



## **ADEPT Seed Funding: A tool to engage diaspora organizations in the implementation of the GCM**

*By the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT)*

ADEPT was created in 2017 with the mission to amplify the voice and impact of diaspora organizations in Africa and Europe. Our direct beneficiaries are diaspora organizations based in Europe that carry out projects in both continents. Their activities contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as to the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), notably [objective 19](#) (Migrant and diaspora contributions) and [objective 2](#) (Minimize adverse drivers).

ADEPT has been engaged from the beginning of the negotiations of the GCM<sup>1</sup> and every stage since, and has advocated for the Compact with diaspora organisations<sup>2</sup>. ADEPT highlighted the opportunity for a global governance on migration in the GCM, recognizing the contributions of diasporas to the SDGs through its different transfers, beyond the financial remittances. Moreover, the GCM offers an open and inclusive approach for diasporas to implement it, together with other stakeholders, as well as the opportunity for us to be an active stakeholder of the follow-up and review process, as demonstrated by our participation in the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which took place in May 2022.

With the financial support of the European Commission and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, as well as the technical partnership of International Centre for Migration and Development, ADEPT has developed a [Seed Funding programme](#).

Based on an annual call for projects, it aims to co-finance up to 70% of the initiatives led by diaspora organizations in Europe and in Africa. In alignment with objective 19 of the GCM, it intends to provide technical and financial support to diaspora organizations in undertaking their projects and to make their actions more visible. By highlighting positive contributions of diasporas and the benefits of migration as a source of sustainable development, this programme also contributes to the promotion of positive narratives on migration.

In addition, diaspora organizations play an important role in achieving locally the Sustainable Development Goals, owing to the strategic partnerships they forge with local actors (see [ADEPT research on diaspora organizations' engagement in local development in Africa](#)). Funded projects have dealt with food security, renewable energy challenges, access to potable water, and the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence. Almost 1000 people in Africa and Europe, 60% of whom were women, benefitted from those initiatives led by diaspora organizations.

The programme, through its call for projects, trains the diaspora organizations in funding applications, project implementation and end-of-project reporting. When an organization has successfully completed a whole Seed Funding call cycle, it can apply for double the previous amount, thus preparing the organization for the management of larger amounts. In addition to project management capacity, it helps diaspora organizations develop impactful communication through the publication of a video and/or a fact sheet.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.adept-platform.org/diaspora-clobal-compact-for-migration-gcm-implementation/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRgu5oLnrlU>

The funding of the programme has now ended, and ADEPT is drawing lessons from 5 years of experimentation to improve the different steps of the programme as well as its internal procedures in the next funding cycle. To resume and gradually extend the Seed Funding programme in 2023, more funding is needed. For diaspora organizations, the Seed Funding is key in their annual workplan and may be the only funding aligned to their fundraising capacity for those based in Central and Eastern Europe.

Several organizations have publicly stressed the importance of the Seed Funding Programme:

*"The financial support from ADEPT has enabled the implementation and made possible the execution of the workshop."*

Glenda Magloire, CEO and consultant at [CBINN](#)

*"The dialogue with the donor ADEPT Platform has been constant and constructive. The quality of the listening, the availability of the team and the speed of the responses facilitated the adaptation to the changes due to the COVID-19 crisis and made it possible to carry out the project successfully."*

Marie-Pierre Nyatani, Coordinator of [Djaïli Mbock organization](#)

*"The recommendation we would make to ADEPT is to increase the funding of the DTS [seed funding] to fund projects of two years, with maximum funding that will allow organizations to have more impact, but also increase the chances for other funders to see the results and fund their initiatives."*

Ouedraogo Lassane, Chairperson of the [Africa Centre Ireland](#)

*"Before the installation of the device, we had cases of waterborne diseases every time. We even had days when we had more than 10 children absent because of the quality of the water; the children were constantly sick. When we had the opportunity to receive this donation, everything changed. The students started to be very regular, the illnesses dropped completely. As I speak, since the beginning of the school year, we have not seen a single case of waterborne disease."*



Amagna Ghislain Jules,  
School Director in Yaoundé<sup>3</sup>

The 'Seed Funding' Programme has proved to be an effective and direct tool to support the initiatives of diaspora organizations. ADEPT therefore calls upon Member States to contribute to the funding of programmes that meaningfully engage with diaspora networks and communities as well as to contribute to the funding of the [Migration MPTF joint programmes](#) to support the implementation of the GCM.

*This piece is published as part of the UN Network on Migration's Guest Blog series and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the UN Network on Migration nor its Secretariat.*

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<sup>3</sup> Beneficiary of a training on waterborne disease and of a water filtration system.