An Analysis of the South-South Vision

By

Mbaa Fidelis Barimue
Department of History and Diplomatic Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Ignatius Ajuru University of Education
barimuefidelis@yahoo.com
07036128948
&
Kingdon E. Orji
Department of History and Diplomatic Studies
Faculty of Humanities
Ignatius Ajuru University of Education

Abstract

This research paper gives a brief account of the swift expansion of the South-South Vision (SSV) in volume, structure, forming, its countries and institutions. Notwithstanding, SSV is a defacto development treaty or spirit concern for the people of developing countries, it is a thing of concerns to secure the habitation for all countries and all people, there is penchant to overstate the total concessional financial element of SSV as a commission compared to official development assistance (ODA) as SSV only constitutes a small portion of the total ODA from traditional donors. The North-South cooperation is still the dominant pillar of the development finance; hence SSV needs to be regarded as a complement to an not a substitute for NSC. In view of these, SSV is facing several challenges and difficulty which includes; lack of sort and hard institutional frameworks. The south seeks an undivided world in which there would be no "South" and no "Worth in which there would be not one part developed, rich, and dominating, and the other underdeveloped, poor, and dominated the south" goal is a world of an equal opportunities in which criss-crossing lines of interaction-political, economic, social, cultural scientific – may sustain global independence.

Keywords: South-South, Vision, Modernization, Co-operation.

Introduction

The South-South Vision (SSV) is a broad framework of collaboration among countries of the south in the political, economic, social, cultural environmental and technical domain. Involving two or more developing countries, it can take place in a bilateral, regional, intra-regional or interregional basis.

The emergence of the term global south in its historical context constitutes an interesting process, which illustrate how the term has been charged with various shades of meaning. Some of the contribution touch on the historical genesis of the term and narrate how they experienced this process. Thomas Hylland Eriksen and Jonathan Rigg, among others, reflect on the emergence of the notion, with particular regard to the historical trajectory of defining different between the (Poor and Rich) parts of the world.

The South-South development vision has a long history, with some institutions in the southern Hemisphere and developing countries and economics contributing assistance for almost half a century. Specifically; the countries of the south development cooperation remains limited, the relative decline in the Worth-South development has made its growth seem more spectacular. South-south development vision also seems to draw out different sentiments amongst different actors.

The countries of the south are requesting for a change in the economic policies that were initiate after the Second World War and which have continued to favour the developed countries.

Theoretical Explanation

This work anchored mainly in modernization theory. According to the modernization theory, modern societies are more productive, children are better educated and the needy receive more welfare.

The major assumptions of the modernization theory of development basically are:
Modernization is a phased process; for example Rostow has 5 phases according to his theory of economic development for a particular society, and I will mention them later. Modernization is a homogenizing process, in this sense, we can say that modernization produces tendencies toward convergence among societies, for example, Levy (1967, p 207) maintain that: "as time goes on, they and we will increasingly resemble are another because the patterns of modernization are such that the more highly modernized societies become, the more they resemble one another". Theory of modernization is an Europeanization or Americanization process; in the modernization literature, there is an attitude of complacency toward western Europe and the United States. These nations are viewed as having unmatched economic prosperity and democratic stability (Tipps, 1976: 14) in addition, modernization is an irreversible process once started it cannot stopped. In other words, once third world countries come into contact with the latest, they will not be able to resist the impetus toward modernization.

Modernization is a progressive process which in the long run is not only inevitable but desirable.

According to Coleman, modernized political systems have a higher capacity to deal with the function of national identity, legitimacy, penetration, participation and distribution than traditional political systems. Finally, modernization is a lengthy process. It is an evolutionary change, not a revolutionary one.

It will take generations or even centuries to complete, and its profound impact will be felt only through time. All these assumptions are derived from European and American evolutionary theory.

Another considerable assumptions are as follows:

a) Modernization is a systematic process; the attribute of modernity forms a consistent whole, thus, appearing in a cluster rather than in isolation.
b) Modernization is a transformative process; in order for a society to move into modernity its traditional structures and values must be totally replaced by a set of modern values and
c) Modernization is an imminent process due to its systematic and transmative nature, which builds change into the social system and I believe these are the South-South Vision (SSV).

Methodology

It is deserving to re-emphasized that there are paucity of literature on the south-south vision as well as its economic management. Thus, it made the sourcing and gathering of material a difficult chore.

As such, to conduct this study, a qualitative research methodology was adopted. "qualitative research method, the state of research on south-south cooperation and the emerging trends; review of analytical and quantitative techniques deployed in research on south-south and triangular cooperation; data challenges for research on south-south cooperation; leading issues on triangular cooperation; identification of themes in line with the objectives of the research.

Sources of Data Collection

Secondary sources are the used of published materials derived from critical studies of the literature to extract histories of the period or event, publications and documents of many organizations such south-south, the north-south, textbooks, Journals, articles and internet

materials which contain relevant information related to global north and south, importantly, the use of library materials was also employed in this research work.

Conceptual Clarification

The south examined

The south refers to those technically and socio-economic less-developed global regions in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. The countries, located primarily in the southern hemisphere, that have historically been identified as "the East" or the third world" due to their having been subjected to colonialism and domination.

The term referring to less developed countries characterized by low level of economic development, large inequalities in living standards and how life expectancy loosely entails poor southern countries that are frantically seeking to transform their economies.

The south are countries formerly known as "third world or" developing countries; developing countries or countries that are still developing.

Significantly, the industrializing world or the global south refers to the countries of rest of the world, most of which are in the southern hemisphere, most of the global is in south and Central America, Africa and Asia.

Geographically, the phrase "Global South" refers broadly to the regions of the regions of Latin America, Asia, and Oceania. It is one of a family of terms, including "Third world" and "pheriphery". That denote regions outside Europe and North America, mostly (though not all) low-income and often politically or culturally marginalized.

The characteristics of the global south.

The global south represents mainly an agrarian economies in Africa, India, Chora, Lath America and others that are not as economically sound and politically stable as their global North counterparts and tend to be characterized by turmoil, war, conflict, poverty, anarchy and tyranny (Odeh, 2010).

The south represents the economically backward countries of Africa, India, china, Brazil, Mexico amongst others. Although the term global south has replaced the notives of the "third world" or periphery, its meaning is still inherently slippery, inchoate and unfixed. The south is characterized by very low production capacity with monoculture economies. Majority of the southern countries are engaged in agriculture. The countries of the North determine the prices of their primary products as well as the prices of the finished

products, which the south imports from them. The south lack stable economic, lack of appropriate technology and an organized democratic principles, this is to say they are yet to be imbibed by most of the countries.

Vision and Mission

Vision

To drive the global reproductive health and population agenda to attain sustainable development.

Mission

To assist each member country and other developing countries to address successfully the sexual and reproductive health and rights, including family planning and HIV/AIDS, population and development challenges through South-South collaboration by raising a common voice and sharing sustainable, effective, efficient, accessible and acceptable solutions considering the diverse economic, social, political, religious and cultural characteristics of our countries.

The South-South Vision (SSV)

The preamble of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development adopted by all United Nations member states solemnly declared; "there can no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development". It is explicitly positive that countries are paying increased attention to interlinkage between peace, security and development; therefore it is emperative essentially to makes efforts to embrace inclusive peace and development by movement from words of mount (statements) to actions.

In 2019 the United Nations Day for South-South cooperation on 12 September marks the 41st anniversary of the 1978 adoption by consensus of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. Importantly, we are just a few months after the historic "Second United Nations High-Level Conference on South-South cooperation" (BAPA+40) in which 145 Member States endorsed an outcome document guiding the future of South-South Cooperation. Thus, it's a good chance to reflect and offer some insights and ideas to support the expansion of the global agenda for Southern solidarity for inclusive peace and development.

Why and how South-South Cooperation is a path to inclusive peace

South-South Cooperation to diversify the routes for increased trust

For practitioners working for many years in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and development, the evidence that only through "multiple paths and inclusivity" it is possible to achieve durable peace, is not new. Concentration of decision-making power, knowledge

and resources in the hands of a few actors is likely to lead to division, conflict and lack of understanding, conflict and lack of understanding. For example, when policy processes are enriched by the participation of multiple stakeholders, when they are owned by those directly affected by violent conflict, clearly benefiting victims of exclusion, the chances for lasting peace increase. Considering this, it seems clear that opening up more opportunities for horizontal joint action and knowledge transfer of and among Global South countries is an important additional pathway to expand the probabilities to achieve peace and development.

As South-South cooperation embraces the key principle of South-South solidarity as a key pillar to build a new world, southern Member States are opening up new routes to work together, listening to each other and sharing knowledge while improving policy coordination. This may lead to increased mutual understanding, trust and reciprocated accountability, fundamental pre-conditions to create contexts of peace and stability. Over the past few years, it has been encouraging to observe the efforts of national governments investing resources and capabilities to build South-South initiatives, notably through regional organizations such as the African Union (AU), the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN), the Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the g7 plus-just to name a few. These organizations are working independently to coordinate regional and cross-regional peace and development actions while promoting revitalized dialogue among neighbours and/or actors facing similar challenges.

In complex political times, we consider that it is also vital to increase cross-continental exchange of ideas, moving beyond regional boundaries: Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia must come even closer together to protect "global commons", supporting each other in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We have much to gain from learning from each other's experiences, avoiding.

Difference between South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

Triangular Cooperation is the result of technical cooperation among two or more developing countries that is supported financially by northern donors or by international organizations.

Triangular Cooperation often consists of a financial contribution from a northern donor together with technical skills provided by a southern donor, which is then implemented in a partner country. South-South Cooperation often consists of technical assistance on a project level, and at times it is implemented in the form of cost-sharing schemes. South-

South Cooperation is not limited to "aid" as classified by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), since it includes other types of financial flows and technical cooperation.

Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC)

Technical cooperation among developing countries - known as TCDC - is essentially a process whereby two or more developing countries pursue their individual or collective development through cooperative exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how. Ideally, TCDC activities should be initiated, organized and managed by developing countries themselves with their governments playing a lead role while involving public and private institutions, nongovernmental organizations and individuals.

TCDC is often cross-sectoral and can be bilateral, multilateral, sub regional, regional or interregional in character. The ultimate goal of TCDC is to promote national and collective self-reliance among developing countries while also encouraging global interdependence.

Distinctive Features of SSC within the Aid Effectiveness Agenda

Within the aid effectiveness agenda, the following **distinctive features** of SSC can be highlighted:

Capacity development: South-South technical cooperation tends to strongly focus on capacity development as a process as opposed to a "product"; technical cooperation is embedded as a tool for mutual learning.

A broader choice of support, leading to horizontal partnerships: South-South technical cooperation offers a different type of relationship and might improve the diversity of choices for technical cooperation at the country and regional level, while also creating more horizontal forms of development partnerships.

Cost effectiveness: Drawing on regional and national resources, South-South technical cooperation delivers superior value for money.

Demand-driven character: Given the scarce resources and the horizontal relations between the partners, South-South technical cooperation is more aligned with recipients' priorities and needs.

Adaptability: Since recipient and provider share similar development challenges, South-South technical cooperation can generally provide highly-adapted and relevant solutions, especially in terms of relevant technology and cultural understanding.

Southern knowledge: South-South technical cooperation diversifies knowledge and expertise beyond industrialized models.

South-South Cooperation should also be seen as an expression of the growing capacity of middle-income countries to contribute to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals as aid donors, not only as recipients.

The political component of SSC should at no time be ignored, since one of the main objectives of SSC is reform of the international order and the global economic system. SSC is primarily a mode of cooperation, aimed at strengthening bilateral relations among the southern countries, and providing them with tools that will help the South develop and increase its collective bargaining power. SSC creates solidarity among developing countries and aims to ensure national self-sufficiency whilst providing support to the South as it becomes part of the global economy.

Factors which differentiate South-South Cooperation from traditional North-South Cooperation are namely (a) non-interference in internal matters (b) increased sensitivity to specific contexts (c) equality between partner countries d) respect for their independence and national sovereignty (e) promoting self-sufficiency (f) diversification of ideas (g) approaches and methods of cooperation (h) preference for the use of local resources i) generating broader elements of ownership (j) greater flexibility (k) simplicity and speed of execution l) the preservation of diversity and cultural identity. These factors are further strengthened by their adaptation to national priorities. South-South Cooperation is generally reckoned to be better value than traditional North-South Cooperation, it tends to be less expensive and has a greater impact.

South-South Cooperation has a distinctly different flavor from North-South Cooperation. It tends to be driven by mutual economic and commercial linkages, including access to dwindling natural resources and not by charity. It also has a greater emphasis on technical cooperation and knowledge transfer than conditionality-based project, programs or budget support.

In the thirty (30) years that South-South Cooperation has been in operation, there are still discussions around how to define South-South cooperation in respect to North-South

Cooperation. These often include a disclaimer: "South-South cooperation is not supplementary to North-South cooperation but is complimentary to North-South cooperation". South-South cooperation completes and balances international cooperation and is a necessary and valuable element of North-South Cooperation. Negations and devaluations should not be appended to the expected contribution of South-South cooperation to global/international cooperation.

Principles of South-South Cooperation:

As reaffirmed in the Ministerial Declaration of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Group of 77 and China, in September 2009, New York, USA, the principles of SSC are:

South-South Cooperation is a common endeavor of peoples and countries of the South and must be pursued as an expression of South-South solidarity and a strategy for economic independence and self-reliance of the South based on their common objectives and solidarity;

South-South Cooperation and its agenda must be driven by the countries of the South;
South-South Cooperation must not be seen as a replacement for North-South Cooperation. Strengthening South-South Cooperation must not be a measure of coping with the receding interest of the developed world in assisting developing countries;

Cooperation between countries of the South must not be analyzed and evaluated using the same standards as those used for North-South relations;

Financial contributions from other developing countries should not be seen as official development assistance from these countries to other countries of the South. These are merely expressions of solidarity and cooperation borne out of shared experiences and sympathies;

South-South Cooperation is a development agenda based on premises, conditions and objectives that are specific to the historic and political context of developing countries and to their needs and expectations. South-South Cooperation deserves its own separate and independent promotion; South-South Cooperation is based on a strong, genuine, broad-based partnership and solidarity;

South-South Cooperation is based on equality, mutual respect and mutual benefit;

South-South Cooperation respects national sovereignty in the context of shared responsibility;

South-South Cooperation strives for strengthened multilateralism in the promotion of an action-oriented approach to development challenges;
South-South Cooperation promotes the exchange of best practices among developing countries in the common pursuit of their broad development objectives (encompassing all aspects of international relations and not just in the traditional economic and technical areas);

South-South Cooperation is based on the collective self-reliance of developing countries;
South-South Cooperation seeks to enable developing countries to play a more active role in international policy and decision-making processes, in support of their efforts to achieve sustainable development;

The modalities and mechanisms for promoting South-South Cooperation are based on bilateral, sub-regional, regional and interregional cooperation and integration as well as multilateral cooperation.

Conclusion

Countries in the global South, particularly those that will benefit from South-South Cooperation are largely low income countries. This implies that if the rules of global South development cooperation are not set out clearly, the beneficiary countries may begin to experience unequal relationships and conditions that will not promote the initial aim of South-South Cooperation. It is an accepted fact that throughout the global South, there is an enormous wealth of innovative, successful and scalable development solutions. South-South Cooperation is a win-win situation for the nations involved and it is not a mere add-on to the existing unbalanced development efforts.

South-South Cooperation is a vital force in world economic developments today. India and China, long considered net recipients of aid, are now emerging as net donors, focusing their aid efforts on southern nations. South-South trade is growing at an estimated ten percent annually.

U.N. ex-Secretary-General Kofi Annan once noted that over 40% of developing country exports are themselves headed to other developing countries. Some economists predict that economic growth rates in southern countries will outpace those of the North for the next several years -from five to eight percent a year, compared to 2-3% in the north.

This newfound economic power could alter the balance of political power as well. As they grow less dependent upon northern markets for their economic well-being, southern states are emerging with new power and a stronger voice in the international arena. Future agreements on important international and multilateral issues in the areas of trade, environmental protection, and human rights will require broader outreach to achieve true international consensus. Northern nations, accustomed to leading on the international stage, will need to take into account Southern priorities.

SSC promotes closer technical and economic cooperation among developing countries by employing experts from the South, sharing best practices from the South, and helping to develop a sense of ownership of the development process in the South. It also allows developing countries to diversify and expand their development options and economic links and is a powerful tool for building new partnerships, creating more democratic and equitable forms of global interdependence and global governance.

References

Ajayi, K. (2002). *International Administration and Economic Relations in a Changing World.* Ilorin: Major publishers.

Ake, C. (1981). *A Political Economy of Africa, Lagos:* Nigeria Longman.

Akindele, R.A. (1992). "International Organization and the New World Order". *Nigeria Journal of International Affairs,* Vol. 18, No. 1, pp 26 – 30.

Blackwill, R. and Zelikow, P. (1992). "Building the New World Order." *The World* No. 1, Vol. 7, July. Pp 40-42.

Brown, T. (2004). Problems in Africa's foreign relations from NIEO NOW to globalization from http; exnet. Brave pages, *Com/NIEO, htn.*

Bush, G. (1990). "Towards a New World Order". *Us Department of State Dispatch.* Vol. 1, No. 3, September 11, pp 7.

Chazan, N., Lewis, P., Mortimer, R., Rothchild, D. & Stedman, S. (1988). Africa's.

Yilmaz, A. (2017). The financial crisis and the global: Impact and prospects.

Deborah, K., Nirmaya, S. and German, V. (2014). Innovative financial mechanisms; potential sources of financing the WHO Tobauo convention.

Mah-Hu, Lim, (2014). Globalization, export-led growth and inequality; The East Asia story.

Yilmaz, A. (2015). Internationalization of finance and changing vulnerabilities in emerging and developing economics.