

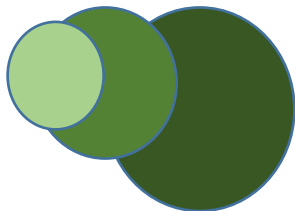
# Cooperation between regional countries



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# What is cooperation?

- According to Cambridge Dictionary cooperation is: the process of working with another company, organization, or country in order to achieve something.

In our case cooperation is related to the process of collaborating together with more than one regional country towards a shared aim.

# Types of cooperation

- There are several types and models of International Cooperation, for example Columbia Ministry of Mines and Energy notes the main types of international cooperation as: Financial Cooperation, Counterpart, Technical Cooperation, Food aid, Humanitarian and Emergency Aid, Technological and Scientific Cooperation, Cultural Cooperation, Donations and Subsidy.

- **Financial Cooperation:** This is provided by allocating financial resources to promote development projects. It can be refundable (concessional credit terms) or non-refundable.
- **Counterpart:** In order to carry out a project, the beneficiary of cooperation provides these resources.
- **Technical Cooperation:** This aid is provided by transferring techniques, technologies, knowledge, abilities, or experiences with the goal of assisting countries with lower levels of development in specific sectors in their socio-economic growth.
- **Food Aid:** In the case of a disaster or conflict, direct food donations, access to concessional credit lines, or non-refundable aid for purchasing food supplies are all options.
- **Humanitarian and Emergency Aid:** It is used as a form of prevention and to provide assistance during emergencies such as natural disasters, epidemics, and human rights violations.

- **Technological and Scientific Cooperation:** It is used to promote the development of countries by strengthening their technological capacity or ability to create knowledge.
- **Cultural Cooperation:** Provides the necessary tools or basic training to stimulate cultural development.
- **Donations:** This type of assistance is essentially provided by providing equipment and materials, as well as financial resources, for the direct implementation of a given project, the beneficiaries of which are typically community groups and/or public entities.
- **Subsidy:** Generally, public economic assistance is utilized to fund the continuation of an activity.

# Types of formal regional cooperation

- [GSDRC](#) – a partnership of research institutes, think-tanks and consultancy organisations underline that types of formal regional cooperation include: preferential trade agreements, free trade agreements, customs unions, common markets, economic unions, economic and monetary unions, full economic integration, and political unions.



# Regional cooperation and political stability

According to [K4D helpdesk report](#) there are some benefits and risks of regional cooperation and political stability:

## • Benefits

1. Increased cost of conflict: Increased interdependence between governments raises the costs of conflict, serving as a motivator to keep the peace.
2. Increased trust: Regular political communication among members might help to develop trust and promote security cooperation.

## • Risks

1. Inappropriate conditions for regional integration can cause regional conflict: Internal tensions and a lack of democracy in member states can create the same conditions that lead to conflict between states.
2. Trade diversion is associated with a higher risk of intra-state conflict: because increased trade among member states diverts internal trade, it slightly increases the statistical risk of intra-state conflict.

# The importance of regional cooperation

- Regional integration can be beneficial for long-term development. It can help countries develop their economic capabilities and leave them fit to compete on the global stage.
- Regional cooperation should include trade liberalization, coordinated and joint action in policy areas that strengthen the potential for growth and structural change in developing countries, including macroeconomic, financial, infrastructure and industrial policies.
- Regional cooperation among developing countries to improve transportation infrastructure, provide commercial information, and pool efforts in areas such as energy, water supply, research and development, and knowledge generation can be critical to the success of development strategies.



# References:

1. [Regional Cooperation and Integration in a Changing World](#)
2. [K4D Helpdesk report: Relationship between regional cooperation and political stability and prosperity](#)
3. [GSDRC: Regional cooperation and political stability and prosperity](#)
4. Cambridge Dictionary: [cooperation](#)
5. Columbia Ministry of Mines: [types and models of international cooperation](#)
6. [Regional cooperation among developing countries can help accelerate industrialization and structural change](#)