



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
VI REGIONAL
CONFERENCE
TRIANGULAR
COOPERATION
2022: (RE)THINKING
PARTNERSHIPS

7 AND 8 SEPTEMBER 2022



Implementado por



VI REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRIANGULAR COOPERATION 2022: (RE)THINKING PARTNERSHIPS



The VI Regional Conference on Triangular Cooperation (trc) took place on 7 and 8 September 2022 in a hybrid format. It marked the tenth anniversary of regional conferences on triangular cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and was hosted by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) for the first time in Berlin. More than 200 participants from over 30 countries, mostly from LAC, actively contributed to the event both online and on site in Berlin.

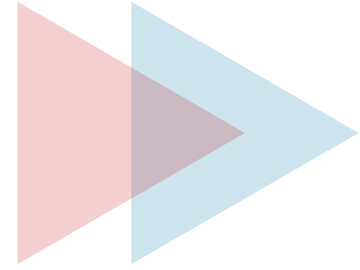
The conference aimed to promote and rethink trc in LAC by taking stock of past partnerships and cooperation in the current context, considering the collective experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and the global impact of Russia's war on Ukraine. Emphasis was placed on

- ① presenting **successful solutions and innovations** based on lessons learned from trc together with partners,
- ② identifying current and future trc **challenges**,
- ③ highlighting trc contributions to addressing the **COVID-19 pandemic** and discussing future strategies as well as
- ④ **facilitating policy dialogue** among various trc stakeholders.

The diverse contributions and lively discussions confirmed the great potential of trc for forging new paths of interregional and interdisciplinary partnerships. Mutual learning and knowledge transfer within LAC as well as with other regions is strengthened through the modality, as is the building of trust and solidarity.

Knowledge transfer through better data management

Considering the current global crises and the increasing localisation of international cooperation, trc offers the opportunity to strengthen horizontal relationships. In this context, the potential to contribute to a paradigm shift in DC has been increasingly highlighted. The added value of trc at the political-strategic level compared to traditional bilateral forms of cooperation has been exhaustively demonstrated. However, sustainable results at the impact level should be better documented and showcased. Data management on trc in that sense is essential for political steering, transparency, accountability, and ultimately evidence-based improvement of the modality. Existing knowledge should be disseminated more intensively, e.g. by sharing successes from previous projects with new partners. Therefore, trc projects should make greater use of existing data to ensure visibility of opportunities and impacts, thus contributing to more transparency. Collecting new data requires



better recording, documentation and management of the processes and results of implemented projects. Sound planning and structuring, formulating clear objectives, setting strategic visions and simplifying instruments are crucial for the development of the modality.

Increase focus on non-state actor participation, cross-cutting issues, and broadening policy dialogue

For a targeted, need-based implementation of the project goals and the expansion of previous successes, a stronger involvement of non-state actors is necessary. The transfer of acquired knowledge and the design of new projects can be ensured through the stronger involvement of actors from academia, the private sector, civil society, etc. in project implementation.

In addition, the expansion of political dialogue in partner countries is crucial, for example through links with dialogue forums such as the OECD's International Meetings on Triangular Cooperation, in order to make the modality accessible to a broader national and international audience. Connecting with people and their different life realities at the local level is also a key factor in identifying needs and demand. By consolidating policy dialogues between different stakeholders, TRC promotes ownership and global thinking while seeking local solutions that meet the needs of development partners.

A stronger focus on cross-cutting issues like gender, climate, energy and digitalisation is essential to address current development challenges in LAC: education and gender equality in triangular partnerships are to be prioritised to fight poverty and enable emancipation and empowerment, especially of young people, women and girls in all their diversity.

Strengthening inter-regional TRC

As triangular partnerships are already well-developed in LAC, alliances with other regions, especially with the African and Asian continents, need to be strengthened. By including new partners from different regions in the world, existing triangular projects gain continuity and TRC's reach can be expanded. Successful projects can be adapted for different contexts facing similar challenges and translated to other regions according to demand. Greater investment in capacity building is required to strengthen new and existing partnerships. To this end, new digital methods of knowledge sharing, and mutual learning should be further developed through appropriate technologies to provide broader access in parallel to face-to-face events.