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BRAZILIAN TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN SOCIAL PROTECTION: CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2030 AGENDA



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	Brazilian Cooperation Agency
CGFome	General Coordination for Humanitarian Cooperation and Fight against Hunger
CONAB	National Food Supply Company
CONSEA	National Council of Food and Nutrition Security
CPLP	Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries
DFID	Department for International Development, United Kingdom
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
IBSA	India, Brazil, South Africa
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPC-IG	International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, UNDP
IPEA	Institute of Applied Economic Research
IPEC	International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour
MDA	Ministry of Agriculture Development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDS	Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
P4P	Purchase for Progress
PAA	Purchase From Africans to Africa Programme
PALOPs	Portuguese-speaking African Countries
PNAE	Brazilian National School Feeding Programme
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TrC	Trilateral Cooperation
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Cooperation
WFP	World Food Programme
WWP	World Without Poverty

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper aims to analyse how can trilateral cooperation (TrC) initiatives sharing Brazilian experiences in social protection contribute to the 2030 agenda. In the last decade, social protection has gained the spotlight in development cooperation. The boundaries of social protection has expanded from a narrow understanding of safety nets to potentially encompassing a broader set of policies aimed at increasing social justice and as a redistributive measure that reaffirms the social contract of the state with its citizens. Countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America have introduced regular cash transfers and other programmes to assist poor and vulnerable citizens, with positive impacts on a range of well-being indicators for millions of people.¹

International organizations have played a crucial role in this process by supporting the diffusion and transfer of social protection policies. However, the role of South-South Cooperation partners cannot be underestimated. Brazil's development trajectory in the last decade has drawn the world's attention to the country's social protection and food and nutritional security policies. The country became an international reference in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eradicating extreme poverty and hunger before the final deadline in 2015 (FAO, 2014). As a result, TrC on social protection among Brazilian government and multilateral and bilateral donors has increased significantly, particularly in the first decade of the 21st century. In this paper, we understand TrC to mean any initiative that brings together the Brazilian government, bilateral or multilateral providers of development cooperation, and Southern countries to share knowledge and implement projects that support a mutually agreed goal.²

To explore the lessons learned through the Brazilian TrC in social protection, the research team carried out a literature review and developed a trilateral projects database, using information from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) website.³ Three initiatives were further explored by reviewing publicly available documents and carrying out semi-structured interviews with different partners (see Annex I for list of interviewees). Unfortunately, the team was able to interview partners in other developing countries in only one case. As a result, the paper lacks a stronger analysis based on the perspective of Brazil's Southern partners. The first

¹Social protection covers a wide array of instruments and objectives. In particular, we find useful the four types of social protection described by Devereux and Sabates-Wheeler (2004:9): (1) Protective social protection, cash or in-kind transfers or fee-waivers to provide for basic consumption needs such as food and health care; (2) preventive social protection, insurance schemes such as pensions, or risk-pooling mechanisms such as health and unemployment insurance, in order to prevent a drop in living standards during crises; (3) promote social protection, productive transfers, insurance and credit schemes, labour market interventions, investment in public assets and access to education or skills training; and

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