

Resource Guide

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Resource Guide

INTRODUCTION

This resource guide is intended to aid members of the African Diaspora in their efforts to bring resources and skills to their home communities in Africa. It was prepared in collaboration with scholars, healthcare practitioners, and members of the Africa diaspora for the forthcoming book “Done Waiting: When African States Fail to Deliver, Afropolitans are Stepping In.”

The international community is increasingly recognizing the important role diaspora communities play in the development of their countries of origin. As a result, a growing number of organizations are seeking to encourage and build upon diaspora-led development initiatives. While this trend is reflected in a growing body of literature and several high-level conferences dedicated to the field of “migration and development” or “diasporas for development,” it is clear that more needs to be done to make information and resources more accessible to diaspora members working at the grassroots level. Though far from comprehensive, this guide seeks to address this issue by profiling organizations that exemplify the types and sources of support available to diaspora development actors.

Though the idea of development through migration did not fully emerge on the international agenda until the late 1990s, early programs linking the two were established as early as the 1970s. Pioneers included the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), France, and the Netherlands (de Haas 17). The UNDP’s TOKTEN program values the transnational identities of migrants and promotes development through circular migration.¹ In contrast, early French codevelopment programs and the REMPLD project in the Netherlands² focused primarily on encouraging and facilitating return migration. These early programs achieved little credibility or success and have since been disbanded or restructured (de Haas 34).

At the time these projects were established and throughout the 1980s and 90s, the connection between migration and development was primarily thought to be a negative one, associating migration with “brain drain” and dependency. This shifted radically in the

¹ The IOM World Migration Report defines circular migration as “the fluid movement of people between countries, including temporary or long-term movement which may be beneficial to all involved, if occurring voluntarily and linked to the labor needs of countries of origin and destination” IOM. *World Migration Report 2008: Managing Labour Mobility in the Evolving Global Economy*. Geneva: International Organization for Migration, 2008. Print.

² Established in 1974, this program sought to encourage return migration by providing support to Tunisian, Moroccan, and Turkish migrants to set up enterprises in their countries of origin Hein de Haas. *Engaging Diasporas: How governments and development agencies can support diaspora involvement in the development of origin countries*. Oxford University: International Migration Institute, 2006. Print.

early 2000s, catalyzed in part by a series of World Bank studies that revealed the extraordinary impact of migrant remittances on the economies of their countries of origin (de Haas 14).³ This in turn led to more research, conferences, and even some concrete action seeking to leverage diaspora communities for the development of their communities and countries of origin. Today, though only a select few organizations implement programs that specifically target diaspora individuals and associations, diaspora members are now widely recognized as strategic and important agents of development.

For members of the African diaspora who are looking for resources to realize their development goals, this means that an unparalleled number of organizations are currently open to the prospect of supporting diaspora-led development initiatives. As this field is relatively new, however, many programs and policies are exploratory and transient.⁴ A large number are active for approximately three years at a time, followed by a period of evaluation to determine their effectiveness before funding for a second phase can be secured. Currently, much of the dialog and action among practitioners of migration and development centers on identifying and sharing best practices and conditions for success. This knowledge will hopefully translate into more sustained sources of support in the future. With the exception of organizations devoted entirely to diaspora development work, however, windows of opportunity to access the resources of many organizations can be of relatively short duration.

This emerging field is also characterized by an extensive amount of inter-organizational and international collaboration, which is reflected in the vast and complex web of funding and implementing partnerships that join together to generate and implement programs. For ease of navigation, we have rather artificially untangled this web to place programs under the entry for one organization. In reality, most programs are the result of funding and work contributed by several organizational partners. For example, the Africa-Europe Platform (AEP), a network that aims to connect African diaspora organizations and stakeholders throughout the European Union, is managed and funded by a combination of 10 different organizations.⁵ Many programs are established via a top-down approach involving organizations at a variety of different levels. National policies and approaches regarding migration and development are often the result of, or influenced by international conferences and forums such as the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD).

³ The money remitted to developing countries rose from \$31.1 billion in 1990 to \$116 billion in 2003, nearly tripling the value of Official Development Assistance sent to developing countries Hein de Haas. *Engaging Diasporas: How governments and development agencies can support diaspora involvement in the development of origin countries*. Oxford University: International Migration Institute, 2006. Print.

⁴ This is especially true for larger national and international organizations like USAID and the UK's DFID

⁵ The EU is their primary funding partner, with co-funding provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Society for International Cooperation, and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The program is jointly implemented by the ADPC, FORIM, CGMD, ICMPD, and AFFORD

As public institutions are a major source of funding and technical support, these national policies hold significant influence over the actions taken by private organizations. In several countries, networks of diaspora members have played an active role in establishing programs from the bottom up by successfully lobbying for institutional support and funding. In either case, most of the organizations profiled in this guide are either part of or receive funding from the national government in their respective country, and often receive support from one or more international or regional organizations as well.

To accommodate the diverse ways in which diaspora members act in solidarity with their countries of origin, we chose to profile organizations whose programs reflect the variety of resources available to diaspora communities. While each organization's programs are unique, reflecting their particular priorities and strengths, it is possible to categorize them into particular types of support. These categories are by no means exclusive—the resources provided by many of the programs in this guide could fall under multiple categories—but meant to give a general overview of the resources available.

- **Funding and capacity building for diaspora organizations:** Recognizing the value of diaspora organizations as development actors and advocates, many organizations seek to build upon the initiatives of diaspora organizations through capacity building and grants. This diverse array of resources includes grants that can be used to research, plan, and implement a development project or establish services and programs, usually in partnership with a local organization in the country of origin. Capacity building services include workshops, conferences, and personalized training in areas such as strategic planning, fundraising and financial management or can include services like website hosting facilities.
- **Facilitating skills transfer:** These programs encourage circular migration by facilitating opportunities for diaspora members to employ their skills and expertise through consultancies or volunteer placements in their countries of origin. Typically, these programs recruit highly skilled and experienced volunteers to address particular shortages in human resources, often in the areas of education, health, agriculture, and business. Most also require that volunteers work exclusively in their country of origin.
- **Facilitating remittances and investment:** In response to data demonstrating the impact of remittances on the economies of origin countries, some institutions seek to maximize their economic potential by making the remittance transfer market more transparent, effective, and less costly. Some organizations also seek to create incentives to encourage diaspora members to channel their funds into productive investments. These include programs in which remitting diaspora members receive tax deductions or receive co-financing on philanthropic investments.
- **Promoting and equipping entrepreneurship:** These programs seek to increase capital investment and sources of sustainable livelihoods in origin countries by equipping entrepreneurs in the diaspora to establish businesses or expand existing

businesses into their countries of origin. Recognizing the value of diaspora members' transnational lives and identities, programs promote circular migration, rather than permanent return. In some cases, diaspora entrepreneurs can access funding and technical assistance through highly competitive business contests. Other programs avoid providing funding, but offer training and resources for motivated entrepreneurs with various levels of expertise.

- **Creating venues for networking, lobbying and advocacy:** Many organizations seek to create networks of diaspora organizations and other stakeholders to serve as vehicles for resource consolidation, partnership formation, knowledge sharing, and advocacy. Members of these networks typically include diaspora organizations, government representatives, and other non-governmental actors interested in supporting the work of diaspora organizations

We also sought to demonstrate the various kinds of organizations engaged in efforts to maximize the impact of diaspora-led development work. Based upon their varying structures, strengths, and resources, each type of organization contributes unique capacities and engagement mechanisms to the field of migration and development.

- **Multilateral Organizations:** International organizations play a highly influential and important role in developing, implementing, and funding policies and programs that link migration and development work. By providing an international venue for circulating knowledge and creating partnerships, the GMFD, for example, has significant influence on programs implemented at all levels. Some organizations, like the IOM and the UNDP, implement their own programs to facilitate skill and resource transfers, while others, most notably the EU, are vital sources of funding for programs implemented at the national and private level.
- **National Institutions:** National development institutions are particularly influential in efforts to establish networks of diaspora members, co-finance development projects, and facilitate remittance transfers. The governments of France, Belgium, and the UK have established national platforms that promote diaspora-led development and advocacy by creating spaces where diaspora organizations, support organizations, and policymakers can connect and share resources. For the most part, national programs that engage diaspora members directly are implemented through public-private partnerships with local NGOs.
- **Private Nonprofits/NGOs:** Private nonprofit organizations play an instrumental role in implementing programs to equip diaspora development actors, either on their own, with other nonprofits, or in partnership with public institutions. In this category, we include more traditional development actors who work with diaspora members, as well as diaspora-led organizations like AFFORD that seek to enhance the development contributions of diaspora members from multiple countries.

- **Private and Corporate Foundations:** Over the course of this research, we identified two categories of foundations that support, or could support, the development initiatives of diaspora members. The first are foundations such as the Gates Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Hand Foundation that support diaspora-led initiatives indirectly by funding organizations that engage with diaspora communities, such as the International Diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) and the African Diaspora Policy Center (ADPC). The second are foundations that fund grassroots development projects, but have not demonstrated a particular commitment to the work of diaspora organizations. Information about some of these foundations can be found in the Additional Resources section of this guide.
- **Trade Organizations:** International and national trade organizations like the International Nursing Association and the American Medical Association are potential sources of equipment, professional expertise, and other resources for international development projects. While we did not find a trade organization that reaches out to diaspora professionals in particular, these are important networks that can and have been leveraged for resources such as medical equipment, etc.
- **Banks:** Not surprisingly, banks are key partners in international efforts to facilitate the transfer of remittances. Many development agencies, including USAID, UK DFID, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the World Bank, are working with banks to help develop remittance transfer services that are faster, cheaper, easier to use, and can transfer funds to more places. Certain banks are getting involved at a deeper level to support the economic initiatives of diaspora members, co-finance development projects, and facilitate diaspora-led research and action pertaining to improving remittance transfers.
- **Faith-Based Organizations⁶:** This category includes individual and networks of churches, mosques, synagogues, etc. While these organizations may not have a specifically development-related agenda, they often possess significant amounts of human and financial resources that diaspora members belonging to these organizations can tap into to find support for their work.

Research Process

This guide is the culmination of six months of research conducted from May-November 2012. The first phase consisted of generating a snowball sample of approximately 250 organizations potentially involved with diaspora development work. Organizations were identified through “brainstorming” sessions with other contributors to this book, a study of the relevant literature, and by exploring the websites and partner organizations of

⁶ The delineation between faith-based organizations and NGOs can be ambiguous, as faith-based organizations can be nonprofit organizations, and development NGOs can be faith-based. In this category, we include organizations such as churches, synagogues, mosques, etc. whose primary purpose is not necessarily development, but serving members their constituencies

previously identified organizations. Once an organization was identified as a potential candidate for inclusion, we conducted thorough online research to determine whether they offered resources specifically for diaspora members and organizations and how to access these resources. To make the sample more representative of the many countries involved in diaspora engagement work, online searches for programs in particular countries were conducted on internet-wide search engines and on the websites of national institutions for international development. We also drew from our personal networks and online resources to determine the involvement of certain types of organizations whose work was less visible, including foundations and faith-based organizations. In some cases, organizations were contacted by phone and email if necessary information could not be located online and/or to confirm that the information found on their website was accurate and up-to-date.

Criteria for Inclusion

The organizations involved in supporting diaspora-led development work are active throughout the globe in both home and host countries. For the purposes of this guide, we chose to profile organizations that seek to mobilize and equip African diaspora development actors living in North America and Europe, as these regions have some of the largest and most established populations of African diaspora members⁷. We also focused on organizations with the capacity and mission to support members of diasporas from multiple African countries. Thus, we have excluded individual diaspora organizations representing a single country or region, as well as governments and other institutions in countries of origin seeking to engage their own diasporas. Organizations were also selected based upon whether they offered concrete programs and resources explicitly for diaspora development actors, and, in some cases, were chosen to provide examples of best practices worthy of emulating. Though our intention was to create a somewhat representational sample of the many countries and types of organizations involved in this work, this guide is heavily influenced by organizations in the Netherlands, France, and the UK. These countries were some of the first to implement migration and development initiatives, presumably as a result of substantial and well-established diaspora communities, and therefore have some of the most developed networks of support organizations.

How to Use This Guide

Organization profiles have been arranged in alphabetical order for ease of navigation. To make it possible to search for organizations based upon country and/or type of support, we also have included a chart at the beginning of this guide⁸ that lists each organization, their country location, and the types of resources they provide according to the categories described above. Each organization profile contains a brief summary highlighting the

⁷ Members of the African diaspora, and institutions that support their development work, are active in Latin America and Asia as well. For example, Japan's government is involved in funding an aspect of the World Bank's African Diaspora Program [African Diaspora Program](#), September 2011, World Bank, June 30 2012

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22141991~menuPK:34480~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>.

⁸ Please see figure at beginning of guide.

organization's history, purpose, and impact, as well as information on the resources they provide and how they can be accessed.

Readers of this guide should be aware that the information in these profiles is drawn primarily from the websites of the organizations themselves. While we have tried to ensure that this information is as accurate and up-to-date as possible by contacting organizations via phone and email, we did not receive responses in all cases. Additionally, the activities of these organizations tend to shift very quickly, so the information in these profiles, particularly in the sections entitled "getting involved," will soon be out of date. This guide functions as a source of information on potential sources of support based upon past (and sometimes current) initiatives, so parties interested in a particular organization should visit that organization's website to research current opportunities.

ORGANIZATION PROFILES

1. Africa-Europe Platform (AEP)⁹

Africa-Europe Platform

African Diaspora Policy Center

Zeestraat 100, 2518 AD, The Hague, the Netherlands

Email: info@ae-platform.org

Web: www.ae-platform.org

Launched in 2011, the goal of this initiative is to create a platform that will support the work of African diaspora organizations throughout the 27 EU member states, Switzerland, and Norway (AEP). This platform seeks to increase the visibility and effectiveness of diaspora-led development and advocacy by facilitating greater coordination and communication between African diaspora organizations and by connecting diaspora organizations with other stakeholders such as policymakers and organizations like the African Union. It also aims to equip African diaspora-led development through a variety of resources such as e-learnings, trainings, and workshops that are generated by and tailored to the needs of the platform's members. While this platform is funded primarily by the EU¹⁰ and implemented by the ADPC, AFFORD, CGMD, FORIM, and the ICMPD,¹¹ small diaspora organizations working at the grassroots level are playing a very active role in its formation (AEP). Through online questionnaires, called e-consultations, members of African diaspora organizations participated in defining the principles and framework of the platform. They are also using e-consultations to collect information about good practices. The results of these e-consultations are discussed at expert meetings that bring together representatives of African diaspora organizations, support organizations, and governments. Throughout the process of establishing the platform, three expert meetings will be held to define the platform's principles, discuss good practices in migration and development, reflect on progress and partnerships formed, and to create a framework for the platform's future.

Resources:

- **e-Newsletters:** Published 3-4 times per year, these newsletters keep members updated on the platform's activities and other news relevant to African diaspora organizations in Europe. They also include country profiles with information about migration demographics, local organizations that provide support for African

⁹ Also referred to as the European-wide African Diaspora Platform for Development (EADPD)

¹⁰ Co-financing is provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

¹¹ African Diaspora Policy Center (Netherlands), African Foundation for Development (United Kingdom), Coordination Générale des Migrants pour le Développement (Belgium), Le Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (France), the International Center for Migration Policy Development (Austria)

diaspora development cooperation, a list of African diaspora associations, and examples of good practices conducted by AEP members.

- **e-Policy Briefs:** These articles inform on issues and initiatives related to migration and development and serve the dual purpose of educating and voicing the viewpoints of members of African diaspora organizations
- **e-Learning Courses:** Tailored to the needs of AEP member organizations, these courses seek to build competencies necessary for development work. The first e-learning course on networking, alliance-building and policy engagement was available on the AFFORD Institute's website until August 2013 (www.affordinstitute.org)
- **Mapping:** The AEP seeks to identify and create a database of African diaspora organizations throughout the EU, Switzerland, and Norway that are active in development. To register, representatives of African diaspora organizations can go online to fill out a questionnaire.
- **Catalogue of Good Practices:** This catalog will be based upon e-consultations, discussions at the 2nd expert meeting, information uploaded onto the AEP website, and feedback from pilot activities. Meant for African diaspora members and policymakers alike, this guide will provide centralized knowledge on effective tools and methods employed by African diaspora organizations.
- **Event Calendar:** offers information about events held throughout Europe that are relevant to the African diaspora and migration and development work.

Eligibility: Members of African diaspora associations that are active in development cooperation and based out of the 27 EU member states, Switzerland, or Norway are invited to become members of the platform. All materials are available in English and French.

Getting Involved: To register as a member of the AEP platform, members of African diaspora organizations can fill out the registration form on the AEP website (www.ae-platform.org). Information about events and resources sponsored by the AEP can be found on their website or on the websites of its implementing organizations (www.diaspora-centre.org, www.afford-uk.org, www.cgmd.be, www.forim.net, and www.icmpd.org).

2. The African Development Bank (AfDB): Migration and Development Initiative

AfDB Temporary Relocation Agency (Tunis)

15 Avenue du Ghana

P.O.Box 323-1002

Tunis-Belvédère, Tunisia

Tel: (+216) 71 10 39 00/(+216) 71 35 19 33

Email: afdb@afdb.org

Web: afdb.org

In 1964, 23 newly independent African nations founded the African Development Bank to “contribute to the sustainable economic development and social progress of African

countries” (AfDB). Since launching the Migration and Development Initiative in 2009, the AfDB has played a major role in efforts to maximize the development impact of remittances. A 2007 AfDB study conducted in the Comoros, Mali, Morocco, and Senegal found that remittances represent between 9 and 24% of GDP and between 80 and 750% of Official Development Assistance. This study also found that the impact of these remittances is limited by high transfer costs (AfDB). For this reason, the AfDB is generating research and working with other financial institutions to make formal remittance transfer services cheaper and more effective. They also seek to create financial products that respond to the needs of diaspora members, promote the use of formal transfer mechanisms (such as banks), and/or provide incentives for channeling funds into productive investments. To promote local and diaspora-led initiatives that forward these goals, the AfDB established the Migration and Development Trust Fund with support from France and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Through this fund, the AfDB aims to support projects that do one of the following: enhance knowledge of remittance flows, reduce transfer costs, generate productive investment, or contribute to local development (AfDB). Thus far, the AfDB has issued two calls for proposals that closed in January 2011 and May 2012 (AfDB).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Migration and Development Trust Fund:** Approved projects receive assistance in the form of grants, technical support, coordination, and partnership creation. The AfDB will fund projects that adhere to one of their five focus areas:
 - **Knowledge on remittance flows:** mapping fund transfers and disseminating better information about stakeholders
 - **Reforming regulatory frameworks:** modernizing regulatory frameworks and operators to enhance financial markets
 - **Financial products:** creating and testing financial products that are more responsive to the needs of diaspora members and/or create incentives for using the formal sector and channeling funds into productive investment
 - **Productive investment:** aims to assist migrants in creating small-to-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) or forming private equity and investment funds that advance SMEs involving diaspora members and local entrepreneurs.
 - **Local Development:** supports projects that mutualize healthcare costs and provides co-financing opportunities for projects that create or improve infrastructure in the areas of education, health, small hydro scheme, and renewable energy
- **Knowledge resources:** research and publications offering concrete policy recommendations for increasing the development impact of remittances

Eligibility: Applicants eligible for grants to promote productive investment include nonprofits such as diaspora organizations, NGOs working in migration and development, for-profit companies established by diaspora members, financial institutions, money transfer operators, and business development companies. Support for development projects is available to profit or nonprofit organizations (nonprofit preferred), such as diaspora organizations. Funding will only be given to organizations or companies that are

registered and licensed in an African country, though non-African institutions can participate by partnering with a local organization. **Eligible Countries:** Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, and Sierra Leone.

Getting Involved: Knowledge resources can be viewed and downloaded from AfDB's website. The Migration and Development Fund's most recent call for proposals closed in May 2012 (AfDB).

3. African Foundation for Development (AFFORD)

AFFORD Headquarters

Rich Mix Building
35-47 Bethnal Green Road
Shoreditch
London
E1 6LA
UK
Tel: +44 (203) 326 3750
Fax: +44 (203) 326 3751
Web: afford-uk.org

AFFORD was launched by a group of African diaspora members in 1994 to counteract the marginalization of African diaspora development actors from mainstream development efforts (de Haas 64). Working with the sole mission "to expand and enhance the contribution Africans in the diaspora make to African development," AFFORD's research and advocacy has played an instrumental role in raising awareness of African-diaspora led development cooperation, both in the UK and internationally (AFFORD). They implement a broad range of activities that seek to facilitate diaspora engagement through enterprise, remittances, volunteering, capacity building, networking, and advocacy. Their primary focus, however, is to encourage job creation and sustainable development in Africa through programs that support diaspora entrepreneurship and mobilize volunteers to share their business expertise with local entrepreneurs in Africa. Though their mission spans the entire continent, most of AFFORD's work to date has focused on the UK, the DRC, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Uganda (Newland and Tanaka 18).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **AFFORD Business Centre (ABC):** Provides support to diaspora entrepreneurs with small-to-medium sized enterprises that are likely to create 10-50 jobs. Services available through this center include office space, ICT specialists and trainers, legal and personnel specialists, workshops, and lectures. After piloting this project in Sierra Leone, AFFORD hopes to start business centers throughout Africa's major cities. This project is implemented in partnership with Comic Relief and funded by the Common Ground Initiative until March 2016 (AFFORD).

Contact: info@affordbusinesscenter.org, affordbusinesscenter.org

- **Remade:** Funded by the EU and Hivos, this program supports diaspora entrepreneurs who want to set up businesses in Ghana. Through this program, clients can access advice on creating a business plan and in-country network for legal and business support (AFFORD).
- **RemitSkills:** Established in partnership with VSO and DFID, this program was piloted in 2004-2005 and ran until 2010. During this time, they recruited and sent volunteers with business acumen on short-term assignments to work with African business owners. They are currently seeking partners and funding to launch a program facilitating visiting professorships in African Universities (AFFORD).
- **Africa-Gives:** Aimed at youth ages 18-35, this program provides a network and support to help youth capitalize on growing opportunities in Africa. It also challenges young diaspora members to find new, more effective ways of giving to Africa (AFFORD). **Contact:** africa-gives@afford-uk.org, africa-gives.org
- **Africa Diaspora and Development Day:** An event held annually since 2003 that promotes networking, knowledge sharing and exploration of new topics in African diaspora development work (AFFORD).
- **Africa Diaspora & Development Day (AD3):** Held annually on the first Saturday of July since 2003, this event seeks to raise awareness and promote networking, knowledge-sharing, and the exploration of new trends in diaspora-led development.
- **RemitPlus:** Campaign that seeks to optimize the economic benefits of migration by finding ways to make remittances a more sustainable form of development finance. This includes advocacy for remittance tax relief, leveraging remittances to improve the creditworthiness of developing countries, and introducing social enterprise operators into the remittance service sector (AFFORD). During a pilot of the project between the UK and Sierra Leone from 2009-2011, AFFORD turned a microfinance institution into a remittance paying-out agent and helped a diaspora entrepreneur establish an online money transfer platform. They are currently seeking partners and funding to establish RemitPlus bank accounts, an SME fund, a mutual fund, and diaspora bonds (AFFORD).
- **AFFORD Institute:** an online e-learning platform implemented in partnership with the Africa-Europe Platform. It can host e-learning courses, webinars and other educational media meant to increase the capacity and effectiveness of diaspora organizations. An e-learning course on networking, alliance building and policy engagement was available on the AFFORD Institute website until August 2013. **Contact:** affordinstitute.org¹²
- **Knowledge Resources:** papers and presentations on topics relevant to African diaspora-led development, including fact sheets on fundraising and starting an organization.

¹² **Important Note:** While this program is still active according to AFFORD's website, this particular site appears to be under construction and there are no e-learning courses available at this time

Eligibility: African diaspora members living in the UK are encouraged to get involved with AFFORD's programs.

Getting Involved: This process is unique to each program, so please visit the AFFORD website or contact AFFORD for more information.

4. African Union: African Diaspora Health Initiative

African Union

P.O. Box 3243

Roosevelt Street, W21K19

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Web: www.au.int

African Union Mission to the US

African Union-African Diaspora Health Initiative (AU-ADHI)

2200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW 4th FLR E Washington, DC 20037

Tel: (866) 755-3097

Email: info@au-adhi.org

Web: au-adhi.org

The African Union held its first Global African Diaspora Summit on May 25, 2012. Defined as “peoples of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union,” the AU voted to make the African Diaspora a 6th region of Africa in 2003 (African Union). To better integrate members of the African Diaspora with the AU’s vision of achieving an “integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in global arena” (AU) the African Union’s Directorate of African Citizens and Diaspora Organization is partnering with organizations like the World Bank and the African Development Bank to implement programs facilitating diaspora engagement through exchanges of skills and resources. These include creating a skills database, establishing an African Diaspora Volunteer Corps program, founding an African Diaspora Investment Fund, and initiating a development marketplace for entrepreneurs in the African Diaspora (African Union). Programs that are currently active include the African Union-African Diaspora Health Initiative (AU-ADHI). Implemented by the African Union Mission to the United States (AUMUS), this organization seeks to “develop a healthy and prosperous Africa, free of the heavy burden of disease, disability and premature death” by creating opportunities for African diaspora professionals throughout the Americas to volunteer their skills in African hospitals (AU-ADHI). For the moment, AU-ADHI sends volunteers to one country at a time, rotating between Ghana, Tanzania, Malawi, Equatorial Guinea, and Sudan. They are currently active in Malawi (AU-ADHI).

Resources: Facilitates opportunities for healthcare professionals in the African diaspora to volunteer in hospitals in Ghana, Tanzania, Malawi, Equatorial Guinea, and Sudan. The host

country provides food, accommodation and transportation for the duration of the placement.

Eligibility: AU-ADHI seeks to mobilize physicians, clinicians, public health experts, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, scientists and other members of the health workforce. AU-ADHI membership is open to African diaspora members and organizations that are based in the Americas.

Getting Involved: People interested in volunteering with AU-ADHI can contact them at info@au-adhi.org to request more information. For individuals and organizations interested in becoming members of AU-ADHI, an online registration form can be found on their website.

5. Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)

Cooperazione Internazionale

MILANO - Via De Lemene, 50 20151

Tel: +39.02.3085057

Email: coopi@coopi.org

Web: www.coopi.org

Founded in 1965 by father Vincenzo Barbieri, COOPI is now an independent Italian NGO that fights poverty with support primarily from UN, EU, and the Italian government (COOPI 11). Recognizing that diaspora members can and should have a vital role in dialogue and action surrounding international development cooperation, COOPI has been working with migrant populations since 2002 to build upon the potential of diaspora-led development solidarity (COOPI). The resources they provide fall under two primary categories: funding and support for co-development projects and resources to assist migrants reintegrate in their home countries at the end of their stays in Italy. COOPI does not implement programs on an ongoing basis, but makes resources available under transnational, crosscutting programs that run for several years to facilitate integration between a particular diaspora community in Italy and their country of origin. Thus far, they have completed five major projects that focused on Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria, and Albania (COOPI). The program Strengthening Social Capital in Senegal¹³ was sponsored by the European Commission and implemented by COOPI, CeSPI¹⁴ and CISAIO¹⁵ to address previously identified impediments to diaspora-led solidarity work, including the lack of financial and organizational support for economic and development projects, the difficulty of integrating, and the absence of systemic relationships between diaspora organizations and organizations in countries of origin (COOPI). This project seeks to create a network linking Senegalese diaspora members with one another and potential organizational partners and will provide selected diaspora members and organizations with financial and technical support to create

¹³ *Rafforzamento capitale sociale in Senegal*

¹⁴ *Centro Studi Politica Internazionale* (Center for International Policy Studies)

¹⁵ *Camera di Commercio Italia-Senegal e dell'Africa Occidentale* (Chamber of Commerce Italy-Senegal and West Africa)

businesses and implement development projects. All of the resources listed below are connected with this particular project:

Resources/Initiatives

- **Research and advocacy:** Each project involves a research component to identify conditions for success. With the results of this research, they advocate for migration policies that are responsive to the needs of migrants and enhance their role in development
- **Network Formation:** This project sought to establish and support relationships between diaspora members, diaspora organizations, local organizations in Senegal, and Italian governmental and non-governmental organizations interested in providing organizational and/or financial support.
- **Support to Entrepreneurs:**
 - Forums in Milan and Dakar to discuss practical measures needed to establish businesses in Senegal
 - Training courses open to 25 Senegalese entrepreneurs
 - Established an indemnity fund to open credit lines open to entrepreneurs seeking to establish businesses in Senegal
- **Support for Social Development Projects:** counseling on project formation, assistance with locating institutional support for projects, assistance in assessing viability of project, co-financing proportional to association's investment, assistance in realizing 10 projects, assistance in making assessment of achievements

Eligibility: COOPI works diaspora communities in Italy. Each project focuses on enhancing the contributions of diaspora communities to the development of individual countries.

Getting Involved: There are no open calls for proposals at this time.

6. Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA)

Diaspora Volunteering Alliance

Community Place

Room No. 2

806 High Road

Leyton

London

E10 6AE

Email: info@diasporavolunteeringalliance.org

Web: diasporavolunteeringalliance.org

Established in 2010 by a group of diaspora organizations implementing volunteer programs, the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA) seeks to create avenues for diaspora members to contribute their skills and expertise to their countries of origin (Kumar). Instead of managing their own volunteer programs, DVA equips their member organizations—other UK-based diaspora organizations contributing to development in

Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean—to implement their own programs that send volunteers to their countries of origin for short-term assignments of about 3-8 weeks (DVA). DVA played an instrumental role in lobbying UK-DFID to fund a Diaspora Volunteering Program through VSO-UK, which enabled 14 DVA member organizations to run programs that deployed 631 volunteers between 2008 and 2011 (Kumar). One of these member organizations was the African Community Development Foundation, which sent volunteers to Kenya on three occasions to provide educational opportunities to disadvantaged young women, increase access to financial services, and build the capacity of fish farmers (ACDF). Though UK-DFID no longer funds this program, DVA continues to partner with VSO to offer capacity-building services for diaspora organizations that are either implementing or in the process of establishing volunteer programs.¹⁶

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Capacity Building:** peer learning, trainings, workshops, conferences and mentoring that responds to the needs of individual diaspora organizations. The topics they cover in their training include organizational strategic planning, volunteer management systems, advocacy, social media, and full cost recovery
- **Quarterly Newsletter:** contains information on organizational support resources and funding opportunities relevant to diaspora organizations, in addition to updates about the accomplishments of their members.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** While DVA does not implement their own programs, diaspora members interested in volunteering can potentially find placements through one of DVA's member organizations. A list of member organizations can be found on their website.

Eligibility: All of the resources described above are open to DVA members. Membership is open to UK-based Diaspora organizations that are active in international development or improving the situation of Diaspora communities in the UK. They also provide membership to NGOs, funders and policymakers involved with migration and development

Getting Involved: Interested organizations can become members by filling out DVA's membership form. As of November 2013, this form is not yet available online, but can be requested via email. Membership is free for small diaspora organizations.

¹⁶ For more information about this program, please see the profiles for VSO-UK and UK-DFID

7. Economic Resource Center for Migrants and Overseas Employees (ERCMOVE)

ERCMOVE

Stitching ERCMOVE, Postbox 1009, 3160 AE Rhoon, The Netherlands

Tel: 010-501 3343

Email: infoercmove@yahoo.com

Web: www.ercmove.nl

ERCMOVE is a diaspora-led organization that seeks to empower diaspora members and organizations by providing services that promote social integration and economic empowerment. In contrast to the many organizations that only make opportunities and funding available to highly competitive organizations and individuals, ERCMOVE's approach seeks to enable diaspora members from a wide range of financial, educational and professional backgrounds to effectively engage in development. For example, ERCMOVE's financial literacy workshops and advisory services help any motivated diaspora member or organization contribute to development through micro entrepreneurship, micro savings, micro investments, or collectively funded development projects (ERCMOVE). In 2007, ERCMOVE conducted a project in partnership with Oxfam Novib that encouraged and equipped diaspora organizations to set up micro savers and investors clubs, in which members made contributions every month to provide opportunity to entrepreneurs in their countries of origin (ERCMOVE). Training and technical assistance provided by ERCMOVE helps diaspora associations build organizational and financial skills, thus increasing the likelihood of obtaining funding from more competitive sources. Though many of ERCMOVE's events and projects are specific to the Philippines, their capacity building resources are available for diaspora members and organizations from any country or region.

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Financial literacy services:**
 - Microfinance orientations for diaspora organizations
 - Financial advisory services for individuals and organizations
- **Technical assistance for diaspora organizations:** personalized assistance and workshops in the areas of strategic planning, event organization and reporting, writing project proposals, communications skills, ICT capacity building, participatory rapid approach, and monitoring and evaluation
- **Web Resources:** hyperlinks to the websites of other organizations that are active in research, policy making, and programming regarding migration and development.

Eligibility: ERCMOVE's services are available to interested diaspora members or organizations based in the Netherlands that are engaged or want to become engaged in the development of their countries of origin.

Getting Involved: To find out more about ERCMOVE, their upcoming events, and how to access their financial and capacity-building services, please go to ERCMOVE's website (ercmove.nl) or contact ERCMOVE at info@ercmove.nl

8. European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI)

JMDI

UN House, 14 Rue Montoyer, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 235 0550

Fax: +32 2 503 4729

Email: jmdi.pmu@undp.org

Web: www.migration4development.org

The European Commission¹⁷ and the United Nations established the Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) in 2008 to equip civil society organizations¹⁸ and local authorities active in migration and development with practical tools to increase the effectiveness of their work (JMDI). Implemented by the UNDP with funding from the EU and support from the IOM, ILO, UNFPA and UNHCR,¹⁹ JMDI's primary objectives are to create and reinforce networks of migration and development practitioners and disseminate knowledge on best practices and conditions for success (JMDI). The program's website is an excellent source of practical information, tools, and training to help practitioners at all levels implement successful transnational programs that link migration and development. In the first phase of the program, the JMDI issued a call for proposals that made €10 million available to fund projects conducted through partnerships between small-scale actors and local organizations in 16 target countries.²⁰ Each of the projects selected addressed one of four priority areas: migrant remittances, migrant communities, migrant capacities, and migrant rights (JMDI 15). Through research conducted on the methods and outcomes of these projects, the JMDI compiled data about what works, under what conditions, and why, to make a series of informational resources available for the use of other practitioners. During this process, it came to light that local authorities have a significant impact upon the success of diaspora members' efforts to integrate into host countries and give back to their countries of origin. For this reason, the second phase of this program, launched in October 2012, focuses on ensuring that local governments have the resources they need to effectively enable the work of diaspora communities.

¹⁷ A commission of 27 people that represents the interest of the European Union as a whole

¹⁸ This term refers to non-state actors including diaspora organizations and other types of NGOs

¹⁹ International Organization for Migration, International Labor Organization, United Nations Family Planning Agency, United Nations High Commission for Refugees

²⁰ These target countries were Algeria, Cape Verde, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Mali, Moldova, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Tunisia

Resources:

- **Migration4Development Community of Practice:** An online community with over 2,000 members where diaspora members and other migration and development practitioners can voice issues and share knowledge through online discussions and forums.
- **E-learning course “Running Your M&D Project Successfully:”** this resource is based on JMDI’s extensive research on good practices in migration and development work. It was created to provide practical support for small and medium-sized civil society and diaspora organizations and can be accessed online at www.migration4development.org.
- **Handbook for migration and development practitioners and policy makers:** This handbook contains highly useful information concerning various tools and methods that diaspora organizations can use to build their capacity and increase the effectiveness of their development work. This includes information about the advantages and disadvantages of different practices, and how diaspora organizations can best utilize these tools. Additionally, it advocates for a bottom-up approach to migration and development in which diaspora organizations and other community-based organizations are the central actors. This handbook can be downloaded from the JMDI’s website.
- **M4D Library:** contains media related to migration and development, including reports, publications and videos
- **M4D TV:** videos of interviews on migration and development conducted with civil society, EU, and UN representatives
- **Job Database:** search tool to find jobs, volunteer, and consultancy opportunities in the field of migration and development
- **Links to other resources:** The webpage entitled “Links” on JMDI’s website connects visitors to the websites of JMDI’s partners, the GFMD, and other organizations active in migration and development including universities with migration studies departments and centers that produce research on migration and development

Eligibility: Most of the resources listed above are available to any visitor to the JMDI’s website. Access to the Migration for Development Community of Practice is restricted to registered members.

Getting Involved: Interested individuals can become a member of the Migration4Development Community of Practice by creating an account on www.migration4development.org.

9. *Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale Issues de Migrations (FORIM)*

FORIM

14 Passage Dubail

75010 Paris

Tel: 01 44 72 02 88

Email: forim@forim.net

Web: forim.net

Following the limited success of early codevelopment programs, the French government engaged in a series of consultations with diaspora members to find more effective mechanisms for diaspora engagement (Panizzon 190). As a result of these consultations, FORIM was created in 2002 to promote integration and enhance the actions of diaspora organizations as development actors, advocates, and vectors of cultural exchange. FORIM's primary function is to provide a platform to facilitate networking, collaboration, and resource consolidation between diaspora organizations,²¹ the French government, and other French civil society organizations active in development solidarity (FORIM). As a part of this goal, FORIM conducts trainings and advertises calls for proposals to link its member organizations with outside sources of funding. They also partner with the Catholic Committee Against Hunger and for Development and the French Ministry of the Interior, Overseas Territories, Local Authorities and Immigration (MIOMCTI) to run PRA/OSIM,²² a program that provides co-financing to less-established diaspora organizations with competitive plans for international development projects (FORIM). This program funded 52 different projects between 2011 and 2012, including a project to build wells in a village in Cameroon and another to reduce maternal mortality in the Burkina Faso's Nouna Health District (FORIM).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Programme d'Appui aux Projets de OSIM (PRA/OSIM):** This program provides grants of up to €15,000 to diaspora organizations that are new to development work and might not qualify for funding from other sources. Prior to the call for proposals, FORIM launches a campaign aimed at informing diaspora organizations on PRA/OSIM and connects interested organizations with people who can support them in the application process. Submitted proposals are reviewed and selected by a committee composed of elected diaspora members and representatives of FORIM's partners. **Eligibility:** Eligible projects have budgets that do not exceed €120,000 and take place within the 16 priority countries for development solidarity²³ (FORIM).

²¹ In France, diaspora organizations are known as

²² *Programme d'Appui aux Projets de OSIM*

²³ Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo, the Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Laos, Madagascar, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Somalia, Suriname, Chad, Togo, Tunisia, Vietnam.

- **Support for codevelopment in Mali:** Financed by the European Union and implemented by the *Cellule Technique du Codéveloppement*, this program supports a vision of codevelopment in which the Malian diaspora is a vector of financing, skills, and dialogue between host countries and communities in Mali. Currently, there are 2 offices in France and Spain that advise diaspora members on opportunities, provide training on planning and implementing projects, and seek to strengthen support to diaspora organizations by creating a database of potential technical and financial partners (FORIM).
- **Training:** Trainings and workshops on topics such as community management, networking, project installation, co-financing systems, and how to address gender discrimination in development work (FORIM)
- **Skills database:** Database that highlights the skills of diaspora members living in France to facilitate professional integration the mobilization of technical expertise (FORIM). This database can be accessed at www.forimcompetences.net
- **Opportunities for networking and advocacy:** National meetings for the exchange and dissemination of good practices, facilitates involvement in discussions on policies affecting diaspora members and their communities (FORIM).
- **Africa-Europe Platform:** FORIM is one of the implementing partners for this platform that seeks to facilitate networking and the exchange of good practices among diaspora organizations throughout Europe (please see profile on Africa-Europe Platform)
- **Support for youth exchange programs:** technical support and project monitoring for organizations implementing youth exchange programs

Eligibility: FORIM’s resources are available to diaspora members and organizations in France.

Getting Involved: Please visit FORIM’s website for more information about becoming a member

10. French Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Decentralized Cooperation²⁴

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Directorate of Globalization, Development and Partnerships (DGM)

Delegation for the External Action of Local Authorities (DAECT)²⁵

57, boulevard des Invalides 75007 PARIS

Email: secretariat.dgm-aect@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Phone: 01 43 17 62 70/01 43 17 62 64

Web: cncd.fr²⁶

²⁴ Ministère des Affaires Étrangères: Coopération Décentralisées

²⁵ Délégation pour l’Action Extérieure des Collectivités Territoriales

²⁶ The links on this website will lead you to information about the resources described in this profile (which is mostly found on the website for the ministry of foreign affairs)

With programs established as early as 1977, France is one of the first countries to acknowledge and seek to build upon the connections between migration and development (de Haas 67). French codevelopment programs (now referred to as “decentralized cooperation”) encompass all national development aid involving diaspora communities. As such, the programs of many departments and organizations fall under the umbrella of decentralized cooperation, including those implemented by the French Development Agency. French codevelopment programs and policies seek to promote a model of development in which diaspora members act as vital links between the culture, resources, and markets in their host and home countries. Over time, the ministries involved in implementing these programs, the support they provide, and the conditions placed upon that support have evolved significantly. Initially, the primary function of these programs was to encourage return migration by granting financial support and technical training to migrants that agreed to return to their countries of origin (de Haas 68). France has since distanced codevelopment programs from return migration after these programs achieved very little success and garnered much criticism. Though curbing migration (through development) is still an implicit goal of codevelopment policies, programs since 2002 focus primarily on co-financing diaspora-led initiatives and facilitating circular migration. Reflecting this shift in focus, responsibility for implementing codevelopment programs was transferred from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2003 (Panizzon 191). Today, programs seek to facilitate collective and individual investments of skills and resources by co-financing collective development projects, reducing the costs of remittance transfers, developing effective financial tools that incentivize productive investment, and facilitating consultancy opportunities in countries of origin (Panizzon 197).

Implementing Authorities:

- **DAECT:** part of the Directorate General of Global Affairs, Development and Partnerships. Responsible for defining and implementing strategies for supporting decentralized cooperation, collects data on development projects, advises participant organizations on forming partnerships (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)
- **National Committee for Decentralized Cooperation (CNCD):**²⁷ Body of representatives from local authorities and all the departments involved in decentralized cooperation. Provides a space for dialogue and has the authority to submit proposals to improve policies. Maintain and update a database of projects sponsored through decentralized cooperation
- **FORIM:** Responsible for implementing and providing support for decentralized cooperation programs in Mali
- **pS-Eau:** Implements and provides support for decentralized cooperation programs in Senegal

²⁷ Commission Nationale de la Coopération Décentralisée

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Co-financing for development projects:** diaspora organizations can apply for funding for up to 70% of the project budget for development projects in their countries of origin. This typically falls between €7,500 and €45,000 (Panizzon 198).
- **Technical Support:** for diaspora organizations wishing to apply for co-development funding, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides funding for programs that advertise opportunities and provide technical support for the application process (please see the profile for pS-Eau profile for more information).
- **Co-development Prize:** €3,000 prize for diaspora individuals or associations that have contributed to the development of their countries of origin (Panizzon 202).
- **Facilitating Skills Transfer:** opportunities for diaspora members with scientific or technical expertise to lecture at universities or participate in research conducted in countries of origin (de Haas 71).
- **Co-development Savings Account:** Owners of this account can invest up to 25% of their account balance into predefined projects in order to receive tax reductions of up to 40% of the saving account's total sum. **Eligibility:** available to diaspora members who hold a permit to engage in professional activity in France (Panizzon 201).

Web/Knowledge Resources

- **Exchange of Decentralized Cooperation Projects:**²⁸ a tool for partnership formation that allows actors in France and developing countries to submit proposals for development projects. For actors in France, this facilitates the process of finding local organizations in developing countries that share common goals. Each submission contains a detailed presentation of the intended project, including objectives, budget, and contacts and can be searched by continent, country, or theme. The proposal exchange and information about submitting proposals can be found at www.cncd.fr (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)
- **French Atlas of Decentralized Cooperation:**²⁹ Database of current projects designed to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and resources to improve the effectiveness and coherence of development projects. Searchable by country, region, department, and local authorities (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)
- **Resource Library:** Information about laws regarding decentralized cooperation, developing and implementing projects, submitting funding proposals (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)
- **Calendar of Events:** Information about relevant meetings, conferences, forums, and trainings. Advertised events include a forum on volunteerism for development and the Second Global Forum on Local Economic Development (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)
- **Call for Projects:** List of funding opportunities for joint projects conducted by actors in member states (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères)

²⁸ Bourse-Projets de la Coopération Décentralisée

²⁹ l'Atlas Français de la Coopération Décentralisée

- **www.envoidargent.fr**: an online fee-comparison tool created for the purpose of increasing transparency and reducing costs in the remittance transfer market.

Eligibility: Co-development support and funding is now available for joint projects implemented in all 28 countries in France’s Priority Solidarity Zone³⁰ (encompassing former French colonies). To qualify for co-financing, diaspora members must supply at least 30% of the project costs. Projects must be in line with the local development plan and pass a feasibility study (Panizzon 198).

Getting Involved: Please visit cncd.fr for more information on submitting proposals for development project. For diaspora members wishing to implement projects in Senegal and Mali, please visit the website for pS-Eau or FORIM for information about training and funding resources.

11. International Diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdeA)

International Diaspora Engagement Alliance

c/o Migration Policy Institute
1400 16th Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20036-2257

Tel: 202-266-1940

Email: info@diasporaalliance.org

Web: diasporaalliance.org

The International Diaspora Engagement Alliance is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that is managed via private-public partnerships between the US Department of State, USAID, and the Migration Policy Institute. Initiated by Hillary Clinton at the first Global Diaspora Forum in May 2011, IdeA is the primary vehicle through which the U.S. government engages with diaspora communities (IDEA). IdeA’s primary objective is to support the initiatives of Diaspora members to engage with their countries of origin in the areas of entrepreneurship, volunteerism, philanthropy, diplomacy, and social innovation. Their activities include connecting stakeholders at meetings and conferences, mobilizing resources through partnerships with other organizations, and providing technical assistance and training to diaspora members who participate in their programs. Their website also provides a central hub of news and information about and for diaspora communities in the US. In their first year, IdeA gained 1,500 partners and implemented three entrepreneurship competitions for diaspora members from Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America (IdeA). Many of their more recent programs focus on harnessing the

³⁰ Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Surinam, Togo, Tunisia, and Vietnam Marion Panizzon. "France's Codevelopment Program." *Diaspora for Development in Africa*. Eds. Sonia Plaza and Dilip Ratha. Washington D.C.: The World Bank, 2011. 183-229. Print.

potentials of new technologies, such as online giving platforms and communication tools, to increase the effectiveness and scope of diaspora-led development activities. Currently, the State Department and USAID are working with bureaus from around the globe to support small-medium sized diaspora entrepreneurs by launching more business and creating incentives for risk taking and innovation (IdEA).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Frequently updated website:** Offers information about new developments regarding diaspora philanthropy, volunteerism, diplomacy and social innovation. This site is also a go-to resource for accessible information on programs sponsored by the US government.
- **Knowledge Resources:** Publications about diaspora engagement generated by the Migration Policy Institute
- **Platform for Grassroots Diaspora Philanthropy:** IdEA recently partnered with GlobalGiving, an online fundraising platform, to create a webpage to raise funds specifically for the initiatives of diaspora organizations. In September 2012, diaspora organizations were invited to participate in the Global Open Challenge, which provided organizations with the opportunity to conduct online fundraising for particular initiatives. Organizations that raised a minimum of \$5,000 from 40 donors within approximately four weeks were then invited to become long-term members of GlobalGiving.
- **Diasporas for Development:** This program facilitates opportunities for highly skilled diaspora professionals to complete short to medium term volunteer assignments in their countries of origin or heritage. Through a partnership between USAID, Cuso International, and Accenture LLP, volunteers will receive pre-departure and post-trip orientation, financial support to offset the cost of volunteering, and the opportunity to become part of the IdEA Fellows Alumni Network. In the first phase of the program, assignments will take place with one of Cuso International's partners in Jamaica, El Salvador, Bolivia, Ethiopia, or the Philippines. IdEA is also in the process of creating a resource called the Diaspora Volunteering Marketplace, which will allow diaspora members to search for volunteer programs that utilize their skills and match their availability and financial needs (IdEA).
- **E-Mentoring for Diaspora Professionals:** IdEA partners with MentorCloud, an online e-mentorship and knowledge-sharing platform, to provide diaspora members and organizations with a secure online portal where they can share their professional expertise, establish mentor/mentee and peer relationships, and participate in discussions and forums with other individuals and organizations worldwide. This site also provides access to personalized content on development-related topics (IdEA).
- **African Diaspora Marketplace (ADM):** The African Diaspora Marketplace is a business competition that awards grants of up to \$50,000 to applicants with ideas for enterprises that will facilitate sustainable economic growth and employment. In the second phase of the program, ADM also focused grants toward priority, high impact sectors including agribusiness, renewable energy and information and communication technology (African Diaspora Marketplace). This program typically

awards grants to 16-20 applicants per project phase. **Contact:**
diasporamarketplace.org, info@diasporamarketplace.org

- **Global Diaspora Forum:** An annual conference that brings together diaspora members and other stakeholders to celebrate the work of diaspora communities, share knowledge, and create partnerships. These conferences take place in Washington D.C. and generally feature keynote speakers, panels, and discussions about new developments in and methods for effective diaspora engagement. The 2012 forum also included training and technical assistance on topics such as how entrepreneurship can be harnessed for social and economic development and how to use online applications to share knowledge and resources and create partnerships (IdEA).

Eligibility: IdEA invites any diaspora organization that supports their mission to become a member.

Getting Involved: Most of the informational resources offered by IdEA are available to any visitor to their website. To participate in the programs and events sponsored by IdEA, post information to the IdEA website, or participate in implementing IdEA projects, members of diaspora organizations can become an IdEA member by filling out their online registration form.

12. IntEnt

IntEnt Offices

Javastraat 58

2585 AR The Hague

Tel: 070 3051820

Fax: 070 3051892

Email: info@intent.eu

Web: intent.eu

In response to myriad requests from organizations seeking ways to stimulate diaspora-driven entrepreneurship, IntEnt was established in 1996 through a partnership between Social Economical Entrepreneurship in the Netherlands (SEON), FACET BV and Triodos Bank. IntEnt's mission is to promote social justice and sustainable economic development by providing comprehensive practical support to diaspora members who wish to set up businesses in their countries of origin. Recognizing the value of diaspora members' transnational knowledge and networks, IntEnt advocates for "circular migration" where diaspora members live and work simultaneously in two countries. IntEnt guides entrepreneurs through the process of developing, writing, and implementing a business plan through resources such as training, personalized guidance and counseling, opportunities to conduct in-country market research, and in-country support networks. They refrain from providing funds to entrepreneurs, but have assisted many in obtaining investments from outside sources. Between 1998 and 2007, IntEnt helped diaspora members launch 236 businesses, finish 194 business plans, and trained 1,176 participants

(Newland and Tanaka 15). According to IntEnt’s website, 90% of the companies started through IntEnt still exist after two years (IntEnt). Their high success rate is partly attributed to the fact that, though their initial orientation session is meant for individuals with little to no business experience, only highly motivated entrepreneurs with good business plans make it through the duration of the program (de Haas 52). It is estimated that IntEnt businesses have invested over €14.5 million in developing economies and have created almost 990 jobs (Newland and Tanaka 15). IntEnt also sponsors a website (www.geldnaarhuis.nl) that helps diaspora members the Netherlands navigate the remittance transfer market (IntEnt).

Resources/Initiatives:

- The “**IntEnt Journey**” is a five-step process that prospective entrepreneurs can customize according to their level of expertise. The 5 steps are as follows:
 - **Trainings:**
 - **Entrepreneurship Orientation:** training over one business day for individuals with little to no business experience
 - **Developing Your Business Plan:** training over two business days to help individuals turn their ideas into a practical, comprehensive and well-structured business plan
 - **Workshops** on various topics such as how to locate funding for projects.
 - **Consultations:** After entrepreneurs have finished an initial draft of their business plan, they have the option to go over their plan with a consultant who has experience doing business in the same country and sector.
 - **Support to conduct market research:** Every year, IntEnt organizes two-week “starter missions” in which groups of up to ten entrepreneurs wishing to start businesses in the same country have the opportunity to conduct market research under the guidance of experienced professionals.
 - **Business Plan Review:** Once entrepreneurs have a complete business plan, they can have it objectively assessed by an independent review committee composed of business professionals with knowledge and experience pertaining to the same country and/or sector. This step is necessary for entrepreneurs to gain IntEnt’s support in implementing their business.
 - **In-country support during the start-up phase:** IntEnt has in-country networks for individuals who can provide entrepreneurs with assistance for challenges that arise
- **geldnaarhuis.nl:** website that provides information about the costs and types of fund transfer services available. Diaspora organizations can also advertise on this website.

Eligibility: Diaspora members based in the Netherlands with any level of business experience can take advantage of IntEnt’s services. Currently, IntEnt can support entrepreneurs seeking to set up businesses in 13 focus countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Brazil, Burundi, Cape Verde, Curacao, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Morocco, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Suriname

Getting Involved: Prospective entrepreneurs can get started by registering online on IntEnt’s website. After clicking the “sign in” button on IntEnt’s homepage, individuals also have the option of requesting more information about the program. Though IntEnt is a non-profit whose services are subsidized by government agencies and organizations like the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the HIVOS Foundation, they must charge their participants in order to cover their program costs. Fees range from \$100 for the initial training to \$550 to consult with a business advisor. It is possible for participants in the program to choose which resources will make their investment most worthwhile.

13. International Organization for Migration (IOM): Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)

IOM Headquarters

17, Route des Morillons
CH-1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland

Tel: +41.22.717 9111

Email: hq@iom.int

Web: www.iom.int

MIDA

Web: www.iom.int/cms/mida

Based on the IOM’s founding principle that “humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society” (IOM), the MIDA program was established in 2001 through a partnership with the African Union (IOM). The primary objective of this program is to mitigate the negative effects of “brain drain” by creating avenues for diaspora members to contribute to the socioeconomic development of their countries of origin through virtual volunteering, sequenced or repeated visits, investment, or permanent return. The MIDA program seeks to provide support and a framework for partnerships between the host and home countries of particular diaspora communities. As such, each program is different to reflect the unique needs and resources of the countries involved. For example, a past program implemented in partnership with Italy, Senegal and Ghana focused on promoting entrepreneurship; whereas another program implemented from 2001-2006 between Belgium, the Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi focused primarily on facilitating transfers of skills and knowledge. In all programs, The IOM works with public and private institutions in African countries and host countries (typically located in Europe) to identify diaspora members with skills and resources that match job vacancies, project assignments, and investment opportunities in their countries of origin (IOM). For many diaspora members, participating in MIDA programs has led to ongoing involvement in their countries of origin and some have been deployed by the IOM as many as five times (IOM).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Support for volunteers:** While this may vary from program to program, the IOM often provides support to diaspora members who wish to volunteer in their countries of origin by providing a financial package that covers the costs of travel, a visa, travel insurance, and provides a daily living stipend. They also offer assistance

with visa and work permit applications, organizing travel and lodgings, providing health and travel insurance, and offer supervision and monitoring during assignments.

- **Diaspora Database:** The information in this database is managed by the IOM and shared with potential stakeholders such as governments, civil society, and the private sector. By registering in this database, diaspora members make themselves available to be contacted about projects assignments, job vacancies, and entrepreneurial investment opportunities. The IOM also uses this information to collect data about diaspora communities. They are particularly interested in compiling gender-specific data to address the current shortage of research on the role of women in migration and development. For this reason, there is a separate database on their website for migrant women (IOM).
- **Migrant Women for Development in Africa (WMIDA):** This program supports West African women living in Italy to establish small-medium enterprises in their countries of origin through joint ventures with Italian partners and host communities. 15 projects will be selected for funding. Through this initiative, the IOM also seeks to map West African women in Italy, their diaspora organizations, and networks, as well as create and disseminate a comparative study of money transfer costs and services (IOM).
- **MIDA Ghana Health Project (2005-2012):** Implemented in conjunction with the Ghanaian Ministry of Health and the Dutch embassy in Accra, this program facilitated opportunities for Ghanaian and other African diaspora members living in the Netherlands and other EU countries to volunteer in Ghana's healthcare sector. This program also allowed Ghanaian healthcare professionals to travel to the Netherlands for additional medical training (IOM The Netherlands).
- **MIDEth Health Project (past):** Through this program, Ethiopian diaspora members and friends in the United States donated medical equipment, worth almost \$2 million, and volunteered to train staff in Ethiopian hospitals on subjects including how to use the new equipment (Ndiaye, Melde and Ndiaye-Coïc 231-259).
- **MIDA Italy pilot project (past):** Through this project, the IOM partnered with institutions, NGOs, and over 140 diaspora organizations in Italy to identify and encourage African diaspora members who were interested in contributing to their countries of origin through the program. Through this process, they identified Ethiopia and Ghana as the most appropriate partner countries. This project generated 90 funding requests to establish small-medium enterprises, but was not very successful due to a lack of commitment on the part of the Ethiopian government in particular. In 2006, the IOM extended this project to one that focused on investment and remittances in Ghana and Senegal (de Haas 1-117).
- **MIDA Great Lakes (2001-2006):** This program focused on facilitating opportunities for Rwandan, Burundian, and Congolese diaspora members living in Belgium to volunteer in the higher education, health, and rural development sectors in their countries of origin (Terrazas 1-44).

Eligibility: Eligibility requirements can vary from program to program. Though MIDA does not list base qualifications for age, education, and professional experience, individuals with higher levels of education and expertise are more likely to be selected to fill assignments. Some programs only seek to engage diaspora members from very particular countries, and others, like the MIDA Ghana health project, are open to any member of the African diaspora with the necessary qualifications and/or resources.

Getting Involved: Interested African diaspora professionals can register in MIDA's databases at any point in time by filling out an online registration form that can be accessed on the MIDA portion of the IOM website. When programs do become active, the IOM recruits primarily through their databases, governments, educational institutions, employers and African diaspora organizations.

14. MyWorld.nl

NCDO

P.O. Box 94020
1090 GA Amsterdam

Web: myworld.nl

Email:

MyWorld is a web-based development platform established in 2010 through a partnership between six Dutch organizations supporting international development: Oxfam Novib, Cordaid, Impulsis, Aqua for All, Wilde Ganzen, and NCDO. The primary goal of this initiative is to make international development more open to civil society actors, including diaspora organizations. The platform brings together the knowledge, resources and expertise of its members and partner organizations to create a central hub of information on almost every aspect of planning, implementing, and funding international development projects. While the program is operated independently from the Dutch government, NCDO is funded primarily by the Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS)³¹ (de Haas 51), and many of MyWorld's partner organizations also receive government funding. The MyWorld website consists of three parts: the MyWorld Wiki, the MyWorld community, and the MyWorld magazine. Four links on the homepage help visitors navigate these resources by directing visitors to pages that link to resources about starting a project, accessing funding, locating in-country partners, and where to find advice and training. While the website is sponsored by NCDO, most of the content is user-generated (by MyWorld members) or sourced from the websites of the organizations listed above. In addition to providing knowledge resources, the site helps connect visitors to funding resources provided by Dutch NGOs. While website is not directed at diaspora organizations in particular, many of the organizations involved have been very active in empowering the actions and influence of diaspora organizations in the Netherlands. For example, NCDO played an important role in bringing diaspora-led development work to the Dutch agenda through two major conferences organized in 2004 and 2005 (de Haas 51). Other

³¹ Directoraat-Generaal voor Internationale Samenwerking

contributors, including Oxfam Novib and Cordaid, formerly allocated a certain percentage of their grant-making to the work of diaspora organizations (de Haas 44). Additionally, Wilde Ganzen has offered trainings tailored to the particular needs of diaspora organizations. Information about these opportunities can be found on the MyWorld website.

Partner Organizations:

- **National Committee for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development (NCDO):** A foundation that seeks to raise awareness of and encourage civil society participation in international development cooperation. They conduct research, generate publications, host conferences, and provide myriad resources to facilitate public involvement in international development (NCDO). Web: ncdo.nl
- **Oxfam Novib:** Formed in 1994 when the Netherlands Organization for International Assistance (NOVIB) joined Oxfam International, Oxfam Novib has historically been very active in supporting the development initiatives of diaspora organizations. In the past, they allocated 30% of funding set aside for small-scale development projects for diaspora initiatives and provided capacity-building resources such as trainings and workshops (de Haas 43).
- **Impulsis:** A joint initiative of Edukans, ICCO, and Kerk in Actie, Impulsis focuses on connecting civil society actors with funding, training, and a support network to enable small-scale development cooperation (Impulsis)
- **Wilde Ganzen:** Founded in 1957, Wilde Ganzen is a foundation that supports 350-500 small-scale development projects per year. These projects are implemented through partnerships between Dutch organizations (foundations, schools, etc.) and local partners in developing countries. Wilde Ganzen will assess projects and provide advice for fundraising campaigns, practical support, promotional materials, financial handling services, and will match funds by 55% (Wilde Ganzen)
- **Aqua for All:** Provides co-financing, support networks, and consultancy services to support organizations wishing to implement projects that seek to improve access to clean water, sanitation, and appropriate technology (Aqua for All).
- **Cordaid:** Partners with over 1,000 development organizations to implement projects. In 2004, they approved 21 projects to build the capacity of Dutch migrant associations, such as the SEVA Network and The Africa Network (de Haas 49)

Resources:

- **MyWorld Wiki:** Contains background information pertaining to international development work, including:
 - Country profiles
 - Information on every stage in the process of implementing a development project, including planning, fundraising, implementation, evaluation and monitoring
 - How to fundraise and where to go to find funding resources
 - How to establish and manage a development organization
 - Information about various sectors for development intervention, i.e. poverty reduction, health, agriculture, microcredit, and education

- Information about target beneficiaries, i.e. farmers, orphans, people with disabilities, and migrants
- **MyWorld Community:** An online space where individuals can share knowledge and expertise. Here, users can connect with people who have experience implementing similar projects, people who have worked in the same country or region, etc.
- **MyWorld Magazine:** Articles, news book reviews and columns relevant for people involved in any sort of international development work. A subscription to the MyWorld magazine also comes with a subscription to the monthly OneWorld magazine, which addresses similar topics. This magazine is published on a quarterly basis by NCDO and Wilde Ganzen
- **Information about funding resources:** In addition to providing information about various methods for obtaining funds, the Wiki page about grant applications contains links to web pages for Cordaid, Impulsis, Oxfam Novib, Simavi, and Wilde Ganzen with information about how to apply for funding.
- **Information about workshops, trainings and conferences pertaining to civil society involvement in development:** Visitors to the website can access a schedule of these activities either by clicking on the link “Where can I find advice and training?” or by going to myworld.nl/category/agenda.

Eligibility: Myworld.nl is tailored to meet the needs of civil society members and organizations, including diaspora organizations, that are active in international development work and operate out of the Netherlands.

Getting Involved: All of the information found through MyWorld Wiki and the agenda of events and trainings are available to any visitor to the MyWorld Website. The MyWorld Community requires a login and is open to any interested visitor to the website. People interested in receiving the MyWorld and OneWorld Magazines can sign up for a subscription on the MyWorld website.

15. Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau)

32 rue Le Peletier
 75009 Paris - France
 Tel: + 33 1 53 34 91 20
 Fax: +33 1 53 34 91 21
 Email: pseau@pseau.org
 Web: pseau.org

Jointly run by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Euroresources, and France’s Priority Solidarity Fund, pS-Eau has worked since 1984 to improve access to clean water and sanitation by supporting the initiatives of non-governmental actors (Panizzon 198; de Haas 76). Recognizing the important role of migrants in development solidarity, pS-Eau reaches out to diaspora communities in particular to provide support for economic initiatives and development projects. pS-Eau has been very active in supporting the economic initiatives

of diaspora members through funding and support networks utilized by thousands of diaspora entrepreneurs. As a result of extensive work conducted throughout the Senegal River Basin through partnerships with diaspora organization, pS-Eau has become the primary operator of codevelopment programs in Senegal (de Haas 77).

Resources/Initiatives

- **Programme Migrations et Initiatives Economiques:** Established in 2001 with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Labor, the Ministry of Employment and Social Cohesion, the European Commission and the Catholic Committee Against Hunger and for Development (CCFD), this program provided technical and financial support to migrants seeking to create or invest in businesses in France or their countries of origin. 33 grants were allocated to projects in 2004 (de Haas 76).
- **Micro Enterprise Support Group:** A network of 27 development NGOs, diaspora associations, and public authorities that offers support to approximately 1,000 entrepreneurs annually. Offers assistance with implementing a business plan, how to invest in projects implemented by African entrepreneurs, and how to start a project in France (Newland and Tanaka 15)³².
- **Codevelopment in Senegal:** pS-Eau manages all codevelopment activities in Senegal and provides support and technical assistance to diaspora organizations that wish to apply for funding.
- **Support for Solidarity Development Initiatives:** Supports non-governmental development actors, particularly diaspora communities, in defining intervention strategies, locating financial and technical partners, and project monitoring and evaluation. Also provides technical support to organizations applying for codevelopment funding.
- **Methodological Tools:** Resources available online include step-by-step instructions on how to implement a development project, thematic resources for interventions regarding water and sanitation, and a guide to mobilizing funding.
- **Online Databases:** Teaching materials and documents related to development, water and sanitation, stakeholders in the field

Eligibility: pS-Eau supports the work of civil society organizations based in France, particularly diaspora organizations, to implement development projects. They support initiatives that seek to improve access to clean water and sanitation and codevelopment projects in Senegal.

Getting Involved: Please visit pS-Eau's website at pseau.org or contact info@pseau.org for more information about taking advantage of their programs.

³² It is not clear whether this program is still active, as it is no longer advertised on pS-Eau's website.

16. The United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)

DFID London Office:

1 Palace Street, London SW1E 5HE

Public Inquiry Point:

Tel: 0845 300 4100

Fax: +44 (0) 1355 84 4099

Email: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk

As one of the pioneers of migration and development work, the UK has played a leading role in generating information about diaspora-driven development by organizing conferences and funding and commissioning research (de Haas 58). Until very recently, DFID's concrete initiatives focused primarily on efforts to make remittance transfers cheaper and more effective. In 2005, they launched the website www.sendmoneyhome.org, which sought to increase competition among service providers by providing visitors with easily accessible comparisons of remittance transfer services.³³ Since then, the cost of sending £100 from the UK has fallen by 5.6 percent and several other organizations have created websites based on this model (ILO). Between 2006 and 2010, DFID also established and supported a private sector-led UK Remittance Task Force to expand and improve remittance transfer services in developing countries (UK DFID). Moreover, in part due to the advocacy efforts of UK-based diaspora organizations like AFFORD, DFID has recently demonstrated a commitment to supporting programs that empower diaspora organizations to implement projects and programs that reflect their own priorities. Through partnerships with Comic Relief and Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), 34 diaspora organizations have received funding to implement development projects (Wignall) and 14 diaspora organizations were equipped with the capacity to run their own volunteer programs (VSO-UK).

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Send Money Home (fxcompared.com)(2005-present):** This website provides comparisons of the transfer services offered by banks, money transfer operators, FX providers and prepaid cards for transferring money abroad. Visitors to this site submit information about where they are sending money, how much they wish to send, and how regularly they send money. Based on this information, fxcompared.com generates a list of providers that compares takes into account fees, real-time exchange rates, speed, and method of transfer (FX Compared Ltd). This site is useful for anyone who wishes to send money from Australia, Canada, Israel, New Zealand, the UK, or the US, to most other countries in the world.
- **Diaspora Volunteering Program (2008-2011):** This program was implemented through a partnership between DFID and Voluntary Services Overseas-UK. It was responsible for developing the capacity of 14 diaspora organizations to run

³³ The website is now owned and operated by a private company, Profile Business Intelligence, and can be found under the domain www.fxcompared.com

volunteering programs that provided placements for approximately 600 diaspora volunteers (VSO-UK). For more information, please see the profiles on VSO and DVA.

- **Common Ground Initiative (2009-2012):** Established through a Partnership Programme Arrangement between DFID and the UK NGO Comic Relief, the Common Ground Initiative made £ 20 million available to small and diaspora organizations to plan and implement development projects and build their organizational capacities. Currently, Comic Relief and DFID are discussing the possibility of implementing a second phase of this program. This initiative also supported the launching of AfricaUK, a program implemented by the Royal African Society and the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) that facilitates diaspora engagement in development and policymaking through events, trainings, and information resources. Please see the entry on Comic Relief for more details about this program.
- **Migrating Out of Poverty Research Program (2010-2016):** This program aims to address gaps in research on migration and development by providing funding to the University of Sussex and collaborating academic institutions in Africa and Asia to generate a body of high-quality and policy-relevant research on migration and development. This project will also result in a database on migration and development. (UK DFID).

Eligibility: Participation in the Common Ground Initiative and the Diaspora Volunteering Program were available to diaspora organizations involved in international development and registered as U.K charities. These organizations are no longer recruiting partners to participate in these programs.

Getting Involved: DFID is no longer funding the Common Ground Initiative and it is unclear whether or when a second round of funding will be approved. Organizations interested in implementing volunteer programs should look into the resources offered by the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance.

17. United Nations Development Program (UNDP): Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN)

There is no central office or website for the UNDP's TOKTEN program. In most countries, programs are implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the local UNDP office.

TOKTEN Senegal

Complex SICAP Point E
Avenue Cheikh Anta Diop
Building D - left wing - the sixth floor.
BP 40 44
Tel: 221 33 825 56 61
Email: info@tokten.sn
Web: www.tokten.sn

TOKTEN Sudan

Khartoum Office:
UNDP Sudan Gama's Avenue, House 7,
Block 5
P.O. Box 913
Postal Code 11111
Khartoum-Sudan
Tel: (+249) 1 87120000
Email: tokten.sd@undp.org

Web: www.sd.undp.org

Launched in 1977, TOKTEN is one of the longest standing and most successful programs aimed at mobilizing the skills and expertise of diaspora members (de Haas 17). In its first 20 years, TOKTEN was responsible for placing about 5,000 volunteers in 49 developing countries (de Haas 17). Typically, volunteer assignments are created through a process in which governments, local UNDP offices, and receiving institutions collaborate to identify and design projects to fulfill priority skill needs. Volunteers with the skills and expertise needed to complete these assignments are then selected from that country's database of TOKTEN professionals. Depending on a country's specific needs, assignments last one week to three months and can take place within the government, public institutions, local NGOs, or private-sector employers (ILO). This program is implemented in countries throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. In Mali, a joint TOKTEN-UNESCO program mobilized academics from North America, Europe, and Africa, to fill teaching and research needs at the University of Mali (de Haas 17). Between 2007 and 2010, the TOKTEN program in Sudan mobilized 50 diaspora professionals to provide capacity-building services that benefitted close to 2,500 professionals working in institutions affiliated with the Government of National Unity and the Government of Southern Sudan (UNDP).

Resources:

- Facilitates opportunities for diaspora members to volunteer their skills and expertise in their countries of origin through consultancies lasting 1 week-3 months.
- Program covers travel costs and provides consultants with a daily living allowance and medical insurance.

Eligibility: To serve in their countries of origin, potential volunteers must have a bachelors degree or higher, a minimum of 5 years of relevant working experience in a professional area, and be at least 25 years of age. Along with those basic requirements, TOKTEN programs require that volunteers have the ability to work in partnerships and adjust to difficult working conditions, as well as a genuine interest in participating in the development of their countries of origin.

Getting Involved: The process of getting involved can vary from program to program. In most cases, individuals who are interested in being contacted about TOKTEN assignments can register in the TOKTEN database for their country of origin. When positions open, the implementing agency searches this database for individuals with the appropriate skills set, who are then shortlisted for an interview. The lack of transparency in this process has been a source of frustration for some volunteers, as individuals who register in the database have no way of knowing if or when they will be contacted about an assignment.

18. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Information Center

USAID, Ronald Reagan Building, Washington, D.C. 20523-1000

Phone: (202) 712-4810

Email: pinquiries@usaid.gov

Web: www.usaid.gov

Established in 1961, USAID is spearheading efforts to enable the solidarity work of diaspora members and organizations in the United States. Most of the USAID's efforts to engage and equip diaspora development actors take place within the Global Partnerships division of the Office of Innovation and Development Alliances, which was established in 2001 to pioneer, test and mainstream innovative models and approaches that improve development outcomes (IDEA). Under this program, USAID established the Diaspora Network Alliance in 2009 with the goal of forming partnerships with private-sector organizations, companies, and civil society groups to create and strengthen avenues for diaspora involvement. This program focuses on 6 strategic mechanisms for diaspora engagement: philanthropy; volunteer corps; direct investment; participation in capital markets; tourism and nostalgic trade; advocacy and diplomacy (IDEA). USAID is also working with other stakeholders to increase the impact of remittances by developing payment systems that respond to the needs of diaspora members and supporting innovations that reduce transaction costs and increase security. USAID encourages diaspora organizations to apply to their numerous mainstream grant programs, and recently opened a call for proposals specifically for the development initiatives of diaspora organizations. Most of USAID's concrete initiatives to support diaspora communities, like the African Diaspora Marketplace, are carried out by their partner organization, the International Diaspora Engagement Alliance (IDEA).

Resourced/Initiatives

- **Diaspora Network Alliance (DNA):** Under this program, USAID is working to form partnerships that generate resources to promote and support diaspora engagement through the 6 strategic mechanisms USAID has identified.
Contact: idea.usaid.gov/gp/diaspora/diaspora-alliance , diasporaalliance.org
- **Call to Diaspora Organizations:** Through this call for proposals, which closed in October 2012, USAID sought to co-finance diaspora-led initiatives that promote and support diaspora engagement consistent with the DNA framework, or that foster the mobilization of diaspora communities in response to humanitarian needs from conflicts or natural disasters. Please see the IDEA website for more information (www.diasporaalliance.org)
- **Diaspora toolkit for navigating USAID assistance:** This publication, tailored specifically to diaspora organizations, provides easily accessible information about forming partnerships with USAID. It contains suggestions for grant-seekers, information about the types of grants offered by USAID, and their grant funding policies. This guide is entitled "Partnering with USAID: Building Alliances for Sustainable Solutions" and can be accessed at idea.usaid.gov/gp/diaspora/diaspora-resources.
- **Online Resources:** The DNA section of the USAID website contains a webpage with links to various resources that could be relevant to diaspora members and organizations. These include the "toolkit" described above, as well as studies on diaspora engagement, USAID publications about their activities under the DNA

program, and online resources that provide information about immigration, US diaspora organizations and networks, and remittances.

Eligibility: The activities of the Diaspora Networks Alliance and the publications available on the USAID website are meant for diaspora members and organizations based in the United States. Under the ADM program, diaspora entrepreneurs received support to establish enterprises in Angola, Benin, Botswana, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia.

Getting Involved: The IdEA website is the best source of information about USAID resources and programs that are relevant to diaspora members and organizations. For diaspora organizations interested in seeking funding from USAID, the online publication “Partnering with USAID: Building Alliances for Sustainable Solutions” is a good place to start.

19. Voluntary Service Overseas-UK: Diaspora Volunteering

VSO Headquarters

Carlton House
27A Carlton Drive
Putney
London
SW15 2BS
UK

Tel: +44 (0)20 8780 7500

Email (diaspora team): diasporauk@vso.org.uk

Web: www.vso.org.uk

Since its establishment in 1958, Voluntary Services Overseas has placed more than 40,000 volunteers in over 90 countries (VSO International). Initially a UK charity, VSO now operates internationally with recruiting offices in the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, Kenya, India, and the Philippines. While VSO-UK and VSO International share the same headquarters, they have separate websites and offer slightly different programs. Diaspora volunteering became a part of VSO-UK’s agenda after a study found that many diaspora members felt excluded from traditional volunteering programs (Terrazas 26). Recognizing the unique and valuable contributions diaspora communities make to development, VSO implemented a pilot program in 2005 that empowered three diaspora organizations to send volunteers to Cameroon, Ghana and Sierra Leone. Following the success of this pilot, VSO teamed up with the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA) to lobby DFID into funding a larger program, resulting in a grant of £3 million to implement the Diaspora Volunteering Program (DVP) between 2008 and 2011 (VSO-UK). This program equipped 14 UK-based diaspora organizations with the organizational, fundraising, and volunteer management capacities to run volunteer programs that reflected the skills and priorities of their members (VSO-UK). These diaspora organizations deployed over 600 volunteers who

engaged in activities that included building the skills of physicians in Malawi and increasing computer literacy in Tanzania (VSO-UK). As a result, DFID awarded the DVP their top score for development impact overseas (VSO-UK). As of 2012, VSO no longer runs programs for diaspora volunteering; however, they encourage diaspora volunteers to apply for their mainstream volunteer programs (VSO-UK).

Resources Provided:

- **VSO UK/International Mainstream Volunteer Programs:** VSO facilitates opportunities for skilled professionals to volunteer with local partner organizations located in 30 countries across South America, Africa and Southeast Asia. These assignments typically last from 1-2 years, though specialist assignments can last from 3-6 months. VSO's policy is to send volunteers according to where their skills are needed regardless of preferred destination. Given their particular commitment to diaspora volunteering, however, they may be flexible with this policy for diaspora volunteers.
 - **International Citizen Service:** a youth volunteering program that offers placements for youth in the UK between the ages of 18 and 25.
- **VSO UK's Diaspora Volunteering Program (2008-2011):** provided capacity building services and grants to enable diaspora organizations to run volunteer programs (strategic planning, leadership skills, HR, marketing, media, IT, financial management, income generation, recruiting and training volunteers, developing placements, forming partnerships and supporting returned volunteers)
- **Knowledge Resources:** publications based upon research conducted alongside diaspora organizations
 - **"Diaspora Connections: Engaging Diasporas at Multiple Geo-Political Levels:"** This report provides practical research and recommendations for diaspora organizations and other stakeholders to facilitate partnerships that enable diaspora volunteering and development work. It includes information from a mapping exercise VSO conducted to identify various stakeholders at the international, regional, national, UK regional, and local level that could be lobbied to allocate resources to diaspora organizations. It also contains information from a survey of diaspora organizations that identified their level of involvement in advocacy work, the issues addressed by each organization, and factors that contributed to the success or failure of each group's advocacy. A database of potential stakeholders is available to DVA members via their website (diasporavolunteeringalliance.org).
 - **"Working in Partnership with Diaspora Organizations:"** A useful resource for diaspora organizations and stakeholders seeking to form partnerships with them, this report includes research conducted with diaspora organizations on their development and partnership styles and addresses issues of power and trust that can undermine the equality and effectiveness of these relationships. It includes recommendations for international development organizations.

Eligibility: Most of VSO's diaspora volunteering efforts are directed at diaspora members and organizations that are based in the UK, though VSO is working on adapting their mainstream programs to make them relevant to diaspora volunteers from their other recruiting offices. In large part, these programs are open to professionals who have at least 2 years of experience in their field and the skills to train other individuals. For UK-based individuals age 18-25, VSO provides a youth volunteering program called the International Citizen Service.

Getting Involved: As of Fall 2012, VSO is no longer recruiting new partner organizations for their diaspora capacity building program. For diaspora members wishing to serve in their countries of origin, VSO suggests they apply to one of their mainstream volunteer programs, look into volunteering through one of their 34 partner diaspora organizations,³⁴ or contact DVA.³⁵

³⁴ A list of these organizations can be found at <http://www.vso.org.uk/partnerships/diaspora/associates.asp>

³⁵ Please see the entry on the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance

20. The World Bank: African Diaspora Program

World Bank Headquarters

1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433 USA
Tel: (202) 473-1000
Fax: (202) 477-6391
Web: worldbank.org

African Diaspora Program

Web: worldbank.org/afr/diaspora
Email: afrdiaspora@worldbank.org

Newfound international enthusiasm for equipping the development efforts of diaspora members can be attributed in part to a 2003 World Bank study that shifted paradigms on migration and development by concluding that migrant workers' remittances were a vital and sustainable form of development finance, second only to Foreign Direct Investment (de Haas 14). The study also found that, with transfer costs often exceeding 20%, reducing them by just 5% would lead to a savings of over \$3.5 billion (de Haas 14). This led the World Bank to sponsor a series of studies and international conferences addressing remittances and how to maximize their development impact. In 2007, the World Bank launched the African Diaspora Program (ADP) to facilitate policy, financial, and human capital development in Africa through partnerships with African governments, the African Union Commission, Diaspora Professional Networks, and a number of other donor partners³⁶ (World Bank). Under this program, the World Bank has provided the African Union Commission and several Sub-Saharan African governments³⁷ with Institutional Development Fund (IDF) grants and technical support to create and sustain frameworks for diaspora engagement (World Bank). In partnership with the African Development Bank and the IOM, the World Bank is also working to establish an African Institute for Remittances (AIR) within the African Union Commission. Once this program is operational, it will be responsible for increasing the capacity of stakeholders (governments, banks, etc.) to implement strategies and mechanisms that maximize the development potential of remittances. Most of the World Bank's activities under this program benefit members of the African diaspora indirectly through partner organizations and governments, with the exception of the current and in-process initiatives listed below.

Resources/Initiatives:

- **Development Marketplace for African Diaspora Action (DMADA):** This initiative aims to support members of the African diaspora who have ideas for innovative and sustainable initiatives to promote youth employment. Members of diasporas from any country within the AU and living in any region of the world will be eligible to apply through a legally registered organization. The World Bank will release a call for proposals once funding has been confirmed (World Bank).

³⁶ These include the African Development Bank, the International Organization for Migration, the European Commission, the United Nations Development Program, and the governments of Italy, Belgium, Germany, France, and the Netherlands

³⁷ Thus far, IDF grants have been awarded to Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Uganda

- **African Diaspora Professional Skills Database:** Launched in 2010, this initiative seeks to mobilize human resources in the diaspora by creating a database of available skills and resources. This information will be used by World Bank Task Team Leaders to identify individuals and organizations/firms that could contribute to World Bank projects in Africa. Eventually, the World Bank hopes to make this resource available to other stakeholders such as African governments and donor agencies (World Bank).
- **African Diaspora Investment Fund (ADIF):** This initiative is the result of discussions with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) regarding a collaboration between the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Regional Economic Communities (RECs), donor partners, diaspora members and other stakeholders to establish an investment fund for African diaspora members across the globe. The objective is to establish an offshore fund that would create multi-class shares denominated in multi-currencies. The World Bank has not yet confirmed details such as the fund's objectives and business targets and who will be responsible for its management (World Bank).
- **Development Marketplace for the African Diaspora in Europe (DMADE):** Launched in 2007, this program utilized bilateral grants from Belgium, Germany, France and the Netherlands to make \$1 million available to European-based African diaspora entrepreneurs who had proposals for sustainable businesses. Of the 500 business proposals received, 16 were chosen to receive funding. The winning proposals included a business to produce high-end textiles in Mali and another to process cashew nuts in the Ivory Coast (World Bank). The deadline for applications closed in 2008. The World Bank has not published whether there will be a second round of this program.
- **Ethiopian Diaspora Health and Education Professionals Mobilization Project:** Funded by the Italian Government, this initiative will extend a pilot program that enables qualified members of the Ethiopian Diaspora to help build the capacity of Addis Ababa University through virtual volunteering.
- **Support for African diaspora networks:** Through the African Diaspora Program, the World Bank has provided support to several organizations managed by and for African diaspora members in the United States. These include the African Union-African Diaspora Health Initiative, implemented by the African Union Representational Mission to the United States.

Eligibility: Eligibility for World Bank programs and resources varies depending on the desires of the institutions funding the program. Members of diasporas from any country within the African Union and living in any region of the world will be eligible to apply for the DMADA program through a legally registered organization. The African Diaspora skills database is open to all diaspora professionals interested in getting involved with their countries of origin.

Getting Involved: Aside from the African Diaspora Professional Skills Database, the initiatives described above are either in process or no longer active. To register in the database, diaspora professionals can submit a Basic Information Form and CV or corporate

profile to afrdiaspora@worldbank.org. One World Bank publication claims that a link to the Basic Information Form can be found on the ADP homepage; however, I found that it was slightly more hidden. To access this form, diaspora members can go to the ADP website and click on the link under the News and Events Section entitled “World Bank African Diaspora Program Launches Database of Professional Skills.” A link to the Basic Information Form can be found in the last paragraph on this webpage. For individuals interested in getting involved with the DMADA and/or ADIF programs, updates on the progress of these programs should be posted on the ADP’s website as they occur.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Efforts that combine the resources and technical expertise of traditional development actors with the knowledge and deeply held personal motivations of diaspora associations and individuals have enormous potential to improve the health and well being of home communities. But to date, very few of the varied organizations and programs seeking to support diaspora development work have withstood the test of time, and some are so new that they have yet to be evaluated.

There are also many factors that hinder this collaborative potential. Simply locating necessary information about potential partnerships can be extremely challenging, due in part to the vagaries of the internet and website formation. The integrity and effectiveness of these partnerships is also threatened by the often unequal balance of power between diaspora organizations and the traditional development actors. We therefore conclude this guide with a few practical suggestions for those in the diaspora seeking to locate and access resources, as well as for organizations that aim to form productive, co-development, solidarity-oriented partnerships.

General Suggestions for Diaspora Members and Organizations

Advocate for your needs: The most promising programs aimed at reinforcing the efforts of diaspora development actors were established at the request of diaspora members themselves. These include the Diaspora Volunteering Program in the UK, which DFID funded in response to lobbying by VSO and DVA. In the case of French co-development policies, criticism voiced by the African diaspora in France resulted in the reformation of these programs to reduce their emphasis on return migration (Panizzon 186). Given current trends toward leveraging migration for development, organizations may be particularly responsive to the requests of diaspora members. Some countries and organizations have created formal networking platforms for this purpose, where diaspora members can interface with other organizations, public institutions, and policymakers. For diaspora members who don’t have access to such a resource, spontaneously created diaspora networks have also made significant gains leveraging resources for programs that reflect their needs and priorities. For example, UK-based AFFORD has exerted significant influence over DFID, including lobbying policymakers to consult more regularly with diaspora communities on issues regarding international development and migration (de Haas 65)

Search web platforms that offer clearinghouses and advertise multiple programs and opportunities:

Aside from the organizations devoted entirely to working with diaspora members and organizations, most of the organizations supporting diaspora development work implement programs that are active for relatively short periods of time. This can complicate the process of locating resources because windows of opportunity are often of small duration and, after programs close, it is generally unclear whether additional opportunities will follow. Even while programs are active, they may not be open to new participants. For these reasons, websites that advertise opportunities and deadlines from multiple organizations are very valuable. The websites for FORIM, DVA, FORIM, IdeA, and MyWorld all provide information on news and events that are relevant to diaspora development actors. These include funding opportunities and deadlines, workshops and trainings, volunteer opportunities, jobs in international development, and other useful resources.

Be persistent when trying to contact organizations. Regardless of the size of the organization, it can take multiple phone calls or emails, or both, to receive a response. Many organizations simply do not have the capacity to respond to every request and it is often the more persistent people who succeed in getting responses.

For diaspora organizations seeking resources for development projects or capacity building

Start Small: Particularly for less-established diaspora organizations, it is a good idea to first seek support from smaller organizations that work exclusively with diaspora communities. These organizations are more likely to work with diaspora organizations with varied levels of experience and professionalization. They also have greater capacity to offer more individualized attention to help diaspora organizations locate and access appropriate resources. In contrast, larger organizations typically offer capacity building resources or technical assistance to organizations that have proven track records or with whom they already partner. Examples of organizations that offer training, workshops, and technical assistance to diaspora members and organizations include FORIM, ERCMOVE, DVA and IntEnt.

Build partnerships with other organizations: Most funding agencies and organizations either encourage or require diaspora organizations to implement projects in partnership with local organizations in the communities they seek to impact. This way, both organizations can benefit from sharing resources and expertise. Diaspora organizations that can demonstrate a history of building successful partnerships with other organizations also have more credibility when applying for grants from larger organizations like national development agencies (USAID).

For diaspora members who wish to contribute their skills:

Volunteering can be a highly rewarding and effective way for diaspora members to give back to and connect with their countries of origin. While some diaspora volunteering

programs aim to connect diaspora youth with their countries of origin, most programs focus on mobilizing skilled and highly educated professionals. Diaspora members seeking out opportunities may find it challenging to find assignments that match their skills, availability, and intended destination, as most organizations have programs that are active intermittently and in very particular countries. Recognizing this issue, IdEA is in the process of creating an online resource that will allow diaspora members to search for appropriate programs from a database of organizations involved in diaspora volunteering, but it is not yet available. Mainstream volunteering programs often recruit volunteers continually and have a sustained presence in far more countries than programs exclusively for diaspora volunteers. Examples of mainstream volunteer programs that may be more in tune with the needs of diaspora members include VSO and USAID's Volunteers for Prosperity.

Register in databases: the IOM's MIDA, the World Bank, the UNDP's TOKTEN, and FORIM, all possess databases in which diaspora professionals can advertise their skills. These are generally used by the organizations themselves, as well as African governments and institutions, to mobilize diaspora members when appropriate opportunities arise.

For remitting diaspora members and organizations:

Diaspora members are always on the look out for less costly and more efficient ways to send money home. Aid agencies, multilateral actors, and private entities such as banks, are all working to improve these transfers. There are also less savory actors seeking only to profit from this market. Arguably, some of the most effective tools for this purpose are websites like the UK's fxcompared.com (originally sendmoneyhome.org) that allow diaspora members to compare services to find the fastest and least expensive way to transfer money. IntEnt (www.geldnaarhuis.nl) and the French government (www.envoidargent.fr) have developed similar comparison services. With many organizations engaged in efforts to increase the security, effectiveness, and scope of these services, it is hopeful that they will become accessible to more individuals sending and receiving remittances throughout the globe.

Other organizations seek to harness remittances for development by creating ways to channel funds into sustainable, productive investments. France offers co-development savings accounts that provide owners with tax deductions of almost 40% of the account's entire value when they invest in pre-defined infrastructure projects (Panizzon 199). Other initiatives include AFFORD's RemitPlus campaign, which advocates for tax breaks on remittances spent in ways that further the MDGs. These tax breaks would be pooled into a fund that could be used to improve the creditworthiness of developing countries and to introduce social enterprises into the remittance transfer sector (AFFORD).

For diaspora members who wish to start enterprises in their countries of origin:

For African diaspora entrepreneurs with good business ideas and the expertise to write a competitive business plan, the World Bank, USAID, and the AfDB offer programs providing funding and technical assistance. These programs have been instrumental in catalyzing the

businesses of select entrepreneurs, who go on to invest in and provide sustainable incomes for other people in their country of origin. However, they are not a particularly accessible form of support, as they respond to a large demand, are highly competitive, and do not provide technical assistance or training to individuals preparing to submit their proposals. Prospective entrepreneurs with good ideas, but little to no business experience, would most likely need to seek outside assistance.

In contrast, organizations like IntEnt and the SEVA Network³⁸ in the Netherlands have been quite successful at equipping diaspora members at all levels of experience with the skills and resources needed to start successful businesses.³⁹ These programs provide entrepreneurs with training, technical assistance, and, in the case of the Seva Network, start-up loans and grants to help diaspora entrepreneurs turn their business ideas into fully functional enterprises. While IntEnt does not supply entrepreneurs with funding, they provide assistance that is shown to be effective in connecting entrepreneurs with resources from outside sources. Not everyone who begins the program starts a business, but the businesses that are established have a very high success rate (Newland and Tanaka 15). AFFORD also partners with the EU and HIVOS, a Dutch NGO, to provide enterprise development services for UK-based diaspora members wishing to start enterprises in Ghana.

Suggestions for traditional agents of development: ⁴⁰

Improve interface with diaspora communities:

For diaspora development actors, finding and accessing appropriate resources can be an immensely challenging process. While conducting research for this guide, we found that necessary information about getting involved and accessing resources was scattered, difficult to find, or nonexistent on many organization's websites. As the chapters in "Done Waiting" reveal, the highly effective diaspora development actors that seek out these resources are frequently full-time workers who devote almost all of their spare time to development solidarity. Increasing the accessibility of information about getting involved would ensure that diaspora members are able to spend more time giving back to their communities, and, for traditional development actors, would likely reduce the amount of time spent fielding calls and emails about programs.

³⁹ the SEVA Network is a diaspora-led organization that provides diaspora entrepreneurs with financial support and technical assistance to help them start businesses in their countries of origin. We chose not to profile them in this guide because their services are very similar to those provided by IntEnt and they also operate in the Netherlands

⁴⁰ This section is inspired by and draws from the Conclusions and Suggestions section in de Haas 2006

In the long term, it would be immensely helpful if practitioners working in the field of migration and development came together to create an online, international database of resources for diaspora development actors. Given that there are limited windows of opportunity to take advantage of many resources and strict eligibility requirements make many programs open only to diaspora members with very particular host and home countries, a database offering diaspora members a way to search for resources that match their particular qualifications and objectives would be immensely helpful. Though particular to the Netherlands, the website myworld.nl provides an excellent example of how web platforms can be used to make the development world more accessible to diaspora organizations and other grass roots development actors.

Learn from the experiences of others:

Just because migration and development is a relatively new field does not mean that all programs need to be experimental. The Netherlands and France have decades of experience, both good and bad, that organizations and countries new to migration and development work can learn from. It seems that many organizations emphasize innovation, rather than replicating and refining methods that have already achieved success. As a result, proven engagement mechanisms like the Diaspora Volunteering Program and IntEnt, which have the potential benefit diaspora development actors and their communities throughout the globe, are limited to single countries. Combining experimental programs with those that are already proven could help ensure that diaspora members have access to resources that are more consistently effective. From this solid base, organizations could revise and innovate to adjust to the needs of particular contexts.

Build upon existing diaspora initiatives:

As this volume has sought to show, migrants help democratize development when they share their first-hand knowledge of local context, their in-country networks, and their deep personal motivations for improving the well being of those they left behind. Based upon diaspora members' unique histories, experiences, and sources of knowledge, their members' priorities, attitudes, and methods often differ from those of traditional development agent. As communities in developing countries have infinitely diverse needs, the world stands to benefit from an approach to development that encompasses a myriad of voices and methods. According to de Haas, "the challenge for development agencies is not to make diaspora organizations more like them but to work with them to build on their unique strengths and minimize their limitations" (de Haas 101). The current trend, however, is to ask diaspora organizations to adapt to mainstream development, rather than the other way around (Talbot 6). For example, the eligibility requirements for many funding programs ask that potential diaspora partners conform to the priorities and methods of the funding partner. As diaspora organizations and traditional agents of development alike have much to gain through mutual learning, efforts should be made to minimize power imbalances and top-down decision making models. This would allow for greater flexibility and innovation to respond to the specific needs of recipient communities.

Bottom-up approaches to equipping diaspora development also have the potential to be more effective because they engender a greater sense of ownership and often have more credibility among diaspora communities. Studies on diaspora engagement identify stakeholder ownership as an important condition for success (de Haas 100). The Diaspora Volunteering Program, which empowered diaspora organizations to implement their own volunteer programs, provides a good example of a more bottom-up approach. Partly as a result, many of these programs are on their way to being self-sustaining.

Final Thoughts

Collaboration between diaspora communities and traditional development actors that is based upon mutual respect and shared learning has immense potential to remedy many of the problems that have long plagued top-down, dependency creating, and unsustainable forms of development. At their best, such collaborations can build upon the already impressive works diaspora members have begun throughout the world. Powerful synergies can be created when the knowledge, experience, and unique strengths of the African diaspora are paired with the resources and know-how of traditional development agents. We hope that diaspora organizations and traditional development agents alike will use this guide to realize the potential of such partnerships in order to achieve a common vision for a more equitable world.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF SUPPORT

To limit this guide to 25 profiles, we excluded many organizations that are potentially valuable resources to diaspora development actors. These include organizations that focus primarily on generating research, organizations doing work similar to those we had already decided to profile, and organizations that do not explicitly support diaspora development work. Here, you will find a list of these organizations and a short summary of their activities and objectives.

African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC), the Hague-the Netherlands, diaspora-centre.org: Generates research, formulates policy recommendations, and organizes networking events to increase the involvement and influence of the African Diaspora in international development. They are also an implementing partner for the Africa-Europe Platform for Development.

Africa Rural Connect, Web-based Platform, arc.peacecorpsconnect.org: Program implemented by the National Peace Corps Association that seeks to unite stakeholders in Africa's development (African Diaspora members, returned Peace Corps volunteers, development workers, farmers, etc.) to address challenges facing rural Africa. Members can post ideas for projects, comment on or endorse the ideas of others, and collaborate to turn ideas into concrete actions. Periodic contests provide cash prizes to the best proposals.

Africa UK, London-United Kingdom, africa-uk.org: Platform to promote research and networking to increase involvement of UK-based African Diaspora members in policymaking and international development.

AfricaRecruit, London-United Kingdom, africarecruit.com: Organization that seeks to address shortages in human and financial resources in Africa by organizing business and HR conferences and running the sites www.findajobinafrica.com and africareerguidance.com, which seek to match members of the African diaspora with temporary or permanent job openings in Africa.

Aga Khan Foundation, International, akdn.org: Foundation that supports grassroots organizations with ideas to create sustainable change in the areas of health, education, rural development, the environment, and strengthening civil society.

American International Health Alliance HIV/AIDS Twinning Center, Washington D.C.-United States, twinningagainstaids.org: Government-sponsored program that facilitates partnerships between American and African institutions for the treatment and prevention of aids. They run a volunteer program recruits healthcare workers in the African Diaspora to volunteer in hospitals and clinics in 11 Sub-Saharan African countries.

Centro Studi di Politica Internazionale (CeSPI)⁴¹, Rome-Italy, cespi.it: Source of research about topics related to international development and politics, including migration and development. Implementing partner for COOPI program to equip diaspora efforts of Senegalese migrants

Centro de Informação e Documentação Anti-Colonial (CIDAC),⁴² Lisbon-Portugal, cidac.pt: Generates research to promote the positive links between migration and development and partners with CfD to implement IDEM! Project.

Coca-Cola Foundation, International, http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/foundation_coke.html: Provides financial support for community-based projects that focus on water stewardship, community recycling, healthy lifestyles, education, HIV/AIDS and malaria prevention, and job creation. They also provide a donation-matching program for Coca-Cola employees.

Comic Relief: London-UK, comicleif.org: A UK-based organization that partners with the BBC to provide funding for initiatives throughout the UK and internationally. They no longer have grant programs specifically for diaspora organizations, but they have a history of funding diaspora-led initiatives and were chosen by DFID to implement the Common Ground Initiative between 2009 and 2012, which provided funding and capacity building to 34 diaspora organizations.

Coordination Générale des Migrants pour le Développement (CGMD), Brussels-Belgium, cgmd.be: National organization similar to FORIM that encourages and facilitates research, networking, and awareness raising to strengthen and promote the influence and

⁴¹ Center for Study in International Politics

⁴² Center for Anti-Colonial Information and Research

actions of diaspora organizations in Belgium. Implementing partner for the Africa-Europe Platform for Development.

Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti (COSPE), Florence-Italy, cospe.it: International development organization that works to promote the rights of migrants.

Cuso International, Ottawa-Canada, cusointernational.org: Partners with VSO to provide professionals in North America with opportunities to volunteer abroad. They value the development contributions of diaspora members and implement diaspora volunteering programs in Ethiopia, Guyana, and Rwanda. Also partner with IdEA to implement their Diaspora Volunteering Program.

CCFD-Terre Solidaire (CCFD), Paris-France, ccfdterre-solidaire.org: Development NGO that conducts activities primarily by providing funding to other organizations. They are active in promoting the rights and development activities of diaspora groups in France, one of pS-Eau's funding partners.

Global Forum for Migration and Development, International, gfmd.org: An annual meeting that convenes policy makers, high-level practitioners, and other stakeholders from UN member states to discuss policies, challenges, opportunities, and best practices in migration and development. Their website is a good source of information about national migration and development policies

Here and Home, Riverside, CA-United States, hereandhome.org: Nonprofit founded by African college and university faculty members in the US. They support higher education in Africa by recruiting academics in the African diaspora to teach summer courses or professional development workshops in African universities.

International Executive Service Corps (IESC), Washington, D.C.-United States, iesc.org: Mobilizes business and technological expertise in America to promote sustainable development. They recruit diaspora members for programs in Ethiopia, Lebanon, and Sudan.

International Labor Organization (ILO), International, ilo.org: UN organization that works to promote social justice by encouraging decent employment opportunities and protecting workers rights. Involved in implementing the UN-EU Joint Migration and Development Initiative.

SEVA Network Foundation: the Hague-the Netherlands, seva-group.org: Diaspora-led organization that seeks to reduce poverty by promoting entrepreneurship among Diaspora members and organizations. Provide financial support, technical assistance, and networking opportunities to Diaspora entrepreneurs.

The African Network (TAN), Santa Clara, CA-United States, theafricannetwork.org: Nonprofit organization that supports entrepreneurship among people of African descent. Organizes monthly networking dinners, an annual conference for African professionals,

and events to train, encourage, and equip start-up entrepreneurs in underserved communities in Africa

Veolia Environment Foundation, France, foundation.veolia.com: Corporate foundation committed to promoting community-oriented projects that contribute to outreach, workforce development, and environmental conservation. Previously supported an initiative of a Cameroonian Diaspora organization in France.

Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA), Washington D.C-United States, vegaalliance.org: Nonprofit committed to supporting emerging economies by mobilizing expertise and providing technical assistance. Involved in promoting diaspora volunteering.

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Summary of Resources

Organization	Type	Programs/ Resources	Capacity Building	Skills Transfer	Remittances	Entrepreneurship	Network Formation, Advocacy
International							
Africa-Europe Platform (AEP)	Multilateral	Training, Networks, Methodological Tools	X				X
African Development Bank (AfDB)	Multilateral/ Bank	M & D Initiative	X		X	X	
African Union	Multilateral	African Diaspora Health Initiative		X	X		X
EU-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI)	Multilateral	Networks, Training, Methodological Tools	X				X
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Multilateral	Migration for Development in Africa		X	X	X	
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Multilateral	Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN)		X			X
World Bank	Multilateral/ Bank	African Diaspora Program	X	X	X	X	
The Netherlands							
Economic Resource Center for Migrants and Overseas Employees (ERCMOVE)	Private NGO	Capacity-building for individuals and organizations	X		X		X
InfEnt	National	InfEnt business training			X	X	
MyWorld.nl	Private NGO	Web platform for grassroots development initiatives	X				
France							
Forum des Organisations	National	Networking, PRAIOSIM,	X	X			X

Internationale Issues des Migrations (FORIM)																
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	National					X	X				X					
Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau)	National					X					X					
Italy																
Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)	Private NGO					X					X				X	
the United Kingdom																
African Foundation for Development (AFFORD)	Private NGO						X				X				X	
Department for International Development (DFID)	National					X	X				X					
Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA)	Private NGO					X	X				X				X	
Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)	Private NGO					X	X				X				X	
the United States																
International Diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA)	National						X				X			X		X
US Agency for International Development (USAID)	National					X	X				X			X		X