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IBAS: TRINDADE PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO, DEMOCRACIA E SUSTENTABILIDADE



RIS

Research and Information System
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विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

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Foreword

Ambassador Shyam Saran

Chairman, RIS

IBSA stands as an important milestone in the history of South-South Cooperation (SSC). The three partner countries are vibrant plural democracies and major emerging economies. In the international arena, IBSA countries defend multilateralism and peace, promote respect for sovereignty, encourage development of people and support trade and economic initiatives between the South and developed countries.

The IBSA Trust Fund focusses on hunger and poverty alleviation in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) through several projects. The 'Brasilia Declaration' laid stress on promotion of social equality and inclusive growth through effective governmental policies. IBSA has traversed a long path successfully to provide social protection, income guarantee, food and nutrition security and cash transfer schemes to people and have incorporated innovative approaches to deal with social issues. Cooperation among IBSA countries is built upon strong foundations of shared values and common action.

IBSA has also given importance to Science and Technology (S&T) for development and for strong partnership with other countries. The National Innovation System (NIS) has many common features and in all the three states continues to play a major role in funding S&T research and development. The IBSA movement has gained attention of the international community with the plans at hand for supporting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through efficient and outcome-oriented cooperation in socio-economic and S&T related areas for enhancing development in the SSC framework.

I would like to congratulate the members of the RIS research team for this very timely report and for taking up all the related issues for detailed discussion for the benefit of policymakers, practitioners and other stakeholders. I am particularly impressed by their success in bringing out this Report in record time.

I am certain that this document will serve as an excellent reference material for IBSA policymakers and other stakeholders.


(Shyam Saran)

Preface

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General, RIS

What evolved as a partnership among India, Brazil and South Africa at economic fora in late nineties eventually emerged as IBSA - a strong grouping of democracies from the South. The coming together of these countries provided a major impetus to the very idea of South-South Cooperation (SSC). In the beginning of this century, the Trinity from the South represented leading economies in the respective continents and represented complementary strengths and capabilities that could be exploited for mutual benefit. The shared political and economic history and similar development experiences provided further heft needed for the broad base of the engagement.

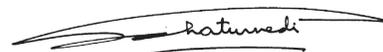
The brief history of this grouping is extremely rich and needs to be preserved and be proud of. It has to be protected from associated angularities and external influences. IBSA partnership has great potential to make a major contribution to the economic development of the three sub-regions across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In this regard, issues such as IBSA and global governance, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), S&T cooperation, IBSA Trust Fund, among others, assume great significance. Keeping this perspective in view, RIS has brought out this Report.

The Report has been prepared by the RIS Research Team and focuses on the current facets of IBSA in terms of global-strategies, protagonism on SSC, social sector commitments, S&T cooperation and collaborative strategy to achieve SDGs, IBSA Trust Fund and its effectiveness.

We are thankful to Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS for providing guidance to accomplish this task. Mr. Amar Sinha, Secretary (ER) and Mr Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India provided the necessary support for bringing out this report. Thanks are also due to all the members of the RIS research and publication team for their valuable inputs. Special thanks to Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, JNU; Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow; and Dr. T.P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow, RIS for their inputs.

I am sure the Report would serve as an important policy research reference by all policymakers, academics, practitioners and other stakeholders associated with deepening development cooperation among IBSA countries in the broader context of promoting SSC and implementation of SDGs Agenda.

6 December 2016
New Delhi



Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

List of Abbreviations

Addis Ababa Action Agenda	AAAA
African Union	AU
Agência Brasileira de Cooperação	ABC
Antiretroviral Therapy	ART
Brazilian Development Bank	BNDES
Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa	BRICS
Brazil-South Africa-India-China	BASIC
Child Support Grant	CSG
Community Health Centres	CHCs
Conditional cash transfer	CCT
Commonwealth of Independent States	CIS
Department of International Relations and Cooperation	DIRCO
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	GIZ
Development Assistance Committee	DAC
Development Partnership Administration	DPA
Directorate for Hydrography and Navigation	DHN
Education for All	EFA
Family Health Strategy	FHS
Food and Agriculture Organisation	FAO
Forum for Indian Development Cooperation	FIDC
Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	BMZ
Gross domestic product	GDP
Group of Four	G-4
Group of Seven	G-7
Group of Twenty	G-20
Human Development Index	HDI
India-Africa Forum Summit	IAFS
India-Brazil-South Africa	IBSA
India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime	IBSAMAR
Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation	ITEC
Infant Mortality Ratio	IMR
Information and Communications Technology	ICT
Intellectual Property Right	IPR
Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram	JSSK
Janani Suraksha Yojana	JSY
Latin America and the Caribbean	LAC
Least Developed Countries	LDCs
Line of Credit	LoC
Maternal Mortality Ratio	MMR
Millennium Development Goals	MDGs
Memorandum of Understanding	MoU
National Economic Development and Labour Council	NEDLAC

National Health Mission	NHM
National Innovation System	NIS
National Institute for Meteorology	INMET
National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancers, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke	NPCDCS
National Rural Drinking Water Programme	NRDWP
Network of Southern Think-Tanks	NeST
New Partnership for Africa's Development	NEPAD
Non-Aligned Movement	NAM
Non-Governmental Organisation	NGO
North-South Cooperation	NSC
Nova Scotia Nominee Programme	NSNP
Open Source Drug Discovery	OSDD
Organisation of American States	OAS
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development	OECD
Palestinian Red Crescent Society	PRCS
Pan-American Health Organisation	PAHO
Primary Health Centres	PHCs
Programa de Beneficio de Prestacao Continuada	BPC
Research and Development	R&D
Responsibility to Protect	R2P
S&T and Innovation	STI
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	SSA
Science and Technology	S&T
Sistema Unico de Saude	SUS
South Africa Development Partnership Agency	SADPA
South African Social Security Agency	SASSA
Southern African Development Community	SADC
South-South Cooperation	SSC
Special Commonwealth African Assistance Programme	SCAAP
Sustainable Development Goals	SDGs
Technology Achievement Index	TAI
Technology Facilitation Mechanism	TFM
UN Development Programme	UNDP
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	UNFCC
United Nations Population Fund	UNFPA
UN Office for South-South Cooperation	UNOSSC
UN Peacekeeping	UNPK
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	UNCTAD
United Nations General Assembly	UNGA
United Nations Security Council	UNSC
United Nations	UN
World Health Organisation	WHO
World Intellectual Property Organisation	WIPO
World Trade Organisation	WTO

Executive Summary

The IBSA forum of India, Brazil and South Africa brings together three emerging economies of the South with a view to further exploring the potential for cooperation for a fair, equitable and inclusive global order. IBSA emerged as an important dynamic caucus in the developing world with the aim of tapping natural complementarities and collectively pushing for reforms at the global and multilateral institutions. In 2004, the first communiqué issued by the three foreign ministers declared that IBSA would help “advance human development by promoting potential synergies among the members.”

IBSA follows the ideals of South-South Cooperation (SSC) and has several points of convergence that brings the Trinity of the South together. IBSA countries have common principles and common values and all the three countries are committed to democracy. The intricacies of democracy may affect the pace of development but all the three countries have tried to enrich their national institutions for an inclusive development strategy. There is a strategic dimension to the IBSA cooperation. India, recently at Goa, hosted the fifth edition of IBSAMAR 2016, a trilateral naval exercises

abbreviation of as India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime. It first began with South Africa as host in 2006 with the objective to enhance common understanding on maritime security.

All the three members of the IBSA grouping played an important role when they were together on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in 2011 as non-permanent members. They travelled to Damascus to promote a dialogue between Syria and the international community to lower rising tensions in West Asia. They have also endorsed and promoted the Brazilian concept of “Responsibility While Protecting.” Similar leadership role at other fora like World Trade Organisation (WTO), World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has also contributed in further evolving a uniquely Southern perspective. In fact, the Group of Twenty (G-20) in WTO emerged out of their collective efforts, which firmly placed development as a central agenda item at the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Cancun in 2003.

This Report explores the role of IBSA in the changing global geo-political landscape, the promotion of SSC, social sector commitments,

collaboration in S&T to achieve SDGs through the IBSA Trust Fund that has influenced global outlook on paradigms of cooperation.

This Report gives an overview of IBSA's focus on reducing inequalities, commitment to democratic governance, multi-cultural pluralism and sustainable development. In the international arena, IBSA countries defend multilateralism and peace, promote respect for sovereignty, encourage people-centred development and support trade and economic initiatives among developing countries. It works together for the United Nations (UN) reforms and for inclusion of democratic and emerging economic forces in the Security Council. It aims to defend the interests of the poor countries, takes trade initiatives and supports peace policies. IBSA formed the BASIC group (Brazil, South Africa, India, China) with China to coordinate climate change policies. For peace and security IBSA called for 'early reform' of the UN in 2005. IBSA and BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) have recognised the State of Palestine and have a common position on Israel-Palestine peace process. In relation to the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), IBSA has been active in advocating a multi-layered and moderate approach to promote conflict prevention and resolution through dialogue. IBSA works with other groups that want reform of global governance structures, including fair representation in the UNSC.

The 'Brasilia Declaration' laid stress on promotion of social equality and inclusive growth through effective governmental policies. IBSA traversed this path to provide social protection, income guarantee, food and nutrition security and cash transfer scheme to people and have incorporated innovative approach to deal with social issues. The major concerns of IBSA countries include inadequate food production, stability in food supplies, physical and economic access to food,

undernourishment, prevention and control of diseases, vaccination and immunisation as core components of human rights to health, lower population growth, reduced child mortality, reduced school drop outs rates and nutrition. Major policy initiatives by IBSA countries in the field of social sector including basic health care services and free and compulsory education include *Bolsa Familia Alimentacao Escolar* and *Fome Zero* Programme in Brazil, *Jan Dhan, Clean India, Digital India* and *Beti Padhao* and *Beti Bachao* in India and South Africa Child Support Grant, South Africa School Feeding Programme, Old Age Pension Scheme in South Africa, etc. and have become trend setters and are viewed globally as new options for governance of socio-economic growth integrating policies with the SDGs.

The three IBSA members contribute annually an amount of US\$ 1 million towards the IBSA Fund. The UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) in the UN Development Programme (UNDP) is the official secretariat as well as the fund manager of the IBSA Fund. The Fund does not approach any agency or government in the recipient country to carry through with its development tasks nor does it prefer a region or a sector. The intention of the Fund is to support projects that are replicable and feasible and should inculcate the values of national ownership and leadership.

Through transparent and efficient implementation, the Fund has sustained its goals to support socially significant and economically beneficial developmental programmes in different nations that aspire for higher growth. Enhancing the contribution to the Fund by IBSA members, collaboration of IBSA Fund with similar institutions, larger role for national development cooperation agencies of the IBSA members, promoting deeper IBSA integration through the Fund, creating global public goods, partnership in

realisation of SDGs, and impact assessment would make this Fund globally valuable. The IBSA Trust Fund is an exercise to design and create an altogether a new form of institutional structure in development cooperation where resources from three middle income countries are put to use for development intervention by a multilateral UN based organisation, i.e., UNDP.

Cooperation among IBSA is built upon strong foundations of shared values and visions. IBSA has given importance to Science and Technology (S&T) for development and for strong partnership with other countries. The National Innovation Systems (NISs) have many common features and in all the three states continue to play a major role in funding S&T. The global S&T system has undergone significant changes. For developing nations, the technological dynamism is meaningless unless it results in sustainable and inclusive growth. IBSA countries, like many other developing countries, have committed themselves for more spending on S&T. In case of IBSA, all the three countries have strong NISs and are investing heavily in frontier technologies. The innovation policy framework stresses on the need for harnessing S&T for development. It seeks collaboration for sharing S&T experience and knowledge towards solutions to common problems in these countries in the excellent trilateral aspirations for expanding the contours of expectations. There is a need to diversify S&T cooperation and see it in the larger context of SSC so that it plays a greater and larger role in global affairs. The IBSA S&T agreement, as a guiding framework, needs to be revised in the

light of SDGs and Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) commitment as they provide new thrust areas for S&T cooperation. Scope of S&T cooperation should be expanded to include cooperation in applying S&T for selected SDGs. The S&T cooperation in IBSA can be harnessed to provide selected technologies for transfer and adoption to TFM or to SSC in S&T. The cooperation framework in this regard should be utilised for science diplomacy by IBSA at the global level and should enhance the scope for and funding under S&T cooperation. IBSA countries can also make an impact on global S&T if they, as a collective, show more interest in creating an impact in global S&T and innovation policy. It is time to revisit S&T cooperation in IBSA and take it forward in the light of changing times and new realities and become dynamic leaders.

IBSA movement could stir the attention of the international community with the plans at hand for supporting SDGs through critical and decisive cooperation in socio-economic and S&T agenda for enhancing development in SSC framework.

As the world economy is reeling under global recession for the last nine years, developing countries are striving for more economic, security, technical, capacity building, etc., support from fellow developing countries to get out of the present global impasse. Simultaneous operation of several mega regional grouping from the developing world is warranted to meet the specific requirements of hundreds of developing countries. IBSA can work simultaneously with focus on diversified sectors to support the plight of developing countries.

I

IBSA and Global Geo-strategies

The IBSA Forum of three countries India-Brazil-South Africa from the three continents that form the Global South tasks itself to voice the collective interests of the South in international forums on issues of peace and security. The distinguishing feature of IBSA is that it is a grouping of emerging economies which are vibrant and liberal democracies. In a world which is increasingly polarised and where forces of religious fundamentalism, authoritarianism and sectarianism are raising their heads and liberal values are under attack, the role of the three plural, liberal and successful democracies, becomes even more important. IBSA should be more active in promoting their democratic character. Established in 2003 with the purpose of pushing for the UNSC reforms and seats for its members, IBSA developed interests in broader foreign policy and economic development issues. Regular interactions amongst its leaders and convergence of vision goals and strategy make IBSA an important dialogue forum for its members.

Rationale and Vision of the IBSA Forum

The IBSA vision is embedded in the ideals of SSC. Several points of convergence bring the three together. The focus of IBSA countries has been on addressing inequities, commitment to democratic governance, multi-cultural pluralism, and sustainable development. In the international arena, IBSA countries defend multilateralism and peace; defend and uphold respect for sovereignty; remain committed to maintaining a positive balance in safeguarding both sovereignty and human rights; promote development of people and support trade and economic initiatives between the developing countries of the South.

IBSA members believe that there is better leverage in working together for the UN reform and their inclusion in the UNSC. Since there is no permanent representation from Africa with 54 countries, the UNSC lacks legitimacy on the ground especially in Africa. IBSA is the ideal forum to make convincing arguments for a more representative UNSC.

The logic of IBSA collective forum is that all the three have legitimacy and support from their peers. This is derived from defending the interests of the poorest countries (Friesleben, 2008). All three have significant development and trade initiatives with southern countries and support peace initiatives. All three have a proven record as responsible actors in the international system. IBSA joined with others to ensure an expansion of the Group of Seven (G-7) powerful countries to form the Group of Twenty (G20) which included several countries that had emerged as regional economic powerhouses in the World Trade Organisation (WTO). IBSA along with China had common positions during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and formed the BASIC group to co-ordinate climate change policies. IBSA also joined together with Russia and China to form the BRICS Forum.

IBSA countries are seen to have an enhanced agency, because as Prof. de Almeida of Brazil argued that they are “out of the classical peripheries and with a growing influence in Africa...” (Thalia, 2012) they have a natural coordination on the international stage, worked together in the UN, and in various international meetings on issues of global concerns like development, climate change and world trade.

Since all three IBSA countries served simultaneously as non-permanent members of the UNSC in 2011, they were able to initiate some common positions on international peace and security.

IBSA collective positions on peace and security

- In 2005 IBSA declared that an ‘early reform’ of the UN should be implemented.
- IBSA has recognised the State of Palestine based on the territorial boundaries of 1967, prior to the six day war. All three articulated strong common position on the Israel-Palestine peace process and role of the UNSC, recorded in the IBSA Tshwane Declaration (2011) on Palestine.
- IBSA abstained collectively from a proposal condemning Syria for human rights violations which could have led to further sanctions on Syria. They have advocated a resolution of the Syrian issue through dialogue since 2011.
- IBSA made a joint demarche to Syria on rights violations while also stressing on the need for dialogue. IBSA holds to what Dilma Rousseff said to United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) that: “Diplomacy and dialogue are not just the best option: they are the only option” (Rousseff, 2011).

IBSA and UN Reforms

The key goal of IBSA is its commitment to UN Reforms and expansion of the Security Council. IBSA countries while being committed to the democratisation of the UN as a whole, believe that the UNSC does not reflect the current world realities. The membership structure of the UNSC inherited after World War II has become anachronistic and defies logic. In its current form, by keeping the Global South out of international decision making and with its permanent members enjoying veto power, the UNSC is not as effective as it should be in securing peace and security. The non representative character of the UNSC affects its capacity and legitimacy (Amorim, 2011). IBSA believes that the longer the delay in expanding the UNSC, the greater the difficulties in achieving the UN mandates of peace, development and security.

IBSA and the Security Council

IBSA countries were at the forefront of debates that asked for Security Council reforms since 2000, and more so since 2008, when the proposals for 'Intergovernmental Negotiations' took on the task of moving forward the proposals of the Open-Ended Working Group (on increasing membership of the UNSC).

The African Union (AU) has a clear mandate on the UNSC reforms and opposes in principle the veto powers of the UNSC members but believes that while it exists this power should be available to all permanent members of the UNSC. The AU will be mandated to choose the African representative to the UNSC, based on its own selection criterion and determined by the capacity of the one chosen. India and Brazil have similarly argued that the UNSC is 'completely out of tune' with global realities and does not serve real international interest and that it should have representatives from the three southern continents. India has suggested a discussion on the use of veto powers which could lead to consensus.

Pressure from the leading countries of the South and others has led to a widening of the UNSC reports that were putting more focus on global conflicts. IBSA states collectively argued that the UNSC reports should be more analytical and not just a narration of events.

At the 61st session of the UNGA (2006-07) IBSA countries proposed a vote on the Working Group on the UNSC reforms. They proposed 'Intergovernmental Negotiations' on reforms and specifically for an expansion of the permanent category.

IBSA and UN Peacekeeping

On the geo-strategic front IBSA's collective importance lies in their contribution to UN Peacekeeping (UNPK). Contribution and

participation in UNPK is part of their foreign policy interest. UNPK has a normative rationale and is important for regional and global security.

- Brazil has contributed to nine missions, including in Lebanon and Haiti.
- South Africa has been part of 14 international peace operations and seven in UNPK.
- India is the largest contributor to UNPK and has participated in more than 44 peacekeeping missions, with total troop contribution of nearly 180,000 troops and significant number of police personnel.

All three countries have extended different types of support to peacekeeping. South Africa's focus is on peace in Africa and does not want deployment of its forces outside Africa. Conflict prevention, mediation and post conflict reconstruction methods and strategies are part of South African foreign policy focus. South Africa works with the AU on peace keeping. They believe that deployments for conflict prevention serve political and economic interests. South Africa has deployed troops in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan.

India, as a major troop-contributing country, has asked for more robust measures for UNPK such as better security and intelligence support. India has in the past supported an Afghan-led and Afghan owned peace and reconciliation process (UN News, 21 November 2013).

Conflicts spillover from their locales and impact the region and beyond. The current conflicts in West Asia are flowing beyond the region and impacting Asia and Europe in multiple ways. IBSA countries argue that their support to peacekeeping is linked to development that hinges on peace and security. IBSA countries have stated that the major contributors should have a greater say in UNPK operations.

IBSA and the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

The need for states to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity has been the basis of debate generated in the UN on the Report - 'The Responsibility to Protect: The Report of the International Commission on Humanitarian Intervention and State Sovereignty, 2001'. This led to, the United Nations World Summit Outcome Document (2005).¹ The three R2P pillars are:

- Pillar one: The state has primary responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity.
- Pillar two: The international community must encourage and assist states in exercising this responsibility.
- Pillar three: If a state fails to protect its population from these crimes, the international community must be prepared to take collective action to protect that population, in cooperation with regional organisations and in accordance to the UN Charter. (Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, 'The Responsibility to Protect', 2015)

Brazil played a lead role in conceptualisation of R2P. Consequently, in Latin America, the Organisation of American States (OAS) has the mandate to step in if a military government takes over and displaces a civilian one (Ferreira, 2012). The founding document of the AU in 2005 accepted the principle of protecting human rights and gave the AU the right to intervene in member states that committed war crimes, committed genocide, and crimes against humanity. The AU in 2005 welcomed and accepted the R2P as a tool to prevent mass atrocities. In this discussion India's position articulated by its

Permanent Representative puts forward a case for R2P, where pillar 3 on intervention should be used only on case by case basis and only after all measures had failed (Puri, 2011 and 2013). India linked up with Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) countries to balance this with the issue of sovereignty. India accepted R2P after much debate in 2009, when it convinced members of the UN that there was a need to raise the threshold to intervention.

Differences on the issue of R2P based intervention are bound to remain. For example, Brazil and India abstained from the UNSC resolution (SCR 1973, 2010-2011) which was supported by South Africa, that authorised the use of force in Libya.

IBSA countries have stated that even when there are human rights abuses and non-militarist interventions, non-interference should be upheld. Their position is to respect sovereignty and balance it with a respect for human rights because military intervention violates rights.

IBSA countries favour multilayered and moderate approach to R2P and advocate conflict prevention and resolution through dialogue and engagement, which is consistent with the foreign policy of all three countries.

Development Cooperation

IBSA should expand its development cooperation programmes for capacity building, social sector development, production development and provide financial support to other developing countries. As successful democracies which have strong institutions such as constitutionally independent bodies including India's Election Commission, independent judiciaries in their countries and constitutional safeguards of fundamental individual rights, IBSA should be ready to share its experience and contribute to capacity building in sister developing countries.

The IBSA Trust Fund (please see Chapter III) is the facility created for poverty and hunger alleviation. This has been a modest three million US dollars a year Fund. However, its utilisation has been on sustainable projects. Some examples of this funding are:

- Support projects in the State of Palestine, (Gaza and West Bank)
- Guinea-Bissau: project on agriculture to train 4,500 farmers, half of who are women
- Projects in Vietnam, Laos, Sudan, South Sudan, etc.
- Cape Verde: support to health units
- Haiti: post earthquake reconstruction.

The feedback from the projects has been positive.

IBSA-BRICS-NAM-G4-G20

Questions have been raised on the duplication and relevance of multiple forums with similar agenda among a few countries. IBSA countries are members of BRICS also. BRICS has created economic institutions at a fast pace and some analysts argue that BRICS has marginalised IBSA. It is argued that the West sees value in BRICS (Fraser, 2012). BRICS and IBSA are developing coordination as in its final declaration, the sixth BRICS summit in Fortaleza, Brazil, Russia and China reiterated the importance of IBSA countries in international affairs and argued that they should play greater role in the UN and expanded UNSC (Sixth BRICS Summit 2014).

BRICS has economic, financial and infrastructure interests as its goal. The focus of BRICS countries is on changing the West dominating financial order and getting a greater policy making role for emerging economies of BRICS. IBSA on the other hand is focussed on security reforms and reforming the UNSC, which is not central to the BRICS agenda.

IBSA is different from the Group of Four (G-4) that consists of India, Germany, Japan and Brazil, in that it came together to strategise for a seat in the Security Council. It has strengthened the positions of its member countries. But the G-4 did not have a representative from Africa and did not represent the interests of the South. IBSA, in a way stands on the shoulders of the G-4 and works with other groups that want reforms of global governance.

There is a view that counterposes BRICS and IBSA with NAM. However, many regional and multilateral organisations co-exist and are needed for dialogue and cooperation. There is no conflict of interests between these groupings. IBSA countries are members of the G-20. IBSA is an integral part of NAM and these countries have dynamic relationships among themselves. IBSA like G-20 is an informal grouping of non binding nature and is not a bloc.

Recommendations

- IBSA should reiterate the demand for fair representation in the UNSC. The pace of global development indicates that expansion in the permanent membership is inevitable. IBSA should energize the intergovernmental negotiations method collectively to maintain the pressure for this reform.
- IBSA Trust Fund should be increased, properly monitored and publicised.
- A meeting on peacekeeping, peace maintenance and conflict prevention be organised by IBSA, with special focus on threats from terrorism and violation of rights.
- IBSA countries should plan to step up their relations to the level of strategic partnerships.
- IBSA should call for a ceasefire in the conflict in Syria and ask all parties to come to the negotiating table.

Conclusion

Brazilian diplomat Ambassador Amorim, who played an important role in IBSA and the expansion of the G-20, stated that: "IBSA was created as a lighthouse for policy formulation and SSC" (Amorim, 2011). IBSA has initiated a process of working closely to achieve a more representative, democratic and transparent international system which should be reflected in the UNSC. IBSA remains an important forum in this process.

Endnote

- ¹ The background was the large scale genocide and war crimes in the conflicts in Somalia (1993) Rwanda genocide (1994), Kosovo (1999), Darfur (2003).

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II

Brazil, India and South Africa: Key Proponents of South-South Cooperation

I. Introduction

Since the turn of the century, the trinity of the South, viz. Brazil, India and South Africa have stepped up their development partnership with fellow developing countries. What they have followed is largely the concept of SSC which has evolved over a long period of time. Even though SSC philosophy of “sharing”, as opposed to that of “giving” which shaped the guiding structure of North-South Cooperation (NSC), emerged out of a sense of solidarity to the newly or yet to be decolonised countries across the world at the beginning of the 1950s, the guiding principles underwent changes during the last several decades. The first effort to institutionalise SSC dates back to 1955 in the Bandung Conference (April 18–24, 1955), Indonesia, a meeting of 29 Asian and African states, most of which were newly independent. The process of institutionalising SSC got further impetus through the conferences that followed – Buenos Aires (1978) and Nairobi (2009).

In the recent past, the narrative has evolved further. With the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) on finance for development, SDGs and CoP-21, the expectations from IBSA members

have multiplied. The AAAA has accorded a prominent role to SSC as an effective source of financing SDGs in the coming decades.

This chapter is divided into four sections, including the Introduction. Section two gives a brief description of the development cooperation by IBSA members, Section three gives the salient features of SSC practised by India, Brazil and South Africa in a comparative perspective and Section four presents Conclusion.

II. Development Cooperation by IBSA Members

New strategies and institutional frameworks have evolved within all the three members. The contribution of each IBSA partner has been noticed by world bodies such as the UN.

India

The institutional architecture in India evolved in a major way to manage enhanced resources in facilitating SSC. Development Partnership Administration (DPA) established in January 2012 and located within the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India, plays the key leadership role. However, several line Ministries have their own programmes

and engagements across several developing countries. Funds are allocated to these ministries through the federal budget of the country. In addition, Exim Bank of India facilitates the disbursement of funds linked to the lines of credit offered to a number of Southern partners to meet their developmental requirements.

India's major partners are in South Asia and now increasingly in the African region. The India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) has emerged as an important platform for cooperation. The modalities followed by India in pursuing her mission of SSC are referred to in the relevant literature as "Development Compact". Development Compact is visualised as providing an analytical structure to India's philosophy of development cooperation that is composed of five distinct but very much interlinked components. They include capacity building, which entails training programme in host country, sending experts to partner countries, scholarships, third country training programmes and deploying volunteers. The modality of development finance includes concessional loans on interest with or without capacity building component. It also includes trade and investment through duty free quota, free market access and trade finance. Technology transfer through technical cooperation, joint scientific and academic research, turnkey projects also plays an important role. Finally, grants through debt forgiveness and grant in kind are also provided for.

Direct contribution to partners

India has over the years developed programmes through which it offers direct contributions to its neighbouring countries and other friendly countries around the world. Such programmes are: 1) Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme, which provides aid in the form of training in India,

project assistance, study trips, and humanitarian assistance, 2) Aid to African countries through Special Commonwealth African Assistance Programme (SCAAP), 3) Bilateral Aid to neighboring and other developing countries, 4) Grants and Lines of Credit (LoCs) supported by Government of India routed through Exim Bank of India to countries in Asia, Africa, Latin American region and CIS region. For instance, in 2014-15, India has provided US \$ 1.4 billion, or 87 per cent of India's foreign aid budget, to six South Asian countries. In its 2013-14 budget, the Indian government set aside nearly US \$ 1.3 billion for foreign assistance.¹ In terms of assistance through technical cooperation activities during 2012-13, India spent US \$ 589 million, representing 58 per cent of the country's foreign aid budget, in which Bhutan got 36 per cent (US \$ 213 million), Afghanistan obtained 15 per cent (US \$ 89 million) and African countries received 7 per cent (US \$ 43 million). At the Fourth IAFS in 2015, Indian government announced US \$ 10 billion line of credit to Africa.

Contribution to Multilateral Organisations

Contribution to United Nation Peacekeeping Missions

India has over the years been a contributor to UNPK missions around the world. To date, India has taken part in more than 44 peacekeeping missions around the world with a total contribution of around 180,000 troops, including significant number of police personnel, which is the largest number from any country. In 2014, India was the third largest troop contributor to the UN with 8,123 personnel of which 991 were police personnel deployed in ten UNPK missions.²

Contribution to UN regular budget

According to the assessment made for the years 2013-15, India has to contribute 0.666 per cent of the UN regular budget. This puts India at the 25th place in the list of highest contributors. Based on the assessment by the contributions committee, India's contribution to the UN regular budget was fixed at 0.534 per cent from 2009-12 and 0.666 per cent from 2013-2015. India's contribution to the UN regular budget was US \$ 16.97 million in 2012-13, US \$ 17.19 million in 2013-14 and US \$ 18.07 million in 2014-15.³

Brazil

Brazilian Cooperation Agency *Agência Brasileira de Cooperação* (ABC) is the institutional arm for implementing SSC for Brazil with a mandate to elaboration, implementation and evaluation of Technical Cooperation projects. Unlike India and South Africa, Brazil channels most of its development cooperation multilaterally. Milani (2014) reports that in the period 2005-09, 75.91 per cent of her support in international development cooperation was channelled through inter-governmental organisations. Trilateral cooperation figured significantly in such inter-governmental cooperation. Souza (2015) reports that in 2010, ABC coordinated 19

trilateral projects in different phases with a total budget of US \$ 49 million. Brazil's contribution to such project amounted to at least 30 per cent. In the period 2003 to 2010, Brazil is estimated to have spent US \$ 20 million. In 2010, ABC signed MoUs with a number of donor countries and organisations in trilateral cooperation. Prominent among them are Japan, ILO, the USA, UNFPA, UNDP, Spain, France, FAO, UNICEF, Norway and Italy. Table 1 below would suggest that the other channels involved humanitarian cooperation, scholarships and technical cooperation.

Direct contribution to partners

Brazil is a provider of development cooperation to other nations. The main programme of Brazil's development cooperation is Technical Cooperation, in terms of capacity building and knowledge exchange, while financial cooperation is low. Brazil has its development cooperation focus with South American, Caribbean and African countries in most cases. More specifically Brazil develops partnerships with its partners like Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the community of Portuguese-speaking countries (PALOP) as platforms for its cooperation to promote technological development and research capacity and local capacities through education

Table 1: Composition of Brazilian Portfolio

Types	Total 2005-09 (US \$)	Relative Part (%)
Humanitarian Cooperation	79,107,405.83	5.55
Scholarship for Foreigners	138,748,539.84	9.73
Technical Cooperation	125,694,247.66	8.81
Contribution to Intergovernmental Organisations	1,0832,700,249.40	75.91
Total	1,426,250,442.73	100.0

Source: IPEA & ABS, *Cooperacao Brasileira para a Desenvolvimento Internacional 2005-2009*

and professional formation especially in the agriculture sector. In terms of financial commitments, Brazil's budget for development cooperation in 2007 amounted to US \$ 85 million. In 2006 Brazil's budget for development cooperation was estimated at US \$ 345 million.⁴ Brazil also offers grant and line of credits via Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), for instance, in 2013, BNDES disbursed R\$194 billion (US \$ 82 billion) topping an earlier high of R\$168 billion (US \$ 99 billion) in 2010. These totals more than tripled the R\$47.1 billion (US \$ 20 billion) disbursed in 2005. In the 2010 report, Brazil's BNDES determined that Brazil's international development contributions were R\$1.6 billion (US \$ 923 million), an increase of 92.1 per cent since 2009; two-thirds went to multilateral assistance and one third to bilateral assistance (IPEA, ABC 2010).⁵

Contribution to UN regular budget and Trilateral Development Cooperation (TDC)

Brazil contributes about 2.93 per cent and is 10th in the list of contributors to UN in 2013-2015. In 2012 Assessment also Brazil was the tenth largest contributor to the UN regular budget, with a net contribution of US \$ 38 million which is 1.611 per cent of the total contribution to UN by member countries.⁶ Brazil participated in 33 different UNPK operations around the world and contributed with over 27,000 troops including military observers.

Due to Mozambique's geographical location, the country is repeatedly hit by natural disasters. Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) GmbH had partnered with Brazil in trilateral project agreement in Mozambique, given Brazil's extensive experience – specifically that of the Brazilian

Directorate for Hydrography and Navigation (DHN) and the National Institute for Meteorology (INMET) – in forecasting the weather, flooding and storm surges. An agreement was signed in March 2012 to put a disaster management system in place in order to prevent civilian casualties and minimise any economic damage caused by flooding. In March 2000, the ABC, an office within the country's Ministry of Foreign Relations, signed the Japan-Brazil Partnership Programme, in which the two nations pledged to collaborate in providing technical assistance to Portuguese speaking countries in Africa and to East Timor and to offer training to educators for remote training in public health.

A recent study on Brazil's development cooperation (Semaru & Thiele, 2016) observes that regional, historical and cultural ties to former Portuguese colonies and Latin American countries are proximate determinants of Brazil's aid allocation – a pattern that may be attributed to a large extent as determinants of India's aid allocation to her neighbours. As we shall observe such a feature dominates the rationale for SSC in South Africa as well.

South Africa

South Africa's development partnership activities are slated to be managed soon by South Africa Development Partnership Agency (SADPA) – a specialised agency to take care of the outward flow of development support from the country. So far both inward and outward flows of developmental resources are managed by Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO). According to Piefer (2014), "although open for other areas of cooperation based on the demand voiced by the partner country, South Africa has consistently been involved in projects geared

towards: regional integration, peace, security and stability, post-conflict reconstruction, strengthening relations with Africa and the global South, promoting good governance; and humanitarian assistance". SADPA is still in the process of being fully formalised. As per the progress report presented on 16 February 2016, "DIRCO has completed the following steps necessary for the establishment of SADPA: the business case, the draft Partnership for Development Bill (funding mechanism) which has been presented to Cabinet once so far and the institutional arrangements. The remaining steps are for the executive authorities of DIRCO and National Treasury to agree on the institutional arrangements and the Draft Bill. Once the Draft Bill is completed, it will be submitted to Cabinet for approval to gazette for public comment".⁷ Seven programmes proposed in the latest strategic framework of DIRCO presented in February 2016 are: humanitarian support, human resource capacity building, post conflict reconstruction and development, good governance – building capacity for elections. South Africa largely follows economic cooperation through Trilateral / Multi-partner Cooperation and IBSA Trust Fund.

An interesting component of South Africa's development cooperation mechanism that contributed to the need for institutionalising SADPA as an autonomous body out of DIRCO has been the "gradual move by external donors from programmes directed to South Africa to a broader regional focus with more cross border programming" (Besharati, 2015), in tune with a global increase in trilateral cooperation. Although not much quantitative data are available, Besharati (2015) reports that aid agencies of Germany, the USA, Canada, Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands, Switzerland,

Japan and Belgium have provided funds to South Africa in establishing development cooperation programmes between South Africa and partners throughout Africa, to benefit from the comparative advantage of using South African technical expertise in development interventions in Africa.

Direct contribution to partners

As detailed above, South Africa is a provider of development cooperation to other nations. South Africa offers its development cooperation mainly in Southern African sub-region with many areas of focus such as Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, in which its engagements are limited.

Contribution to UN regular budget

In the 2012 Assessment, South Africa's net contribution to the UN regular budget, was US \$9 million which is 0.385 per cent of the total contribution to UN by the member countries.

South Africa is relatively a newcomer to international peacekeeping, commencing its contributions in 1998 with the deployment of personnel in what it claimed was a Southern African Development Community (SADC) intervention in Lesotho. Since then South African forces have served in seven UN peacekeeping missions.

III. Salient Features of Cooperation

The salient features in similarities and variations in practicing SSC by the three countries engaged in IBSA Fund may be identified as under. To begin with the similarities, all the countries are strict followers of SSC and hence are reluctant to subscribe to the patterns of aid architecture formulated and institutionalised

by Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Their contributions to SSC are committed at three distinct levels – bilateral, trilateral and multilateral. However, there are variations in terms of the operational models followed by these countries. They are as follows: While both Brazil and South Africa created their specialised development cooperation agencies, India is yet to commit to such an institutionalisation. In India's case, resources to facilitate development cooperation flows from a number of line ministries linked to development process, Ministry of External Affairs houses a division to coordinate these flows.

India's development cooperation strategies are mostly centred around bilateral commitments, while those of Brazil and South Africa attach more priority to trilateral (South Africa, in particular) and multilateral (Brazil, in particular) engagements.

Given the relatively higher priority it has accorded to bilateral engagement and flow of resources from multiple sources, India has to design a new institutional structure to ensure efficient utilisation of resources. Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) was created in 2013 to create a platform of interaction among all the stakeholders – academics, civil society organisations, policymakers, bureaucrats, private enterprises and development practitioners to identify the best practices in development intervention. Such institutions are yet to be formed in the other two countries considered in this chapter. Interaction with community based organisations and civil society organisations in partner countries in designing, implementing and monitoring development intervention projects is also a salient feature of India's SSC architecture.

In view of the fact that India, unlike the other two countries, considers trade and investment and lines of credit as credible inputs in development cooperation, private enterprises also play some key roles in its SSC architecture – a feature almost absent in Brazil and South Africa.

IV. Conclusion

Even though IBSA Trust Fund is often referred to as an example of trilateral cooperation, for all practical purposes it does not fall purely under such a category. Trilateral cooperation is generally referred to an engagement where a Northern donor – a country or a multilateral organisation – routes resources through one Southern country to another, instead of directly routing it to the recipient country. The rationale behind such an arrangement is pretty straight forward. The southern country that mediates is considered to have comparative advantage in terms of knowledge, time, efforts and cost in operationalising a particular development intervention vis-à-vis the donor. It is so due to the technical expertise that the mediating country gathered through its own experiences in treading the developmental path. IBSA Trust Fund is a tad different. For a change, it involves routing of resources from a group of Southern countries through a multilateral UN agency specialised in development intervention. In that sense, IBSA Trust Fund (please see Chapter III) is an exercise to design and create an altogether new form of institutional structure in development cooperation where resources from three middle income countries are put to use for development intervention by a multilateral UN based organisation, i.e., UNDP.

Development Cooperation is often considered as a process of “collective action” involving multiple stakeholders of

heterogeneous interests. Appropriate rule formulation to enable a win-win situation for all the major stakeholders over a relatively longer time horizon is considered to be the key to the success of such a collective action process. Framing an appropriate set of rules of the game becomes difficult as the heterogeneity of interests among the stakeholders increases. IBSA Trust Fund has been a success story. Sustained success of the fund would depend on maintaining a low level of heterogeneity among all the partners engaged in raising the resources and managing them to deliver the results. SSC Conference held in Delhi during March 2016 gave a clarion call to extend the level and nature of engagement of southern countries with other southern partners and also to create a common pool of shared knowledge and experiences in development interventions. Given its success so far, IBSA Trust Fund has the potential to become an effective role model for other emerging Southern economies to emulate in the coming days.

Endnotes

- ¹ <https://www.devex.com/news/india-s-foreign-aid-program-catches-up-with-its-global-ambitions-80919>
- ² <https://www.pminewyork.org/pages.php?id=1985>
- ³ <https://factly.in/united-nations-budget-contributions-by-member-countries/>
- ⁴ https://www.die-gdi.de/uploads/media/BP_5.2010.pdf
- ⁵ <https://brazil.elliott.gwu.edu/leading-example-brazil%E2%80%99s-international-development-cooperation>. Exchange rate of R\$ to US \$ based on IMF data CDIMF on IFS, 2015.
- ⁶ http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=ST/ADM/SER.B/853
- ⁷ <https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/22022/>

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III

IBSA Fund for Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger

Introduction

IBSA Fund for Alleviation of Poverty and Hunger (IBSA Fund) was established in 2004¹ with a visionary purpose to contribute to the efforts by the international community towards combating poverty and hunger. The case for a reduction in poverty and hunger is inherently linked to the extent of social and economic inequality in society. To address these twin problems, the Fund targeted a development strategy that involves both social and economic dimensions without any in the most underprivileged nations. In that context, the Fund's actions are not merely limited to provision of funds but also the engagement on social levels with the developing countries and becoming a partner in their fight for poverty reduction. The collaboration of these three developing economies through the IBSA Fund is an expression of their desire to contribute to the development of other developing countries. Such a partnership spells out the political determination on part of the three nations in the spirit of SSC. These tangible and concrete initiatives are an expression of solidarity and clearly reflect the intentions of

IBSA for the promotion of economic and social development.

The Fund was setup on the margin of the 58th Session of the UNGA. Subsequently, in Ministerial meeting at the margin of the 59th UNGA in New York on 23 September 2004, the first project was launched by the Fund in Guinea-Bissau to support agriculture and livestock development. The arrangement for closer partnership between the IBSA Fund and the UNDP on the implementation project in Guinea-Bissau was laid in the second IBSA ministerial meeting in Cape Town wherein a Technical Monitoring Committee was established for the project. The launching of this project reaffirmed the significance of the Fund through enhancing its visibility among private sector and civil society which encouraged further participation. In order to deliver results, it was recognised that innovative financing mechanism need to be explored and therefore in the same Ministerial meeting, the leaders agreed to contribute annually, an amount of US \$ 1 million towards the IBSA Fund. The three countries also agreed to maintain the momentum² that resulted from the launch of the IBSA funding facility for eradicating hunger

and for poverty alleviation. The UNOSSC³ in the UNDP is the official secretariat as well as the fund manager of the IBSA Fund.

The Fund was conceptualised on the principles of sustainable economic development and it forms the basis of any development cooperation that this fund facilitates. The emphasis on social dimension of the development is important as it is an essential component for sustainable development. Such structural mix smoothens the process of economic inclusion and contributes to the objectives of the Fund.

The objectives of the three countries are reflected through the Fund and range from promoting food security, addressing HIV/AIDS, improving access to safe drinking water among others, all aim at contributing to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).⁴ This now may be extended towards realisation of SDGs. The rationale for the Fund is to identify new opportunities for SSC.⁵ SSC has its own criteria for advancing conditionality-free partnership for collective development.⁶

Owing to its unique development mix, the Fund has become an acclaimed example of cooperation among IBSA members on development and has laid the groundwork to implement SSC for the prosperity of Southern countries. The Fund was acknowledged by the UN for using visionary approaches for battling poverty and hunger in other parts of the world and was conferred the UN South-South Partnership award in 2006. The Fund also received an MDG award in 2010 and South-South Champions Award in 2012.

The Fund implements forward-looking practices developed in IBSA countries to fight poverty and hunger. The projects supported by the IBSA Fund are on a demand-driven⁷ basis which fosters partnership at all levels including local institutions, national institutions and other executing agencies that have direct

interactions with the beneficiaries. This route is able to represent the needs of locals directly and promotes efficiency by focusing on poverty, hunger and social inequality at the same time.

Key Priorities and Modalities

IBSA partners have been growing rapidly and expanding their global footprint, and are in a unique position to contribute to the well being of the less-developed nations through enhancing the knowledge base of the less-developed countries by sharing their own experiences and insights in several sectors. IBSA's contribution to the development of the neediest nations is spread over diverse sectors. The repository⁸ of the IBSA Fund is diverse and includes governance and administration, technology, defense, education, human development, climate change and agriculture among others.

For instance, IBSA has been implementing a project in Sierra Leone⁹ to strengthen the capacity of its key State institutions which will revamp the macroeconomic policies for better governance. Moreover, the Fund has also approved a project in Lao People's Democratic Republic⁸ to support the development of irrigated agriculture and the community based management of watershed resources such as forests as well as fisheries. This initiative will not only enhance managerial capacity of provincial and district-level government staff but also support agricultural extension as well as fisheries development. The consequences of such projects are that they lead to positive impact across multiple sectors such as governance and agriculture at the same time. This is a unique initiative in that it counters negative flows of one sector by simultaneously targeting inter-linked sectors. The Fund's project in the State of Palestine⁸ is to strengthen local skills and competencies of people and region that lack such capacities in ways that enable

them to overcome the cause of their distress and expulsion. This project which started in May 2012, seeks to build and equip a centre to serve individuals with intellectual disabilities in Nablus in the West Bank. This centre runs a protection and rehabilitation programme for persons with disabilities and provides care, technical aids, and vocational training suitable for different types of disabilities, rehabilitation services and, in a few cases, accommodation. As part of its comprehensive approach, the centre also operates a referral system for services from other providers.

The IBSA Fund is also conscious of the fact that tourism remains limited in terms of its role in growth of least developing countries though it can have a considerable impact on economic growth and poverty reduction. On account of this, the Fund also encourages proposals in tourism.⁹ It has also proposed improvement in revenue administration¹⁰ for least developing countries and anticipates that over the period of time, as development assistance to developing countries improve and lead to capacity creation, these countries will pick up growth and accordingly entail enhanced fiscal spending. Improvement in revenue administration will keep a tab on fiscal imbalances for these countries in times to come, which will promote stable and long term growth. In that regard, the foresight of the Fund is commendable.

Such diversification leads to overall and proportionate development for the recipient country. The projects that IBSA funds are those that can be replicated and lead to capacity building. IBSA follows a progressive approach in development of capacity and tackles the obstacles that constrain people, institutions, governments, international organisations and non-government organisations from fulfilling their development agenda. Therefore, the projects that take into account these

considerations are preferred as they are achievable and result oriented.

Operating Mechanism and the Criteria for Selection

The mechanism of IBSA Fund's operation¹¹ is characterised by its demand-driven nature. The IBSA Fund doesn't approach any agency or government in the recipient country to carry through with its development tasks nor does it prefer a region or a sector. The Fund trusts the reasoning of local or central governments as it believes that institutions within the beneficiary partner can better represent the local needs. The demands for the projects are initiated at the request of the government through discussion with IBSA representatives around the world. The proposals are then submitted to IBSA focal points (Brasilia, Pretoria, New Delhi) for approval. Thereafter, these requests are considered and examined according to the pre-defined criteria mentioned in Box). The proposals are then approved and sent to the IBSA Board of Directors¹² based in New York, which oversees and scrutinises the proposal documents every four months. After extensive deliberations on the proposal, the directors endorse and initiate discussions with the executing agencies in conjunction with the UNOSSC which acts as fund manager for the projects. Finally, the project advances towards implementation through partnership with local governments, the UNDP and national institutions.

The criteria for evaluation are based on the needs of the recipient country while at the same time the criteria also bring into focus the aspect of mutual gain as the emphasis for selection is for projects that use the capabilities of IBSA members. This is only logical as the IBSA members have traversed through similar development paths and have built over the time

capacities and expertise which less-developed countries can utilise to their advantages. Sharp focus is also given to proposals that generate capacity at local level and this leads to shift in learning curve of the communities to help them move towards self-reliance.

Box 1: Criteria for evaluation of proposals	
➤ Reduction of poverty and hunger	➤ Ownership
➤ National ownership and leadership	➤ Sustainability
➤ South-South cooperation	➤ Identifiable impact
➤ Use of IBSA country capacities	➤ Replicability
➤ Strengthening local capacity	➤ Innovation
Source: UNECE (2011)	

It has been highlighted time and again in each of the IBSA summits that IBSA Fund plays a significant role in the implementation of SSC. The Fund therefore also serves as an instrument to identify new opportunities for SSC. Traditional development donors¹³ generally impose rigorous conditions on the recipient countries and the future flow of fund is linked to the fulfillment of those conditions. On the contrary, for the IBSA Fund, the priority of the country or the government receiving the support is of importance while investigation of proposals and the Fund does not expect repayment.

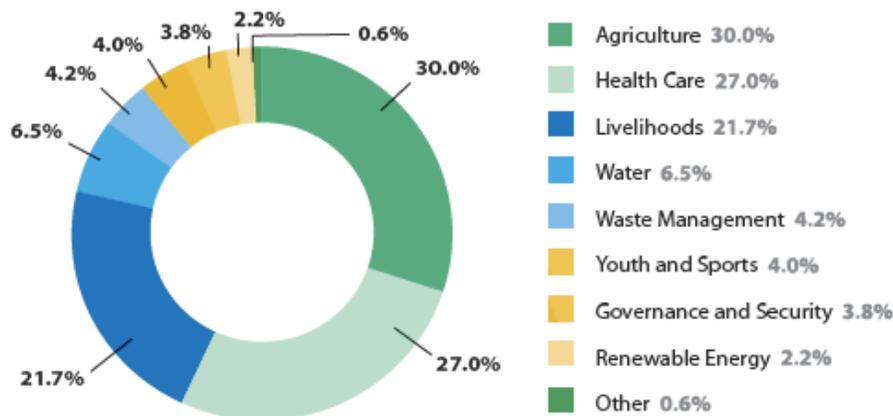
The intention of the Fund is to support projects that are replicable and feasible and should inculcate the values of national ownership and leadership. The projects should be such that local people, institutions and government are able to associate themselves

with, to the degree that they are enabled to participate and contribute to the success of the project. A project with similar objectives was supported by India that led to human resource capacity building for Guinea-Bissau, wherein five electrical engineers were trained in India in solar system installation and maintenance. The project inculcated a sense of ownership not only among the local users but also the government of Guinea-Bissau which contributed US \$ 10,000¹⁴ towards the project.

These criteria for project selection lead to an environment that gives the IBSA partners a platform to demonstrate a practical development approach to SSC.

In line with the expectations from the IBSA Fund with focus on hunger, agriculture has appropriated highest proportion of the Fund's resources, at about 30 per cent (Figure 1) of the overall budget approval. IBSA Fund has been vigorously assisting a West African state Guinea-Bissau's Ministry of Agriculture in training 4,500 farmers¹⁵, almost half of them women, in using some exceptional techniques of rice cultivation and citrus fruit and mango production. The budget for the first phase of this initiative was US \$ 498,750. Such focus on agriculture aligns with the Fund's objectives, as the importance of agriculture in poverty reduction, particularly extreme poverty cannot be underestimated. Investment in agriculture is an effective way of increasing income of rural people. Agricultural growth can be regarded as the primary source of poverty reduction.¹⁶ A slump in agriculture sector can throw many people into poverty. IBSA's actions in this respect are its contribution to the significant progress that is required on part of the developing world to achieve the target of MDGs of reducing the number of people living in extreme poverty to half by 2015. The challenge will be greater in achieving SDGs by 2030.

Figure 1. Budget Approval by Thematic Area (2004-2015)



Source: UNDP (2015).

Along with agriculture, IBSA has rightly used the Fund’s resources to improving health infrastructure and access to health. As the numbers from Figure 1 show, the provision for health (including that for water) is at 27 per cent. Studies show that provision of clean water can go a long way in improving the health¹⁷ of the individuals and children. More details on the projects in health will be discussed in the next section but to mention briefly, in a rather small island in Atlantic in the State of Cape Verde, the IBSA Fund is contributing to the refurbishment of two health units that are barely accessible by road transport. Such enduring efforts of IBSA reflecting the importance of health through its inclusion in its poverty reduction action plan are commendable.

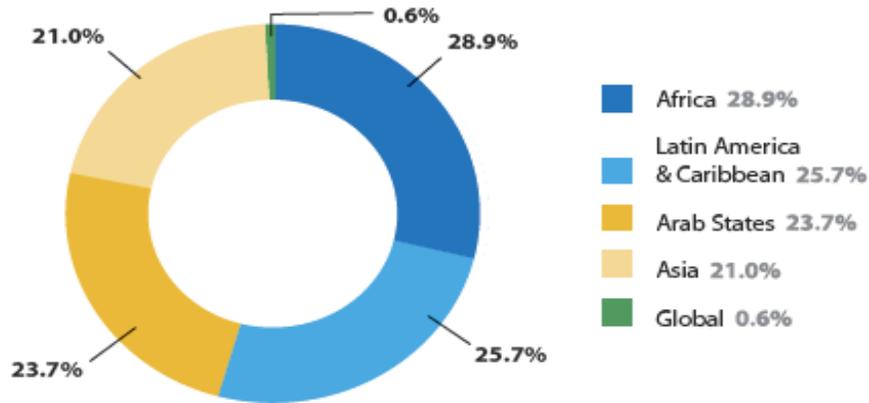
This also assumes importance in light of the fact that extreme poverty creates vicious circle for the health status of the poor. It drives them to live in surroundings without proper shelter, clean water, and environment and acceptable standards of sanitation. These lead to low health indicators which further forces them into poverty trap. Poverty and health status have a bi-directional causality¹⁸, a deteriorating health status causes poverty generally due to

loss of workdays while poverty leads to poor health status.

Besides investment in agriculture, which undoubtedly is a major employment generating activity through the IBSA Fund, the budget approval for livelihood, which also addresses unemployment, is 21.7 and for waste management, which also addresses health, is 4.2 per cent. In order for development to be sustainable, the Fund has also approved budget for renewable energy at 2.2 per cent which will deflect at least some pressure from the depletion of the natural resources of the recipient country. Even though this amount may not be significant in terms of its size but it will create a genuine impact and visibility for a cleaner and a green economic development. In addition to this, as per the numbers from Figure 1, the Fund has endorsed a budget of 4 per cent for youth and sports, 3.8 per cent for governance and security and 0.6 per cent to other miscellaneous area.

African nations usually fall towards the bottom¹⁹ of any list that measures economic activity. As the numbers from Figure 2 indicate, the budget approval to Africa by the

Figure 2. Budget Approval by Geographic Region (2004-2015)



Source: UNDP (2015).

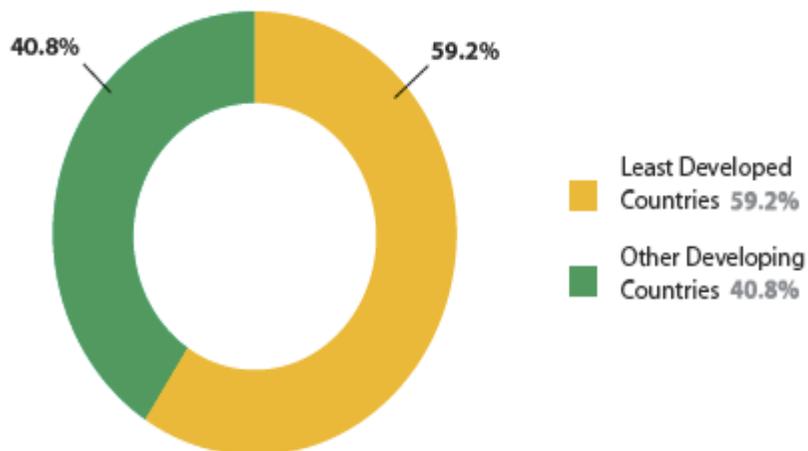
Fund is 28.9 per cent while the quantum for Asia is 21 per cent. Even though Latin America has seen significant strides in economic growth, poverty remains a massive problem. The Fund approved 25.7 per cent towards Latin America and Caribbean while close to 24 percent towards development in Arab States where almost one-third of population lives below poverty line.

This shows the priority of the Fund in tackling poverty to improve basic human needs

of the people in Africa but at the same time spreading the Fund’s initiatives in pockets that are poverty stricken and require assistance. The focus of the Fund on the development of Africa is also important in light of human development indicators for Africa which had lowest aggregate level of human development in 2014.

Considering the importance of development for LDCs in achieving the targets of MDGs, IBSA Fund has allocated almost 60 per cent

Figure 3. Budget Approval for Least Developed Countries (2004-2015)



Source: UNDP (2015)

Table 1: List of projects completed by the IBSA Fund

Country	Name of Project	Results
Burundi	Strengthening Infrastructure and Capacity to Combat HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a healthcare centre focussing on reproductive health to prevent HIV and care for HIV positive persons • Improved capacity to access quality health care by enabling around 39,000 consultations per year • Improved and strengthened Government capacity to plan, communicate and implement • Decreased technical limitations and capacity gaps in prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS through training and closer collaboration
Cape Verde	Delivering Safe Drinking Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More inclusive public service by delivering clean drinking water to over 13,500 individuals • Health, nutrition and sanitation benefits • Use of desalination methods eased pressure on existing scarce water resources and improved agricultural activities
Cape Verde	Refurbishment of Health Care Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better health care access to 230 inhabitants in a remote area • Improved infrastructure and rehabilitation for two health Centers which benefited 221 individuals including many elderly
Cambodia	Empowering Children and Adolescents with Special Needs and Their Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity to provide medical care for children with disabilities by residency training programmes to first generation Cambodian professionals comprising 6 doctors and 11 paramedics • Construction of a dedicated hospital pavilion to care for children with special needs • Enabling 2,000 children and adolescents with special needs and their families towards maximum independence and inclusive development.
Guinea-Bissau	Development of Agriculture and Small Animal Herding (Phase I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit 4500 farmers, majority of them women (60%) • Diversification of agriculture and enhanced rearing of small animals • Increased Rice yield by 12 percent which improved local diet and enhanced food security.
Guinea-Bissau	Development of Agriculture and Services to Rural Communities (Phase II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 966 adults among whom 85% were women secured usable literacy, numeracy and other basic competencies. • Access to Solar energy to 3000 individuals, shared in 5 villages

Haiti	Collection of Solid waste as a Tool to Reduce Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced the quality of life and work condition in Carrefour Feuilles through establishment of a waste management system Contributed to the peace of a security red zone area which scaled down the gang violence. Improved environment through recycling of the 30% of community waste
Sierra Leone	Leadership Development and Capacity-building for Human Development and Poverty Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity enhancement of ministers and senior government officials for modern management and strategic decision-making Establishment of a planning and policy unit, an in-house training unit, and an information and telecommunications platform for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Improving the Cabinet Secretariat's technical and advisory functions
State of Palestine	Supporting Programme Opportunities in Recreational and Team Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage team-building, positive role models and leadership skills through access for youth to sporting activities. Set up sports league for youth with participation of boys and girls in various sports
State of Palestine	Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve necessary infrastructure to provide health care services and its accessibility, including urgent care, surgery and psychosocial treatment to the people of Gaza
Vietnam ²²	Establishment of a Rice Production Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training farmers on new techniques Increasing the productivity of Rice
Source: UNDP (2015)		

(Figure 3) of their total budgetary allocations for their development. This is significant in consideration of the UNDP's reports in 2015 on LDCs, which designated 48 countries as LDCs that is countries which had a per capita GNI of less than \$1035, showed signs of human assets criterion that takes into account nutrition, child mortality rate, school enrolment and adult literacy rate and economic vulnerability which inculcates natural shocks, trade shocks, physical exposure to shocks, economic smallness and remoteness. Poverty rates in LDCs have been sticky in the absence of sufficient and

advantageous productive opportunities and lack of employment²⁰. IBSA's allocation aims to create these very opportunities in these countries as shown by the portfolio mix of the IBSA Fund in next section. The integration of LDCs with world economy has exposed them to economic shocks and risks equally. Innovative development agenda focussed on LDCs is required that can maintain long term growth and expand real income in a sustainable manner and increase productivity. For example, India has trained²¹ a growing number of professionals coming from LDCs. The objective of the focus by IBSA

on LDCs is to create productive capacity in the recipient countries in this category.

Key Projects Delivered

The IBSA Fund with its unique structure to engage and to reach out effectively to those most in need of the assistance has delivered projects that focus equally on economic and social development through infrastructure and capacity building. The Fund's resources primarily support initiatives in developing countries at two broad levels. At one level it supports the projects in a more direct manner in partnership with local governments of institutions while another facet of cooperation from the Fund comes in the form of supporting various ongoing initiatives in the countries or its own initiatives generally in the form of quality assurance work, feasibility studies and design works. This ensures the employability of 'best practices' developed in IBSA countries to the recipient countries. Table 1 lists the projects that have been completed through the assistance from the Fund.

Burundi: Strengthening Infrastructure and Capacity to Combat HIV/AIDS

The project in Burundi was implemented during January 2010 to December 2012 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Burundi, SWAA Burundi, UNDP Burundi and UNFPA Burundi with an approved budget of US \$ 1,45,630. The accomplishments under this project included a three-storey healthcare centre in Bujumbura, training sessions on several HIV and AIDS topics as well as four technical exchanges in Bujumbura, Brasilia, Dakar and New Delhi. Vehicles, information technology and medical equipment were also purchased for the Government and the partner NGO.

Cape Verde: Delivering Safe Drinking Water

The project in Cape Verde on safe drinking water provided increased access to safe drinking water for the inhabitants of São Nicolau and water infrastructure in the form of a water desalination plant as well as ownership and partnership over the project. This project was implemented during March 2009 to November 2014 in partnership with Municipality of Ribeiria Brava and UNDP Cape Verde with an approved budget of US \$ 1,712,000.

Cape Verde: Refurbishment of Health Care Infrastructure

The project in Cape Verde on health care provided two health-care centres in remote areas of the island of Sao Nicolau. The rehabilitation was also implemented for one of the centers which was no longer operating as it was neglected for a long time. The project was completed in 2008 and was opened to the communities for the provision of services particularly to the women, pregnant women, children and the elderly. This project was implemented during October to December 2008 in collaboration with municipality of Ribeiria Brava and UNDP Cape Verde with an approved budget of US \$ 37,065.

Cambodia: Empowering Children and Adolescents with Special Needs and Their Families

The project in Cambodia was targeted to provide quality services for children and adolescents with special needs. It included the construction of a well equipped hospital pavilion at the Chey Chumneas Hospital to serve such patients and their families, capacity building through residency programmes

for health care professionals like doctors and paramedics as well as community empowerment through training of village communities and dissemination of published informational materials. The approved budget for this project was US \$ 1,069,721.

Guinea-Bissau: Development of Agriculture and Small Animal Herding (Phase I)

The project at Guinea-Bissau was the first to be approved by the IBSA Fund to generate capacity in agriculture for the local communities. The project ran in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Guinea-Bissau and UNDP Guinea-Bissau. Phase I had an approved budget for US \$ 498,750. The duration of the Phase-I was through March 2005-September 2007. The project was instrumental in improving agriculture production in partner villages through training of over 4500 farmers. Farmers were given access to advanced agriculture techniques in rice cultivation. They were also offered alternatives for new crops, introduced new seed types which improved yield while at the same time it permit agriculture production even during the rainy season. Farmers were trained in water management and in simple agro-processing techniques. Animal health was also a mainstay for the project as it impacts the agriculture productivity. Along with short-cycle animals, sanitary products and vaccinations were provided to improve animal health.

Guinea-Bissau: Development of Agriculture and Services to Rural Communities (Phase II)

Phase II was approved for US\$ 830,000 and was implemented over August 2009 to September 2011. During Phase II, 24 villages received

extended and advanced training on agricultural and agro-processing methods. In an effort to strengthen and develop the resources, twenty-four teachers were trained to conduct literacy course. These courses improved reading and writing to a functional level and enhanced simple mathematical skills of 966 adults, mostly females. Rural electrification plays an important role in raising the social development bar for rural communities. It links development to poverty reduction in an efficient manner. The project at Guinea-Bissau installed solar electrification for five villages. These include public lighting and indoor lighting in schools, community centers, healthcare centres, public administration buildings and water pumping solar systems. Being in one of the least developed countries, the project encountered certain political and security challenges. However, the project worked towards providing remedial measures to improve the delivery of the project. For instance, there were difficulties in identifying technical capacity regarding local bio-fuels which was resolved in appropriate time.

Haiti: Collection of Solid Waste

The project at Haiti on improving its solid waste collection strategies mobilised a community with a history of violence and gang clashes. The project evolved a culture of waste disposal and collection, which improved employability, reduced the incidence of disease, prevented flood risk from garbage clogged canals and consequently became a boon for the environment. The project in a sense became an important contributing factor to peace in the region and enhanced the local capacity. The projects had multiple stakeholders in Municipality of Port-au-Prince, Ministry of Public works, Ministry of Environment, CASCAF (Community Association) and UNDP Haiti. The duration

of the Phase-I was from February 2006 to April 2009 and Phase-II was implemented through May 2007 to December 2011. The approved budget for both the phases was US \$ 3,655,784. The project also contributed to the reconstruction of Haiti after a dreaded earthquake. The project benefited communities in more than one ways including improved sanitation, reduction in environmental impact, enhancing local governance and building local capacity, improvement of urban infrastructure and gender empowerment. Almost 30 per cent of community waste was recycled and cooking briquettes made out of the recycled paper products provided an alternative source to charcoal as a source of energy. Sanitary awareness and education through workshops held in targeted areas such as schools, churches and associated institutions contributed to better sanitation. The project established 50 waste collection points as well as collection routes for waste removal which enhanced urban infrastructure.

Sierra Leone: Leadership Development and Capacity-building for Human Development and Poverty Reduction

The project in Sierra Leone was a capacity-building programme under true spirits of SSC through knowledge and experience sharing. It strengthened key state institutions to facilitate macroeconomic reforms and good governance. This project was implemented in partnership with the Office of the President of Sierra Leone, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sierra Leone and UNDP Sierra Leone. It ran from June 2011 to May 2013, with an approved budget of US \$ 1,000,000. This project empowered officials and technical staffs of ministries, departments and agencies through competency and skills development as well as technical exchange programmes.

State of Palestine: Recreational and Team Sports Programme

IBSA has funded a 1000 square metre multipurpose sports complex in Ramallah. It offers indoor soccer, fencing, snooker, gymnastics, table tennis, volleyball and badminton facilities, a fitness room, a clinic and spectator stands. The partners for project included Palestinian National Authority, Ministry of Youth, Sharek (NGO) and UNDP/PAP. The duration of the project was from October 2008 to September 2011 with an approved budget of US \$ 1,065,000. It has improved access to sporting activities for Palestine youth which will encourage team-building, development of leadership skills and will bring forward some positive role models. The sports league established by project is open for participation for both boys and girls. Events such as swimming, volleyball, soccer involved family and volunteer coaching and promote skill development, unity and leadership qualities. The project had its share of challenges such as land ownership issues, soil condition at project site which escalated cost, etc.

State of Palestine: Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre

This project in the State of Palestine was implemented in collaboration with Palestinian National Authority, Palestinian Red Crescent Society and the UNDP. It ran during January 2012 to March 2013 with a budget of US \$ 1,000,000. This project reconstructed and rehabilitated the Cultural and Hospital Centre for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in the Gaza Strip and includes patient recovery rooms, administrative offices, a cafeteria and rooms for psycho-social support activities.

Vietnam: Establishment of a Rice Production Hub

IBSA has also partnered with Vietnam to establish a rice production hub. The project is at an advanced stage with 93 households already surveyed and the demonstration sites have started cropping and the trainings for farmers have also started. The project faced challenges in terms of an increasing number of natural hazards (exceptionally dry winter and pests) all of which impacted the successful delivery of the project.

Global Management Project Activities

IBSA Fund supports various initiatives in the countries or its own initiatives generally in form of quality assurance work, feasibility studies and design works and refers these projects as Global Management Projects Activities. The projects mentioned below are some initiatives to enhance the quality of its projects.

Lao People's Democratic Republic Project Formulation

In Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), IBSA funded the undertaking of an extensive feasibility study which included geotechnical, topographic, hydraulic and technical feasibility assessments as well as economic viability of the project. It also supported the project design and engaged two UN volunteers and a local consultant to support the initiatives of the projects. The total approved budget for the project was US \$ 200, 241, a little more than half of which was for feasibility study and other part for the financing of the team involved in the project. The initiative was carried out in

the collaboration with UNDP Lao PDR and Team Consulting. The feasibility study was successful in that it was technical, socially and environmentally acceptable.

Guinea-Bissau UNV Volunteer

Guinea-Bissau UNV Volunteer activity supports the execution of the ongoing projects in Guinea-Bissau. The scope of this initiative includes formulation, programming, monitoring, management, procurement, operation and communication efforts. This task is an important contributor to the formulation of the Lowland Rehabilitation and Agro-Processing project, as well as the roll-out of the Solar Electrification pilot projects mentioned earlier.

Gaza Project Formulation and Design Works

IBSA Fund supported the rehabilitation of the cultural and hospital centre in the Gaza strip. Under this project assistance was provided for the production of the design works that guide the building's revampment. An essential character of this initiative was that the permission for entry of construction material into the Gaza strip was taken from the government of Israel. Almost 95 per cent of the work for this project has been completed. The design work for this project, and project document was successfully formulated and authorised. The total cost of the activity was US \$ 32,100 and was executed during January-September 2011. Some rehabilitation requests such as an operation theatre could not be completed due to budget constraints. Palestinian Authorities and IBSA Project Focal points in Palestine have submitted a proposal to extend and deepen the refurbishment of this hospital.

Timor-Leste Technical Exchange

Knowledge is seen as one of the most important resource and plays a substantial role in any human setting. The IBSA Fund supported a technical exchange mission by three Timor-Leste officials/community leaders to participate in knowledge-sharing activities with Indian NGOs that were active in waste management. This exchange empowered Timor-Leste with institutional and human capacity in waste management and also facilitated the formulation of a project proposal for an IBSA initiative in Timor-Leste focused on development of livelihood. These projects are launched with specific focus to alleviate poverty and hunger.

Future Road Map

IBSA Fund broadly focusses on development projects that are generally of small or medium size in the countries that are most distressed both in terms of economic and social development. The members contribute equal amounts to a centralised fund managed by the UN. Annual contributions through IBSA countries accumulate to three million US dollars every year. The Fund also encourages external development agencies, private sectors and other donors to contribute to the Fund's resources and become a partner in their development efforts. The purpose is to make a genuine and a visible change in the developing world. So far these contributions have received acknowledgement because the impact of these projects to communities has been purposeful. The Fund has been successful in bringing together the experience and exposure of the three countries to the benefit of developing nations. The Fund's initiatives do not impose any views but they engage in conversation by focussing on cooperation with partners in

development. IBSA members come from varied backgrounds, and may otherwise have distinct priorities but as a community of multicultural democracies, it is open to all kinds of races and provides a promising future for a stronger and a leading role in the global arena. Following recommendations would go a long way in contributing to the transition of IBSA for such a role.

Enhancing the Contribution

Even with a small annual contribution of US \$ 1 million from each member, the Fund has become a success story. This success is also signified by the approval of the Tripartite Agreement among IBSA members on the Fund by the Union Cabinet of the Government of India in 2015.²³ This also reflects that during the first 10 years since becoming operational, the Fund has gone beyond testing the water. The Fund should enhance the annual contribution and search for more innovative ways of funding to further build up on its endeavour for poverty and hunger free world. It needs to be expanded to become an ambassador of the developmental activities of IBSA and its interaction with the developing world. The future success of the IBSA Fund will depend on its ability to focus on areas that are distinct and lead to maximum benefit for the poor through creation of capacity and sufficiency.

Collaboration of IBSA Fund with Similar Institutions

The IBSA Fund can be made more effective by linking up with other like-minded goals and initiatives such as New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) which will also create a framework to further enhance and explore benefits of triangular cooperation. The

development objectives of the IBSA Fund and these initiatives are parallel and it is logical for these kinds of initiatives to converge their development efforts. Through such linkages, the Fund will not only enjoy the capacity created by these local level institutions but also learn from their own development experiences in these regions for a more effective delivery of its projects. This would also earn IBSA a wide appreciation in the developing world. Such recognition can give IBSA Fund more visibility which will help channel the accumulated funds to more productive use and enhance the pipeline of the projects. Further, the Fund has been unsuccessful in attracting additional financial resources even though it encourages financial contributions from external agencies. Visibility will help fund pool financial resources from varied resources to contribute to the broader objectives of development.

Larger role for National Development Cooperation Agencies

There is need for national development cooperation agencies of the three countries to come forward and assume larger role in the development cooperation through IBSA. The IBSA Fund can also look at alternative arrangements to the UNDP as new architecture is required to strengthen the development partnership among developing countries. Certain policies and structure may work very well for some countries but they may not work as per the objectives in other countries. Therefore, an alternative to the UNDP would help IBSA evolve development strategies which are tailored for LDCs. Instead of over-reliance on the UNDP, the ABC of Brazil, DPA of India and SADPA can jointly manage the Fund and the projects.²⁴ Such a collaborative agency would be expected to ensure efficient and effective administration of all the projects

right from its conception to its implementation and handover, in close participation of the IBSA countries and facilitation of the partner countries.

This is also important as the Fund procurement policy of the UNDP is not accommodative towards the developing countries. To fulfill the objective of mutual gain in true spirit, the capacities required for carrying out the projects should be sourced either from the IBSA members or from the recipient countries. Such a policy enhances the incentives to contribute to the Fund resource pool but more importantly it can act as a catalyst for further investment and capacity creation for least developed countries and improve overall investment climate for these countries. Challenges such as delays in obtaining government participation, lack of technical capacity can be overcome with such modifications in the procurement policy. Further, it has been repeatedly highlighted that the greatest benefit from SSC would be when the process of development cooperation reinforces all the principles of SSC including mutual gain.

Promote IBSA Integration through the Fund

India, Brazil and South Africa have similar development objectives but with different policy climates. The three countries can together set up an organisation to facilitate and promote policy coherence, at grassroots level, among the three countries on their development priorities. Such a formal structure would be able to coordinate flow of information within IBSA, as well as with partner states, other developing countries, international organisations and non-government organisations and present a united position of the three countries to various stakeholders.

Creating Global Public Goods

One of the most admirable values of the IBSA Fund has been its ability to bring India, Brazil and South Africa closer than ever on a range of issues. The Fund has allowed academia, specialist, think tanks and civil society to engage together for common good. The three countries can work together to address common challenges such as in fighting prevalent diseases like cholera, tuberculosis. It could also setup an appropriate mechanism to jointly contribute to ocean governance. Moreover, human activity has been causing massive loss of biodiversity and the IBSA Fund can be utilised to address this immediate concern of human survival. Research and Development (R&D) in Technology and transfer of advanced clean technology has the ability to transform the development paths of neediest countries. Similarly, intellectual property rights regime should progress in a manner that promotes creation of such global public goods as these would crucially impact the outcomes of development cooperation, especially poverty and hunger alleviation.

Partners in Realisation of SDGs

The IBSA Fund was primarily conceived to alleviate poverty and hunger in order to contribute to the MDGs. Since MDGs have been modified to SDGs, the primary goals of the IBSA Fund can further be extended to support towards the realisation of SDGs. This also becomes significant since poverty and hunger-free world are the first two goals of SDGs. IBSA, through its SSC, can contribute and play very crucial role towards this direction. The IBSA Fund can drive these goals towards more efficient and impactful direction.

Need for Impact Assessment

Standardised and systematic reviews of the IBSA Fund's projects will precisely provide with the evidence on a particular intervention or programme and will put forward the lessons for improvement in development strategies. A rigorous impact assessment is particularly important to determine for whom the interventions may have worked, when and in what context and will further enhance the quality of Development Cooperation. In that context, IBSA should organise study tours for exchange of ideas on impact assessment methodologies for better implementation of assessment and creating a niche' in this field. The knowledge gained from rigorous impact studies will also create a global public good as these can be accessed by anyone to improve policy.

It is worth mentioning in this context that the Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) has already initiated an exercise to develop a framework to evaluate interventions under SSC. The framework has been developed to ensure that the assessment criteria used conform to the spirit of SSC. Some pilot studies to test the robustness of the framework are already under way. Interventions through the IBSA Fund can be assessed using the same framework. FIDC is also working on the framework to test the framework using Indian interventions in SSC.

Endnotes

- ¹ See IBSA (2004)
- ² See IBSA (2005)
- ³ The UNOSSC, erstwhile referred to as Special unit for South-South Cooperation was established in 1974 and was commissioned to promote, coordinate and support the South-South

and triangular cooperation and the development objectives associated with such cooperation.

- 4 See IBSA (2010) and IBSA (2011)
5 See IBSA (2006)
6 Chaturvedi, Fues and Sidiropoulos, (2012), 18-20.
7 See UNDP (2011)
8 See UNECE (2011)
9 See UNDP (2011)
10 See UNDP (2011)
11 See UNECE (2011)
12 IBSA Fund Board of Directors is composed of the IBSA Deputy-Permanent Representatives for the United Nations.
13 For instance, Canada's Official Development Assistance Accountability Act, which came into existence on 28 June, 2008, lays conditions that must be satisfied for international assistance to be considered official development assistance
14 See UNDP (2011)
15 See UNDP (2011)
16 See De Janvry, Alain & Sadoulet, Elisabeth (2009).
17 See Fewtrell *et al.* (2007).
18 See Castro-Leal, *et al.* (2000).
19 See World Bank (2012)
20 UNCTAD (2015)
21 See UNCTAD (2011) and UNDP (2011).
22 The project is at an advanced stage of competition
23 PIB (2015)
24 Chaturvedi S., Fues T. and Sidiropoulos, E (eds.) (2012), 234-35, 257-59.

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IV

S&T Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Beyond in IBSA

Introduction

IBSA represents the three important countries among the emerging powers and hence it has attracted much attention from scholars over the years. IBSA was formed in 2008 and has grown rapidly since then in terms of activities and engagement with global issues. Today IBSA is an important force in international negotiations and although members of IBSA are also members of BRICS, there are some common features that bind members of IBSA and make this an unique grouping among emerging powers. According to Husar (2016) the four operational dimensions of IBSA are: 1) Political Coordination, 2) Sectoral South-South Cooperation, 3) The IBSA Fund, and 4) Structured interaction among Non-government fora, while Democracy and Development are key conceptual dimensions.¹ Hence, cooperation among IBSA is built upon strong foundations of shared values and vision. Cooperation in S&T can be no exception to this. Despite different development trajectories countries in IBSA have given importance to S&T for development and have also established strong partnerships with other countries in S&T

cooperation. Their NISs have many common features and in all the three countries state has played and continues to play a major role in funding S&T and in higher education. Given many such common features, a strong cooperation in S&T is a logical outcome in IBSA. As the data in Table 1 indicates although IBSA countries differ significantly in terms of indicators, they are at similar levels in terms of capacity. Each country has its own strength in terms of publications in specific areas.

“Globally, technology structures societies and global interactions by creating hierarchies of power between the haves and have-nots, suppliers and users, and between states and market-driven multinational corporations” (Chadwick, 2006).² However in the last decade or so, the global S&T system has undergone significant changes in the last two decades or so, and this is reflected in number of indicators. The new technological dynamism in the South is shaping the global innovation ecosystem significantly. But for developing countries the technological dynamism *per se* is meaningless unless it results in sustainable and inclusive growth and it enables them to translate the gains from S&T into economic gains. The IBSA

Table 1 : Selected Indicators for IBSA Countries			
Parameters	India	Brazil	South Africa
Population (mn) (2015)*	1,311.1	207.8	55.0
GDP PPP \$ (bn) (2015)*	7,982.5	3,192.3	723.5
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$) (2015)*	6,088.6	15,359.3	13,165.1
Global Competitiveness Index 2016-17 #	39	81	47
GERD as Percentage of GDP ##	0.82 (2011)	1.23 (2013)	0.73 (2012)
Global Innovation Index 2016 **	66	69	54
Web of Science/ million ###	38	180	181
Main fields of publication (Web of Science) ###	Chemistry, clinical medicine, engineering	Clinical medicine, biology, biomedical	Clinical medicine, biology, chemistry
<p>* Source: World Bank Data # Source: The Global Competitiveness Report 2016 ## Source: UNESCO Institute of Statistics ** Source: The Global Innovation Index Report 2016 ### Source: Web of Science Database</p>			

countries like many other developing countries have committed themselves for more spending on R&D as percentage of GDP although they are yet to reach the targets set in this regard. Nevertheless the indicators confirm that they have not fallen back and only need to give more push to R&D than what was done earlier.³ R&D in the field of physical and biological sciences has been encouraged through public funding. Many technologies have emerged in IBSA through such investment. Seeking collaboration for sharing R&D experience and knowledge towards solutions to common problem in these countries is the excellent trilateral aspiration for expanding the contours of expectation.

The role of S&T in achieving developmental objectives has been repeatedly emphasised, particularly in achieving SDGs. But the challenge lies in using frontier technologies

for furthering national development and to leap frog in S&T and innovation by focusing on selected technologies and matching that with increased emphasis on R&D investments, capacity building and innovation capacity. In case of IBSA, all the three countries have strong NIS and are also investing heavily in frontier technologies like biotechnology, nanotechnology, information and communications Technologies (ICTs) and the S&T and Innovation policy (STI) frameworks also stress the need for harnessing S&T for development. The IBSA countries represent the emerging powers, particularly in S&T. The Human Development Report 2001 classified India, South Africa and Brazil as 'dynamic adopters' in UN Technology Achievement Index (TAI). The TAI took into account technological capacity, diffusion of

recent innovations, diffusion of old innovations and human skills. According to UNDP, 'Dynamic adopters' are dynamic in the use of new technology (space S & T and Internet), have important high-technology industries with significant exports although in terms of diffusion of old technology they lag behind (UNDP, 2001: 46-49).⁴ This needs to be revisited as today diffusion of old technology such as telephone is not necessary as universal access and better communication is facilitated by mobile phones.

While South Africa is a leader in S&T in the African continent, Brazil is so in South America. In case of India it is among the leading countries in S&T in Asia with China, Korea and Japan having strong presence in global S&T scenario. While each country can plan for harnessing S&T for its developmental objectives trilateral cooperation in S&T has many benefits to offer to the three countries. IBSA countries have strong bi-lateral cooperation in S&T and are also actively involved in S&T cooperation with Europe and USA. They are placing emphasis on using S&T for development in bilateral cooperation with developing countries. Trilateral cooperation in S&T has certainly received much attention in the various declarations and meetings but much more can be done by IBSA in S&T.

S&T Cooperation in IBSA

The origins of cooperation in S&T date back to 2004 when the Working Group on S&T was formed. Since then it has met frequently. According to Stuenkel (2015) there was broad support to this from the governments and due to the importance of S&T in the overall strategies of the three governments working groups have met frequently while there have been sub-groups also under the broad theme of S&T.⁵ In 2005 the Rio Declaration S&T was

issued and later a fund was set up for trilateral cooperation in S&T. As a result many projects were launched and 300 researchers benefitted from them.⁶ In 2010 IBSA STI Agreement was signed. According to Kahn although well intended the quantum of funding under the Agreement was too small or modest.⁷ The tenth meeting of the Working Group took place in Brazil in 2014.

S&T cooperation in IBSA can bring in distinct benefits to all the countries even as it helps them to achieve national objectives. While attention to economic growth, and using S&T to promote growth is necessary it is also important to ensure that these do not result in exacerbating inequities in the society and fruits of developments in frontier technologies do reach the marginal sections of the society. This means paying attention to applications that can help in enhancing access, promote inclusion and meet the socio-economic needs of the population across sectors. Sectors like health, agriculture and delivery of services deserve special attention as they offer much scope for promoting appropriate innovations. Thus trilateral S&T cooperation should not be an end by itself but should also result in advancement of knowledge and enable harnessing frontier technologies for social development. But this is doable, as there are relevant examples in bi-lateral and tri-lateral cooperation in S&T in achieving these objectives.

The report from Royal Society, UK (2011) pointed out that S&T today is more globalised and collaboration is becoming more a norm than an exception. Scientists and institution do not collaborate for the sake of collaborating but do so as they see distinct benefits from it and scientists play an important role as drivers of collaboration.

Quoting from this report "Collaboration enhances the quality of scientific research, improves the efficiency and effectiveness of that

research, and is increasingly necessary, as the scale of both budgets and research challenges grow. However, the primary driver of most collaboration is the scientists themselves. In developing their research and finding answers, scientists are seeking to work with the best people, institutions and equipment which complement their research, wherever they may be.”⁸

For IBSA countries the focus of STI cooperation can be sustainable development, particularly in harnessing their S&T capacities in achieving the SDGs. These three countries have played a key role in pushing the TFM to the fore front. The intellectual properties generated from each sovereign nation shall not be infringed upon without mental consideration and consent for commercialisation through suitable TFM. Brazil and India have championed the cause for TFM for long and this has resulted in TFM being launched by UN in the Addis Abba Conference held in 2015.

Since IBSA countries are investing in frontier technologies and have common interests in finding solutions to many problems including climate change, harnessing S&T for social development. This shared but unstated common vision can really be the guiding factor in tri-lateral cooperation. The meetings of the Joint Working Groups in S&T and the various statements indicate that IBSA countries are committed to translate this vision in to tangible outcomes besides using S&T cooperation for capacity building. There are successful examples in health biotechnology which have proved that common problems can be tackled through cooperation. For example while HIV/AIDS is an important health problem in India and Brazil, the heavier prevalence of subtype C virus in both countries is a reason for them to work together in this. India and Brazil have identified HIV, malaria,

tuberculosis and leprosy as target diseases for joint research.⁹ IBSA countries have common principles and common values and all the three countries are committed to democracy and activities like working groups in scientific research can powerfully reinforce the claim that democratic values support development, rather than hindering it.¹⁰ The various joint statements and declarations have emphasised on common positions taken on various issues and the aspirations of IBSA countries (e.g. Delhi Summit Declaration 2008). India and Brazil have identified HIV, malaria, tuberculosis and leprosy as target diseases for joint research.¹¹

New Issues, Opportunities and Challenges

Although the S&T cooperation in IBSA is more than a decade old, it is time to expand and diversify the S&T cooperation. The S&T cooperation in IBSA should be seen in the larger context of SSC in S&T and can contribute to that. Similarly S&T cooperation can enable IBSA to play a larger and greater role in global affairs. In fact as early as 2008 it was suggested that IBSA should focus on space technologies and that could make significant impact in the global space arena.¹²

The current framework of S&T cooperation in IBSA is largely based on IBSA STI Agreement. Fortunately right from the beginning there has been clarity within IBSA on the scope of and role of cooperation in S&T. This has resulted in identification of priority areas, formation of working groups and expanding the scope of S&T cooperation to research on Antarctica. This framework now needs a revision in light of SDGs and TFMs as they provide new thrust areas for S&T cooperation.

The S&T cooperation’s scope should be expanded to include cooperation in applying

S&T for selected SDGs. While the current framework has rightly identified the needs and priorities, linking them with SDGs will give a new thrust to S&T cooperation. For example health related SDGs can be linked with S&T cooperation, particularly in R&D to identify how this R&D can be made more relevant to achieve the SDGs. To give an example the research on using nanotechnology can be focused on applying nanotechnology for specific SDGs such as those related to water, energy etc. Similarly space science and technology could be another focus area, given the capacities and capabilities of the countries in this sector.

Regarding TFM, IBSA has put forth a strong case with a need to make these comprehensive enough to result in a dynamic TFM that can successfully facilitate technology transfer and adoption. The S&T cooperation in IBSA can be harnessed to provide selected technologies for transfer and adoption to TFM and/or to SSC in S&T. For example sectoral specific technologies arising out S&T cooperation in IBSA can be identified for their relevance and transfer through TFM. In some instances the technological capabilities of each country can be applied to develop and fine tune already developed ones or to make the ongoing R&D projects more relevant for transfer through TFM.

Since IBSA is poised for playing a greater role in global affairs, it is suggested that S&T cooperation framework should be utilised for science diplomacy by IBSA at the global level. All the three countries have used Science Diplomacy in one way or other and hence evolving a framework for Science Diplomacy in IBSA could be the next logical step. It has been pointed out that Brazil has utilised SSC as a function of its Global Health Diplomacy for negotiating foreign policy.¹³ IBSA should

give more importance to S&T cooperation and link it with its Science Diplomacy policy so that one strengthens the other. IBSA countries can think big and discuss about a large S&T project that can contribute to global S&T as well as demonstrate that together they can embark upon such projects and make a difference in applying S&T for development or to basic science.

In light of the above discussion, it is suggested that IBSA should enhance the scope for and funding under S&T cooperation and this should be possible under the STI Agreement of 2010. Further IBSA should be more ambitious in S&T cooperation and should plan for effectively using S&T cooperation for enhancing its presence and role in global affairs. If IBSA could demonstrate through S&T cooperation it could develop affordable and accessible innovations that are much needed by many developing countries and LDCs it will go a long way in changing the perception about the innovative capacity of IBSA as a group. Although IBSA cannot compete with USA or EU when it comes to mega science projects in sectors like space, a large project could significantly alter the perception about their capacities. IBSA countries can make an impact on global S&T if they as a collective show more interest in creating an impact in, if not shaping of, global STI policy. For this, they need a strategy after examining their strengths and weaknesses in S&T and collectively how they can create a synergy.

Further IBSA should chalk out an agenda and action-plan within time-frame for its role in and in utilisation of TFM both as a technology provider and technology recipient. The S&T cooperation agenda should be linked with that. Simultaneously IBSA should develop a strategic plan for Science Diplomacy as a group. In this it can learn from and use the experiences

of the three countries in Science Diplomacy and Health Diplomacy. The plan for Science Diplomacy can inform the S&T cooperation agenda in IBSA.

Given the increasing importance of SSC IBSA should evaluate how S&T cooperation in IBSA can contribute to this and how needs and demands for SSC can be used to enlarge the scope and nature of S&T cooperation. For this IBSA should evaluate the potential for SSC in areas where S&T cooperation in IBSA has demonstrated its capabilities and delivered results. Based on this it can plan for a program to link SSC with S&T cooperation in IBSA. It is suggested that IBSA can form a working group to develop a plan for this.

All these proposed activities should not result in S&T cooperation losing its focus and getting influenced more by demands for SSC and other factors. Instead the ideal approach would be to enhance the cooperation and build on its strengths than to engage in unwieldy diversifications. Their global engagement in global S&T should be based on their collective strength and vision.

In the literature, IBSA's role in global governance and in reshaping global economic governance has been stressed while its potential in S&T cooperation or role in global S&T has not received much attention¹⁴. But playing an important role in global S&T affairs would also be a demonstration of their soft power and from this perspective it is important for IBSA to think how they can influence global S&T governance. Hence It is suggested that IBSA countries should have a working group to identify the scope for their global engagement in S&T and plan for it. This group should also guide IBSA in terms of interventions and engagements in global S&T and innovation and identify issues in which IBSA can play an important role.

Conclusion

The time has come to revisit S&T cooperation in IBSA and take it forward, in light of changing times and new realities. The current framework and agreement can be revisited so that on one hand, S&T cooperation promotes sustainable development, facilitates technology transfer, and, helps in achieving SDGs, and, on the other hand it enables them to promote SSC in S&T and play an key role in global S&T. This would mean that they have a re look at S&T cooperation within IBSA and beyond IBSA. In other words they would not be just 'dynamic adopters' but 'dynamic leaders' as well in global S&T.

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Sharing of Social Sector Experiences in IBSA: Way Forward

Introduction

Social sector occupies a prominent place in the various Communiqués and Declarations since the inception of IBSA in 2003. Shared mutual interests led to the adoption of IBSA Dialogue Forum at the behest of three multicultural, multiethnic and multiracial democracies viz. India, Brazil and South Africa, from the continents of Asia, South America and Africa respectively. The main objectives of the Dialogue Forum have been to promote trilateral exchange of information, international best practices, technologies and skills as well as to complement each other's competitive strengths into collective synergies.¹

The Brasilia Declaration laid emphasis on the promotion of social equity and inclusive growth by means of effective implementation of government policies to fight hunger and poverty. It highlights the need for promoting food security, healthcare, social assistance, education, employment, human rights, tourism, transport and environmental protection. Elimination of all kinds of racial discrimination and gender bias has also been duly emphasized in the Declaration.

IBSA is a unique forum which brings together three developing economies located in three developing continents, provides an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and to synergize their complementarities in a mutually beneficial manner (CII, 2015). It has identified trilateral cooperation and has emerged as a role model for effective SSC. During its course of meetings, dozens of memoranda of understandings and several technical working groups have been initiated on almost everything from healthcare, education, to trade. It promoted the interests of the developing countries thus strengthening and deepening SSC. The IBSA forum has also facilitated cooperation amongst academics, business leaders and other members of civil society. Gradually, IBSA has gathered unprecedented momentum and it has reached a stage where the dialogue functions at three different levels, viz. government to government, people to people and non-governmental level. Good progress has also been made on widening cooperation within IBSA through women's and business forums.

Despite diverse histories and culture, India, Brazil and South Africa share many striking

similarities and face common challenges such as poverty and inequality, unemployment and underemployment and exclusion of the majority from the benefits of social and economic development. Gradually, all the countries have taken similar paths and are moving towards providing social protection through an arrangement of social insurance, income guarantee, food and nutrition security and cash transfers schemes. Innovative approaches have been adopted in dealing with the issues of social development, expansion and retention of education, poverty alleviation, public health care services and wage employment in these countries.

However, it is imperative to evaluate IBSA's performance across social sectors and select policy initiatives taken for inclusive growth to address the concerns in attainment of healthcare and education through conditional cash transfer and direct benefit transfer schemes in IBSA countries.

IBSA's Performance across Social Sectors

Presently the available indicators allow a comparative analysis with regard to the social and economic development of IBSA. The need to give the foremost priority to the human resource development and the poverty reduction programmes in IBSA is very much

focused, in view of the very low ranking in three of the countries in Human Development Index (HDI). Of the three countries, Brazil fares considerably better as compared to India and South Africa, in terms of HDI where it occupies the 75th position out of 188 countries, while India and South Africa occupy 130th and 116th ranks respectively (HDR, 2015).

Data on total population and annual population growth rates of IBSA are available in Table 1. India has seen the fastest increase in population followed by Brazil and South Africa. Overall Brazil has roughly four times the population of South Africa and India over six times that of Brazil. India is the second most populated country in the world with a population of over 1.3 billion and Brazil the fifth most populated with 207 million, where as South Africa's population is only 55 million in 2015.²

With the reduction in the poverty levels in all the countries, some improvement in human development reflected in Table 2, which presents data on the total life expectancy at birth, life expectancy of females and males at birth, maternal and infant mortality rates, mortality ratios under the age of five during 2003-2013. Life expectancy at birth is considered to be the best indicator of general wellbeing of a person. During the same period, India and Brazil have shown significant improvement in the overall life expectancy which has gone

Table 1: Population Growth in IBSA

Year	Population, total (millions)				Average annual population growth %			
	2003	2006	2009	2015	1990-2003	1990-2006	1990-2009	2000-15
Brazil	181.6	189.5	193.7	207.8	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.1
India	1105.8	1157	1208	1311.1	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
South Africa	46.1	47.7	49.3	55.0	2	1.9	1.8	1.5

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators, WDI Various Issues

up by 2 to 3 years. Brazil has the highest life expectancy at birth as compared to the other two countries. Despite the improvement in last decade, the average life expectancy at birth in South Africa for women increased from 53.9 to 59 and for men from 50.2 to 55, respectively.

During this period, in almost all the IBSA countries, there has been significant improvement in female and male life expectancy. In fact, during the last decade, all the three countries have recorded increased female life expectancy compared to the males and women had higher life expectancy over men.

However, woman healthcare requirements still need to be strengthened as there is total lack of qualified birth attendants, adequate pre-natal and post-natal care during delivery

which is clearly reflected through the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) data. In India, position of women is extremely precarious, with the MMR being 190 as against 69 and 140 for Brazil and South Africa respectively. However, there has been an overall decline in the Infant Mortality Ratio (IMR) over the period 2003-2013 in IBSA. IMRs in Brazil was much lower at 12 per 1000 live births in 2013, having fallen by 26 in 2003. Infant mortality rates at 41 and 33 per 1000 live births are much higher in India and South Africa, even though there has been slight reduction in under-5 mortality rates per 1,000 live births during the same period. According to UNICEF, every year one million children under- five die due to malnutrition related causes in India. Overall, Brazil's record

Table 2: Health Indicators: IBSA

	Year	2003	2006	2010	2013
Life expectancy at birth, total (years)	Brazil	71.16	71.99	73.08	74.5
	India	63.34	64.46	65.69	68
	South Africa	52.52	51.61	54.39	57.4
Life expectancy at birth, female (years)	Brazil	74.9	75.6	76.78	78.3
	India	63.9	65.1	67.47	69.5
	South Africa	53.9	52.2	56.14	59.3
Life expectancy at birth, male (years)	Brazil	67.3	68.2	69.55	70.7
	India	61.5	62.4	64.00	66.6
	South Africa	50.2	49.7	52.72	55.2
Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births)	Brazil	72	58*	56	69 ^a
	India	301	230*	200	190 ^a
	South Africa	165.5	410*	300	140 ^a
Infant Mortality rate, (per 1,000 live births)	Brazil	26.2	22	14.60	12.3
	India	58	53.5	46.40	41.4
	South Africa	54.8	49.2	35.20	32.8
Under-5, Mortality rate, (per 1,000 live births)	Brazil	29.7	24.8	16.30	113.7
	India	78	70.9	60.20	52.7
	South Africa	82	75.8	53.20	43.9

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators & UNDP, Human Development Report, various issues.
* 2008; ^a 2014

is the best among the IBSA members followed by South Africa and India in terms of general wellbeing (UNICEF, 2014).

Health Profile

Access to healthcare facilities, safe drinking water and sanitation are essential to maintain good health for a productive living. Availability of water is vital for life and sanitation makes a substantial difference to the quality of life. During the period 2000-2015 there has been considerable progress in improving the access to sanitation facilities in IBSA, except India, where situation is quite precarious. The progress in sanitation in India has witnessed a spurt since the launch of the *Swachh Bharat Mission*. Earlier only 40 per cent of the population had access to improved sanitation facilities. Currently the number has risen to around 48.8 per cent. In respect of safe drinking water, there has been considerable improvement in the accessibility in the IBSA countries recording the highest coverage at more than 90 per cent, except India where only 46.6 percent of households have access to drinking water in their premises. And a far lower, 43.5 per cent of households have access to tap water (GOI, Economic Survey, 2015-16). Recently, under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in India, 20,000 solar power based water supply schemes have been approved to improve the availability of drinking water in far flung rural areas across the states (GOI, Economic Survey, 2014-15).

In spite of adequate food production, stability in food supplies, physical and economic access to food, undernourishment is the major concerns for India while in South Africa there is inadequate food production too. Despite the diverse stages of development of IBSA, the problem of malnutrition has been persisting for long. A total of about 795 million people

all over the world are undernourished as compared to 942.3 million people during 2005-07 (FAO, 2015). Out of these around 190 million undernourished people lived only in India during 2010-12 as against around 14 million people in Brazil during 2008-10. However, according to UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) projections, the number of undernourished people in India would reach to 195 million during 2014-16, which is a matter of concern (FAO, 2015).

For disease prevention and control, vaccines and immunisation have been recognised as core component of the human right to health care. Since the early 70s, the National Immunisation Programme in Brazil has achieved remarkable success in eradicating smallpox and poliomyelitis for which international certification of eradication was granted by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1973 and 1994, respectively. Likewise several specific programmes on immunisation have been initiated in India and South Africa to fight against vaccine preventable diseases. India launched Mission *Indradhanush* in 2014 with the aim to cover all the unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women against seven vaccine preventable diseases by 2020. The programmes for immunisation for one year old children against DPT and measles in Brazil are commendable and reflect higher coverage as compared to South Africa and India, where more efforts are required.

Urbanisation due to migration has led to the growth of slums in the cities which totally lack infrastructure in basic amenities like safe drinking water, sanitation and housing, etc. However, movement of people from rural to urban areas, on the one hand provides people with varied opportunities and scope for economic development but on the other

hand exposes community to communicable and non-communicable diseases, apart from physical and mental stress. Evidence suggests that in Brazil, Family Health Strategy (FHS) expansion has been associated with reduced cardiovascular causes and large reductions in hospitalisation rates and also reduced rates of complications from some chronic conditions like diabetes (Macinko, 2015). Over the past decade, the expansion of the FHS has played an important role in reducing inequities in access to health care services in Brazil. On the contrary, according to estimates, India would soon bear the largest burden of heart disease globally. Currently, the key challenges that India faces in terms of cardiac care are inadequate facilities, accessibility, the high price tag attached to efficient and effective treatment, lack of awareness of non-communicable diseases.

On the human resources front, much of the progress in terms of health, nutrition, water, sanitation, adoption of new vaccines and over all human well-being have direct

relationship with the educational status of society. It is a widely accepted view that various indirect returns are closely linked with the improvement in health and educational status of women which can be seen in terms of reduced fertility, lower population growth, reduced child mortality, reduced school drop-out rates and nutrition (HDR, 1990).

As illustrated in Table 3 progress in education has been widespread in IBSA. The Table summarises the level of literacy and educational attainment in terms of pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary level enrolment ratios in IBSA for 2005-2013/14. In almost all the countries, improvement in the access to primary and secondary education has taken place, particularly over the past decade as compared to the access to tertiary level. The enrolment rates at the tertiary level have been negligible in all the IBSA countries. However, the gap between literacy rates of adults and youths persists at all the levels which are particularly wide at the secondary education

Table 3 : Literacy and Education Attainments in IBSA

Country	Literacy rates			Gross enrolment ratios			Primary school dropout rates	Education quality		
	Adult	Youth	Population with at least some secondary education	Pre-primary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary		Pupil-teacher ratio, primary school	Education expenditure
	(% ages 15 and older)	(% ages 15-24)	(% ages 25 and older)	(% of children of pre-school age)	(% of primary school-age population)	(% of secondary school-age population)	(% of tertiary school-age population)	(% of primary school cohort)	number of pupils per teacher	(% of GDP)
	2005-2013	2005-2012	2005-2013	2008-2014	2008-2014	2008-2014	2008-2014	2008-2014	2008-2014	2005-2014
Brazil	91.3	97.5	53.6	69	136	105	26	19.4	21	5.8
India	62.8	81.1	42.1	58	113	69	25	34.2	35	3.8
South Africa	93.7	98.8	74.3	76	101	111	20	23	29	6.2

Source: UNDP, Human Development Report, Various issues

Note: Most of the data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified

level during 2005-2013. The table further shows that despite the widespread education programmes initiated by all the IBSA countries, there are wide gaps in enrolment ratios in primary, secondary and tertiary education.

The political commitment of the respective governments for human development truly reflected in the budgetary provisions for social sectors is vital for attaining human attainments in the field of health and education. With the exception of India, public expenditure on social sectors in Brazil and South Africa remains high as a proportion of GDP (Table 4). As a proportion of GDP, expenditure on education hovered around 3 per cent and there has not been any significant change in the expenditure on health as a proportion of GDP as it has remained stagnant at less than 2 per cent during the same period.

Though, IBSA has recognised that alleviation of poverty, and access to basic health care and education have been more challenging problems. Therefore, for inclusive growth, IBSA has taken major policy initiatives in the field of basic health care services and free and compulsory education such as *Bolsa Familia*, *Alimentacao Escolar* and *Fome Zero* Programme in Brazil; *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* (SSA), Mid-day Meal scheme, National Rural

Health Mission and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme – Direct Benefit Transfer in India, *Janani Suraksha Yojana* (JSY) and *Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram* (JSSK) in India and South African Child Support Grant, South Africa School Feeding Programme and Old Age Pension Scheme in South Africa, to name a few.

Policy Initiatives for Inclusive Growth- Direct Benefit Transfer Schemes

INDIA

Some of the central and state government schemes related to overall health, maternity benefits, and the survival and education of the girl child bear a resemblance to the provisions in the conditional cash transfer (CCT) schemes currently operative in many countries mainly in Latin America. Though, most of the Government sponsored schemes have increasingly adopted the CCT like approaches and aimed to improve the facilities and quality of social infrastructure nationwide. Technologies have enabled the state to better target and transfer directly financial resources to household. The experimental evidences

Table 4: Public Expenditure on Health and Education

	Year	2003	2006	2009	2013-14
Health expenditure, total (% of GDP)	Brazil	3.12	3.54	4.13	8.3
	India	1.18	1.13	1.37	1.2
	South Africa	3.50	3.41	3.41	8.8
Public spending on education, total (% of GDP)	Brazil	..	4.95	..	5.9
	India	3.67	3.09	..	3.0
	South Africa	5.06	5.29	5.47	6.1

Source: WDI online database; Economic Survey, 2015-16

suggest that if cash transfers targeted well, it can boost household consumption and asset ownership and reduce food security problems.

Simultaneously, both the central and state governments subsidize the price of a wide range of products with the expressed intention of making them affordable for the poor. Rice, wheat, pulses, sugar, kerosene, LPG, naphtha, water, electricity, diesel, fertilizer, iron ore and railways, etc. are some of the commodities and services that the Indian government subsidizes for the people below poverty line.

Many initiatives in India under the NHM, which include both the National Rural Health Mission and National Urban Health Mission have been taken up for providing free health care services through a nationwide network of public health facilities like Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub-Centres in both rural and urban areas (Economic Survey 2015-16). *Jan Aushadhi Scheme* for providing quality generic medicines at affordable prices in collaboration with the State Governments has also been launched. Apart from this India has one of the largest programmes of publicly financed Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) drugs for HIV anywhere in the world. All drugs and diagnostics in all vector borne disease programmes, tuberculosis, leprosy, including rapid diagnostic kits and third generation antimicrobials and insecticide treated bed nets are free for the people.

Considering the rising incidence of Non-Communicable Diseases, the Government of India has initiated an integrated National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancers, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) jointly with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Ayush on pilot basis.

In the education sector, many innovative schemes are operating in the field of providing

quality education like SSA/Right to Education, a national flagship programme which aims to provide free elementary education for all children in the 6-14 age groups. Since 2001, the SSA education programme in India have helped enroll nearly 20 million out-of-school children into elementary school. Over 98 percent of India's children now have access to primary school within 1 kilometre of their home. For education of girls, there are special programmes like, National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Education to improve access of girls to school with residential accommodation facilities particularly of the minority and other disadvantaged sections of the society. Mid-day Meals scheme has helped in attracting and retaining children in schools and is a major success. In recognition of the *Saakshar Bharat* programme's endeavour to create a fully literate society, *Saakshar Bharat* has been awarded the King Sejong Literacy Prize 2013 by UNESCO which is a boost to the education system in India. In a recent move, a major school education reform programme titled *Chunauti 2018* was launched in the capital city of India, New Delhi, to overcome the problems being faced in class IX due to adverse effects of No Detention Policy in class VIII.

BRAZIL

Brazil has implemented two main social policies targeting social assistance and food and nutrition policies. Focusing on food security as a pre requisite for social development, the *Fome Zero* programme recognizes that poverty reduction, food security and support for small scale agriculture are interconnected. The programme has three main pillar schemes like *Bolsa Familia*, *Alimentacao Escolar* (school meal), and Strengthening Family Agriculture that addresses the problem of food security and

nutrition of school children, small farmers and small landowners. In order to target socially and economically vulnerable people through *Fome Zero* programme, the Brazilian Government has achieved much popularity among the poorest citizens. Under this programme, diverse strategies have been adopted like creating water cisterns in semi-arid zones, creating low-cost restaurants, educating people about healthy eating habits, distributing vitamins and iron supplements, supporting subsistence family farming and giving access to microcredit to women beneficiaries.

Bolsa Familia, the biggest and best-known of all the cash transfer schemes to protect children and women in vulnerable households scheme plays an important role in targeting poor families in Brazil. At present, in terms of coverage and financing, it is the largest Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme in the world. Since its inception in 2003, its most developmental aspect is its conditionality as the Government only transfers the money to persons who meet certain criteria. It provides monthly cash payments directly to poor households in response to the household fulfilling certain specific conditions such as minimum attendance of children in schools and their attendance at health clinics, and full participation in immunisation programme for the specific age period of a child. Thereby, conditional transfers which have been widely implemented take care of specific policy objectives like poverty reduction; encourage poor families to utilize existing health care and education services. These schemes have a positive impact on school attendance rates and consequently in the number of years of schooling attained. Similarly, regular health checkups of pregnant mothers and children have also risen substantially. Brazil through its national health programme,

the *Sistema Unico de Saude* (SUS), has made rapid progress toward universal coverage of its population, by investing substantially in expanding access to health care for all its citizens, a goal that is implicit in Brazilian Constitution. Under this, all publicly financed health services and most common medications are universally accessible free of charge. After originating as a maternal and child health programme working through community health agents, the Family Health Program now called Family Health Strategy (FHS) has been providing primary health care services through its committed FHS team. The unique element of the FHS has been that the agents visit each household within their micro area at least once per month irrespective of demand or need (Macinko, 2015).

The *Programa de Beneficio de Prestacao Continuada* (BPC) is targeted at the elderly and disabled people of the very poor families. It is a non-contributory pension scheme which provides a minimum wage for elders and people with disabilities that make them unable to live on their own or work.

SOUTH AFRICA

The South African Child Support Grant (CSG) is a milestone in the history of social cash transfer scheme in the developing world. Policy reforms of the scheme have expanded the eligibility criteria including an increase in the age limit of children from seven to eighteen years old and raised the income threshold to effectively include all the poor children to improve social equity and economic impacts. Early life receipt of CSG increases the likelihood that a child's growth is monitored through clinical visits and reduces the problem of stunting among children whose mothers have studied up to eighth grades of schooling.

Thereby mother's education complements the role of CSG as an investment in building human capital. It also promotes human capital potential, improves gender equity and healthcare services (UNICEF, 2010).

In order to provide social pensions and benefits for elderly, an Old Age Pension Scheme in South Africa has had a significant impact on older people's well being and their households. Interestingly, mostly grand parents live in extended households comprising children and their grandchildren. Usually, most of the African children under the age of five live with the pension recipient. It has been observed that outcomes are highly positive when beneficiary is a woman since that improves the health and nutritional status of their grand-daughters. The South Africa school feeding programme that was launched in 1994 is being viewed as a potential safety net that keeps children in school. These types of programmes provide both educational as well as health benefits to the most vulnerable children thereby increasing their retention rates in school.

However, some of these policy initiatives mentioned above offer a great opportunity for each of the IBSA country to strengthen the development of integrated strategies through a comparative learning and exchange process. In general, the aforesaid selected programmes can act as the trend setters for others as well. Owing to their pragmatic approach and adaptability, they can be replicated to other countries as well. These government schemes with the minimum support have promoted the social equity and inclusive growth in the respective countries. The governments in these countries with the existing NGOs and civil societies can play very effective role in order to bring significant improvement in the socio-economic conditions of poor people.

From Commitments to Actions

Since its inception, various communiqués and declarations were issued after each IBSA summit and ministerial meeting which is the real testimony of their increased commitments for SSC. Through these the leaders of the three participating countries of IBSA reaffirmed their serious commitment to further strengthen their trilateral cooperation and emphasised that the IBSA forum is an important mechanism for closer coordination on global and regional issues.

IBSA has nurtured a common approach on global as well as on regional issues. They have developed people-to people contact through business, media, women, academics and parliamentarians forums to play an instrumental role in promoting South-South cooperation. They are genuinely committed to encourage exchange of experiences to fight poverty and hunger in their countries. Despite being a decade old, their success so far has been moderate because of lack of resources and institutional weaknesses in developing countries. The trilateral cooperation has huge potential for reinforcing economic strengths of each other by synergising their complementarities in the field of universal education, particularly tertiary education healthcare, empowerment of girl child or expertise in the field of e-governance.

In reality, on the issues of South-South cooperation and development, the participating countries of IBSA are committed to the notion that they face certain common challenges and thus benefit substantially from each other's experiences. As a result, concrete progress has been made with the establishment of the development fund, a new approach to South-South cooperation that draws upon the successful experiences coming out of the select experiments conducted in these developing

countries. IBSA has developed various joint funding schemes to support developmental projects in developing countries. IBSA Trust Fund (see Chapter III) demonstrates the true potential of IBSA grouping, as each have contributed US \$ 1 million to the IBSA Fund to be used for poverty alleviation projects in countries like Haiti, Guinea-Bissau, Timor-Leste, Burundi, Laos, Vietnam, Sierra Leone, Palestine and Cape Verde.

The IBSA Fund projects are executed on a demand driven basis through partnerships with UNDP, local governments, national institutions and implementing partners. Mainly their concrete initiatives range from promoting food security, to addressing HIV/AIDS, to extending access to safe drinking water with the aim of achieving MDGs. The success of a new rice seed that IBSA capacity builders introduced in Guinea Bissau allowed the country to have a second harvest every year to combat hunger and poverty. It has the potential to be replicated in participating countries as well as in other rural poverty stricken countries of the world. The project on the establishment of rice seed production hub in Da Nang city, Vietnam has been a great success. In order to overcome the challenges in terms of water scarcity and sanitation in Cape Verde, a project worth US \$ 41.1 million for water, sanitation and hygiene project is being implemented with the support of IBSA to facilitate delivery of water and sanitation services to each households and businesses. Further, in Cambodia to empower children and adolescents with special needs and their families, a project is ongoing through partnerships between the government, non-governmental and private sectors. For this, a well equipped hospital was built to host services like physiotherapy, multiple handicaps, speech therapy and occupational therapy etc.

Nevertheless, in order to make serious efforts in the field of poverty reduction and to become breakthrough model of South-South cooperation, IBSA should enhance its financial contribution and make its operation transparent.

Way Forward: Lessons from Social Innovation

To strengthen the social sectors in IBSA, the trilateral cooperation has huge potential for reinforcing economic strengths of each other by synergising their complementarities in the social sectors. There is an urgent need to forge more effective cooperation amongst the IBSA countries. This will not only pave the way for upliftment of the community at large in these countries but would also contribute effectively in accelerating economic and social progress. It is high time that major initiatives are to be taken so as to achieve the required SDGs by 2030. There is also need to emulate some of the best practices followed by each of these countries for upliftment of women and children especially the girl child in the field of health and education, which could be trendsetter for the other developing countries.

India with riding on the flagship programmes like Make in India, Digital India, Skill India, Aadhaar-DBT, *Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana* and *Beti Padhao Beti Badhao* to name a few would pave the way for bringing in the desired inclusive growth for all. Brazilian experience of *Bolsa Familia* and FHS can be a learning lesson for the world as community based primary health care reflects ingredients of best practices.

In the context of India, with the increase in private providers of health services, use of high tech medical devices has been increasing. Inflation in health expenditure because of over use of import intensive medical devices

can act as a major barrier to access to health care in a country like India, where only a fifth of total health expenditure is public funded and more than ninety-five per cent of private health expenditure is out of pocket expenditure. At this juncture, centres like TICEL Biopark, Chennai, which provides world class laboratory infrastructure and services for biotech R&D, can be the major hubs for future pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical research and development for other IBSA countries (*www.ticelbiopark.com*). Further, with the introduction of a new regulatory policy in India and increased affordability that biosimilars offer, the Indian domestic pharmaceutical market can take advantage of the US \$240 billion global opportunity for biosimilars. (*Business Line* 7 October 2016)

In the case of Brazil, it needs to be reiterated that the parallel FHS, sending doctors into poor neighbourhoods to provide preventive care reduces the pressure on Brazil's public hospitals. Bolsa Familia, a conditional cash-transfer programme is stated to have cut poverty in Brazil by 28 per cent and cost a mere 0.8 per cent of the country's GDP. The programme is so cheap, and its benefits so obvious, that it has won widespread public support—even from Brazil's conservatives, who initially opposed it (*Foreign Affairs*, 2016).

Likewise the FHS is designed to perform several important primary care functions. Access and first-contact care are facilitated by locating health care teams near people's homes. Lists of all residents in each geographic area permit delivery of longitudinal care, and each team is responsible for everyone in its catchment area. Comprehensive care is provided by interdisciplinary teams whose scope of practice has gradually increased. Such care is proactive, since the community health agents seek out problems before patients arrive at the health post. Teams also deliver public

health interventions, such as contact tracing and immunisation campaigns (Maeinko and Harris, 2015).

Likewise, it is to be highlighted that the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) has launched a social assistance an income transfer programme in the form of grants provided by government. A social grant refers to grants paid by the SASSA that is: disability grant; grant for older persons and war veteran's grant; foster child grant; care dependency grant; child support grant and grant-in-aid these also included grant for social relief of distress. (SASSA, 2016)

In the area of education, the Kha Ri Gude Literacy Campaign of South Africa is informed by its Constitution which states that "Everyone has the right to a basic education, including adult basic education (Chapter 2, Clause 29, 1a). According to Statistics SA (2001), there were 9.6 million illiterate adults in South Africa above the age of 15. Of these, 4.7 million, including people living with disabilities, were illiterate in any of the 11 official languages and innumerate. The Kha Ri Gude Literacy Campaign was intended to reduce the national rate of illiteracy by 50 per cent by 2015. This was in line with the government's Education for All (EFA) commitment made in Dakar in 2000 as well as its commitment to achieve the MDGs on poverty reduction, women's empowerment, HIV and AIDS eradication, environmental protection, and sustainable democratisation and peace building. The aim of Kha Ri Gude is to empower socially disadvantaged people to become self-reliant and to be able to participate more effectively in the economy and society through skills development. Kha Ri Gude reached 3.9 million illiterate adults at a cost of R2.97 billion between the programme's inception in 2008/09 and 2014/15. The Department expects to reach

the remainder of the targeted 4.7 million by 2016/17, after which the programme will be phased out.

The Nova Scotia Nominee Programme (NSNP) of South Africa aims to enhance the learning capacity of learners through the provision of a healthy meal at schools. Where it is implemented, the programme has shown to improve punctuality, regular school attendance, concentration and the general wellbeing of participating learners.

Whilst learners are being provided with nutritious meals, they are also taught to establish and maintain good eating and lifestyle habits for life. Nutrition Education also provides educators with resource materials to support curriculum and to make every school a healthy school.

Schools are also encouraged to establish food gardens from which they obtain fresh produce (vegetables/fruit) to supplement the menu in line with South African Food Based Dietary Guidelines. Learners, teachers & parents are provided with skills to grow their own food contributing towards long-term household food security. The gardens are also used as a teaching and learning resource and to beautify the environment.

Another programme that also needs special attention is the Proudly South African. The programme was born out of socio-economic necessity to create jobs, under the leadership of the former South African President, Nelson Mandela. Through the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC), the Proudly South African Campaign was launched in 2001. The Proudly South African "buy local" campaign encourages the nation to buy local products and make use of local services, in an effort to stimulate the local economy and help create jobs.

Nevertheless, IBSA has a long way to go and to make a decisive push to overcome

poverty and improve the status of social sectors, it is vital for them to pursue strategic actions from mere commitments initiated in their political gatherings. Now, a decade after its launch, IBSA can no longer claim to be in a state of infancy. A pioneer initiative of IBSA needs to keep its pace and focused approach to integrate their triangular efforts for development. To be more visible, these trilateral countries should revitalize IBSA by meeting more often at various levels of summits and work towards enhancing bilateral relations with each other. Regular inter-governmental and intra-governmental coordination should be expanded so as to update cooperation in social sector due to climate change and such other emerging common issues.

Endnotes

- ¹ www.ibsa.nic.in
- ² www.ibsa-trilateral.org

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VI

IBSA: Health Sector Cooperation Past, Present and Future

Introduction

Health is a major factor in development. It is axiomatic to say that a healthy population contributes to the national productivity. Many studies have established that diseases cause a burden on the economy in the form of loss of productive capacity of the people¹. Because of the realisation of the importance of health and education in national development, during the last almost two decades or so, countries have been stressing the need for development cooperation activities in these two areas. In various fora such as the UN and the WIPO, development agendas have been pushed by the developing countries of Asia, Africa and South America with a view to shifting focus from purely GDP oriented development to a general wellness oriented development that addresses issues related to sustainable human development. Health is at the core of this new approach. The MDGs and the subsequent SDGs have also identified health as a major area to focus on.

Status of Health Care in IBSA

IBSA countries have differential levels of achievement in health care. Life expectancy at birth in Brazil was 74 in 2013 whereas in India it was 66 and in South Africa it was 59. Similarly, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) per 1000 live births in Brazil was 12 only whereas in India it was 41 and in South Africa it was 33 in 2013. Child Mortality under 5 per 1000 live births was 14 in Brazil, 53 in India and 44 in South Africa, whereas Maternal Mortality Ratio per 100,000 live births in Brazil was 69, in South Africa 140 but in India 190 in 2013 (Rodwin). The three countries, though now developing very fast to earn the reputation of emerging economies², have very recent experience of the problems and challenges that other developing countries are facing and that makes them to empathise with them and help them in developing strategies. The experiences of these three countries are more relevant to other developing countries because of their time proximity and situational similarities. The three countries have

achieved differential levels of health indicators and have still much to do to reach the target of health for all, one of the SDGs to be achieved by 2030. However, as already mentioned, the countries have very recent and rich experience in tackling health issues which are valuable for other developing countries; they also have their strengths in specific areas. For example, India has been able to develop excellent manufacturing capabilities in the generic pharmaceutical sector, thanks to its patent law enacted in 1970 that excluded pharmaceutical products from the purview of patents. In fact, that has earned it the sobriquet of the pharmacy of the world. It also has achieved great success in certain disease control areas such as eradication of polio since 2011 through the annual pulse polio vaccination which was a part of WHO's Global Polio Eradication Initiative.³ The community mobilisation in these programmes is a learning lesson for others in health care efforts. Similarly, Brazil has had great accomplishments in tackling HIV/AIDS, starting with the government guaranteeing universal access to antiretroviral (ARV) treatment for people with HIV as early as 1996. This has resulted in a lowering of 50 per cent of the AIDS mortality figures in the next six years (Bruyn 2013). Provision of access to free basic health care facility has been a strong point of South Africa.

IBSA Memorandum of Understanding on Health and Medicine

Health and medicine was one of the sectors that India, Brazil and South Africa had agreed to work together to coordinate international outreach, when these three countries from three different continents decided to formalise their relationship through the IBSA mechanism in 2003. Subsequently, in 2007, they signed a

Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of health and medicine during the 2nd IBSA Summit in Tshwane, South Africa. An interesting feature that distinguishes this cooperation is that it is to be “on the basis of equality, mutual benefits and in accordance with the existing laws and regulations of each country⁴.” This Memorandum identified HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria as three disease areas for special attention. It also included within its ambit procurement of medicines, vaccines, medical research and development, Traditional Medicine, Intellectual Property Rights, and Disease Surveillance besides pharmaceutical assistance programmes in the area of regulation and registration of health products as areas of cooperation.

IBSA Fund and Health Projects

IBSA Fund is a joint initiative taken by the three countries to implement development programmes including in the health sector (see Chapter III). Each member country contributes annually US \$ 1 million to the IBSA Fund. Several projects have been taken up in Africa under the Fund including in health care sector. This Fund financed a project to increase the government's capacity to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS in Burundi. Another health programme implemented was the refurbishment of two public health care centres in a remote area of Sao Nicolau island of Cape Verde. The SDGs stress the linkage between safe drinking water and health. IBSA Fund had already taken note of it when it financed a project for the building of a desalination plant in Cape Verde. It enabled supply of water to the inhabitants that meets the standards set by the WHO.⁵

The Burundi project titled ‘IBSA-Burundi: Strengthening Infrastructure and Capacity to Combat HIV/AIDS’ was a three year

programme with an approved budget of US \$ 1,145,630 starting from January 2010 and ending in December 2012. Under the project, centres for HIV/AIDS detection and treatment were built and equipped. It also provided for capacity development of government and civil society actors and also the local community through training sessions. The project has had an impact on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS since the number of people living with HIV (all ages) in Burundi in 2009, that is before the commencement of the project, was 97,000 whereas by 2013, it has declined to 83,000 and in 2015 to 77,000. The rate of prevalence among adults also decreased from 1.6 in 2009 to 1.0 in 2015 (UN AIDS). Other on-going healthcare related IBSA Fund projects are Rehabilitation of the Cultural and Hospital Centre and Reconstruction Works for Atta Habib Medical Centre in Gaza city in Palestine, and an Innovative-Learning Approach for Health in Vietnam (UNDP).

SSC is a major plank of the IBSA Dialogue Forum. The health related cooperation that the South is having is fully supported by the IBSA. Besides, IBSA also supports NEPAD of which promotion of investment, and S&T exchanges in the field of health are important components.

Country Initiatives

Individually also the countries have been supporting health programmes in developing countries in Africa.

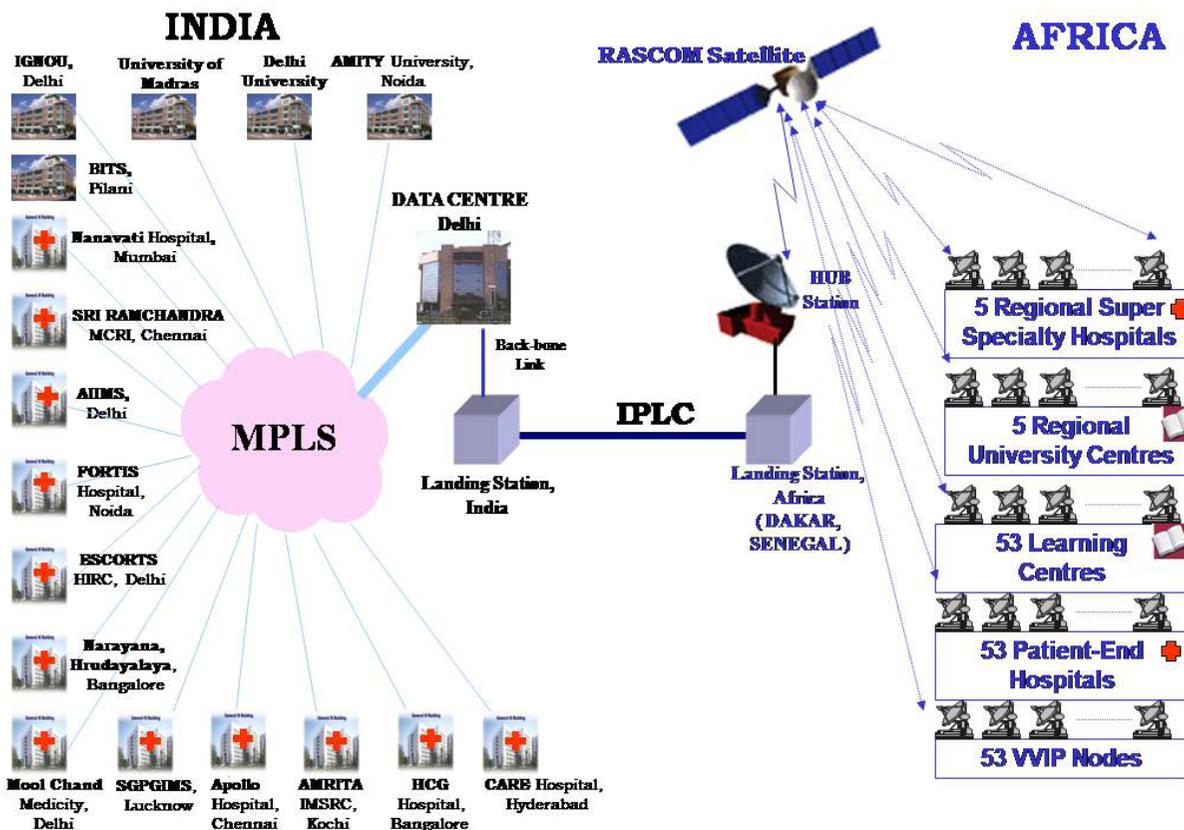
India has taken many steps to develop partnership in capacity building in the area of drugs and pharmaceuticals. Investment worth US \$ 245.56 million was made by Indian firms in the pharmaceutical sector in Africa during the period 2008-2014. Many of the leading Indian drug firms such as Cipla, Ranbaxy Laboratories, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals and so on have

invested in various African countries. HIV/AIDS is one area where India has contributed much to Africa by making available generic medicines at comparatively cheap prices. The initiative of Cipla through its Dollar a Day Treatment Programme for HIV/AIDS is worth recalling for its user-friendliness and pro-social bias. It really brought affordable medicine to needy patients in Africa. Not limiting to the curative medicine, the Indian company focussed also on preventive care. It introduced a novel 'Mother-Baby Pack' with a view to preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS. The pack consists of a range of anti-retroviral drugs and antibiotics needed by an HIV-infected mother.

Use of modern technologies to tackle the issues is a feature of such cooperation efforts. For example, India took a lead in this through its Pan Africa e-Network and Telemedicine programme. This project was launched post the formation of IBSA Dialogue Forum. It was formally launched in February 2009. It envisages establishing e-network connecting institutions in 53 African countries with Indian institutions through satellite and fibre optic links (Figure 1). Health care is an important component of this project. It facilitates consultation by medical practitioners in Patient End Locations in Africa with Indian medical specialists in 12 Super Speciality Hospitals. This is a continuing programme. It also has a component of medical education. A figurative representation of the architecture of the programme with the names of India's super speciality hospitals is presented in the Figure.

India has also been focussing on research and development in the pharmaceutical sector. It has been working with South Africa for developing vaccines against HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (GHSi). It has also invested in developing new vaccines such as the MenAfriVac meningitis, a vaccine which was

Figure 1: Architecture of Pan-African e-Network



Source: <http://www.panafricanenetwork.com/>

designed specifically for Africa's Meningitis belt (GHSi). Its own Open Source Drug Discovery (OSDD) is a global partnership programme where a global platform is provided where the best minds of the world can collaborate and collectively endeavour to solve the complex problems associated with discovery of novel therapies for neglected tropical diseases like Tuberculosis, Malaria and Leishmaniasis.⁶ These diseases are also of concern for other IBSA countries and also most countries of Africa.

Brazil has also been a major partner in development cooperation, particularly in health, in Africa. As per an estimate of 22 per cent of its technical cooperation in Africa during the period 2003-2010 has been in the health sector. In 2013 it started the construction of a pharmaceutical factory in Mozambique

at a cost of Euro 80 million, which has a capacity to manufacture 21 medicines, six of which are antiretroviral.⁷ Brazil has also been contributing to WHO and Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO).

South Africa has been an active partner in African cooperation programmes. In health it has been providing technical support in Malaria control for the SADC consisting of 14 Member countries, namely, Angola, Botswana, Congo (DR), Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe besides South Africa itself. Its recent efforts in combating HIV/AIDS is an inspiration for other countries. It also did a study demonstrating proof of the concept that vaginal gel containing ARV could prevent HIV transmission in women (GHSi). South Africa's

Health Sector Cooperation for Self-Reliance Brazil's Innovative Policy Initiative in Entrepreneurial Collaboration

Strategic policy intervention in development of local manufacturing capability through collaboration happened in Brazil when, in 1997, the then Brazilian Health Minister Jose Serra invited Indian generic companies to invest in Brazil and use Brazil as a production hub for pharmaceuticals, rather than as a mere export destination. As explained by an Indian pharmaceutical manufacturer, “one of the catalytic factors was the promulgation of rules for generics, which were intended to debureaucratise the process as much as possible without altering the technical requirements that guarantee the effectiveness and security of the drugs – a responsibility entrusted with National Agency of Sanitary Vigilance (ANVISA).” Several leading generic companies of India responded to this call by Jose Serra and over the years, the number of companies present has multiplied to almost 22 with the pharmaceutical sector occupying now almost 45 per cent of the total Indian operations (Chaturvedi, 2011). This conscious strategy to prioritize domestic production of essential medicines has had its most beneficial result in that the majority of vaccines are manufactured now locally. This enables sustainable access to vaccines and other essential medicines and has played a crucial role in Brazil's progress towards health for all.

Biovac Institute supplies vaccines to Namibia, Botswana and Swaziland.

Conclusion

Apart from the SDGs, Africa has also been pursuing its own Agenda 2063. Health issues such as healthy and well nourished citizens, are priority areas in the Agenda. IBSA can play a significant role in the efforts of AU towards achievement of the Agenda 2063. With its growing middle class, Africa would be highly pressed for enhancing health care facilities and IBSA countries can contribute much in the provision of health care infrastructure, human resources and medicines and equipments. Such contributions need not always be in financial terms, but can be through technical cooperation programmes and projects. They can also significantly partner among themselves and with other developing countries in policy

and strategy formulations in health sector. Contributory areas such as innovation, R&D, industrial development, etc., are also areas for contribution since what happens there will have impact on health.

Intellectual Property Right (IPR) regime is an important sector affecting access to affordable medicine. IPR protection should contribute to “social and economic welfare” (Article 7 of the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) and Members must “adopt measures necessary to protect public health and nutrition” while amending their laws as provided in the Article 8 *ibid*. Many a time in the public discourse being dominated by multinational pharmaceutical firms, these objectives and basic principles of the TRIPS Agreement get submerged as also the provision regarding technology transfer in Article 67 therein. This is an area where the IBSA countries can

cooperate among themselves and also partner with other developing countries.

IBSA Members should build on their strengths and share their rich experience in health care provision with Africa. IBSA countries are also witnessing a shift towards non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and mental illness. The countries together with other developing countries can make efforts to address these new challenges through building a partnership. They will have to make special efforts to invest heavily in R&D in pharmaceutical innovation targeting on the diseases that afflict them predominantly. Future is in innovation.

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- ¹ World Economic Forum, Harvard School of Public Health, Economics of Non-Communicable Diseases in India, November 2014.
- ² The average GDP growth rates of India, Brazil and South Africa during 2004-2015 have been 6.1, 4 and 3.5, respectively. (Vieira)
- ³ Who.int.medicine.factsheets
- ⁴ Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Health and Medicine between the Government of the Republic of South Africa, the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil available at <http://www.ibsa-trilateral.org/agreements>
- ⁵ <http://www.ibsa.trilateral.org>
- ⁶ www.osdd.net
- ⁷ Brazil's Development Cooperation in Africa: A New Model? By André de Mello e Souza. Paper presented at the FIFTH BRICS ACADEMIC FORUM Durban, Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

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