

**Key conclusions and recommendations of the UNOSSC study on the institutionalization of South-South Cooperation entitled “Evolution of Institutional Architecture in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (ECIS)”**

**Conclusions:**

- South-South, East-East and Triangular cooperation has deep historical roots in the ECIS region.
- The number of national and regional development strategies and programmes, incorporating South-South, East-East and Triangular cooperation elements, is also on the increase.
- Countries are engaging in various forms of cross-border, sub-regional and regional cooperation with broad thematic coverage.
- UN entities have increased their efforts in scaling up the across the ECIS region based on regional and country demands, including through regional programs strategies and other initiatives.
- ECIS countries have developed their own unique models comprising of various partners, operational modalities, global and regional initiatives and forums as well as diverse funding mechanisms.
- Experiences of the ECIS countries and the UN system present a good potential for sharing experience, knowledge and know-how transfer with other developing countries, which are interested in establishing and/or strengthening existing institutional arrangements for South-South, East-East and Triangular cooperation.

**Recommendations:**

- Countries can increase the benefit from the development cooperation by building and/or scaling up their South-South, East-East and Triangular cooperation institutional architecture and legal framework.
- Establishing a designated state body can be done with less efforts and budgetary constraints, when countries share their knowledge and experience and utilise United Nation’s and/or other partner country’s support in this process (e.g. peer-exchange, technical capacity projects, stocktaking exercises for the countries).
- Governments can consider increasing the use of triangular cooperation approaches, projects and initiatives. Intensifying interregional exchange and stronger efforts to disseminate triangular cooperation examples may enable ECIS countries to benefit more from the experiences of other regions engaged in triangular cooperation.
- Possible ways to scale up and diversify the engagement of the ‘knowledge institutions’ in South-South and triangular cooperation will create a more beneficial environment for knowledge production and sharing. Countries may explore ways to increase the partnerships of state institutions with think-tanks and academia.
- Governments can explore ways to attract private development financing and include the private sector as strategic partner in their South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives. The business sector also has the potential to transfer knowledge into concrete projects, which support sustainable development not only on the country but also at regional level.
- United Nation system entities can further support the countries’ institutionalization process through, for example, conducting analysis at different levels to better understand trends and potential for South-South and triangular cooperation; increasing engagement through capacity building programmes for relevant government officials, researchers, academia and private sector; and developing financial tools to facilitate planning, financing and implementing at regional level, sub-regional level and utilising cross border opportunities.