

Latin American countries discuss cooperation in social policies

Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay meet in Brasilia to strengthen South-South cooperation on social development.

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Brasilia - Brazil wants to strengthen cooperation with other Latin Americans in the social area. This was one of the main discussions of a workshop that began today (15) and continues until tomorrow (16). The initiative is from the Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, in partnership with the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC).

According to the ministry's executive secretary, **Romulo Paes**, the integration between the Southern countries is a necessity for economic and social issues. "**Because these countries are facing new economic and social contexts.**"

The director of ABC, **Minister Marco Farani** assessed that Brazil has made progress in social policies and in collaboration with other nations in recent years. "**Maybe Brazil is today the most advanced country in the practice of bilateral cooperation,**" he said.

The coordinator of the South-South Learning Unit at the **International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG)**, **Melissa Andrade**, defended the discussion of policy models for each country. "**When we talk about South-South cooperation, we concentrate heavily in technology and do not question the models, principles,**" she noted.



For her, it is still necessary to enhance **the mobilization of the emerging countries to cooperate**, similar to what occurs with blocs such as the **BRIC** (Brazil, Russia, India and China) and the **IBSA** (India, Brazil and South Africa). Melissa said we have to think of emerging global social challenges and not just those involving the nations of the South with the North. "Otherwise, we'll just exchange one set of rulers by another group."

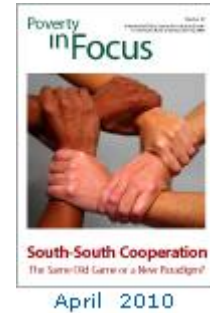
Source: http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/home/-/journal_content/56/19523/1000717

- Additional information on the workshop:
<http://www.mds.gov.br/saladeimprensa/noticias/2010/julho/oficina-debate-cooperacao-internacional-para-politicas-sociais>

Resources:

South-South Cooperation: The Same Old Game or a New Paradigm?

A [special issue](#) of IPC-IG's Poverty in Focus magazine was launched by Dr. Rathin Roy, Director of IPC-IG and H.E. Mr. Ambassador Antonio Patriota, Secretary-General of Brazil's External Relations Ministry at the Inaugural Session of the 4th India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Trilateral Dialogue Process.



The magazine presents eleven innovative articles discussing the current state-of-art of South-South Cooperation, perspectives for the future and their development impact and the growing presence of the emerging countries in the international cooperation scenario. A central issue raised in the magazine is whether South-South cooperation represents a chance for re-shaping the cooperation practice and discourse, putting at the centre the development needs and challenges of the countries in our developing world.

- Read IPC-IG's Poverty in Focus magazine on the future of South-South Cooperation:
<http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus20.pdf>