The Report on South-South Cooperation in Ibero-America 2019 is now established as an essential tool for the visibility and management of regional South-South and Triangular Cooperation, demonstrating its international leading role in this modality of development cooperation.

In addition, the Report has served as a forum for reflection and as a means to provide notoriety to the highest authorities on cooperation in the region, in order to build a common Ibero-American position on South-South Cooperation and set the international agenda on development cooperation.

The Report provides countries with an innovative, useful and essential tool for management, which has helped to strengthen the institutional and methodological capabilities of Ibero-American countries for over a decade.

**Key results**

Based on the latest Report on SSC in Ibero-America 2019, the Ibero-American countries participated in 1,310 initiatives of SSC during 2017 (including 319 initiatives that the Ibero-American countries launched with developing countries from other regions, especially from the non-Ibero-American Caribbean, Africa and Asia).

By modalities, it is worth mentioning the following:

1) In the area of Bilateral SSC, the Ibero-American countries exchanged among themselves 733 projects and 160 actions. Four countries, notable for their role as providers, accounted for two thirds (66%) of the total number of projects: Mexico (top provider of the year), followed by Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Also, six other countries accounted for slightly over half (52%) of the projects in their role of recipient countries. The following ones are ranked in order of relative importance: El Salvador (top recipient in 2017), Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay, Argentina and Peru.

2) In the area of Triangular Cooperation, the Ibero-American countries participated in 127 projects and 37 actions. It is worth noting the prominent role played by
Mexico (top first provider of Triangular Cooperation), as well as that of Brazil, Chile and Costa Rica. Spain (top second provider), Germany and Luxembourg also played a key role, as the traditional donor countries that provided support to the highest number of Triangular Cooperation projects (participating in up to 60% of the registered projects).

3) Finally, and interpreting the results of the Report in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is safe to conclude that the SSC projects of Ibero-American countries were potentially aligned with the achievement of different Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular with SDG #3 (related to Good health and well-being), SDG #16 (related to Peace, justice and strong institutions) and SDG #8 (on Decent work and economic growth).

What are the advantages of South-South Cooperation?

- It offers an opportunity for the participant countries to adopt a dual role, both as providers and recipients of cooperation, based on the common needs and development goals identified.

- South-South Cooperation complies with the principle of horizontality, reciprocity, mutual benefit, efficiency and shared responsibility, so it facilitates joining forces for the resolution of common developing problems. The compliance with these principles reaffirms its potential as a means for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as stated in the Buenos Aires Document of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40).

- As a result of this intra-governmental and horizontal process, the integration and partnerships among Ibero-American countries are enhanced.

How is the central role of Latin America evident in South-South Cooperation?

- The twelve editions of the Report confirm the growing dynamism of the region in the area of South-South Cooperation, where Latin America has taken a leading role in this new age of South-South Cooperation worldwide.

- The Report has also contributed to this new era: on the one hand, as a result of the deepening of the partnerships, integration and collaborative relationships among the 22 members of the Ibero-American Conference; on the other hand, as an
exercise of systematization that helps the decision-making process in every aspect related to this public policy.

What is the origin of the Report?

- The Report is the response to the requests formulated by the Ibero-American countries in 2007, within the framework of the efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in order to systematize and deeply understand the South-South and Triangular Cooperation already undertaken.
- The 22 countries present in the region, together with the SEGIB (at a technical and political level), are directly involved in the preparation of the Report, which provides an increasingly comprehensive overview of South-South and Triangular Cooperation undertaken by Ibero-American countries, both within the region and also with other regions of the world.
- Since 2009 the preparation process of the Report also includes the thoughts of the Heads of Cooperation about Ibero-America, South-South Cooperation and their roles in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

What is the contribution of the Report?

- The Report has provided visibility to the South-South Cooperation undertaken by the region, asserting its leading role in that field. At the national level, it has highlighted the value of South-South Cooperation versus other traditional areas of development cooperation that have usually received greater attention and support.
- In particular, it has contributed to strengthening the institutional and methodological capabilities of Ibero-American countries, promoting access for the majority of countries, and the whole region, to more information and better tools for the management of their SSC. Along these lines, there are two landmarks intrinsically related to the Report: the launch in 2010 of the Ibero-American Program for the Strengthening of South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS); and since 2015 the design and implementation of the first online database system on South-South Cooperation worldwide (SIDICSS).
- The Report has served as a forum for reflection and debate, promoting the construction of a common Ibero-American position and vision of South-South
Cooperation, as well as of the different aspects of the international development cooperation agenda.