## An Emerging Development Cooperation Initiative The Experiences of Fredskorpset South-South Exchange Programme

By

## Faustine K. Bee Moshi University College of Co-operative and Business Studies (MUCCoBS)

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## **Abstract**

The government of Norway, through Fredskorpset (FK Norway), is promoting a new development cooperation initiative that involves exchange of professionals between Norway and developing countries and among developing countries themselves. The Fredskorpset—Business Experience Exchange Programme (FK-BEEP) Network, which is one of the south-south FK Networks, it implemented by eight partners from four countries of Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda. This network involves four research institutions and four Rural Producer Organizations. This new initiative in development cooperation involves a reciprocal exchange of professionals, where they are selected and posted abroad to work in a foreign host institution for not less than ten months. Professional exchanges among these institutions facilitate sharing of experiences, knowledge and new skills and thus, supports organizational change processes. Furthermore, by professional experiencing different cultures they are made more resourceful in building peace and bringing harmony to world communities as the exchange help participants acquire new attitude of tolerance and respect for others. Thus, the benefits of exchanges are not confined to individuals involved but are also spread among participating organizations, communities and countries. The FK motto is "bringing people together," upholding the following values-equality, reciprocity, solidarity, diversity and transparency.