Social and Solidarity Economy in Asia
A South-South and Triangular Cooperation Perspective

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Abstract

Exemplified by case studies in Asia (Community-Supported Agriculture, Fair Trade, Supply Chain Integration through Microfinance, Social Enterprises of Consumer Group, Cooperative Financing of Sustainable Development), there is ample evidence to show that South-South and triangular cooperation and Social and Solidarity Economy are ‘two sides of the same coin’ and that South-South and triangular cooperation has been a driving force in the development of Social and Solidarity Economy. Furthermore, both government-driven (top-down) and people’s organization-driven (bottom-up) South-South and triangular cooperation are flourishing on the ground and are instrumental in broadening South-South cooperation in developing countries.

The recent Asia-Pacific High Level Consultation on Financing for Development hosted in Jakarta, April 29-30, 2015, recommended to enhance North-South, South-South and Triangular Development Cooperation to support domestic finance and development; the Roundtable Discussion on Community Based Enterprises (CBE), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 25 April 2015, also stressed the importance of developing a regional South-South & Triangular Cooperation framework for CBE development.

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