

LESSONS LEARNT

AUTHOR:

EDEM

PHASE OF THE OPERATION CYCLE FOR THIS KNOWLEDGE:

Implementation

ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE GENERATION OF THIS KNOWLEDGE:

Agencia Presidencial Para la Cooperación Internacional (APC) - Colombia

Centro Regional para la Promoción de la Micro y Pequeña Empresa (CEMPROMYPE)

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Assessing each country's political commitment to the project's objectives after changes of government

Description of the action that gave rise to the learning:

When formulating the project, the team ensured that it would have the political commitment of the ministries and sectoral institutions in each of the countries involved. However, this exercise was not repeated with the same intensity at the beginning of the project and after the successive changes of government in the Mesoamerican countries, which led to losing the pulse of the political environment and institutions. When the team became aware of this weakness, time and resources were devoted to making the necessary corrective decisions.

The project, faced with this situation, carried out successive exhaustive analyses of the political and institutional environment (especially of the ministries of economic development and their entrepreneurship offices), in conjunction with CEMPROMYPE, which helped in making decisions and concentrating resources on those countries that renewed their commitment to the project and had defined entrepreneurship and business development policies.

Experience gained:

Bearing in mind that cooperation projects have a time horizon of several years and that changes in the government structure of the countries involved may occur in that time, it is important to:

- Verify that institutional interest and commitment to the topic are priorities at the country level during the project's identification and formulation phases.
- Confirm and update the priorities and interests of governments and key institutions at the beginning of the implementation phase and after each change of government.
- Facilitate adaptability to changes of government through a contingency plan with mitigation measures that provide, above all, for the loss of commitment and even possible disengagement of some countries.

Impacts:

Carrying out thorough analyses of the political and institutional environment allows us to:

- Concentrate resources on the countries that maintain their commitment to the project.
- Expand the quality of expected results in those countries.
- Increase the motivation of all the institutions involved.
- Through the implementation of the contingency plan, reduce the negative impact of the disengagement of some countries

The added value of Triangular Cooperation: ([more information here](#))

1. Building ownership and trust.
2. Promoting complementarity and increasing coordination in development cooperation.
3. Sharing knowledge and learning jointly.
4. Co-creating solutions and flexibility.
5. Enhancing the volume, scope and sustainability of Triangular Cooperation
6. Achieving global and regional development goals through strengthened partnerships for sustainable development.

Keywords:

[Change of government](#) [Political commitment](#) [Contingency Plan](#)