

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

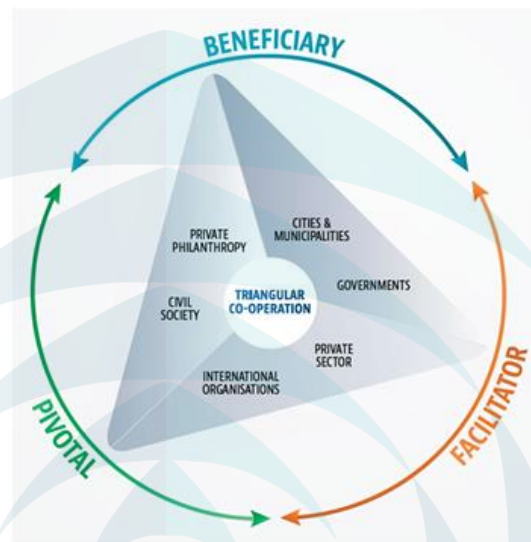
South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) is a form of cooperation driven by two or more developing countries of the Global South supported by developed countries or other multilateral organisations to implement development cooperation programmes and projects¹. SSTC is a topic that involves various fields, such as economics, international politics, development studies, and intergovernmental relations². In development cooperation, Southern countries need financial and technical support and expertise from multilateral partners such as developed countries or international organisations. Vice versa, multilateral partners can also benefit from building institutional capacity in the South and utilising the resources of the various Southern partners.³

¹ Muhammad Ridha Iswardhana, "Indonesia's South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as the Future of Diplomacy for World Solidarity to Overcome the COVID-19 Pandemic," *Global South Review* 2, no. 1 (2021): 25–35, <https://doi.org/10.22146/globalsouth.62532>.

² Hanifa Zama Dinnata and Nuraeni, "Kerja Sama Selatan-Selatan Dan Triangular Dalam Implementasi Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Oleh ASEAN (2015-2019)," *Padjadjaran Journal of International Relations* 2, no. 2 (2020): 187–207, <https://doi.org/10.24198/padjir.v2i2.26067>.

³ UN. Secretary-General, "South - South Cooperation for Development Support to South - South and Triangular Cooperation," vol. SSC_19_3-E, 2016.

Figure 1.1. Cycle of Triangular Cooperation



Source: OECD Working Paper

SSTC has strong relevance in the context of current global and regional developments. Studies that explore its implementation and impact at the local and regional levels are limited. SSTC is conducted based on several principles such as the principle of complementarity of all parties involved with their respective advantages, and mutual benefit for all parties⁴. The shifting geopolitical dynamics have made developing countries, especially in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, play a strategic role in diplomacy and the global economy⁵. With that, there is a strong

⁴ Dinnata and Nuraeni, “Kerja Sama Selatan-Selatan Dan Triangular Dalam Implementasi Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Oleh ASEAN (2015-2019).”

⁵ Iswardhana, “Indonesia’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as the Future of Diplomacy for World Solidarity to Overcome the COVID-19 Pandemic.”

opportunity for international co-operation including in the health sector to promote this co-operation.

Africa has a strategic role in global diplomacy and the economy due to shifting geopolitical dynamics. Africa faces many challenges in improving health security in the region⁶. Health security is increasingly considered a global issue. As the second largest continent with a total area of approximately 11,724,000 ^{mi}² (30,365,000 ^{km}²) and the second most populous continent with an estimated population of more than 1.4 billion, Africa's representation in global health data is very poor.⁷

In addition to Africa, Brazil also has a strategic role to play. Brazilian President Lula da Silva significantly expanded technical expert cooperation, particularly in Africa and Latin America. Brazil's efforts to expand co-operation in development and peace reflect an ideological commitment to South-South solidarity⁸. Brazil promotes itself as a policy innovator in areas such as public health, education, and tropical agriculture, framing its

⁶ Obinna O. Oleribe et al., "Identifying Key Challenges Facing Healthcare Systems in Africa and Potential Solutions," *International Journal of General Medicine* 12 (2019): 395–403, <https://doi.org/10.2147/IJGM.S223882>.

⁷ Sulaiman Muhammad Musa et al., "Paucity of Health Data in Africa: An Obstacle to Digital Health Implementation and Evidence-Based Practice," *Public Health Reviews* 44, no. August (2023): 1–5, <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2023.1605821>.

⁸ Adriana Erthal Abdenur and Charles T. Call, "A 'Brazilian Way'? Brazil's Approach to Peacebuilding," in *Rising Powers and Peacebuilding Breaking the Mold?*, 2021, 15–38, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190904418.013.20>.

development experience more similarly to that of partner countries than traditional donor experiences.⁹

In contrast to Africa and Brazil, the European Union is an international organisation formed to enhance economic integrity and strengthen relations with its member states¹⁰. The European Union is one of the most interesting international relations actors in the field of international development. As a regional institution with a large economy, it contributes to addressing health security in other countries.¹¹ One of the cooperation programmes with other countries is through funding for sustainable development including health issues, such as JAES (Joint Africa-EU Strategy)¹².

Triangular cooperation between the European Union, Brazil and Africa was first set out in an official document entitled "Towards an EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership" in 2007. However, the initial implementation of the cooperation has not shown any significant improvement in health security in Africa. In this study, the author will analyse the EU-Brazil-Africa triangular cooperation from 2015-2019, which has seen a significant

⁹ Fabricia Peixoto, "Em Oito Anos, Lula Visitou 85 Países Em Busca de Parceiros Comerciais e Políticos," *BBC News Brasil*, 2010, https://www.bbc.com/portuguese/noticias/2010/12/101227_eralula_diversificacao.

¹⁰ Richard Stevie Martin Mone, "Kepentingan Uni Eropa Dalam Bantuan Internasional Ke Kawasan Afrika, Karibia, Dan Pasifik" (Universitas Pelita Harapan, 2023).

¹¹ Gilang Sunaryo, "Pembentukan Kerjasama Ekonomi Uni Eropa Dengan ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States)" (Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, 2020).

¹² Carolina Pavese and Guilherme Ziebell de Oliveira, "EU- Brazil- Africa Triangular Cooperation in the 21st Century," in *The Routledge Handbook of EU- Africa Relations*, vol. 4, 2021, 266–81.

improvement in the health sector in Africa with the previous global index of 13% increasing to 86%.¹³

The South-South and Triangular Cooperation between the European Union, Brazil and Africa is a highly relevant link. Not only can it improve health security in Africa, but it can also make important contributions to international studies on health diplomacy, technology transfer, pharmaceutical innovation, and outbreak management strategies. This discussion is very significant to address the increasingly complex global and regional health challenges.

1.2 Problem Formulation

Based on the background that has been explained by the author, the author has formulated a problem formulation as follows:

- How *South-South and Triangular Cooperation* between the EU, Brazil and Africa can improve health security in Africa?

1.3 Research Objectives

The purpose of this research is to be able to answer the formulation of problems that have been formulated by the author as follows:

- To analyse the cooperation between *Global South* developing countries such as Africa and Brazil with international organisations such as the European Union on *South-South and Triangular Cooperation* towards

¹³ Jorge Moreira da Silva, Adel Abdellatif, and Sara Tawfik Hamouda, "Triangular Co-Operation with Africa," (2022): 15-20.

improving health security in Africa through the perspective of constructivism theory and the concept of *health security*.

1.4 Research Benefits

a. Academic Benefits

The results of this study are expected to be useful for academics as an additional reference source in further research related to *South-South and Triangular Cooperation* in improving health security in Africa.

b. Practical Benefits

The results of this study are expected to be useful for academics as an additional reference source in further research related to the cooperation of developing countries and developed countries or international organisations in *South-South and Triangular Cooperation* on improving global public health security.

1.5 Literature Review

Tabel 1.5 Literature Review

1.	Researcher/Author (Year of Publication)	Muhammad Ridha Iswardhana (2021)
	Publisher	Global South Review
	Research Title	Indonesia's South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as the Future of Diplomacy for World Solidarity to Overcome the COVID-19 Pandemic

	Similarities	Examine the SSTC as a diplomacy that can symbolise international cooperation for world solidarity in the future.
	The difference	Previous research has focused on case studies in overcoming COVID-19 and used 3 different concepts namely <i>soft power</i> , <i>international assistance</i> , and SSTC. In this research, the author focuses on health security in Africa by using 2 different concepts, namely constructivism and <i>health security</i> .
2.	Researcher/Author (Year of Publication)	Akihiko Tanaka, Hiroshi Kato, and Akio Hosono (2012)
	Publisher	JICA Research Institute
	Research Title	Scaling Up South-South and Triangular Cooperation
	Similarities	Examine the SSTC's efforts to expand and enhance international co-operation towards sustainable development goals.
	The difference	The previous research is a book that examines efforts to improve SSTC as international cooperation with the main actor Japan as the main donor. In this study, the author uses 3 different actors, namely the European Union as the main donor,

		Brazil as a new donor, and Africa as a beneficiary partner.
3.	Researcher/Author (Year of Publication)	Hanifa Zama Dinnata and Nuraeni (2020)
	Publisher	Padjajaran Journal of International Relations
	Research Title	Kerja Sama Selatan-Selatan dan Triangular dalam Implementasi Sustainable Development Goals 2030 oleh ASEAN (2015-2019)
	Similarities	Discussing the interaction and cooperation of countries in the implementation of SDGs through the SSTC.
	The difference	The previous research discussed SSTC between ASEAN member states on the implementation of the 2030 SDGs, using the concept of international organisations. In this study, the author discusses SSTC between the European Union, Brazil and Africa towards improving health security in Africa, through the concepts of constructivism and <i>health security</i> .
4.	Researcher/Author (Year of Publication)	L du Toit, I Couper, W Peersman, and J De Maeseneer (2017)
	Publisher	African Journal of Health Professions Education

	Research Title	South-South Cooperation in health professional education: A literature review
	Similarities	Discussed <i>South-South cooperation</i> in health in Africa.
	The difference	Previous research did not discuss the interaction of cooperation between actors involved in SSC. In this study, it discusses the interaction of cooperation between actors (EU-Brazil-Africa).
5.	Researcher/Author (Year of Publication)	Anne Emanuelle Birn, Carles Muntaner, and Zabia Afzal (2017)
	Publisher	Cadernos de Saude Publica
	Research Title	South-South cooperation in health: Bringing in theory, politics, history, and social justice
	Similarities	Discuss SSC as a form of social justice solidarity diplomacy in the field of global health.
	The difference	Previous research critically reviewed international relations theories in explaining SSC and introduced SSC historically. In this study, the author discusses the interaction of SSC using only two different concepts, namely constructivism and <i>health security</i> .
	Novelty	This research will analyse the SSTC between the European

	Union, Brazil and Africa towards improving health security in Africa using the theory of constructivism and <i>health security</i> by adjusting the concept of international relations in the Islamic view through the concept of <i>ta'awun</i> .
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1.6 Conceptual Framework

a. Theory of Constructivism

Constructivism is an emerging theory in international relations studies. Constructivism emphasises the role of ideas, norms and identities in shaping political actions and policies.¹⁴ According to Alexander Wendt (1999), international relations are not only the result of forces and structures, but are also shaped by the interpretations and perceptions of international actors towards each other that form different patterns of behaviour.¹⁵ Constructivism is the view that the way the world is formed and shaped by human actions and interactions is according to dynamic normative and epistemic interpretations.¹⁶

¹⁴ Jeffrey T. Checkel, "The Constructivist Turn in International Relations Theory," *World Politics* 50, no. 2 (1998): 324–48, <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0043887100008133>.

¹⁵ Adinda Sakina Putri, Grundy Umbu Endalu Radandima, and Arvan Setiawan, "Analysis of The Constructivist Approach in The Learning Process of Public Policy Analisis Pendekatan Konstruktivisme Dalam Proses Pembelajaran Kebijakan Publik," *Jejaring Administrasi Publik* 16, no. c (2024): 115–30, <https://doi.org/10.20473/jap.v16i2.53461>.

¹⁶ Emanuel Adler, "Seizing the Middle Ground: Constructivism in World Politics," *European Journal of International Relations* 3, no. 3 (1997): 319–63, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354066197003003003>.

In the context of the SSTC between the EU, Brazil and Africa in improving health security in Africa, constructivism theory focuses on how social norms related to health and healthy identities can motivate the implementation of policies that promote healthy lifestyles through social interactions between the actors involved.

b. Health Security Concept

The emergence of the concept of *human security* is related to the 1994 Human Development Report issued by the *United Nations Development Programme* (UNDP).¹⁷ UNDP determined that there are three main components of the concept of human security, namely: *freedom from fear, freedom from want, and life with dignity*. Based on the 1994 UNDP report, it categorises 7 security criteria to ensure fundamental *human security* for citizens, consisting of¹⁸:

1. Economic Security
2. Food Security
3. Health Security
4. Environmental Security
5. Personal Security
6. Community Security
7. Political Security

¹⁷ William Aldis, "Health Security as a Public Health Concept: A Critical Analysis," *Health Policy and Planning* 23, no. 6 (2008): 369–75, <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czn030>.

¹⁸ James Gustave Speth, *Human Development Report: New Dimension of Human Security* (1994), Oxford University Press, 1994, http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/255/hdr_1994_en_complete_nostats.pdf.

In this study, the author uses the concept of *health security* in responding to health security issues in a region or area. According to P. Grzywna, the level of health security depends on access to health services that are influenced by social, economic, environmental, and political aspects that allow for the protection of the health rights of each individual¹⁹. In fact, there are still many threats to health security in developing countries. Therefore, the author uses this concept to analyse the success of the EU-Brazil-Africa SSTC in improving health security in Africa.

c. *Ta'awun* Concept

The concept of *ta'awun* is one of the basic principles of international relations in Islam. As a concept, *ta'awun* refers to co-operation, mutual aid and generosity to those in need. *Ta'awun* also emphasises the importance of solidarity within a community or society as well as between different groups or nations.²⁰ In *ta'awun* there is a formal agreement between two or more parties to work together on a specific project or goal, such as forming a strategic partnership²¹.

¹⁹ Anna Augustynowicz, Janusz Opolski, and Michał Waszkiewicz, "Health Security: Definition Problems," *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 19, no. 16 (2022), <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph191610009>.

²⁰ Hilman, Y. A., & Purwati, E. (2021, December 15). Social organization solidarity model of Aisyiyah in the COVID-19 pandemic era. 3rd Borobudur International Symposium on Humanities and Social Science 2021 (BIS-HSS 2021). Universitas Muhammadiyah Mangelang.

²¹ Gulati, R., Nohria, N., & Zaheer, A. (2000). Strategic networks. *Strategic Management Journal*, 21(3), 203- 215.

Cooperation can take place between individuals and organisations. As a religious concept, *ta'awun* is limited to *al-birr* (virtue) and *at-taqwa* (piety). This is based on Surah al-Maidah verse 2.²²

وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ

Human relations in society are regulated by Islam, which instructs its adherents to always help and cooperate with other humans. Humans must be able to participate in social life as Allah says, "Cooperate with each other in goodness and righteousness and do not cooperate in sin and transgression." (QS. Al-Maidah 5:2).²³

Ta'awun encourages mutual co-operation in carrying out any task within the scope of *al-birr* (righteousness) and *at-taqwa* (piety). *Taqwa* is a state of awareness and vigilance of one's actions, beliefs and intentions.²⁴ *Ta'awun* also involves respecting each other's opinions and viewpoints despite differences in background or beliefs²⁵.

1.7 Hypothesis

By using the point of view of Constructivism theory and the concept of *Health Security*, the author can draw a hypothesis that:

²² Suhaimi Mhd Sarif, Yusof Ismail, and Dolhadi Zainudin, "Influence of Ta'Awun (Mutual Cooperation) in Sustaining Innovation Alliances," *International Journal of Islamic Business* 8, no. 1 (2023): 21, <https://doi.org/10.32890/ijib2023.8.1.2>.

²³ Sismanto and Riswadi, "FORMS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN RELIGIONS; A TAFSIR PERSPECTIVE." (2021): 26.

²⁴ Mhd. Sarif, S. (2020). *Taqwa* (piety) approach in sustaining Islamic philanthropy for social businesses. *Journal of Islamic Management Studies*, 3(1), 58-68.

²⁵ Khairunisa, N. A., & Muafi, M. (2022). The effect of workplace well-being and workplace incivility on turnover intention with job embeddedness as a moderating variable. *International Journal of Business Ecosystem & Strategy* (2687-2293), 4(1), 11-23.

- The EU-Brazil-Africa *South-South and Triangular Cooperation* is key to improving health security in Africa. This SSTC moves according to the role of each party, namely Brazil as an *emerging donor* and the European Union as a DAC donor who helps channel assistance in the form of finance as well as resources and technology, and Africa as a beneficiary partner.

1.8 Research Methodology

a. Research Methods and Types

This type of research, the author will use an analytical descriptive qualitative method, which is an analysis method using secondary data taken from journals, official websites, news, and previous studies or theses.

b. Research Design

In this research, the author uses a qualitative research approach as part of the research procedure, which can produce descriptive data in the form of written words from the situation and observed behaviour.

c. Object of Research

The object of this research is the EU-Brazil-Africa SSTC towards improving health security in Africa.

d. Data Collection Technique

The data collection technique in this research is library research, which is a technique that collects data by studying and understanding

theories and discussions from various literatures related to research²⁶.

Data collection is done by finding sources and reconstructing from various references such as books, journals, official websites, and previous studies. The method of analysis of this research uses descriptive analysis. Reference materials/libraries obtained from various sources are analysed critically and in depth in order to support the ideas of the author.²⁷

1.9 Writing Systematics

In this research, the author divides the writing systematic into 4 research chapters, namely:

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This first chapter is an introduction by the author, which contains a description of the background, problem formulation, research objectives, research benefits, literature review, conceptual framework, hypothesis, research methodology, and writing systematics. In this chapter the author will explain the problems to be studied, based on the formulation of the problem which will then be analysed using the concepts and theoretical framework initiated.

²⁶ Miza Nina Adlini et al., "Metode Penelitian Kualitatif Studi Pustaka," *Edumaspul: Jurnal Pendidikan* 6, no. 1 (2022): 974–80, <https://doi.org/10.33487/edumaspul.v6i1.3394>.

²⁷ Albine Moser and Irene Korstjens, "Series: Practical Guidance to Qualitative Research. Part 3: Sampling, Data Collection and Analysis," *European Journal of General Practice* 24, no. 1 (2018): 9–18, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13814788.2017.1375091>.

CHAPTER II HISTORY OF SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN AFRICA

In chapter 2, the author will explain the history of the beginning of *south-south and triangular cooperation* in Africa and the urgency of SSTC towards sustainable development through constructivism and *health security* approaches.

CHAPTER III ANALYSIS OF SSTC IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH SECURITY IN AFRICA

In this chapter 3, the researcher will analyse the *south-south and triangular cooperation* between the European Union, Brazil, and Africa in Africa which will explain the implementation of SSTC between the European Union, Brazil, and Africa in improving health security in Africa, as well as how the health conditions faced in Africa.

CHAPTER IV CLOSING

In the last chapter of this study, the author will describe the conclusions of the research results and suggestions from the author for further research.

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