12.6%

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→ GRAPH A.II.1

### BILATERAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ACTIONS OFFERED AND RECEIVED, BY COUNTRY. 2016

Units



### → TABLE II.1

### ACTIVITY SECTORS IN IBERO-AMERICA, BY AREA OF ACTION

Education         Strengthening Education and plans and policies, curricular programs, construction and schools and other related infrastructures, training and education of teacher professionals in the sector, among others.           Social         Health         Strengthening general and basic health through actions related to health probasic health care, medical research, fight against communicable and non-composite and sanitation and reproductive health           Population and reproductive health         Programs and policies on population, migration, reproductive health care, for prevention, specific training, among others.           Water supply and sanitation         Strengthening gocial services and vasite, access to water, sup and sanitation, social care and social inclusion of most vulnerable groups, disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, children, young people name a few.           Transportation and storage         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport im ears of transport (road, rail, martime, river and air).           Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport im ears of transport (road, rail, martime, river and air).           Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport im ears of transport (road, rail, martime, river and air).           Burgery         Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability o	d renovation of rs and other blicy, medical services, ommunicable diseases, tive health, basic ersonnel, among amily planning, STI oply and purification, g others. ies fostering non- especially people with and the elderly, to
Social         Health         basic health care, medical research, fight against communicable and non-code development, quality and monitoring of drugs and vaccines, post-reproductive health           Social         Population and reproductive health         Programs and policies on population, migration, reproductive health care, for prevention, specific training, among others.           Water supply and sanitation         Policy and management of water resources and waste, access to water, sup anitation, sewage, development or river basins and specific training, among others.           Other services and social policies         Strengthening social services and policies in general, housing policy, polic discrimination, social care and social inclusion of most vulnerable groups, disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, children, young people name a few.           Image: the services and social policies         Energy         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in generation and supply of energy from both renewable and non-renewable more sustainable sources (gas and hydrocarbons, water, sun, wind and biof and storage           Image: training and technology         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport in means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).           Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions invoc communication, by any means and formats (telecommunication, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport is means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).	ommunicable diseases, tive health, basic ersonnel, among amily planning, STI oply and purification, g others. ies fostering non- especially people with and the elderly, to
Population and reproductive health         Programs and policies on population, migration, reproductive health care, fr prevention, specific training, among others.           Water supply and sanitation         Policy and management of water resources and waste, access to water, sup sanitation, sewage, development of river basins and specific training, among discrimination, social services and policies in general, housing policy, polic discrimination, social care and social inclusion of most vulnerable groups, disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, children, young people name a few.           Energy         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in generation and supply of energy from both renewable and non-renewable more sustainable sources (gas and hydrocarbons, water, sun, wind and biof and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport in means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).           Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in communication, by any means and formats (telecommunications, radio, tele information and communication technology, among others).           Development of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology that produce results that have general application (non-sec economy. It also includes everything related to sharing the resulting knowle scientific system and enhancing socialization and universal access to techno and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local ecom training and education in financial services, development and implementation	pply and purification, g others. ies fostering non- especially people with and the elderly, to
and sanitation sanitation sanitation sanitation, sewage, development of river basins and specific training, amony Strengthening social services and policies in general, housing policy, polic discrimination, social care and social inclusion of most vulnerable groups, disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, children, young people name a few.  Energy Transportation and supply of energy from both renewable and non-renewable more sustainable sources (gas and hydrocarbons, water, sun, wind and biof and storage Communications Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport ir means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).  Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions invo communication technology, among others). Development of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology Banking and Finance and stail producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local econor training and education in financial services, development and implementation	g others. ies fostering non- especially people with and the elderly, to
Other services and social policies         discrimination, social care and social inclusion of most vulnerable groups, disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, children, young people name a few.           Energy         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in generation and supply of energy from both renewable and non-renewable more sustainable sources (gas and hydrocarbons, water, sun, wind and biofin and storage           Transportation and storage         Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport in means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).           Communications         Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions, radio, tele information and communication technology, among others).           Development of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology that produce results that have general application (non-sec economy. It also includes everything related to sharing the resulting knowle scientific system and enhancing socialization and universal access to techno and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local econor training and education in financial services, development and implementation	especially people with and the elderly, to
Energy       generation and supply of energy from both renewable and non-renewable more sustainable sources (gas and hydrocarbons, water, sun, wind and biofinand storage         Transportation and storage       Strengthening policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions in and storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport in means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).         Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions invo communication, by any means and formats (telecommunications, radio, tele information and communication technology, among others).         Development of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology that produce results that have general application (non-seconomy. It also includes everything related to sharing the resulting knowle scientific system and enhancing socialization and universal access to technomation and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local economy training and education in financial services, development and implementation	
PrespondenceIrransportation and storageand storage policy, as well as improvement and sustainability of transport in means of transport (road, rail, maritime, river and air).PrespondenceCommunicationsSupport for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions invo communication, by any means and formats (telecommunications, radio, tele information and communication technology, among others).Science and technologyDevelopment of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology that produce results that have general application (non-sec economy. It also includes everything related to sharing the resulting knowle scientific system and enhancing socialization and universal access to techno and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local econo training and education in financial services, development and implementation	sources, as well as
Communications       communication, by any means and formats (telecommunications, radio, tele information and communication technology, among others).         Science and technology       Development of policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions and Technology that produce results that have general application (non-seconomy. It also includes everything related to sharing the resulting knowle scientific system and enhancing socialization and universal access to technology and Finance         Banking and Finance       Support for improving capabilities to manage the financial resources of company and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local economy training and education in financial services, development and implementation	
Support for improving capabilities to manage the financial resources of com and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local econo training and education in financial services, development and implementation	
Support for improving capabilities to manage the financial resources of com and small producers, preferably where helpful to strengthen the local econo training and education in financial services, development and implementation	torial) to the edge to strengthen the
	omy. It includes on of microcredit
Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions that the creation and access to employment, as well as more specific profession training actions that serve this purpose.	
Enterprises Enterprises Enterprises Support for policies, infrastructures, services, research and institutions that especially micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and strengthen con processes.	
<b>Extractive</b> Strengthening exploration and extraction of mineral and energy resources ( as waste treatment, especially through mining law and mine planning and m instruments.	
Agriculture and livestock farming Development of policies and support for institutions involved in agriculture a includes land use, arable land, seed management, land reform, food sovereign animal health, promotion of family farms and support for Agriculturel coopera	nty, plant health and
Forestry Development of policies and support for institutions involved in forestry ar as well as matters relating to commercial use of wood.	nd forest management,
Forestry       Development of policies and support for institutions involved in forestry ar as well as matters relating to commercial use of wood.         Fisheries       Development of policies and support for institutions involved in aquacultur includes support for small-scale fisheries production, plant health, and nutr security, among others.         Construction       Development of policies and support for the construction and infrastructur	
<b>Construction</b> Development of policies and support for the construction and infrastructur	re sector.
Industry Development of policies and support for institutions involved in the promo general and by sectors. It includes strengthening of the entire process from distribution.	,
Tourism Development of policies and support for institutions involved in the tourism	m sector.
Trade       Development of policies and support for institutions promoting trade and f         products at local, national and international level. It also covers regional and agreements and negotiations.	

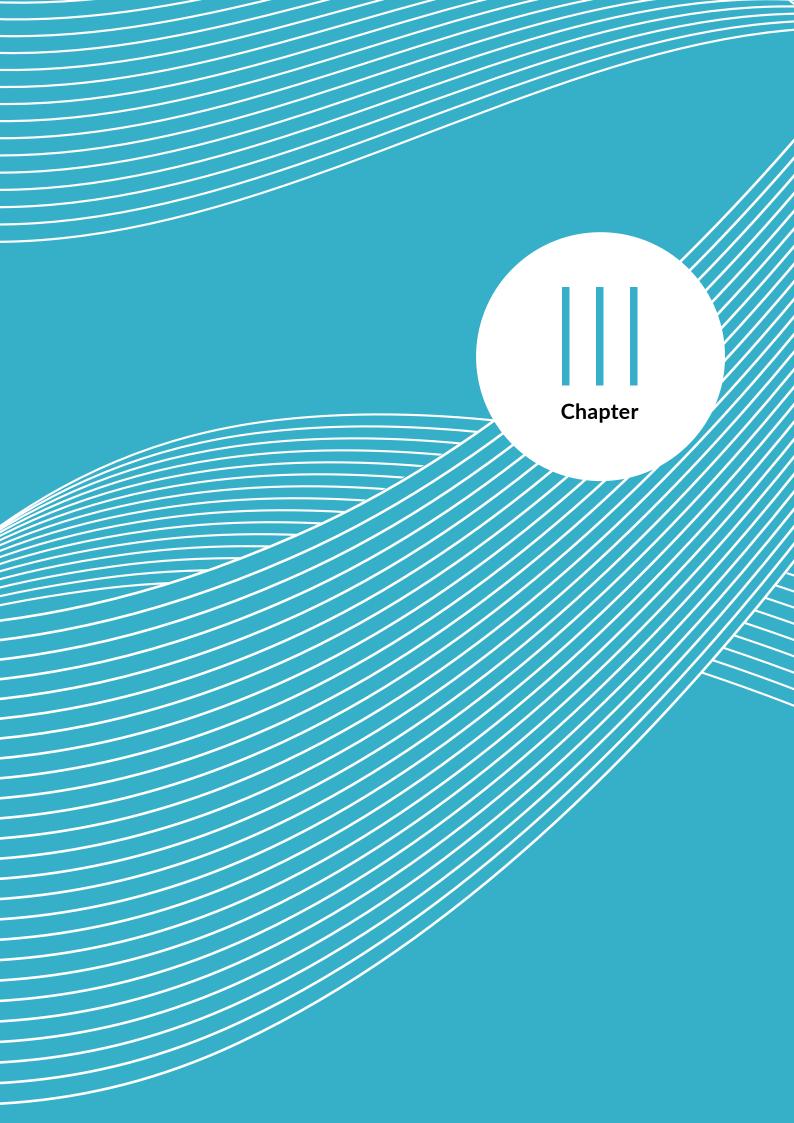
6

Continued on p. 91

Area of action	Activity Sector	Description
Institutional strengthening	Strengthening institutions and public policies	Strengthening the public sector, its institutions and policies. It covers all levels of government, including support for decentralization processes (political, administrative and fiscal) and support for and between regional and local governments. It also includes cooperation (as a public policy) and generation of statistics and indicators to inform decisions on policy and public management.
	Public Finance Management	Budget and public expenditure management, revenue management (especially tax and tax system), and improvement of financial management systems, fiscal policies, public audits, public debt, control and management of public companies, measuring performance, among others.
	Legal and judicial development and HR	Strengthening legal frameworks, constitutions, laws and regulations, as well as justice institutions, systems and procedures, and practices (traditional, indigenous, etc.) outside the formal legal system; and support for the defense and extension of human rights, especially civil and political rights. It includes the fight against impunity and the protection of minorities of any kind (ethnic, religious, linguistic, sexual, migrants, children, victims of trafficking and torture, etc.).
	Political participation and civil society	Strengthening political participation, electoral processes and democracy, and civil society, as well as actions to improve citizens' control over their representatives.
	Peace, public security, national and defense	Peace processes and conflict resolution, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration into civilian life. Support for public security (aimed at preventing, investigating and prosecuting crimes against people - criminal codes, law enforcement agencies, police, prisons, etc.) and national security and defense (fight against corruption, money laundering and drug trafficking, military training, arms control, etc.).
Environment	Environment	Development of policies and support for institutions involved in environmental protection, sustainable management of natural resources, waste treatment, pollution reduction, fight against climate change, and biodiversity conservation, among others.
	Disaster management	Support for all operational actions carried out throughout the disaster management process, including prevention, preparation, mitigation, emergency aid, rehabilitation and reconstruction.
Other multisectoral	Culture	Development of policies and support for institutions involved in all forms of culture (also traditional and oral), as well as performing arts, in any of its disciplines (architecture, dance, scene, sculpture, music, painting and literature), and popular crafts, libraries, museums, and others.
	Gender	Development of policies and support for institutions promoting programs and projects that link women and development, promote their economic empowerment and fight against violence towards women, among others.
	Others	Promotion of alternative development models, rural, urban, social and community economy, among others.

Source: SEGIB based on reporting from CAD (November 2004).





# Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America

This third chapter of the *Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America* 2018 focuses on the analysis of Triangular Cooperation; another of the three forms of South-South Cooperation recognized in Ibero-America. To that end, and against the background of the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> High-Level Conference on South-South Cooperation, which will take place in March 2019 to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the approval of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA), the countries have initiated a process of reflection on Triangular Cooperation, with a view to analyzing how to strengthen and relaunch this modality, as well as step up its contribution to the 2030 Agenda.

> On the basis of the information provided by the Ibero-American countries, this chapter reviews the evolution of this type of cooperation, in particular the data for 2016, which is the year in focus in this Report. Hence, the chapter is structured as follows:

- a) Firstly, the trends and developments in Triangular Cooperation since 2006 (the year referred to in the first edition of the Report) are analyzed using the aggregate database of projects and actions that countries have been reporting on for ten years until 2016. The building of this time series<sup>1</sup> will allow visualizing the growth dynamics of Triangular Cooperation and reaffirm with greater clarity and accuracy whether there has been an increased use of this modality, as the data accumulated in the past editions of this Report appear to suggest.
- b) Secondly, and delving deeper into 2016, the analysis focuses on the actors involved, to a greater or lesser extent, in each role covered under

this modality (first provider, second provider and recipient). Furthermore, from a sectoral perspective, it identifies the capacities strengthened through Triangular Cooperation, both by region and by countries that were most active.

- c) As has become customary, a qualitative review of the operational frameworks and financial mechanisms under which this modality operates is provided below. Indeed, a greater and better awareness of how the different actors interact is a major demand of Ibero-American countries, who realize that the efforts of coordination are inevitably more complex, given that they are participating in a cooperation that involves more than two partners.
- d) The chapter closes with an analysis of Triangular Cooperation's contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This will build on and strengthen an analysis that is aligned with the 2030 Agenda, and was first included in this Report in the 2016 edition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As stated earlier in the second chapter, it should be noted that this time series is constructed on the basis of the consolidated data available on the Ibero-American Integrated Data System on South-South Cooperation (SIDICSS), rather than the data sequence contained in previous Reports.

# TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS IN 2016

The data provided by the countries revealed that Ibero-American countries implemented 137 Triangular Cooperation initiatives in 2016 (100 projects and 37 actions). Graph III.1 illustrates the evolution of the initiatives, projects and actions implemented during each year from 2006 (the year referred to in the first Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America) to 2016.<sup>2</sup> It can be concluded that:

- a) In comparing the data from 2006 and 2016, it can be argued that Triangular Cooperation has increased twofold over the last ten years (60 initiatives in 2006 to 137 in 2016). This growth is mainly due an increased number of projects (from 34 to 100), rather than of actions, which grew more slowly (from 26 to 37).
- b) The trend analysis clearly differentiates two periods. First between 2006 and 2013, when the total number of initiatives experienced a sustained growth; and the second, between 2013 and 2016, when, conversely, the number of initiatives decreased. More specifically, between 2006 and 2013, the number of initiatives increased at an average annual rate of 16.8%. This dynamic resulted in a threefold increase in initiatives compared to the initial figure (a historical maximum of 212, compared to 60 in the first year). Meanwhile, between 2013 and 2016, the number of initiatives dropped at an average annual rate of 13.5%, bringing the final figure to 137, which nevertheless is higher than 50% of the all-time record.<sup>3</sup>

However, this analysis should not ignore the fact that projects and actions behaved differently, which illustrates more clearly the trend followed by Triangular Cooperation. Thus, the gradual decrease in the number of records since 2013 was almost entirely due to the drop in the number of actions, which generated a high aggregate annual decrease rate of 28.4%; a figure far removed from the rate registered by projects, with an annual decrease rate of 3.4%. This appears to suggest that variability is concentrated in activities such as training courses, workshops or internships around which actions take place, while projects consolidated and maintained their role as the main instrument for countries to implement Triangular Cooperation.

c)

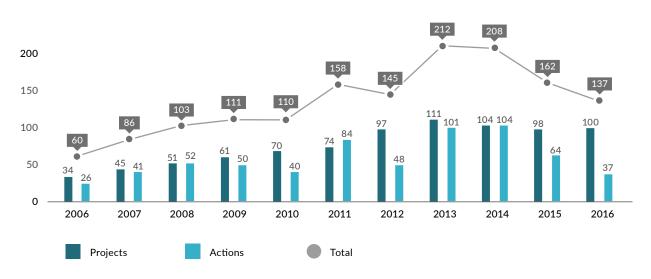
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As already mentioned earlier, the figures used to build this time series were taken from an aggregate regional database for the entire reference period; therefore, the outcome does not fully match the result that would have been obtained had the data sequence included in previous Reports been used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The fact that this period is shorter than the previous one, and that the degree of decline is 3 percentage points lower than that of growth (13 versus 16), explains why the accumulated drop is not as intense as expected, and the total number of initiatives registered in 2016 is still remarkably high.

### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH III.1

### PROJECTS AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION ACTIONS IN PROGRESS. 2006-2016

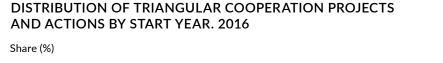
Units

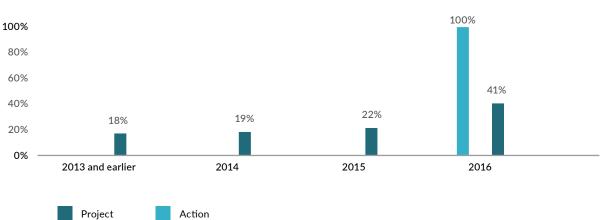


Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

The knowledge that projects and actions correlated with cooperation instruments that vary in terms of type and behavior is further strengthened by analyzing other aspects, including, knowing whether (1) the projects and actions in progress in 2016 started in that same year or whether, on the contrary, they were initiated somewhat sooner or later, and (2) the implementation time of these tools differ significantly. Graphs III.2 and III.3 were prepared for this purpose. The former shows the distribution of the 137 projects and actions by start year, i.e. in 2013 or before, in 2014, 2015 or 2016. The latter<sup>4</sup> compares projects and actions according to the time elapsed between the start and end date of the activity.<sup>5</sup>

### $\rightarrow$ GRAPH III.2



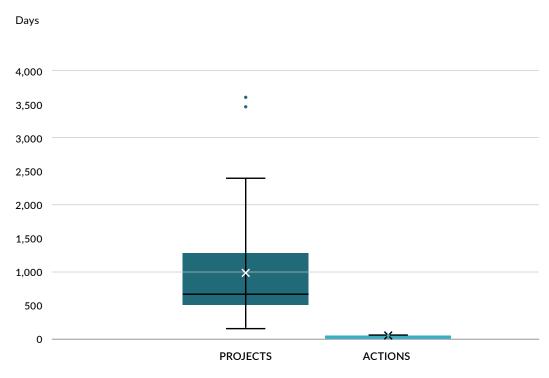


Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

<sup>4</sup> Chapter 2 provides details on how to read and interpret this type of graph.

<sup>5</sup> As for the duration, the information for the records is not available in its totality. More specifically, the exact start and end dates of 67.6% of the actions are available, whereas in the case of projects it is slightly less (61%).

# DISTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS BY DURATION. 2016



b)

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

#### It can be concluded from the graphs that:

- a) 41% of the projects (Graph III.2) started their activity in 2016. The remaining 60%, however, were distributed relatively uniformly (about 20% in each case) throughout the other three periods under consideration: 2015, 2014 and 2013 and before. By contrast, and in a manner consistent with what might be expected, all 37 registered actions began during 2016.
- On the other hand, Graph III.3 compares the varying duration of actions and projects. Indeed, actions tended to last between one day and one month, with an average of about 5.5 days. The duration of projects was far more variable, with more outliers than for actions: from a minimum duration of 169 days (approximately six months) to a maximum of 3,589 days (more than nine years). That gap is bridged somewhat if the analysis focuses only on the 50% of projects closest to the median, whose implementation times fluctuated within a narrower range from 522 (1.4 years) to 1,275 days (3.5 years). In any case, the average duration of all projects was around 2.7 years.

IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAD 100 PROJECTS AND 37 TRIANGULAR COOPERATION ACTIONS IN PROGRESS, WHICH ADDED TO 137 INITIATIVES

### PARTICIPATION OF COUNTRIES AND THEIR PARTNERS IN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN IBERO-AMERICA

### **III.2**

This section reviews how the countries and/ or other organizations participated in the 37 actions and 100 projects exchanged in 2016 under Triangular Cooperation. In this regard, it is worth noting that:

- a) According to the definition of Triangular Cooperation adopted in Ibero-America, there are three distinct roles (first provider, second provider and recipient) that, in each case, may be exercised simultaneously by several actors. This means that the total number of participants need not be limited to three. By way of example, more than three actors participated in 27 of the 100 projects registered in 2016. The same was true in virtually one third of the 37 actions.
- b) Hence, it is also important to highlight that this chapter refers specifically to Triangular Cooperation, in which at least two Ibero-American countries participated as first provider and recipient. Meanwhile, any other actor (Ibero-American or non-Ibero-American country, international organization, or a combination of these) could act as second provider.

#### COUNTRIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND ROLES IN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION III.2.1

Graph III.4 shows the actors who were most active in this form of cooperation. The countries and/or agencies that participated in a greater number of projects (Graph III.4.1) and actions (Graph III.4.2) in each of the roles considered are listed therein. The first column in each graph shows the actors that were most active as first providers; the second column shows the second providers and the third one the recipients. From the perspective of the projects executed (Graph III.4.1), it can be stated that:

- In 2016, slightly more than half (11 out a) of 19) of the Latin American countries acted as first provider, transferring skills through their participation in at least one of the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects implemented. As suggested by the Graph, participation varied widely. Brazil and Chile stood out with 19 projects each. These two countries accounted for 38% of the projects implemented, which is proof that they were the main drivers of Triangular Cooperation in 2016. These findings corroborate Brazil's momentum, but even more importantly, it highlights Chile's leadership, who has been the top first provider of Triangular Cooperation over the past five years. On the other hand, Mexico, Costa Rica and El Salvador, participated in 10 and 15 projects<sup>6</sup> each, which aggregately represents one-third of the total. The remaining six countries that participated in this role account for the last 26% of the projects in 2016. These were in relative order of importance: Uruguay, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Cuba. The number of projects in which each country ranged between 7 for Uruguay and one project for Ecuador and Cuba.
- b) Meanwhile, a score of actors supported 100 Triangular Cooperation projects as second providers. They consisted of 8 countries (three from Ibero-America - Spain, Mexico and Dominican Republic) and 12 international organizations of the United Nations System (FAO, UN Women, WFP, UNFPA, UNDP, UNESCO and UNICEF) and regional organizations (OAS, IDB, CABEI and/or CAF). Regarding the level of participation of these actors, only two countries supported twenty or more projects each: Germany (25 projects, a guarter of the total) and Spain (20 projects, equivalent to one fifth). Luxembourg (for the first time among the top second providers) and the United States were in third and fourth place with 11 and 10 projects respectively, jointly accounting for another 21%. If the FAO (8 projects) is

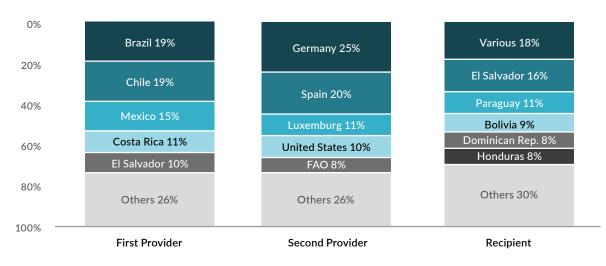
added to the foregoing, five actors provided three-quarters of the 100 projects finally implemented. Meanwhile, Japan, an actor that has traditionally supported Triangular Cooperation projects in the region, participated as second provider in 6 of the 100 projects carried out in 2016. Finally, it should be noted that several actors shared the role of second providers in four initiatives: Italy with CAF in two projects, and the Dominican Republic and Spain, and FAO and UNDP, in one project each.

#### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH III.4

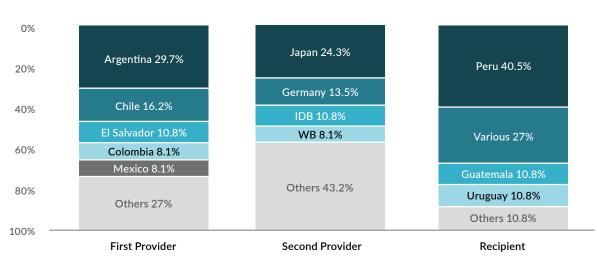
# TOP ACTORS' SHARE (%) OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN EACH ROLE. 2016

Share (%)

#### III.4.1. Projects



#### III.4.2. Actions



III • Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America

Note: The projects and actions in which more than one actor exercised this role are grouped under the heading Various Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Finally, concerning the recipients, the c) data show continuity in some elements identified in previous Reports. It emphasizes that all Latin American countries served as recipients in a Triangular Cooperation project, either individually or jointly with other partners. Indeed, the most common situation found in the 100 projects was several countries simultaneously participating as recipients (18% of cases). The number of participants ranged between 2 and 18. As in the case of Bilateral SSC, El Salvador stood out as the country that acted as recipient in a greater number of projects (16 of the 100 possible)<sup>7</sup>, followed by Paraguay, who received 11 Triangular Cooperation projects. In order of relative importance, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Guatemala also stood out with between 5 and 10 projects. When added to the foregoing, they accounted for 70% of the projects received.

As Graph III.4.2 appears to suggest, the distribution of the different actors' participation in Triangular Cooperation actions differed from that of the projects. In practice:

 a) Twelve countries acted as first providers. Prime among these was Argentina, which transferred skills in almost 30% (29.7%) of actions; and Chile and El Salvador, with shares of 16.2% and 10.8%, respectively. The three countries accounted for 56.8% of the activities. The remaining 9 countries participated more sporadically with 1 to 3 Triangular Cooperation actions in each case.

- b) Japan stood out in its role as second provider, accounting for a quarter of the actions (24.3%), mainly in partnership with Argentina. Meanwhile, Germany, the IDB or the World Bank represented one-third of the total actions (32.4%). The rest of the share is explained by sporadic support to one or two actions by 12 actors, including some extra-regional countries that did not participate in projects, such as Canada, Switzerland and the ILO.
- c) Peru was the top recipient of actions with a variety of actors, accounting for 40.5% of them. The second most common situation was those cases in which several countries simultaneously exercised this role, partly because these were courses provided by Argentina and Japan to third countries. The list of recipients is completed with Guatemala, Honduras, Uruguay and Peru, with 1 and 4 actions each.

Finally, and to complement the analysis on the participation of different actors in Triangular Cooperation, Box III.1 follows up on an exercise which began in previous Reports, which is similar to what has been done for Bilateral SSC. The aim is to know how concentrated (or not) Triangular Cooperation projects and actions are in a few (or many) actors, and if differences existed between roles. The exercise enables better understanding of what is the relationship between countries and Triangular Cooperation.

100

### CONCENTRATION AND DISPERSION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

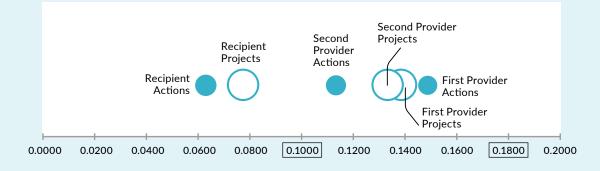
Since the 2012 Report, the Herfindahl index, an indicator taken from international trade, has been used to estimate the degree of concentration and dispersion of Triangular Cooperation projects and actions on few or many countries. The results make it possible to determine whether concentration and dispersion around certain actors is dependent upon the role they play in Triangular Cooperation.

A detailed explanation of the calculation method and guidelines on how to interpret the findings is provided in the Box found in Chapter II, where this analysis is also carried out for Bilateral SSC. In the case of Triangular Cooperation, the index is used to calculate concentration and dispersion for each of the three possible roles, differentiating between projects and actions. The graph below shows the findings. The index values are distributed in ascending order along the horizontal axis by role and type of instrument. Furthermore, the size of the element on the graph indicates the number of existing (project or action) records for that type of instrument.

#### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH

# CONCENTRATION OF PARTICIPATION IN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS, BY ROLES. 2016

Herfindahl index, to four decimal places



Note: In the case of initiatives in which several actors participate in the same role, the share will be broken down and calculated on the basis of the total share by country, rather than by total number of projects and actions

When interpreting the results of the graph, it should be remembered that values below 0.1000 suggest diversification; between 0.1000 and 0.18000 moderate concentration; and above 0.1800, higher degree of concentration. The results appear to suggest that:

- a) The greatest diversification is found in the distribution of Triangular Cooperation, which is somewhat more intense in the case of actions than in projects. This finding is consistent with the fact that all countries in the region participated in Triangular Cooperation in this role, and several countries acted simultaneously as recipients in a large number of initiatives.
- b) Meanwhile, the greatest concentration (albeit, with moderate values) was found in first providers of both projects and actions, which is also consistent with the fact that a handful of countries provide the bulk of technical transfers in Triangular Cooperation.
- c) Finally, it also shows a moderate concentration of a few second providers. In this case, the degree of concentration was somewhat lower than for first providers. However, it is also consistent with the fact that only a handful of developed countries and international organizations support Triangular Cooperation as second providers.

### MAIN ACTORS AND PARTNERSHIPS III.2.2

This analysis identifies the main partners of the countries most active in Triangular Cooperation in 2016 and the level of interaction thereof. This, in turn, allows identifying the main partnerships under this form of cooperation.

To that end, the main actors in each role were identified. More specifically, the analysis focused on Brazil and Chile with 19 projects each as first providers; Germany as top second provider in 25 projects; and El Salvador, with 16 projects, as the country that more frequently acted as recipient.

Firstly, Diagram III.1 shows the partnerships Brazil engaged in as first provider. This Diagram shows the number of projects in which Brazil participated with each partner: second providers (central flow); and, through them, with their recipients (right flow). Indeed, it can be concluded that:

- a) Brazil concentrated 63.2% of its Triangular Cooperation exchanges in 2016 on two second providers: an international organization, FAO, and a country, United States. Brazil interacted in 7 projects with FAO, with UNDP also participating in one of them. Brazil implemented 5 projects with the United States. Additionally, Brazil partnered with Germany (2 projects), and the tandem formed by Italy and CAF (2 more). Finally, Brazil also engaged with Spain, OAS and UNESCO on one-off triangulations.
- On the other hand, 7 countries in b) the region have seen their capacities individually strengthened through Triangular Cooperation with Brazil. In particular, Honduras, who was a recipient of some triangulations with the United States that focused on agriculture and food security, participated in long-term projects (over three years) that have been running since 2013. However, most often than not, several countries shared the role of recipients, as in the cases covered by the Brazil-FAO South-South Cooperation Program, under which both partners promote regional projects.

Meanwhile, Diagram III.2 illustrates the case of Chile, another country that primarily acted as first provider. Indeed, the distribution of the 19 projects in which it participated in 2016 with its second providers and recipients reveals that:

- a) As has become customary, Chile's partnership with Germany, the United States, Spain and Japan in Triangular Cooperation projects accounts for almost three out of four projects implemented by this country, with Germany and the United States as its main partners. In the case of Germany, both countries interacted with up to four different recipients through their partnerships, while the United States focused its triangular activities on two countries, the Dominican Republic and Paraguay. The WFP, FAO, Mexico and Korea complemented these partnerships as second providers.
- b) On the other hand, Chile strengthened capacities through Triangular Cooperation in eight countries in the region. Paraguay stood out, with almost one-third (31.6%) of the initiatives in which Chile partnered with Germany, the United States and Japan. In second place are the Dominican Republic and El Salvador, which jointly concentrated almost one third of the projects (31.6%). Finally, Guatemala and Costa Rica also acted as recipients (two projects each), as well as Argentina, Ecuador and Honduras (one each).

### BRAZIL AND CHILE WERE THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN A GREATER NUMBER OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS (19 EACH) IN 2016 \_\_\_\_\_

As for who acted most frequently as second provider, Diagram III.3 focuses on Germany, which has consolidated, year after year, its position as a major extra-regional actor in this field, working through its Regional Fund for Triangular Cooperation in Latin America. Diagram III.3 shows Germany's partnerships (central flow) with its first providers (left flow) and recipients (right flow) to implement the 25 projects registered in 2016. It can be concluded that:

- a) Germany partnered with 8 first providers. Particularly significant were Mexico and Chile, which accounted for more than half (52%) of Germany's triangulations, with 8 and 5 projects respectively. Other sporadic exchanges include Costa Rica, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and Colombia, as well as a number of combinations thereof (Mexico with Chile, Costa Rica and Panama).
- b) Germany interacted with 12 recipients, participating in 1 to 3 projects in each case. To these should be added the recipients that participated with others, represented under the heading Various. Indeed, this last option was the most common, given that, in almost a quarter of the projects (24%), several countries participated simultaneously as recipients in Germany-led projects.

Finally, Diagram III.4 shows El Salvador's partnerships (right flow) with its main partners. The left flow represents the first providers and the second providers appear in the center flow. The 16 projects in which El Salvador acted as recipient in 2016 were implemented through the following partnerships:

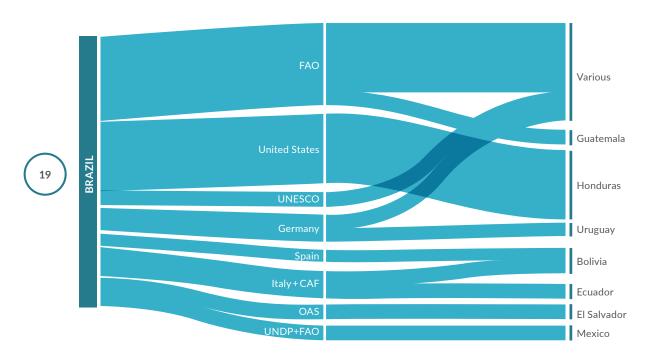
- a) In 2016, El Salvador received technical cooperation through triangulations with nine Ibero-American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay). These exchanges were highly diverse, since El Salvador interacted with each partner in 1 to 3 projects.
- b) By contrast, the relationship with the second providers was highly concentrated in two countries -Spain and Luxembourgwhich together accounted for more than half (56.3%) of El Salvador's triangulations. A particular feature of its relationship with Luxembourg is the instrument used, the Salvadoran Fund for South-South and Triangular Cooperation, through which Luxembourg not only finances Bilateral SSC activities, but also allows El Salvador to participate in Triangular Cooperation activities as both First Provider and Recipient. As a result of this, the Fund is a tool that allows El Salvador to structure its Triangular Cooperation in both directions.

In the case of projects implemented with Spain, worthy of note is a Triangular Cooperation project on gender equality with Peru as first provider, detailed in Box III.2. The other partnerships with second providers are explained by seven separate projects with seven different actors (3 international organizations -OAS, UNICEF and UNFPA- and four countries -Germany, the United States, Japan and Mexico).

### → DIAGRAM III.1

# TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH GERMANY AS SECOND PROVIDER, BY FIRST PROVIDER AND RECIPIENT. 2016

Units

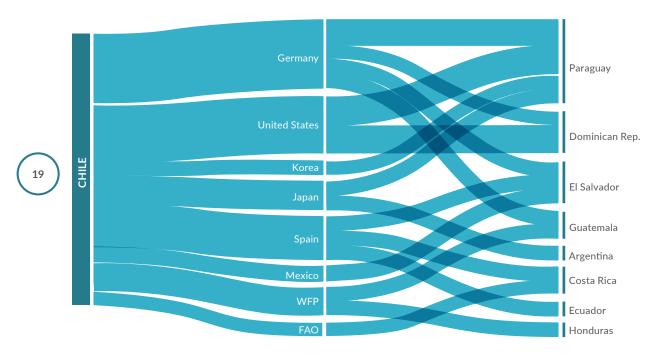


Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

#### → DIAGRAMA III.2

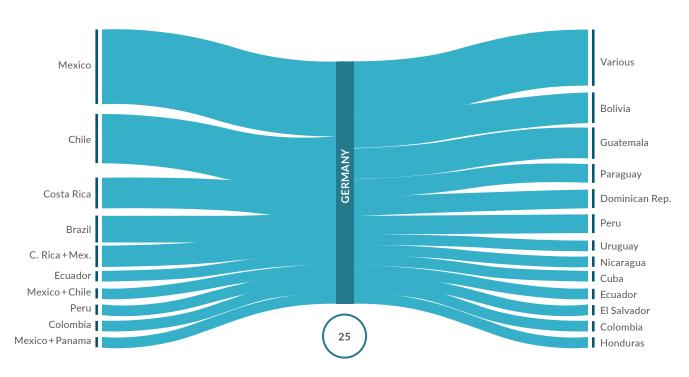
### TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH CHILE AS FIRST PROVIDER, BY SECOND PROVIDER AND RECIPIENT. 2016

Units



# TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH GERMANY AS SECOND PROVIDER, BY FIRST PROVIDER AND RECIPIENT. 2016

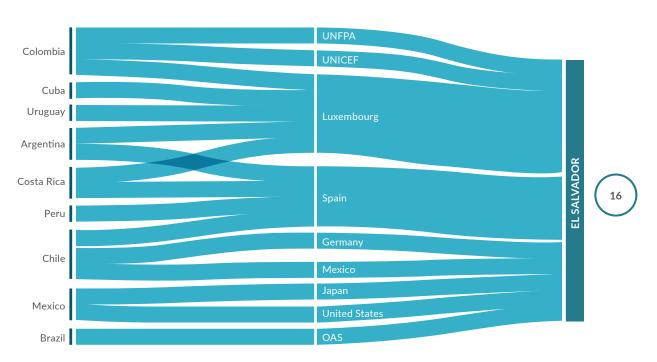
Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

### → DIAGRAMA III.4

# TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH EL SALVADOR AS RECIPIENT, BY FIRST PROVIDER AND SECOND PROVIDER. 2016



Units

### SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF AN IT SYSTEM FOR THE ANALYSIS OF FEMICIDAL VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR THROUGH TRIANGULAR COOPERATION WITH PERU AND SPAIN

In November 2010, El Salvador approved the Special Comprehensive Law for a Life Free from Violence for Women (by its Spanish acronym, LEIV), making a commitment to fight against femicide and other forms of violence against women, a major scourge of Salvadoran society. In fact, the Report on the Situation of Violence against Women in El Salvador, drafted by the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (by its Spanish acronym, ISDEMU), revealed that, according to the agreed statistics, 1,705 women suffered violent deaths in the country between January 2012 and June 2016.

Indeed, one of the main challenges faced by El Salvador in this endeavor was to collect accurate qualitative and quantitative data on gender-based violence against women through a single registry of victims of femicidal violence. Up to now, only three institutions (Attorney General of the Republic, Institute of Legal Medicine and National Civil Police) reported data on this matter. Moreover, their data did not coincide. This underscored the need to build a single registry, centralized through ISDEMU. It therefore became imperative to develop this IT system, given that it should contribute to the National Data and Statistics System on Violence against Women, and enhanced management of information on gender-based violence against women, providing an accurate picture of the situation in the country, while serving as a tool for making decisions on public policies for the prevention, care and eradication of this phenomenon.

The Triangular Cooperation project for the "Institutionalization of an Information System in support of a qualitative and quantitative analysis of Femicidal Violence in El Salvador based on the experience of Peru and Spain" was launched against this background, with the support of the Spain-El Salvador Institutional Strengthening Fund, with contributions from both partners and technical support from Peru. Indeed, the project is underpinned by the experience of the Public Ministry of Peru and the policies developed by the Peruvian Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations. This project, which is aligned with El Salvador's Five-Year Development Plan 2014-2019 and its strategic objectives 3 and 5 regarding citizen security and equality, was adopted at the 5th meeting of the Mixed Commission for Technical and Scientific Cooperation between Peru and El Salvador. Likewise, the project is part of the Country Partnership Framework that Spain signed with each of the other two partner countries.

One of the most remarkable features of this project that began in late August 2016, and is still in progress in 2018, has been the multidisciplinary character of the Salvadoran institutions that participate in it. For instance, it involves, inter alia, the Vice Ministry of Cooperation for Development (as the lead entity together with AECID), ISDEMU (as the project's lead institution), the Executive Technical Unit of the Justice Sector, and the Directorate General for Statistics and Census. The partner countries outlined the responsibilities of each institution in the Action Plan document, as well as the Effectiveness, Efficiency, Sustainability and Impact criteria that would guide the implementation of the project.

Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018

# SECTORAL ANALYSIS OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN 2016

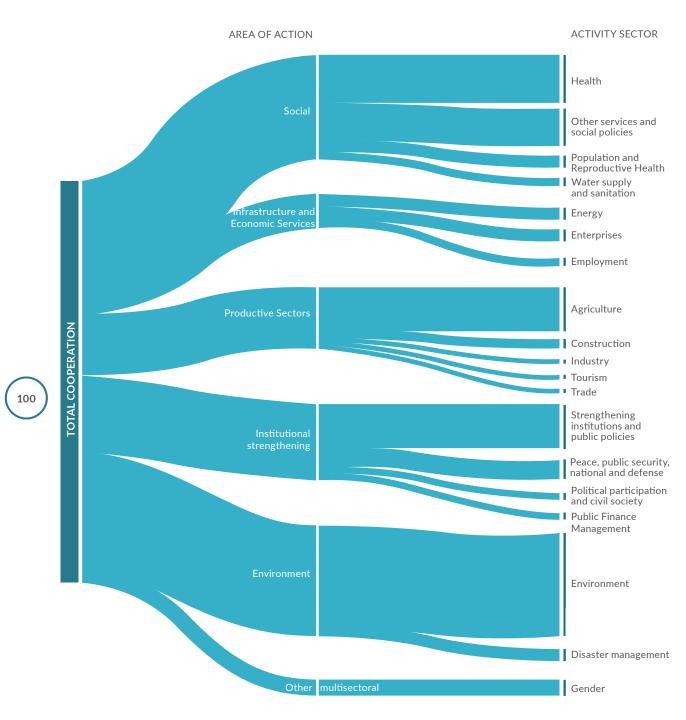
After a thorough analysis to determine the main actors of Triangular Cooperation in 2016, it is now time to identify the areas of activity on which the initiatives focused during that year. To ensure meaningful findings, the analysis focuses on the 100 projects registered in 2016, disregarding the 37 actions.<sup>8</sup>

Through this analysis, it will be possible to identify the sectoral capacities that the region tended to strengthen in 2016 through Triangular Cooperation. Furthermore, and where permitted by available data, it will enable a better understanding of how the specific profile of each cooperating partner affected the outcome. To understand the methodology applied, it is worth recalling certain issues that were mentioned in Chapter II:

- a) The analysis uses the classification by activity sectors recognized in the Ibero-American space. There were 27 sectors until the previous edition of the Report. This edition incorporates a substantive modification in said classification, triggered by the unbundling of the socalled Government sector, which now allows more accurate identification and differentiation of the elements related to strengthening of governmental institutions.
- b) The above-mentioned 30 sectors are clustered, in turn, under six areas of action: Social, Infrastructures and Economic Services, Productive sectors, Institutional Strengthening, Environment and a generic Other Multisectoral.
- c) The table is complemented with the 30 sectors classified under their relevant areas of action and their definitions, which can be found in the Annexes to Chapter II.

# SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS. 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

#### SECTORAL ANALYSIS OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECT III.3.1

Diagram III.5 shows the distribution of the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects that the Ibero-American countries were implementing in 2016 (left flow), and organizes them according to the area of action (central flow) and the activity sector (right flow) with which they were related. It can be concluded that:

- a) The Environment, Social and Economic areas (the latter in its two dimensions -Productive and Infrastructure and services-), together accounted for about 75% of the projects implemented in 2016. Specifically, the Environment represented 27% of the total, Social 26% and Economic 24%<sup>9</sup>. In this latter area, the Productive dimension (16%) prevailed over Services (8%). 23% of the remaining projects consisted of Institutional Strengthening (19%) and Other multisectoral (barely 4%).
- b) The projects under Environment were geared more to the defense and protection of the Environment (88.9%) than to Disaster Management (11.1%). Worthy of note, in particular, were the projects targeting adaptation to climate change, and management of protected areas and solid waste. One of these projects was the Ecological Blue Flag Program implemented in Honduras with the support of the Costa Rica-Spain Triangular Cooperation Program. A more detailed description is provided in Box III.3.

- In the Social context, Health was clearly the c) predominant sector, accounting for 46.1% of the projects. The bulk of the projects were aimed at improving health services, although food security and communicable diseases, such as HIV / AIDS, were also addressed. Meanwhile, Other services and social policies ranked second in relative importance within the Social area, embracing projects with a clear inclusive approach. Worthy of note were the projects geared towards working with youth and rural communities. Another interesting and significantly different outcome from Bilateral SSC is the absence of triangular projects in Education, given that this sector ranks fourth in importance in Bilateral SSC.
- d) As in the case of Bilateral SSC, Economic projects focused primarily on the productive sector, and particularly on agriculture, which positioned itself as the third most important sector in relative terms of the 100 projects implemented in 2016 (10.9%). The largest number of actions sought to strengthen the productive chains of certain crops.
- e) Meanwhile, Institutional Strengthening (18.8% of final projects) primarily focused on supporting government institutions and their public policies (57.9%). Some projects aimed at improving knowledge, efficiency and/or management of international cooperation agencies, enhancing management of civil service or training in planning or assessment for public institutions.
- Finally, only a handful of projects which were geared towards promoting gender equality (nearly 4% of the total), were identified under Other multisectoral. It should be noted that there were no Triangular Cooperation projects in the Culture sector, which is in stark contrast with the situation for Bilateral Cooperation, where Culture was one of the 7 most important activity sectors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The profile of these priorities is in stark contrast with the one for Bilateral SSC. Thus, under the bilateral modality, there are relatively fewer projects dedicated to the defense and protection of the environment than to the economic or social dimension. By contrast, in Triangular Cooperation, the environment competes in importance with the other two sectors, providing evidence that Triangular Cooperation does not replicate the sectoral structure of other forms of cooperation. Given that Triangular Cooperation is much smaller in volume than Bilateral SSC, it should be pointed out that it cannot be asserted with certainty that Triangular Cooperation strengthens areas that cannot be strengthened with Bilateral SSC. In absolute terms, the bilateral modality continues to have more environment-related projects (33) than the triangular form (24) of cooperation.

# TRANSFER OF THE ECOLOGICAL BLUE FLAG PROGRAM FROM COSTA RICA TO HONDURAS: A TRIANGULATION SUPPORTED BY SPAIN

Costa Rica, a country in which the right to a healthy and balanced environment has been enshrined in its Constitution since 1994, is one of the Ibero-American countries that has progressed furthest in the protection and conservation of the environment and fight against climate change. This country, despite representing only 0.03% of the world's surface area, concentrates about 6% of the planet's biodiversity. Indeed, a quarter of the country's territory lies within its Natural Parks and Reserves Network. Based on this focus on protecting its ecosystems and ensuring environmental sustainability, it rolled out, in 1995, the Blue Flag Ecological Program (by its Spanish acronym, PBAE), an initiative to protect the environment by empowering civil society through the National Water Laboratory.

This program awards prizes in different categories to candidates that meet a number of criteria. Indeed, the number of categories has increased to 15 over the past 20 years. Depending on the category, the candidates come from different sectors: civil society, universities, education centers, public entities, companies, banks, hotels, etc. They are subsequently evaluated for the recognition. The award (a type of quality label), and the recognition that comes with it, encourages and promotes the implementation of measures designed to protect the environment in a wide variety of areas (environmental education, beach cleaning or conservation and healthiness of water resources, among others), engaging both the government and society in the pursuit of these objectives. This program thus not only contributes to the protection of the environment, but also provides an economic benefit to the actors who obtain this award, generating a positive impact in different sectors, such as tourism.

Owing to the success of this program in Costa Rica, it has already been transferred to other countries such as Panama and Peru. It also began to be implemented in Honduras in 2016, through a Triangular Cooperation project between the two Central American countries, with the support of Spain.

This latest Triangular Cooperation project is part of the National Sustainable Tourism Strategy established by the Honduran Institute of Tourism (by its Spanish acronym, IHT), and aims to extend the implementation of the PBAE across the country in the future. The project has been designed to implement four of the categories found in the Costa Rican Program. In particular, it focuses on ensuring sustainability of the beaches, education centers, communities and protected natural areas of the country. To that end, Costa Rica supports the implementation of the program, providing advice and sharing experiences and information, and Spain offers financial support for the execution of the project. This triangulation focuses on six specific goals:

- a) Implementing several PBAE categories in Honduras.
- b) Reviewing legislation to regulate sustainability, contributing to the environment, human health, community development and adapting and mitigating climate change.
- c) Promoting specific criteria on water quality, education and environmental management and security services offered on Honduran beaches.
- d) Establishing a training program for local committees.
- e) Carrying out an inspection at the Embassy of Costa Rica in Honduras, within the framework of the country's participation in the Ecodiplomatic Category of the Ecological Blue Flag Program.

The project kicked off in 2016, with a pilot in the municipality of Marcovia, which focused on four categories of the aforementioned Program: Beach, Community, Education Center and Protected Natural Area. To that end, and only during that year, Costa Rican officials traveled to Honduras twice to provide training to officers at the Honduran Institute of Tourism and to support the implementation of the pilot in the local committees of "Isla Boca de Río Viejo". The first visit took place in several locations along the Pacific and Atlantic coast, where several water samples were taken to analyze their environmental and sanitary conditions. Honduran legislation was also reviewed to adapt the PBAE to the national context, according to the national needs and particular features of the neighboring country.

The project, which is still in progress, has already won the first awards given in Honduras. For instance, Utila beach won the award thanks to the work of its Local Committee on various aspects such as water quality (both marine and drinking), waste management on beaches and presence and signposting of garbage collection points.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

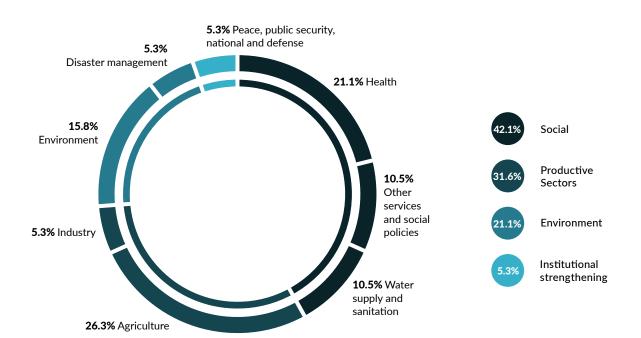
### SECTORAL PROFILE OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION'S MAIN ACTORS III.3.2

The sectoral distribution of projects at regional level tends to be explained by the manner in which key players influence Triangular Cooperation. Therefore, to complement the sectoral analysis, the capacity profile of the more dynamic actors in the 100 projects implemented in 2016 is provided below. To ensure meaningful findings, the analysis focuses again on Brazil and Chile as first providers, Germany as second provider and El Salvador as recipient. Graph III.5, and its four variants, show the distribution of the projects in which each of these countries participated in 2016, according to the area of action and activity sector.

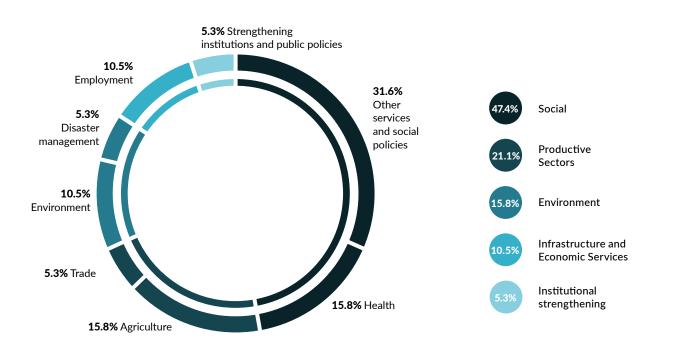
### SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR SSC PROJECTS OF THE MAIN ACTORS ACTING IN EACH OF THE ROLES. 2016

Share (%)

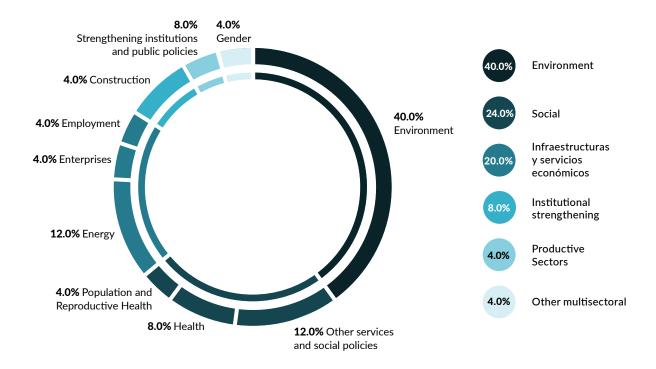
### III.5.1. BRAZIL, FIRST PROVIDER



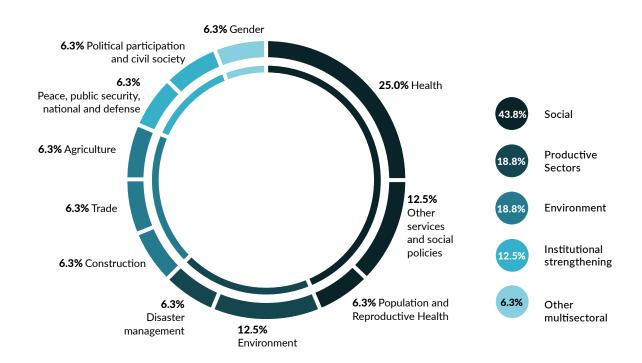
# III.5.2. CHILE, FIRST PROVIDER



### **III.5.3. GERMANY, SECOND PROVIDER**



### III.5.4. EL SALVADOR, RECIPIENT



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

It can be concluded that:

- Brazil stood out for its Social and a) Productive projects. In particular, those geared towards Agriculture (more than a quarter of Brazil's projects - 26.3% -) and Health (just over one-fifth of the total -21.1%-). This profile is closely related to Brazil's partnerships with FAO and the United States, and more specifically with the projects implemented under the Brazil-FAO International Cooperation Program and the Trilateral Agreement between Brazil, Honduras and the United States, which focused on food security and strengthening of agricultural production. Moreover, Brazil also stood out for its environment-oriented cooperation, linked to regional experiences in partnership with Germany (waste management) and the Amazon without Fire Program, together with Italy and CAF.
- With regard to Chile, its Triangular b) Cooperation also focused on the Social and Productive dimensions. These two areas accounted for more than three-fifths of their triangulations (63.2%). However, the sectoral composition differed from Brazil, since the most notable projects were geared towards Other services and social policies (almost one-third of the total, 31.6%). Worthy of note are the projects implemented with the United States in the Dominican Republic that were geared towards youth or the actions aimed at precarious settlements in Paraguay that involved Germany. The social profile is complemented with the Health sector, which is second in relative importance, and with agricultural projects, which fall under the Economic dimension. The latter had a varied composition, which included experiences to strengthen health networks (together with South Korea and Paraguay), improve food security (Germany and Guatemala) or support the rehabilitation of young people from substance abuse (Spain and El Salvador).
- Meanwhile, as already mentioned in past c) editions of the Report, Germany's support to Triangular Cooperation had a strong environmental component, with 40% of its triangulations in this sector. Its partnerships with Mexico and Costa Rica focused, for instance, on several experiences geared towards waste management and recycling or protection of coastal areas. Box III.4 provides a detailed description of the project in which Germany supported Mexico and Bolivia to improve wastewater treatment and facilitate its subsequent reuse for agricultural purposes. The projects geared towards Other services and social policies (exclusively implemented with Chile), and those focusing on promoting sustainable and efficient generation and use of power are also worthy of mention.
- d) Finally, the Triangular Cooperation received by El Salvador was highly diversified in terms of sectors. Worthy of note were the projects implemented in the Health sector (a quarter of the total), with the support of its partners from Luxembourg and Spain, which aim to improve health services and transplantations.

THE BULK OF THE TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN BRAZIL AND CHILE GAVE PRECEDENCE TO SOCIAL AND PRODUCTIVE SECTOR-RELATED PROBLEMS

# MEXICO, GERMANY AND BOLIVIA: A LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

According to a World Bank study, the use of untreated wastewater for agricultural irrigation was a common practice in Bolivia in 2015, although more focused in peri-urban areas across the country. Although the use of wastewater is an alternative when access to other types of water sources is limited, the problem stems from the use of untreated water. Moreover, this informal practice also poses a health risk for both farmers and livestock owners, as well as consumers.

Against this background, wastewater treatment provides an extremely useful tool for minimizing health risks, ensures sustainability of agricultural production and helps the country to adapt to climate change. This is how the partnership between Mexico, Germany and Bolivia came about. This three-country initiative stems from a visit by a Bolivian delegation to Mexico in 2009 to learn about the water resource management in Mexico, where they expressed interest in cooperating with the Mesoamerican country. Following several visits and bilateral meetings, the project "Support for reusing and improving wastewater treatment to protect water bodies, with a focus on adaptation to climate change" was presented and approved for financing by Germany's Regional Fund for Triangular Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean. The project, which was implemented between 2012 and 2013, included several technical missions, seminars, courses and internships, as well as a visit to Germany to learn about management. Following the success of this first project, between 2014 and 2016, the project "Reusing wastewater treated for agricultural irrigation" was approved for its implementation by the same actors, with the aim of improving the framework conditions for reusing treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation. The project consisted of three lines of action:

- a) Improving and establishing a framework of rules and regulations for wastewater treatment
- b) Training and building the capacity of officials involved in wastewater treatment for agricultural purposes
- c) Implementing pilot projects in this field

This second project was broken down into three stages, and consisted in the implementation of 28 activities, such as technical missions, courses, workshops and internships, which, according to Mexico, included a total of 439 days of technical assistance by this Mesoamerican country. This assistance included support and advice rendered by Mexico in the three pilot projects carried out in the Municipality of Sacaba and in the community of Patacamaya in the Altiplano. It should also be noted that Mexico and Bolivia participated through different governmental institutions at the national, state or municipal level.

This long-term collaboration, more than four years, also allowed the building of structures for further cooperation between both countries, beyond the projects mentioned above.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus; World Bank (2015)

# OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

# **III.4**

As has become customary, and in accordance with the decisions adopted by the countries in Buenos Aires in 2013<sup>10</sup>, this section of Chapter III seeks to delve deeper into other specific aspects related to the management of Triangular Cooperation. To that end, the analysis focuses on three aspects:

- a) The existence or not of regulatory frameworks for structuring Triangular Cooperation, and if so, the identification of the countries involved.
- b) The origin of Triangular Cooperation initiatives launched in 2016. The goal is to verify whether this modality effectively takes a demand-oriented approach, given that this is a posited criterion or principle.<sup>11</sup>
- c) The identification of partnership frameworks and funding mechanisms for this modality, with special emphasis on the possible existence of funds or mixed funds.<sup>12</sup>

#### OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORKS OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION III.4.1

Ibero-American countries have highlighted, on numerous occasions, that coordinating the various actors involved in the projects is a major challenge for managing Triangular Cooperation.<sup>13</sup> In addition to the cooperation agencies and/or bureaus of the countries involved, each partner's sectoral institutions also participate in the projects, which implies that coordination and clear definition of roles requires greater efforts. Graph III.6 was created to determine whether the projects and actions implemented in 2016 were governed by some mechanism that regulates triangulation. The graph is based on whether such mechanisms existed or not in the countries. It should be noted that data was obtained for 41.6% of the projects and actions (less than half); therefore, the results shown on the Graph are partial and inconclusive. In any case, it can be argued that:

- a) Almost 9 out of 10 initiatives (89.5%) had regulatory mechanisms in place, regardless of whether they were actions or projects. In other words, only 10.5% of the projects and actions analyzed did not have a formal regulatory framework for their implementation.
- b) As for the initiatives with a regulatory framework, 62.7% already had a legislative framework prior to their approval and/ or start date. In this sense, the countries reported Triangular Cooperation programs with third countries as projects under a regulatory framework, for instance, between Brazil and FAO, Spain and Costa Rica, Spain and El Salvador or Brazil and the OAS, among others. This also included Joint Committees, Tripartite Agreements (such as the one for projects between Brazil, the United States and Honduras) and Memorandums of Understanding for implementing Triangular Cooperation projects, as is the case of Spain's partnerships with other Ibero-American countries. This is all without prejudice to more specific instruments for regulating, coordinating or defining the roles that will be subsequently developed to implement the activities under these frameworks. Regarding the latter, 37.3% of the initiatives that had regulatory frameworks relied on this type of instruments to define functions, roles and/or regulatory mechanisms. In this context, it involves records of discussions, project documents or statements of intent by participating actors, among others.

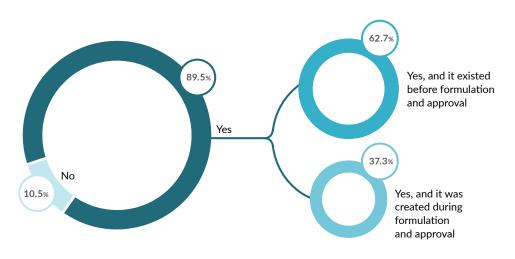
<sup>10</sup> Against the backdrop of the workshop on the "Questionnaire for the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2013: Review of the Treatment of Triangular and Regional Cooperation", held in Buenos Aires from March 20 to 22, 2013, and organized by the PIFCSS and SEGIB.

- <sup>11</sup> The Guide to the Management of Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America (PIFCSS, 2015) highlights many of these criteria and principles, previously defined through questionnaires and joint workshops with countries.
- <sup>12</sup> Forthcoming editions of the Report shall have a different structure, in response to the new mandate extended at the workshop on "SIDICSS and the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America: Building new reporting requirements on Triangular Cooperation and Regional SSC", held in Lima (Peru) from 24 to 26 October 2017, in which reporting requirements for Triangular Cooperation and SSC were redefined. These changes, however, do not affect the current edition of the Report.
- <sup>13</sup> The Guide to the Management of Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America (PIFCSS, 2015) highlights again many of these elements, collected through questionnaires and joint workshops with countries.

#### → GRAPH III.6

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS, BY MECHANISMS USED TO REGULATE TRIANGULATION. 2016

Share (%)



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

#### ORIGIN OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION INITIATIVES III.4.2

With the aim of understanding whether Triangular Cooperation really takes a demandoriented approach based on the needs identified by the countries themselves, an analysis focusing on how the participating countries coordinated their communication at the outset of the initiatives was carried out. This also allows to determine whether the initiatives are triangular in nature in origin and design, or, conversely, the developing countries initially agree on a bilateral implementation of a project, and later identify the need for support from a third actor.

For this specific period, information was available for a number of actions and projects very similar to those used to identify regulatory frameworks. That is, there was information available on the origin of 43.1% of the 137 projects and actions in progress in 2016 under Triangular Cooperation (very close to 41.6% from the previous year). Yet again, the results of the analysis correspond to a partial reality and interpretation warrants caution.

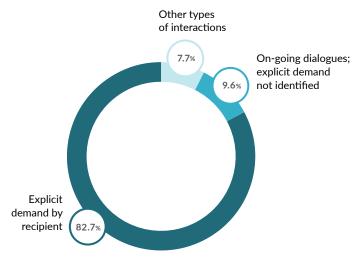
However, Graph III.7, which systematizes the three most common cases at the origin of Triangular Cooperation based on statements by Ibero-American countries, was plotted using available data. In this regard, it is worth noting that:

- a) Over 80% of the projects and actions (82.7%) were initiated at the recipient's explicit demand. Different channels were used to do this, including expressed interest in the framework of Mixed Commissions, diplomatic missions or, even, between sectoral institutions. Furthermore, the recipient can identify the strengths or capabilities of the first provider through different channels:
- Recognition of the first provider at the regional level as a leading actor in a specific area. This was the case of CONAMYPE of El Salvador with the MIPYMES (CDEMYPE) Development Program or Cuba and Health-related strengths.
- Following a diagnostic mission to identify the institution that could become the first provider to fulfill the demand.
- Based on previous Triangular Cooperation or Bilateral SSC experiences, which are expanded with new initiatives. As in the case of the work done on employability by the Dominican Republic, Germany and Chile, the Technical Cooperation Program in Humanitarian Aid that brought together Brazil, the OAS and El Salvador, following assistance by the Brazilian fire department, or the second phase of the social development project articulated in the territory by Chile, Germany and Paraguay, among others.

SEGIB

# DISTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS BY ORIGIN. 2016

Share (%)



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

- Through offer catalogs that allowed some recipients to identify potential areas for joint initiatives with their partners. A case in point is Bolivia's request to El Salvador to strengthen the institution in charge of consumer protection; a project supported by Luxembourg.
- Through sectoral institutions at the national level with a long track record in cooperation, which allowed applicant countries to acquire robust prior knowledge of the possible areas to be strengthened through Triangular Cooperation.
- b) Almost one in ten initiatives (9.6%) originated in forums for dialogue; however, this has not necessarily translated into an explicit demand, but rather a general agreement from which the initiatives emerged. One example could be triangular experiences that originated under regional cooperation programs.
- c) Finally, 7.7% of the projects and actions originated through other channels: following an exchange of thematic interests, joint identification between the first provider and the recipient or partnerships between the first and second provider, in which the recipient is invited to participate in a Triangular Cooperation project or action.

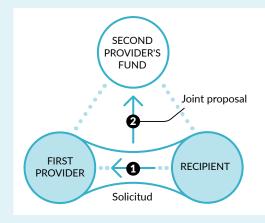
It should be finally pointed out that, more often than not, the procedure used to interact with and bring together the different partners, or the channel used to submit the original request for initiatives, is closely related to another aspect: the existence of a partnership framework between at least two partners. It is very important to identify this framework, as the agreements on how to manage the actions and projects are covered therein. These partnership frameworks may become funding mechanisms or sources for the parties, with significant consequences on how the resources needed to implement the initiatives will be managed. Box III.5 shows and exemplifies some of the most common cases in which the procedures stemming from these frameworks are used.

### TRIANGULAR COOPERATION: VARIOUS MANAGEMENT FORMS, DIFFERENT PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORKS

In trying to understanding how Triangular Cooperation works, several highly interconnected elements have been identified: the procedure used by the actors to interact; the process for incorporating the actors into the triangulation, and the existence or not of built-in funding mechanisms or Triangular Cooperation partnership frameworks. Indeed, the way in which each of these elements is embodied has to do, moreover, with whether they are interconnected or not.

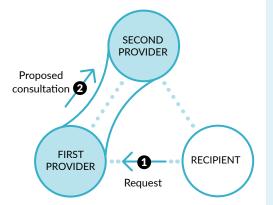
The following figures illustrate some of the more common articulation procedures used. Some countries and/or projects that showed these dynamics are described below.

# COORDINATION METHODS USED IN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS AND ACTIONS



a) The first figure shows the cases in which the recipient requests assistance from the first provider. Once both partners draw up a joint proposal, it is submitted to the second provider who, after accepting the proposal, joins the triangulation as the third actor. This is the case, for instance, of the projects implemented under the framework of Germany's Regional Fund for Triangular Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

b) The second figure represents the initiatives in which the recipient submitted the request for an SSC project to the first provider, who had already signed a Triangular Cooperation partnership framework with another partner, and who finally also participates in the project as the second provider. This was the case, for instance, of projects funded by the Spain-Chile Mixed Fund, or the Triangular Cooperation Programs in which Spain partners with Costa Rica and El Salvador.



FIRST PROVIDER FIRST PROVIDER Invitation to participate

c) The third figure refers, for instance, to the way in which the Partnership Program between Japan and several Latin America countries works. Through these agreements, Japan and its partner (who will act as the first provider) organize regional training courses and workshops, in which several countries are invited to participate simultaneously. These countries will take on the role of recipients, once they have submitted a formal request. THE MAIN SDGS STRENGTHENED WERE 2 AND 16. SDG 2 THROUGH FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY, AND SDG 16 THROUGH ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND PROMOTION OF THE RULE OF LAW

# STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

An exercise that sought to align this paper with the then recently approved 2030 Agenda was first carried out in the 2016 edition of the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America. Two years later, this exercise continues with the analysis of the potential contribution of SSC and Triangular Cooperation projects implemented in the region to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In that time, however, the Ibero-American space has also been working on building a common methodology that will be implemented in the future for this task, and that will be reflected in each forthcoming edition of the Report. Box II.? in the second chapter, gives more details about this process.

On this basis, this edition of the Report identifies which of the 17 SDGs benefit from the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects implemented in 2016. Bearing in mind, however, that many projects have a multisectoral content or focus on aspects traditionally considered as cross-cutting, the analysis will also determine whether, in those cases, they could also be contributing to a second SDG. This allows the analysis to distinguish between the cooperation's contributions to a "main SDG" and its potential contributions to a "secondary SDG". The combination of these two levels enables detailed insight into how the countries implement Triangular Cooperation in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

The results are shown on two graphs:

- a) The first one, Graph III.7.1, illustrates the distribution of the 100 Triangular Cooperation projects carried out in the region in 2016 and the main SDG to which they contributed.
- b) The second one, Graph III.7.2, focuses on the 64 projects that may have contributed to a secondary SDG.

#### Graph III.7.1 appears to suggest that:

 As in previous years, SDGs 2 and 16 appear to have benefited the most from Triangular Cooperation in 2016. This outcome is consistent with the sectoral analysis, given that SDG 2 focuses on issues that are highly relevant to SSC in our region, such as agricultural sustainability and productivity and food security, while SDG 16 is related to institutional strengthening and promoting the rule of law. Not surprisingly, a third of the 100 projects registered in 2016 contributed to these two Goals. In particular:

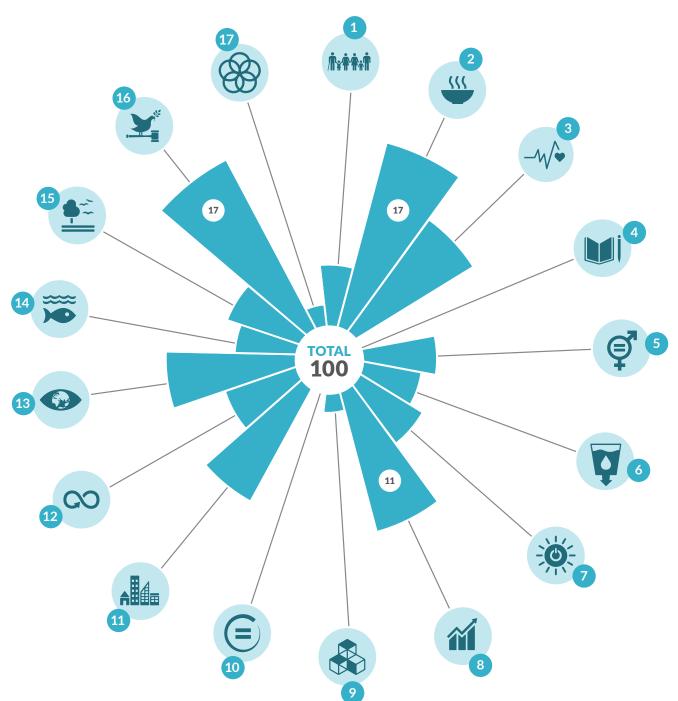
- 17% of Triangular Cooperation projects in 2016 contributed to SDG 2. Worthy of note are the projects undertaken by Brazil, both in partnership with FAO and with Honduras and the United States, to advance on this issue. Also of especial interest are the experiences promoted by Chile with the WFP, through the Project Against Hunger and Poverty, as well as between Mexico and Argentina to improve seeds, increase the resilience of small-scale farmers and enhance the cocoa production chain.
- Another 17% contributed to SDG 16. In this case, the projects sought to strengthen institutions both by building effective public institutions (implementing digital systems, improving the capacities of the civil service, etc.), and constructing and consolidating the rule of law and promoting peace (defense of Human Rights, peace building, etc.).
- The third and fourth SDGs in importance b) were, respectively, 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and 3 (Good health and well-being). Indeed, 11% of the projects were mostly oriented towards access to employment, strengthening of the productive sectors of the economy, support for MSMEs and sustainable tourism, all of which contribute to SDG 8. Meanwhile, another 10% of the projects could contribute to SDG 3. This contribution, in particular, was achieved through initiatives that, in sectoral terms, are classified under Health and Population and Reproductive Health activities, which is especially closely linked to improvement of health services (care and creation of networks), communicable diseases and reduction of maternal mortality.
- 18% of the projects in 2016 contributed, c) in equal parts, to SDGs 11 and 13. More specifically, 9% of the triangular exchanges aligned with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). The initiatives geared towards urban planning and management and resilience to natural disasters are included here. On the other hand, another 9% contributed to SDG 13 (Climate Action). It should be noted, however, that this Goal is closely linked to SDG 14 (Life below Water) and 15 (Life on Land). Therefore, if the projects that benefited these three SDGs are added to the mix, it can be argued that 16% of the initiatives in 2016 were strongly geared towards the environment. This includes experiences already addressed at the sectoral level, which combined processes for adapting to climate change with protection of areas that sometimes combined maritime, coastal and inland areas.
- d) The last 20% of the projects were distributed as follows: 12%, divided into three equal parts (4% each), contributed to SDGs 5 (Gender Equality), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production); another 6%, also in equal parts, focused on SDG 1 (No Poverty) and 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation); while a number of projects revolved around Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9) and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).

Finally, the interpretation of Graphs III.7 and III.8, relating to the contribution of the 100 triangular projects in 2016 to a main SDG, and of the 64 projects that also benefited a secondary SDG, should be complemented by reading Diagram III.6, which illustrates the link established between the main and secondary SDGs of each project.



### CONTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. 2016. MAIN SDG

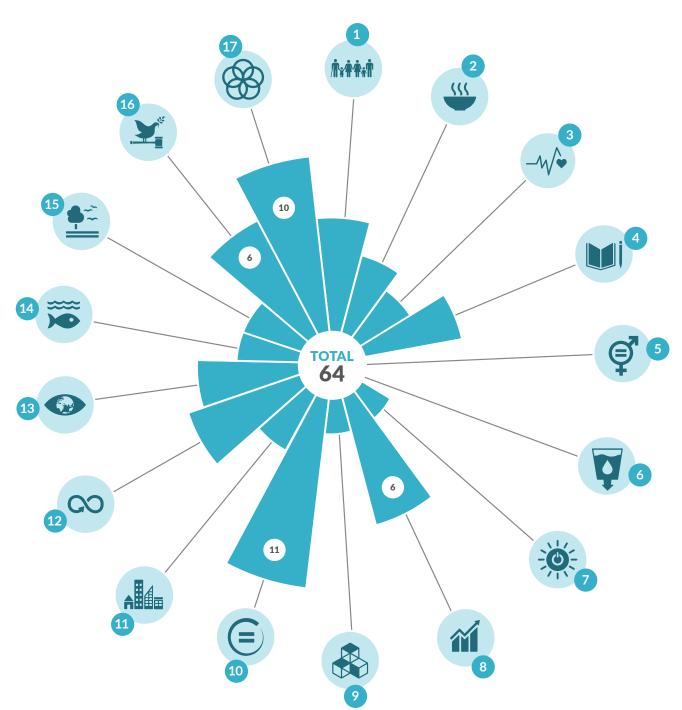
Units



### CONTRIBUTION OF TRIANGULAR COOPERATION PROJECTS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. 2016. SECONDARY SDG

Units

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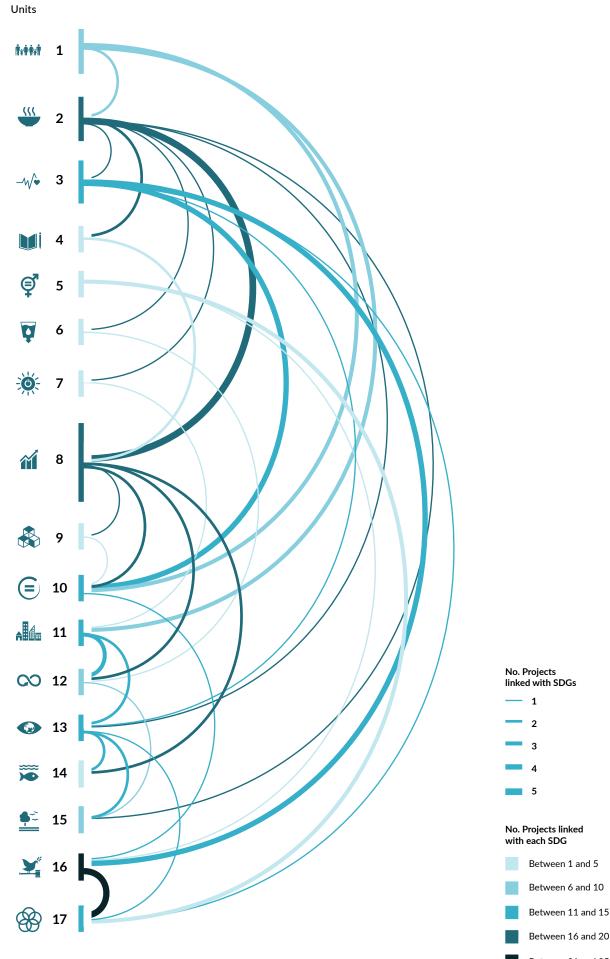


SOME 11% OF PROJECTS NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTED TO ACHIEVING A GOAL, BUT ALSO TO ADVANCING SDG 10 ON INEQUALITY. MANY PROJECTS ON EMPLOYMENT (SDG 8) FOCUSED ON YOUTH, AND SOME HEALTH-RELATED PROJECTS (SDG 3) SIMULTANEOUSLY TOUCHED ON SPARSELY-POPULATED PLACES OR ASSISTANCE FOR ADULT POPULATION

It can be concluded from the combined reading of these graphs that:

- a) 11% of projects were not only contributing to the achievement of a single goal, but also to SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), which did not appear as the main SDG in any project. For instance, many projects on employment (SDG 8) also focused on youth, and some Health-related projects (SDG 3) simultaneously touched on sparsely-populated places or assistance for adult population. SDGs 1 and 10 were strongly interconnected through projects that revolved around strengthening social protection policies in hard-toreach or sparsely populated areas.
- b) Meanwhile, 10% of the projects had SDG 17 as secondary ODS; an ODS that only appears once as the main SDG in a Triangular Cooperation project. In this case, the projects focused especially on national statistical capacities and strengthening of institutions involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which, in turn, primarily contributed to SDG 16 through support to create effective institutions. Several projects were also linked to SDG 5, given that they were aimed at generating data and statistics on the status of women in terms of violence or time-use surveys.
- c) Another 6% of Triangular Cooperation projects had SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) as its secondary goal. In this case, the projects were primarily exchanges for improving the yield of certain crops for its ulterior marketing; therefore, SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) was its main SDG. Meanwhile, a similar proportion of projects (another 6%) had SDG 16 (Strong Institutions) as its secondary goal. In this case, it tied in with SDG 17, which, as outlined in the previous point, focuses on strengthening national institutions.
- d) Finally, the analysis identified some sporadic and secondary contributions to the remaining SDGs, albeit in relatively few projects, between 1% and 5%. The only exception were SDGs 5 and 6, two instances in which no secondary SDGs were identified.

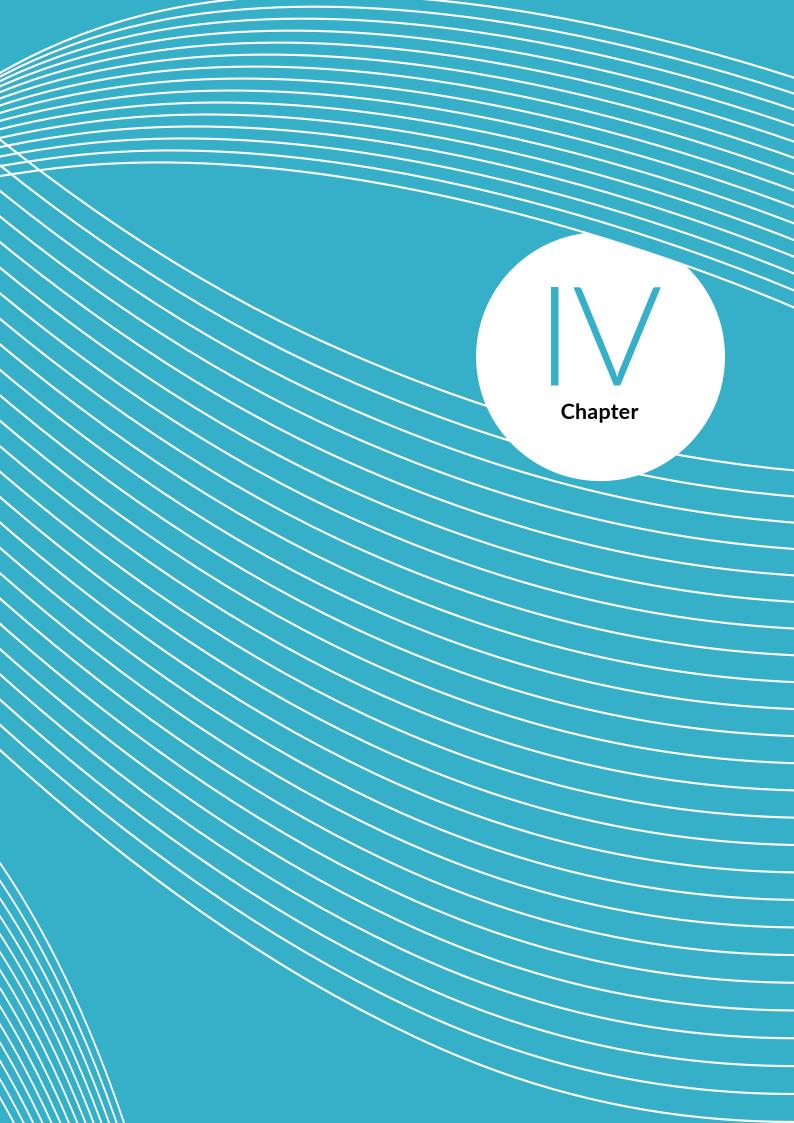
### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SDGS BY NUMBER OF PROJECTS THAT SIMULTANEOUSLY CONTRIBUTE TO BOTH SDGS



Between 21 and 25

4





# Ibero-America and Regional South-South Cooperation

This fourth chapter focuses on systematizing the exchanges that took place in 2016 under Regional South-South Cooperation, the third modality recognized in Ibero-America. As in previous chapters, the SIDICSS and its methodological developments enabled to extend the analysis that are typically performed, which, on the one hand, integrates the time series on the evolution of Regional SSC over the last decade; and on the other, makes estimates of the potential contribution of the programs and projects implemented under this modality to the achievement of the SDGs.

Accordingly, this chapter is structured as follows:

- a) First, it identifies the Regional South-South Cooperation programs and projects that Ibero-American countries reported as being in progress in 2016. It also analyzes developments in this modality over the last 10 years in order to identify the dynamics involved to achieve the final figures.
- b) The two sections that follow focus on the stakeholders involved in this cooperation: Ibero-American countries and multilateral bodies. It is important to identify these bodies in order to understand certain issues which affect the functioning of the programs and projects because, under this modality, these bodies provide the organizational and regulatory rules and institutional framework needed for cooperation.
- c) In order to identify the common issues addressed in the regional experience, an initial assessment is made to determine the profile of capacities that could have been strengthened by cooperation in 2016.
- d) Finally, and for the first time, all programs and projects are analyzed based on their potential contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. This exercise provides insight into how Regional SSC is aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

# REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN 2016

# IV.1

As Table A.IV.2 in the annex shows, Ibero-American countries claimed to have participated in 46 programs and 53 projects under Regional South-South Cooperation in 2016. As suggested in Graph IV.1, which shows the historical evolution of this modality in the decade between 2007 and 2016, the total number of initiatives (almost one hundred) was identical to the figure for the previous year. The only variation observed refers to the instruments used to implement this cooperation. A negligible variation that was offset by the overall total because, although the number of programs dropped from 48 to 46, the projects increased from 51 to 53.

The sustained stability between 2015 and 2016 contrasted with the different growth dynamics in the last decade. Indeed, as Graph IV.1 shows, between 2007 and 2010, the Regional SSC programs and projects in which Ibero-American countries participated were relatively stable, given that the fluctuations in the annual total were offset by an average exchange rate close to zero (-0.2%). Meanwhile, the intense growth between 2011 and 2013 (annual average of 19.9%) translated into an all-time high of around 140 Regional SSC programs and projects in 2013. Since then, and up to 2015, the trend became negative again, with an annual growth rate of -15.3%, which reduced the total number of programs and projects to 100 initiatives in 2015. This figure remained steady in 2016, and yet it was practically 14% higher than in 2006.

#### Units 160 138 130 140 101 120 99 99 . 100 81 81 . . 65 78 80 66 58 60 60 60 53 51 49 48 46 44 38 36 37 40 27 21 20 0 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 Total Program Project

#### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH IV.1

IV  $\,\cdot\,\,$  Ibero-America and Regional South-South Cooperation

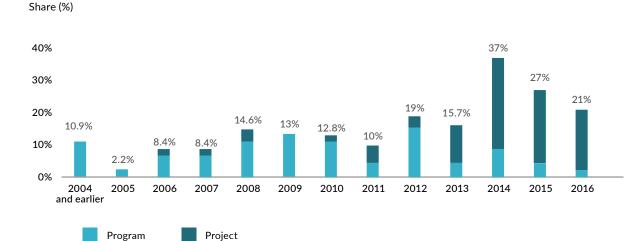
**EVOLUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS. 2007-2016** 

The fact that the total number of Regional SSC programs and projects was very similar in 2015 and 2016 does not mean that there has not been a surge in new initiatives in the latter year. Indeed, Graphs IV.2 and IV.3 show, on the one hand, the effective start year of the programs and projects in progress in 2016, and, on the other, the average duration of these initiatives. The combined reading of both graphs suggests that:

- At least one in 5 Regional SSC projects in progress in 2016 were "new" projects that started in that year. Moreover, another 50% of the projects started sometime during the two previous years (2014 and 2015), while the remaining 30% were started before 2013.
- b) This distribution of Regional SSC projects by start year (Graph IV.2) is consistent with the average durations shown in Graph IV.3. Indeed, although the time elapsed between the start and end date of the activity could be up to 7 years, half of these initiatives had a duration between 2 and 4 years, and the average time for each project was 3 years and 4 months.

#### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH IV.2

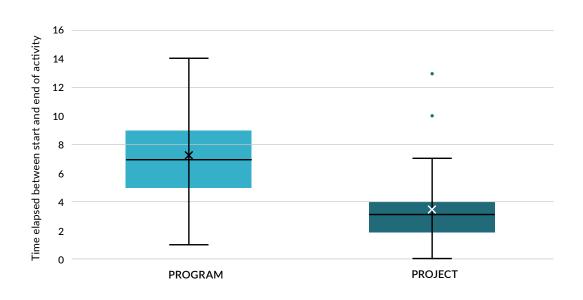
### DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, BY START YEAR. 2016



 $\longrightarrow$  GRAPH IV.3

# DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, BY DURATION. 2016

Years



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

- c) By contrast, only 2.2% of the 46 Regional SSC programs underway in 2016 started in that year. Therefore, the bulk of the initiatives started much earlier, i.e. onethird of the total, sometime between 2012 (50%) and 2015; 4 in 10, between 2008 and 2011; and practically over a decade for the remaining exchanges.
- d) Again, these dates are consistent with the fact that the programs had a longer duration (Graph IV.3). Thus, the implementation period of programs could have stretched between 1 and 14 years, with the average duration between start and end date exceeding 7 years and 3 months.

IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES CLAIMED TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN 46 PROGRAMS AND 53 PROJECTS UNDER REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN 2016

# COUNTRIES' SHARE IN REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. 2016

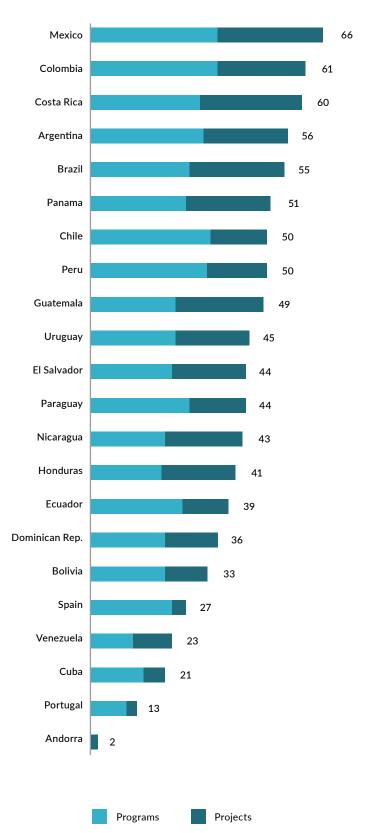
The way in which Ibero-American countries participated in the 46 programs and 53 projects implemented in 2016 is another important issue for Regional SSC. Graph IV.4 shows the total number of Regional SSC programs and projects in which each country participated, broken down by the instrument used by each country to implement the initiatives. The descending order of the list shows that:

- a) In 2016, Mexico engaged in the largest number of Regional South-South Cooperation initiatives (66). It was followed, in order of relative importance, by Colombia and Costa Rica, both with more than 60 programs and projects. Likewise, four South American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Chile) and one in Central America (Panama) also engaged in more than fifty initiatives.
- b) Six countries were involved in 40 to 50 programs and projects, without ever exceeding this range. These countries were Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala (in Central American subregion) and, Paraguay and Uruguay (in the south of the continent).
- c) Finally, two Andean countries, Bolivia and Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic, had between 30 and 39 initiatives in progress. Spain, in the Iberian Peninsula, Venezuela and Cuba engaged in more than 20 programs and projects each. Meanwhile, Andorra and Portugal participated in Regional SSC in 2016 with 3 and 12 initiatives, respectively.

### $\rightarrow$ graph IV.4

#### COUNTRIES' SHARE IN REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

# MULTILATERAL AGENCIES' SHARE IN REGIONAL SSC. 2016

Based on the definition of Regional South-South Cooperation agreed by the Ibero-American countries, some specific requirements must be met to implement this modality. As stated in the PIFCSS and SEGIB document (2013), this cooperation shall:

- a) Consist of at least three partners from developing countries that will share, agree and advocate for an objective that contributes to regional development and/or integration;
- b) Have an institutional mechanism, formally recognized by all parties, that regulates the relationship between participants; and
- c) Be instrumentalized through programs and projects.

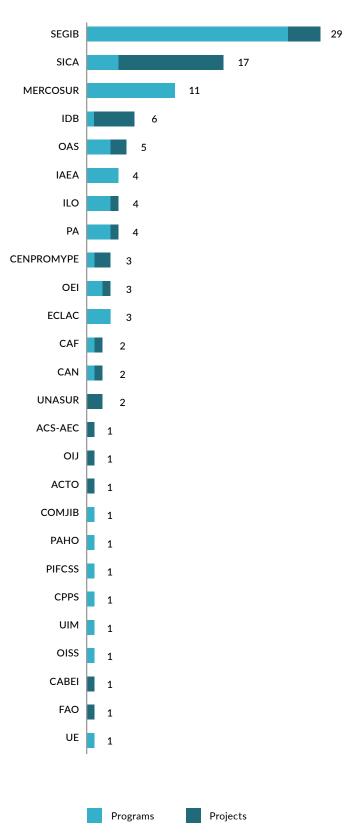
In this regard, an institutional framework regulating the implementation rules for programs and projects may be designed specially for Regional SSC. However, as the previous years appear to suggest, in most cases, it is provided by the multilateral partner. It is precisely the transfer of this institutional framework by these stakeholders that makes it so necessary to determine whether, and how, they participated in Regional SSC initiatives in 2016.

Indeed, Table A.IV.1, in the annex, lists the 46 programs and 53 projects under Regional SSC implemented by Ibero-American countries in 2016, linking them to the institutional framework under which they took place. As shown in the table, in 95% of the cases (94 programs and projects), this framework was effectively determined by the presence of a multilateral body. Graph IV.5 identifies the bodies that participated in Regional SSC in 2016, and shows, in descending order, the total number of programs and projects in which they exercised their regulatory role.<sup>1</sup>

### $\rightarrow$ GRAPH IV.5

# MULTILATERAL BODIES' SHARE IN REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS. 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bodies are treated individually in Graph IV.5. However, they often partner when implementing cooperation (for instance, ECLAC and ILO collaborated in two work programs on international classifications and labor market indicators). This means that some Regional SSC programs and projects have been counted twice in the overall total shown in Graph IV.5, which explains why the aggregate figure does not add up to 94 initiatives (all initiatives in 2016 minus 5 in which a multilateral body did not participate).

It follows from Graph IV.5 that:

- In virtually one-third of the cases, the 46 a) programs and 53 projects in progress under Regional SSC in 2016 were participated by an Ibero-American, multilateral stakeholder. Indeed, in three out of four initiatives, the regulatory role fell to the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB). In the remaining 25%, SEGIB worked with other bodies (COMJIB, OEI, OIJ, OISS and PIFCSS), although some also participated individually, including the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) and the Ibero-American Union of Municipalists (UIM). In any case, these programs and projects complied with the Cooperation Program model approved by the Presidents and Heads of State in the Summit held annually at the Ibero-American Conference.
- The Central American Integration System b) (SICA), or one of its specialized agencies, such as the Regional Center for the Promotion of Micro, Small and Mediumsized Enterprises (CENPROMYPE), also participated in a score of Regional SSC programs and projects. It should be noted that, in more than half of these initiatives, SICA (and even CENPROMYPE) participated through Mesoamerican Programs (in areas driven by Mexico or Colombia), whose institutional framework emerged from the Tuxtla Mechanism. In other cases, SICA regulated cooperation with other agencies (Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), International Maritime Organization (IMO) and European Union), and countries (Spain, Japan and in the Caribbean). In any case, as already discussed in great length in the previous edition of this Report, the regulatory frameworks that govern Regional SSC initiatives through SICA may have widely varying norms and complexity.<sup>2</sup>

- c) Meanwhile, MERCOSUR supported and provided an institutional framework for 10 of the 46 Regional SSC projects in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016. To these should be added a project executed via a collaboration agreement between this commercial integration alliance, Spain and Portugal, whose norms differed from the other initiatives mentioned above.
- d) The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) participated in 6 Regional SSC programs and projects in 2016. Sometimes, this participation involved another body (e.g. the aforementioned CENPROMYPE), or several of them (CABEI, CAF, OAS and UNEP). In the latter case, the initiatives were carried out under the framework of the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project (PM). In fact, two other projects were implemented under the Mesoamerican institutional framework, which also were supported by countries outside the region, such as Germany, South Korea and Japan.
- e) In addition to their ad hoc support for an initiative under the framework of the Mesoamerican Project, the Organization of American States (OAS) participated in 4 other Regional SSC programs and projects in 2016. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) carried a similar weight. Their participation in another 4 initiatives was geared towards supporting the cooperation implemented under ARCAL for the Advancement of Nuclear Science and Technology in Latin America and the Caribbean, extensively addressed in previous editions of this Report.<sup>3</sup>

- <sup>2</sup> For further details, refer to Box IV.1, pages 176 and 177 of the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2017, in the Spanish edition.
- <sup>3</sup> This Program was addressed in detail in Table IV.1 of the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2016, pages 198 to 202 in the Spanish edition.

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IN 2016, MEXICO ENGAGED IN THE LARGEST NUMBER OF REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION INITIATIVES: 66. NEXT, IN ORDER OF RELATIVE IMPORTANCE, WERE COLOMBIA AND COSTA RICA, BOTH WITH MORE THAN 60 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

- f) The International Labor Organization (ILO) and the Pacific Alliance partnership scheme, both active in 4 Regional SSC programs and projects each in said year, were two other multilateral bodies that participated in Regional SSC in 2016. It should be added that the ILO participated in this cooperation twice, under a framework agreement with ECLAC, a body that also participated once on its own.
- g) Lastly, it should be noted that a number of bodies also engaged in Regional SSC in 2016 either individually or collectively. From the subregional perspective, worthy of note were the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR); FAO and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), owing to their prominently sectoral nature; and the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), which are a combination of both.

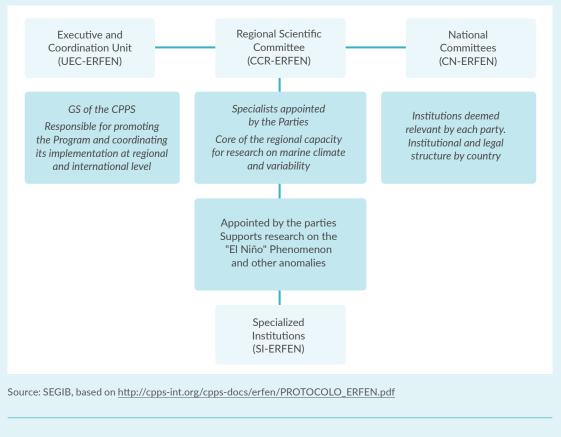
As stated earlier, multilateral organizations help provide an institutional framework and regulation system for relationship between countries that participated in Regional SSC. How this came about has been discussed at length in previous editions of this Report, particularly within the Ibero-American framework, Tuxtla Mechanisms, MERCOSUR, OAS, Pacific Alliance, IAEA and SICA, to name a few. Finally, Box IV.1 was included to illustrate more in detail how the bodies determine the basis on which a Regional South-South Cooperation initiative operates. This edition focuses on one of the more consolidated experiences in the region: the Protocol on the Program for the Regional Study of the "El Niño" Phenomenon in the Southeast Pacific, framed under the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS).

# PROTOCOL ON THE PROGRAM FOR THE REGIONAL STUDY OF THE "EL NIÑO" PHENOMENON IN THE SOUTHEAST PACIFIC (ERFEN)

The Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) dates back to 1952. Led by Chile, Ecuador and Peru, and later Colombia, the CPPS has accrued over six decades relevant experience in maritime resources management and protection. Although it addresses various kinds of issues, its main activity is built around the Regional Study of the "El Niño" Phenomenon in the Southeast Pacific (ERFEN). Indeed, this phenomenon, which was first described in the late nineteenth century (1892), has its origin in the occasional and cyclical warming (estimated at every 8 years) of the surface waters of the Pacific Ocean associated with extreme weather events. It is called "La Niña" when the surface water of this ocean is colder than usual.

The main focus of this Program, which begun in 1976, is scientific research to help prevent and anticipate the likely effects of the "El Niño" and "La Niña" phenomena, and facilitate the design and application of emergency policies and support their adaptation to economic activities (primarily, fishing, agriculture and industry) and population that may be affected, as well as everything related to better management of ecosystems and their resources. The Protocol institutionalizes and consolidates the Program by "promoting scientific and technical cooperation" among the 22 institutions designated by the countries and "expanding national capacities for the management and interpretation of information to improve predictive capacity for the "El Niño" phenomenon, and contribute to mitigate the negative effects and leverage the positive ones"<sup>1</sup> The Protocol needs an institutional framework in line with its goals to reconcile its global vision with its interdisciplinary and multinational work. The following diagram shows the different institutional mechanisms available (Executive and Coordination Unit, Regional Scientific Committee, National Committees, and Specialized Institutions); their members (General Secretariat of the CPPS, institutions, specialists and country authorities), and their main function (regional and international coordination, national within the Member countries, or research to prevent and adapt policies to counteract the "El Niño" phenomenon based on scientific collaborations).





<sup>1</sup> http://cpps-int.org/cpps-docs/erfen/PROTOCOLO\_ERFEN.pdf

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus and ERFEN Protocol (1992)

SEGIB

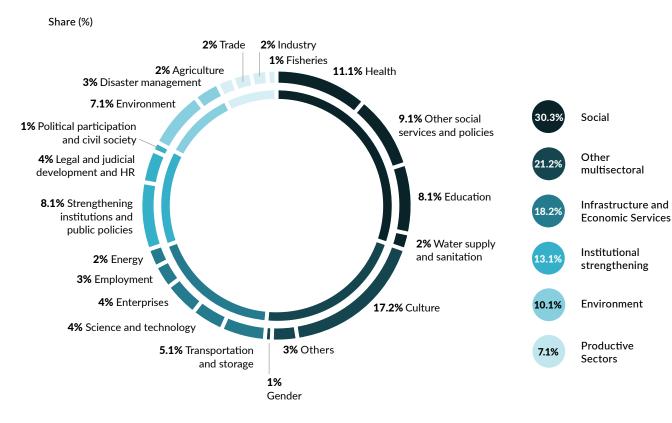
# SECTORAL ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN 2016

A sectoral perspective is applied to complement the analysis on Regional SSC in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016. To that end, identifying the type of capacities strengthened under this modality provides insight on the common problems faced by the countries in the region and the type of solutions shared and instrumentalized through SSC.

Interestingly, the results of this analysis are related to the level of relative presence of multilateral bodies. Indeed, the participation of these actors not only provides an institutional framework for cooperation, but, in many cases, also justifies the development of cooperation, owing precisely to its sectoral nature and its proven experience in health, food or nutrition, and disaster management, to name a few.

### $\rightarrow$ GRAPH IV.6

### PROFILE OF CAPACITIES STRENGTHENED BY REGIONAL SSC, BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016



IV  $\,\cdot\,\,$  Ibero-America and Regional South-South Cooperation

Graph IV.6, rendered as a sunburst chart, shows the distribution of Regional SSC programs and projects in 2016 by activity sector (outer concentric ring) and relevant area of action (internal).

It follows that:

- The bulk of the 46 programs and 53 a) projects under Regional SSC (nearly onethird) in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016 attempted to address social problems collectively. A guarter (25.3%) of the initiatives in the Economic sector were primarily oriented towards supporting the creation of Infrastructures and services (18.2%), with a smaller number geared towards Productive sectors (7.1% of the total initiatives). Meanwhile, the programs and projects categorized under Other multisectoral carried significant weight (one in five initiatives). This is due to the importance Culture (17.1% of all programs and projects), making this sector the one with the highest relative presence in 2016. The cooperation geared towards Institutional Strengthening (13.1%), which sought to address a number of environmental issues (10.1%), complements the profile.
- b) Health had the greatest relative weight (second in Regional SSC in 2016) in the Social sector with 11 programs and projects. An initiative worthy of note was the ARCAL Program geared towards developing radiopharmaceuticals for cancer treatments, as well as scientific and technological solutions to improve the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric tumors. In addition to cancer, Regional SSC solutions also addressed treatment for malaria, or ensuring nutritional and food security, especially in the most vulnerable groups, such as childhood. Other initiatives focused on improving the sector's information systems, including the generalized adoption of a model to manage electronic health records.
- c) Cooperation in the Social sector was linked to Other services and policies (9). Education (8) and Water (2 initiatives), albeit on a more ad hoc basis. It should be noted that the programs and projects that sought to promote greater social inclusion in the region, under different institutional frameworks, used a variety of tools, including sports and culture, and focused on the more vulnerable groups, such as children, youth and the elderly. The projects geared towards education not only promoted literacy and academic mobility, but also sought to strengthen the educational system to support greater inclusiveness. Finally, the cooperation aimed at water resources combined better management with sanitation, especially in urban areas.

NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF THE 46 PROGRAMS AND 53 PROJECTS UNDER REGIONAL SSC IN WHICH IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES PARTICIPATED IN 2016 ATTEMPTED TO ADDRESS SOCIAL PROBLEMS COLLECTIVELY \_\_\_\_\_

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 d) Meanwhile, 25% of the programs and projects aimed at strengthening the Economic sector were built around
 9 activity sectors. Of particular note were the 5 initiatives geared towards developing Transport infrastructures (mainly rehabilitation of roads and railways within the framework of MERCOSUR);
 4 initiatives for promoting micro, small and medium enterprises, especially in the Central and Mesoamerican subregions; another 4 targeted towards bolstering the development of a Science and Technology-oriented economic application in different institutional areas (Ibero-America, OAS and IAEA); and, finally, 3 focused on improving the conditions for creating jobs, in particular statistical work for decision making with the support of ECLAC and ILO. The programs and projects aimed at Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Fisheries and Energy were more ad hoc.

### BOX IV.2

### IBERMUSEOS AND PROMOTION OF MUSEUM ACTIVITY IN IBERO-AMERICA

IBERMUSEOS is an Ibero-American cooperation and integration program, coordinated by SEGIB through the Ibero-American Cultural Space, whose academic roots can be traced back to the 1st Ibero-American Meeting of Museums, held in Brazil in 2007. At this Meeting, the representatives of the twenty-two Ibero-American countries signed the Declaration, which laid the foundation for its creation, and defined the frameworks for implementation of public policies for museums. The Ibero-American Summit approved the declaration, initiating its activities in 2009, following the Ibero-American Year of Museums in 2008.

Since its inception, SEGIB and the Program have envisaged museums as dynamic, vibrant and intercultural institutions within the framework of the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government. Likewise, the program viewed museums as spaces in which the power of memory can be leveraged and used to develop educational functions and training to encourage respect for cultural and natural diversity. This will allow to broaden appreciation for social cohesion of communities, which is particularly relevant in the Ibero-American context.

#### LINES OF ACTION OF THE IBERMUSEOS PROGRAM

- $\rightarrow$  Support for Museum Heritage at Risk
- $\rightarrow$  Ibero-American Museum Observatory
- $\rightarrow$  Training and Capacity-building Program
- $\rightarrow$  Sustainability of Ibero-American Museum Institutions and Processes

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from http://www.ibermuseos.org/es/

Built around the four lines of action summarized in the table above, IBERMUSEOS seeks to "strengthen the relationship between public and private institutions and among professionals in the museum sector across Ibero-America, promoting heritage protection and management and sharing of experiences and knowledge"(IBERMUSEOS, 2017). In line with this goal, IBERMUSEOS focuses on developing an Ibero-American Network of Museums that operate as a space for exchange and strengthening of public policies on museums, enabling the integration, modernization and development of museum institutions to position Ibero-America in sector-based meetings and international strategic forums.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from IBERMUSEOS (2017) and the digital page http://www.ibermuseos.org/es/

- As stated earlier, one in five Regional SSC e) initiatives were classified under Other multisectoral, mainly due to the significant weight of Culture, which accounted for 17.2% of all programs and projects in 2016. Although these experiences were supported by different institutional frameworks (MERCOSUR, OAS and UNASUR), the bulk of this cooperation was implemented under Ibero-American Programs, which sought to strengthen a variety of Cultural activities (visual arts, performing arts, libraries, crafts, museums, or sound and audiovisual memory, to name a few). Indeed, Box IV.2 briefly summarizes the experience built around the IBERMUSEOS program. A project worthy of note under Other multisectoral, implemented under the umbrella of the ECLAC, sought to strengthen gender statistics as a tool for designing, monitoring and evaluating the public policies pursued by countries in the region to achieve greater equality between men and women.
- Meanwhile, 13.1% of Regional SSC f) programs and projects implemented in 2016 sought to strengthen institutions and public policies. Again, the bulk of this cooperation was implemented through the Ibero-American Programs, including those geared towards management and preservation of different types of files (RADI and ADAI); territorial planning, especially at the urban and municipal level (Proterritorios, CIDEU and UIM); and even the Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS), whose main action focuses, precisely, on supporting the lead national institutions governing cooperation in the member countries. It should be added that the initiatives in this area sought to support greater and better access to Justice, as well as eliminate the worst forms of labor (in particular, child labor) with the support of the ILO, in order to ensure more dignified working conditions and greater social protection.
- Finally, one out of 10 Regional SSC initiatives in 2016 were geared towards finding shared solutions to environmental problems. The increased knowledge of the global scale of the problems faced, like climate change, provides better insight into the relevance of this type of initiatives, in which the collective action of a group of neighboring countries or common geographic element tends to be sustained over time. To that end, different programs and projects have been identified that encourage the implementation of actions by Central and Mesoamerican countries, or by countries located along the Pacific Basin or which have territory in the Amazon, to fight against climate change, vulnerability to drought, or prevention and adaptation to the "El Niño" phenomenon, to name a few. Included here are also disaster management initiatives that are strongly linked to enhanced management of extreme weather events that are occurring increasingly more often across the planet.

g)

THE CULTURE SECTOR WAS OF NOTABLE IMPORTANCE WITH 17.2% OF THE REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN 2016

# REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN 2016: POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

# IV.5

Graph IV.7 shows the distribution of the nearly 100 Regional SSC initiatives in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016, based on their potential contribution to each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that comprise the 2030 Agenda. This polar graph shows the total number of programs and projects, ordered clockwise in ascending order, that were geared towards a particular goal, which is referred to here as "main" SDG.

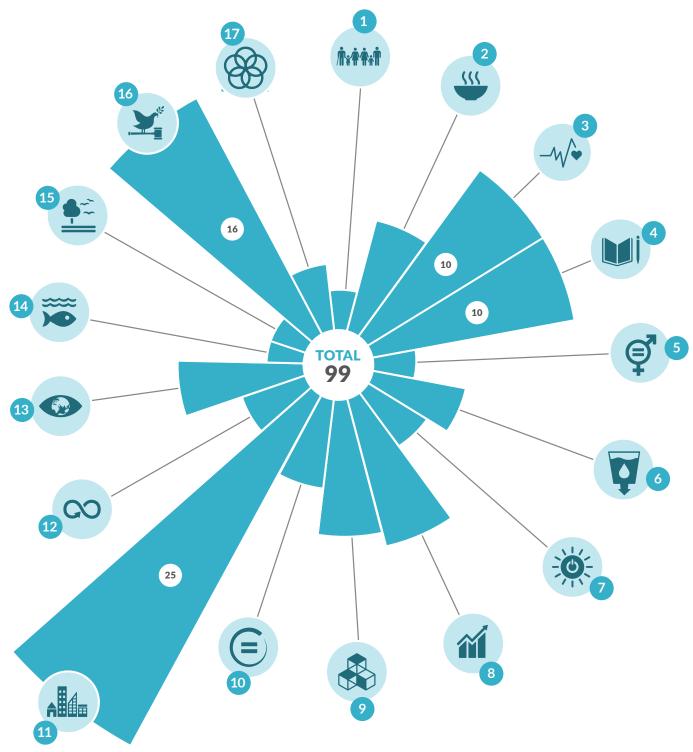
- a) The bulk of Regional SSC in 2016 (over 60%) was primarily aligned with four of the 17 Development Goals: SDGs 11, 16, 3 and 4, related to Sustainable Cities, Strong Institutions, Health and Quality Education. The remaining 40% of the regional programs and projects in 2016 were distributed among the other SDGs, mostly through ad hoc initiatives, with the exception of SDGs 8 and 9 (Decent Work, Economic Growth and Industry), as well as SDG 13 (Climate Action) and 2 (Zero Hunger), each with 4 to 7 initiatives.
- b) The fact that one in four programs and projects in 2016 were primarily aligned with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) can be explained by a combination of initiatives that addressed, on the one hand, territorial planning (in particular, urban and municipal), and, on the other, increased mobility through better road and railway infrastructure. Culture, a sector undervalued in the 2030 Agenda, also played a relevant role, certainly contributing to building safer and more inclusive and sustainable cities and human settlements.
- c) Meanwhile, 16 of the 99 Regional SSC programs and projects registered by Ibero-American countries in 2016 may have contributed to achieving SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). Included here are regional initiatives that focused on greater access to justice for the population; support for training and capacity-building of civil servants, diplomats and public employees in general; and generation of indicators and statistics, which, in turn, contributed to enhancing decision-makers' capacity to design and implement more effective institutions and public policies.

- Meanwhile, 20 initiatives were equally d) distributed between SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 4 (Quality Education). Worthy of note were those that promoted research and development in techniques and medicines for early detection and treatment of a number of diseases, including cancer, malaria or sarcopenia. In addition to these were initiatives that sought to strengthen sectorbased institutions and policies through, for instance, medicine agencies or electronic information and management systems for patients' health records. Several programs and projects focusing on literacy, teacher training and academic and student mobility, as well as others promoting more inclusive educational systems were linked to SDG 4.
- e) Furthermore, 13 initiatives were aligned with SDGs 8 and 9, i.e. employment, industry, innovation, infrastructure and economic growth. In this case, worth noting was the Regional SSC geared towards promoting decent work and eradicating child labor; encouraging entrepreneurship and MSMEs; and supporting development of scientific and technological advances with clear economic application. Less than 10 initiatives, implemented mainly through agricultural and fishing activities, focused, on the one hand, on the fight against climate change and, on the other, on food security. These cooperation initiatives in 2016 aligned with SDGs 13 (Climate Action) and 2 (Zero Hunger).
- f) Other Regional SSC initiatives (15) in 2016 were more ad hoc, and aligned with up to 8 different SDGs. Three (3) programs aligned with SDG 10 had an impact on reducing inequality through actions focused on youth and older adults. In this regard, the fact that there were only ad hoc actions aimed at certain SDGs, including SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), underlines the need to promote new cooperation programs and projects in new thematic areas that contribute to the region's progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

### → GRAPH IV.7

# DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, ACCORDING TO THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A MAIN SDG. 2016

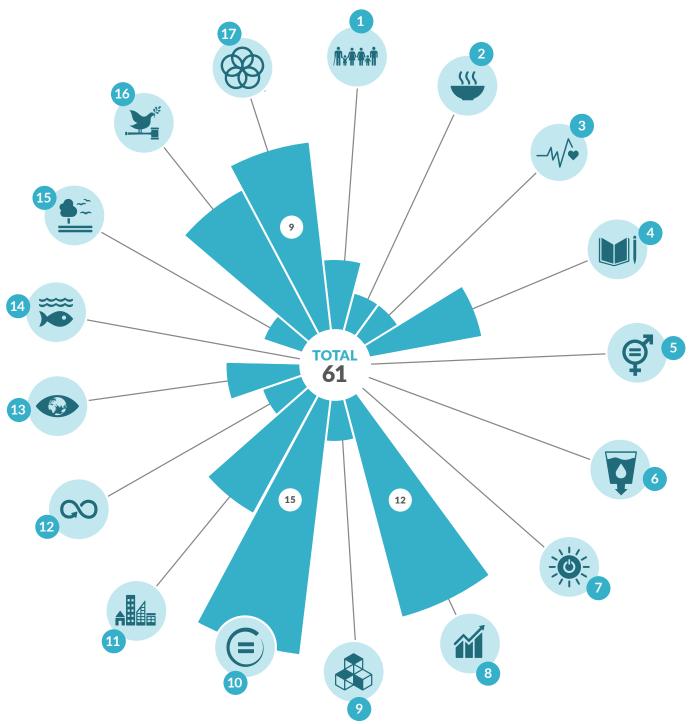
Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

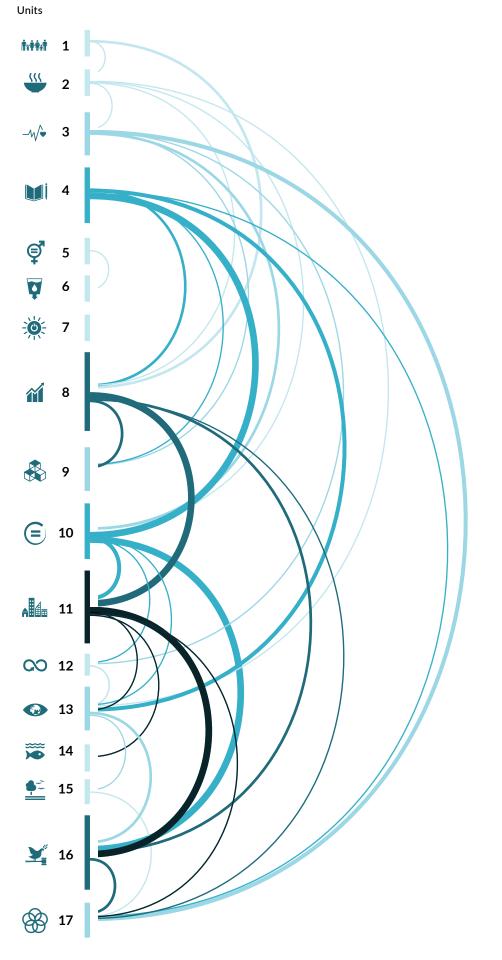
# DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, ACCORDING TO THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A SECONDARY SDG. 2016

Units



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, ACCORDING TO THEIR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO TWO SDGS AND THE LINK BETWEEN THEM. 2016



No. Projects linked with SDGs 1 2

3 4 5

No. Projects linked with each SDG



Between 25 and 30

As in previous chapters, the analysis on how SSC can be aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals should be complemented with information on whether it also contributes to a "secondary" SDG. Graphs IV.7 and Diagram IV.1 illustrate, on the one hand, which are the secondary SDGs and, on the other, their links to the so-called "main" goals.

It follows from the combined reading of the two figures that:

- a) Nearly two thirds of the Regional SSC implemented in 2016 helped to achieve at least two Sustainable Development Goals. The SDGs with the strongest performance, when treated as "secondary" SDGs, were those that had a cross-cutting or "indirect" impact. While the initiatives initially were affecting other aspects, nearly half of them were also contributing to SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) and SDG 8 (Economic Growth), and another 25% were geared towards strengthening institutions (SDG 16) or supporting the means to implement the 2030 Agenda (SDG 17).
- b) As further illustrated in Diagram IV.1, the programs and projects that first focused on SDG 4 (support for a more inclusive education system) or SDG 3 (cooperation for strengthening health, which, in turn targeted the more vulnerable groups, including the elderly or people with disabilities) contributed to SDG 10. Similarly, the initiatives geared primarily towards Industry (SDG 9), in general, or, in some cases, to Culture (SDG 11), also contributed secondarily to economic growth and SDG 8.
- c) Likewise, the "secondary" alignment of SSC with SDG 16, which was implemented through programs and projects that focused on a variety of SDGs (10, 11 or 13), managed to strengthen and improve the effectiveness of public institutions. Special mention deserves SDG 17, which benefited from initiatives aimed at improving accountability through generation of indicators and statistics on gender, health, or employment, or, for instance, through the Ibero-American program that strengthens SSC itself, and which had already targeted SDG 16.

MORE THAN 60% OF THE REGIONAL CSS IN 2016 WAS PRIMARILY ALIGNED WITH FOUR OF THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: SDGS 11, 16, 3 AND 4, RELATED TO SUSTAINABLE CITIES, STRONG INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND QUALITY EDUCATION \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

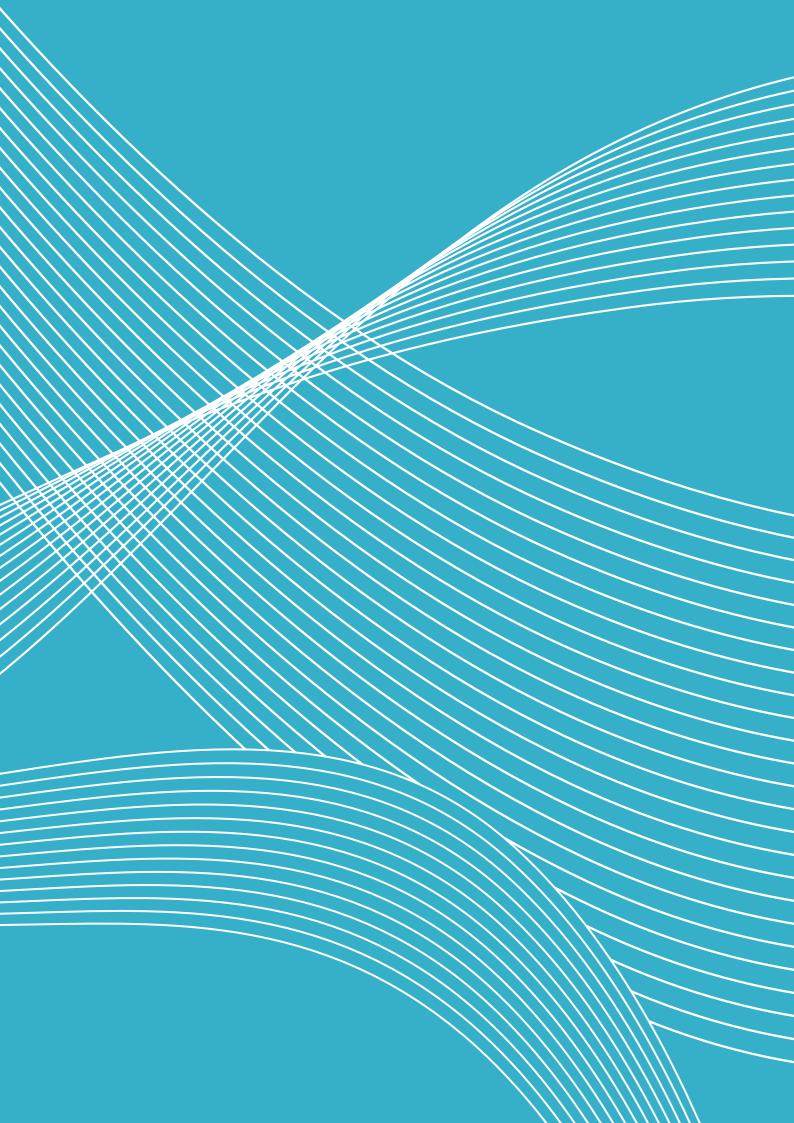
## REGIONAL SSC PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS BY INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS UNDER WHICH THEY ARE IMPLEMENTED. 2016

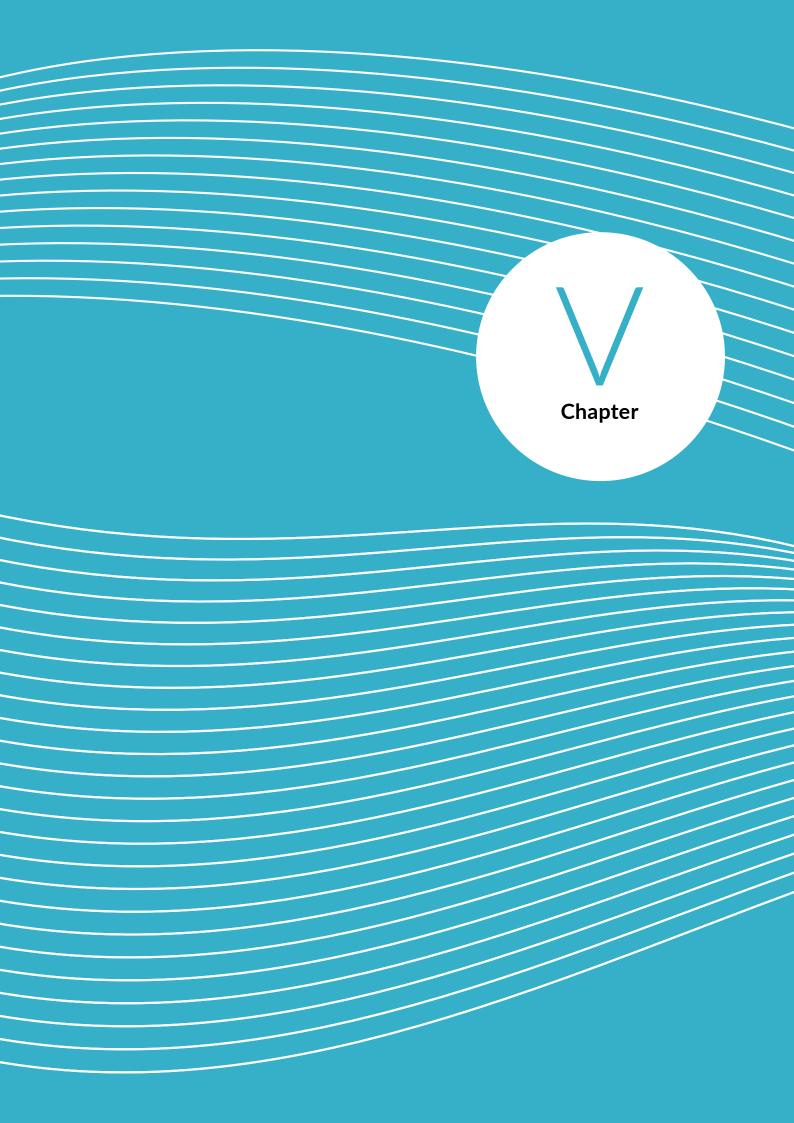
Institutional framework	Name	Туре		
ACS-AEC	Strengthening of Hydrographic Capacities in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean Sea (FOCAHIMECA)			
Pacific Alliance (PA)	Scientific Cooperation on Climate Change in the Pacific Alliance: Network for Scientific Research on Climate Change			
	Sports diplomacy for social inclusion, peaceful coexistence and intercultural dialogue among children and youth from Pacific Alliance member countries			
	Student and Academic Mobility Platform (Pacific Alliance)			
	Pacific Alliance International Volunteering	Program		
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	Improvement of animal production systems with an emphasis on dairy cattle in the Andean Region within the context of climate change			
	Enhancing the resilience of production systems to reduce the vulnerability of small producers through development of "forgotten" Andean crops			
	Network for the Development of Electronic Health Records in Latin America and the Caribbean			
ECLAC	Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas			
	Working Group on International Classifications (CTGI)	Program		
ECLAC/ILO	Working Group on Labor Market Indicators of the Statistical Conference of the Americas	Program		
Andean Community (CAN	Andean Regional Program for Strengthening Meteorological, Hydrological and Climatological Services and Development (PRASDES)	Program		
,.	International Transit of Goods (ITM) in the Greater Caribbean.	Project		
	Ibero-American Strategic Urban Development Program (CIDEU)	Program		
	Ibero-American Program of Science and Technology for Development (CYTED)			
	Ibero-American Program on Industrial Property and Development (IBEPI)	Program		
	Support for Development of Ibero-American Archives (IBERARCHIVOS/ADAI)	Program		
	Ibero-American Program for Crafts Promotion (IBERARTESANÍAS)	Program		
	Ibero-American Platform for Visual Arts Promotion (IBER ARTES VISUALES)			
	Ibero-American Public Library Cooperation Program (IBERBIBLIOTECAS)			
	IBERCOCINAS			
	IBERCULTURA Live and Community-based			
	Development Program to Support the Performing Arts in Ibero-America (IBERESCENA)			
	IBERJÓVENES			
Ibero-American	Audiovisual Development Program to Support the Construction of the Ibero-American Space (IBERMEDIA)	Program		
Conference	IBERMEMORIA Sound and Audiovisual	Program		
	IBERMUSEOS	Program		
	Program to Promote Ibero-American Music (IBERMÚSICAS)			
	Program to Support the Creation of an Ibero-American Space for Music (IBERORQUESTAS JUVENILES)			
	Project under Quality (IBERQUALITAS)			
	IBER-RUTAS			
	Pablo Neruda: Ibero-American Program on Postgraduate Academic Mobility			
	Paulo Freire Program for Academic Mobility of Students in Teacher Training University Programs			
	Ibero-American Program for Access to Justice (PIAJ)			
	Ibero-American Plan for Literacy and Lifelong Learning 2015-2021 (PIALV)			
	Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS)			

Institutional framework	Name				
Ibero-American Conference	Ibero-American Network of Human Milk Banks	Program			
	Ibero-American Program on the Situation of Seniors in the Region				
	Ibero-American Program for Cooperation in Territorial Development (PROTERRITORIOS)				
	Ibero-American Television Program (TEIB)				
	Network of Ibero-American Diplomatic Archives (RADI)				
	Youth for Poverty-free Ibero-America (TECHO)				
	Ibero-American Union of Municipalists (UIM)				
CPPS	Protocol on the Program for the Regional Study of the "El Niño" Phenomenon in the Southeast Pacific (ERFEN)				
FAO	Projeto de Ativação dos Serviços de Consolidação da Rede de Aquicultura das Américas (RAA)				
	Acompanhamento da Cooperação Técnica Regional e de Cursos Pluriregionais				
	Building capacity and infrastructure for informal waste sorters in Uruguayan inland towns (PUC)				
	Social frontier economy	Projec			
	Internationalization of productive specialization - technological development and training for software, biotechnology and electronic sectors and their value chains 2nd stage				
MERCOSUR	Itinerário Cultural das Missões Jesuíticas Guaranis, Moxos e Chiquitos no MERCOSUL: fortalecimento institucional para a sua definição e desenvolvimento.				
mencoboli	Research, Education and Biotechnology Applied to Health	Projec			
	Rehabilitation of Railways, Rivera Line: Pintado (144 Km) - Frontera (566 Km) section	Projec			
	Rehabilitation of Railways II (Piedra Sola - Tres Árboles - Algorta - Paysandú, Queguay - Salto - Salto Grande sections)				
	Rehabilitation of Route 8 Treinta y Tres - Melo / Section I: Km 310 to Km 338				
	Rehabilitation of Route 8 Treinta y Tres - Melo / Section II: Km 366 to Km 393.1	Projec			
	Integrated urban sanitation: Aceguá-Brasil and Aceguá-Uruguay	Projec			
	Development and implementation of the Culture Satellite Account (CSC) in Andean countries				
Organization of American States (OAS)	Strengthening National Metrology Institutes in the Hemisphere, an essential instrument for the development of national quality infrastructure				
	Inter-American Teacher Education Network (ITEN)	Program			
	Virtual Educa	Program			
	Support for the development of regionally produced therapeutic radio-pharmaceuticals for cancer therapy through the exchange of skills, knowledge, better facilities, training and regional networking (ARCAL CXXXVII)				
International Atomic	Support for diagnosis and treatment of tumors in pediatric patients (ARCAL CXXXIII)	Projec			
Energy Agency (IAEA)	Strengthening the national regulatory framework and technical capacities for managing radioactive waste				
	Improving the quality of life of elderly people through early diagnosis of sarcopenia				
International Labor	Cooperação Sul-Sul para a promoção do desenvolvimento sustentável por meio do trabalho decente e da proteção social				
Organization (ILO)	Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor Regional Initiative				
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	Latin American and Caribbean Network for Strengthening Health Information Systems (RELACSIS)				
АСТО	Projeto Amazonas: Ação Regional na Área de Recursos Hídricos				
Mesoamerican Program (Colombia) Regional strategy for developing and strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises					

Institutional framework	vork Name	
Mesoamerican Program (Mexico)	Center for Climate Services in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean (Phase II)	
	Technical Cooperation for the Development of Inclusive Educational Systems in the Mesoamerican Region (2016-2017)	
	Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC)	Program
	Strengthening capacities to reduce vulnerability to drought in the Mesoamerican region	Project
	Strengthening Regulatory Capacities for Medicines of Mesoamerican Health Agencies	Projec
	Management of territorial and sectoral information for Integral Disaster Risk Management in Mesoamerica as an essential contribution for safe and competitive development of Central America	
	Preventing Disabilities from Non-communicable Diseases	
	Integral Inclusive Education Project in the Mesoamerican Region (renewal of the 2013/2014 project portfolio)	
	Education Window	Projec
Mesoamerican Integration and Development	Mesoamerican Agenda for Integration of Telecommunications Services (AMIST)	Projec
	Mesoamerican Strategy for Environmental Sustainability (EMSA)	Projec
	Electrical Interconnection System for Central American Countries (SIEPAC)	
Project (PM)	Mesoamerican Program for Rational and Efficient Use of Energy (PMUREE)	Program
	Regional SICA Emprende Strategy	Program
	Strengthening public policies to consolidate national entrepreneurship ecosystems in Mesoamerica	
	Trifinio Plan	
Central American	Regional Police Training Program of the Regional Justice and Security Training Master Plan	
Economic Integration	Regional Program for Food and Nutrition Security for Central America (PRESANCA II)	
System (SICA)	Project for Building Capacity in Disaster Risk Management in Central America (BOSAI Phase II)	
	Maritime Safety and Emergency Management (coastal management)	Projec
	Regional MSME Information System in Central America and the Dominican Republic	Projec
	Short Sea Shipping in the Greater Caribbean (SSSGC)	Projec
UIM	Training program on local governance and management for Ibero-American senior leadership and officials UIM	Prograr
	Bienalsul - Unasur International Art Biennial (BIAU)	
UNASUR	Assédio político feminino: introdução de medidas e protocolos em organizações políticas das Nações Sul-americanas do Peru, Bolívia e Equador.	
Otros	Academic Research Fund Mexico, the Americas and the World 2016-2017. Study on Public Opinion and Leaders on Foreign Policy and International Relations.	
	Amazon Malaria Initiative (IAM)	
	International Electoral Training Program	
	FEALAC's Science and Technology Convergence Network	
	Retina Latina: Latin American Cinema Platform	

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus





# Ibero-America and South-South Cooperation with other developing regions

Within the framework of the Intergovernmental Council for the Ibero-American Program to Strengthen South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS), held in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) in late 2015, the Ibero-American countries mandated SEGIB to include a new chapter in the Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America.

> The aim was to create a platform to address the South-South Cooperation in which Ibero-America was exchanging not only internally, but also collectively with other developing regions. Until then, the focus was limited to the non-Ibero-American Caribbean, which, due to its close proximity, had been included since the first edition

Following up on this mandate, this chapter provides an overview of the South-South Cooperation in which Ibero-America participated in 2016 with other developing regions. To that end, the three modalities recognized in Ibero-America -bilateral, triangular and regional- have been taken into account, and their results have been aggregated to associate them with each region concerned, in particular, the earlier mentioned non-Ibero-American Caribbean, plus Africa, Asia , Oceania and the Middle East. The chapter, divided into region-specific sections, identifies the initiatives exchanged between Ibero-America and each region in 2016, the modalities under which they were implemented, the main actors and their roles, and the type of capacities strengthened.

### $\rightarrow$ MATRIX V.1

### BILATERAL, TRIANGULAR AND REGIONAL SSC INITIATIVES IN IBERO-AMERICA WITH OTHER DEVELOPING REGIONS. 2016 Units

Developing regions	Bilateral SSC	Triangular Cooperation	Regional SSC	Total
Africa	88	1	2	91
Asia	59	0	1	61
Non-Ibero- American Caribbean	90	12	28	130
Oceania	10	0	0	10
Middle East	17	0	0	17
Various regions	1	3	2	6
Total	265	16	33	314

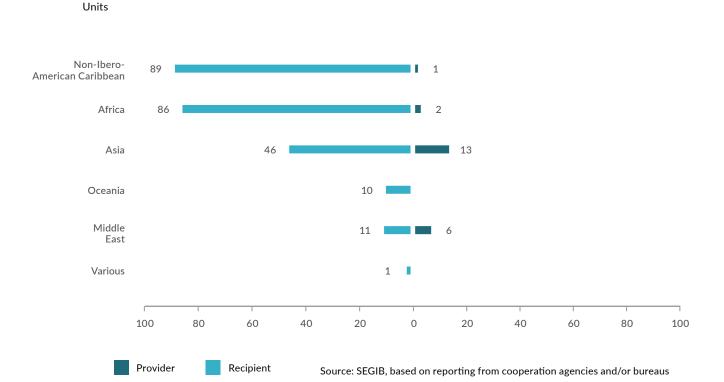
However, before proceeding with the differentiated treatment of what happened in each region, it is useful to give a comprehensive overview of 2016. Matrix V.1 shows the number of initiatives (actions, projects and programs) exchanged between Ibero-America and each region, broken down by the modality under which these exchanges took place.

It follows that:

- a) In 2016, Ibero-American countries engaged with other developing countries in nearly 315 South-South Cooperation projects and programs.
- b) The bulk of these initiatives (130, equivalent to over 40% of the total) were exchanged with non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries. The exchanges with Africa (30% of the total) and Asia (20%) were also very substantial. Consequently, 90% of the 314 actions, projects and programs in 2016 were geared towards these three regions. The remaining 10% of SSC focused on Oceania and the Middle East, plus 6 initiatives in which more than one region participated (for instance, Ibero-America with the Caribbean and Africa), shown in Matrix V.1 under "Various".
- c) Furthermore, the preferred modality for the bulk of the exchanges (265), equivalent to virtually 85% of all initiatives in which Ibero-America engaged with countries in other developing regions, was Bilateral South-South Cooperation. Its prevalence fluctuated between 70% in the Caribbean and 100% in Oceania and the Middle East. The remaining 15% took place under the regional and triangular modalities, with the former (33) being double of the latter (16).
- d) Graph V.1 complements the information by breaking down the Bilateral SSC exchanges implemented in each region by the role played in each case. As shown on the graph, Ibero-America acted primarily as provider in the exchanges with other regions. Indeed, this was the case of the initiatives with Oceania (100%) and the non-Ibero-American Caribbean (99%). Meanwhile, Asia was the provider in 2 out of 10 bilateral initiatives exchanged with Ibero-America, and in 1 out of 3 with the Middle East.

### → GRAPH V.1

### BILATERAL SSC INITIATIVES BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA AND OTHER DEVELOPING REGIONS, BY ROLE. 2016



IN 2016, IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES ENGAGED WITH OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN NEARLY 315 SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ACTIONS, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS. MORE THAN 40% OF THESE INITIATIVES TOOK PLACE WITH COUNTRIES BELONGING TO THE NON-IBERO-AMERICAN CARIBBEAN, AND THROUGH EXCHANGES WITH AFRICA AND ASIA, 30% AND 20% RESPECTIVELY OF THE TOTAL

## NON-IBERO-AMERICAN CARIBBEAN

## **V.1**

As shown in Matrix V.1. more than 40% of the 314 initiatives that Ibero-America exchanged with other developing regions had the non-Ibero-American Caribbean as its preferred partner. In particular, it engaged in 130 actions, projects and programs, mostly under Bilateral SSC (7 out of 10) and, to a lesser extent, under Regional SSC (one in five) and Triangular (10%). Non-Ibero-American Caribbean, African (2) and Asian (1) countries participated simultaneously in three more actions. Matrix V.1 does not include these in the total for the Caribbean, but rather places them in the generic "Various". Matrix V.1 does not include these in the total for the Caribbean, but rather places them in the generic "Various".

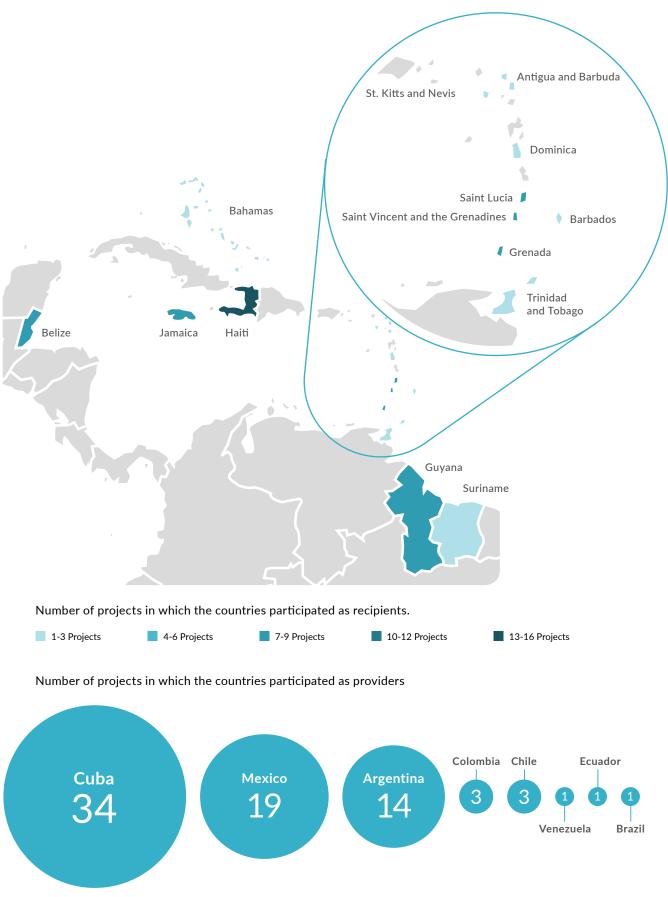
As for the 90 initiatives in which Ibero-America engaged with Caribbean countries under the bilateral modality, 85% were implemented through SSC projects, and the remaining 15% were actions. Likewise, Ibero-American countries acted as providers in virtually all of these exchanges, while the Caribbean countries played the role of recipients. The only exception was an action exchanged between Jamaica and Colombia, in which the roles were reversed.

Map V.1 shows the distribution of the Bilateral SSC projects (76) implemented in 2016 by Ibero-American countries to transfer capacities to non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries. As the legend shows, each Caribbean country is color-coded according to the number of projects received. The Map is complemented with a list of the Ibero-American countries that provided SSC, as well as the total number of projects each country exchanged with its Caribbean partners. It follows from Map V.1 that:

- Less than half (8) of the 19 Ibero-American a) countries that participated under this modality engaged in exchanges with the non-Ibero-American Caribbean. Cuba acted as provider in a greater number of Bilateral SSC projects (more than 40%) to the region than any other country. Another noteworthy provider was Mexico, which accounted for 25% of the 76 initiatives. Next, in order of relative importance, was Argentina with almost one in five projects. The remaining four countries had a more ad hoc participation. These countries were Chile and Colombia, acting as providers in 3 projects each, and Brazil, Ecuador and Venezuela, with one each.
- Meanwhile, the 14 non-Ibero-American b) Caribbean countries acted, at least once, as recipients of Bilateral SSC projects. As has become customary, Haiti was the largest recipient of cooperation, i.e. 16 projects, or 20% of the 76 projects in which Ibero-America engaged with these countries. Next in line were Belize. Guvana. and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, with 9 projects each, or one-third of the cooperation exchanged in 2016. By adding Granada and Jamaica (7 initiatives each) and Santa Lucia (6) to the mix, 80% of Bilateral SSC in 2016 is covered. The remaining projects (17.1% of the total) were distributed among 6 countries: Antigua and Barbuda and Suriname (3 each), Bahamas, Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago (one each).

### BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND NON-IBERO-AMERICAN CARIBBEAN (RECIPIENT). 2016

Units

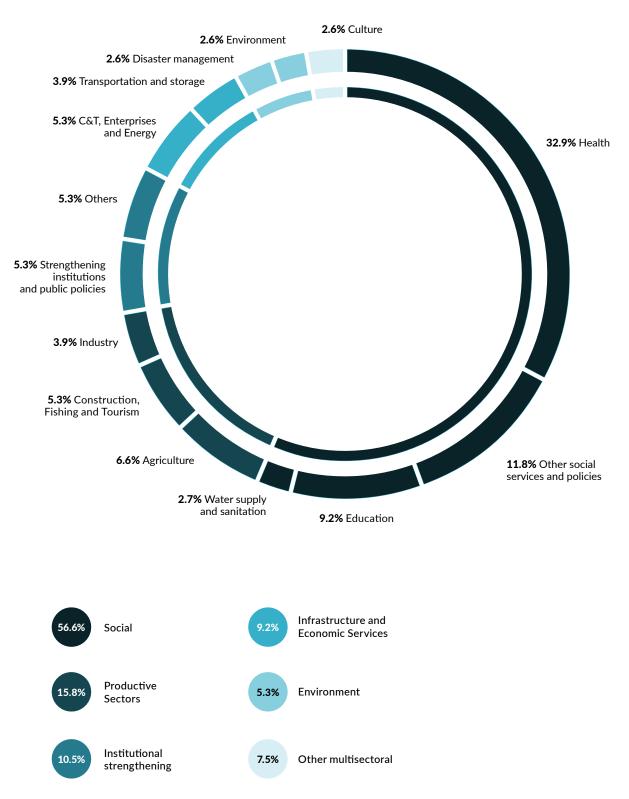


Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus.

### $\longrightarrow$ GRAPH V.2

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECTS EXCHANGED BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND THE NON-IBERO-AMERICAN CARIBBEAN (RECIPIENT), BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus

Non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries achieved progress in strengthening their capacities through these Bilateral SSC exchanges. Graph V.2, which shows the distribution of the 76 projects exchanged between both regions by activity sector and area of action, illustrates how this was done. It can be concluded that:

- a) More than half of the projects (56.6%) sought to strengthen capacities in the Social sector. Another 25% focused on the Economic sector. Indeed, the bulk of these exchanges (practically two out of three) aimed to strengthen the Productive sectors (15.8%), while only 9.2% were geared towards generation of Infrastructures and economic services. Furthermore, 10% of the 76 projects focused on Institutional Strengthening. The remaining exchanges were geared towards the Environment (5.3%) and Other multisectoral (2.6% on Culture), albeit on an ad hoc basis.
- b) The Health sector deserves special mention, as it accounted for virtually one-third (32.9%) of the 76 projects in which Ibero-America engaged with the Caribbean to help strengthen its capacities. Next in relative importance (11.8%) were the initiatives aimed at Other services and social policies. Education, which also falls under the Social sector, ranked third in number of exchanges with nearly one-tenth of the 76 projects in 2016. This cooperation was often geared towards supporting training for health and sports professionals (as a tool for social inclusion), as well as educators. There were also exchanges within the framework of Operación Milagro that sought to provide ophthalmological surgery for low-income citizens, literacy programs and projects related to infrastructure and reconstruction and rehabilitation of hospitals, sports centers and schools, among others.
- c) Finally, part of the cooperation implemented by Ibero-America in the Caribbean within the Economic sector focused on agricultural and industrial activities (with an aggregate total of 1 in 10 projects in 2016). In the case of the Institutional sector, the support was geared towards Public Policies and aspects related to Peace and public and national

security (jointly together, nearly another 10%). Worth highlighting are the exchanges targeting phytosanitary issues, pest control and genetic management; industrial processing techniques for native crops such as coconut and cassava; handling of files, cadastral information; and national security based on a coast guard system.

Meanwhile, as stated earlier, the exchanges between Ibero-America and the non-Ibero-American Caribbean in 2016 comprised 12 projects and 3 Triangular Cooperation actions. The latter three also involved African and Asian countries. The analysis of these exchanges provides a better awareness of the partnerships established between countries and the type of problems addressed through this modality. Specifically:

- Four (4) Ibero-American countries stood a) out in terms of transfer of capacities. These were Chile (who participated as first provider in 5 projects), Argentina (likewise in 5 initiatives), Mexico (4 projects) and El Salvador (one). The countries that acted as second providers in these partnerships varied widely. However, some trends were repeated often. Thus, Argentina partnered with Japan in courses aimed at third countries and with UNASUR. In addition to Germany and the United Kingdom, Mexico's preferred partners were several international bodies, including IDB and PAHO (as well as Chile). Meanwhile, Chile opted for other Ibero-American countries (Brazil and El Salvador), as well as two countries from outside the region (Germany and the United States). El Salvador engaged in triangulations with Spain as the second provider.
- b) Haiti was again the non-Ibero-American Caribbean country that received the largest relative share of initiatives with 6 projects and 1 action. Belize saw a similar level of participation in terms of initiatives, but through different instruments (3 actions and 4 projects). Suriname, Bahamas and Jamaica participated in triangular exchanges on a more ad hoc basis. Indeed, their exchanges often involved the participation of some of the other 14 non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries, in the case of Grenada, and even from other regions, such as Angola, Mozambique and Kenya.

c) It should be noted that the Triangular Cooperation implemented by Ibero-America in 2016 with non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries addressed a wide range of problems in different sectors, including Education, Health, Other services and social policies and Management of public finances. Agriculture was the only sector that truly stood out with 6 initiatives. These initiatives focused on issues related to fresh food production, especially through small producers, as well as animal and plant health and food safety. As shown in Box V.1, the exchange between Chile, El Salvador and Belize to strengthen the Caribbean country's phytosanitary system is a remarkable case.

### BOX V.1

### CHILE, EL SALVADOR AND BELIZE: COOPERATING TO STRENGTHEN THE PHYTOSANITARY SYSTEM

In 2016, Ibero-American countries maintained an intense exchange with Belize. Indeed, this Caribbean country participated in 11 Bilateral SSC actions and projects, 10 Triangular Cooperation initiatives, and up to 18 Regional SSC exchanges. Although Belize strengthened a variety of capacities through this cooperation, one activity sector in particular stood out: Agriculture. These initiatives targeted a variety of issues, including primarily food safety and nutrition, promotion of family farming and phytosanitary management.

Special mention deserves the triangular project in which Belize (recipient) partnered with Chile and El Salvador who exercised, respectively, as second and first provider of cooperation. This cooperation dates back to 2013, when the two Ibero-American countries signed an agreement to develop a cooperation project to enhance Belize's agricultural sector. A diagnostic mission visited Belmopan in November 2013, and a project was developed to strengthen the technical capacities of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture and the Agricultural Health Authority of Belize (BAHA).<sup>1</sup> Under this project, which is still in progress, the staff of these institutions receive training and technical support from Chilean and Salvadoran experts. More specifically, the project focuses on a variety of issues related to strengthening the Belizean plant and animal health control system, including the development of a smart agricultural market system; drafting and adaptation of manuals on good agricultural and manufacturing practices; and training in different laboratory techniques, in particular, to manage a Geographic Information System (GIS) and conduct epidemiological surveillance and pest control and management. The project also looks into electronic certification and auditing processes for dairy products and development of accreditation manuals for private veterinarians, as well as dissemination of good forestry and agricultural practices.

Along with this ambitious initiative, also of note is the bilateral cooperation with Mexico for diagnostic evaluation and development of sheep for export purposes, as well as Belize's engagement with other Ibero-American countries in joint activities on food self-production, food safety and nutrition.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus and AGCI www.agci.cl

Finally, non-Ibero-American Caribbean countries also participated in 12 programs and 16 projects under Regional South-South Cooperation. In fact, they partnered with Ibero-Americans countries that have been analyzed earlier in Chapter Four of this Report. Indeed, owing to its institutional framework and/or geographical scope, this cooperation brought Latin American and Caribbean countries together. Worthy of note, for instance, are the Working Group on Gender and Labor Statistics and the Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor Regional Initiative, sponsored by ECLAC and the ILO, as well as others focusing on Integral Disaster Risk Management, a new Center for Climate Services and Strengthening Regulatory Capacities for Medicines of Mesoamerican Health Agencies, in the context of the Mesoamerican Program led by Mexico; and exchanges regulated by the IDB and the OAS, which, respectively, sought to implement the MIPYME regional information system and create National Metrology Institutes in the Hemisphere.

## AFRICA

**V.2** 

Africa was the focus of a significant part (30%) of the SSC in which Ibero-America engaged with other developing regions in 2016. Indeed, 88 of the 91 exchanges were implemented under Bilateral SSC, and the other two were under the Triangular (1) and Regional (2) SSC modality. An additional three (3) ad hoc Triangular Cooperation actions took place between sub-Saharan African countries with Ibero-America and the Caribbean.

The bulk of the 90 Bilateral SSC initiatives were instrumentalized through 77 cooperation projects and 11 smaller actions. Furthermore, in virtually all exchanges, Africa participated as recipient. The only exceptions were two projects and one bi-directional action in which Ghana and South Africa exchanged experiences with Colombia, simultaneously acting as provider and recipient.

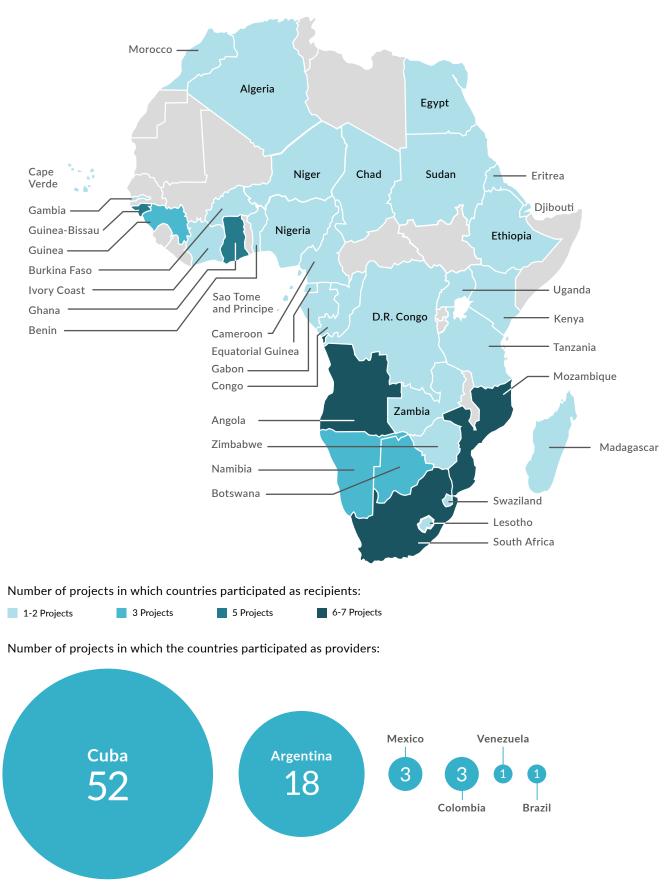
Similarly to what happened in the non-Ibero-American Caribbean, Map V.2 shows the distribution of the 77 Bilateral SSC projects in which Ibero-America engaged with Africa by number of initiatives received by each country. As shown in the legend, the amount for each country is color-coded according to the level of intensity of the exchange. This information is complemented with the total number of projects that each Ibero-American country implemented. It follows that:

- a) Six Ibero-American countries shared their experience with African partners in 2016. Notably, Cuba and Argentina accounted, respectively, for 68% and 23% of the Bilateral SSC exchanged with this region. This cooperation was highly diversified. For instance, Cuba engaged with 31 African countries and, Argentina, with a score. Meanwhile, the exchanges in which Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela were involved were on an ad hoc basis (1 or 2 projects, in each case, equivalent to almost 10% of the total).
- b) These 77 Bilateral SSC projects were widely distributed between 37 African recipient countries. As shown in Map V.1, the top five recipient countries in 2016 were Angola and Mozambique, followed by South Africa, Ghana and Guinea-Bissau with 5 to 7 projects each. Together, they accounted for 40% of the 77 projects implemented. The remaining 60% of the cooperation was distributed among 26 countries. Worthy of note were Botswana, Guinea and Namibia (3 projects each); Burkina Faso, Benin, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Niger and Tanzania (2 each); and Algeria, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Madagascar, Morocco, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Saint Tome and Principe, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe (1 each).

 $\longrightarrow$  MAP V.2

## BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND AFRICA (RECIPIENT). 2016

Units

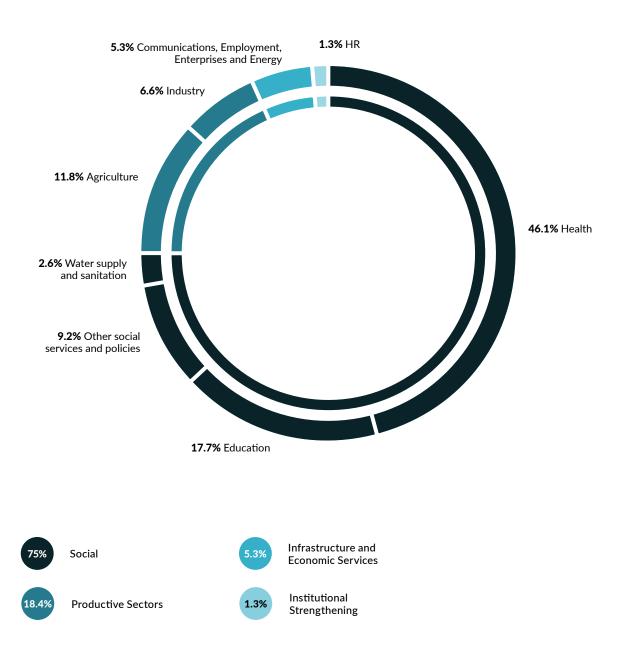


The fact that Cuba and Argentina had such a prominent role as providers explains why their acknowledged strengths notably reinforced Africa's capacity profile through the 77 projects exchanged with Ibero-America. Graph V.3, which shows the distribution of these projects by activity sector and area of action, appears to confirm this view. Indeed, 75% of the cooperation received in Africa was aimed at the Social sector (Cuba's primary area of expertise), and the remaining 25% focused primarily in the Economic sector (which is Argentina's strongpoint). The only exception was a project in Legal and Judicial Development and Human Rights in Zambia that focused on forensic sciences, which, in any case, is also one of Argentina's areas of expertise. In particular:

#### 

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECTS EXCHANGED BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND THE NON-IBERO-AMERICAN CARIBBEAN (RECIPIENT), BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



- The Health sector accounted for virtually a) half (46.1%) of the Bilateral SSC received in Africa. Meanwhile, projects in Education and Other Services and social policies represented, respectively, another 17.1% and 9.2% of the 77 projects. Two (2) exchanges related to Sanitation and Water supply were also developed in the context of the Social sector. The exchanges in the Economic sector were in Agriculture (9 exchanges, equivalent to almost 12% of the total) and Industry (6.6%). The profile was complemented with projects specifically aimed at strengthening Communications, Employment, Enterprises and Energy.
- Regarding the specific contents of the b) projects, as in the case of the non-Ibero-American Caribbean, they often focused on providing training to medical staff, educators and experts in sports as a tool for social inclusion. Also noteworthy were those geared towards sharing experiences in maternal and child health, for instance, the kangaroo mother method recommended by WHO for providing care to preterm babies. Other experiences focused on improving literacy and schools in Africa through, for instance, the cooperation program that Venezuela has been implementing in the region for 10 years, detailed in Box V.2.

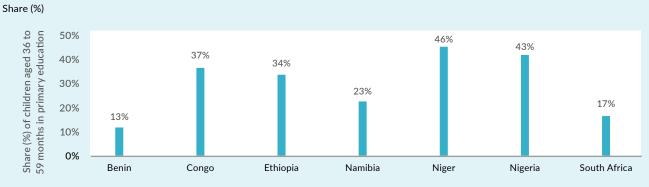
### BOX V.2

### EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN VENEZUELA'S COOPERATION IN AFRICA

Sub-Saharan Africa is a vast and heterogeneous region that faces important development challenges, especially in terms of access to quality education. The latest data published by UNICEF and UNESCO appears to suggest that more than half of the school-age children (30 million) in sub-Saharan Africa did not attend primary school in 2016. This happened often because their families could not afford school tuition or the cost of basic materials. The opportunities to go to school were further reduced when the child is a girl, comes from a poor family or lives in a rural area.<sup>1</sup>

Faced with this situation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela decided to lend its weight to the "Sponsor a School in Africa" project since 2006. Sensitive to the critical importance of education in every development process, Venezuela opted for this project, which supports primary school students from sub-Saharan African countries,<sup>2</sup> fostering their education as people and advancing human development.

Through this project, Venezuela provides school equipment and teaching materials to the educational community of African countries; participates in the reconstruction of school infrastructures and provision of power supply and equipment; and encourages the practice of sports in schools as a tool for social inclusion.



### PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES. 2016

Source: SEGIB, based on UNICEF data (2017)

Over the past ten years, many countries have benefited from this initiative. As the graph suggests, the project tended to focus on countries in which children's participation in primary education remained very low in 2016, and that never reached more than half of the country's child population. Indeed, during these first ten years, the "Sponsor a School" project has helped increase school attendance in South Africa, Nigeria, Benin, the Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Namibia and Niger and, since 2016, in Benin and Nigeria.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus and UNICEF (2017).

<sup>2</sup>http://sursur.sela.org/listado-de-noticias/2013/12/venezuela-promueve-cooperacion-con-africa-en-educacion/

Finally, Ibero-American and African countries also shared some experiences under triangular and regional modalities. The project for promoting sustainable tourism, which has be ongoing in Tunisia for years, with the support of Costa Rica and Germany as first and second provider, is worthy of note. The three triangular actions in which African, Ibero-American and Caribbean countries participated were the international courses aimed at third countries that Argentina and Japan promoted to provide training in various areas, including self-production of food, management of international cooperation projects and promotion of small and mediumsized enterprises. Meanwhile, the exchanges in Regional SSC are explained by the participation of Cape Verde in the Paulo Freire Academic Mobility Program of the OEI, and Egypt, Libya and Tunisia's involvement in an International Electoral Training Program led by Mexico.

## ASIA

**V.3** 

One-fifth of the 314 initiatives exchanged between Ibero-America and other developing regions involved Asian countries. As shown earlier in Matrix V.1, virtually all actions and projects (9 and 50, respectively) were implemented under Bilateral SSC. The only exception was a project participated by Asia under Regional SSC. A further two projects (shown in the "Various" column of Matrix V.1) under this modality were exchanged between Asian countries and other regions, such as Oceania.

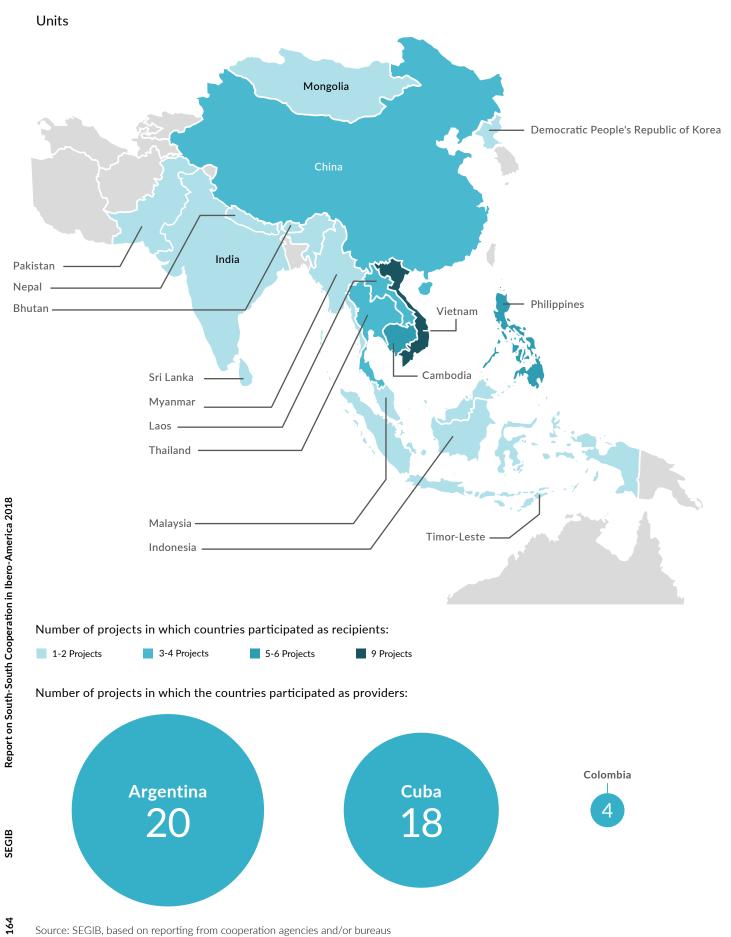
Meanwhile, Ibero-American countries acted as providers in 8 in 10 initiatives exchanged under a bilateral framework. Consequently, Asian countries also acted as providers in 20% of the exchanges. It should be noted that this distribution of roles might be partially explained, especially in the case of actions, by the importance of "bidirectional" exchanges, which, by definition, are based on two partner countries acting simultaneously as both providers and recipients of Bilateral SSC.

Map V.3 helps explain the participation of different partners in Bilateral SSC in 2016. In the case of the projects in which Ibero-American countries are responsible for the transfer of capacities, it can be argued that:

- a) Three Ibero-American countries stood out as providers of the 43 Bilateral SSC projects implemented in Asian countries: Argentina and Cuba, with 20 and 18 projects each, jointly accounted for close to 90% of the exchanges; followed by Colombia, with 4 initiatives. In the latter case, it should be noted that its exchanges with Asian countries, albeit still in the early stages, took place in the context of Colombia's "Saber Hacer Colombia" strategy, which can also be applicable in other regions. The details of the exchanges in 2016 and the current year are covered in Box V.3.
- b) Meanwhile, 17 Asian countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia and the Philippines, acted as recipients, respectively with 9, 6 and 5 projects, equivalent to 40% of the total analyzed. China, Laos and Thailand jointly accounted for another fifth of the 43 Bilateral SSC projects. The remaining projects were implemented through ad hoc exchanges (1 or 2 projects) with Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the People's Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, with the former country, and India and Timor-Leste, with the latter.

 $\longrightarrow$  MAP V.3

## **BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA** (PROVIDER) AND ASIA (RECIPIENT). 2016



It should also be added that 5 Asian countries -China (3), Vietnam (2), and the Philippines, India and Russia (1 each)- acted as providers in 8 Bilateral SSC projects exchanged between Ibero-America and Asia in 2016. The Ibero-American recipients in these exchanges were Argentina (1), Colombia (3), Cuba (3) and Venezuela (1). In the case of actions, and given the bidirectionality mentioned earlier, the key actors were once again India (provider); Cuba (recipient); and China, the Philippines and Colombia (both roles).

### BOX V.3

### ASIA AND THE "SABER HACER COLOMBIA" STRATEGY: SHARING GOOD PRACTICES

Saber Hacer Colombia is a program created by Colombia's Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC, by its Spanish acronym), built around a number of good practices from its territorial and national public policies. The goal is to disseminate and make these practices available to other countries through cooperation projects, albeit once the lessons learned from these experiences have been adapted to the new context.

The strategy has involved public, private and international organizations to build a methodology for documenting, classifying and validating experiences that provide concrete lessons on how to face the new challenges of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>1</sup> In selecting these experiences, the focus was on exchanges that offered innovative, efficiency and sustainability features that could be used in a benchmarking exercise, the results of which would be fed back into national and territorial processes with similar characteristics.<sup>2</sup>

In this context, Colombia has driven SSC initiatives with other regions. As for exchanges with Asia in 2016, Colombia organized a meeting with representatives from Myanmar, Bhutan, Laos, Vietnam, Bangladesh and India, in which every country had the opportunity to learn first-hand about the good practices Colombia implemented in the context of Sustainable Development Goals and peace-building efforts. As a result of this meeting, Colombia and these Asian countries established a joint agenda in three key areas: peace-building; social development with a focus on poverty issues, child protection and food security; and technical training and entrepreneurship.<sup>3</sup> The efforts to define this agenda has provided Colombia an opportunity to consolidate the cooperation it had already established with some of these countries (India, Vietnam, Myanmar and Laos) and to explore future opportunities with Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies and/or bureaus, APC' digital pages and PIFCSS

<sup>1</sup> https://www.apccolombia.gov.co/seccion/saber-hacer-colombia

- <sup>a</sup> http://afecolombia.org/es-es/DetalleNoticia/ArtMID/533/ArticleID/5414/Saber-Hacer-Colombia
- <sup>3</sup> http://www.cooperacionsursur.org/pt/noticias-de-cooperacion-sur-sur/1546-estrechando-lazos-de-cooperacion.html

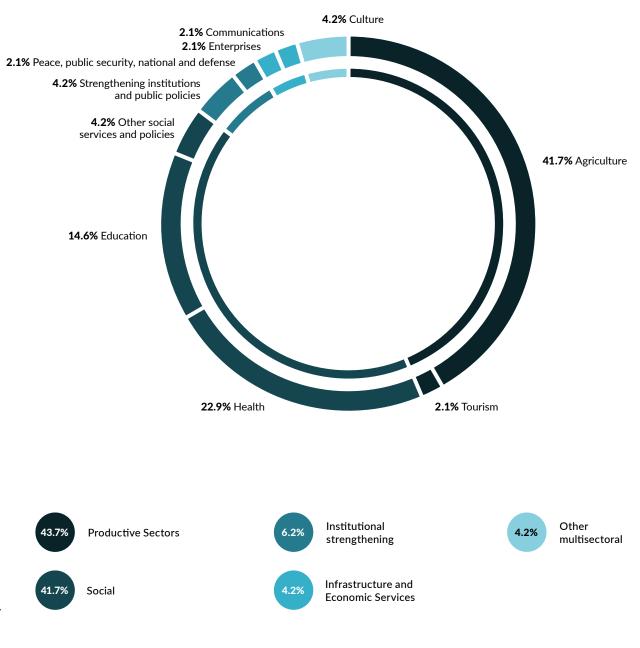
As for the capacities strengthened, Graph V.4 shows the distribution of the 43 Bilateral SSC projects in which Ibero-America engaged as provider and Asia acted as recipient by activity sector and area of action. It can be concluded that:

 a) Nearly half of the initiatives were aimed at strengthening capacities in the Economic sector. Although there were ad hoc exchanges in Tourism, Communications and Enterprises, Agriculture accounted for the largest volume with 20 projects, equivalent to 41.7% of the total analyzed. Notable among these, in particular owing to Argentina's role in these exchanges, were the initiatives geared towards a variety of livestock handling techniques (genetic management, performance, phytosanitary and pest control) and their application thereof, for instance, to dairy production.

b) Meanwhile, just over 40% of the projects were aimed at the Social sector. In this case, Cuba's cooperation and transfer of expertise were decisive, in particular in the projects geared towards training of medical, education and sports professionals, which fell under three sectors: Health (11), Education (7) and Other services and social policies (2). Other notable initiatives focused, for instance, on early childhood care (Colombia) and food security (Argentina).

### DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS EXCHANGED BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND ASIA (RECIPIENT), BY ACTIVITY SECTOR AND AREA OF ACTION. 2016

Share (%)



Source: SEGIB, based on reporting from cooperation agencies or bureaus

Finally, noteworthy among the 3 Regional SSC projects in which Asia engaged in 2016 with other developing regions was the initiative that brought together Ibero-America and Oceania to tackle a common problem. The project, which focused on supporting the sustainable management of marine island and border areas, was implemented within the framework of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR, by its Spanish acronym).

## OCEANIA AND MIDDLE EAST

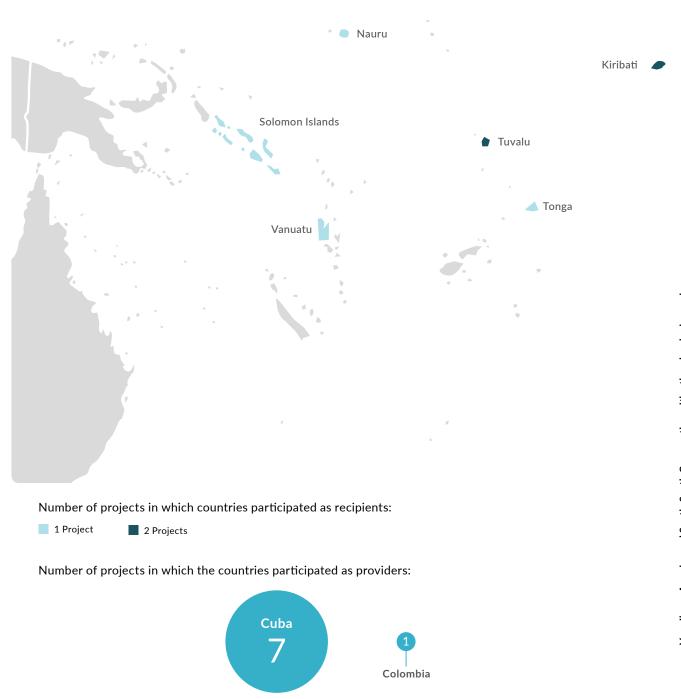
## **V.4**

The remaining 8.6% of the 314 SSC initiatives that Ibero-America exchanged with other developing regions in 2016 correspond to Oceania (10) and the Middle East (17). In fact, this cooperation was almost entirely implemented under the bilateral modality. The only exceptions were the regional project on marine managed areas mentioned earlier, in which Oceania sought to identify common solutions with other Ibero-American and Asian partners, and the regional ecoaquaculture initiative, in which Oceania partnered again with Ibero-America and Turkey, classified here as Middle East.

### $\rightarrow$ MAP V.4

## BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND OCEANIA (RECIPIENT). 2016

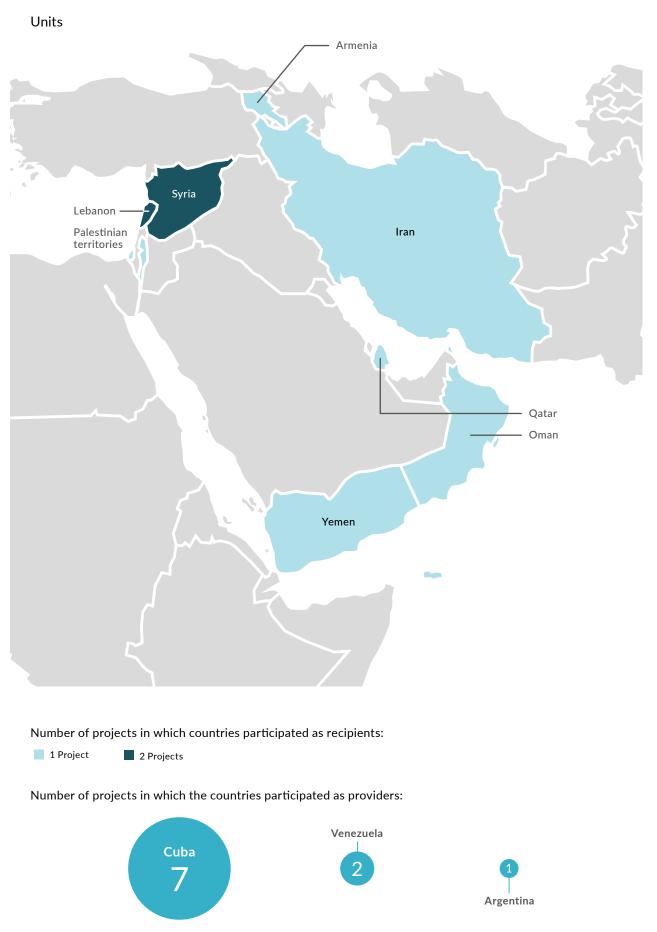
Units



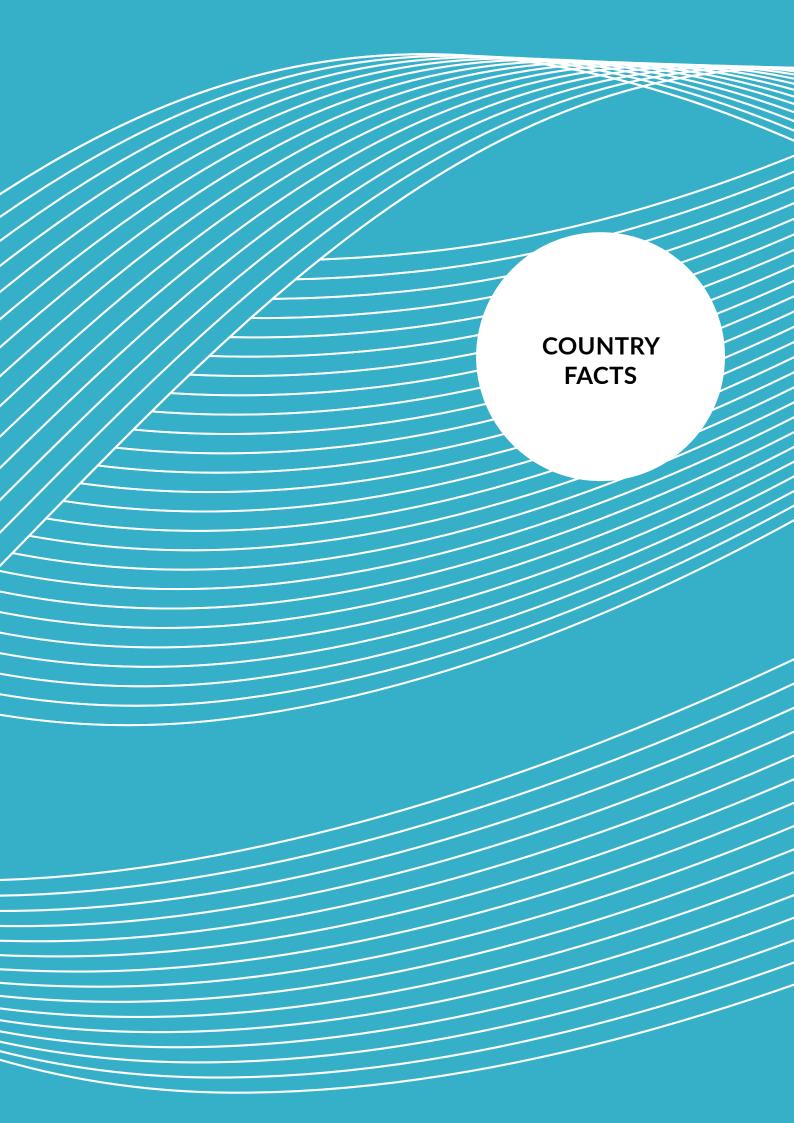
The 10 initiatives implemented with Oceania were 8 projects and 2 actions, with Ibero-American countries always acting as providers. As shown in Map V.4, Cuba was the provider of 7 projects versus one for Colombia. Meanwhile, 6 countries acted as recipients. Prominent among these were Kiribati and Tuvalu from Solomon Islands (2 projects each), Nauru, Tonga and Vanuatu (1 each). Fiji implemented actions with Cuba and Colombia. Overall, this cooperation contributed to the training of medical professionals in Oceania, and strengthened Fiji's capacity to manage the disaster suffered in February 2016 due to cyclone "Winston". The Bilateral SSC implemented in 2016 between Ibero-America and the Middle East revolved around 16 projects and 1 action. Ibero-America acted as provider in 10 projects and 1 action (an exchange between Argentina and Lebanon). Map V.5 shows the participating countries and their roles in these 10 projects: the providers were Cuba (7), Venezuela (2) and Argentina (1), and the recipients Lebanon and Syria (2 each), Armenia, Iran, Oman, Palestine, Qatar and Yemen (one each). The remaining 7 projects had 5 Middle Eastern countries as providers (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar and Turkey) and 3 Ibero-American countries as recipients (Cuba, Venezuela and Colombia, in descending order of projects). These exchanges contributed, yet again, to the training of health and education professionals, and to the strengthening of the countries' capacities in water supply and sanitation and promotion of entrepreneurship policies, among others.

THREE IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES STOOD OUT AS PROVIDERS OF THE 43 BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN ASIAN COUNTRIES: ARGENTINA AND CUBA, WITH 20 AND 18 PROJECTS EACH, JOINTLY ACCOUNTED FOR CLOSE TO 90% OF THE EXCHANGES; FOLLOWED BY COLOMBIA, WITH 4 INITIATIVES

## BILATERAL SSC PROJECTS BETWEEN IBERO-AMERICA (PROVIDER) AND MIDDLE EAST (RECIPIENT). 2016

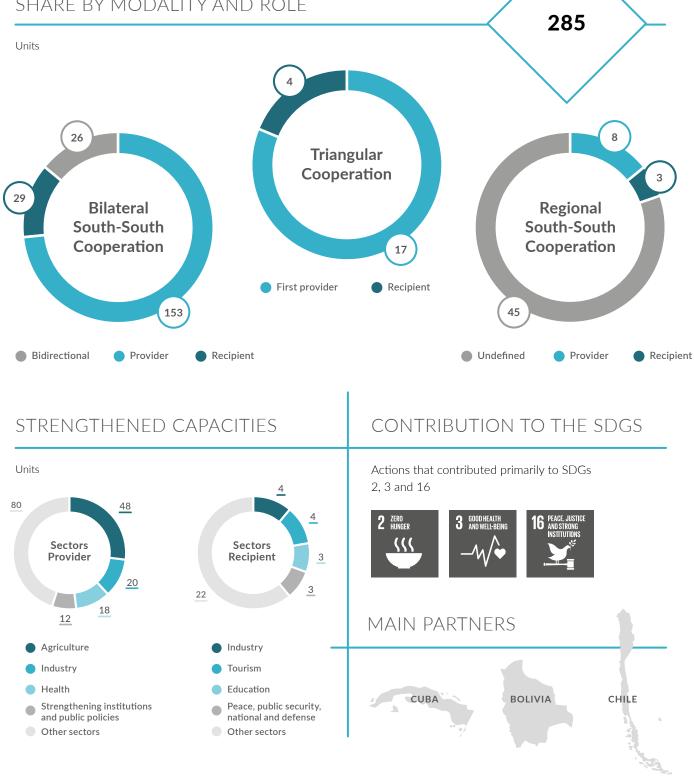






## ARGENTINA

## SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLF

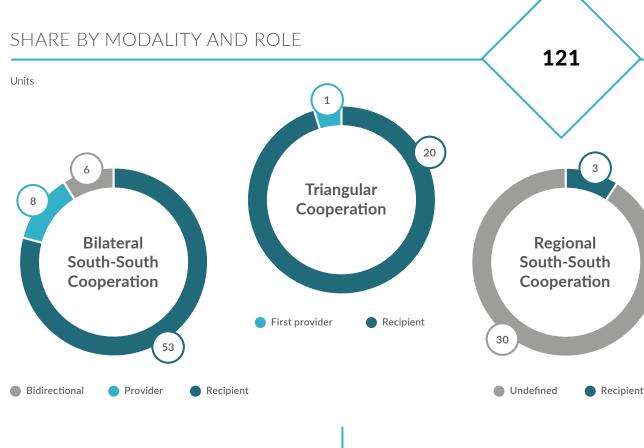


In 2016, Argentina implemented 285 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs. Although it engaged in the three modalities recognized in Ibero-America, most initiatives were bilateral (208, equal to 72.9% of the total). In virtually two-thirds of the 285 initiatives, Argentina participated as provider.

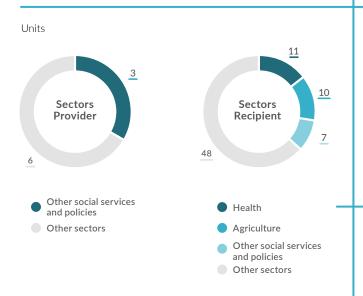
Argentina exchanged experiences by engaging with both regional and extraregional partners, including Cuba, Bolivia and Chile, through South-South Cooperation. More than half of Argentina's exchanges as provider were geared towards sharing its acknowledged strengths in Agriculture, Institutional Strengthening, Industry and Health. Its actions focused on achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

SEGIB

# BOLIVIA



## STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



## CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 2, 3 and 8



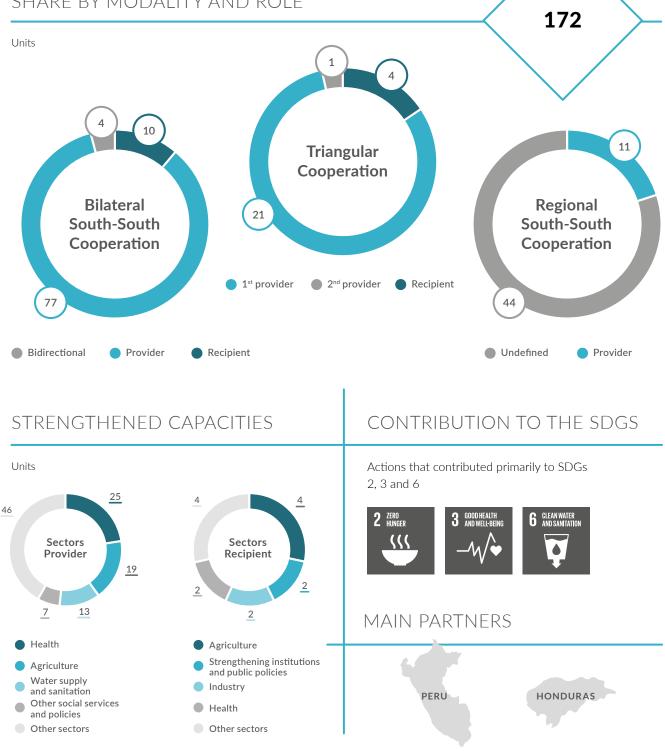
MAIN PARTNERS



In 2016, Bolivia participated in 121 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs. In more than half of the cases (55.4%), the initiatives were implemented under the bilateral modality, 27.3% under regional and 17.4% through triangulations. Although Bolivia participated primarily as a recipient in 2016 (6 out of 10 initiatives), it also acted as provider in 8 Bilateral SSC projects, and as a top provider in 1 Triangular project. Bolivia shared with other partners its experience in social services and policies, and strengthened its capacities in Agriculture, Health and, again, social policies through its participation in SSC in 2016. Overall, Bolivia's participation in SSC in 2016, which focused primarily in exchanges with two border partner countries (Argentina and Peru), helped align the region's cooperation with SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Health) and 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

# BRAZIL

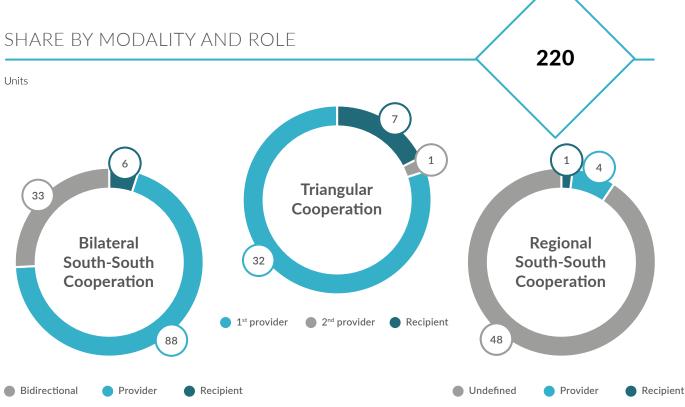
## SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE



More than half (52.9%) of the 172 initiatives that Brazil executed in 2016 were under the bilateral modality. Of the 81 remaining initiatives, two out of three were implemented under Regional SSC, and one in three through triangulations. Regardless of the modality, Brazil participated as provider in most cases (64%).

Through its participation in SSC in 2016, Brazil shared its experience in Health, Agriculture, Water and Other services and social policies (2 out of 3 exchanges) with other partners in the region, including Peru, with whom it has a common border, and Honduras. In its role as recipient, Brazil also prioritized strengthening its capacities in Agriculture. Its overall participation in SSC in 2016 contributed to the alignment of regional initiatives with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

# CHILE

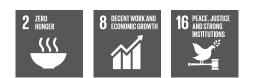


## STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



## CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 2, 8 and 16



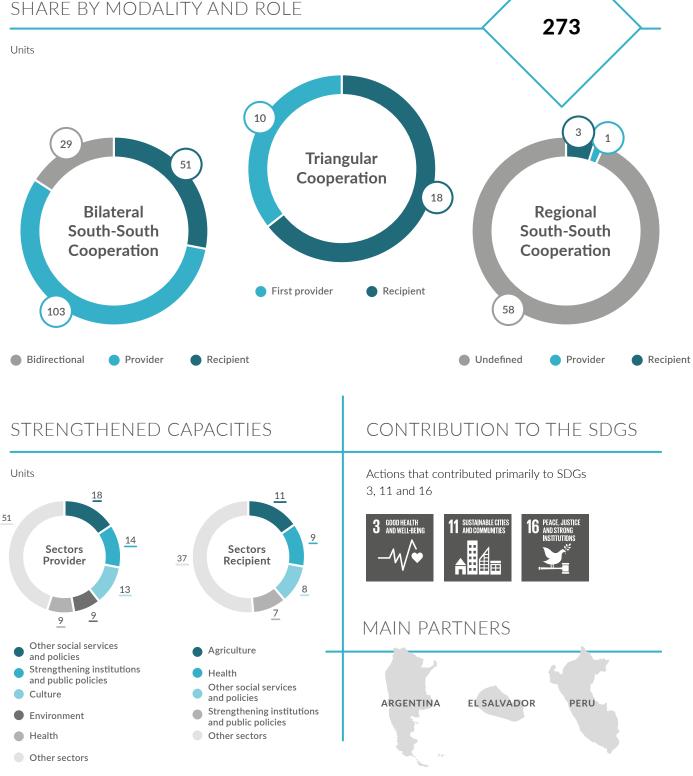
## MAIN PARTNERS



Through SSC, Chile exchanged with other countries (including Argentina and Mexico) its acknowledged capacities in Other services and social policies (27 projects, equal to 25% of the cooperation provided) and Health, as well as Strengthening of public policies and institutions and Agriculture. Overall, Chilean cooperation tended to align with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

In 2016, Chile participated in 220 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs. Nearly 6 out of 10 initiatives were implemented under the bilateral modality; one in four, via the regional form; and virtually one in five, were triangulations. Likewise, and regardless of their relative importance, Chile was involved in the highest number of Triangular Cooperation initiatives as first provider (32). Virtually 60% of the 220 initiatives in which this country participated in 2016 are accounted for when initiatives executed as SSC Bilateral provider are added to the above.

## COLOMBIA

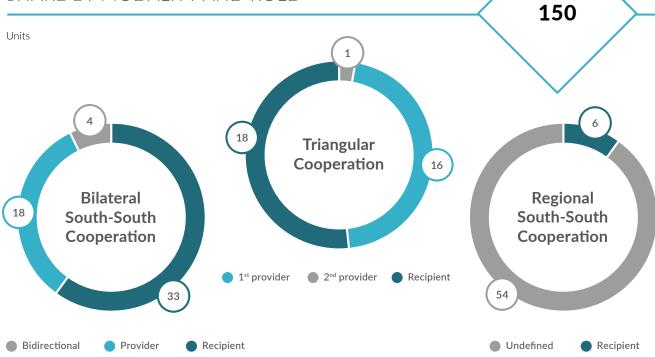


Nearly two thirds of the 273 SSC actions, projects and programs in which Colombia participated in 2016 were executed under a bilateral modality. The remaining 90 initiatives were distributed, in a ratio of 2:1, between Regional SSC and Triangular cooperation. Although Colombia was active in both roles, it tended to prioritize its role as provider in bilateral cooperation, and as recipient in the triangulatuibs. Colombia partnered with multiple countries in its exchanges, including Argentina, El Salvador and Peru. Through these exchanges, Colombia shared its capacities in Social Policies, Health and Institutional Strengthening. When acting as provider, Colombia transferred its strengths in Culture and the Environment; and as recipient, it strengthened its capacities in Agriculture and Livestock. The combined initiatives allowed Colombia to contribute to the achievement of SDGs 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through SSC.

SEGIB

# COSTA RICA

## SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE



## STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



## CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 3, 13 and 16



## MAIN PARTNERS

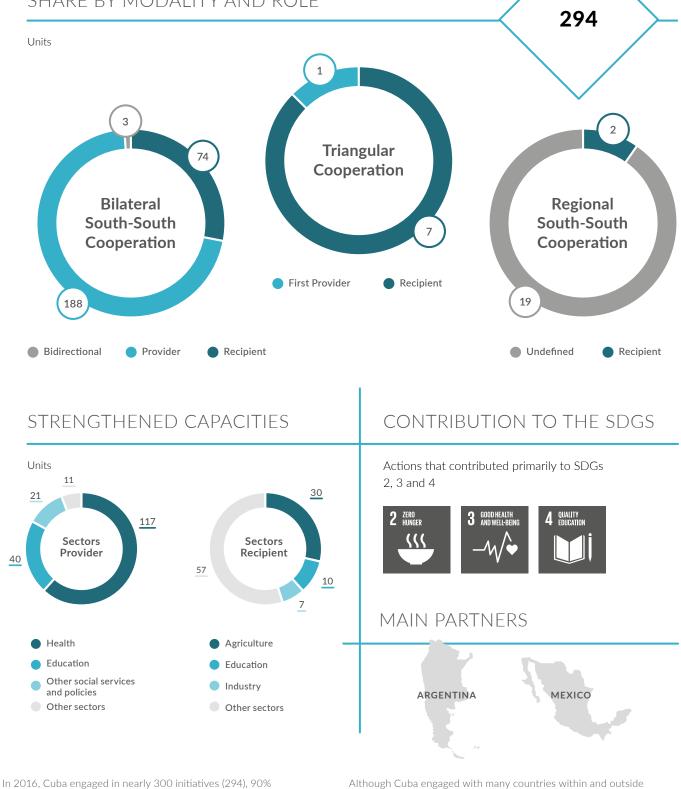


Three partners stood out in these exchanges: Mexico, Colombia and El Salvador. As provider, Costa Rica shared its acknowledged capacities in the Environment, Health and Tourism sectors. Meanwhile, as recipient, Costa Rica geared more than half of the projects towards 6 sectors, suggesting that the country strengthened a large variety of widely differing capacities. Lastly, it can be concluded from these combined activities that Costa Rica's SSC in 2016 tended to align with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 13 (Climate Action) and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

In 2016, Costa Rica participated in 150 SSC actions, projects and programs. The bulk of the initiatives (40%) were implemented under the regional modality, followed closely by bilateral (36.7%) and, to a lesser extent, triangular (23.3%), which, nonetheless, still represented 35 actions and projects. To help take this cooperation forward, Costa Rica acted in both roles, participating as recipient in about 40% of the initiatives, and as provider in almost one in four.

# CUBA

## SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE



Although Cuba engaged with many countries within and outside the region, its two main partners were Argentina and Mexico. As would be expected, Cuba focused on transferring skills in Social sector where it commands proven expertise, primarily Education, Health and Social Policies. As for the cooperation received, worthy of note were the exchanges geared towards the Economic sectors, in particular, Agriculture and Industry. Overall, these exchanges made it easier for Cuba to align its SSC with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health) and 4 (Quality Education).

178

of which were implemented under the bilateral modality. This

figure is in sharp contrast with the number executed under the

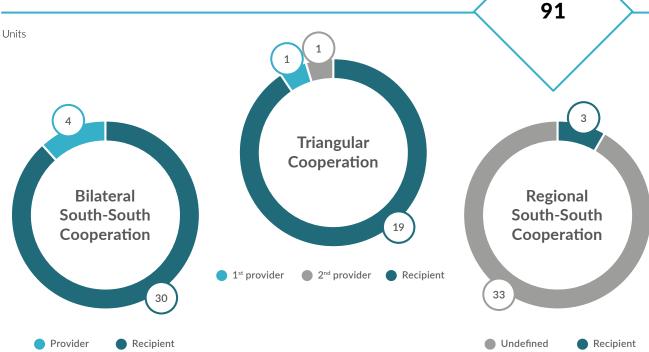
bilateral (7.1%) and triangular (2.7%) forms. In virtually 65% of

the cases, Cuba acted mainly as provider. On the other hand,

it participated in 28.2% of the 294 initiatives as recipient.

# Dominican Rep.





## STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



The 91 SSC initiatives in which the Dominican Republic participated in 2016 were executed under the regional (39.6%), bilateral (37.4%) and triangular (23.1%) modalities. In most cases (57.1%), the Dominican Republic participated as recipient. However, this Caribbean country became increasingly active as provider, with 4 Bilateral SSC actions and projects and 2 Triangular Cooperation projects, equal to 6.6% of the 91 initiatives.

## CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 8, 11 and 16



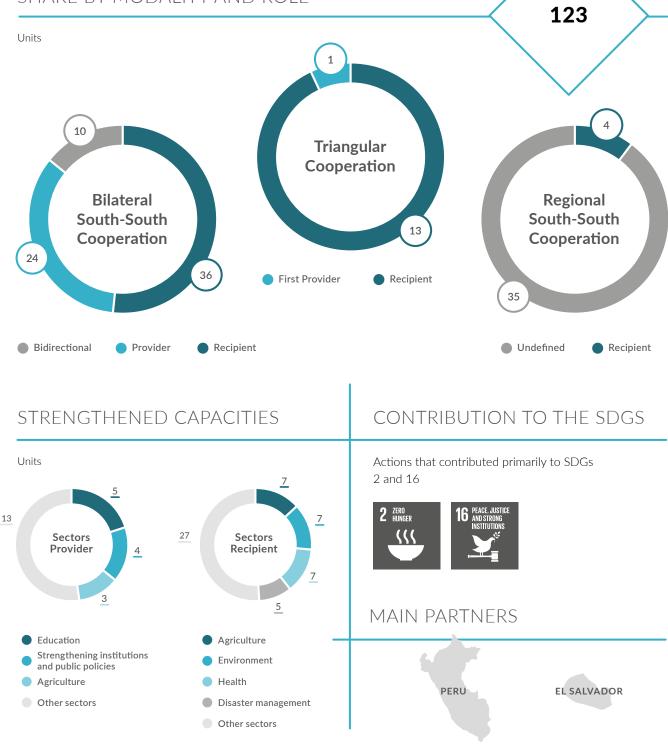
## MAIN PARTNERS



In sectoral terms, the Dominican Republic's SSC was highly diversified. As recipient, this country saw its capacities in the Social (Health, Other services and policies); Economic (Companies); Institutional (support for institutions and public policies); and Environment sectors strengthened. Meanwhile, as provider, it transferred capacities related to Education and Institutional Strengthening. The 91 initiatives exchanged with its partners, including Colombia, Chile and Mexico, contributed to the alignment of the region's SSC with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

# ECUADOR

## SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE

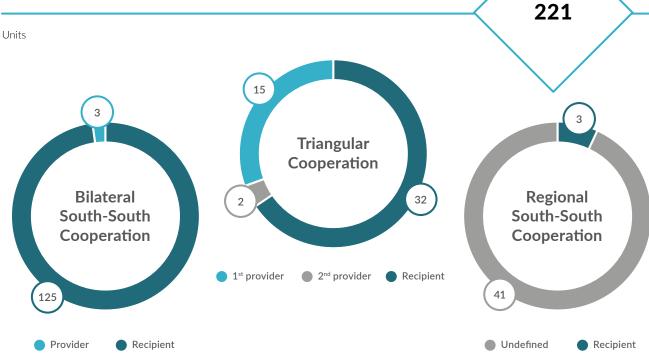


More than half (56.9%) of the 123 SSC initiatives that Ecuador implemented in 2016 were under a bilateral modality, 31.7% regional and the remaining 11.4% triangular. Likewise, the number of exchanges in which Ecuador acted as provider (43.1%) in this cooperation was double that of the exchanges it participated as recipient (20.3%).

The capacities strengthened complemented each other very well, although they differed by role. Worthy of note as provider were Education and institutional strengthening, while Health, the Environment and Disaster Management were prioritized as recipient. The sole exception was Agriculture, as the country participated in the exchanges in both roles. Through this cooperation with a number of partners, including Peru and El Salvador, this Andean country contributed to the region's alignment with SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger) and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

## el salvador





#### STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 3, 11 and 16



#### MAIN PARTNERS

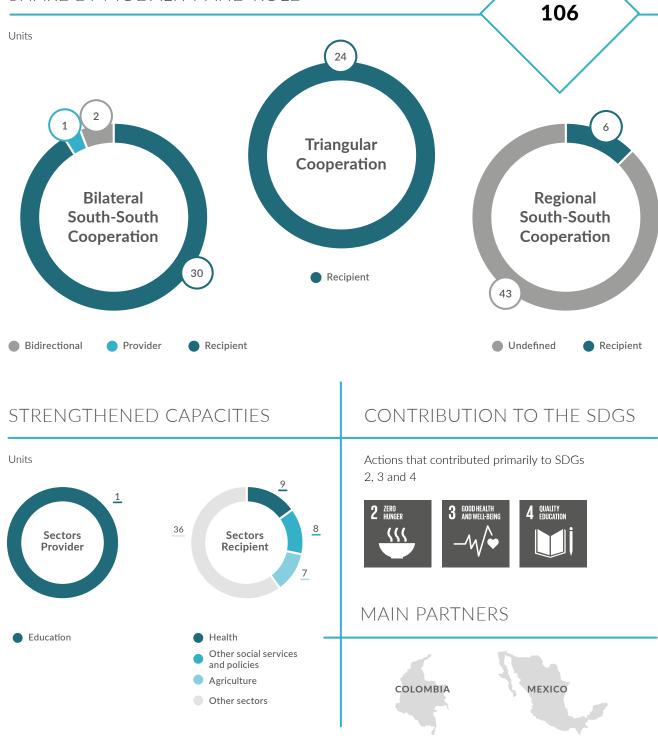


This SSC was highly diversified across sectors. As recipient, El Salvador strengthened its capacities in Health, Education, and Strengthening institutions and public policies, in general, and Social policies, in particular; while, as provider, it supported Public finance management and Public and national security. In its multiple exchanges with other partners, including Mexico and Colombia, this Central American country's SSC contributed to the region's alignment with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

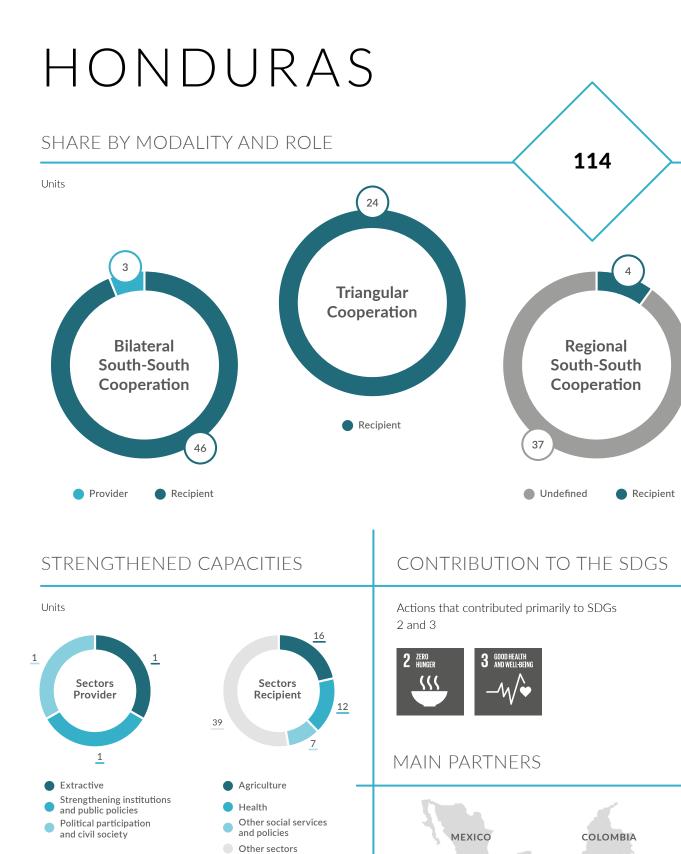
In 2016, El Salvador participated in 221 SSC actions, projects and programs. The bulk of these (57.7%) were implemented under a bilateral modality; 22.2% triangulations; and the remaining 20% was regional. Moreover, in about 3 out of 4 of these initiatives, El Salvador participated as recipient. It also acted as provider in 1 out of 10 of the 221 initiatives.

### GUATEMALA





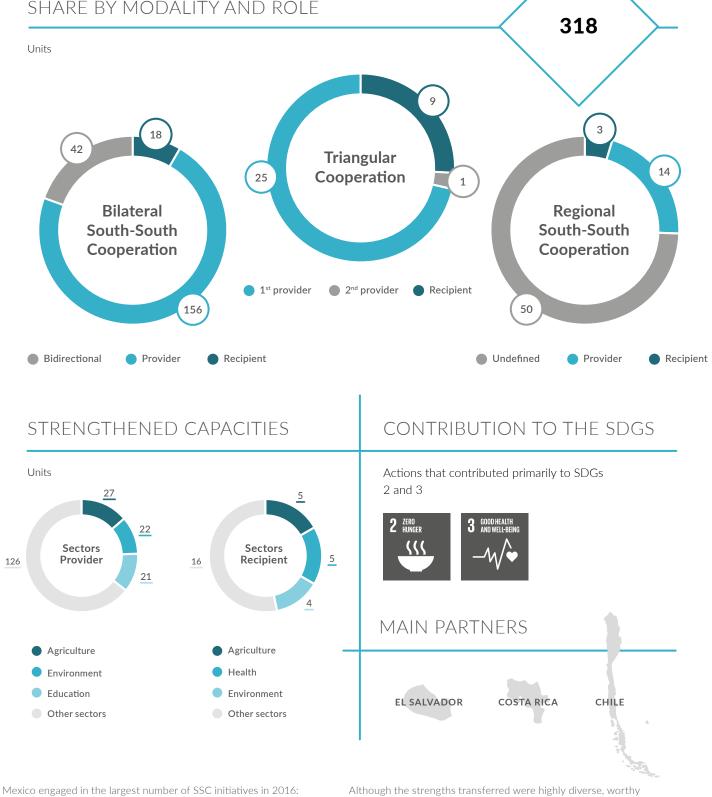
In 2016, Guatemala exchanged 106 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs in progress. The bulk of the SSC initiatives (46.6%) were implemented under a regional modality; one-third under bilateral and one-fifth triangular. Guatemala acted as recipient in virtually 60% of this SSC. Indeed, in 2016, this Central American country only acted once as provider. The South-South Cooperation received by Guatemala allowed to strengthen various capacities, in particular in the Social (Health and Other services and social policies) and Economic (Agriculture) sector. Meanwhile, as provider, it exchanged one experience geared towards Education. Although it interacted with many partners, Colombia and Mexico are worthy of note out owing to their greater relative importance. Overall, the South-South Cooperation in which Guatemala participated in 2016 contributed to the achievement of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 4 (Quality Education).



43.3% of the 114 South-South Cooperation initiatives that Honduras implemented in 2016 were exchanged under a bilateral modality, 36% were regional and one in five were triangulacions. Honduras acted as a recipient of SSC in most of that cooperation (practically two out three exchanges). It only participated as provider in 2 projects and 1 action under Bilateral SSC. While the cooperation received by Honduras was very strongly oriented towards strengthening its capacities in the Social (Health and Other services and social policies) and Economic (Agriculture) sectors, the one it offered was geared towards support for public institutions and Extractive sectors. Mexico and Colombia stood out as its main partners in 2016. Finally, its SSC in 2016 aligned mainly with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

### MEXICO

#### SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE

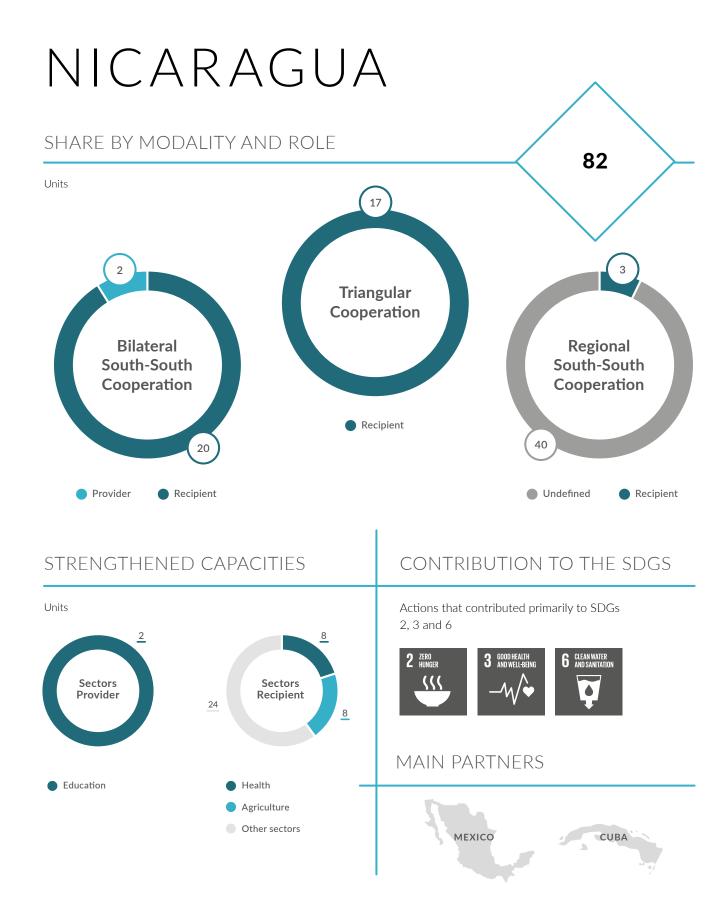


of note are Agriculture, Environment and Education. As recipient, it received exchanges geared towards strengthening capacities in Agriculture and the Environment, as well as Health. Although it also engaged with many partners, worthy of mention are El Salvador, Costa Rica and Chile. As a result of these exchanges and combination of capacities, the SSC implemented by Mexico in 2016 contributed to the region's efforts in achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

318. Two thirds of these were implemented under a bilateral modality; 36% within a regional framework; and the remaining 21%, through triangular exchanges. Moreover, Mexico acted as provider in 6 out of 10 of these initiatives, and only in one in ten as recipient. Additionally, 42 Bilateral SSC projects were "bidirectional", i.e. Mexico participated simultaneously in both roles.

184

SEGIB

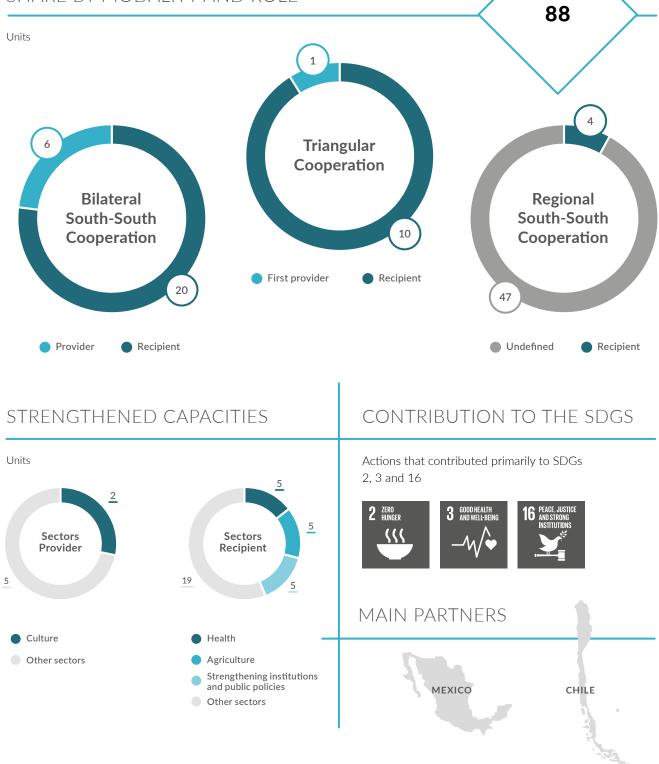


In 2016, Nicaragua participated in 82 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs. More than half of these initiatives (52.4%) took place under a regional framework; 26.8% responded to a bilateral modality; and the remaining 20.7%, wer triangulations. Nicaragua acted as recipient in nearly half of these 82 initiatives (48.8%). Meanwhile, it only participated as provider in 2 Bilateral SSC actions.

This SSC enabled Nicaragua to strengthen its capacities in mainly Health and Agriculture. When this Central American country acted as provider, the experiences exchanged focused on Education. The exchanges involved different partners, including Mexico and Cuba. Overall, Nicaragua's SSC was aligned with the achievement of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

### PANAMA

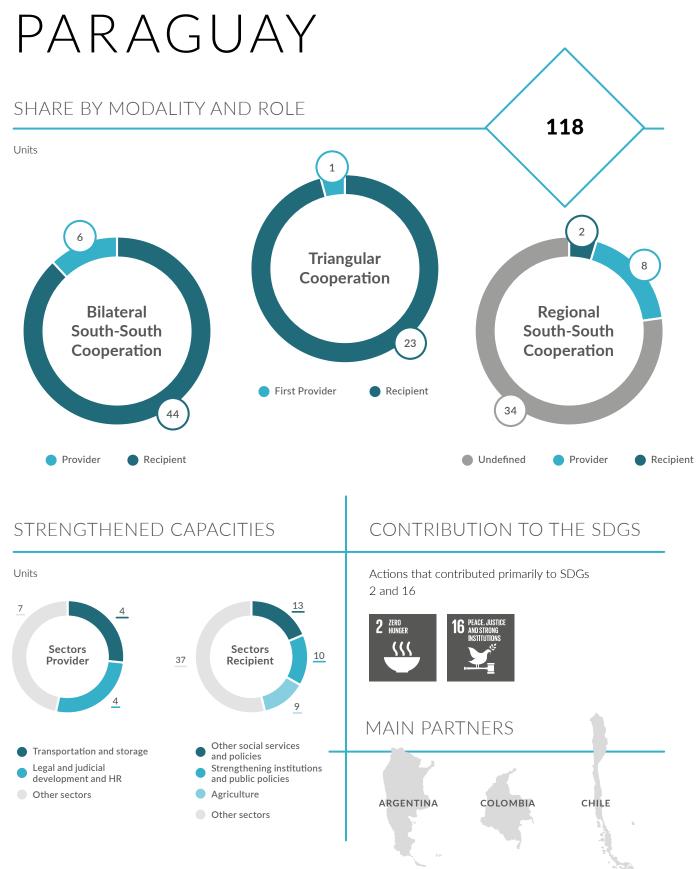
#### SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE



Almost 60% of the 88 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs implemented by Panama in 2016 took place within a regional framework. 28.7% of the other initiatives were executed under a bilateral modality and 12.6% through triangulations. The country acted

mainly as recipient, i.e. 40% of the initiatives implemented. Panama only acted occasionally as provider in 6 exchanges that were mostly bilateral.

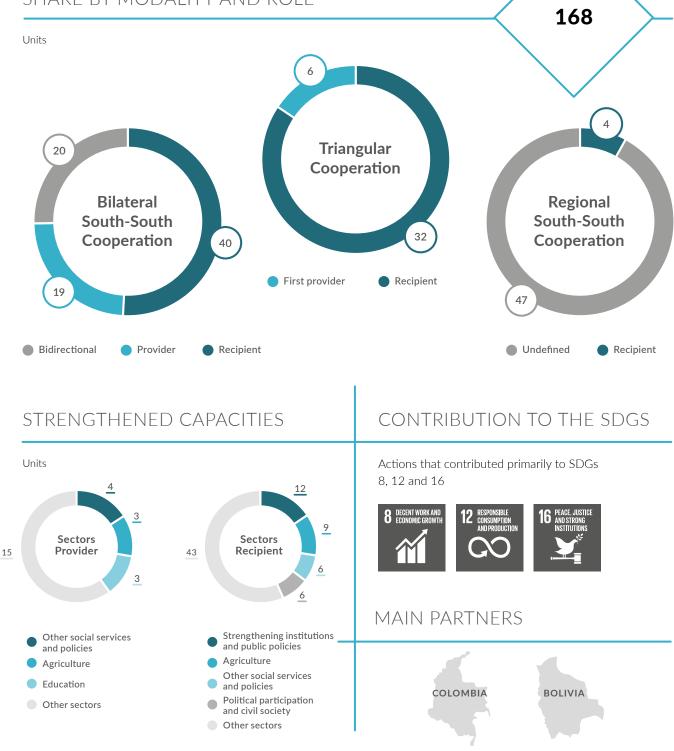
Culture was the most important sector in terms of capacities transferred by Panama as provider. Meanwhile, the cooperation received enabled the country to strengthen Agriculture, Health and Strengthening of institutions and public policies. Its main partners included Mexico and Chile. As a result of these exchanges, Panama's SSC tended to be aligned with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).



In 2016, Paraguay participated in 118 SSC actions, projects and programs. Virtually 8 out of 10 initiatives were distributed, in similar proportions, between the bilateral (42.4%) and regional (37.3%) modalities, while the remaining 20% were implemented through triangulations. Although Paraguay participated primarily as a recipient (58.5% of the exchanges), it also acted as provider in 12.7% of the 118 initiatives. Indeed, when Paraguay participated in SSC as a provider, it transferred capacities related to Human Rights (Bilateral SSC) and Transport and storage (Regional SSC). The cooperation received helped to strengthen different sectors in the country, including Other services and social policies, Agriculture and Strengthening of institutions and public policies. Overall, the combined exchanges, with Argentina, Colombia and Chile as major partners, enabled Paraguay to align its efforts with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

### PERU

#### SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE

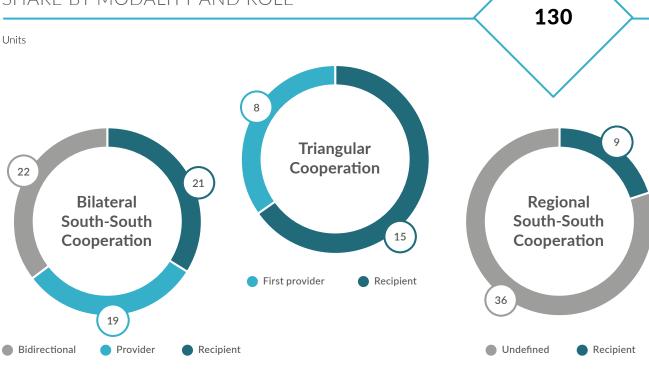


The bulk of the 168 SSC actions, projects and programs (47.0%) in which Peru engaged in 2016 were carried out under a bilateral modality. The remaining exchanges were distributed between regional (30%) and triangular (20%) cooperation. Peru acted as recipient in 4 out of 10 of these 168 initiatives. On the other hand, it was the provider in 25 SSC actions and projects, equal to 14.9% of the all initiatives.

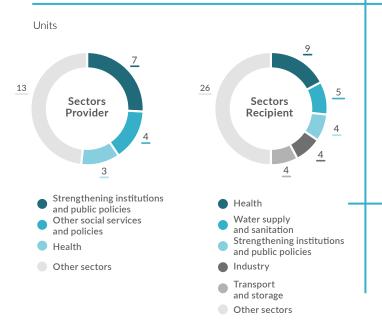
The SSC received was highly diversified across sectors, enabling Peru to strengthen capacities in the Social (Other services and policies); Economic (Farming); and Institutional (support for institutions and public policies, political participation and civil society) sectors. In its role as provider, the capacities strengthened by Peru were also diversified, in particular, Education, Agriculture and Social Policies. The combined exchanges, with Colombia and Bolivia as its main partners, enabled Peru to align its efforts with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

### URUGUAY

#### SHARE BY MODALITY AND ROLE



#### STRENGTHENED CAPACITIES



#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 2, 13 and 16



#### MAIN PARTNERS

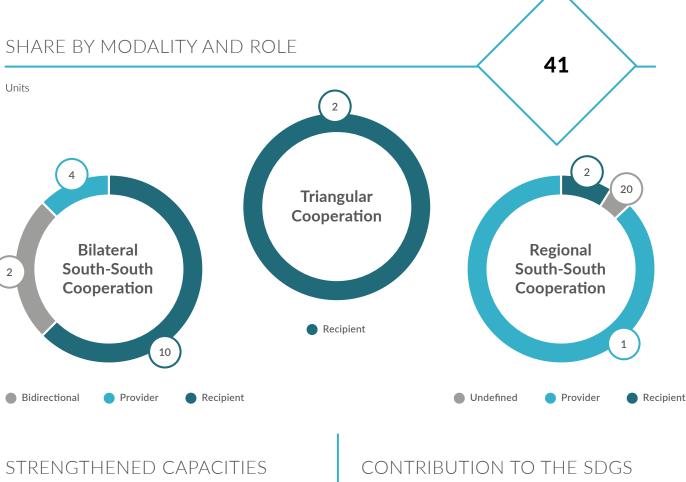


The capacities related to Health and Strengthening of institutions and public policies were strengthened when it acted both as provider and recipient. As a recipient country, Uruguay saw various sectors strengthened through the SSC received, including Water, Industry and Transport, it transferred capabilities in Other social services and policies. Although the exchanges involved a variety of partners, Mexico and Paraguay were worthy of note. As a result of these exchanges, Uruguay's SSC in 2016 contributed towards the achievement of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

institutions oth as / saw various ding Water, ther social d a variety e. As a tributed G 13 (Climate

In 2016, Uruguay engaged in 130 SSC actions, projects and programs. Nearly half of them (47.7%) were implemented under a bilateral modality; 34.6% had a regional framework; and the remaining 17.7%, focused on triangulations. Uruguay participated as recipient in 1 out of 3 SSC initiatives, and as provider in 20.8% of the cases. Furthermore, 16.9% of the exchanges were bidirectional, i.e. Uruguay acted both as provider and recipient.

### VENEZUELA



Units 6 4 2 Sectors Sectors Provider Recipient 3 2 2 Education Health Other sectors Agriculture Other social services and policies Other sectors

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 3 and 4



#### MAIN PARTNERS

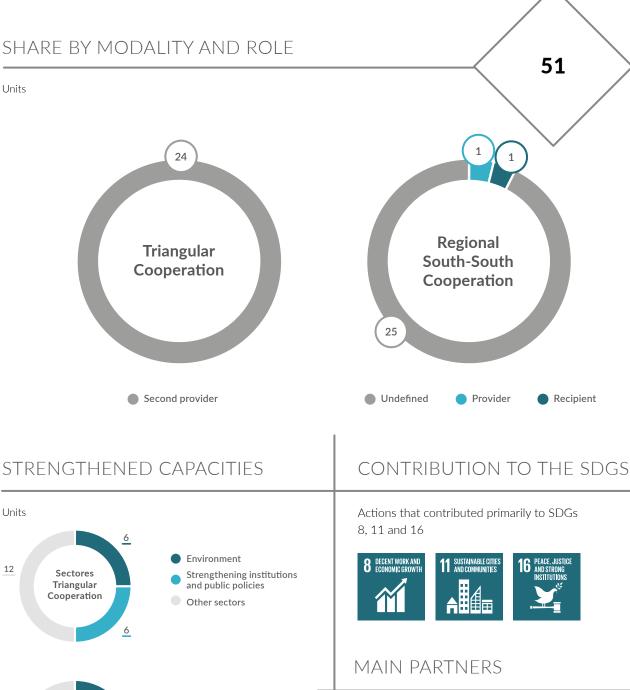


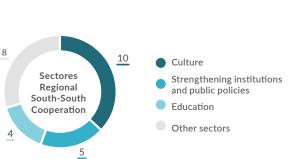
In 2016, Venezuela participated in 41 SSC actions, projects and programs. The bulk of these initiatives (56.1%) were implemented in a regional framework; 39.0% under a bilateral modality; and the remaining 4.9%, through triangulations. Moreover, Venezuela participated as recipient in one in three SSC initiatives, and as provider in another 12.2%.

Venezuela saw its capacities strengthened through the cooperation received, mainly in Health, Other services and social policies and Agriculture. Meanwhile, it transferred its experiences in Education when acting as provider. The combination of capacities transferred through these SSC exchanges with its partners, including Cuba and Mexico, allowed Venezuela to contribute to the achievement of SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 4 (Quality Education).

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### SPAIN

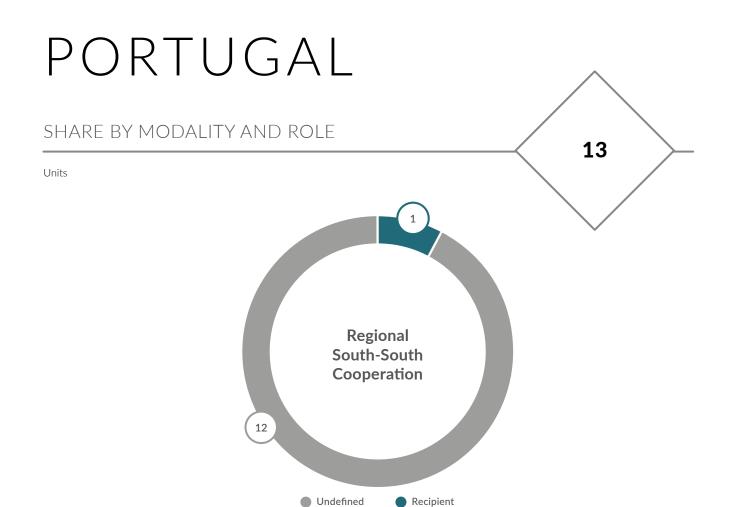


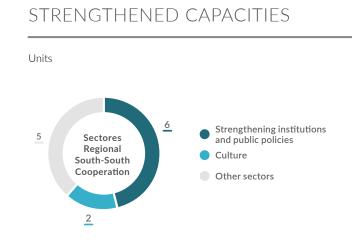




In 2016, Spain participated in 51 South-South Cooperation actions, projects and programs under two modalities: regional (52.9% of all initiatives) and triangular (47.1%). Spain acted primarily as the second provider in half of the 51 initiatives. Worthy of note are the 24 exchanges in which it supported Triangular Cooperation actions and projects. It only participated once as provider in a Regional SSC.

Through these 51 initiatives, Spain exchanged a variety of experiences with other partners in the region, including Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Bolivia. While the triangulation was geared towards Strengthening of institutions and public policies and the Environment; the regional cooperation focused on Culture, Education and Institutional Strengthening. In any case, these 51 initiatives allowed Spain to be better aligned with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).





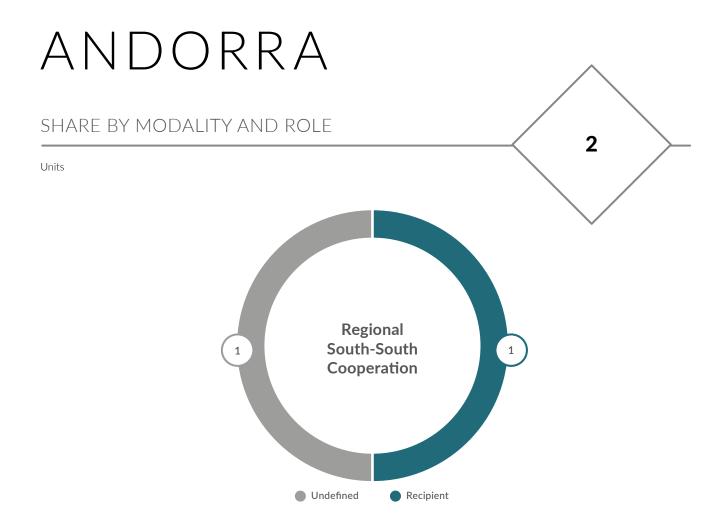
CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

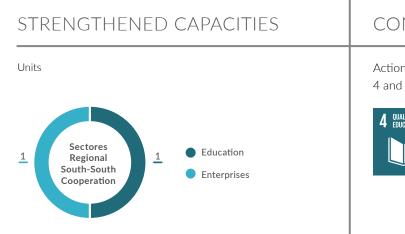
Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 16



In 2016, Portugal participated in 13 SSC projects and programs. All these experiences were implemented under the Regional SSC modality. Indeed, it only acted as recipient in one exchange. Its role in the remaining initiatives has not been clearly identified. With the exception of the regional project led by Brazil, the other SSC exchanges in which Portugal participated revolved around 11 programs and 1 project implemented with the support of bodies with links to Ibero-America, making it difficult to identify a preferred partner-country. Against this background, the capacities strengthened focused mainly on Strengthening of institutions and public policies, Culture and, occasionally, Industry, Enterprises and Science and Technology. This SSC was mainly aligned with SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

SEGIB





#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS

Actions that contributed primarily to SDGs 4 and 8



Andorra participated in two Regional South-South Cooperation programs in 2016, both with links to Ibero-American bodies, and without any preferred partner-country. More specifically, Andorra was active in both the Paulo Freire Academic Mobility Program and an Iberqualitas project. The sectoral profile that emerged from this participation sought to strengthen Education and Enterprises, and enabled a possible alignment with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

### METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The data shown in this section illustrate different aspects of the South-South Cooperation in which Ibero-American countries participated in 2016. Details on how the information was calculated are given below. This information discriminates between the 19 Latin American countries and the 3 Iberian countries, owing to the fact that the three latter countries level of participation in the exchanges is different.



- Total number of initiatives (units). It refers to the sum of the actions, projects and programs in which the country participated in the three modalities (Bilateral SSC, Triangular Cooperation and Regional SSC) recognized in the Ibero-American space.
- Share by modality and role (units). The number of total initiatives in which each country participated in SSC in 2016 may be estimated by processing the three SSC modalities separately. The initiatives in which the countries participated can be broken down by the form of cooperation and possible roles played by each country, which are:
  - Bilateral SSC. Provider, Recipient, Bidirectional.<sup>1</sup>
  - Triangular Cooperation. First Provider, Second Bidder, Recipient.
  - Regional SSC. Provider, Bidder, Undefined.<sup>2</sup>
- Capacities strengthened (units). The total of initiatives is broken down by type of role played by each country (recipient or any type of provider), regardless of the form of cooperation, to calculate the number of initiatives for each total that were linked to each of the 30 activity sectors recognized in the lbero-American space. The pie chart shows, in units, the initiatives associated with the main activity sectors (3 to 4) that stood out the most in the SSC implemented in each country in 2016. The remaining sectors are pooled together under "Other sectors".
- Contribution to the SDGs. It refers to the two or three SDGs that appear prominently linked to the total of actions, projects and programs in which each country participated, regardless of the modality under which those initiatives were implemented.
- Main Partners. It refers to the two or three partner countries with which the country shared the largest number of exchanges in 2016, regardless of the form of SSC (bilateral, triangular, regional) or the instrument (actions, projects, programs) used.

#### SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND ANDORRA'S SHARE (%) IN SSC IN 2016

- Total number of initiatives (units). It refers to the sum of the actions, projects and programs in which each country participated under Triangular Cooperation and Bilateral SSC.
- Share by modality and role (units). The total of initiatives in which each country participated in SSC in 2016 broken down into Bilateral and Triangular SSC. The possible roles played by each country in the total of initiatives are then identified. These roles are First Provider, Second Provider and Recipient (Triangular Cooperation) and Provider, Recipient and Undefined (Regional SSC).
- Capacities strengthened (units). The total of initiatives are broken down into the two forms of SSC (triangular and regional) in which each country participated. Next, the number of initiatives associated with each of the 30 activity sectors recognized in the lbero-American space is calculated for each total. The pie chart shows, in units, the initiatives associated with the main activity sectors (3 to 4) that stood out the most in the SSC implemented in each country in 2016. The remaining sectors are pooled together under "Other sectors".
- **Contribution to the SDGs.** It refers to the two or three SDGs that appear prominently linked to the total of actions, projects and programs in which each country participated, regardless of the modality under which those initiatives were implemented.
- Main Partners. It refers to the two or three partner countries with which the country shared the largest number of exchanges in 2016, regardless of the form of SSC (triangular, regional) or the instrument (actions, projects, programs) used.

Triangular Project between Peru, Germany and Guatemala: Support for the Transformation of Education in Guatemala's Rural Areas

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The **Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018** signals a new decade for a publication that has consolidated its position over the last decade as an international benchmark to increase knowledge and understand the role of our region in the future of South-South Cooperation. The 2018 Report includes new developments that we hope will become a landmark over the coming years. This **Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2018** has a new graphic design, highlights more prominently each country's role -with a summary of each country's most relevant South-South Cooperation data- and reaffirms the countries' commitment to the 2030 Agenda, underscoring South-South Cooperation's contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that "leave no one behind".

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