

Modalities of Technical Cooperation in Health Paper Comments from Barbados

- The paper could be enhanced by incorporating a definition of technical cooperation. This definition should embrace the shift in approach from **technical assistance** to **Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries** (TCDC), **Technical Cooperation among Countries** at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), **South-South Cooperation**, **Triangular Cooperation** and most recently the **Country Focus Initiative** by the World Health Organization (WHO), which is a reform plan to strengthen the performance of country offices and to improve efficiency and effectiveness of WHO/PAHO resources within countries.

The below specific issue B, outlined at the Meeting in Dominica for this Term of Reference needs to be further explored and expounded in the paper.

B. Work Force (b) Countries

- **Human resources training/development for sustainability**
 - Institutional weaknesses of National Health Authorities in terms of lack of coherent policies on external cooperation in general and technical cooperation in health in particular; lack of institutional support structures at the national level to articulate with the various interests and actors need to be addressed. In addition, the lack of financial resources and allocation of budgets to support technical cooperation efforts need also to be dealt with.
 - There is an insufficiency of human resources with the desired technical capacity to design and implement innovative technical cooperation activities to attract donor funding. This and the aforementioned issues need to be address to further improve the paper.

The below specific issue E, outlined at the Meeting in Dominica for this Term of Reference needs to be further explored and expounded in the paper.

E. Innovation (a) Good benchmarking and best practices (b) Working out of the box, new perspectives, different skills, etc

- There are no established effective mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating technical cooperation activities, or for documenting and publishing of results and experiences from technical cooperation projects (such as a technical cooperation database of lessons learnt and best practices, as well as an inventory of technical resources available, etc.). This issue needs to be further dealt with to strengthen the paper.

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