Introduction

South-South Knowledge Exchange is an initiative facilitated by the World Bank. It is presented as a way of sharing knowledge, skills and experience between developing nations. The Bank emphasize the revealing fact that international community is indeed integrated. South-South knowledge exchange uses the virtue of integration and uses it as a chance for rising countries of “South” to provide peers with insight and inspiration for designing and implementing country-led development solutions that cannot be found in the North.

South-South knowledge exchange is designed in the form of a market. For each country involved in the exchange there is a list of demand and supply of development issues. The demand and supply determine the projects and each individual project as a value attached.

In this study we follow the market analogy used for the South-South knowledge exchange. By using network analysis we investigate the characteristics of the market for international development. Which countries are key suppliers and demanders of development ideas? How competitive is the market for development? How concentrated is it and which countries stand out as cartels in this market?

Method

We use network analysis to provide answers for our initial questions.

Initially we analyze the number of ties each node has in order to have an idea about the level of concentration as well as the hierarchy between the “actors” in the market.

Next, we group countries in clusters based on their tie distances. Tie distances help us to explore the geographical dispersion of the country clusters.

Results -2

Market for development is highly concentrated. There are small number of countries which dominate the supply side of the development ideas such as Brazil, China, South Africa and Singapore.

South-South Knowledge Exchange is a recent organization that is formed by the World Bank, which is a leading institution in the field of international development. This initial analysis aims highlighting the emerging dynamics involved in international development, knowledge mobility and policy transfers. This new approach to facilitating development projects is a critical issue that needs further investigation given the potential impact on a start of a potential paradigmatic shift in international development.