



Working in Partnership to Accelerate Agricultural Technology Transfer (AgriTT) Programme

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Agri
TT Agricultural
Technology
Transfer

Overview

The AgriTT programme is one of the first trilateral cooperation programmes on agricultural technology transfer.

The AgriTT Programme Partners are:

- Department for International Development (DFID)
- Ministry of Agriculture (China)
- Ministry of Commerce (China)
- Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development (Malawi)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (Uganda)
- Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)

- DFID phased out bilateral aid programme in China and developing programme of work with China on International Development.
- UK background of working on agriculture with MOA through Sustainable Development Dialogues, and Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network (SAIN)
- MOU between UK and China in 2011 to work together to achieve shared development objectives in low-income countries
- Launch of AgriTT at 2nd ABC Conference 2012 in Beijing – with high level presence from Chinese MOA and Governments of Malawi and Uganda

The programme brings development practice and research expertise together to improve food security through technology transfer and knowledge sharing.

- 2 Pilot Development Projects (PDPs) in Malawi and Uganda to share Chinese agricultural technologies with Chinese technical expert placements
- 11 Research Challenge Fund Projects with trilateral partnerships between UK, Africa and South East Asia
- Knowledge Sharing component to share innovative solutions with policy makers and agricultural practitioners

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Benefits of Trilateral Cooperation



Benefits of Trilateral Cooperation

The benefits of trilateral cooperation being witnessed through the AgriTT programme include:

- Building on successful models and lesson-learning
- Utilising comparative advantages of partners - UK management (and finance), Chinese experience of agricultural technology transfer for poverty reduction (and management) and African demand for both (and local knowledge)
- New approaches, models and perspectives from trilateral partners

Benefits of Trilateral Cooperation

More general benefits of trilateral cooperation which are being witnessed include:

- Creates space for new dialogue about aid effectiveness, based on experience of a shared endeavour – for Chinese partners there may be advantages to shared work
- Knowledge-sharing creates space for engagement with China's substantial and poorly understood aid portfolio (via seminars, conferences, networking)

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Challenges of Trilateral Cooperation



The AgriTT programme has to date faced a number of challenges:

- AgriTT is a new initiative with new mechanisms/management systems to design and establish
- Different contexts between Africa and China and the challenges of meaningful technology transfer
- Aid Suspensions/Anti Corruption

Challenges of Trilateral Cooperation

More general challenges of trilateral cooperation which are being witnessed include:

- Strategic and operational consensus amongst the 3 partners
- Harmonising donor rules
- Government to Government constraints
- New approach takes **time**– aspects may **fail**, it's a learning process, donor appraisal systems may not allow for this; less risky projects may find it easier to meet logframe outputs and outcomes etc.

- Limited private sector engagement in the Pilot Development Projects despite enabling programme design (Inter-governmental design)
- Research Challenge Fund has more private sector engagement through innovation sharing and up take and scale out of technologies
- AgriTT encouraging private sector companies working on agricultural technology transfer in Africa to take part in knowledge sharing events and dialogues.
- Importance of Study Tours to promote private sector engagement

Lesson Learning for Trilateral Cooperation



Lessons learned for Trilateral Cooperation

Mechanism for the management of strategic and operational consensus of the three partnerships whilst operating decentralised management are essential

Core pre-requisites for trilateral cooperation:

- Importance of a **common consensus on programme design** to meet partner and overall programme expectations with sufficient design flexibility
- **Role and capacity of implementing partners** and **private sector engagement**
- **Harmonised donor and implementing partner rules** and funding mechanisms
- **Realistic output expectations** within set time frame. Variety of activities, allows some to fail, and room to compare and contrast

What is the Future for Trilateral Cooperation?

Lesson learning from AgriTT for the future of trilateral cooperation:

- Benefits of trilateral cooperation demonstrate importance as a future development tool, particularly in terms of areas such as technology transfer
- Lessons from AgriTT highlight the need for donors to take a reflexive approach to future trilateral cooperation