

Other N-S collaborations, lesser known but growing in prominence, can be added to this list: short-term government-to-government exchanges, such as aid agency planning missions; the activities of diplomatic personnel in developing countries and international conferences; the collaboration of northern and southern employees in multi-lateral organizations; and the work of peacekeeping forces sent to Third World locations. All of these relationships hold some potential for the acquisition of skills required by developing countries. Each requires that the collaborating individuals have certain attitudes and personal skills if they are to be effective in a cross-cultural setting.

The growth of such contacts between North and South is not new, although the rate of proliferation is steadily accelerating. Economic and political interdependence, as well as the globalization of production, technology, markets and ideas, have increased the extent and variety of contacts. What is new is an appreciation that opportunities for developmentally-relevant acquisitions of skills and know-how extend beyond the traditional mechanism of government-to-government technical cooperation (TC) — which nevertheless remains crucial, if changing. Not only are non-governmental sources of technical cooperation becoming more abundant, but also other kinds of N-S collaborations, whose ostensible purpose is not developmental, are being recognized as potential contributors to the human resources and institutional development of developing countries.

The fields and styles of N-S cooperation are also changing with the evolving needs of developing countries. A philosophical shift rebalancing the roles of public and private sectors after decades of governmental dominance, as well as a general pragmatism which welcomes foreign business contributions, have brought about this new appreciation of other forms of collaboration. These changes do not remove the need for technical cooperation — especially an updated form of it — but the budgetary and resource