Agricultural development & cooperation in Africa: new South American partners

Frédéric Goulet, Jean-Jacques Gabas
CIRAD

Expert Meeting “Africa’s emerging economic partnerships”
OECD, Paris, October 12th
New actors

• Usually, cooperation leaded by industrialized (ex-colonial) countries

• South-South cooperation: “emerging” countries becoming major actors
  – China
  – South American growing “giants”: Brazil, and Argentina

• Brazil, Argentina: dual agriculture in their own development
Convenient political & economical context

• Mainly Southern African countries
• Cooperation agreement Mercosur & South Africa (2000), trade agreement Mercosur & SACU (2004), Brazil & SADC (2010), IBSA
• Trade Brazil-Africa: from 5 to 26 billion USD in 5 years
Strategies and practices (Br)

• **Brazil**: a global international strategy
  – Strong diplomatic presence in Africa: embassies, cooperation agreements
  – Fundação ABC and Embrapa (Labex)

• Programs of technical and scientific cooperation in many countries
  – ABC in 2009-2010: 150 projects in 34 Af. countries, for ~40 M. USD
  – 70% with PALOP
  – Mostly dedicated to agriculture: cotton, rice, cattle, biofuels, soybean
  – Technology transfer
Strategies and practices (Br)

• **Brazil**: a global international strategy
  – Strong diplomatic presence in Africa:
    🇧🇷 embassies, formal cooperation agreements
    – Fundação ABC and Embrapa (Labex)

• Programs of technical and scientific cooperation in many countries

• Triangular cooperation:
  – France, Canada, Japan, USA, UK, etc.

• **Transferring** Brazilian successful model (technology & policies)
Strategies and practices (Ar)

• Modest but specialized
• FO-AR (1992) : Fund for horizontal cooperation. Central and South America
• In Africa (south) : support to industrial crops (soybean) and no-tillage technologies  
  – Exporting Argentinean agricultural revolution
• Alliances State (federal & provinces), private companies (machines), INTA
Soybean industry

Used to speak about land transaction; but after?
What about technology transfer to put lands in production?
Key messages

- New South American partners (not only Brazil)
- Duality of agriculture and forms of cooperation
- Exploring political construction of markets for Br., Ar. and African Industry
- Need for global perspective and comparisons with Chinese action (and ≠ perceptions)

- Missing data : research in process !
Thank you

Frédéric Goulet, Jean-Jacques Gabas