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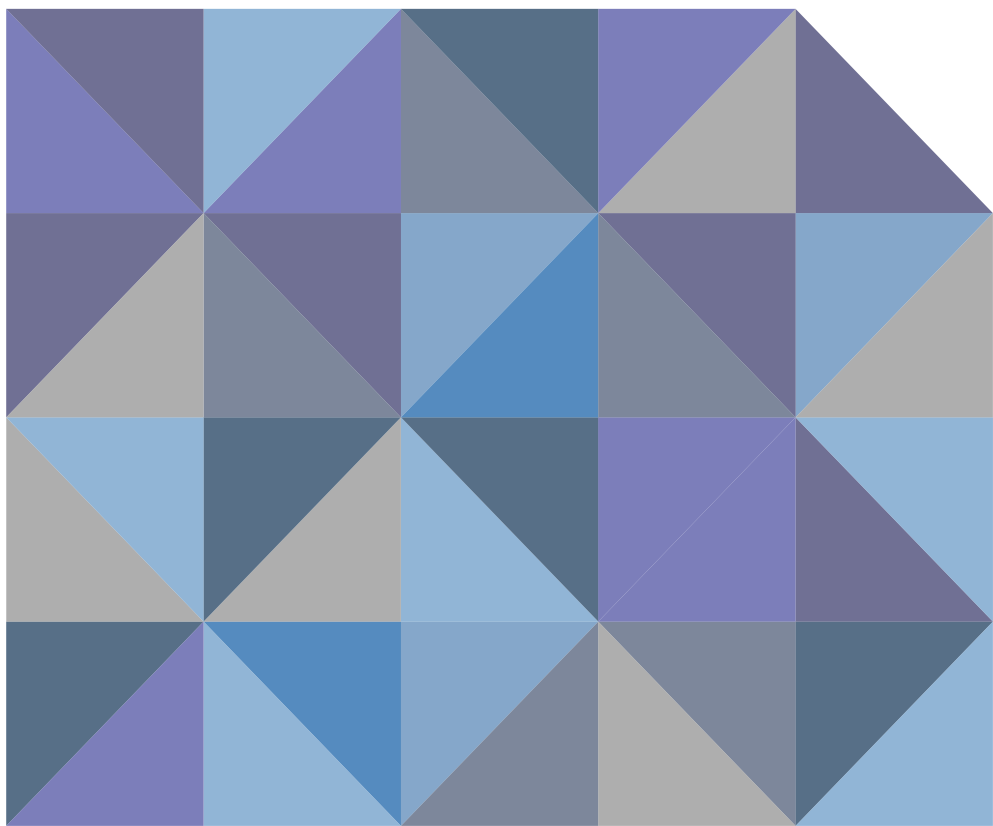
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BRAZIL–AFRICA KNOWLEDGE-SHARING ON SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

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1 INTRODUCTION

The objective of this paper is to analyse how knowledge-sharing activities between Brazil and several sub-Saharan African countries, in the fields of social protection and food and nutrition security policies and programmes, have directly and/or indirectly influenced African policies and programmes. To this end, the paper provides a summary of the recent evolution of the knowledge-sharing between Brazil and Africa in this area, as well as a summary of a recent consultation with African policymakers involved in knowledge exchange about their experience. This exercise allows us to map the African social protection and food and nutrition security programmes and instruments inspired and encouraged by the Brazilian experiences, and to understand the main challenges of this knowledge-sharing from the point of view of African policymakers.

The starting point of this paper is the recognition that cooperation between Brazil and Africa has been undertaken through a set of different initiatives and learning exchanges, rather than as a long-term, structured plan of action. Thus, the paper will assess whether the African policymakers consider this unstructured cooperation an effective way to achieve the current outcomes.

The paper is organised as follows: Section 2 offers a brief introduction about South–South cooperation; Section 3 focuses on the history and modalities of the cooperation between Brazil and Africa and on the challenges faced from the Brazilian side; Section 4 maps the African programmes and instruments inspired by the Brazilian experiences, the outcomes achieved and the challenges faced from the African side. Sections 2 and 3 are mainly based on literature review, while Section 4 is based on information gathered by the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) through online discussions, surveys and interviews with African representatives of ministries in charge of social protection and food security programmes and policies.

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2 SOUTH–SOUTH COOPERATION ON SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

South–South cooperation is an innovative and more egalitarian approach to international cooperation for development, based on a horizontal cooperation relationship instead of a vertical cooperation as used to be undertaken by traditional cooperation. The concept of international cooperation for development emerged after the Second World War and is intrinsically linked to the concept of development in vogue at that time (Da Costa Nogueira 2015). Since the reconstruction process after the Second World War, traditional international cooperation for development has been marked by a vertical relationship. Donors, from developed countries generally located in the North, supported the development of countries located in the South.² In general, this relationship meant receiving and applying the agenda designed by donors, to receive both financial and non-financial cooperation.

After intense criticism from non-aligned countries and some multilateral organisations calling for a more egalitarian relationship, a total of 138 countries adopted by consensus the Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing the Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,³ during the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held in Buenos Aires in 1978. This document provided the basis for what it is currently referred to as South–South cooperation.

However, this approach has only been implemented broadly in recent decades, with countries from the South starting to be protagonists in providing technical and scientific cooperation among themselves. In this new development architecture, countries from the South have been occupying spaces vacated by Northern countries that were being impacted by financial crisis, thus reducing budget allocations for both bilateral cooperation agencies and for their contribution to multilateral agencies. Moreover, geopolitical changes resulting from the emergence of countries from the global South as significant economies, achieving positive results on improving their social indicators through innovative social policies, also help to understand the recent expansion of South–South cooperation.

In general, South–South cooperation could be defined as “a broad framework for collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains. (...) Recent developments in South-South cooperation have taken the form of increased volume of South-South trade, South-South flows of foreign direct investment, movements towards regional integration, technology transfers, sharing of solutions and experts, and other forms of exchanges” (UNOSSC n.d.). If, on the one hand, as a new approach, it is marked by an ongoing construction process in terms of its modalities and arrangements, on the other hand, its characteristics are broadly agreed. The lack of interference into national policies, and the participation of receivers during the definition and implementation of South–South cooperation initiatives, could be mentioned as its main characteristics.

The Brazilian experience with African countries provides a good example of how South–South cooperation in social protection and food and nutrition security is implemented through different modalities of cooperation. It may take the form of a mix of technical and financial cooperation, as in the case of the More Food Programme, it can combine humanitarian assistance with technical cooperation (as for the Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA)

programme), or it can combine technical cooperation with investments in infrastructure (as in the case of the Pró-Savana Programme) (Leite, Suyama, and Trajber Waisbich 2013). Knowledge-sharing can be part of these different forms of cooperation, but it can also take the form of isolated activities such as study tours, participation in conferences, organisation of international seminars, online discussions and support to knowledge exchange platforms and websites.

Thus, South–South cooperation in the field of social protection and food and nutrition security relies on a broad range of modalities and activities. In the case of Brazil–Africa cooperation, several initiatives and forms of cooperation were not encompassed by any formal, structured plan of action. In this paper we are focusing on how these soft knowledge-sharing experiences may have contributed to strengthen the relationship between Brazil and several African countries.

3 BRAZIL–AFRICA KNOWLEDGE-SHARING ON SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.1 BACKGROUND

At least since the 1990s there has been a relative consensus in Brazil that one of the main barriers to access to food is the lack of income (Ipea 2007). For this reason, one of the main pillars of the 2003 *Fome Zero* (Zero Hunger) strategy was to ensure income security for all Brazilians. The flagship programme of this strategy is the *Bolsa Família* cash transfer programme. In addition, productive support for family farmers through institutional demand (*Programa de Aquisição de Alimentos* (PAA) and *Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar*—PNAE) as well as subsidised credit (Pronaf) were foreseen as a set of policies that could improve the overall food security of the country, in particular the most vulnerable segments of the population, as well as the income security of family farmers. In 2004 the Government of Brazil created the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (Ministério do Desenvolvimento Social e Combate à Fome) with the aim of designing, under the jurisdiction of one single ministry, the strategies to tackle poverty and food insecurity. In addition, the II National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security (*II Conferência Nacional de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional*) in 2004 officially recognised food and nutrition security as a fundamental pillar of the Brazilian social protection system (ibid.).

In sub-Saharan Africa, after unsuccessful attempts to tackle food insecurity by implementing public interventions aimed at stabilising food supplies and prices, African governments have opted for programmes directly targeting poor and vulnerable households (Devereux 2012). The obvious linkage between social protection and food and nutrition security largely explains why the exchange between Brazil and African countries focused on both policy areas. At the same time, the international expansion of South–South cooperation, with Brazil defending more intense exchanges among Southern countries, supported by its successful social policies (Ayllón Pino 2013), also helps to explain the strengthening of ties between Brazil and Africa.

Brazil's social protection and food and nutrition security policies and programmes have been singled out as a successful experience by several scholars and development agencies (Lindert 2005; HelpAge International 2011; UNDP 2011; ISSA 2013; Barca and Chirchir 2015;

UNESCAP 2013). In particular, the scale-up of cash transfer programmes and innovative policies on food and nutrition security have been drawing attention from all over the world. Indeed, the impact of some of these policies on poverty, inequality and vulnerability suggests that these programmes have been quite effective in the Brazilian context (ILO 2014; World Bank 2014; Soares et al. 2007; Claret Campos Filho 2009; Silveira Neto and Azzoni 2013).

Since the 1970s, Brazil has been increasingly engaged in more egalitarian relations with developing countries, but it was only between 2001 and 2005, when the main social protection and food and nutrition security programmes were implemented, that President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's administration defined South–South cooperation as a priority for Brazilian foreign policies (Leite, Suyama, and Pomeroy 2013). In 1996 the creation of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa—CPLP) helped foster technical cooperation with some sub-Saharan African countries. Then, between 2005 and 2010, the Brazilian government extended its South–South cooperation to other countries in Africa, which became the main regional destination for Brazilian technical cooperation with developing countries at that time (*ibid.*).

Given the rising interest of African countries in Brazilian social protection policies, and Brazil's commitment through South–South cooperation to disseminate its experience on the fight against hunger and extreme poverty (MDS 2005), an intensive knowledge exchange with African countries, with the support of different organisations, has been taking place since the mid-2000s.

The establishment of international centres (such as the International Poverty Centre (IPC)—now the IPC-IG—in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Centre of Excellence against Hunger, in partnership with the World Food Programme—WFP) and knowledge-sharing programmes for humanitarian cooperation (namely, the PAA Africa project and, more recently, the World Without Poverty initiative) are all examples of the Brazilian government's engagement with multilateral international organisations to support knowledge-sharing in the area of social protection, food and nutrition security and the fight against hunger.

The first document to formalise the new focus of the cooperation between Brazil and an African country can be found in the Letter of Intent signed by the governments of Brazilian and Senegal in 2005. The document states the importance of food and nutrition security and rural development, and recognises cooperation between countries as an important way to promote common goals. The agreement formalised the cooperation between these two countries for 10 years (in the fields of food security, family farming, energy, training and technology) with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Ministry of Agriculture in Senegal and several Brazilian ministries such as the MDS, the Ministry of Agricultural Development, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MDS 2005).

The interest of African countries in learning more about the Brazilian social protection system has been shown on a number of occasions. In particular, in 2006 Bruno Câmara and Maria José Freitas, social protection specialists from the MDS, were invited to participate in the intergovernmental regional conference 'A transformative agenda for the 21st Century: Examining the case for basic social protection in Africa' held in Livingstone, Zambia. The final declaration from this conference, co-hosted by the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the African Union, called for "greater cooperation between African and other countries in the

sharing and exchange of information, as well as experiences and action on social protection and cash transfers". It is worth noting that Brazil was the only participant country outside the African continent (African Union 2006).

Also in 2006 the MDS launched the Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development with the support of the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and the IPC-IG. One of the main results of this cooperation programme was the support provided to the Ghanaian government to design and implement Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP).⁴

After the Livingstone Declaration, several events on the African continent contributed to strengthening the basis for fostering the design and implementation of social protection systems meant to address the needs of vulnerable people. Brazilian government representatives were invited to attend and to contribute to these events through knowledge-sharing activities focused on Brazil's social protection system.

In September 2006 an international workshop on ageing took place in Cameroon, and in March 2008 the African Union, with the support of HelpAge International, organised national meetings in six African countries (Burkina Faso, Rwanda, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and Tunisia) to assess the state of social protection policies and programmes in each country (IPC-IG 2008). After these events, the joint effort of several countries made possible the organisation of three regional conferences—for East and Southern Africa (held in Uganda), for North Africa (held in Egypt) and for West Africa (held in Senegal)—that further contributed to fostering the knowledge exchange between African countries and Brazil, as will be detailed below (*ibid.*).

During 2008 a second phase of the Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development agreement between the MDS, DFID and the IPC-IG was implemented, with Brazilian government representatives, particularly from the MDS, attending the regional consultations that took place in different African regions as preparation for the Ministerial Meeting on Social Development Programmes. As part of this process, in April 2008, representatives of 16 countries,⁵ non-governmental organisations, international organisations and the Brazilian government attended the regional expert meeting for East and Southern Africa in Uganda. Three representatives of the MDS (namely, Bruno Câmara Pinto, José Cesar de Medeiros and Celso Augusto Rodrigues Soares) and one representative of the IPC-IG (Fábio Veras Soares) took part in the meeting. The experts from the MDS gave presentations in which they shared the experience of Brazil's social protection programmes.

The regional expert meeting for North Africa took place in Egypt with the participation of representatives of the governments of Egypt, Tunisia, Liberia, Algeria, Libya and Zambia. Also in this case, a representative of the IPC-IG (Melissa Andrade) attended the meeting and informed the participating countries about the Brazil–Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection (*ibid.*).

Finally, in June 2008 Senegal hosted the third regional expert meeting, promoted by the African Union, with representatives of the MDS, the Brazilian Institute of Applied Economic Research (Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada—Ipea) (Mario Theodoro), the Ipea coordination at the IPC-IG (Milko Matijascic) and the IPC-IG staff member responsible for the Brazil–Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection (Melissa Andrade), who presented the main features of the social protection system in Brazil (*ibid.*).

The recommendations that emerged from these three regional conferences were formally presented in the first Ministerial Meeting on Social Protection in Africa, held in Namibia in 2008, which brought together all the African ministries in charge of social development. The Brazilian Minister of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (Patrus Ananias) was also invited to join this meeting to share the Brazilian experience. During the meeting, Ananias confirmed Brazil's commitment to South–South cooperation to improve social conditions in African countries (DFID n.d.). The African Union also formalised its interest in learning from other experiences in the field of social protection, recommending that: “*Member States should take advantage of [...] South-South cooperation and regional and international best practices*” (African Union 2008).

With several events and initiatives organised in 2008, it was a very important year for South–South cooperation between Africa and Brazil. In the framework of the Brazil–Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection, delegations from Angola, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia and Nigeria went to Brazil for a study tour hosted by the MDS and supported by the IPC-IG and DFID (IPC-IG 2009a). In June 2009 a representative of the MDS (Lídia Gomes) was invited to participate in the IV National Children's Forum of Angola, where she shared information about the Single Registry (*Cadastro Unico*) of social assistance in Brazil. After this meeting, Angola's Ministry of Assistance and Social Re-integration (MINARS) proposed designing a national system of social protection with the support of UNICEF and the Brazilian government (IPC-IG 2009b). In August 2009 Brazil and Kenya showed interest in cooperating to support the design of Kenya's Single Registry and the development of an effective monitoring and evaluation system and to foster the intersectoral coordination of programmes in Kenya (ibid.). Also, the Mozambican government expressed interest in receiving support from Brazil to develop Social Assistance Reference Centres (*Centros de Referência de Assistência Social—CRAS*) and a common database, to improve monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and to implement food and nutrition security initiatives similar to Brazil's Food Acquisition Programme (PAA) (ibid.).

The study tours organised in Brazil not only offered learning opportunities to African countries about Brazilian programmes but also contributed to create a network among African countries. For instance, during the study tours in Brazil, in August 2009, representatives from Kenya and Ghana started to share their experiences and to learn from each other's initiatives (IPC-IG 2009c).

However, in several cases, the purpose of Brazil and African countries cooperating on the design of specific social protection instruments did not assume the form of a formal agreement or a structured plan to enable this process. Only in a few cases did the exchange of experiences during the study tours create the conditions to formalise South–South cooperation between the countries involved. In 2007, after a field visit by an Egyptian delegation to Brazil, a Letter of Intent was formalised between the Brazilian MDS and the Ministry of Social Solidarity in Egypt. The two ministries committed to fostering South–South cooperation in the field of social programmes (with a specific focus on the methods to identify vulnerable groups) through field visits and by exchanging knowledge and research (MDS 2007). In 2009 Angola also formalised cooperation with Brazil in the fields of social protection, social assistance, social inclusion and training of social workers and technicians (MDS 2009).

However, commitments mentioned in these Letters of Intent (between Brazil and Senegal in 2005, Brazil and Egypt in 2007, and Brazil and Angola in 2009) were not followed by formal initiatives to implement concrete actions to fulfil them. This highlights that, despite the strengthening of relations and political declarations on social protection between Brazil and African countries, in many cases these commitments were not fully supported and implemented.

In 2010 the Government of Brazil launched a series of international seminars on *social policies for development* (to meet the increasing demand from foreign countries for information about the Brazilian social protection system), with more than 45 African countries represented (IPC-IG 2013). After the end of the Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development the Brazilian government continued to invite African delegations for study tours, sometimes supported by funding from different agencies such as the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (*Agência Brasileira de Cooperação—ABC*), the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger and other multilateral and bilateral organisations.

In 2010 the conference ‘Brazil–Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Fight against Hunger and Rural Development’ revealed new possibilities for cooperation in the field of food and nutrition security. According to Leite, Suyama and Pomeroy (2013), in 2012 there was a turning point for cooperation between Brazil and Africa, with the focus of the cooperation shifting from cash transfers (mostly *Bolsa Família*) towards other food and nutrition security programmes, and in particular to the PAA programme. In fact, in 2012, pilots of the PAA were already being implemented in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal. This shift could have been caused by several political and technical factors, such as the appropriateness of certain programmes to fight hunger in the African context, an improved knowledge of the African context and the creation of new partnerships with external stakeholders (*ibid.*). It is worth noting that several food and nutrition security programmes (such as the PNAE initiative) were supported by external stakeholders (such as FAO and the WFP), which in turn facilitated the cooperation between Brazil and African countries. Table 1 summarises the main events that characterised the exchange between Brazil and Africa.

It emerges that Brazilian representatives actively participated in the first events at which African countries started to define social protection as a human right and South–South cooperation as a way to achieve common goals regarding social policies. The development of this cooperation highlights the advocacy role of the Brazilian government in promoting social protection as a way to eradicate poverty and hunger in Africa.

TABLE 1

Timeline of Brazil–Africa cooperation on social protection and food security

Dates	Main events	Actors involved
1970s	Brazilian engagement in Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC)	Brazilian government
1997–2001	The creation of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) in 1996 helps to spread information about Brazilian experiences and to foster technical cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries in Salvador	Brazilian government (Fernando Henrique Cardoso Administration)
2001–2005	Cooperation on social development increases, and President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's administration defines South–South cooperation as a priority of Brazilian foreign policy	Brazilian government (Lula administration)
2003–2004	Creation of the <i>Bolsa Família</i> programme, of the PAA programme and of the Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger	
2005–2010	Extension of Brazilian focus to the whole Africa —African countries become the main destination for Brazilian South–South cooperation	Brazilian government
2005	Embrapa opens its African office in Ghana (Accra)	Embrapa
2005	Letter of Intent for cooperation on social protection between Brazil and Senegal	Brazilian and Senegalese governments
2006	Bruno Câmara (MDS/Senarc) and Maria José (MDS/SNAS), representatives of the Brazilian government, participate in the Livingstone conference. During this conference African countries recognise social protection as a human right	African governments MDS Senarc SNAS
2006	Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development	MDS DFID IPC-IG
2006	The Ghanaian Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment asks for a Brazilian cash transfer specialist with experience in designing and implementing social protection programmes	Ghanaian government MDS DFID IPC-IG
2007	Letter of Intent to cooperate on social protection between Brazil and Egypt	Brazilian and Egyptian governments
2008	Representatives from the MDS and the IPC share Brazil's experience during three African regional conferences (in Egypt, Uganda and Senegal) on social protection	MDS IPC-IG African governments
2008	Participation of Patrus Ananias, MDS, at the African Union conference of ministers in charge of social development, in Namibia. During this conference, African countries formalise their interest in learning from best practices in the field of social protection	African Union
2008	The Ghanaian government implements Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)	Ghanaian government
2009	Letter of Intent between Brazil and Angola to cooperate on social protection	Brazilian and Angolan governments
2010	Collection, systematisation and partial publication of data about Brazil's engagement in international cooperation	The Brazilian Presidency's Chief of Staff Office Ipea ABC

2010	The 'Brazil–Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Fight against Hunger and Rural Development' held in Brasilia. Governments agree to implement 10 pilot projects on public food purchase, broader coverage of existing school meal programmes and support to the modernisation of family farming in Africa	MDS MDA FAO WFP DFID
2011	The WFP and the Brazilian government establish the Centre of Excellence Against Hunger as a South–South bridge against food insecurity (Since 2011, several African countries have participated in study visits to Brazil)	WFP Brazilian government
2011	The Kenyan government and representatives of the ABC, MDS and DFID sign a cooperation work plan, and Kenyan representatives visit Brazil and discuss ways to cooperate to design a single registry in Kenya	Kenyan government ABC MDS
2011	Creation of the African Community of Practice on cash transfers and conditional cash transfers	World Bank UNICEF IPC-IG
2012	'International Seminar on the Role of South–South Cooperation in Agricultural Development in Africa'	IPC-IG Future Agricultures Consortium DFID UN Women Articulação Sul Cirad
2012	International seminar 'Recent Developments in the Role and Design of Social Protection Programmes—a Policy Dialogue, Expert Workshop and South–South Learning Event'	IPC-IG
2012	Implementation of the African food purchase programme (Purchase from Africans for Africa—PAA Africa) —Shift of focus from cash transfers to food and nutrition security programmes	CGFome FAO WFP DFID ABC MDA
2012	Start of the international seminar series 'Social Policies for Development' —Until now, 10 seminars have been implemented with the participation of delegations from 45 African countries	MDS
2013	'Renewed Partnership for a Unified Approach to End Hunger in Africa by 2025' (under the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme)	African Union FAO Lula Institute
2014	Meeting of the African Community of Practice on Cash Transfers and Conditional Cash Transfers held in Fortaleza, Brazil	World Bank UNICEF IPC-IG
2014	'5 th South–South Learning Forum (Social Protection and Labour)' in Rio de Janeiro	World Bank Brazilian government
2015	'International Seminar on Social Protection in Africa' held in Senegal	African Union CGFome (Itamaraty) Lula Institute UNDP RIO+

Sources: Authors' elaboration based on Leite, Suyama, and Pomeroy (2013); Perch et al. (2012); IPC (2008); IPC-IG (2009b); World Bank (n.d.); African Union, FAO and Lula Institute (2013); WFP (2011).

3.2 INSTRUMENTS FOR KNOWLEDGE-SHARING AND CHALLENGES

As the previous chapter states, cooperation on social protection and food and nutrition security has taken several forms and was undertaken through different instruments, as listed in Table 2. Brazil and African countries participated in several events and initiatives to share their experiences, but few structured programmes were created.

TABLE 2

Instruments involved in Brazil–Africa cooperation in social protection and food security

Instruments	Activities
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informational materials • Documents and research produced and translated into several languages
Formal cooperation programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil–Africa Programme on Social Development (not ongoing) • PAA Africa • ‘Brazil & Africa: fighting poverty and empowering women via South–South cooperation’ (DFID) • School Feeding Programme (FNDE-Ministry of Education, WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger, DFID and ABC)
Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazilian international seminars and workshops • Field visits to Brazil for African policymakers • Brazilian participation in African conferences and study tours
Technical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing specific knowledge on Brazil’s experience with African countries. Including visits by Brazilian experts to countries.
Dissemination of knowledge and/or online platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles disseminating information about Brazilian social policies • <i>Bolsa Família</i> website • WWP • Articulação SUL • Iriba project • Socialprotection.org

Leite, Suyama and Trajber Waisbich (2013) identified several issues from the Brazilian side in structuring a cooperation plan: the lack of clarity about the linkages between the classical technical cooperation instruments and new instruments of knowledge-sharing; the need for more transparency in the definition of priorities and approaches of the Brazilian government; the lack of a legal framework for technical cooperation; the lack of documents and literature about the issue, which does not allow for actions implemented in the past to be evaluated; the fact that South–South cooperation is implemented by public servants who are often relocated to new roles and cannot follow long-term strategies with their counterparts; and the fact that public servants are often overloaded by domestic work and cannot invest time to improve their skills in intercultural environments. Moreover, according to Bolfarine Caixeta and Suyama (2015), another caveat is that attending to the requests of African countries would require specialists in specific areas of social protection and food and nutrition security who are also experts on South–South cooperation and international relations. In addition to all these challenges, issues related to the political and institutional instability of several African countries, the lack of resources of the Brazilian government, and language barriers, have limited the exchange between Brazil and African countries.

In the next chapter we will analyse the influence of the knowledge-sharing on social protection and food security based on the experience and points of view of several African policymakers.

4 THE INFLUENCE OF BRAZIL'S KNOWLEDGE-SHARING ON SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA

Analysing the influence on African countries of the knowledge-sharing with Brazil about food and nutrition security and social protection is not easy for a number of reasons. Given the heterogeneous nature of the knowledge-sharing channels, it is not possible to quantitatively evaluate the impact on African countries. Another challenge is that the exchanges between African countries and Brazil were not well documented, and the data are fragmented and not always accessible. Our objective in this section is only to provide an overview of how African countries took inspiration from the Brazilian social protection model, and to highlight the main challenges they faced during the knowledge exchange.

Given the lack of consolidated data about the knowledge-sharing between Brazil and African countries, the IPC-IG invited African policymakers working on social protection and food and nutrition security to participate in an online discussion⁶ and, subsequently, a survey about the cooperation between their countries and Brazil. Invitations were sent to African policymakers who have represented their countries on study tours, at international seminars and/or in the communities of practice on cash transfers. To compile the contact list of African policymakers involved in social protection and food security, an extensive mapping of the related ministries was conducted to find the relevant focal points in each country. This list was supplemented with the IPC-IG's own internal contacts and internet searches targeting the list of participants of relevant meetings and seminars in the areas of social protection and food and nutrition security. The contacts were also asked whether they would like to recommend other key policymakers who could provide reliable and relevant information for the survey.

The survey was prepared in three languages (English, French and Portuguese) and sent to 308 representatives of 36 African countries, the African Union, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).⁷ The online discussion comprised 36 representatives of 21 African countries, but representatives of only eight countries actively contributed—namely, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Mauretania, Madagascar (two members), Benin, Republic of the Congo and South Africa. Overall, there were 26 contributions. Due to this relatively low number of countries involved, given the total that had registered to participate, we designed and implemented a survey to try to reach a larger number of policymakers. This strategy proved successful, as 43 representatives of 21 African countries replied to the survey. Around 74 per cent of respondents work specifically on social protection policies and programmes, while 26 per cent work for institutions in charge of implementing food and nutrition security policies and programmes.

The majority of the participants were from Anglophone countries (51 per cent): Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe; followed by Francophone (42 per cent): Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Togo; and Lusophone countries (7 per cent). It is worth noting the low participation of Lusophone countries, as all three respondents were from Cape Verde. There were no participants from countries such as Mozambique and Angola, which are traditional partners in Brazilian technical cooperation and could be more easily targeted for knowledge-sharing due to the common language.

4.1 AFRICAN COUNTRIES' PERCEPTIONS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SOUTH–SOUTH COOPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING INITIATIVES

Through the online discussion and the survey, 24 African countries expressed their opinions regarding the South–South cooperation between Brazil and Africa on social protection and food and nutrition security, by answering four questions in the online discussion and 18 in the survey.⁸

According to several African representatives, the knowledge exchange with Brazil has promoted the achievement of progress and new approaches. It should be considered “crucial for the evolution of social protection” in their countries, by reinforcing confidence in the role of cash transfers to reduce poverty and promote education. Moreover, the engagement of the Brazilian government has enhanced the commitment of senior African leaders to strengthen social protection systems. According to the African representatives' survey answers, the main lessons learned from the exchange with Brazil relate to the importance of coordinating interventions through a centralised database, the need for legal regulation and recognition of social protection programmes, and the need for commitment from high-level government institutions to ensure strong and resilient social protection systems.

All the survey respondents reported having been involved in knowledge-sharing activities with the Brazilian government. Many of them took part in field visits to Brazil and in international seminars and conferences on the Brazilian experience. However, it seems that few countries (Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Madagascar and Cape Verde) reported having received formal technical support from Brazilian institutions to implement their social protection programmes and policies. They did acknowledge though that knowledge exchange initiatives such as conferences, workshops and, in particular, field studies helped disseminate Brazilian innovations, share experiences among countries and take inspiration from them.

Many countries highlighted the positive role of the MDS in promoting the knowledge exchange initiatives, but it was also recognised that international agencies (the World Bank, FAO, WFP, DFID and IPC-IG) have played a fundamental role and have facilitated the learning and exchange processes around the Brazilian social protection system.

4.2 MAPPING OF PROGRAMMES AND INSTRUMENTS INSPIRED BY THE BRAZILIAN EXPERIENCE

4.2.1 Social protection and food and nutrition security programmes

The literature on South–South cooperation often reports the Ghanaian LEAP programme as the clearest example of a result of the cooperation among Brazil and African countries (Leite, Suyama, and Pomeroy 2013; IPC 2008). Actually, LEAP was inspired by the Brazilian experience, and its design was concretely supported by Brazilian stakeholders, such as MDS, but also by DFID and the IPC. However, a number of other countries also benefited from knowledge exchanges with Brazil.

The Kenyan Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, due to the field visits and exchange initiatives with Brazil about the Bolsa Família programme, held in the framework of the Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development, identified the need to harmonise different cash transfer programmes into one single policy (IPC-IG 2009c). Thus the Kenyan National Social Protection Policy (NSPP), inspired also by the Brazilian model, was created

in 2011 and now regulates a framework that brings together five different social transfers (the Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, the Hunger Safety Net Programme, the Older Persons Cash Transfer, the Urban Food Subsidy Cash Transfer and the Persons with Severe Disability Cash Transfer). The NSPP came into law under article 43 of the Kenyan Constitution, which requires the State to “provide appropriate social security to persons who are unable to support themselves and their dependents” (Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development 2011), and its development was supported by a financial agreement with the World Bank (World Bank 2012).

In 2013 the Government of Cape Verde started to design and implement a cash transfer programme inspired by the Brazilian experience (OPLOP 2013), with its development supported by the IPC-IG and Ipea.

Beyond these results of the knowledge exchanged with Brazil in the field of social transfers, a number of other countries took inspiration from other features of the Brazilian strategy to overcome hunger and food insecurity. For instance, several developing countries became interested in the Brazilian national school feeding model (started in 1955).⁹ The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger,¹⁰ since its creation in 2011, has created a South–South bridge between developing countries and Brazil in the field of school feeding programmes. According to WFP (2013), the most successful and widely emulated social protection systems (e.g. in Brazil and Mexico) include school feeding programmes as a key element, confirming again the strong linkages between social protection and food and nutrition security policies.

In several cases, the knowledge shared and promoted by the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger resulted in agreements between the Centre and visiting delegations to develop school feeding programmes. After a study visit to Brazil, representatives of the Rwandan government decided to implement a home-grown school feeding programme inspired by the Brazilian model with technical and financial support from the WFP (WFP 2012b). The same happened to Burundi, Niger, Zambia, Gambia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Guinea Conakry and Ghana (WFP 2014; 2013b; 2012).

Moreover, the Brazilian humanitarian body, CGFome, jointly with the MDS, WFP, FAO and with the support of DFID, has made possible the implementation of PAA Africa pilot programmes, inspired by the Brazilian PAA experience. PAA Africa was implemented in five pilot African countries: Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal (IPC-IG 2014). The Brazilian Zero Hunger Strategy also inspired similar home-grown school feeding programmes implemented in Malawi and São Tomé and Príncipe with the support of the FAO and the ABC (FAO 2014; 2015).

As stated before, the influence of the knowledge exchange between Brazil and Africa is not easy to map. There are a number of programmes that, according to African representatives, were inspired by the Brazilian experience, but, since they did not benefit from formal cooperation agreements, there is no track of the effect of these exchanges.

For instance, according to representatives from Madagascar, the knowledge exchanged with Brazil contributed to inspire concrete actions in the country, such as: the creation of a conditional cash transfer programme to promote education and nutrition; the productive cash-for-work programmes inspired by the Brazilian family farming model; the development of a national policy for social protection; the national 10-year strategy; and the project to coordinate existing social protection programmes. Other countries reported explicitly that,

due to knowledge exchanges, they took inspiration from the Brazilian experience to develop their social protection programmes, even though they did not receive concrete support from the Brazilian government, as in the case of: the social transfer programme in Mauritania (supported by the World Bank); the National Social Protection Strategy and the cash transfer in Côte d'Ivoire; and the National Safety Net Programme in Mali. In other cases, such as the pilot cash transfer programme in Burkina Faso, the cooperation with Brazil helped countries improve their existing programmes.¹¹ Representatives from Nigeria recognised that the Youth Employment and Social Support Operations (YESSO) “drew extensively from the lessons learned from Brazil’s experience and South–South learning events,” even though these lessons were adapted and implemented by the World Bank without the support of Brazilian institutions.

4.2.2 The Single Registry and monitoring and information systems

Several African representatives defined the Single Registry as one of the most interesting Brazilian social protection instruments and took inspiration from it to develop similar tools in their countries. Ghana, Kenya and Cape Verde benefited from technical support from Brazilian institutions to develop this instrument. In Ghana the Department of Social Welfare is developing the Ghana National Household Registry and received initial support from the MDS and the IPC (IPC 2008).

In the framework of the Africa–Brazil Programme on Social Development, a delegation from Brazil also presented the main features of its Single Registry in Kenya. However, it seems that the country looked at the conceptual model of the Brazilian Single Registry but did not receive formal technical support from the Brazilian government. The Kenyan single registry is fully operational and enables coordination and interaction among the country’s main social assistance programmes (Hunger Safety Net Programme, Persons with Severe Disability Programme, Older Persons Cash Transfer, Urban Food Subsidy Programme and Orphans and Vulnerable Children Programme) (Barca and Chirchir 2014).

In Cape Verde the development of a single registry is in its final phase and benefits from a technical cooperation project between the United Nations Cape Verde, the IPC-IG and Ipea.

Lesotho’s representatives stated that their National Information for Social Assistance (NISSA) tool has been inspired mainly by the Brazilian Single Registry. Actually, UNICEF supported the creation of the NISSA in Lesotho and facilitated the participation of Lesotho’s representatives in virtual meetings and study visits to Brazil (and also exchanges with Kenya), which allowed them to learn and take inspiration from other single registries (UNICEF 2014).

Other countries’ representatives explicitly reported that they took inspiration from the Brazilian Single Registry, due to knowledge exchange initiatives and support from international agencies, but they did not receive formal technical support from Brazilian institutions to develop the tool. In Nigeria, for instance, the YESSO single registry was established across seven states (25 local government and 210 communities) and is partially based on the Brazilian modules which collect comprehensive information on poor households. The Government of Mauritania is currently implementing a ‘social registry’ which, with technical support from the World Bank, is also partially inspired by the Brazilian model. Finally, in Mali, the design phase of a single registry is starting now, and the Brazilian model is considered a relevant example.¹²

4.2.3 Centre of Reference of Social Assistance and the Unified System for Social Assistance¹³

To support potential and actual beneficiaries in accessing and managing social protection programmes, a number of countries looked at the Brazilian CRAS and the Unified System for Social Assistance (*Sistema Único de Assistência Social*—SUAS).

In Ghana, there are centres of references managed by the Department of Social Welfare, and, encouraged by the Brazilian experience, the government decided to strengthen these centres at local level to enhance the support to potential beneficiaries of social protection. Kenya's representatives learned about CRAS and SUAS during a study tour to Brazil, and currently the National Safety Net Programme is relying on similar services. In Cape Verde the Centres of Social Development were implemented with support from Brazilian consultants and UNICEF.

Lesotho also developed the innovative one-stop shop (Government of the King of Lesotho 2015) at sub-national level of coordination, where all the potential beneficiaries go for assistance regarding access to social protection programmes. The project started after having observed how the reference centres worked in other contexts.

It seems that there are also social centres in Côte d'Ivoire, with skilled social workers who support potential beneficiaries of cash transfer programmes, while in Mauritania the national agency Tadamoun, which is linked to the Programme National des Transferts Sociaux, offers similar assistance to help poor households access social services.

4.2.4 Other strategies and instruments that inspired African countries¹⁴

The *Bolsa Família* programme, the PNAE, the PAA and the Single Registry are often defined as inspiring programmes. However, there are a number of other Brazilian social protection instruments that have influenced other developing countries, even though there is little literature to support this information.

A source of inspiration for Zambia was the Brazilian model to target children at school as a strategy to reduce food insecurity, while for Mauritania the idea to develop a 'cross-cutting' targeting procedure that could be used by different programmes was considered effective and is currently under development in the country. Moreover, Zimbabwe's representatives considered the 'active search' for beneficiaries an important way to reach the population in need. Indeed, in the country, surveys are conducted every two years in poor villages to identify new potential beneficiaries.

Given the service supply constraints in Africa, the majority of programmes do not enforce conditionalities, or they rely only on soft conditionalities. However, representatives from Ghana and Kenya, where conditional programmes are in place (FAO 2013; Bryant 2009), argued that the Brazilian experience was useful to learn about conditionalities, in particular with respect to children's school enrolment and attendance.

In Ghana and Tanzania social transfers set both fixed and variable benefits according to households' demographic composition (Government of Ghana 2013; Redko 2013). In Ghana, and currently also in Cape Verde, this choice was implemented thanks to technical support from the Brazilian government, while Tanzania opted for this solution after a knowledge-sharing initiative about the Brazilian model. Moreover, encouraged by the Brazilian model and

by Brazilian institutions, Ghana decided to prioritise women as benefit recipients of the LEAP programme. However, the LEAP manual of operation does not include this as a mandatory requirement, but only as a recommendation (Gbedemah et al. 2010). The positive outcomes achieved by Brazil through this strategy also encouraged Tanzania, as well as other countries, to proceed in this direction. In fact, social protection programmes in Tanzania require that a woman is the main recipient of benefit payments (Evans et al 2013).

4.3 CHALLENGES FACED BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN LEARNING FROM BRAZIL

As expressed in the survey and the online discussion facilitated by the IPC-IG, African representatives reported having faced several challenges in learning from the Brazilian experience.

Even when countries first verify the adaptability of new strategies to their national contexts, social environments and local communities' habits, a number of challenges still remain. Social protection systems are managed at different levels in each country. For instance, the Brazilian social protection system is coordinated at the central level, while in other countries programmes are coordinated by different departments and agencies at different levels. Often, technological constraints may represent another significant challenge to create well-functioning information systems and to implement dynamic beneficiary databases able to capture changes in households' socio-economic status. Clearly, the Brazilian innovations can provide an example of new ways to reduce poverty and food insecurity in developing countries, but the conceptual model needs to be adapted to each specific context and should serve only as an inspiration. The institutional commitment to social protection is another crucial issue. In Brazil, the highest governmental institutions recognise social protection initiatives as a way to eradicate poverty and hunger, and the social protection system is enshrined in the Constitution. In other countries the recognition of the role of social protection programmes is different, and this may imply lower commitment to and investment in social protection policies.

Beyond the matter of adaptability, African countries have identified several challenges specifically concerning their relationship with Brazil. Economic resource constraints represent a major barrier for African countries to participate and support South–South initiatives and cooperation. Moreover, several respondents mentioned that the lack of a formal and legal framework for cooperation between Brazil and African countries did not allow for a structured and effective exchange and that the language and bureaucratic barriers created a breakdown in communication even after several months of negotiation.

African representatives interviewed in the survey recognised the importance of knowledge-sharing initiatives (such as communities of practice, study visits, webinars, seminars) and welcome the continuation of these kinds of activities. However, a large number of African representatives consider it fundamental to strengthen bilateral relations to really produce an effective impact on their countries. They hope to establish formal agreements to receive technical support (in particular regarding the design of management information systems) and to strengthen partnerships between Brazil and African countries through long-term exchanges. They also asked to structure the knowledge exchange initiatives in a way to learn not only about social transfer mechanisms but also other kinds of social protection and food and nutrition security programmes. In practical terms, they highlighted how the language barrier is a major issue and how the lack of documents about the Brazilian social protection system written in French has prevented Francophone countries from learning about it.

5 CONCLUSION

Brazilian policymakers actively contributed to the first events at which African countries started to define social protection as a human right and to conceive South–South cooperation as a way to achieve common goals in that area. The recent history of these exchanges illustrates the important advocacy role that the Brazilian government has played in promoting social protection as a way to eradicate poverty and hunger in Africa. Moreover, the engagement of the Brazilian government promoted the commitment of senior African leaders to strengthen social protection systems.

The knowledge exchange between Brazil and Africa consists of a set of different initiatives and learning exchanges, rather than a long-term, structured plan of action. African countries reported that they learned a lot from the exchange with Brazil, in particular about: the fundamental role of social protection to eradicate poverty and food insecurity; the Single Registry and the management information system; the productive inclusion approach; the school feeding programmes; and the need to have high-level institutions committed to developing a well-functioning social protection system.

What clearly emerged from our mapping, and is recognised by representatives of several countries, is that the learning exchange with Brazil has produced a positive influence and has inspired several programmes and instruments in Africa. Countries noted: the positive results produced in Brazil by social protection and food and nutrition security policies; the importance of coordinating interventions through centralised data management; the need for legal regulation and recognition of social protection programmes; and the need for commitment from high-level government institutions to ensure strong and resilient social protection systems. The experience of *Bolsa Família*, the PNAE, the PAA and the Single Registry influenced the creation of similar tools in other countries. In addition, we found that African countries were also inspired by other features of the Brazilian social protection system, such as the CRAS and SUAS, the conditionality model, the selection of women as benefit recipients, and the variable level of benefits according to household composition.

African representatives recognised the importance of knowledge-sharing initiatives (such as communities of practice, study visits, webinars, international seminars) and welcome the continuation of these kinds of activities. However, only a few countries received formal technical support from the Brazilian government via South–South cooperation projects, and several countries implemented programmes inspired by the Brazilian experience only with the support of international organisations.

Moreover, they faced several challenges in cooperating with Brazil, such as: language barriers; lack of formalisation; lack of a legal framework for cooperation; resource constraints; and difficulties in adapting the tools to different social and economic contexts, technologies and institutional arrangements.

Thus, this unstructured relationship has been fruitful but not completely effective to achieve the desired outcomes, as representatives from African countries require more structured and formalised South–South cooperation so that they can receive more technical support from Brazilian ministries in the areas of social protection and food and nutrition security. On the other hand, the unstructured cooperation on social protection could be seen as a choice by the Brazilian government and could be explained by the fact that the effort

and investment involved in disseminating the Brazilian experience through different learning initiatives could have a broader impact than the proliferation of bilateral cooperation agreements with individual countries. Moreover, an approach based on the exchange of information could presuppose a choice of focusing on the broader concepts and ideas behind the Brazilian social protection system, offering an opportunity for Brazil and African countries to learn and improve initiatives according to countries' needs and institutional frameworks.

One of the policy recommendations emerging from this consultation is that South–South cooperation on social protection and food and nutrition security in Africa must take into consideration the institutional characteristics, and needs of African countries. Therefore South–South cooperation projects in these areas should also contain institutional capacity-strengthening goals among the outputs, to help overcome bureaucratic barriers that could also slow down the learning exchange process.

Conversely, the lack of a structured cooperation plan may also not be the result of an intentional strategy but only the result of a number of challenges faced by the Government of Brazil in the initial phase of cooperation with African countries, given that it is a resource-consuming process. It also reflects the changing nature of South–South cooperation and the new architecture under construction for international cooperation for development.

Due to the lack of data and of a concrete counterfactual, we cannot draw conclusions about whether structured cooperation could have produced greater results. However, at least an internal legal framework could have produced more transparency and more effective support to African countries. Despite these challenges, African policymakers strongly recognised the fundamental advocacy role of the Brazilian government in promoting social protection and food security programmes and policies as a way to eradicate poverty and hunger in African countries.

ANNEX 1

QUESTIONS: 'BRAZIL-AFRICA ONLINE DISCUSSION'

QUESTION 1:

'Has your country been involved in any knowledge exchange or cooperation with Brazil in the area of social protection or food and nutrition security? Which sectors of the government have taken part and who were the counterparts in the Brazilian side?'

QUESTION 2:

'In your country, what is the impact produced by cooperation and knowledge exchange with Brazil in the field of social protection and food security? What measures were put in place to achieve this impact?'

QUESTION 3:

'In your country, what are the social protection instruments and programmes, whose design was inspired by the Brazilian social protection experience? How did this process take place?'

QUESTION 4:

'What are the main challenges in learning from Brazilian social protection experiences and adapting them to your national context? How are these challenges being addressed?'

ANNEX 2

SURVEY: 'BRAZIL-AFRICA KNOWLEDGE SHARING IN SOCIAL PROTECTION AND FOOD SECURITY'

The Brazil-Africa Social Protection Survey was created by the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG/UNDP) as part of the project: "Brazil & Africa: Fighting Poverty and Empowering Women via South-South Cooperation", financed by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID).

The experience of your country is really important to understand the impact produced by knowledge sharing with Brazil in the field of social protection and food security, and to analyse new ways to improve the process.

QUESTIONS

Name

Country*

Institution*

Role in the institution*

When did you start to work for your institution?

What are the main social assistance and food security programmes (social transfers; public works; home grown school feeding programmes; purchase from smallholder farmers, etc.) in your country? Please list them.*

Have you or your institution been involved in any knowledge sharing activity with the Brazilian government in the fields of social protection and food security?*

Yes

No

What kind of activity?

International seminars about the Brazilian social protection system

Field visits in Brazil

Technical support from the Brazilian ministries or from their representatives, in order to support the design of social protection instruments or programmes in your country

Communities of Practice

Other

Please, provide more details.

* Mandatory field; ** mandatory field and conditional on the answer to the previous question being 'yes' or 'under development'.

What are the main lessons learned? And what impact did these experiences produce in your country?

Which of the following institutions were involved in these knowledge sharing activities?

MDS (Brazil—Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger)

MDA (Brazil—Ministry of Agrarian Development)

MS (Brazil—Ministry of Health)

MPS (Brazil—Ministry of Social Security)

MTE (Brazil—Ministry of Labour and Employment)

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

WB (World Bank)

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

DFID (United Kingdom Department for International Development)

ABC (Brazilian Cooperation Agency)

WFP (World Food Programme)

IPC-IG (International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth)

Ipea (Institute for Applied Economic Research)

Other

Did you learn about the Brazilian social protection system through any online platform or document?*

Yes

No

Other

If yes, which? And what are the main lessons learned?

In your country, is there a programme inspired by any Brazilian social protection or food security programme?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a single registry inspired by the Brazilian model?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a Management Information System (MIS) inspired by the Brazilian model?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a conditionality model inspired by the Brazilian experience?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a targeting strategy inspired by the Brazilian model?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there an 'active search' of beneficiaries inspired by the Brazilian model?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a programme, inspired by the Brazilian experience, that selects women as recipients of the benefits?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a programme, inspired by the Brazilian experience, that sets both fixed and variable benefits according to the household structure?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a programme, inspired by the Brazilian experience, that relies on payment delivery via a banking system?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

In your country, is there a social assistance system that relies on social services, such as the Brazilian CRAS (Centre of Reference of Social Assistance) or SUAS (Unified System for Social Assistance)?*

Yes

Under development

No

Please, provide more details**

Did any Brazilian stakeholder promote or support the design of this instrument?***

Yes

No

If yes, which ones and how?

What are the main challenges and barriers in learning from the Brazilian social protection experiences and adapting them to your national context?*

Do you have any suggestions to improve knowledge sharing and cooperation in social protection between Brazil and your country?

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NOTES

2. Australia rejects this concept, as the country is located in the South but is not a receiver of international cooperation for development.
3. UNDP Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. 1994. *The Buenos Aires Plan*. New York: UNDP.
4. Cash transfer programme implemented in Ghana with the objective of reducing short-term poverty and allowing long-term human capital development (Thorne et al. 2014).
5. The participating countries were Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
6. The Brazil–Africa Social Protection Community
<<http://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/brazil-africa-social-protection-community>>.
7. The consolidated partner list included representatives of countries that have participated in the international seminars organised by the MDS, the participants of the Community of Practice meeting in Fortaleza, Brazil (March 2014), participants of the 2014 South-South Learning Forum in Rio, participants of the African Union Expert Consultation Meeting on Children and Social Protection in Africa (April 2014), and participants of the workshops organised by the FAO’s From Protection to Production (PtoP) project: ‘Strengthening coherence between agriculture and social protection’ (in Ghana, September 2013, and in South Africa, November 2014).
8. Questions answered in the online discussion and the survey are available in the appendices.
9. It is worth noting that the *Merenda Escolar* programme (or *Alimentação Escolar*), the first school feeding programme in Brazil, has been implemented since the 1950s (WFP 2007).
10. The Centre of Excellence against Hunger is a global forum for South–South dialogue and learning on school feeding and food and nutrition security programmes. It was created in 2011 through a partnership between the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Brazil, to support developing countries to develop sustainable solutions against hunger. The Centre provides technical assistance and facilitates South–South cooperation combining WFP experience with hunger eradication and the “successful programmes of the Brazilian Government in the elaboration and implementation of effective and sustainable programmes for the promotion of food and nutritional security and overcoming of poverty, mainly through school feeding” (WFP 2016).
11. Other countries’ representatives mentioned programmes inspired by Brazil but did not explicitly define them as the result of the knowledge exchange with Brazil, as in the case of: the social cash transfer targeting school children in Malawi; the programme to assist agricultural workers in Niger; the pilot cash transfer programme in Togo; the Harmonised Social Cash Transfer Programme in Zimbabwe; and the *Programme National de Filets Sociaux* (which is still under development) in Cameroon.
12. According to the survey respondents, single registries partially inspired by the Brazilian model are under design in several countries (namely, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Benin and Niger), but these countries did not make explicit reference to the knowledge exchange initiatives with Brazil.
13. This chapter is mainly based on information provided by representatives of African countries.
14. This chapter is mainly based on information provided by representatives of African countries.



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