



## CREATE CONDITIONS FOR MIGRANTS AND DIASPORAS TO FULLY CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ALL COUNTRIES



### Associated actions

- a. Ensure the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda by fostering and facilitating the positive effects of migration for the realization of all Sustainable Development Goals
- b. Integrate migration into development planning and sectoral policies at local, national, regional and global levels**, taking into consideration relevant existing policy guidelines and recommendations, such as the GMG Handbook on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning, in order to strengthen policy coherence and effectiveness of development cooperation
- c. Invest in research on the impact of non-financial contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development** in countries of origin and destination, such as knowledge and skills transfer, social and civic engagement, and cultural exchange, with a view to developing evidence-based policies and strengthening global policy discussions

- d. Facilitate the contributions of migrants and diasporas to their countries of origin**, including by establishing or strengthening government structures or mechanisms at all levels, such as dedicated diaspora offices or focal points, diaspora policy advisory boards for governments to account for the potential of migrants and diasporas in migration and development policy-making, and dedicated diaspora focal points in diplomatic or consular missions
- e. Develop targeted support programmes and financial products** that facilitate migrant and diaspora investments and entrepreneurship, including by providing administrative and legal support in business creation, granting seed capital-matching, establish diaspora bonds and diaspora development funds, investment funds, and organize dedicated trade fairs
- f. Provide easily accessible information and guidance**, including through digital platforms, as well as tailored mechanisms for the coordinated and effective financial, voluntary or philanthropic engagement of migrants and diasporas, especially in humanitarian emergencies in their countries of origin, including by involving consular missions
- g. Enable political participation and engagement of migrants in their countries of origin**, including in peace and reconciliation processes, in elections and political reforms, such as by establishing voting registries for citizens abroad, and by parliamentary representation, in accordance with national legislation
- h. Promote migration policies that optimize the benefits of diasporas for countries of origin and destination** and their

communities, by facilitating flexible modalities to travel, work and invest with minimal administrative burdens, including by reviewing and revising visa, residency and citizenship regulations, as appropriate

- i. **Cooperate with other States, the private sector and employers organizations to enable migrants and diasporas**, especially those in highly technical fields and in high demand, to carry out some of their professional activities and engage in knowledge transfer in their home countries, without necessarily losing employment, residence status, or earned social benefits
- j. **Build partnerships between local authorities, local communities, the private sector, diasporas, hometown associations and migrant organizations** to promote knowledge and skills transfer between their countries of origin and countries of destination, including by mapping the diasporas and their skills, as a means to maintain the link between diasporas and their country of origin



### Example practices

For more practices, visit the Migration Network Hub's **Repository of Practices**

### Institutional mechanisms for diaspora outreach in sub-Saharan Africa

Several sub-Saharan African countries have established (or will establish) institutional mechanisms for diaspora outreach and engagement.

- Burundi, well aware of the role its diaspora can play in the fight against poverty, has established a diaspora

department within its Ministry of External Affairs.

- The government of Nigeria has created the Nigerians in the Diaspora Organization (NIDO) and allocates office space at its embassy in Washington, D.C. for coordination. One of NIDO's objectives is to provide a platform for diaspora members to dialogue with the Nigerian government on efficient and practical ways to affect the Nigerian economy.
- In Zimbabwe, government is considering a comprehensive policy for migration management and diaspora engagement. To this end, an inter-ministerial team from Zimbabwe took a tour of the Philippines and India to learn lessons from these countries on how to create institutions for the coordination of diaspora-related issues (Fragile States Unit, n.d.).

### Crowdfunding platforms: Moldova

The IOM office in Moldova, collaborating with Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), identified how a crowdfunding platform could be best utilized to promote the efficient use of migrant funds. Recommendations include to use a hybrid crowdfunding model that begins by channelling diaspora contributions into community and development projects, and transitions into becoming a platform that attracts both financial investments and donations and to have the platform focus on certain areas, especially manufacturing, IT, and education (Columbia SIPA, n.d.). In addition, through the Integrated Migration and Local Development Project (MiDL), supported by UNDP and Switzerland, Moldova managed to ensure a two-way dialogue through organizing the diaspora/migrants and local development programmes where more than 10,000

migrants participated. The project emphasized the national ownership and strengthened capacities at national and local levels to enable a socioeconomic environment, secure employment support, reduce disparities and inequalities, provide income generating opportunities, and ensure sustainable local development. The project resulted in a national comprehensive strategic framework, the National Employment Strategy for 2017–2021 developed in cooperation with ILO, that steers and guides all national employment policy interventions, including on labour migration and reintegration. To date, more than 300,000 people benefit from better services in their villages and cities (UNDP Moldova, n.d.).

## iDIASPORA

iDIASPORA, hosted by IOM, is an online platform that invites members of different diasporas to collaborate and connect across the world and across transnational communities. The platform aims to allow diaspora members to work together, learn from each other, and generative sustainable positive impacts in both countries of destination and origin. Using the platform, users can find and connect with members of the online community with whom they share common areas of work and interest (IOM, n.d.).



## Relevant sustainable development goals

### All SDGs

Migration can be a powerful driver of sustainable development for migrants and their communities in countries of origin, transit and destination. The extent to which migrants are able to contribute to sustainable development outcomes depends on migrants' rights being upheld, as well as their ability to access services and fully integrate as contributing members of their communities. Accordingly, all SDGs are relevant to the 2030 Agenda's promise to leave no one behind.