



## **IACD COOPERATION FORUM**

### **Closing remarks by**

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**Friday, March 07, 2014**  
**GSB 804**

Our region is continuing to foster the spirit of solidarity through a willingness to share experiences, knowledge and practices, driven in large part by our common realities and the ability to tailor successful approaches to national circumstances.

As a region comprised of emerging economies, we are witnesses the growth of new regional partners, and the strengthening of national cooperation agencies that have developed mechanisms for the sharing of experiences with particular emphasis on south-south approach and triangular cooperation.

In this discussion on Post-2015, there is a sense that a different approach to development is needed with Governments, private sector, academe, civil society engaging in a more open dialogue to develop a post -2015 Development Agenda that has pre-buy in from stakeholders. This forum and the High Level Meeting in Mexico reflect this more inclusive approach.

Indeed, the future of development cooperation relies upon some key adjustments which will need to be made in order to build on the gains experienced and to get a broader understanding and acceptance of the development cooperation paradigm.

1. Build strong policy and institutional frameworks that support effective coordinate of cooperation programs.
2. Ensure that adequate resources are allocated for development cooperation
3. Engage in research and needs assessments to ensure that development cooperation is demand-driven and targeted.
4. Develop monitoring and evaluation indicators to measure results.
5. Think about cooperation not just in terms of \$ and cents but also in knowledge and experience sharing, capacity building, AND FINALLY
6. WE must be open to envision possibility and then create the enabling environments, the mechanisms and tools to realize those possibilities.

We should give ourselves the freedom to challenge our own long held assumptions (Petkoski), see challenge and change through different lenses that can inform a more enlightened perspective.

Development cooperation is being challenged to be done differently using new avenues and platforms particularly those presented by the emergence of innovative technologies.



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We must challenge ourselves to do development cooperation differently and better in order to benefit from the opportunities posed by new and emerging challenges.

Within the Organization of American States we have the unique space to continue to nurture and facilitate the strong tradition of solidarity among the countries of our region that has served us so well over the years. But there is still much work to be done and so let's build upon our success by pledging our support to each other, to learn from each other and continue our shared responsibility for the prosperity of all. I urge all member states to join in this goal of strengthening cooperation within the OAS and our hemisphere as a whole.

It is with these realities in mind that we as OAS-SEDI conclude today's discussion, with a renewed commitment to ensuring that we make the necessary adjustments to our programs, work with the right partners, and make a greater push to facilitate development cooperation within this hemisphere in order to achieve lasting results in our quest towards advancing sustainable and inclusive development.

Thanks to Dr. America Bastidas, Chair of the Management Board; Ambassador Bruno Figueroa, the Director General for AMEXCID; excellent speakers and moderators (outstanding all), participants.

Government of Canada for its kind and valuable support.

My colleagues at the OAS – Secretary for External Relations and staff of SEDI.