

# Nurturing the Neighbour: Indonesian Development Cooperation to Myanmar

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# Background

- Indonesian SSC has dated back since 1955. However, the implementation remained questionable.
- The Jakarta Commitment, as the foundation for Indonesian development cooperation, highlighted the importance of South-south and Triangular Cooperation within its wider Development cooperation context (2009)



# The South Concepts

- SSC (UN SSC Office)  
“South-south Cooperation is collaboration among countries of the South in the **political, economic, social, cultural, environmental, and technical domains...** “
- The cooperation between Southern countries understand through its history, ideas, and force that evolve throughout the years that link with the international political economy and within the international system (Alder et.al, 2010)



# The Cooperation Context

- Burma and Indonesia started its cooperation since the 1950s.
- Initiated the Bandung Conference 1955
- In 1980s-1990s, Indonesia supported during the economic embargo both within bilateral cooperation and ASEAN mechanism.
- Signed MOUs incl. in 2004 (Trade Agreement) 2011 (Capacity Building Support), 2013 (trade agreement).
- Indonesian identifies Myanmar as the SSC targeted country in 2016



Photo Credit: [www.kemlu.go.id](http://www.kemlu.go.id)

# Scope of Cooperation

## 1. Political (Bilateral) Cooperation

- Build 6 school buildings since 2014 in Rakhine State
- Education support USD\$ 1 Million

## 2. Technical Cooperation

- G to G capacity Building Training Program
- Triangular Cooperation
- From 1999-Feb 2016: 73 program, 232 people participated; specifically From 2013-2015: 12 Program

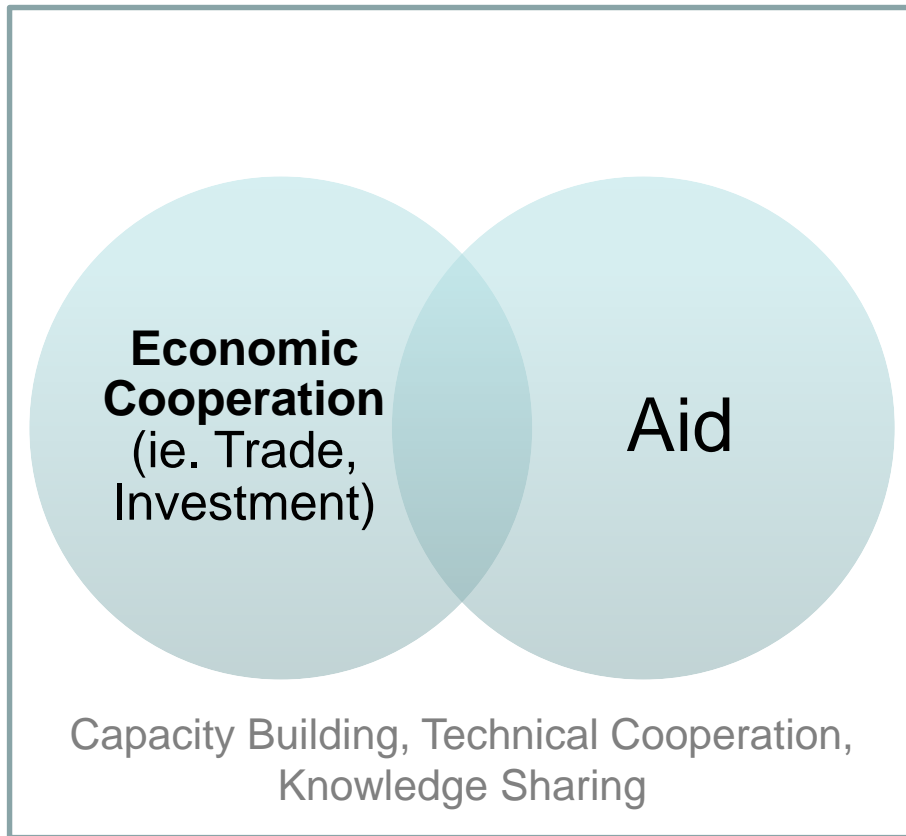
## 3. Trade

- Total Trade from Indonesia to Myanmar from US\$ 226.77 M (2012-2013) to US\$741.80M
- Indonesia imported rice from Myanmar

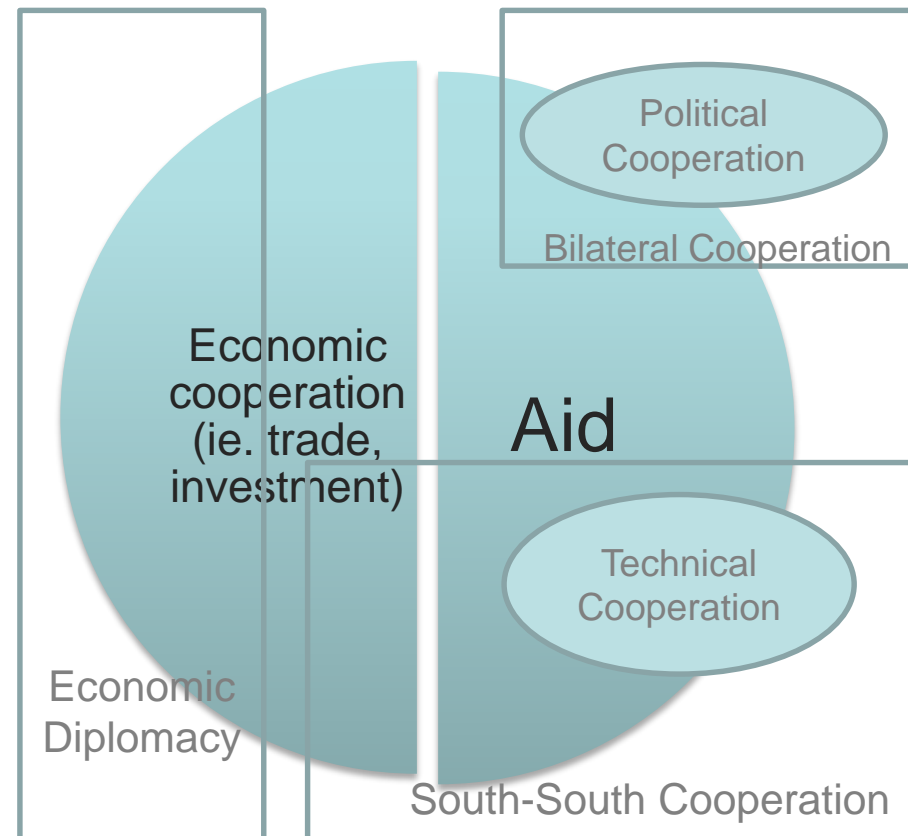


# Understanding the SSC

## SSC Definition



## Indonesian SSC



# History, Institution setting, & Motivation

- Recognizing the history of cooperation that rooted in the political narrative of both countries.
- The cooperation with Myanmar managed through the signing of MOUs between two countries but not through single agency
  - Indonesian Ministries can sign MOU with Myanmar independently (not the case with Myanmar)
- Motivation to cooperate and preference countries: ‘Knowledgeable Motivation’ perceived by the recipient country of the donor countries.

# Policy Implication

- Indonesian still perceives the South-south cooperation within its strong historical context of Solidarity as identify because
  - Strong context and jargon use of the ‘Solidarity’, ‘Non-intervention’
  - Referring to technical cooperation and Triangular Cooperation, lack acknowledging the economic and bilateral cooperation
- Broader understanding still un-uniform within the SSC internal government -- scattered activities
  - The cooperation has not been linked to aid and trade



# Conclusion

- The Indonesian development cooperation is very fragmented.
- The development cooperation context is narrated within a strong sense of identity, and historical narrative.
- It is challenging to see the effectiveness of the cooperation.



# Thank You