



Diaspora engagement mapping EGYPT

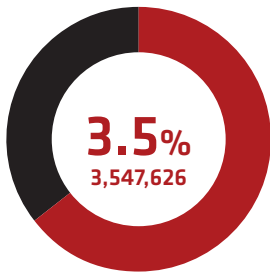
Facts & figures

Emigration

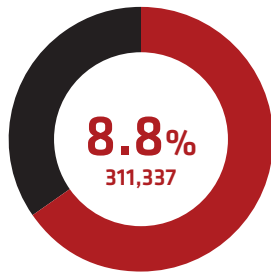
% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 64.7%
♀ 35.3%



♂ 65.5%
♀ 34.5%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **8.8%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **26,353**



Top countries of destination¹

Saudi Arabia	938,649
United Arab Emirates	886,291
Kuwait	410,831
United States	203,205
Qatar	186,840



Political rights



Dual citizenship²



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad³



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Egypt refers to its diaspora as 'Egyptian citizens abroad'
(المواطنون المصريون بالخارج al-mawāṭinūn al-maṣriyyūn bi-l-khārig)

Egypt does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

In 2017, IOM started to work with the Ministry for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs to develop a national diaspora engagement policy and strategy. The strategy has not been adopted yet and no information on its advancement is currently available.

¹ Revised Constitution 2014, Article 208, English version available: https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Egypt_2014.pdf

² As of 2004, Egyptian mothers married to non-Egyptian fathers may pass their Egyptian nationality to their children. See Law no. 154 of 2004 amending some provisions of law no. 26 of 1975 concerning Egyptian nationality, Official Gazette, Vol. 28, 14 July 2004, English version available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/58bebc444.html>

³ Historically, voting rights for Egyptians abroad (whether or not they were dual citizens) was a politically sensitive subject. It was only after the Egyptian revolution in 2011 that attitudes started to shift and Egyptians abroad were permitted to vote in national elections.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 1983** ● **Law 111: Emigration and Sponsoring Egyptians Abroad Law** outlines the Egyptian government's efforts to create legislation covering Egyptians abroad.⁴ The law incentivises Egyptians to be engaged in the development of Egypt, although awareness of this law by most Egyptians is low.
- 2014** ● **Revision of the Constitution of Egypt** established the state's commitment to take care of the interests of Egyptians residing abroad: to protect them and ensure their rights and freedoms, and to enable them to perform their general duties towards the state and society and make a contribution to the development of the country.⁵
- 2015** ● **Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS): Egypt Vision 2030** includes diaspora engagement as something which contributes to and impacts Egypt's development agenda through encouraging diaspora remittances, investments, and skills transfer for the socio-economic development of the country.⁶

» Trends & achievements :

From the 1970s onwards, Egypt has implemented various initiatives to engage with its diaspora. The focus of government policy was formerly on labour migration and increasing contributions of migrant remittances to the country's economy, while placing controls on migration to prevent this leading to labour shortages at home. Egyptian policymakers have tended to view what it has traditionally referred to as 'permanent migrants' (i.e. Egyptians living specifically in the West) as educated and successful, and have developed schemes within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other agencies to promote return migration and diaspora investment, and to stem brain drain. This has included providing government-paid trips to Egypt to promote diaspora return and/or investments, as well as targeted outreach to diaspora members via embassies and consulates. As Tsourapas argues, this has "contributed to a multi-tier emigration policy that has favoured Egyptians in the West at the expense of those residing in Arab countries."⁷

In September 2015, the reestablishment of the Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs demonstrated the government's will and strengthened its capacity to engage with Egyptians in the diaspora. This reflects the awareness and commitment of the Egyptian government to the importance of diaspora engagement.

Currently, Egypt's strategic objectives vis-à-vis emigration and Egyptian citizens abroad include:⁸ encouraging and increasing the contribution of expatriate Egyptians to invest in the country; increasing the volume of remittances of Egyptians abroad; strengthening the links of Egyptians abroad and their children with the homeland (especially the second and third generation); and protecting the interests of Egyptians abroad, providing them with full support, and solving problems they face abroad.

In early 2020, the Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs stated it had concluded international cooperation agreements between the Ministry of State for Immigration and a number of European countries (Germany, Italy, Austria, the European Union) in the areas of migration and development, with the aim of promoting circular migration, and productive diaspora return.

4 <http://www.emigration.gov.eg/DefaultEn/Pages/lawdetails.aspx?lawCode=12> (Arabic only)

5 <http://www.emigration.gov.eg/DefaultAr/Pages/default.aspx> (Arabic only)

6 English version available at: http://www.arabdevelopmentportal.com/sites/default/files/publication/sds_egypt_vision_2030.pdf

7 Gerasimos Tsourapas (2018, 'Egypt: Migration and Diaspora Politics in an Emerging Transit Country', available at: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/egypt-migration-and-diaspora-politics-emerging-transit-country>. See also Mai Abu Samra 2018 ; and Lea Muller Funk 2017, 'Managing Distance: Examining Egyptian Emigration and Diaspora Policies' in *Egypte Monde Arabe* 15:17 (available at: <https://journals.openedition.org/ema/3656?lang=en>)

8 <http://www.emigration.gov.eg/DefaultAr/Pages/achivementdetails.aspx?AchCode=7> (Arabic only)

Obstacles



- **Political polarisation** in Egypt and in the diaspora has contributed to a lack of trust between the government of Egypt and its diaspora.
- **Government bureaucracy:** The bureaucratic nature of many Egyptian government departments presents a major barrier to diaspora engagement. Egyptians abroad actively try to minimise their interactions with the Egyptian state as they view this as a significant limitation on realising their initiatives in Egypt (and abroad).
- **Reluctance to Return:** Egyptians abroad show little interest in returning to live in Egypt, in large part due to a lack of economic opportunities and an increasingly tense domestic and security situation in the country.⁹

SPOTLIGHT



Ministry of Emigration and Affairs of Egyptians Abroad e-portal

The ministry's e-portal provides digital services to Egyptians abroad. These include a diaspora complaints portal, guides on investment opportunities in Egypt (especially in the housing and infrastructure sectors, but also IT), remittance service registration with the Central Bank of Egypt, guides on housing for Egyptians abroad, a 'Science Hub' for skills and knowledge collaboration and exchange; and an e-fatwa service providing religious guidance.

<http://www.emigration.gov.eg/DefaultAr/Pages/services.aspx> (Arabic only).

DIGITAL

Tax relief and mobile banking services

Only approximately 10% of remittances to Egypt are sent formally, entering the Egyptian banking system. In order to promote greater remittance inflows and to strengthen hard currency reserves, Egypt offers Egyptians abroad the opportunity of ten-year tax relief on remittance transfers if they register with the National Bank of Egypt. The National Bank of Egypt also provides e-banking and mobile banking services, and Egypt has launched debt certificates denominated in dollars and euros to ease hard currency shortages.

<https://www.nbe.com.eg/en/Default.aspx?AID=6&CID=8#Title>

REMITTANCES

Government-diaspora consultations

The Egyptian Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates' Affairs (MoSEEA) carries out regular outreach sessions and consultations with its diaspora, organised with the support of Egyptian embassies and missions. As an example of this, it organised a workshop with Egyptians residing in Italy to discuss mechanisms for their involvement in the implementation of small-scale local community development projects in Egypt in 2017 in Milan, Italy.

<https://egypt.iom.int/en/news/government-egypt-and-un-iom-support-expatriate-engagement-italy>

OUTREACH

⁹ <https://news.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/284159/inside-egypt-diaspora-wants-home-again.aspx>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO)

Egypt is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Egypt as part of the AU CIDO Continental Meetings. <https://au.int/en/cido>



Arab League & Community of Sahel-Saharan States

Egypt is also a member of the Arab League (based in Cairo) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States. <http://www.leagueofarabstates.net/ar/Pages/default.aspx> (Arabic; English version under construction) https://web.archive.org/web/20060731190126/http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/RECs/cen_sad.htm

- National institutions

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Emigration and Egyptian Expatriate Affairs (MoSEEA) <http://www.emigration.gov.eg>

Established in September 2015, the MoSEEA is the lead agency for management and care for the affairs of Egyptians residing outside the geographical borders of the Egyptian state, working in coordination and cooperation with the other ministries, agencies, and bodies concerned with such matters, under the auspices of the Council of Ministers. The MoSSEA specifically frames its strategies and activities in relation to helping deliver Egypt's 2030 Vision and the SDGs in order to 'promote economic and human development by stimulating the contribution of Egyptians abroad in creating an innovative and knowledge-based society'¹⁰.

Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs <https://www.mfa.gov.eg/English/Pages/default.aspx>

The MFA shares responsibility for Egyptians abroad with MoSEEA, especially in terms of providing consular services and assistance through Egyptian missions worldwide.

- At sub-ministerial level

Higher Committee for Migration

Established in 1977, the High Committee's mandate includes policy development, coherence, and coordination of all bodies involved in mobility management.¹¹

¹⁰ <http://www.emigration.gov.eg/DefaultAr/Pages/strategy.aspx> (Arabic only)

¹¹ <https://www.mei.edu/publications/regulation-migration-egypt>; see also <https://www.sis.gov.eg/Newvrr/son/html/laws02.htm> (Arabic only)

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Egyptian diaspora organisations in Europe are generally limited to professional and business associations, examples of which include:

British Egyptian Society: UK 1990 <https://britishegyptiansociety.org.uk/>

Development activities

BES was set up to further British-Egyptian relations outside politics. Its mission is to exchange ideas and knowledge, and to improve understanding, of the history, culture, arts, music, literature, religions, beliefs and practices of Egypt. BES holds regular public meetings, lectures, debates and events in the UK in support of this aim, and often contributes grants in support of Egyptian scholars, Egyptian museum specialists and conservators on attachment to the British Museum. It also supports some development projects in Egypt.

Conseil franco-égyptien des affaires France <http://www.egypt-france-business.org/>

Development activities

The council's mission is to promote and strengthen bilateral business, trade and investment relations between Egypt and France and to act as a problem-solving link. It is composed of 20 businesspersons from both countries: heads of major corporations in France who have an active interest in Egypt and a diverse group of Egyptian business actors with close ties to France. It promotes French investments in Egypt, conducts media advocacy about Egypt in Europe and has been involved in many projects to train the Egyptian workforce in various fields.

France Alumni Egypt Network (FAEN) France

<https://www.egypte.campusfrance.org/en/france-alumni-egypt-network-be-at-home>

Development activities

An initiative of CAMPUS France Egypt, FAEN connects professionals in Egypt and across the Egyptian diaspora for education, training, and employment opportunities.

Egyptian Doctors Association in Ireland <http://www.edaireland.com/>

Egyptian Doctors in Germany

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/Egyptian-doctors-in-Germany-138488376162513/>

Development activities

Egyptian-German Association for Helping Disabled Children Germany 2007

https://www.facebook.com/Egyptian-German-Association-for-helping-disabled-children-188463971186016/?ref=nf&hc_ref=ARTt0cl1HvBXl6l46R_PcZm4jjztzOswC2n5LQp0bAQ4c3HVulzSJ-8rkqbgpH04IQw

☑ Development activities

An NGO founded to raise awareness of mental disabilities, it provides guidelines for parents on how to support their children, as well as speech therapy and special training for children, parents and therapists in Egypt. Specialised doctors from Egypt diagnose the cases and provide therapeutic programmes.

Egyptian Medical Society UK <http://www.egyptianmedical.org.uk/>

☑ Development activities

The Egyptian Medical Society-UK is a non political, non religious, non profitable charity established to serve Egyptian doctors in the UK. It aims to help promote Egyptian doctors working in the UK within both the local community and also to support those in Egypt. As well as local UK events, it provides support and charitable contributions to medical establishments in Egypt.

- **Faith groups :**

Al-Azhar University www.azhar.edu.eg (Arabic only)

☑ Development activities

Al-Azhar University is a faith group that maintains links with Egyptian communities abroad, both via MoS-SEA's e-fatwa service, and via Mosques in countries of residence.

Egyptian Coptic Church <https://st-takla.org/Links/Coptic-Links-02-Churches-c-Europe.html>

☑ Development activities

The Egyptian Coptic Church has branches in several European countries.

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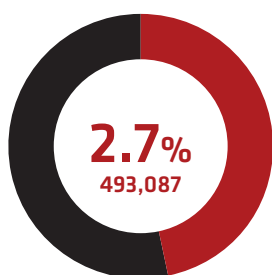


Diaspora engagement mapping ZAMBIA

Facts & figures

Emigration

% of emigrants in total population

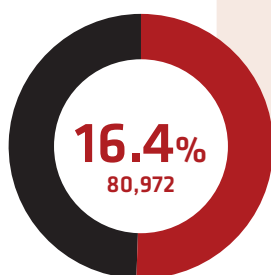


♂ 46.8%
♀ 53.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **0.5%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **112**

% of which in the EU



♂ 50.8%
♀ 49.2%



Top countries of destination

South Africa	97,672
Malawi	42,971
Czechia	38,824
United Kingdom	35,516
Zimbabwe	31,359



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad³



Terminology: Zambia refers to its diaspora as 'Zambians abroad', and the term diaspora is also used.

1 Article 39 of the Constitution of 2016 sets out rules on dual citizenship and makes provisions for Zambians in the diaspora to acquire citizenship in their host country while retaining their home country citizenship as well. Full text available at: <http://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/bills/The%20Constitution%20of%20Zambia%20%28Ameement%29%20Bill%202019.pdf>)

2 Article 46 of the 2016 Constitution of Zambia http://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/amendment_act/Constitution%20of%20Zambia%20%20%28Amendment%29%2C%202016-Act%20No.%202_0.pdf

3 <https://elections.org.zm/voter-registration-info/>

Zambia National Diaspora Policy



In 2019, the Government of Zambia launched its National Diaspora Policy as a response to a request from the diaspora received in 2015.⁴ The overall objective of this policy is to integrate Zambians in the diaspora into the development agenda of the country by creating an enabling environment and platform for their effective participation in national development and in promoting their rights, interests and welfare abroad.

The NDP includes policy statements in relation to increasing remittance flows and diaspora trade and investment with the country, as well as regarding access to land, and initiatives such as a diaspora database, although these have yet to be developed and implemented. The policy includes dual citizenship for Zambian Diaspora and their children born abroad, a key issue for members of the diaspora as well as lowering the cost of remittances.⁵

All Zambian embassies worldwide have been tasked to ensure that they raise awareness among Zambians in the diaspora on the importance of this policy.⁶

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2006** ● **Vision 2030** is the government's long-term development plan, with aspirations to be accomplished by the year 2030. Zambia's vision is to be "a prosperous middle-income nation by 2030". In Vision 2030, four of the seven principles (i, iii, vi, and vii) are linked with migration. Notably, however, this 2006 document makes no reference to 'diaspora', although it does refer to, for example, 'averting the migration of skilled manpower' (p.35), and there is scope for framing diaspora engagement policies in relation to this in the future.⁷
- 2014** ● **Revised Sixth National Development Plan 2013-2016** launched by the Ministry of Finance,⁸ the NDP sets out measures for strengthening the economy, in particular through growth in the export sector. It includes a single reference to diaspora, under 'Inter-sector linkages', noting the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to "facilitate linkages with scientists and engineers in the Diaspora as well as to facilitate strategic agreements with international and partners in science, technology and innovation."⁹ It is unclear what progress was made in relation to this, but the subsequent Seventh National Development Plan (2019-2021) contains no references to diaspora, or even to migration.¹⁰



Trends & achievements:

Since the early 2010s, the Zambian government has started to develop a more proactive approach to diaspora engagement,¹¹ something that was arguably held back before by tensions with/towards its diaspora. If its primary motivation for doing so has been to harness diaspora contributions for national development, and in particular remittances flows, there is also a growing awareness of the diaspora's role as cultural ambassadors, promoting Zambia as a tourist destination.

4 Available at: https://www.mofa.gov.zm/?wpfb_dl=48

5 Full text of the policy is available here: https://www.mofa.gov.zm/?wpfb_dl=48

6 <https://zebru.org/2019/04/09/zambia-launches-diaspora-policy/>


7 https://www.mofa.gov.zm/?wpfb_dl=47

8 Full text available at: <http://images.mofcom.gov.cn/zm/201507/20150730164403680.pdf>

9 Ibid.

10 Full text available at: <https://www.sdgphilanthropy.org/system/files/2019-02/7th-National-Development-Plan-Zambia.pdf>

11 https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/zambian_diaspora_survey_06may_final.pdf



The Zambian government is seeking increasingly to engage its diaspora as important national stakeholders, giving them routes to acquire Zambian citizenship and political representation. However, voting from abroad is not yet recognised.

According to consultation meetings conducted as part of the Comic Relief Africa-UK programme in 2014, many Zambians in the diaspora have expressed willingness to return,¹² even if on a short term basis, and this can be a powerful factor in engaging them for national development and skills transfer.



Achievements:

Enabling dual citizenship was a major policy move for the Zambian government in terms of its diaspora engagement, as this was an issue raised by many Zambian diaspora over the years as a barrier to their greater participation in the country's national development and civic participation. It promises to help rebuild trust between the diaspora and its government, and strengthen family, civic, and business ties with the diaspora and their countries of residence.

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust** between the government and the diaspora has historically proved a barrier to greater engagement. There is an ongoing need to build trust and confidence between the two.
- **Lack of consular and e-services for diaspora** such as access to information about diaspora engagement schemes and programmes, or rights and entitlements of the diaspora, or services to promote greater diaspora investment into Zambia act as a barrier to their engagement in national development.
- **Inadequate data** on diaspora demographics makes diaspora engagement more difficult.
- **Lack of policy coherence** may result in policy conflicts.¹³ For example, there is no reference to the diaspora in Zambia's most recent national development plan.

12 Personal communication, Comic Relief

13 'Policy Requirements for Diaspora Engagement: The case of Zambia', 2010 presentation by Paul Lupunga, Ministry of Finance and National Planning to IOM workshop on migration and transnationalism, available at: https://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/microsites/IDM/workshops/migration_and_transnationalism_030910/Session2-Lupunga.pdf



SPOTLIGHT: effective practices



HEALTHCARE + SKILLS TRANSFER

Partnership for Diaspora Skills Transfer in Health

The Zambia-UK Health Workforce Alliance (ZUKHWA) is a partnership between Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK, and a network of Zambian-based and UK-based organisations who have experience as staff in UK health institutions. They work together to promote and improve the co-ordination and impact of Zambia-UK joint work in health in Zambia. The Alliance was launched in 2009.¹⁴

HUMANITARIAN AID

Diaspora Humanitarian Response to Cyclones Idai & Kenneth

Along with other southern African diaspora, the Zambian diaspora worldwide helped mobilise resources, relief supplies, and coordinate local information with humanitarian agencies operating in the region in response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth in 2019, as well as to assist in post-disaster reconstruction and economic recovery.¹⁵

¹⁴ <https://www.zukhwa.ed.ac.uk/>

¹⁵ See <https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/2019/0326/It-has-to-be-us-How-a-diaspora-rushed-to-raise-aid-after-Cyclone-Idai>). This was also one of the findings of a community consultation meeting organised in London by AFFORD in 2019 in relation to the diaspora's response to Cyclones Idai & Kenneth in April 2019

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU-CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Zambia nominates a diaspora focal point to the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU-CIDO) Continental Meetings

Southern African Development Community (SADC) <https://www.sadc.int/>

Zambia is a founding member of the SADC which is an inter-governmental organization headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana. Its goal is to further socio-economic cooperation and integration as well as political and security cooperation among 16 southern African countries

East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

<https://www.eac.int/>

<https://www.comesa.int/>

Zambia is a member of both communities.

- National institutions

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs <https://www.mofa.gov.zm/>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the formulation and administration of Zambia's Foreign Policy; International Relations and diaspora engagement and coordinates Zambia's Diplomatic and Consular Missions abroad.



Diaspora organisations in Europe



Diaspora Connect: Buying Property in Zambia

<http://www.buyingpropertyinzambia.com/about-bpz/>

Development activities

A property platform to facilitate diaspora to buy/invest in property in Zambia.

Diaspora for African Development (DfAD) UK www.dfad.org.uk

Development activities

DfAD is a UK registered diaspora-led non-profit organisation whose aim is to contribute to Africa's sustainable social and economic development through harnessing the potential of the African diaspora for development. It supports education, healthcare and agriculture in Zambia and undertakes policy advocacy and awareness-raising on Zambian issues.

Zambians in the UK <https://zambiansinuk.co.uk/>

Zambians in the UK is a diaspora news and business website serving the Zambian diaspora worldwide.

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Diaspora engagement mapping ETHIOPIA

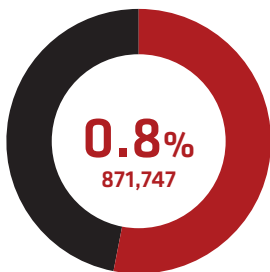
Facts & figures

Emigration

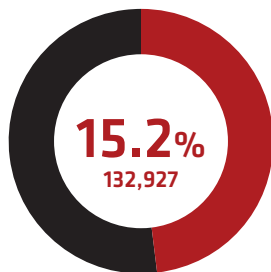
% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 53.2%
♀ 46.8%



♂ 48.4%
♀ 51.6%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **0.5%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **411**



Top countries of destination

United States	239,186
Saudi Arabia	160,192
Israel	78,258
Sudan	62,565
Canada	34,921



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad³



Terminology: Ethiopia refers to its diaspora using the term *diyaspōra* (Amharic ዲያስፖራ), which is an adoption of the English term.

1 Ethiopian Nationality Law of 1930. English version available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b52ac.html>

2 Alebachew, T. (2020). *Extending Voting Rights to the Ethiopian Diaspora: Towards Institutionalising Diaspora Political Participation in Ethiopia*, Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill. Even though Ethiopians have the right to vote based on their citizenship, there are no formal institutions enabling voting from abroad, and diaspora members must be based in Ethiopia for at least 6 months to register and exercise their voting rights. According to Alebachew, "the requirement of residency, thus, automatically excludes Ethiopian citizens abroad from participating in elections in Ethiopia."

3 Ibid.

Diaspora Policy (2015)



Ethiopia launched its first draft Diaspora Policy in 2011.⁴ This was built on through a process of consultations, including with diaspora members.⁵ The Diaspora Policy ratified in 2013 stated that the diaspora could play an important role in carrying out research and investment at home. In addition, it noted that diaspora members could win allies for Ethiopia and try to influence their country of residence to improve cooperation with Ethiopia.

The government launched the most recent version of its diaspora policy in 2015.⁶ The emphasis on diaspora's role in advocacy for Ethiopia is not as present in this version. Its aim is to strengthen the relationship between Ethiopian citizens abroad and Ethiopians in Ethiopia to encourage national development, strengthen participation in the democratisation and peace building process for individual and national gains, create a conducive environment for joint development, and uphold their rights and interests abroad.⁷ The policy confirms that the diaspora do not enjoy the same rights as full citizens with regard to political participation and voting, but it extends other entitlements to them in addition to the diaspora 'yellow card' ID scheme, such as access to local fares on public transport and local prices, and other benefits such as rights to purchase land or property.⁸

Overview of policy and legislative framework



- 2002** ● **Proclamation No. 270/2002:** This proclamation provides for the issuance of a special identification card, the Yellow Card, for diaspora members of Ethiopian origin and their immediate family members.⁹ The adoption of the proclamation in 2002 marked a major shift in the Ethiopian government's engagement in diaspora affairs; prior to this, Ethiopian diaspora members were subjected to prohibitive procedures that included, among others, meeting rigorous criteria to obtain visas and work permits, access to investment land and credit, and renewal of residence licenses.¹⁰
- 2002** ● **Investment Proclamation No. 280/2002:**¹¹ One of the first initiatives of the government was to make investment in Ethiopia more attractive to the diaspora. In 2002, the Investment Proclamation No. 280/2002 defined a Domestic Investor to be inclusive of foreign nationals who are Ethiopian by birth.¹² This allowed members of the diaspora to be treated as domestic investors, who have significantly different rights than foreign investors in Ethiopia, such as rights to own businesses and land/property.
- 2006** ● **Directive No. FXD/31/2006 - Foreign currency bank accounts directed at the diaspora:** The objective of this directive is to encourage investment from the diaspora and to "support the international foreign exchange reserve and ease the country's balance of payments problem."¹³
- 2015** ⇓ ● **2nd Growth and Transformation Plan:**¹⁴ The government's national development plan seeks to increase diaspora investment to the country, especially at the regional levels. It also recognises the education and health sectors as core priority sectors that need to be further developed with diaspora contributions.
- 2020**

4 Available at: https://chilot.me/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/diaspora_policy_draft-1.pdf (Amharic only)

5 See, for example, EthioTV diaspora policy debate from June 2013, available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNsKAKHCg-gE&list=UL0nsJHcx5vpQ&index=594> (Amharic only)

6 Full text in Amharic: available at: https://ethiopiangranddam.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/diaspora_policy_final-amharic.pdf
For the full text in English, please see: <http://aigaforum.com/documents/Diaspora-policy-final-English.pdf>

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 <https://www.ethioembassy.org.uk/consular-services/ethiopian-origin-id-cards/>

10 K K Berhanu (2019), The Political Economy of Diaspora Remittances in the Ethiopian Somali Region: DIIS Working Paper 2019:9 https://pure.diis.dk/ws/files/2985083/DIIS_Working_Paper_2019_9_final.pdf

11 <https://www.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/et/et013en.pdf>

12 Available at: <https://chilot.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/consolidated-foreign-exchange-directives.pdf>

13 Available at: <https://www.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/et/et013en.pdf>

14 Available at: <https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/sites/default/files/downloads/policy-database/ETHIOPIA%29%20Growth%20and%20Transformation%20Plan%20II%2C%20Vol%20I.%20%20%282015%2C16-2019%2C20%29.pdf>



Trends:

Since the 2000s, Ethiopia has had to develop a two-pronged approach to diaspora engagement: seeking to attract remittances, investment, and skills transfer from its diaspora in Europe and North America, on the one hand; whilst also ensuring the protection and reintegration of low-skilled labour migrants in the Middle East.

The government has established an impressive array of structures to facilitate diaspora engagement at the State and Federal levels between 2010 and 2020. These include diaspora officers in all of its major embassies and consulates in Europe, North America, the Middle East, and Australia; diaspora focal points in every ministry to help resolve issues relating to diaspora engagement; and state-level diaspora offices working to promote diaspora engagement at the Federal State level. Ethiopia has also invested in building the professional capacities of their consular and other staff working on diaspora engagement, with support from international partners such as AFFORD, ICMPD and IOM.

Combined with incentives for diaspora investment and return, these structures have aimed to engage and harness diaspora contributions from around the world, although arguably these schemes are targeted more at the diaspora based in Australia, Europe, North America, and Israel.

Diaspora investment flows to Ethiopia are difficult to track with accuracy. However, there have been some successes in this regard, even if uptake of large-scale investment products such as diaspora bonds has proved disappointing.¹⁵

At the same time, the government has sought to support the Ethiopian diaspora in the Middle East, who are mostly migrant labourers. After an initial ban on Ethiopian migration to Gulf States in 2013, following large-scale deportations of undocumented Ethiopian migrants from Saudi Arabia, the government introduced the Ethiopian Overseas Employment Proclamation No.923/2016 which specifies that migrants may only travel to work in countries where Ethiopia has concluded a bilateral labour agreement, such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Jordan.¹⁶ The government has also worked to advise and upskill Ethiopian emigrants, especially young women, in rural regions such as Tigray before departure via diaspora officers within State-level authorities.

¹⁵ See AFFORD African Diaspora Direct investment Index

¹⁶ <https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Ethiopia-Hotspot-Annual-Report-2018.pdf>

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust:** the Ethiopian Diaspora is not a cohesive group and is very politically divided. Many diaspora members may not want to support the current government and there is a legacy of mistrust on both sides. Ethnic and regional tensions feed into this lack of trust.
- **Limited awareness** among the diaspora of the Ethiopian government's diaspora engagement policies and programmes is a barrier that the government has sought to address through promotional activities and the creation of the Ethiopian Diaspora Agency.
- **Government bureaucracy:** Many diaspora members seek to avoid government bureaucracy. In some cases, diaspora actors have had their organisational and development activities restricted by government, especially if such activities are seen as political.¹⁷
- **Lack of support for the diaspora in countries of residence:** The Ethiopian diaspora often lacks visibility in their countries of residence compared to other diaspora communities, either due to their comparatively small diaspora population size (as is the case in European states) or due to the diaspora having a limited voice (as is the case in Gulf states where diaspora labour migrants have limited rights). Moreover, Ethiopia is a beneficiary of significant aid funding and this can make it hard for Ethiopian diaspora groups to compete for access to funding and investment capital, or to advocate for improved conditions.

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Diaspora bonds

BONDS

Ethiopia launched bonds to support the construction of the Grand Renaissance High Dam on the Nile in 2008 and 2011. These were open to and marketed at the diaspora, although they were not as successful as hoped in raising investment capital.¹⁸

Connecting Diaspora for Development (CD4D)¹⁹ 2016-2019 / Entrepreneurship by Diaspora 4 Development (ED4D)²⁰ 2018 - ongoing

HUMAN CAPITAL

CD4D has supported the short-term return of high-skilled diaspora on assignments from the Netherlands to their countries of origin to promote skills transfer and diaspora enterprise. The first phase sent Ethiopian diaspora experts in agri-technology, enterprise and job creation, and fair-trade coffee imports.²¹ The programme was implemented by IOM in collaboration with PUM (Programma Uitzending Managers – a network of Dutch senior experts and professionals). The related ED4D project aims to encourage Ethiopian diaspora in the Netherlands, or Dutch entrepreneurs in partnership with the diaspora, to engage themselves as entrepreneurs for the development of the private sector in their country of origin.²²

17 Discussion Paper – Linking Policy and Practice in International Cooperation ECDPM. No. 168 December 2014. Diaspora Engagement in a Constricted Political Space the Case of Ethiopian Diaspora Organisations in the Netherlands


18 <https://africanarguments.org/2019/07/10/how-bonds-aimed-at-the-diaspora-can-raise-crucial-funds-for-africa/>

19 <https://www.iom.int/news/cd4d-conference-diaspora-action-hague-30-october-2018>

20 <https://www.connectingdiaspora.org/ed4d/countries/ethiopia/>

21 <https://www.connectingdiaspora.org/ethiopia/>

22 <https://www.connectingdiaspora.org/ed4d/about-ed4d/>



Diaspora Engagement for City Development: Institutionalising the Concept of Migration and Development into Plans and Actions of Jigjiga City²³ 2019-2021

This project is working to help the Ethiopian Somali regional and local governments to mainstream diaspora engagement in policies, development plans and approaches to better leverage the important role the diaspora plays in local development. The project aims to produce a comprehensive profile of the Ethiopian Somali diaspora, strategies for engagement, and capacity building for local governments to implement these strategies.

CAPACITY
BUILDING

Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship Leadership and Public Service Programme²⁴

The Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship (EDF) program is designed to promote leadership development, public service and creative storytelling. Through training, service in an organization in Ethiopia, peer-to-peer mentorship, and storytelling, fellows will have an opportunity to increase their own cultural identity and be a catalyst for growth and change in Ethiopia. Once in Ethiopia, fellows participate in peer-to-peer mentorship to increase cultural identity and promote a knowledge sharing opportunity. Fellows are also encouraged to document their experience thoroughly through different mediums, in order to define and redefine what it means for them to be an Ethiopian.

IDENTITY +
HUMAN CAPITAL

²³<https://citiesalliance.org/diaspora-engagement-for-city-development-institutionalising-concept-migration-and-development-plans>

²⁴ <http://ethiopiandiasporafellowship.org/>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Ethiopia nominates a diaspora focal point to the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings, which works to coordinate diaspora policy across AU MS.

East African Community <https://www.eac.int/>

The mission of the Community is to widen and deepen economic, political, social and cultural integration in order to improve the quality of life of the people of East Africa through increased competitiveness, value added production, trade and investments.

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) <https://igad.int/>

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is an eight-country trade bloc in Africa. It includes governments from the Horn of Africa, Nile Valley and the African Great Lakes. Its headquarters are in Djibouti City.

- **National institutions**
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) <http://www.mfa.gov.et/>

This ministry is responsible for Ethiopia's foreign relations and is the lead ministry for diaspora engagement.

Ministry of Civil Service <http://www.mocis.gov.et/>

This ministry is responsible for the Ethiopian civil service, and oversees the Diaspora Coordination Office and its branches at the state level.²⁵ These offices have been central in promoting privileges established specifically for the diaspora and passing new legislation specific to the diaspora.²⁶

- At sub-ministerial level

Diaspora Engagement Affairs Directorate

There is a Diaspora Engagement Affairs Directorate-General under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates (MoFA) solely dealing with issues of diaspora engagement. Originally founded as the General Directorate for Ethiopian Expatriates in 2002, it became the Diaspora Engagement Affairs Directorate-General in 2012.

²⁵ Formerly known as the Ministry of Capacity Building. See Mulugeta bezabih Mekonnen (2018), *Transnational Migration-Development Nexus: The Engagement of Ethiopian Associations in Germany*, Lit Verlag.

²⁶ Katie Kuschminder and Melissa Siegel (2011), *Understanding Ethiopian diaspora engagement policy*, available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254405572_Understanding_Ethiopian_diaspora_engagement_policy

Ethiopian Diaspora Agency <https://www.ethiopiandiasporaagency.org/>

Created in 2018, the Ethiopian Diaspora Agency falls under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and works to engage, mobilise and facilitate Ethiopians and foreign nationals of Ethiopian origin in the development of their country. It was established as the point of contact/one-stop-shop for the diaspora. Thirteen embassies and consulates have diaspora units with dedicated staff.

Federal and Regional Diaspora Affairs Coordination Offices

The Diaspora Coordination Office of the Ministry of the Interior oversees a network of 11 diaspora coordination offices at the nine regional states and two administrative cities of Ethiopia. These engage directly with their diaspora when they are in their home regions of Ethiopia.²⁷

Diaspora focal persons/desks

Diaspora focal persons/desks have been established in at least 15 relevant federal offices/ministries, including the Ministries of Health and Education.²⁸ They work to ensure diaspora engagement issues are dealt with appropriately across all areas of government and resolve problems encountered by the diaspora (for example, customs, or criminal justice issues).

Diaspora Consultative Forum

This is a consultative forum led by MFA consisting of relevant institutional actors, which gathers every quarter to discuss the challenges and opportunities with regard to enhancing diaspora engagement.²⁹

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association of Ethiopians educated in Germany 1997 <https://aeege-ethiopia.org/>

Development activities

AEEG was established in 1997 by a group of Ethiopians who had returned home after studying in Germany. It has organised and conducted numerous workshops and training seminars over the years on timely and priority crosscutting issues, thereby facilitating knowledge transfer and cultural exchange and networking among members on the development agenda of Ethiopia.

#Ethionextgen UK <https://www.ethionxtgen.com/>

Development activities

#EthioNxtGen is a UK Ethiopian Diaspora youth-lead initiative that aims to bridge the gap between young and professional Ethiopians in the UK with leaders, businesses and organisations in Ethiopia.

²⁷ <https://www.connectingdiaspora.org/countries/ethiopia/>

²⁸ Personal communication, MFA 2019

²⁹ <https://www.connectingdiaspora.org/countries/ethiopia/>

Heart for Ethiopia Germany 2001 <http://www.heart-for-ethiopia.org/en/index.html>

 **Development activities**

Heart for Ethiopia was established by two Ethiopian doctors in Germany in 2001. Their team from the Braunschweig City Hospital in Germany performs medical missions to perform open-heart surgery on children and young adults in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

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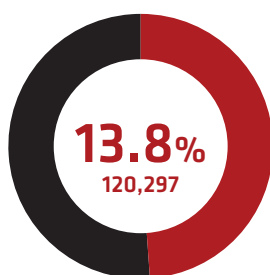


Diaspora engagement mapping COMOROS

Facts & figures

Emigration¹

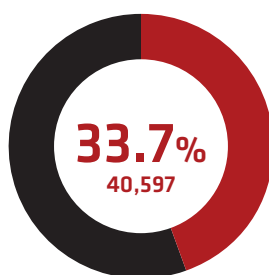
% of emigrants in total population



♂ 48.9%
♀ 51.1%



% of which in the EU



♂ 44.6%
♀ 55.4%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **19.3%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **140**



Top countries of destination



France + Mayotte + Réunion	40,337 + 57,991 + 2,248
Madagascar	11,932
Libya	4,557
Egypt	902
Guinea	726

Political rights



Dual citizenship²



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad³



Terminology: Comoros refers to its diaspora as 'Comorians Abroad' (in French: *Comoriens à l'Étranger*), although the term diaspora is also used in some documents.

Comoros does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

1 Source: From UNDESA Migration Stock Statistics. This probably represents a significant underestimate, given the number of Comorian diaspora with other nationalities. French diaspora organisation FORIM estimated the Comorian diaspora in France to be between 150,000 and 300,000 in 2014, see: <https://www.forim.net/sites/default/files/Etude%20sur%20la%20diaspora%20des%20Comores%20en%20France%20par%20CAGF-FORIM.pdf>

2 Code de la Nationalité Comorienne, 1979 ; for a discussion of the complexities of Comoros nationality legislation see: <http://www.comores-infos.net/le-droit-de-la-nationalite-aux-comores/> . Unusually, Comoros has permitted dual nationality for applications for so-called 'economic nationality' from foreign nationals since 2008. This is a point of tension with the diaspora, as they are not permitted dual nationality.

3 Electoral Law 2005 last modified on 19 September 2009 (Ordinance No. 09-006/PR).

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



2011 ● **Decentralization to strengthen participatory democracy and contribute to local development:** The Union of Comoros passed a series of laws in 2011 to enable greater decentralisation with the aim of strengthening participatory democracy and contributions to local development, including by the diaspora.⁴ These enabled greater autonomy for local authorities in the Comoros Islands to establish co-development projects with local authorities in other countries. Most of these partnerships have been forged with local authorities in France.⁵ While these laws do not reference diaspora explicitly, they have enabled greater diaspora participation in co-development activities in the Comoros Islands.

2018
▼
2021 ● **Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (SCA2D)⁶** contains Strategic Objective 6 that aims to promote trade and high value-added services (such as law or finances) and create decent jobs, such as in ICT. One expected result of this strategic objective is to optimise diaspora transfers. It also sets out decentralised cooperation with the diaspora as a means to stimulate local economies, building on the legal changes mentioned above.⁷ This document also acknowledges the lack of a diaspora policy and accurate data on the location and composition of its diaspora as barriers to achieving greater diaspora remittance flows and investments.⁸

The SCA2D also envisages the creation of an investment fund for the Comorian diaspora, in order to increase the productivity of their financial contributions and ‘channel them towards productive projects’, although it provides no detail on how this will be achieved.⁹



Trends:

Comoros has a large diaspora relative to its total population, and yet diaspora engagement has not been a priority for the government until relatively recently. This is attributable in part to political differences in Comoros and in the diaspora.

Currently, the government is investing in infrastructure such as roads and hospitals with help from the French government and from its diaspora there (principally human resources and expertise). The Comoros is also interested in encouraging investment and heritage tourism from its diaspora, although there are currently no official schemes or programmes to achieve this.¹⁰

In June 2015, the Minister of the Interior announced the decision declaring that the diaspora’s contribution had a big impact on the national economy and national development and thus they should have a vote in the Comorian elections.¹¹ However, this decision was ultimately reversed by the Electoral Commission, which cited “technical reasons.”¹² Calls for diaspora voting are set to continue, and enabling this promises to give the diaspora greater opportunities to contribute to the country’s development.

4 Loi sur l’organisation territoriale: 11-006/AU du 2 mai 2011 ; Loi sur la décentralisation : 11-005/AU du 7 avril 2011 ; Loi sur l’organisation des communes: 11-007/AU du 9 avril 2011. Available at: <http://ageriuscabinet.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/lois-sur-la-d%C3%A9centralisation-du-21-juillet-2011.pdf>. See also: Abdérémane AHMED KOUURA (2013), Processus de Décentralisation au Comores, available at : https://www.pseau.org/outils/ouvrages/cifal_processus_de_decentralisation_au_comores_principes_bilan_et_perspectives_2013.pdf
5 <https://km.ambafrance.org/La-cooperation-decentralisee-en>

6 Stratégie de Croissance Accélérée et de Développement Durable 2018-2021, available at : https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKewid1MCX9-roAhVTe8AKHakaAU8QFJAegQIBRAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Ferc.undp.org%2Fevaluation%2Fmanagementresponses%2Fkeyaction%2Fdocuments%2Fdownload%2F1156&usq=AOvVaw3lQpkUh1_SJ-FLOa7isns-G

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid.

10 Stratégie de Croissance Accélérée et de Développement Durable 2018-2021, available at : [erc.undp.org > evaluation > keyaction > documents > download](https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/keyaction/documents/download)

11 <https://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=1503240734&Country=Comoros&topic=Politics&subtopic=Forecast&subsubtopic=Election+watch>

12 <https://africanarguments.org/2016/02/18/presidential-elections-in-the-comoros-whose-turn-is-it-anyway/>

Obstacles



- **Lack of political interest and resources:** Historically there has been a lack of interest from the government of Comoros in its diaspora, as well as a lack of resources allocated to diaspora engagement, despite the large size of the diaspora relative to the country's population and its reliance on remittances. The lack of a diaspora policy and accurate data on the location and composition of its diaspora is as barriers to achieving greater diaspora remittance flows and investments.
- **Lack of diaspora engagement frameworks and structures:** There has been little policy focus on engaging the Comorian diaspora, and it is only in the last two years (2017-2019) that the government has started to turn its attention to developing such a framework.
- **Local focus of the Comorian diaspora:** The vast majority of Comorian diaspora are resident in France, and maintain strong links with specific local communities of origin. Comorian diaspora contributions – of money, skills, time and advocacy / awareness raising – tend to be oriented towards these local communities of origin, and it can be challenging to re-orient these to national schemes in the absence of frameworks and incentives for engagement and because of a lack of trust in the government.

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Developing Diaspora Engagement in Comoros¹³

The government of Comoros is starting to take a greater interest in diaspora engagement, and is currently working with IOM to support the implementation of the government's SCA2D national development strategy and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). IOM is also assisting in the implementation of a diaspora engagement project which seeks to mobilise the human and other diaspora resources of the diaspora (investments, social capital, political capital), in order to build capacities of national stakeholders, to foster dialogue, and develop multi-sectoral strategies for leveraging the diaspora's contributions to national development.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The Franco Comorian Co-development Programme (FCCP)¹⁴

Funded by French government, the FCCP aimed to support Comorian migrants in their commitment to the country's development. The FCCP made the first selection of grant applications from the call for projects during its selection committee meeting in Moroni in 2013, with a subsequent round in 2014. Projects funded included education, health, and enterprise initiatives. Priority was given to joint projects of local authorities and diaspora groups in order to enable the involvement of beneficiaries and greater capacity-building. This approach sought to capitalise on the decentralisation process initiated by the Union of Comoros. Results of this programme are however unclear.

PROJECT FUNDING

13 <https://www.iom.int/news/un-migration-agency-opens-office-moroni-union-comoros>

14 <https://www.codevcomores.org/le-codeveloppement.php>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Comoros nominates a diaspora focal point to AU Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Southern African Development Community (SADC) www.sadc.int

The Union of the Comoros was admitted to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at its 37th Summit of Heads of State and Government in August 2017. It then became a full member at the 38th Summit of Heads of State and Government on August 2018 in Windhoek Namibia.

Arab League <http://www.lasportal.org/Pages/Welcome.aspx>

- **National institutions**
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.km/>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation promotes the interests of Comoros abroad and has responsibility for the Comorian diaspora.

Presidency of the Union of the Comoros Islands <https://beit-salam.km/>

- At local level

N/A, although Comorian diaspora communities maintain links with their communities of origin at the local level and are more likely to mobilise resources for local rather than national schemes.

Diaspora organisations in Europe¹⁵



Association Franco-Comorienne pour le Développement et l'Amitié de Mohéli (AFCDAM) humanitaire
France <http://www.afcdam.org>

Development activities

AFCDAM works to support the integration of Comorians in France, promote Comorian culture, and also undertakes capacity-building projects and donations of medical equipment to clinics in the Comoros Islands.

Fédération Des Associations Comoriennes De France (FACOF)

Development activities

FACOF works to support the Comorian diaspora in France in relation to integration. It also provides training and education in France and in Comoros.

Plateforme des Associations Comoriennes de la Seine-Saint-Denis (PFAC) France
<http://www.pfac-93.org/>

Development activities

PFAC is an umbrella group of Comorian diaspora organisations in Seine-Saint-Denis, France. It works to support the Comorian diaspora in France, as well as providing training, and medical and educational supplies to Comoros.

L'Union des Femmes Comoriennes France

Development activities

The organisation works to promote women, and fight for the rights of children. It also provides training and humanitarian support to Comoros.

Coordination des Associations de la Diaspora Comorienne (DIASCOM) France 2000
<https://www.comores-online.com/mwezinet/associations/diascom.htm>

DIASCOM represents around 50 Comorian diaspora organisations in France. It works to support Comorians in France to integrate and to promote Comorian culture.

¹⁵ There are several hundred small Comorian diaspora organisations based in France, according to the official French register <https://www.journal-officiel.gouv.fr/>

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Diaspora engagement mapping KENYA

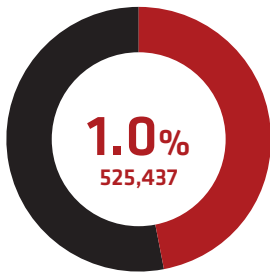
Facts & figures

Emigration

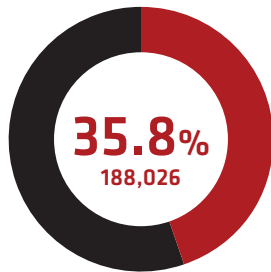
% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 47.1%
♀ 52.9%



♂ 44.8%
♀ 55.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **2.9%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **2,855**



Top countries of destination

United Kingdom	149,797
United States	135,187
Uganda	36,822
Canada	28,920
South Africa	28,769



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Terminology: Kenya refers to its diaspora as 'Kenyans Abroad'.

1 According to the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act of 2011 (amended 2015), Dual Citizenship is permitted in Kenya. Kenya citizens who have acquired other nationalities are required to disclose their other citizenship. Full text available here: <http://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/kenya-citizenship-and-immigration-act-2011-as-amended-to-2015/>

2 Although the Constitution of Kenya (2010) allows diaspora voting in principle, it has not yet been enacted.

Diaspora Policy 2014



The Kenyan government developed the Kenya Diaspora Policy in recognition of the urgent need to mainstream the Kenyan Diaspora into national development processes in line with the aspirations and goals of the Kenya Vision 2030.³

This diaspora policy was developed in order to facilitate a mutually beneficial relationship between the country and its diaspora. Its objectives include developing strategies to engage and mainstream Kenyans Abroad into the national development process; mobilising Kenyans Abroad to form town, city or country specific umbrella associations for effective engagement and representation; developing measures to enhance protection of Kenyans Abroad, as well as mechanisms for dialogue and partnership with them; and establishing institutional mechanisms for co-ordination and administration of issues affecting Kenyans Abroad.⁴

This policy covers issues such as curbing the high cost of remittances, improving consular services to address issues of Kenyans abroad, using the Kenyans abroad to promote tourism, and tapping into diaspora talents to reverse the current brain drain.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2007** ● **Kenya Vision 2030⁵** is the Kenyan government's national strategy that recognises diaspora contribution as a major enabler to economic growth and a critical factor in the achievement of government's Vision 2030 agenda.
- 2014** ● **Kenya Foreign Policy** was launched in the same year as the Diaspora Policy and is complementary. Kenya's official foreign policy document seeks to "deepen [...] engagement and partnerships with the Kenyan Diaspora in order to leverage and harness their skills and expertise for national development."⁶ It sets out five pillars for its foreign policy, namely Economic; Peace; Environmental; Cultural and Diaspora. Under this fifth pillar, 'diaspora', it stresses the value of 'diaspora diplomacy', recognising the importance of harnessing the diverse skills, expertise and potential of Kenyans living abroad, and facilitating their integration into the national development agenda.
- 2018**
∨
2022 ● **Kenya Third Medium-Term Plan⁷ (MTP3)** is Kenya's most recent medium-term national development plan. It focuses on nine key foundations and enablers for national transformation, namely: infrastructure; information and communication technology; Science Technology and Innovation (STI); land reforms; public sector reforms; labour and employment; national values and ethics; ending drought emergencies; and security, peace building and conflict resolution. It sees diaspora contributions to all of these as important. Under 'institutional reforms', it also states that a National Diaspora Council of Kenya (NADICOK) will be established by 2021.

MTP3 lists a number of flagship projects, one of which is a Labour Market Information System, which will develop and implement a policy to govern the collection, analysis, storage, retrieval and dissemination of labour market information, as well as "modules for facilitating information exchange between the East Africa Community (EAC) Partner States, migrant workers and Kenyans in Diaspora." It also states that the National Archives should be improved by digitalisation of records, records management, and retrieval of migrated archive from UK and diaspora.

3 <http://www.mfa.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Kenya-Diaspora-Policy.pdf>

4 Ibid.

5 <http://vision2030.go.ke/>

6 Available at: <http://www.mfa.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Kenya-Foreign-Policy.pdf>

7 Available at: <http://vision2030.go.ke/inc/uploads/2019/01/THIRD-MEDIUM-TERM-PLAN-2018-2022.pdf>



Trends:

The government's initiative to launch a diaspora policy in 2014 seems to have opened the door for the diaspora to engage with their home country economically and socially. According to Central Bank of Kenya data (2019), remittance data show that the volume of remittances has doubled, 60% of which comes from the diaspora in Europe and North America.⁸

The Central Bank of Kenya has identified the ease of sending money back home as a major factor in the sharp growth of Kenyan remittances, and it has also developed a range of financial products targeting the diaspora including some successful diaspora bonds. Local banks have entered partnerships with remittance service providers that allow them to handle larger volumes of inflows. The expansion of the popular M-Pesa service beyond Kenya's borders is also helping, with direct cash transfers on mobile, making it easier for the millions who actively use mobile money to receive money instantly from relatives abroad.

Extension of the voting franchise in Kenya to include Kenyan residents abroad promises to strengthen diaspora engagement by giving them rights to political representation and increasing their stake in the country as citizens, as well as making it easier to invest and own property in the country. However, this remains a contentious issue for the Kenyan government. Although the Constitution of Kenya (2010) permits diaspora voting in theory, the government has not enabled voter registrations for Kenyans abroad for nearly a decade.⁹

The Kenyan government has invested in institutional structures to facilitate diaspora engagement. The MTP 3 plan cited above notes the achievements made in delivering on its foreign policy, including the opening of new consulates in different countries and the establishment of passport offices at the Kenyan Embassies in Washington, London, Berlin, South Africa and the Consulate General of Kenya in Dubai.¹⁰

As noted above, Kenya has made diaspora engagement an integral part of its foreign and national development policies, which is relatively unusual among African states. This approach promises to bear dividends for the country in the future.

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust** between some diaspora members and the Government of Kenya and perceptions of corruption and business risk continue to hinder diaspora engagement in Kenya.
- **Overemphasis on diaspora financial capital:** Many diaspora members still feel that the Kenyan government values the diaspora living abroad because of the money they send back home, rather than because of their belonging to their home country or the birth-right they hold. This is exacerbated by the lack of diaspora voting, despite the constitution permitting it.
- **Lack of access to funding or credit** for diaspora initiatives, both for development projects and start-up and growth capital for diaspora-led enterprises is a challenge.

8 <https://www.centralbank.go.ke/diaspora-remittances-2/>

9 See: <https://www.nation.co.ke/news/Diaspora-voters-demand-listing-30-days/1056-5044836-c4d0amz/index.html>

10 See: <http://vision2030.go.ke/inc/uploads/2019/01/THIRD-MEDIUM-TERM-PLAN-2018-2022.pdf>

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Kenya Diaspora Homecoming Convention (KDHC)¹¹

NETWORKS

A number of diaspora meetings and events have been held in Kenya and abroad to continue the discussion of ways of implementing policies and recommendations. For example, the 6th edition of the Kenya Diaspora Homecoming Convention (KDHC) was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2019 on the theme of 'The Big Four Agenda': affordable housing, food security, manufacturing, and universal healthcare. The issue of dual citizenship was also discussed, in particular whether a diaspora with dual citizenship can hold a state office or a public office and if restrictions can be removed.

Bank of Kenya Diaspora Bonds

BONDS

As of 2013¹² Kenya has been successfully issuing local infrastructure bonds, with at least six such between 2009 and 2011. These bonds were open to all investors, including foreign individuals. After the successful uptake of these bonds, Kenya continued with the first Eurobond issuance (in two tranches of five and 10 years) for USD 2.6bn in 2014, and a 2018 issuance of USD 2bn, in two tranches of 10 and 30 years.¹⁵¹

In 2017, Kenya took another pioneering step by launching M-Akiba as the world's first ever mobile phone-based bond. Over 300,000 people registered on the platform, but only about 6,000 people (2%) subscribed to the bond, raising USD2.4m (24%) of the USD10m target. Despite the low take up, indicators were positive enough for the Kenyan government to re-launch M-Akiba in February 2019. This re-launch increased the Bond subscription to 79% and the number of people registered on the platform rose to 450,000¹³

NETWORK + SKILLS TRANSFER

Kenya's Diaspora Diplomacy

Kenya recognises the vital role played by the diaspora as cultural and brand ambassadors for the country, as well as possessing skills vital for national development. Dedicated diaspora portals for each Kenyan embassy and consulate were established by the Kenyan Government and include a skills matching programme (e.g. <https://kenyahighcom.org.uk/diaspora.html#Diaspora-diplomacy>).

¹¹ For more information, please see: <https://kdhc.co.ke/>

¹² For more information, see: <https://www.nse.co.ke/media-center/press-release.html?download=920%3Ageneral-information-supplement&start=320>

¹³ <https://fsdkenya.org/blog/the-story-of-m-akiba-selling-kenyan-treasury-bonds-via-mobile/>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU-CIDO)

Kenya nominates a diaspora focal point to the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU-CIDO) Continental Meetings <https://au.int/en/cido>

East African Community (EAC) <https://www.eac.int/>

Kenya is a member of EAC.

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade has responsibility for foreign affairs, diplomacy, trade, and diaspora engagement.

<http://www.mfa.go.ke/>

- At sub-ministerial level

Diaspora and Consular Affairs Directorate (est. 2014)

This Directorate within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is responsible for developing diaspora policies and programmes, and coordinating diaspora affairs across the Kenyan government.

<http://www.mfa.go.ke/>

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association of Kenyan Diaspora in Belgium and Luxembourg (AKDBL) Belgium & Luxembourg
www.akdbl.eu

AKDBL provides a forum for the Kenyan Diaspora in Belgium and Luxembourg to maintain and enhance its sense of identity, and promote and advance its individual and collective interests. Its mission is “to contribute to the emergence of a strong and vibrant federation of the Kenyan Diaspora in Europe capable of furthering the political, economic and social interests of its members in collaboration with other Kenyan Diaspora associations, in particular in the United States and the United Kingdom.”



Kenya Community Abroad e.V: Germany <https://kcagermany.wordpress.com/>

KCA takes active role to show presence of Kenyans in Germany. Disseminates information, organise events to bring Kenyans together.

Kenya Community Rebuild UK

 **Development activities**

Non-profit organisation underpinned by spiritual development of Kenyans to promote socio-economic, political and moral justice. Values diversity, tolerance, equality and fairness within Kenyans living in the United Kingdom.

Kenyan Diaspora Community in the Netherlands (KDCN) Netherlands & Czech Republic
<https://b-m.facebook.com/kenyadiasporacommunityNL/>

 **Development activities**

A Kenyan diaspora NGO registered in the Netherlands that serves the Kenyan community in the country and also in the Czech Republic. KDCN has organised diaspora volunteering missions to Kenya, including one supported by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the African Studies Centre at the University of Leiden, and Voluntary Services Overseas with a focus on supporting entrepreneurs.

Kenya UK Savings and Credit Society (Kenya UK SACCO) UK <http://www.kenuks.net/>

 **Development activities**

Savings and Credit Society that promotes savings and investment activities among Kenyans who reside in the Diaspora.

Kenya Society United Kingdom <https://kenyasociety.org/>

Kenyan NGO that provides a forum for British and international residents in the UK with an interest in Kenya to better understand developments in the country by organising talks and social events. In addition, the organisation reaches out to the Kenyans living in the UK.

Mkenya Ujerumani e.V Germany <https://mkenyaujerumani.de/>

 **Development activities**

A registered community based organisation based in Germany and Kenya to assist Kenyans in both countries on new opportunities, and general information.

Polish Kenyan Forum Poland www.kenya.com.pl

The Kenyan-Polish Forum is a non-profit, non-governmental organization set up by Kenyan graduates of Polish universities. It aims to promote greater friendship between the Kenyan and Polish people, as well as greater understanding of Kenya in the fields of culture, tourism and trade in Poland. It also provides support and advice to Kenyans resident in Poland.

Sahara Communities Abroad (SACOMA) UK <https://www.sacomauk.com/>

 **Development activities**

Social enterprise organisation that delivers information, guidance and advice, accredited training, business support, and capacity building to SMEs in Kenya and Tanzania.

Uhollanzi Kenya Association (UKEA) Netherlands 2004
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52877102320/>

In 2004 Kenyans living in The Netherlands came up with an idea of forming a welfare association to help cater for the socio-economic needs of its members who may face difficulties associated with living in a foreign country. UKEA serves as a point of contact between the Kenyan embassy in the Netherlands and the Kenyan diaspora residing in the country.

Written by: **AFFORD**
Edited by: **EUDiF**
April 2020



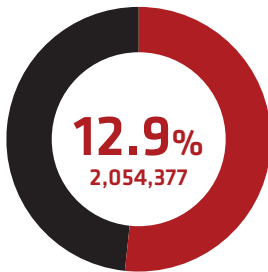


Diaspora engagement mapping **SOMALIA**

Facts & figures

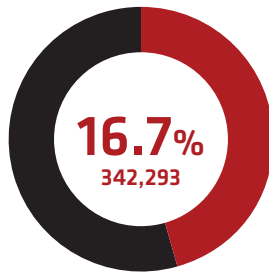
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 51.7%
♀ 48.3%

% of which in the EU



♂ 45.8%
♀ 54.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **8.8%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **26,353**



Top countries of destination

Ethiopia	477,774
Kenya	452,919
Yemen	279,856
United Kingdom	161,723
Libya	110,919 ¹

Political rights



Dual citizenship²



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad³



Terminology: Somalia refers to its diaspora as 'diaspora' in official parlance as the term has been adopted from English, although the term *qurbaha* (Somali for 'diaspora') is also sometimes used.

Somalia does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

1 UNDESA 2019. However, a more accurate reflection of Somali migration trends would list the following top 5 countries of destination: Kenya; US; UK; Sweden; Netherlands. The presence of Libya in the list suggests this is linked to Libyan and EU member state border management policies.

2 While Somalia's 1962 law does not permit dual nationality, the provisional constitution of 2012 does allow Somalis to hold another nationality. However, this has not been formally adopted. Full text available here: <http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/research/Somalia-Constitution2012.pdf>

3 Provisional constitution of 2012.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework surrounding diaspora engagement



- 2016** ● **Somali Diaspora Investment Survey Report.** Although Somalia has not published a diaspora policy yet, it makes extensive reference in its Somali Diaspora Investment Survey Report to the need to encourage diaspora return, especially of skilled Somali diaspora. The report also encourages diaspora investment⁴, including in priority sectors such as the sustainable energy and light industry, and it recommends that the government should work closely with the private sector to strengthen existing (and, where needed, advance new) trade and investment laws to encourage greater diaspora investment.⁵
- 2016** ● **Policy on Returnees to Somalia⁶** sets out criteria for voluntary and involuntary return of Somali nationals, including a risk assessment process and safeguards to “safeguard the security gains made in Somalia while upholding the Human rights of citizens and the returnees themselves.”⁷ There is currently no a legislative framework for financial mechanisms to support those who want to return.
- 2017** ∨
2019 ● **National Development Plan (NDP8)** focused on poverty reduction, building resilience, and enabling peace and security. This document recognised the importance of diaspora financial and other contributions, and dedicated an entire section to diaspora (Ch. 9.6). It included the following goals: remittances link with social and economic priorities; diaspora expertise support to public sector initiatives; new business development through diaspora capital; and technical expertise and links to international/regional markets.⁸
- 2020** ∨
2024 ● **National Development Plan (NDP9)⁹** aims to build on its predecessor in terms of strategy and goals, maintaining a focus on ‘poverty reduction and resilience’. This document is the result of consultations held in Somalia in 2019 (including with diaspora members) and recognises the Somalia diaspora’s financial, skills, and human development contributions to the country. In particular, it acknowledges the importance of understanding the humanitarian-development nexus and the diaspora’s role in providing assistance in times of crisis.
- **National Human Capital Strategy (date tbc)** To support the development of Somalia’s first National Human Capital Strategy, the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development has conducted studies and some preliminary findings indicate that one priority area for this strategy will include: ‘brain-gain due to large numbers of returning highly skilled Somalis from the diaspora.’¹⁰

» Trends & achievements

The Somali diaspora responded to the collapse of the government during the civil war by becoming major providers of funding and other support. Diaspora remittances, skills transfer, voluntarism, and humanitarian response have proved a lifeline to the country during the long period of civil war and insecurity, a process that continues to this day. In most cases these tend to be informal diaspora initiatives. Somalia is one of the most remittance-dependent countries worldwide¹¹ But remittances are deployed within households for primary needs, educational purposes and healthcare.

4 Available at: <http://www.mfa.gov.so/library/publications/> and also <https://shuraako.org/sites/default/files/SDIS-Survey-Report.pdf>

5 Ibid.

6 Full text available at: <http://www.mfa.gov.so/policy-issues/returnee-policy/>

7 Ibid. The policy is aimed predominantly at involuntary returnees, and stipulates that these may not be returned unless certain criteria are met, including that each returnee should be given \$10,000 USD by the departing state.

8 <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5b4315554.pdf>

9 Full text available at: <http://mop.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/NDP-9-2020-2024.pdf>

10 Full text available at: <http://mop.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/NDP-9-2020-2024.pdf>

11 Somalia does not report remittance data to the World Bank, but based on data provided by Nisar Majid, Khalif Abdirahman, and Shamsa Hassan (2018), it would be the sixth most remittance-dependent nation worldwide according to World Bank data. See : <https://www.xpressmoney.com/blog/industry/countries-that-rely-most-on-remittance/>

The Somali diaspora possesses the potential to become a great source of growth-driven investment in Somalia, as is recognised in its NDP8 and NDP9 strategies (see above). Investments, financial remittances and political engagements have been a crucial part in achieving bottom-up development outcomes.

Diaspora investments in the establishment of new industries and companies have created important employment opportunities for Somalis, which directly led to improvements in the livelihoods of many families in the country, and encouraged a number of diaspora entrepreneurs to return.¹²

There is an extensive presence of the Somali diaspora in government. As Ismail observed in 2011, 19 out of 29 heads of state or regional states, or state ministers were diaspora, a trend that has not changed.¹³ Nevertheless, to date there has been a lack of diaspora-targeting policies and programmes from the Somali government. The Office for Diaspora Affairs is small and has limited capacity, and very few Somalis are aware of its existence.

Most diaspora contributions to Somalia remain diaspora - rather than state - led, and informal in nature. Somalia's current objective, to build up formal diaspora engagement frameworks and initiatives, promises benefits in terms of harnessing patterns of diaspora resource mobilisation, philanthropy, investments, skills and voluntarism, if it can build on existing patterns of diaspora involvement.

Obstacles¹⁴



According to the Somali Diaspora Investment Survey 2017, there are 14 main obstacles preventing diaspora engagement in Somalia.¹⁵ These may be grouped around five main areas:

- **Lack of security and political instability:** are probably the biggest obstacles to diaspora engagement in Somalia at the current time.
- **Fragile state:** as a result of the protracted insecurity and conflict in the country, further exacerbated by regional droughts and cyclones in 2014 and 2019, the Somali government remains fragile and lacking in capacity and resources.¹⁶
- **Corruption and bureaucracy:** government bureaucracy is slow, and there is a lack of effective contract enforcement and weak rule of law, leading to widespread corruption.
- **Financial challenges:** The banking system is inadequate and there remains a lack of confidence surrounding money transfer processes. There are inadequate channels to send money to the country; costs of transfer fees are high; and there are concerns over diversion of funds (inadvertently or otherwise) for use by illicit groups.
- **Lack of reliable information about investment opportunities** inside Somalia, as well as barriers to accessing investment capital for investments in the country.

12 Full text available at: <http://mop.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/NDP-9-2020-2024.pdf>

13 Ismail, Abdirashid A. 2011. "Diaspora and Post-War Political Leadership in Somalia." *Nordic Journal of African Studies* 20 (1): 28-47

14 For a fuller description of obstacles, see Somali Investment Report (2016, available at) <https://shuraako.org/sites/default/files/SDIS-Survey-Report.pdf>

15 Benson, Jay B. Lindsay L Heger, Lee C. Sorensen and Alexandria E. Wise. 2017. Somali Diaspora Investment Survey Report: Typologies, Drivers & Recommendations. Accessed May 10, 2019. <https://shuraako.org/sites/default/files/SDIS-Survey-Report.pdf>

16 <https://www.businessinsider.com/diaspora-has-big-role-as-somalia-rebuilds-economy-global-ties-finance-minister-2020-3?r=US&IR=T>



SPOTLIGHT: effective practices



Somali Diaspora Engagement Programmes in Denmark and Sweden

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has implemented a diaspora programme since 2012 working with Somali and Afghani diaspora in Denmark to facilitate, support and enhance the role of diaspora as agents of humanitarian assistance and development in their countries of origin.¹⁷

HUMANITARIAN
AID

The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) finances two programmes catering to the large Somali diaspora in Sweden, making it possible for Swedish Somalis to contribute to the reconstruction of their country.¹⁸ In partnership with the International Organisation for Migration, they support diaspora graduates to return to Somalia to work in ministries and government departments, both at the federal level as well as in Somaliland and Puntland. SIDA also runs a small grants scheme to support Somali diaspora groups in Sweden to deliver development activities in Somalia.

¹⁷ <https://drc.ngo/relief-work/diaspora-programme>

¹⁸ <https://www.sida.se/English/where-we-work/Africa/Somalia/Our-work-in-Somalia/>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

AU Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Somalia nominates a diaspora focal point to the AU CIDO Continental Meetings.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) <https://igad.int/>

Somalia is a member of IGAD which includes governments from the Horn of Africa, Nile Valley and the African Great Lakes. IGAD is a principal supporter of the Federal Government of Somalia through the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) initiative.

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation www.mfa.gov.so

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is responsible for Somalia's foreign, and International Cooperation policy and is the lead ministry for diaspora engagement.

- At sub-ministerial level

Office of Diaspora Affairs (ODA) <https://en-gb.facebook.com/OfficeforDiasporaAffairs/>

The Office of Diaspora Affairs was established in 2013 and is responsible for coordinating diaspora engagement policies and programmes.

- At state level

Somalia has a federal system under which individual Somali states have their own administration, in some cases including diaspora offices.

Galgumudug State Ministry of Diaspora and Foreign investment aims to attract diaspora and other investors to the region.¹⁹

South West State Ministry of Resettlement & Diaspora Affairs has worked with NGOs and diaspora organisations to provide assistance and support to Internally Displaced People and refugees.²⁰

19 <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5b431554.pdf> It is not known how successful this Ministry has been in attracting investment, as the state has been affected by conflict in the ongoing insurgency in recent years., c.f. ARC (2018): Situation in South and Central Somalia (including Mogadishu): January 2018, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/5a6f16d44.pdf>

20 <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/MORDA%20Final%20%20Yearly%20Report%202017.pdf>

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Anti Tribalism Movement: Heal Reconciliation UK 2010 www.atm.org.uk

Development activities

ATM was founded by young Somalis who wanted to fight tribe-based discrimination.²¹ Since then it has grown into an international movement with 140,000 members who strive to combat prejudice, tribalism, inequality, and violence around the world. Its Heal Reconciliation is a programme of reconciliation and forgiveness workshops run by diaspora experts that take place in South and Central Somalia.

Federation of Somali Associations in the Netherlands (FSAN) Netherlands <http://www.fsan.nl/>

Development activities

FSAN is a Somali-Diaspora led organisation that focusses on the integration and participation of the Somali community in the Netherlands. The organisation organises workshops, conferences and lectures. FSAN also works to combat female genital mutilation both nationally and internationally.

Himilo Relief & Development Association (HIRDA) Netherlands UK www.hirda.org

Development activities

HIRDA is a Somali diaspora organisation that delivers a range of projects in Somalia including maternal and child health services; campaigning against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM); coordinating access to clean water, as well as food distribution in times of crisis; and supporting internally displaced people, including education for IDP children. Results of these programmes have included revitalising local economies, as well as improved child health, and better livelihoods for urban and pastoral populations.²²

Somaliska Akademiker Sweden <http://www.somaliskaakademiker.se/>

Somaliska Akademiker is a Somali led and Sweden-based organisation which focusses on empowering Somali graduates to advocate for the Somali diaspora community in Sweden.

Stichting Nomad Netherlands <https://www.stichtingnomad.nl/index-4.html>

Development activities

This civil society organisation focusses on the needs of the Somaliland community both in the Netherlands and Somaliland. It has strategies for the creation of a united Somaliland Diaspora community in the Netherlands. Furthermore, Stichting Nomad aims to strengthen the positions of the diaspora's youth in academic and professional fields. The organisation promotes Somali identity, culture and religion within the community.

21 <https://www.theatm.org/work/international-reconciliation-workshops-seminars/>
<https://www.nbe.com.eg/en/Default.aspx?AID=6&CID=8#Title>

22 <http://hirda.nl/en/home/>

SXB Global Global <https://www.sxbglobal.com/>

 **Development activities**

SXB Global is a platform that brings together individuals and organizations who share a common passion for business, networking, and community engagement.

Written by: AFFORD
Edited by: EUDiF
April 2020



Find out more at www.diasporadevelopment.eu



Diaspora engagement mapping SEYCHELLES



Facts & figures

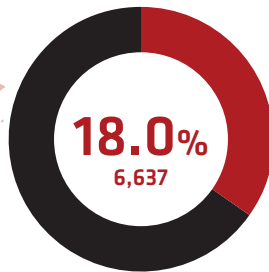
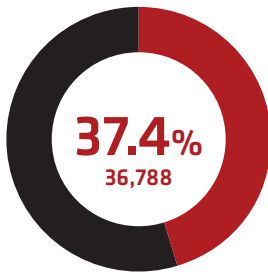
Emigration



% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 45.5%
♀ 54.5%

♂ 34.9%
♀ 65.1%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **1.4%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **23**

Top countries of destination



Mozambique	16,997
United Kingdom	4,600
Australia	3,174
South Africa	1,162
Canada	1,101

Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Seychelles does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

1 Dual citizenship is not recognized. The government of Seychelles only recognizes dual citizenship in specific cases concerning native born citizens of Seychelles who later obtain another citizenship for domestic or economic convenience (such as to work abroad) or involuntarily through marriage to a foreign citizen. See Seychelles Department of Immigration and Civil Status. (2013). A Quick Guide to the New Seychelles Immigration Rules, available at http://www.statehouse.gov.sc/uploads/downloads/filepath_61.pdf
Citizenship laws are based upon the Citizenship of Seychelles Act, dated June 29, 1976, and the Constitution of Seychelles, 1970, consolidated to 2016. Full text available at: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/-ilo_aids/documents/legal-document/wcms_127610.pdf

2 Article 114 of the Constitution (2017 amendment) https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Seychelles_2017.pdf?lang=en

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2019** ● Vision 2033³ refers to the need to recruit diaspora and expatriate skilled professionals, although no special provisions have been made for the former, or to promote circular migration. This may change after Seychellois citizens lose the right to visa-free travel to Europe in 2022.
- 2019** ▼
2023 ● Seychelles National Development Strategy (SNDS)⁴ underlines recruitment and retention of diaspora and expatriate professionals as a solution to address the country's significant skills shortage challenges.
- 2019** ● National Labour Migration Policy⁵ sets out objectives in relation to developing an efficient labour market (3.1) and 'managing and upskilling the labour force' (3.4), including through diaspora skills transfer.⁶ It includes the following objectives relevant to diaspora engagement:
- To consider mobilizing technical and intellectual diasporas to engage in public sector development projects, or to provide technical assistance;
 - To provide a clear mandate to embassies and consular representatives abroad for engaging in diaspora relations.



Trends:

Often refracted through the lens of the politics of the Cold War, relations between Seychelles and its diaspora were strained until 1991, when a multi-party government returned to the Seychelles, due in part to the political activity of diaspora in exile. Under a joint exile return programme started in 1986/7, the Seychelles International Repatriation Onward Programme, most of the exiled political factions' leaders returned to the country.⁷

There have been recurrent calls to allow diaspora voting rights. The Seychelles diaspora are very active politically, and have been known to fly to the country to participate in elections. In 2019, President Danny Faure promised that a bill for a referendum on allowing the Seychellois diaspora to take part in elections will be "tabled at the appropriate time", although this was later withdrawn after criticism.⁸

Emigration of skilled professionals from Seychelles has been a challenge for the country since the 1970s, with educated Seychellois seeking employment opportunities abroad, particularly in Europe, due to better employment opportunities.⁹ This has led to skills shortages that the government has sought to address through recruitment of skilled expatriate and diaspora professionals. While there have been some attempts to engage diaspora expertise in certain sectors such as education, public health, and treatment of substance abuse, this has been the result of individual initiatives rather than as part of formal programmes.¹⁰

3 <http://www.nation.sc/articles/1082/president-launches-vision-2033-first-national-development-strategy-2019-2023> . The full text of Vision 2033 is available here: http://www.finance.gov.sc/uploads/files/Vision_2033.pdf

4 http://www.finance.gov.sc/uploads/files/Seychelles_National_Development_Strategy_2019_2023_new.pdf

5 <http://www.employment.gov.sc/e-library/policies/labour-migration-policy-october-2019/download>

6 Ibid.

7 See <https://sey-int-rep-onw-prog.f> <http://sirop-cdu-alliance-snm.blogspot.com/2007/08/british-history-page-before-it-was.html> www.sayeu.org for more information

8 <http://www.nation.sc//articles/2698/president-danny-faures-fourth-press-conference-for-the-year-2019>

9 Philpot, Grey, and Stead (2015), 'Seychelles, a vulnerable or resilient SIDS? A local perspective', available at: https://eprint.ncl.ac.uk/file_store/production/211285/DDD607DB-3C8A-4994-B3F2-669F67B12F92.pdf

10 Personal communication, GAFFI <https://www.gaffi.org/> and SACIDS www.sacids.net February 2019

As an island nation, Seychelles is particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels linked to climate change, a fact recognised by the country's Vision 2033 strategy. The strategy makes reference to the potential for climate-change induced emigration from the Seychelles by 2033, including a worst-case scenario of an 'exodus'. While Vision 2033 does not set out actions in this regard, Seychelles is working with other island states and their allies for greater advocacy and action to address climate change, and there may be scope to frame diaspora engagement policies and practices in relation to mitigating the effects of climate change.¹¹

Obstacles



- **Fragmented diaspora:** The Seychelles diaspora, although large relative to the total population, is small and spread across multiple countries and regions. There are very few Seychelles diaspora groups in Europe and North America.
- **Lack of strategic and policy focus:** Seychelles has not incorporated diaspora engagement into its policies and programmes until relatively recently, and so this policy area is at an early stage of development.
- **Lack of fiscal incentives:** Remittances flows to Seychelles are relatively modest, and the Seychelles diaspora is seen as lacking sufficient investment potential for policymakers to prioritise diaspora engagement policies and programmes.
- **Lack of trust:** A common diaspora perception of the government is that its policies have favoured expatriate investors and residents over the Seychellois. This has led to distrust of government policy towards the diaspora.¹² Conversely, one legacy of the political exiles in the 1980s is an ambivalence on the part of the government towards its diaspora in Europe, Australia, and Canada that remained until relatively recently. This has arguably slowed the development of diaspora engagement policy frameworks in the country.

SPOTLIGHT: effective practices



Seychelles Indian Diaspora day 2018

On 9 January 2018 the government celebrated Seychelles Indian Diaspora Day, honouring Indian diaspora business leaders based in the country as well as the contributions of the Seychellois of Indian origin world-wide to the Seychelles.¹³

CULTURE/ IDENTITY

¹¹ http://www.finance.gov.sc/uploads/files/Vision_2033.pdf

¹² IOM 2014, *Migration in Seychelles: Country Report* available at: https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mp_seychelles_12aug2014.pdf

¹³ <http://www.nation.sc/archive/257277/seychelles-indian-diaspora-day-2018>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**



African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Seychelles is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Seychelles as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Southern African Development Community (SADC) <http://www.sadc.int/>

Seychelles is a member of the SADC which is an inter-governmental organization headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana. Its goal is to further socio-economic cooperation and integration as well as political and security cooperation among 16 southern African countries

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa is a free trade area with twenty-one member states, including Seychelles.

- **At national level**

- At ministerial level

Department of Foreign Affairs <http://www.mfa.gov.sc/>

The Department for Foreign Affairs is responsible for relations with the Seychelles diaspora.

Ministry of Employment, Immigration and Civil Status <http://www.employment.gov.sc/#>

The Ministry of Employment, Immigration, and Civil Status is responsible for migration policies and programmes, and citizenship issues.

Ministry of Finance, Trade and Economic Planning <http://www.finance.gov.sc/>

The Ministry of Finance, Trade and Economic Planning is the lead agency for diaspora investment and trade

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Chagos Refugees Group UK <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sabrinajeancrguk/>

This Chagossian diaspora organisation led the legal fight against the UK's government's treatment of Chagossians. It conducts lobbying and advocacy for Chagossian diaspora worldwide.

Doctors 4 Doctors Seychelles <http://d4dsey.com/index.php/about-us>

Development activities

Doctors 4 Doctors Seychelles is an independent association that draws on diaspora expertise with the purpose of advocating and promoting the interests of doctors, and improving medical care available in Seychelles.

Seychelles Gastronomy UK <http://www.seychellesgastronomy.co.uk/>

Development activities

A diaspora social enterprise set up by Seychellois entrepreneurs, with one restaurant in Bournemouth, UK, and two restaurants in Seychelles. Works to promote Seychelles culture and gastronomy and provide vocational training opportunities for young people.¹⁴

UK Chagos Support Association <https://www.chagossupport.org.uk/>

Development activities

The UK Chagos Support Association was formed to support the Chagossians in their fight for justice. It works to draw attention to the Chagos Islanders' plight, to help them in their struggle against injustice, and operates a hardship support fund for Chagossians in distress.

¹⁴ <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/11854/A+taste+of+the+islands+opens+on+the+UK+coast+Seychelles+Gastronomy>

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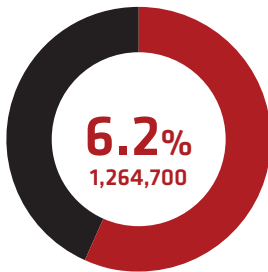


Diaspora engagement mapping MALI

Facts & figures

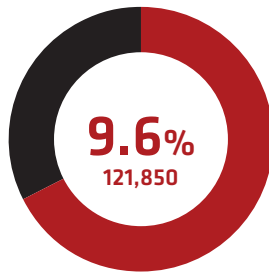
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 56.9%
♀ 43.1%

% of which in the EU



♂ 67.5%
♀ 32.5%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **5.4%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **964**



Top countries of destination

Côte d'Ivoire	522,146
Nigeria	168,657
Mauritania	108,528
Niger	92,101
France	83,195



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Right to vote is enabled in the place of residence³



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Mali refers to its diaspora as 'Malians abroad' (*Maliens de l'Extérieur*); this includes children and grandchildren of Malian citizens.

Mali does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

¹ The Act No. 95-70 of 25 August 1995 on the Malian Nationality Code, replaced by Act No. 2011-087 on 30 December 2011 stipulates that any adult of Malian nationality, residing abroad, who voluntarily acquires a foreign nationality will only lose their Malian nationality if they make a formal declaration. Full text available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/48ee15a12.html>

² Ibid. Loi électorale du Mali (Modification 2018) http://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/africa/ML/mali-loi-n2018-014-modification-loi-electorale/view?set_language=fr

³ Ibid.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2010** ● **National Consultation Framework for Malians Abroad.** The role of this framework is to promote actions pertaining to labour migration and provide support in the development and implementation of national migration policies. It includes a thematic group on diaspora, migration and development that sought to inform development of policy areas relating to diaspora engagement for national development, in particular ways of harnessing diaspora intellectual and financial capital for national development. The diaspora were closely involved in the process to develop the national migration policy through the High Council of Malians Abroad.⁴
- 2014** ● **National Migration Policy (PONAM)** was launched by Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration with the vision to make migration a real asset for development by mobilising the diaspora to become a tool for social advancement.⁵ Its action plan includes the TOKTEN programme (see below) for the development of diaspora human capital to make it a real development lever for Mali. The document also addresses the recognition of diaspora competences and the relationship between the government and migrant associations and civil society.
- 2018** ● **Handbook for Labour Migration Management** - The Malian government developed implementation guidelines on migration management as part of the MIEUX programme. They were finalised in 2018⁶ and will be used to train staff from the National Employment Agency (ANPE) and other stakeholders in labour migration management in the country, including the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration, and the National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT). However, the implementation status remains unclear.

» Trends & achievements

The contribution of the Malian diaspora to Mali's overall economy is quite substantial, with remittances alone estimated at \$964 bn USD in 2019, continuing a trend of upward growth since 2016.⁷ While it is difficult to track diaspora direct investment flows into Mali accurately due to a lack of data, the continued growth in remittance flows suggests that Mali has a decent enabling environment vis à vis promoting diaspora remittances and investments, despite the continued lack of security and the high cost of remittances to the country that act as barriers to greater diaspora investment.⁸

In order to facilitate better engagement with its diaspora, the Malian government revisited its nationality code in 2011 to grant full citizenship to Malians who reside abroad and who have taken the nationality of their host country, a move that was well received by the diaspora. The adoption of the PONAM and the creation of additional structures for diaspora engagement (see Annex) demonstrate that Mali has sought to take diaspora engagement for national development increasingly seriously.

There are two strategic groups for Mali in terms of diaspora engagement: the Malian diaspora in neighbouring countries in West Africa and the Malian diaspora in Europe and North America. There remains great potential for enhancing Mali's diaspora engagement with the diaspora in Europe and America, especially in relation to diaspora remittances and investments, as well as skills transfer and scientific and technical innovation.


4 <https://migrationdataportal.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/MGI%20Mali%20final%20%281%29.pdf>

5 Full text of the Politique Nationale de Migration. (French only) available here: http://www.maliens-exterieur.gouv.ml/docs/Brochures_Politiques.pdf.

6 <https://www.mieux-initiative.eu/en/news-events/news/95-spotlight-on-west-africa-mali-and-benin>

7 World Bank 2019

8 AFFORD (forthcoming) Diaspora Direct Investment (DDI) Index



However, there remain significant gaps between policy and implementation and there are challenges in allocating adequate resources to diaspora engagement programmes. The government has tended to prioritise border management and reducing irregular migration over diaspora engagement, reflecting the strategic priorities of its EU partners. This creates a tension between these two policy areas that will continue to need managing.

A related concern in this regard is the ongoing lack of security in the country which, combined with concerns about irregular migration, has led Mali's strategic partners to prioritise the migration-development-security nexus, an approach which is itself not without risk, and arguably threatens to undermine diaspora engagement.⁹ Amongst other issues, this contributes to a disconnect between Mali's concern to promote more routes to legal migration, and the concerns of strategic partners to reduce irregular migration without necessarily increasing pathways for circular migration.

Obstacles

- **Lack of data:** The lack of data on migration and diaspora limits the possibilities for evidence-based policymaking and implementation.
- **Lack of resources:** The General Delegation of Malians Abroad (DGME) lacks funds and resources to develop and implement its policies. Hence, the opportunities to enhance Malian remittances spending in development projects are constrained.
- **Security issues:** The ongoing lack of security and the insurgency in the north of the country in particular have stimulated high numbers of irregular migration and human trafficking that demand a lot of attention from the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration.
- **High cost of remittances:** Remittance pricing is a huge constraint for the diaspora and a barrier to investment, especially in the micro-, small-, and medium-enterprise (MSME) sector that is the principal motor for job creation in the country.

⁹ Elise Cuny (2018), The EU's New Migration Partnership with Mali: Shifting towards a Risky Security-Migration-Development Nexus, EU Diplomacy Paper, College of Europe, available at: http://aei.pitt.edu/97350/1/edp-1-2018_cuny.pdf

SPOTLIGHT: effective practices



Guide for Malians Abroad

INFORMATION + PROTECTION

A guide for the Malian diaspora was drawn up in 1998, updated in 2004 and is currently being revised to adapt it to the institutional changes that have taken place and to the new context of migration.¹⁰ It contains information on the High Council of Malians Living Abroad and the criteria for the status of Malian abroad. It lists the structures available for the assistance, protection and social security of migrants. Its updated version also promises to give improved information on current conditions for remittances as well as investment and employment opportunities in Mali, the formalities of business creation, and the role of the one-stop shop for future investors from the diaspora.

Diaspora Investment Measures

In order to promote diaspora investment and its contribution to economic development in Mali, the government has taken a range of measures, including:

INVESTMENT

- Establishment of a 'one-stop shop' to provide advice on and facilitate registration of businesses, which can act as a barrier to diaspora investment; it now only takes 72 hours to establish a business in Mali. Registration of businesses is a significant barrier for diaspora investors in many countries so this strongly participates to creating an enabling environment for entrepreneurs;
- Customs exemption on investment equipment for Malians in the diaspora;
- Signature of an agreement with two banks (ATTIJIARIWAFABA BANK, BIM and the Development Bank of Mali, BDM) to facilitate remittance transfers and diaspora investments, as well as develop financial products targeting the diaspora, such as diaspora savings accounts;
- Signature of conventions with some host countries to better protect Malians abroad and their assets.¹¹

TOKTEN

HUMAN CAPITAL

The TOKTEN programme was established in Mali in 1998 to enable the Malian diaspora to contribute with their skills to the economic and social development of the country in key areas such as education, technical and vocational training in health, agriculture and SMEs. TOKTEN allows the temporary return of the scientific and technical diaspora with the aim of contributing to compensate for the lack of qualified teaching staff to improve the quality of tertiary teaching and training.¹² The programme is under the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration for its daily administrative management with the support of UNDP and the EU.

¹⁰ Personal communication, DGME December 2019

¹¹ <https://www.rabat-process.org/images/RabatProcess/Documents/context-document-malian-diaspora-engagement-thematic-meeting-2016-bamako-diaspora-engagement-rabat-process.pdf> (p10)

¹² <https://www.rabat-process.org/images/RabatProcess/Documents/context-document-malian-diaspora-engagement-thematic-meeting-2016-bamako-diaspora-engagement-rabat-process.pdf> (p6-7)

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO)

Mali is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Mali as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

www.au-cido.int



Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Mali is a member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and has established cooperation frameworks with ECOWAS and with countries such as Morocco and Cameroon so as to ensure the free mobility of persons and to abolish visa requirements. Through ECOWAS, Mali cooperates with international parties and establishes agreements with international bodies to organise and facilitate emigration and explore the causes of irregular emigration. <https://www.ecowas.int/>

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration <http://maliens-exterieur.gouv.ml/>

The ministry designs action plans and policies to facilitate and encourage legal Malian emigration; protects Malians abroad and defends their interests; defines and puts in place action plans to ensure and coordinate their participation in local development and to facilitate their socioeconomic reintegration upon their return (under the auspices of the High Council of Malians Abroad); puts in place, in cooperation with concerned institutions, a national policy plan for African integration; favours investments from Malians abroad; establishes and finances centres, associations and forums to study migration dynamics in Mali (e.g. CIGEM) and to organise relations with the diaspora (via the General Delegation of Malians Living Abroad, see below).¹³

Ministry of Economy and Finance

The ministry has established mechanisms to reduce the costs of transferring remittances and thus facilitating the absorption of informal flows. There is interest in receiving technical assistance to ensure that these mechanisms will be able to achieve the desired objectives.¹⁴

13 https://unctad.org/en/docs/emditctnkd_07_fr.pdf (p5)

14 <https://www.rabat-process.org/images/RabatProcess/Documents/context-document-malian-diaspora-engagement-themat-ic-meeting-2016-bamako-diaspora-engagement-rabat-process.pdf>

- At sub-ministerial level

General Delegation of Malians Abroad (DGME) <http://maliens-exterieur.gouv.ml/>

Created on 31 December 2015, DGME is a central structure of the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration with the mission to draw up the elements of the national migration policy which relate to the administration, assistance, protection and promotion of Malians living abroad and to ensure the coordination and the control of Diplomatic and Consular Missions which contribute to the implementation of policies and initiatives.¹⁵

The High Council of Malians Abroad (HCME) <http://maliens-exterieur.gouv.ml/diaspora/>

HCME was created in 1991 following the request of the Malian diaspora at the National Conference. It is an official institution linking the Malian public authorities and the diaspora, serving as an integration instrument and consultation framework for the problems faced by the Malian diaspora.

HCME is an umbrella structure for diaspora associations with sixty-five (65) external branches called Base Councils of Malians Abroad (CBME). There is one CBME per host country whose office provides valuable advisory support to diplomatic and consular missions in the management of the Malian community.

Centre for Migration Management and Information (CIGEM - Centre d'Information et de Gestion des Migrations)

CIGEM was created in 2008 through an agreement between the European Union, ECOWAS and the Government of Mali. Its main objectives are the definition and implementation of a Malian migration policy adapted to national, regional and international dynamics in constant evolution, with particular emphasis on the link between migration and development. CIGEM has supported over 8,000 visitors with information, and provides support facilities for potential and returning migrants, including in relation to employment and training opportunities in Mali and abroad.¹⁶

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association Amiens/Bamako France

<https://assomaliennes.com/user/associationamiensbamakogmail-com/>

Development activities

The association aims to support child literacy by building schools in Bamako, Mali and monitor its management and educational programme.

Association des R ressortissants et Amis de la Commune de Kassama en France

Development activities

The association works to develop projects to improve the living, socio-economic and cultural conditions of the populations of the commune of Kassama and the other communes of the cercle of Kéniéba.

¹⁵ https://unctad.org/en/docs/emditctnkd_07_fr.pdf (p6)

¹⁶ <https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1863>

Association de Soutien aux Malades Nephrotiques au Mali (ASMNM) France

<https://assomaliennes.com/user/asmnm75yahoo-fr/>

Development activities

ASMNM aims to help Malians suffering from kidney disease, whether they reside in France, Mali or elsewhere in the world.

Association Lahidou de Kersignan  (Kaniaga) France

<https://assomaliennes.com/user/lahidougmail-com/>

Development activities

The association aims to promote health, education, socio-economic and cultural development in the town of Kersignan  (Kaniaga) located in the circle of Y liman  (Kayes region).

Conseil des Maliens d'Italie

https://www.facebook.com/pg/Conseil-des-Maliens-d'Italie-CMI-151667941683365/about/?ref=page_internal

Development activities

The federal organisation brings together all the Malian associations in Italy. It acts as a relay between Malian immigrants in Italy and the Malian government. It supports the implementation in Italy of international cooperation programmes involving Mali.

La F d ration Euro-Africaine de Solidarit  (EFASO) France

<https://www.feaso.org/accueil/qui-sommes-nous/>

Development activities

EFASO brings together nearly 252 associations, mainly migrant organisations operating in Africa. In addition to its role as a network, EFASO accompanies migrants on a daily basis, throughout their integration and business creation processes.

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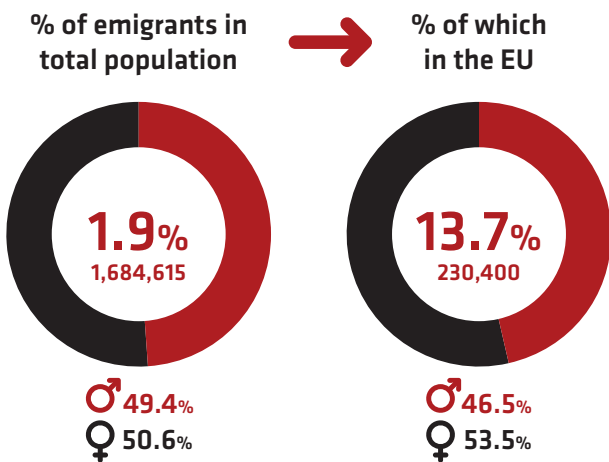


Diaspora engagement mapping

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Facts & figures

Emigration



Remittances as a share of GDP: 4.0%
Remittances inflow (USD million): 1,945

Top countries of destination¹

Uganda	315,753
Rwanda	248,670
Burundi	185,833
Congo	175,608
Angola	92,242

Political rights

- Dual citizenship¹**
- Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²**
- Voting from abroad³**

Terminology: The Democratic Republic of the Congo refers to its diaspora as Congolese abroad (*congolais de l'étranger*), although the term diaspora is also sometimes used. Anyone belonging to the ethnic groups whose persons and territory constituted what became Congo (currently the Democratic Republic of the Congo) at independence, is a Congolese national.

¹ Loi N° 04/024 du 12 Novembre 2004 Relative à la Nationalité Congolaise: <http://www.leganet.cd/Legislation/Code%20de%20la%20famille/LIVRE%20I%20DE%20LA%20NATIONALITE.htm> In 2019 Congolese President Félix Tshisekedi called for an in-depth reflection on the question of dual nationality and for the question to be resolved, see: <https://taarifa.rw/president-tshisekedi-pokes-dual-nationality-debate/>

² Loi n°06/006 du 09 mars 2006 portant organisation des élections présidentielles législatives https://www.droitcongolais.info/files/111.03.06-Loi-du-9-mars-2006_Organisation-des-elections.pdf. However, diaspora members have to be registered to vote in the country, which in practical terms makes it very difficult to vote.

³ Ibid. While the electoral law has mandated the participation of Congolese diaspora in elections since 2006 on the 'vote abroad for home district' system, barriers have been placed to their registration, and they were excluded from voting in the 2018 presidential elections; see: Democratic Republic of the Congo 2018 - Harmonized Presidential, Parliamentary and Provincial Elections Expert Mission Report, The Carter Center available at: https://www.cartercenter.org/resources/pdfs/news/peace_publications/election_reports/drc-2018-election-report-final-en.pdf

The Democratic Republic of the Congo does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

However, in 2016, the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Ministry for Employment, Labour and Social Security requested the support of the EC-funded MIEUX programme to develop a draft Diaspora Mobilisation Policy. The draft policy that was developed included a range of measures to enhance diaspora resource flows, such as financial incentives to encourage diaspora investments and remittances, access to land and property development opportunities, as well as proposals for skills transfer frameworks that sought to recruit high-skilled professionals as well as provide some paid and unpaid volunteering opportunities.⁴ Due to political tensions and institutional inertia, this Diaspora Mobilisation Policy has yet to be endorsed by all relevant government institutions.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2002
2015
- Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy Document does not refer to diaspora or Congolese abroad explicitly (in part due to constitutional and political sensitivities), but it does so implicitly through references to migration as a means to mobilize resources and skills in combatting poverty. This document also included a plan to establish a national programme on migration, although it is not clear if this was ever developed.⁵

» Trends & achievements

The country's history of civil war and conflict has created great needs in terms of basic goods and healthcare in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo), and its diaspora have been quite active in developing a growing not-for-profit sector, mostly through informal initiatives responding to local needs.

Following the civil war, managing the return of Congolese and other migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries has arguably been a greater priority for the government than attempting to engage the Congolese diaspora based permanently abroad in national development projects and business investment.⁶

The creation of the Vice-Ministry for Congolese Nationals Abroad within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2006 reflects the growing importance of diaspora remittances to the country's economy from the 2000s onwards, as well as increasing political interest in the diaspora from then President Kabila to support national reconstruction. Since this time, progress in diaspora engagement and in developing policies and programmes targeting the diaspora has been slow and uneven.

One of the drivers of this inertia has been the contested issue of diaspora participation in the country's civic and political life, which has fed into distrust between the government and its diaspora. This continues to hinder diaspora engagement policy and programme development, as well as greater participation by the diaspora. Despite moves towards enabling dual citizenship, this has not yet been achieved in practice, thus discouraging the Congolese diaspora from greater participation in the civic and economic life of the country.

4 Personal communication, AFFORD/ MIEUX 2019.

5 <https://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/2002/cod/01/033102.pdf>

6 See Marie-Laurence Flahaux (2015), 'Return Migration to Senegal and the Democratic Republic of Congo: Intention and Realization' in *Population* 2015/1 (Vol. 70); and also Jean-Pierre K. Bongila, 'The State of Leadership and Diaspora Engagement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)' in Jack Mangala (ed) (2017), *Africa and its Global Diaspora -The Policy and Politics of Emigration*, African Histories and Modernities Book Series

However, the election of the new government in 2019 has the potential to usher in an era of more constructive engagement with its diaspora.⁷ The government has stated that it is planning to improve the channels and opportunities available for the diaspora to communicate with the government, including organisation of diaspora events as well as a dedicated web portal. Other services are also in development, including a Guide for Congolese Abroad and information on investment opportunities.⁸ In addition, the government is seeking to build the technical capacity of the Directorate of Congolese Abroad and embassy staff and it is developing a small database to improve data collection on its diaspora.⁹

Although the Democratic Republic of the Congo has created some structures and institutions to enable diaspora engagement, these have not yet reached their full potential. Moreover, implementation remains a challenge as the country has been affected by a series of humanitarian emergencies in recent years, putting pressure on limited government resources. Parts of the country have been affected by serious and disruptive infectious disease outbreaks, including Ebola, and diaspora health professionals and scientists have been closely involved in the scientific and humanitarian responses to these.¹⁰

Obstacles



- **Lack of policy coordination and implementation** is the most urgent challenge in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the field of migration and development and diaspora engagement. At the formal level, there is a centralisation of public administration structures, but in practice, ministries and other national institutions often struggle to effectively work in synergy. There is still no dedicated diaspora policy for the country.
- **Lack of diaspora political representation:** The notion of citizenship remains deeply controversial as the Democratic Republic of the Congo places limitations on dual citizenship and diaspora voting, which can be a challenge for diaspora interested in returning and investing in the country. In part, this can be attributed to the legacy of the civil war in the country.
- **Institutional focus on migration management:** DR Congo has been affected by regional conflict and instability and has had to manage significant numbers of migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries whilst at the same time seeking to stem outward migration of its own citizens and resulting brain-drain. This has caused the focus of the government to be on border management rather than migration and development.
- **Difficult business environment:** DR Congo was rated 184 out of 190 countries in the World Bank's 2020 Doing Business Report.¹¹ Investment flows to the country are reportedly constrained by cumbersome regulations, excessive taxation and corruption. These issues are repeatedly cited by Congolese diaspora as barriers to increased participation in the country's economic life.

7 <https://saiia.org.za/research/the-road-ahead-for-the-drc/>

8 AU Diaspora Self-Assessment Toolkit : DR Congo (2019), available at: <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/2019%20Diaspora%20Engagement%20Self%20Assessment%20Report%20ENG.pdf>

9 Ibid.

10 Personal communication, East African Infectious Diseases Surveillance Network (EAIDSNET) , January 2020

11 Available at: https://www.doingbusiness.org/content/dam/doingBusiness/media/Annual-Reports/English/DB2019-report_web-version.pdf

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Solidarco: Diaspora Health Insurance in DRC

HEALTH

Solidarco was launched in 2010, with the support of Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI) with the aim to enable the Congolese diaspora to finance healthcare for relatives living in Kinshasa. By paying 30 euros per month, or 1 euro per day, a member of the Congolese diaspora in Belgium finances healthcare and hospitalisation cover for seven people. While WBI financially supported the launch of the project in the first two years, Solidarco is now self-financed by contributions from contributors in the diaspora.¹²

Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)¹³

HUMAN CAPITAL

The MIDA programme was implemented by IOM in collaboration with the DRC Ministry for Employment, Labour and Social Security with funding from the Belgian government from 2001 to 2013. The programme supported the socio-economic development of the country through the transfer of knowledge and technical know-how on the basis of short-term consultancy from highly qualified expatriate DRC nationals, with over 200 MIDA missions to the country undertaken by 2013.¹⁴

House of Congolese Abroad and Migrations

NETWORKS

The House of Congolese Abroad and Migrations (Maison des Congolais de l'Étranger et des Migrations, MCDEM) was created in 2009 to provide services to returning Congolese migrants and to enable greater representation of the diaspora. It serves as a crossroads for exchanges and the organization of cultural, economic and socio-professional activities that brings the diaspora closer to each other and to the official institutions of the country. New management was installed in 2016, and a House of the Congolese Abroad was opened in Paris in the same year.¹⁵

12 <https://www.micmag.be/les-ressources-de-la-diasporas/>

13 <https://www.iom.int/countries/democratic-republic-congo#md> ; personal communication, ICMPD 2020.

14 Julie Heraud (2010), 'Migration and Development: An Insight into the Experiences and Perceptions of Skilled Migrants Involved in the MIDA Great Lakes Programme', Working Paper 59, Sussex Centre for Migration Research, University of Sussex.

15 <https://www.streetpress.com/sujet/1457522905-chateau-rouge-maison-congo-retour-pays>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent DR Congo as part of the AU CIDO Continental Meetings.

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); Southern African Development Community (SADC)

<https://www.comesa.int/> <http://www.ceeac-eccas.org/> <https://www.sadc.int>

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is also a member COMESA, ECCAS, and SADC.

- National institutions

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation <https://www.facebook.com/minaffetrdc/>

Since 2006, this ministry has included a Vice-Ministry of the Congolese of abroad. The Vice-Ministry has the following mandates: mobilisation of the Congolese of abroad for the development of the country and their integration into national life; identification, census and monitoring of Congolese abroad; protection and defence of the rights, interests and stay of the Congolese abroad. The Vice-Ministry of Congolese Abroad is playing an increasingly important role in the synergy of action between the diaspora and the country of origin.

- At sub-ministerial level

Directorate of Congolese Abroad (DCE) (no website available)

Following the 2006 elections, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Ministry of Public Service announced through the Inter-ministerial Order n° 130/CAB/MINAFFEI/014 of 13 July 2006, the creation, organisation and functioning of the Directorate of Congolese Abroad (DCE). It is the lead department within the ministry for diaspora engagement.

National Agency for the Promotions of Investments <https://www.investindrc.cd/fr/>

The Agence Nationale pour la Promotion des Investissements (ANAPI) is the government council for Investments in DR Congo. ANAPI works to improve the business climate and promote a positive image of DR Congo in order to attract investment to the country; to provide investors with various services to facilitate their establishment in the country and to make them competitive.



Fédération des entreprises du Congo – FEC <http://www.fec-rdc.com/>

The FEC guides companies step-by-step towards their success and partners with them at all times in order to 'build together' their projects. The FEC also values local resources, cultivates the spirit of entrepreneurship and boosts the image of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and its companies.

The FEC website is the main platform providing information to members of the diaspora interested in investment opportunities and seeking information on administrative processes and taxation.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association de la Solidarité Internationale du Congo Kinshasa en France <https://www.forim.net/content/association-de-la-solidarit%C3%A9-internationale-du-congo-kinshasa-en-france>

Development activities

The association works to organize permanent and regular dialogues in order to fight together against violence and acts of vandalism, to share knowledge, skills and unity, and to raise public awareness on development issues in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Fédération de la Diaspora Congolaise <https://www.fediascongo.com/>

Development activities

The federation works to build solidarity with the Congolese diaspora and improve the quality of life of the Congolese people. To do so, they are developing a Congolese network to promote entrepreneurship within communities and support economic and associative activities.

Les Amis du Congo Solidarité Belgium <https://www.levolontariat.be/group/les-amis-du-congo-solidarite>

Development activities

Les Amis du Congo Solidarité works to ensure solidarity and exchange of information between the communities of Belgium, and promote the integration of the Congolese community and people of Congolese origin in Belgium. It supports young people who drop out of school, assists political refugees awaiting regularisation, and provides humanitarian aid and vocational training to child soldiers and street children in DR Congo.

TSHELA, Belgium <https://www.facebook.com/tshela1/>

Development activities

TSHELA aims to contribute to the development of the hospital sector in DRC through continuous training of health professionals and informative events on women's specific medical problems.

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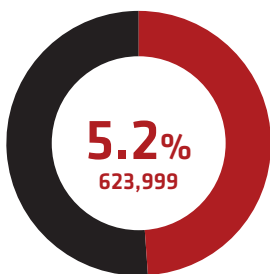
Diaspora engagement mapping

BURUNDI

Facts & figures

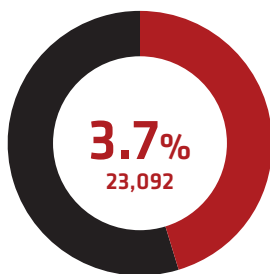
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 49.1%
♀ 50.9%

% of which in the EU



♂ 45.3%
♀ 54.7%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **1.0%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **36**



Top countries of destination

Tanzania	295,436
Rwanda	137,669
Democratic Republic of Congo	59,826
Uganda	54,494
South Africa	11,468



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad³:

At embassies/consulates



Burundi does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

1 Article 21 Loi no. 1-013 du 18 juillet 2000 portant réforme du Code de la nationalité: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/452d01c94.html>

2 Loi Organique n°1/11 du 20 Mai 2019 portant modification de la Loi n°1/20 du 13 Juin 2014 portant Code Electoral : <http://www.droit-afrique.com/uploads/Burundi-Code-2019-electoral.pdf>

3 Source: AU (2019) Diaspora Engagement Self-Assessment Report <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/2019%20Diaspora%20Engagement%20Self%20Assessment%20Report%20ENG.pdf>. Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the diaspora will not be able to vote remotely in the May 2020 elections : <https://www.dw.com/fr/pr%C3%A9sidentielle-au-burundi-pas-de-vote-pour-la-diaspora/a-53201033>

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2011** ● **Vision 2025** is Burundi's national development strategy. It makes no explicit reference to the Burundian diaspora, but states that 'the settlement of land conflicts will receive very detailed attention because it constitutes one of the sources of the social conflicts following the *return of refugees and displaced persons*.' (editor's italics).⁴
- 2013** ● **National Migration Policy** aims to provide a framework for the return of Burundian refugees (and by implication, the diaspora) to facilitate their reintegration in the social and economic life of the country.⁵
- 2015** ● **Draft Diaspora Policy** - Under the EC-funded MIEUX programme, ICMPD supported the government of Burundi to draft a national diaspora policy in 2015. This draft policy document contains key strategic objectives aimed at improving communication and coordination with diaspora groups, and recognising the potential impact of the economic and social contributions of the diaspora for the country's development.
- It is not clear when (or indeed whether) this policy was formally adopted, but in December 2019 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs organised a workshop in Gitega for provincial governors as well as representatives of IOM to popularise the national diaspora policy.⁶
- 2018** ● **Draft Labour Mobility Policy** - As of late 2018, Burundi has also started the process of developing a draft labour mobility policy, although it is not clear when this will be publicly available.⁷ In April 2019 the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Employment launched the project 'development of the national policy on labour migration in Burundi' to develop enhanced migrant labour regulations, including conclusion of bilateral agreements with the Gulf states.⁸ The policy will 'regulate the movement of labour who goes abroad but also Burundians who are already abroad.' The project to develop the policy is expected to finish in 2021.⁹

» Trends & achievements

The Burundian diaspora has been engaged in development and advocacy activities in Burundi throughout the duration of its exile, but after 2005 when the conflict officially ended, their role changed from being political actors to potential players in nation building and reconstruction efforts.¹⁰

With the adoption of the National Migration Policy and the establishment of the Burundian Diaspora Council (*Conseil de la Diaspora Burundaise*) in 2013, the government sought to put in place a balanced and relevant multisector policy to guide its decisions and actions in the field of migration management.¹¹

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has strengthened the existing institutional and political structures responsible for dialogue, management and mobilization

4 See p.53, https://www.undp.org/content/dam/burundi/docs/publications/UNDP-bi-vision-burundi-2025_complete_EN.pdf

5 <http://www.burundi.gov.bi/spip.php?article661>

6 <http://www.rtnb.bi/fr/art.php?idapi=3/5/60>

7 <http://www.rtnb.bi/fr/art.php?idapi=2/4/130>

8 <http://www.ministerefptss.gov.bi/?q=content/atelier-de-lancement-du-projet-%C2%AB-developpement-de-la-politique-nationale-de-la-migration-de>

9 Ibid.

10 Fransen, S and Siegel, M (2011), *The Development of Diaspora Engagement Policies in Burundi and Rwanda*, UNU-MERIT Working Paper Series, available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254405877_The_Development_of_Diaspora_Engagement_Policies_in_Burundi_and_Rwanda

11 Ibid.

of the diaspora.¹² These include a dedicated web-portal, and the organisation of an annual diaspora week to encourage the return and participation of Burundian diaspora in the country's development. However, implementation of diaspora engagement policies and programmes remains weak.¹³

Currently, the Burundian government is able to draw on resources and skills of a segment of the diaspora that are highly committed and mobilised to support national reconstruction efforts and reconciliation efforts. However, the Burundian diaspora as a whole has much to offer, in terms of both monetary support and the transfer of knowledge and skills, as many are highly skilled and specialised in health and education.¹⁴

The African Development Bank (AfDB) stated in 2019 that it is "planning to provide support, in liaison with IOM, greater diaspora involvement in the development of the country and the employment of young people."¹⁵ This project will work to support young and women entrepreneurs through capacity building and diaspora engagement, in order to reduce youth unemployment, but details are not yet available.

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust** within the Burundian diaspora as a result of ethnic conflict continues to be a barrier to diaspora engagement in Burundi. There is also distrust of the diaspora's political interference, in particular activism against the current president who sought to extend his rule in 2015.
- **Lack of resources.** The Directorate of Diaspora was created over a decade ago by Burundi's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide a government body dedicated to migration and development policy making issues- however the directorate lacks the capacity to be effective, remaining critically understaffed and lacking resources.
- **High remittance costs** are another barrier. There is a need for the Burundian government to explore the potential for enhancing remittance channels. Investing in reduced costs and improved safety will serve to create competition in the remittances market, which, in turn, will stimulate and facilitate remittance flows.

12 <http://ambassadeduburundi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Imprim%C3%A9-de-la-Politique-Nationale-de-la-Diaspora.pdf> ; see also Dick, E. and Schraven B (2018), 'Regional Migration Governance in Africa and Beyond - A Framework of Analysis, German Development Institute, available at: https://www.die-gdi.de/uploads/media/DP_9.2018.pdf

13 See <https://mae.gov.bi/diaspora/> for more information.

14 Ratha, D. & Xu, Z. (2008). Migration and Remittances Factbook 2008. Washington, D. C.: World Bank.

15 AfDB/IOM Youth and Women's Entrepreneurship Support Project, see 'AFDB – Republic of Burundi Country Strategy 2019-2023', available at: https://www.afdb.org/sites/default/files/documents/projects-and-operations/burundi_document_de_strategie-pays_2019-2023_-_rev.pdf

SPOTLIGHT: effective practices



Diaspora Week

NETWORKS + COMMUNICATION

Last held in July 2019, Diaspora Week is an annual multi-stakeholder event organised by the Ministry of External Relations and International Cooperation, supported by the IOM. It seeks to promote skills transfers, investment opportunities, and bring together key Burundian stakeholders to network and share experiences through discussion of investment opportunities, national and regional migration policies and diaspora policies. These discussions serve to further inform and develop the existing draft national policy on migration, as well as the national diaspora policy soon to be developed with the support of the IOM.¹⁶

Upgrading the Rungika domestic money transfer system

REMITTANCES

Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the Burundi National Postal Service (RNP) worked in partnership with IOM and RIA Money Transfer to upgrade the Rungika domestic money transfer system, allowing remittances to be collected via the national postal service network of 144 offices. Its international corridor, run in partnership with RIA Money Transfer was launched in 2017 and aims to leverage existing domestic money transfer services.¹⁷ The Rungika project aims to support financial education, inclusion, and communication among rural communities in Burundi via a network of 144 national Rungika agencies. As of November 2018, RNP has received nearly 20,000 deposits, amounting to a total of 1,238,284,150 Burundian Francs (approximately \$695,400 USD).¹⁸

Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA)

HUMAN CAPITAL

The MIDA programme run by the IOM has been active within Burundi since 2001, and has the primary objective of engaging highly skilled members of the diaspora in periods of short-term return for capacity building. The programme is focused on the diaspora in Europe and particularly in Belgium, with active projects in the areas of education, health, and rural development.¹⁹

¹⁶ <https://www.iom.int/news/burundi-engages-diaspora-development>

¹⁷ <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-partners-improve-international-money-transfer-service-burundian-diaspora-rural-communities>

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ <http://www.migration4development.org/en/projects/mida-migration-development-africa>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO)

Burundi is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Burundi as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Burundi is also a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

<https://www.comesa.int/>

<https://www.eac.int/>

<http://www.ceeac-eccas.org/>

- National institutions

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (also called the Ministry of External Relations and International Cooperation)

In addition to foreign affairs, the Ministry of External Relations and International Cooperation is the lead ministry for diaspora engagement. <https://www.mae.gov.bi/en/>

Ministry of National Solidarity, Repatriation of Refugees and Social Reintegration

This ministry is responsible for the reintegration of refugees and diaspora returnees.

<http://www.burundi.gov.bi/>

Ministry of Labour and Civil Service

The MIDA programme (Migration for Development in Africa) established by the IOM was run locally by the Ministry of Labour. <http://www.burundi.gov.bi/>

Ministry of Public Security

The Ministry of Public Security in Burundi has been given exclusive responsibility to address migration management issues and to construct the migration and diaspora involvement policy.

<http://www.burundi.gov.bi/>



- At sub-ministerial level

Directorate of Diaspora

The directorate forms part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is responsible for diaspora engagement and provision of external services to the diaspora.

<https://mae.gov.bi/diaspora/>

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association de Réflexion et d'Information (ARIB) Belgium 1995 <https://www.arib.info>

ARIB is a non-profit association with the mission of sharing information on Burundi in order to: promote positive Burundian and universal values; defend the rights and freedoms of citizens; establish a democratic culture; and establish the rule of law ensuring equality of all before the law. They conduct lobbying and advocacy activities in Europe and in Burundi.

Burundi Solidarité Internationale <https://www.burundi-solidarite.org/>

Development activities

BSI is a network of Burundians. Its mission is "the advent of a Burundi characterised by good governance, politically pacified, socially unified and economically prosperous". Its objectives include mobilising diaspora skills and resources for development and peacebuilding.

Burundian Women for Peace and Development Netherlands 2001 <http://www.bwpd.nl/en/>

Development activities

The organisation delivers education and peace-building activities in Burundi.

Le Forum de la Diaspora Burundaise (FODIB) France, Norway, Sweden, UK 2015 <https://www.fodib.org/accueil>

Development activities

FODIB is headquartered in Paris. It is apolitical and aims at solidarity actions between Burundians in the diaspora and humanitarian actions in Burundi.

Izere Foundation Netherlands <http://www.izere.nl/>

Development activities

Izere Foundations works to contribute to the peace process and reconstruction in Burundi, and focuses its work on capacity building and social investments. It also organizes exploratory missions to Burundi to test the feasibility of projects and investments.

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Diaspora engagement mapping MOROCCO

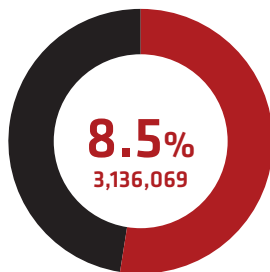
Facts & figures

Emigration

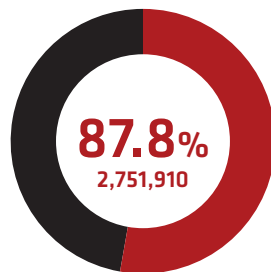
% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 52.5%
♀ 47.5%



♂ 53.0%
♀ 47.0%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **0.5%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **411**



Top countries of destination



France	1,020,162
Spain	711,792
Italy	450,557
Belgium	226,216
The Netherlands	180,879

Political rights



Dual citizenship¹²



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad³



Voting from abroad⁴



Terminology: The Kingdom of Morocco refers to its diaspora as 'Moroccans [living] abroad' MLA or 'MRE' (French, *Marocains résidant à l'étranger*, Arabic المغاربة المقيمين بالخارج *al-maghāribat al-muqiyimoun bi-l-kharj*), although in some internal documents it also refers to the Moroccan diaspora, and 'Moroccans of the world' (Marocains du monde).

1 Art. 16 of the 2011 Constitution states 'it [Morocco] ensures...the strengthening of ties of amity and of cooperation between the governments and the societies of the countries where they reside and of which they are citizens'.

The full text of the Moroccan constitution is available here: (French version: http://www.maroc.ma/en/system/files/documents_page/bo_5964bis_fr_3.pdf ; Arabic version: <https://learningpartnership.org/sites/default/files/resources/pdfs/Morocco%20Constitution%202011-Arabic.pdf>)

2 The reform of the Family Code, the *moudawana*, in 2004, gave Moroccan mothers the right to pass on the Moroccan nationality, where this is in accordance with the Nationality Code (Code de Nationalité), a move that was seen positively by many in the diaspora. The Nationality Code was revised in 2007 to permit Moroccan mothers to pass Moroccan nationality to their children where the father is also Muslim and married to the mother. An unofficial English translation of the Family Code is available here: <http://www.hrea.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Moudawana.pdf> ; a French version of the Nationality Code is available here: <https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/501fc9822.pdf>

3 2011 Constitution, available at : http://www.maroc.ma/en/system/files/documents_page/bo_5964bis_fr_3.pdf

4 Ibid.

National Strategy for Moroccans Living Abroad



Morocco launched its draft National Strategy for Moroccans Living Abroad (Stratégie nationale en faveur des Marocains du Monde) in 2014.⁵ The strategy was developed in the context of the new Migration and Asylum Policy, initiated in September 2013 by King Mohammed VI and adopted in 2014.⁶ The strategy has three strategic objectives: Preserving the identity of MLAs, protecting the rights and interests of MLAs, and encouraging MLA contributions to the development of the country. It focuses on mobilising the skills of MLAs, attracting their investment and improving their access to public services.⁷

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2011** ● **Revised Constitution** sets out various provisions recognising Moroccans Living Abroad, including the following:⁸
- **Article 16** – Recognises dual citizenship of Moroccans Living Abroad
 - **Article 17** – Moroccans Living Abroad enjoy full rights as citizens, including the right to vote in elections (however there is no voting from abroad).
 - **Article 18** – The Moroccan government commits to consulting Moroccans abroad on governance issues.
 - **Article 30** – Permits Moroccans abroad to return to the country to participate in elections.
 - **Article 163** – Stipulates that the Council of Moroccans Living Abroad should publish advice on policies enabling Moroccans Living Abroad to maintain their links with their Moroccan identity, guarantee their rights, and to contribute to the sustainable and human development of their fatherland.

» Trends & achievements

Morocco has undergone a shift in policy from a guest workers & remittances-focused approach in the 2000s to a transnational policy based on skills-mobilisation that forms the broad focus of Moroccan diaspora governance today.⁹ Whereas the Moroccan state previously sought to control both outward emigration and diaspora interactions with the homeland, this position changed (in part at least) due to the declining importance of remittance flows from the 2000s onwards. The Moroccan government shifted therefore to trying to 'court' its diaspora with increased civic and political rights (such as recognising the dual identity of the diaspora), as well as dedicated diaspora engagement policies and programmes. This has been further demonstrated by both the revised constitution of 2011 and the 2014 National Strategy

⁵ Full version available in French at: <https://marocainsdumonde.gov.ma/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Strate%CC%81gie-Nationale-en-faveur-des-Marocains-du-Monde-Fr.pdf>

⁶ The formal status of the National Strategy for Moroccans Residing Abroad remains unclear and its implementation has thus been challenged – see <https://www.oujdacity.net/national-article-123501-fr/strategie-nationale-mre-fake-news.html>

⁷ MCMREAM, *Stratégie Nationale pour les Marocains Résidant à l'Étranger, Bilan 2013-2016* (2016)

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid; see also Özge Bilgili and Silja Weyel – 'Diaspora Engagement Policies of Countries with Similar Emigration Histories: Morocco and Turkey' in Douglas J. Besharov and Mark H. Lopez (eds) (2016), *Adjusting to a World in Motion: Trends in Global Migration and Migration Policy*, Oxford University Press

for Moroccans Living Abroad.¹⁰

Although Morocco has become less dependent on remittances than a generation ago, remittances continue to play a role in providing hard currency and reducing poverty. However, it is increasingly acknowledged by the government (and the wider public) that Moroccans residing abroad bring other forms of beneficial transfers to their country of origin, in the shape of technological, managerial, and entrepreneurial skills and expertise.¹¹

The Moroccan diaspora are therefore now increasingly seen as drivers of innovation, employment, and economic growth.¹² Some strategic partnerships with incubators play a role in channelling people and bridging Morocco with its diaspora, although accessing start-up funds continues to be a barrier to expanding this.¹³ There is an increasing trend for diaspora entrepreneurs to return to Morocco to set up businesses, but their return tends to be on a circular, rather than permanent, basis.¹⁴

Morocco has fairly well-developed institutions and capacities in terms of diaspora engagement, in comparison to other African states.¹⁵ Morocco has been the recipient of significant capacity-building support in this regard from a range of international partners, including the EC, EU member states, and IOM.¹⁶

Morocco has also invested in the creation of institutions and programmes to engage with its diaspora more effectively. However, there remain concerns about implementation of diaspora engagement plans and programmes, as well as the extent to which the policy framework is predicated on permanent, rather than circular, diaspora return.¹⁷

Another shift in diaspora governance in Morocco is the acknowledgment of the fact that Moroccans have settled in their countries of residence and have adopted other nationalities. This has challenged the traditional concept of the nation, and required a greater appreciation of this dual identity, a process that is arguably still ongoing.¹⁸ Recognition of second and third generations of Moroccan emigrants with other nationalities as Moroccan diaspora has also increased the numbers of those considered as Moroccans abroad.¹⁹

10 Hanafi et al (2017), 'Morocco and Diaspora Engagement: A Contemporary Portrait' in Mangala (ed) (2017), *Africa and its Global Diaspora - The Policy and Politics of Emigration*, Palgrave Macmillan. C.f. also De Haas, H. (2007a), *Between courting and controlling: The Moroccan state and "its" emigrants*, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society, WP-07-54, University of Oxford; and De Haas, H. (2007b), 'Morocco's Migration Experience: A Transitional Perspective', in *International Migration*, Vol. 45 (4), pp. 39-70 ; and Bilgili, Ozge & Weyel, S.. (2009). *Migration in Morocco: history, current trends and future prospects*, Migration and Development Country Profiles.

11 De Haas, H. (2007b), 'Morocco's Migration Experience: A Transitional Perspective', in *International Migration*, Vol. 45 (4), pp. 39-70

12 See, inter alia, Dadush (2015), *Diaspora, Development, and Morocco*, Policy Paper, OCP, available at: <https://www.policycenter.ma/sites/default/files/OCPPC-PP1518v4.pdf>; Boukarouhaa, N. et al (2014), "The Moroccan Diaspora and its Contribution to the Development of Innovation in Morocco", *The Global Innovation Index 2014: The human factor in innovation*, available at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_gii_2014-chapter8.pdf.

However, this is challenged by Gabrielli and Franco-Guillén (2018), *Transnational Diaspora Entrepreneurship: The case of Moroccans in Catalonia*, GRITIM-UPF, who argue that most Moroccan diaspora enterprises in Catalonia are too small to have significant impacts on innovation and job creation in Morocco.

13 Hanafi et al (2017), 'Morocco and Diaspora Engagement: A Contemporary Portrait' in Mangala (ed) (2017), *Africa and its Global Diaspora - The Policy and Politics of Emigration*, Palgrave Macmillan

14 Personal communication, Start-up Maroc, 2019

15 R. Zapata-Barrero & Z. Hellgren (2019): 'Harnessing the potential of Moroccans living abroad through diaspora policies? Assessing the factors of success and failure of a new structure of opportunities for transnational entrepreneurs', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*

16 Personal communication, MMRE 2019

17 C.f. Hanafi L. & Hites D. (2017); R. Zapata-Barrero & Z. Hellgren (2019)

18 Hanafi L & Hites D (2017)

19 See, inter alia, Hanafi L., Hites D. (2017) ; Anna Jacobs (2019), 'Morocco's Migration Policy: Understanding the Contradiction between Policy and Reality', Moroccan Institute for Policy Analysis (available at: <https://mipa.institute/6872>)

Obstacles



- **Lack of economic opportunities**, especially for high-skilled migrants, poses a barrier to returning migrants and continues to drive emigration of professionals from the country.
- **Perceived utilitarian approach**: Some Moroccans in the diaspora are sceptical about the government's focus on harnessing diaspora resources and talent, which they perceive as transactional.
- **Lack of voting abroad**: Some diaspora members are concerned that voting abroad is still not permitted, affecting their position as citizens, and they argue that the government simply presents excuses to avoid introducing voting from abroad.
- **Mistrust of government bureaucracy** among the diaspora is widespread; government bureaucracy is perceived as intrusive and a barrier to greater engagement.

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Maison des Marocains du Monde

CULTURE

The Maison des Marocains du Monde network provides the main point of access and services for MLAs. It provides on a network of cultural centres in several countries of residence which organise activities to promote Moroccan culture and build links between the diaspora (especially the 2nd and 3rd generations), such as Moroccan Arabic language courses or 'summer universities'. <https://marocainsdumonde.gov.ma/>

Programmes supporting diaspora entrepreneurs

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Examples of programmes to support diaspora enterprise include Maroc Entrepreneurs, a non-profit organisation created in 1999, and Start-up Maroc, which work to promote economic development through three main strands: encouraging Moroccans Living Abroad to start their own businesses in Morocco; sharing information about business start-ups and investment opportunities; and establishing synergies between companies based in Morocco and the expertise of Moroccans in the diaspora.²⁰

Guide for Moroccans Living Abroad

INFORMATION

In 2015, the Moroccan government issued a guide for Moroccans living abroad.²¹ This guide explains the priorities of the Moroccan government towards the diaspora. It includes social programmes for Moroccans abroad such as professional training as well as financial help for Moroccan children living in Côte d'Ivoire or Algeria to attend school, for university bursaries and for the repatriation of corpses.²²

Deutsch-Marokkanische Kompetenznetzwerk e.V. (DMK) Medical Missions to Morocco

HUMAN CAPITAL

The German-Moroccan Competence Network (DMK eV) and the Medical Competencies of Moroccans Abroad (C3M) organized medical campaigns in 2016 in southeast Morocco.²³ These included ongoing professional training in gynaecology and other capacity building activities targeted at local medical professionals.²⁴

20 See: <https://www.startupmaroc.org/> ; <https://marocentrepreneurs.com/>

21 MCMREAM, Guide des Marocains Résidant à l'Étranger

22 Circulaire n°430 du 9 juin 2014.

23 <https://www.dmk-online.org/medizinische-aktionen/>

24 <https://www.dmk-online.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Actions-Figuig-2016-2.0.pdf>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO)

Morocco re-joined the African Union in 2017 and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Morocco as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings. It has also held discussions about joining ECOWAS, which have so far proved inconclusive. <https://au.int/en/cido>

Arab League, Arab Maghreb Union, Union of the Mediterranean.

Morocco is a member of all three organisations.

<http://www.leagueofarabstates.net/ar/Pages/default.aspx> (Arabic; English version under construction)

<https://www.uneca.org/oria/pages/amu-arab-maghreb-union>

<https://ufmsecretariat.org/s>

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry for Moroccans residing abroad (Ministère des Marocains résidents à l'étranger)

<https://marocainsdumonde.gov.ma/attributions-mcmre/>

In 1990 the Ministry was created alongside the Hassan II Foundation for Moroccans Residing Abroad (*Fondation Hassan II pour les Marocains Résidant à l'étranger*, see below) to strengthen the links between Moroccans abroad and Morocco.

This Ministry, delegated to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad since 2013, prepares and implements government policy concerning Moroccans residing abroad, in coordination with the relevant ministries and the institutions inside and outside Morocco. In 2013, the inter-ministerial committee of Moroccans living abroad was created coordinating the new strategy for emigration.

- At sub-ministerial level

Hassan II Foundation <http://www.fh2mre.ma/>

The Foundation was founded in 1990 with the purpose of ensuring that the Moroccan diaspora maintain ties with their country of origin through religion, education, cultural and linguistic means. It supports and informs Moroccans abroad on different topics such as investment opportunities in Morocco, organises summer camps or summer schools for Moroccan children living abroad and finances Arabic teachers abroad to teach the language to Moroccan children.²⁵

²⁵ Macarena Nuno et Farida Souiah, Les politiques mises en place par le Maroc envers ses ressortissants, Hommes et migrations 1303 2013, 147, 149 mis en ligne le 31 décembre 2015, <http://hommesmigrations.revues.org/2574>

Council for the Moroccan Community Abroad (Conseil de la Communauté Marocaine à l'Étranger, CCME) was created <https://www.ccme.org.ma/en/>

CCME was created in 2007 and is composed of Moroccan emigrants. It advises the Moroccan government on how to protect Moroccan interests abroad and encourage the development of the country of origin.²⁶ The CCME mainly assesses public policies towards MLAs, advises the government and commissions research studies.

National Social Security Fund <http://www.cnss.ma/>

The NSSF manages international social security conventions with countries of residence of Moroccan nationals. Morocco has signed social security agreements with 17 countries (Algeria, Egypt, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Germany, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Romania, Tunisia, Libya, Mauritania, Canada, Quebec and Luxembourg).

Maisons of Moroccans Resident Abroad and Migration Affairs

<https://marocainsdumonde.gov.ma/structure-deconcentree-marocains-du-monde-mcmre/>

A network of regional and local offices was established in Morocco to ensure reception, orientation, and communication with MLAs during their stay in Morocco. They facilitate coordination with local authorities and services in different sectors to respond to their needs, especially administrative or legal.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association des Marocains de France (AMF) <http://www.amf-federation.com/>

Development activities

Created in January 1961, AMF is one of the oldest immigration associations in France. It has gone through all the stages of the integration of immigrant populations. Its socio-political line has always been adapted to the requirements of the historical evolution of Moroccan immigration to France. It has conducted several co-development training and education and exchange initiatives in Morocco.

Deutsch-Marokkanische Kompetenznetzwerk e.V. (DMK) Germany <https://www.dmk-online.org/>

Development activities

A Moroccan diaspora professionals and skills transfer network based in Germany, DMK has its headquarters in Munich and was founded in 2009. It sees itself as an intermediary between Germany and Morocco.

The aim of the network is to promote sustainable development in Morocco and to support the integration of Moroccan citizens in Germany.

²⁶ Hein de Haas, Morocco: Setting the Stage for Becoming a Migration Transition Country?, Migration Policy Institute, 19 March 2014 <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/morocco-setting-stage-becoming-migration-transition-country>

FÉDÉRATION DES AMIS DE FIGUIG France <http://faf-figuig.org/>

 **Development activities**

A network of Moroccan diaspora organisations in France, FAF implement education, training, volunteering, and agriculture programmes in the local region of Figuig oasis in Morocco.

Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (FORIM) France www.forim.net

 **Development activities**

FORIM is a leading African diaspora network based in France. Although not primarily a Moroccan diaspora group, its members include many Moroccan organisations in France and they have funded and co-delivered a range of educational, enterprise, WASH, and other development projects in Morocco over the last decade.

Les Bourgeois de l'Atlas France

 **Development activities**

The organisation provides relief materials to children and vulnerable women in the villages of the Eastern High Atlas Mountains as well as literacy and social development programmes.

Migrations et Développement France <https://www.migdev.org/>

 **Development activities**

The organisation was Created in 1986 by Moroccan migrants to carry out development actions in the villages of their region of origin, the Moroccan Atlas and Anti-Atlas, struck by a severe drought since the mid-1970s. With the support of French volunteer experts, the first actions focused on infrastructure: electrification of villages, hillside reservoirs and irrigation, schools and dispensaries, drinking water supply etc. Gradually, an integrated rural development programme was developed in participation with local populations and migrants. This program was supported by researchers, donors from the North and Moroccan local and national authorities.

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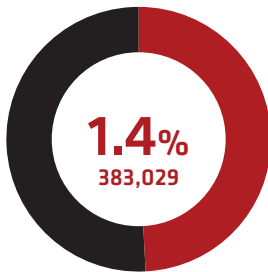


Diaspora engagement mapping CAMEROON

Facts & figures

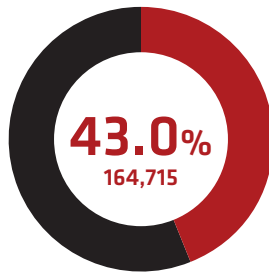
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 49.3%
♀ 50.7%

% of which in the EU



♂ 44.0%
♀ 56.0%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **0.8%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **329**



Top countries of destination

France	89,496
United States	53,185
Gabon	50,273
Chad	33,936
Nigeria	28,177



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²:
with restrictions



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Cameroon refers to its diaspora as 'Cameroonians abroad', although the term diaspora is also used in some contexts.

Cameroon does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

¹ In Cameroon, the nationality code of June 11, 1968, states that; once a Cameroonian citizen obtains the citizenship of another country, s/ he automatically loses his or her Cameroonian nationality. Full text available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4db1c.html> . For a discussion of some of the issues relating to dual citizenship in Cameroon, see: <https://www.camerounweb.com/CameroonHomePage/features/Toward-dual-citizenship-in-Cameroon-Win-win-proposals-357007>

² Law No. 2011/013 of 13 July 2011 permits voting abroad for Cameroonian nationals that register with Electoral Commission Focal Points in embassies, but excludes Cameroonian diaspora with other nationalities. As many Cameroonian diaspora hold other nationalities this effectively disbars them from participating in Cameroonian electoral processes. In addition, concerns have been raised about diaspora voter registration processes. For more information see <http://www.elec.cm/?q=en/node/104> ; <https://www.france24.com/fr/20181005-cameroun-presidentielle-reportage-paris-diaspora-biya> ; and <https://cameroonvoice.com/opinion/2018/08/27/election-presidentielle-2018-et-diaspora-camerounaise-leternelle-incomprehension/>

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2009** ● **Vision 2035³** sets out an action plan that includes mobilising funds and putting the financial system at the service of development. It also includes devising an appropriate strategy to capitalize on the resources of the diaspora. This is the sole reference to diaspora in the strategy.
- 2010** ● **National Growth and Employment Strategy⁴** includes the component 'NDS-4.1.2 Development of scientific and technological collaboration with scientists and engineers in the Diaspora'. There is little available information on this component, but one example of its implementation is the partnership agreement signed between a Cameroonian diaspora organisation in Germany, VKII, and the University of Yaounde I (see Spotlight section).
- 2018** ● **National Development Strategy 2020-2030⁵** aims to build the country's economy through a series of regulatory and other reforms to attract greater investment. It includes the objective '(iii) attract capital-holders (investors and the diaspora) and professionals in the different sectors of the financial ecosystem.' Priority sectors under this strategy include energy, agro-industry, digital, manufacturing, trade, and culture and tourism. In late 2018 the National Development Strategy 2020-2030 was presented to the Cabinet.⁶

» Trends

Due to economic factors and a lack of employment opportunities, since the 1980s the country's frustrated youth has tended to pinned its hopes on emigrating from the 1980s onwards, especially the high skilled. This has led to skills shortages in areas such as education and medicine, and has had a negative impact on the economy. According to a 2018 AU study, the Cameroonian diaspora in Europe are highly qualified.⁷

Cameroonian diaspora organisations, although mostly small, are very active, delivering projects across a range of sectors including health, education, skills and technology transfer, and business and enterprise.⁸ See the Spotlight section for examples.

EU states have sought to encourage diaspora contributions to Cameroon. Germany and France have been active in working with diaspora organisations and high-skilled professionals to promote skills and technology transfer, as well as investment.⁹

The current political instability in the country and worsening ethnic tensions, combined with the ongoing insurgency by extremists in the region, have meant that Cameroon's focus has been on national security and securing its borders, rather than on diaspora engagement, with the diaspora sometimes perceived as a threat.¹⁰

3 Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (2009), Vision 2035, available at: http://www.cameroon-embassy.nl/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Cameroon_VISION_2035_English_Version.pdf

4 https://www.cameroonembassyusa.org/images/documents_folder/quick_links/Cameroon_DSCE_English_Version_Growth_and_Employment_Strategy_Paper_MONITORING.pdf

5 Available at: https://www.minepat.gov.cm/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&alias=117-expose-of-minepat-pillars-of-the-2020-2030-nds-and-institutional-mechanism-for-its-implementation-cabinet-meeting-of-28-november-2019&category_slug=exposes&Itemid=284&lang=en

6 <https://www.cameroon-tribune.cm/article.html/29465/fr.html/nationdevelopment-strategy-document-for-2020-2030-period-presented>

7 AU (2018), Diaspora Mapping and Research Study in Five European Countries. Available at: <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/2018%20Diaspora%20Mapping%20Study%20Europe%20ENG.pdf>. This is consistent with a 2009 IOM study which found that 42% of the Cameroonian diaspora working in Europe were highly qualified. See: <https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-au-cameroun-profil-national-2009>

8 <https://www.forim.net/sites/default/files/Repertoire%20des%20associations%20camerounaises%20de%20France.pdf>

9 <https://www.cimonline.de/static/media/giz2016-fr-diaspora-kamerun.pdf>; <https://www.afd.fr/fr/carte-des-projets/favoriser-les-investissements-productifs-de-la-diaspora-camerounaise>

10 <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/05/13/camerouns-separatist-movement-is-going-international-ambazonia-military-forces-amf-anglo-phone-crisis/>

Remittances to Cameroon make up less than 1% of GDP, so there currently is little financial incentive for the government to prioritise diaspora engagement. Cameroonian diaspora savings – estimated at around \$700m¹¹ in 2016 – are significant, but harnessing these for investment will require both confidence-building measures and incentives for diaspora investors.

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust:** Even before the current period of political instability, there was significant mistrust between the Cameroonian government and its diaspora. The increase in tensions between the Anglophone and Francophone regions of the country and the rise of a secessionist movement have exacerbated this trend greatly in recent years, and lack of trust is thus probably the greatest barrier to improving diaspora engagement.¹²
- **Lack of policy focus:** Historically, national development strategies have not effectively engaged the views and intellectual input of the Cameroonian diaspora, and include few references to the diaspora.¹³ The lack of a dedicated diaspora strategy or institutions, as well as a lack of information, hinder more effective diaspora engagement.
- **Diaspora capacity constraints:** Organisations established by the Cameroonian diaspora have suffered from severe capacity constraints, lacking formal social organisation or proper channels to gain access to useful information and networks. Furthermore, Cameroonian associations are typically far more marginally linked with mainstream development agencies compared with other comparable diaspora communities.¹⁴

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



FODIAS - Forum for the Diaspora¹⁵

The Forum for the Diaspora held in Yaounde in 2017 was organised by the government in partnership with the Agence Française de Développement. It aimed to develop an inclusive strategy between the Cameroonian government and members of the Diaspora. The Forum resulted in a range of recommendations including the establishment of a Secretariat of State for the Diaspora, along with the development of a database of diaspora members including their socio-economic profile and professional competencies.

NETWORKING

11 Commonwealth Senior Finance Officials Meeting 2016 Discussion Note: Action to Expand the Economic Impact of Diaspora Finance, available at: https://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/inline/FMM1603%20-%20SOM_Diaspora.pdf

12 <https://www.theafricareport.com/22437/camerouns-diaspora-learning-to-live-with-the-enemy-within/>

13 Richard Agbor Ayukndang Enoh (2014) 'Interactions between the government and Diasporas: the West-African case of Cameroon', *Diaspora Studies*, 7:2, 75-87

14 Awango (2013). *The Cameroonian Diaspora: An Assessment of its Role in Local Development*. Available at: <https://www.socionauki.ru/journal/articles/165438/>

15 <https://www.cameroon-tribune.cm/article.html/9804/fr.html/diaspora-forum-camerouns-diaspora-want-secretariat-of-state>



Diaspora Health Initiatives

HEALTH + HUMAN CAPITAL

Cameroonian medical, pharmacy and dentistry students in Germany founded the Cameroonian diaspora association Camfomedics. It runs many projects in Cameroon such as PINK. PINK includes a portal for information on internship, clinical traineeship and practical placement opportunities for medical and nursing careers in Cameroon.¹⁶

The focus of the iMED programme (Improving Medical Education and Health Care Delivery through Diaspora Engagement) is to train Cameroonian doctors in the use of simple, modern, 'minimally invasive' diagnostic and therapeutic instruments. Cameroonian doctors from abroad work or teach within the framework of the programme.^{17,18}

Diaspora Supported Education, Knowledge, Technology and Entrepreneurship in Africa (DISEKTEA) 2.0

EDUCATION + HUMAN CAPITAL

DISEKTEA 1.0 was a skills and technology transfer initiative set up by the The Association of Cameroonian Engineers and Computer Scientists (VKII) and DÄSAV (the German-Ethiopian students and academics Association) with the support of GIZ.¹⁹

The programme included practically oriented training for students in actual relevant technological areas, such as Bio Energy and Mobile Apps Programming.²⁰

Dias'Invest 237²¹

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Dias'Invest 237 scheme is a project of the Ministry of External Relations of Cameroon.

Programme partners in France and in Cameroon select business creation projects most relevant to the Cameroonian context, with priority given to social impact investments led by women entrepreneurs. Dias'Invest 237 partners plan to work with all selected entrepreneurs to develop a 3-phase business analysis and an implementation plan elaborated in collaboration with the entrepreneur. The scheme is only open to Cameroonian diaspora entrepreneurs based in France.²²

HUMAN CAPITAL

Developing a diaspora mobilisation strategy

In 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in partnership with the IOM MIDA programme, was working to develop a diaspora mobilisation strategy specifically focused on the return of qualified nationals. During its pilot phase the project facilitated Cameroonian specialists in the health and education sectors to return to Cameroon and help build up the human capital much needed by the country.²³ Its current status is unclear.

16 <https://www.camfomedics.org/de>

17 <https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/en/global-goals/sdg-03-health/diaspora-association-cameroon-camfomedics/>

18 Danielle Minteu Kadje 2020, 'Migration and Development Between Germany and Cameroon', in *Trans* 2020-04-02

19 <https://disektea.net/pilot/>

20 Ibid.

21 <http://dias-invest.cm/>

22 <https://www.afd.fr/fr/actualites/cameroun-lancement-de-lappel-candidatures-diasinvest-237>

23 <https://reliefweb.int/report/cameroon/how-diaspora-contributes-development-cameroon>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings <https://au.int/en/cido>

Cameroon is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Cameroon as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) www.ceeac-eccas.org/index.php/en/

- National institutions
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) <http://www.diplocam.cm/>

MINREX has the responsibility of promoting and protecting Cameroon's and its citizens' interests abroad. It is the lead ministry for diaspora engagement. Cameroonian embassies and consulates in Europe and North America often include a desk officer in charge of diaspora engagement, but there is little public information about the services provided to the diaspora. There is a section of the MINREX website for 'communities abroad' which is currently under development.²⁴

- At sub-ministerial level

Directorate of Cameroonians Abroad

<https://diplocam.cm/index.php/fr/le-ministere/les-collaborateurs-du-ministre>

The Directorate of Cameroonians abroad, foreigners in Cameroon, refugees and migration issues (Direction des Camerounais à l'Étranger, des Étrangers au Cameroun, des Réfugiés et des Questions migratoires) is responsible for developing and implementing policies and programmes related to migration.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association Franco-camerounaise BIAGNE France <http://www.biagne.org/>

- ☑ Development activities

BIAGNE works to improve the quality of primary and specialised care in different structures in place in western Cameroon, it also collects and transports technical equipment and participates in the continuous training of medical and paramedical staff.

²⁴ <https://diplocam.cm/index.php/en/citizen-services/cameroonians-abroad>

Cameroon Forum United Kingdom <https://www.cameroonforum.org/>

 **Development activities**

Cameroon Forum works to help Cameroonians in the diaspora integrate into their host communities, and draw upon their skills and experience for the mutual development of Cameroon and their host communities in the business, social and charity domains. In 2012 it founded the African Diaspora Action Against Malaria (ADAAM) which works with diaspora medical professionals to fight against malaria in Africa through awareness-raising in local communities in Cameroon and policy advocacy in the UK.²⁵

Deutsch-Afrikanische Brücke e.V. (German-African Bridge, DABeV) Germany 1992
<https://www.deutsch-afrikanische-bruecke.de/>

 **Development activities**

The organisation works in the field of development cooperation with a special focus on economy, hygiene/health, sports and education.

Deutsch-Kamerunisches Forum für die Medizinischen und Paramedizinischen Wissenschaften e.V (Camfomedics) Germany <https://www.camfomedics.org/>

 **Development activities**

Camfomedics is a Cameroonian diaspora organisation set up by diaspora medical professionals based in Germany. It provides medical treatment, equipment transport, and medical training in Cameroon, and promotes the integration and integration of Cameroonian and German medical students.

Ident.Africa Germany 2004 <http://www.identafrica.org/?lang=en>

 **Development activities**

ident.africa was founded in order to address the education deficit in Africa. It delivers education, health, and Micro and Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) support projects in Cameroon with local partners.

Verein Kamerunischer Ingenieure und Informatiker e.V. (VKII) Germany <https://www.vkii.org/index.php>

 **Development activities**

VKII works to develop technology-based solutions to development policy problems in Cameroon and abroad. In addition to projects in Cameroon, VKII provides a mentoring programme, and organises symposia and seminars in Germany.

²⁵ Page and Tanyi (2015), *Engaging the African diaspora in the fight against malaria*, available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283101456_Engaging_the_African_diaspora_in_the_fight_against_malaria#fullTextFileContent

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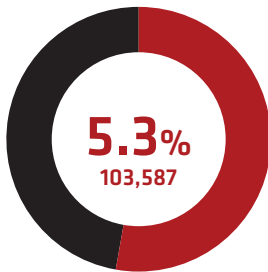


Diaspora engagement mapping GUINEA BISSAU

Facts & figures

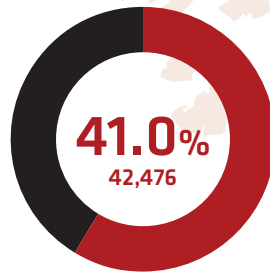
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 52.9%
♀ 47.1%

% of which in the EU



♂ 58.7%
♀ 41.3%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **3.1%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **47**



Top countries of destination

Senegal	30,570
Portugal	28,905
Gambia	13,792
Spain	5,563
Cabo Verde	5,263



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Guinea Bissau refers to its diaspora as 'diáspora' (Portuguese) but also Bissau-Guineans abroad, or 'communities abroad' (*comunidades no estrangeiro*).

Guinea Bissau does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

There is currently no publicly available diaspora or migration policy in Guinea Bissau, although international partners have sought to work with the government to develop one. The 2016 ICMPD/IOM/ECOWAS Survey of Migration Policies in West Africa notes that Guinea Bissau was planning to develop policies and programmes in relation to migration and development, but there has been no publication of any policy or other documents by the government on these topics since.³

¹ In 2010, the Citizenship Law was changed in order to end the principle that the acquisition of a foreign nationality leads to the loss of Bissau-Guinean citizenship <http://citizenshiprightsafrika.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Guinea-Bissau-Lei-da-nacionalidade-2010.pdf>

² Voting rights abroad pertain solely to legislative elections and do not extend to presidential elections <https://www.idea.int/sites/default/files/publications/voting-from-abroad-the-international-idea-handbook.pdf>

³ ICMPD / IOM / ECOWAS (2016) A Survey of Migration Policies in West Africa, available at: https://fmmwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/en-A_Survey_on_Migration_Policies_in_West_Africa_EN_SOFT2nd.pdf

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2008** ● **Bilateral Readmission Agreement with Spain** to cover the admission of workers, assisted voluntary return, integration, migration and development, the fight against irregular migration, and readmission of Bissau-Guinean nationals.⁴
- 2011** ● **National Investment Code (2011)** includes general tax incentives to promote foreign investment that apply to all foreign residents, including members of the diaspora. However, it makes no specific provisions for this group.⁵
- 2011**
▼
2015 ● **National Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2 (DENARP):** Guinea-Bissau's second National Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper includes one sole reference to "mobilizing contributions from the Diaspora, and investing in infrastructure and vocational training," but it gave no detail on how this was to be achieved.⁶

» Trends

In 2001, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation changed its title to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and the Diaspora. The Ministry conducted some outreach and meetings with the diaspora in France in 2009.⁷ In 2013, the Ministry changed its title again to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, and Communities Abroad, which indicates that diaspora engagement was still a concern for the government even after the 2012 coup. However, there has been little, if any, action on diaspora engagement since then.

Brain drain of skilled staff, especially in the health and education sectors, has proved a persistent problem. The government has sought to address this through promoting temporary circular migration by members of the diaspora in some key areas, under the sponsorship of the government and IOM.⁸ In 2007 there was an attempt to create a MIDA-type project, but this was halted by the coup in 2012.⁹

The Bissau-Guinean diaspora demonstrates a strong associative dynamism. A 2012 the Groupe de Recherche et de Realisation's (GRDR) mapping of Bissau Guinean organisations in Portugal and across Europe identified several diaspora organisations active in countries of residence and origin, especially at the local level.¹⁰ It showed that Bissau Guinean diaspora groups were active in delivering projects across wide range of sectors, including health, education, agriculture and aquaculture. The same was found in the 2019 IOM study, according to which 92% of those surveyed in France belonged to an association and 64% in Portugal.¹¹ Many Bissau-Guinean diaspora organisations in Europe have strong regional connections and members therefore carry development activities benefitting their local region of heritage, albeit with little or no interaction with the government.¹²

4 http://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/legaldocument/wcms_380163.pdf

5 <http://www.grupoformosa-gub.net/docs/Codigo.pdf>

6 https://planipolis.iiep.unesco.org/sites/planipolis/files/ressources/guinea-bissau_prsp_2011.pdf p72.

7 <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/guinea-bissau/>

8 Abreu (2012), Migration and development in contemporary Guinea Bissau: a political economy approach. PhD Thesis, SOAS, University of London. Available at: https://eprints.soas.ac.uk/14243/1/Abreu_3401.pdf

9 Ibid.

10 <https://grdr.org/Repertoire-du-co-developpement,739>

11 <https://www.iseg.ulisboa.pt/aquila/getFile.do?method=getFile6fileId=899494>

12 Ibid.

Obstacles



- **Difficulties assessing diaspora size:** The GRDR mapping cited above highlights that Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and the Gambia are linked by a long tradition of mobility which, when added to the porous nature of the border, makes it extremely difficult to estimate the number of individuals of Guinean origin present in both Senegal and the Gambia.¹³ It is also difficult to accurately estimate the Bissau-Guinean population in Europe because this diaspora has often settled in Europe after acquiring a different nationality.
- **Institutional fragility and lack of support for the diaspora:** Institutions in Guinea Bissau are weak and the country has faced persistent political instability. A lack of governance and political instability discourage both investment and the return of the diaspora.
- **Lack of diversity in economic opportunities:** Guinea-Bissau relies massively on growing and exporting cashew nuts and has not invested enough in diversifying its economy, which is a barrier in attracting diaspora investments in other industries.
- **Drug-related insecurity:** The country's increasing association as a narco-state involved in the trafficking of drugs into Africa and then Europe is a further barrier to diaspora return and investment.

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Strengthening co-development initiatives in the Cacheu-Guinea-Bissau region (RICODEV)

This project funded by ECOWAS and AECID and implemented by the Groupe de Recherche et de Realisation (GRDR) focuses mainly on the promotion of the involvement of migrant associations in the development of their region of origin according to an approach based on exchanges and consultation between the public, local actors and migrant associations¹⁴. According to the 2016 ICMPD/IOM/ECOWAS study cited above, this was still functional in 2016 but the current status of all its activities remains unclear.¹⁵

This project also included a 2019 mapping of Guinea-Bissau diaspora organisations in France, Spain, Portugal, Gambia and Senegal with the aim of enabling diaspora organisations to connect and build better knowledge of initiatives conducted in the country, particularly in the region of Cacheu so as to enable better engagement between the government and diaspora involved in development projects back home.¹⁶ The study showed that diaspora organisations have continued to deliver projects at local level across a range of sectors in Guinea Bissau but with little to no interaction with the state authorities.

NETWORKING +
DATA

European Union Emergency Trust Fund-International Organisation for Migration (EUTF-IOM) Project on Migrant Protection and Reintegration and Migration Profile

As part of the EUTF-IOM project on migrant protection and reintegration, IOM has been supporting the reintegration of 700 returnees through individual, collective and community reintegration projects.¹⁷ It is also building the capacity of the government to manage return migration.¹⁸

REINTEGRATION

13 https://grdr.org/IMG/pdf/repertoire_def.pdf

14 <https://grdr.org/Repertoire-du-co-developpement.739>

15 ICMPD / IOM / ECOWAS (2016) A Survey of Migration Policies in West Africa, available at: https://fmmwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/en-A_Survey_on_Migration_Policies_in_West_Africa_EN_SOFT2nd.pdf

16 https://grdr.org/IMG/pdf/repertoire_def.pdf

17 <https://www.iom.int/countries/guinea-bissau>

18 Ibid.

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Guinea-Bissau is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent the country as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

ECOWAS <http://www.uemoa.int/>

Guinea-Bissau has been a member country of ECOWAS since 1997.

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, Directorate of Communities is responsible for all matters pertaining the assistance to Bissau-Guinean migrants abroad including the reception of forcibly repatriated migrants and of returning migrants in general.

<https://www.guinebissairepublic.com/external-affairs/>

- At sub-ministerial level

The Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on “Policies and Programs for the Promotion of Community Welfare and Development, including Migration” is led by the Secretary of State for International Cooperation and Communities (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, Directorate of Communities) and acts as a high-level technical coordination mechanism for initiatives at the intersection of migration and community development.¹⁹

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Rede de Associacao dos Filhos e Amigos de Farim (RAFA) <http://www.afafc.pt/>

- ☑ **Development activities**

RAFA is a structured community development organisation focused on the Farim region. Also has some involvement in reintegration activities.

¹⁹ <https://migrationjointinitiative.org/sites/default/files/files/articles/iom-guinea-bissau-synthesis-report-22122018.pdf>

Associação dos filhos e Amigos de Bigene (AFABU)

<http://www.odemocratagb.com/?p=17557>

Development activities

AFABU is a community organisation involved in development projects in the Bigene region, with specific projects related to infrastructure, education, and managing clandestine migration.

Fédération des Associations du Secteur de Calequisse en Europe, France (FASCAE)

<https://assoce.fr/waldec/W781002021/F-A-S-C-A-E-FEDERATION-DES-ASSOCIATIONS-DU-SECTEUR-DE-CALEQUISSE-EN-EUROPE-POPULATION-ORIGINAIRE-DE-L-AFRIQUE-DE-L-UEST-GUINEE-BISSAU-SENEGAL-GAMBIE-ET-DE-L-EUROPE->

Development activities

FASCE, created in 2007, undertakes development projects across West Africa (Guinea Bissau, Senegal, and Gambia). These projects range from public health initiatives, construction of schools, libraries, and sports; as well as infrastructure projects including roads, bridges, electricity, and modernisation of agriculture practises.

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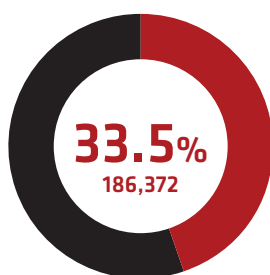


Diaspora engagement mapping CABO VERDE

Facts & figures

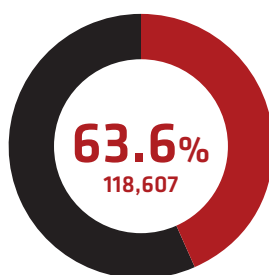
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population¹



♂ 44.8%
♀ 55.2%

% of which in the EU



♂ 43.6%
♀ 56.4%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **12.1%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **247**



Top countries of destination²

Portugal	60,543
United States	43,729
France	24,545
Netherlands	12,601
Angola	9,400



Political rights



Dual citizenship³



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad⁴



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Cabo Verde refers to its citizens abroad as Cabo Verdeans abroad or the Cabo Verdean diaspora (Portuguese: *Diáspora cabo-verdiana*).

1 It is important to mention that numbers on emigration and diaspora vary greatly in Cabo Verde due to its long diaspora history. Accordingly, the total size of the diaspora is close to 120% out of which over one third is based in Europe. Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/topics/global-migration-and-demography/> From UN Migration Estimated Statistics for 2017.

2 Source: From UNDESA Migration Stock Statistics for 2019 https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/data/UN_MigrantStockByOriginAndDestination_2019.xlsx. Senegal is another significant country of destination.

3 The constitution of Cabo Verde allows dual citizenship for its diaspora and also states that 'No one who is Cabo Verdean by origin may be deprived of nationality or of the prerogatives of citizenship. (Art. 40). . English version available at: <http://confinder.richmond.edu/admin/docs/CapeVerde.pdf>

4 Article 108 of the Constitution states that the President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage, by citizen voters registered in the national territory and abroad.

National Strategy on Emigration and Development (ENED, 2014)



The strategy aims at defining the objectives of the relationship with the diaspora; establishing a coherent framework for emigration and development; building a broader consensus on emigration policy; discussing the benefits of migration and development; and guiding the dialogue within the national public administration and with the donors.⁹

- The axes of intervention of ENED are:
- facilitating and preparing departure;
- supporting the integration of Cape Verdeans abroad;
- gaining knowledge about diaspora and migration dynamics;
- strengthening the links and dialogue with the diaspora;
- facilitating and attracting remittances;
- promoting Investment and international trade to the diaspora;
- mobilizing the competencies of the diaspora.

ENED was originally supposed to be valid for two years and form the basis of further policy development, but the status of this process is unclear.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2004** ● **Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (GPRS)⁶** sets out the importance of the diaspora; it includes references to participative processes for diaspora input into policy planning processes. However, the GRPS and its subsequent iterations remain largely aspirational, having generic goals and lacking an operational or implementation plan for diaspora mobilization.
- 2007** ● **Decree-Law n° 35/2007** institutionalized the Casa do Cidadão ('Citizens House') which provides the main point of access and information for the Cabo Verdean diaspora.⁷ Its Action Plan 2017-2021 contains targets relating to improved communication, de-bureaucratisation, and coordination with diaspora groups.⁸
- 2008** ● **EU-Cabo Verde Mobility Partnership** enables greater circular migration to and from Cabo Verde. This agreement seeks to promote circular migration, and migration and development projects in Cabo Verde, as well as to provide easier conditions for citizens of Cabo Verde to travel, study, and do business in the EU.⁹ This mobility partnership has facilitated a number of key development projects such as the Diaspora For Development of Cape Verde (DIAS de Cabo Verde, see Spotlight section).

5 IOM, 'Estrategia Nacional de Emigração e Desenvolvimento' (2014).

6 English version available at: https://www.imf.org/~media/Websites/IMF/imported-full-text-pdf/external/pubs/ft/scr/2005/_cr05135.ashx

7 https://portondinosilhas.gov.cv/portonprd/porton.portoncv_v3?p=ACABBBADADC4C4C4

8 https://portondinosilhas.gov.cv/portonprd/porton.POR_DET_AREA_DB.open_file?p_doc_id=1838

9 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_08_1720



Trends

Migration has been an integral part of Cabo Verde's development strategy since 1975, even if only implicitly. Strong emotional and material bonds retained by Cabo Verdeans in the diaspora materialized as monetary and goods remittances, requiring little effort in policy or institutional innovation on the part of the homeland. Cabo Verde has arguably made a lot of progress in the area of enabling conditions.

Given that most Cabo Verdeans live outside the country, either in the US or in Europe (principally in Portugal), developing effective diaspora engagement practices is a priority.



Achievements

Cabo Verde ranks high in Africa and globally in terms of democracy, governance, transparency, and human development.¹⁰ The government has sought to implement a number of reforms to strengthen the business and investment climate, including reforms to improve the efficiency of public administration to deliver services to citizens and businesses. The reforms, still incomplete, have been improving the business and investment climate for all investors – nationals, foreigners as well as diaspora.^{11,12}



Obstacles

- **Weak transport infrastructure:** Diaspora visitors and returnees overlook the inadequacies of health care, water, electricity and other services, but the low quality and inefficiencies of international and inter-island transportation generate a level of frustration that dampens diaspora enthusiasm for the homeland.
- **Bureaucratic barriers:** Even though institutions generally work, favouritism, judicial delays, and bureaucratic inefficiencies are common. A common diaspora complaint is long customs delays which act as a barrier to people sending goods back to Cabo Verde.
- **Funding:** Lack of funds impede the government in implementing a sound diaspora engagement strategy and providing adequate services to their diaspora. The services provided remain limited even though they have improved.

10 <https://intpolicydigest.org/2019/07/27/cape-verde-continues-its-reforms-with-the-economy-showing-promise/>

11 Santos (2015a), 'Cape Verde: Rethinking Diaspora in Development Policy' in *International Migration* 54(2)

12 For an overview of the development of diaspora initiatives in Cabo Verde, see: <https://www.rabat-process.org/images/RabatProcess/Documents/infographic-cabo-verde-road-to-migration-data-policy-portuguese.pdf>

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



RIGHTS

Diaspora voting abroad and diaspora representatives to the National Assembly

Cabo Verdeans living abroad have had the right to vote in presidential as well as legislative elections since 1992. A weighting system was implemented in order to avoid compromising national independence as more Cape Verdeans live abroad than in the national territory.¹³ There are six members of parliament to represent Cabo Verdean citizens abroad: two each from the Americas, the rest of Africa and Europe.¹⁴

HUMAN CAPITAL + PARTNERSHIPS

Diaspora For Development of Cape Verde (DIAS de Cabo Verde)¹⁵

Dias de Cabo Verde, initiated by the Cape Verdean Institute of Communities in partnership with the IOM and the EC, mobilised the human, social and professional resources of the country's diaspora for capacity-building of key development sectors such as health, education, infrastructure and tourism. It has strengthened the ties between the diaspora and the public and private sectors in both Cabo Verde and Portugal, Italy, and the Netherlands. The project was funded by the European Commission and co-funded by the Portuguese Cooperation.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Casa do Cidadão¹⁶

The Casa do Cidadão was established by the Cabo Verdean Government to provide a 'one-stop-shop' for the Cabo Verdean diaspora, via the online web-portal or physical Service Centres. In order to bring citizens closer together and ensure access by emigrant communities to Casa do Cidadão services, a COL - Online certificates counter - was created for the diaspora. A mobile customer service was launched to facilitate remote population's access to these services. Other services include: an integrated management system for documents; services related to citizenship, customs declarations, and tax; information on setting up business and investing in Cabo Verde; and tools to monitor the progress of children in education.

13 https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CMW/Shared%20Documents/CPV/INT_CMW_IFL_CPV_32149_E.pdf

14 <http://archive.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2057.htm>

15 <https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/3>.

16 <https://portondinosilhas.gov.cv>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) <https://au.int/en/cido>

Cabo Verde is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Cabo Verde as part of the AU CIDO Continental Meetings.

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) <https://www.ecowas.int/>

- **National institutions**
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Communities

The Ministry of Communities was created in 2011 as a successor to the Institute of Communities (IC; created on September 3, 2001). The Ministry of Communities was absorbed into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Communities in 2016 and is the lead ministry for diaspora engagement. <https://www.governo.cv/>

- At sub-ministerial level

Casa do Cidadão

This was established by the Cape Verdean Government to provide a 'one-stop-shop' for the Cape Verdean diaspora, using either the online web-portal (<https://portondinosilhas.gov.cv>) or Service Centres of Casa do Cidadão in Sal, Praia and São Vicente.

Observatório das Migrações

The observatory was established in 2014 to collect and analyse migration data relevant to the country.¹⁷

Diaspora organisations in Europe



There are tens of Cape Verdean diaspora organisations in Europe, but these tend to be small community organisations or diaspora professional associations and most do not have websites. While many will implement small-scale and episodic development interventions in Cabo Verde, it has not been possible to assess their activities in this regard. For a directory of these diaspora organisations, please visit: <http://www.caboverde-info.com/Sociedade/Diaspora/Associacoes-Cabo-Verdianas>

Associação Cabo-verdiana de Lisboa Portugal 1970
<https://www.facebook.com/acv.associacao.caboverdeana.lisboa/>

¹⁷ http://rtc.cv/tcv/index.php?paginas=13&id_cod=22910



 **Development activities**

One of the oldest Cabo Verdean diaspora organisations in Portugal, founded in 1970, Associação Cabo-verdiana de Lisboa provides cultural and educational activities including promoting bi-lingual literacy in Creole and Portuguese, in particular for 2nd and 3rd generation diaspora young people, and works to promote 'dual citizenship, culture and identity'.¹⁸ It also delivers educational and health promotion projects in Cabo Verde.

Association CHEDA - Crianças de hoje e de Amanha France

<http://cheda.org/cheda-criancas-de-hoje-e-de-amanha/cheda/>

 **Development activities**

For more than 25 years, the association Crianças de Hoje e de Amanha (CHEDA) has been developing cultural exchanges between Cape Verdean and French children, providing aid to Cape Verdean children and promoting Cape Verdean culture through various actions and projects.

Associação Girassol Solidario Portugal <https://www.facebook.com/girassol.solidario/>

 **Development activities**

The association works to provide humanitarian, psychosocial and intercultural mediation support to patients evacuated from Cape Verde who are in Portugal for treatment.

¹⁸ <http://www.faapa.info/blog/associacao-cabo-verdiana-de-lisboa-comemora-dia-internacional-da-mulher-com-mesa-redonda-e-atividades-culturais/>

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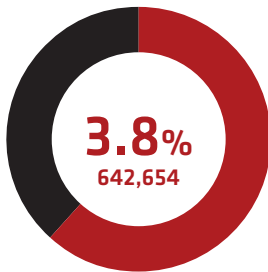


Diaspora engagement mapping **SENEGAL**

Facts & figures

Emigration

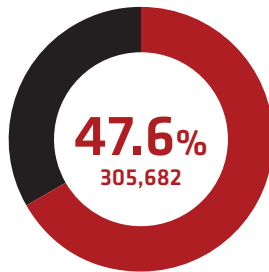
% of emigrants in total population



♂ 61.7%
♀ 38.3%



% of which in the EU



♂ 66.8%
♀ 33.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **9.9%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **2,495**



Top countries of destination

Gambia	132,518
France	129,790
Italy	103,744
Spain	51,789
United States	45,695



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Senegal refers to its diaspora as 'Senegalese abroad' (French: *sénégalais de l'extérieur*). The term 'diaspora' is also used in some official documents, for example in relation to promoting investment

¹ See Loi n° 61-70 du 7 mars 1961, Code de la nationalité sénégalaise: <http://www.servicepublic.gouv.sn/assets/textes/T-nationalite-senegalaise.pdf> ; as well as the 2013 amendments: <http://www.jo.gouv.sn/spip.php?article9794> . While dual citizenship is technically not recognised, Senegalese citizens do not automatically lose their citizenship if they acquire citizenship in another state

² English version of the full text of the 2001 Constitution (amended in 2016): https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Senegal_2016.pdf?lang=en See also <https://aceproject.org/ace-ar/topics/va/country-case-studies/senegal-a-significant-external-electorate>

³ Ibid.

Sector Policy for Overseas Senegalese



Sector Policy for Overseas Senegalese (*Lettre de politique sectorielle des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur*) was published in 2006 by the Ministry of Senegalese Abroad and revised in 2011. Its objectives include: ensuring good management of migration flows; ensuring social, health, and legal protection of Senegalese residing abroad; promotion of Senegalese abroad; and reinforcing institutional support structures.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 1975** ● **Law 75-33⁵** states that the rights of Senegalese migrant workers in France are protected through a Convention on social security issues signed between Senegal and France on 5 March 1960 (renegotiated 29 March 1974 and through the law 75-33 of 3 March 1974).
- 2012** ● **National Strategy for Economic and Social Development 2013–2017⁶** includes a number of priorities to stimulate economic cooperation, enable regional integration, and facilitate the participation of Senegalese abroad. These include developing a proactive economic diplomacy; deepening regional integration, removing impediments to the free movement of persons; and involvement of Senegalese abroad in national development efforts, by popularizing diaspora investment opportunities; and improving migration data management on the diaspora, as well as promoting the transfer of diaspora knowledge and know-how.⁷
- 2014** ● **Plan Sénégal Emergent 2014-2035 (PSE)⁸** establishes the President of Senegal's development priorities.⁹ The plan includes the aim to boost economic cooperation, regional integration and the participation of Senegalese abroad, with the objective of “developing a proactive economic diplomacy” to better attract diaspora investments, tourism, and technology transfer.^{10 11}
- 2018** ● **Draft National Migration Policy of Senegal (Politique nationale de migration du Sénégal, PNMS)¹²** comprises four strategic areas, the first of which - migration, migration management, economy and employment - includes objectives to enhance the potential contribution of the Senegalese diaspora to national development efforts. This document has yet to be formally adopted by the Senegalese government, and has been criticised for focussing on border management.¹³ Since its technical validation, there has been little information in regards to the adoption of the PNMS.

4 See, inter alia, Sorana Toma (2014), Policy and Institutional Frameworks –Senegal Country Report, INTERACTRR2014/16, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, San Domenico di Fiesole (FI): European University Institute, available at: https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/33213/INTERACT_RR_2014%20_16_.pdf;sequence=1; MTM i-Map

Volet Migration et Développement – SENEGAL ; West African interests in (EU) migration policy, UNU Policy Brief Number 04 2019, available at : <https://www.ies.be/files/PB-2019-4.pdf>

5 http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=fr&p_isn=15480&p_count=99377

6 Full text in English available at: <https://extranet.who.int/nutrition/gina/sites/default/files/SEN%202012%20National%20Strategy%20for%20Economic%20and%20Social%20Development%20%28NSESD%29%202013-2017.pdf>

7 Ibid.

8 Full text in French available at: https://www.sec.gouv.sn/sites/default/files/Plan%20Senegal%20Emergent_0.pdf

9 ‘Straddling Two Worlds: Highly Skilled Migrants from Senegambia and Switzerland’, Migration Policy Institute, March 2017, available at: <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/straddling-two-worlds-highly-skilled-migrants-senegambia-and-switzerland>

10 Specifically, it seeks to achieve this through disseminating productive investment opportunities, supporting diaspora initiatives, ensuring protection and respect for their rights, and improving the management of data on migration.

11 The associated PSE Priority Action Plan (PAP) 2019-2023 notes that to achieve PSE's objectives, the support of various stakeholders will be required, including ‘the dynamic contributions of the diaspora’, although it gives no detail about how these will be harnessed. For more information, see : https://www.sentresor.org/app/uploads/pap2_pse.pdf

12 République du Sénégal, MEFP, DGPPE, DDCH (2018), Politique Nationale de Migration du Sénégal

13 <http://www.emedia.sn/QUAND-LA-PRIMATURE-DISPARAIT-AVEC-LE-DOCUMENT-DE-POLITIQUE-MIGRATOIRE.html>



» Trends

Senegal's approach to diaspora engagement and management can be characterised as following three broad approaches.¹⁴ Firstly, the establishment of systems and institutions for the management and the monitoring of Senegalese abroad, the foremost of which is the Direction Générale des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur or DGSE (see Annex), which has proved a regional leader in this regard.¹⁵ The second is to actively seek to engage the diaspora in Senegal's economic development, especially through investment opportunities (see Spotlight). Lastly, it seeks to attract return migration from highly skilled Senegalese diaspora professionals.

The emphasis in Senegal's approach to diaspora engagement has been to encourage diaspora investment, technology and skills transfer, and productive diaspora return.¹⁶ However, this approach is based on an 'unidirectional' basis which does not necessarily fit with the Senegalese diaspora's own transnational experiences and desire for short-term return and circular migration opportunities.¹⁷

» Achievements

Senegal has a proud record of enabling diaspora civic and political participation. In addition to diaspora overseas voting, the National Assembly dedicates 15 of its 165 parliamentary seats for Senegalese abroad.¹⁸

Senegal has sought to target its diaspora populations in Africa and the Global North through its policy frameworks. The country has developed an impressive array of structures to support diaspora engagement, and has had some successes in harnessing diaspora contributions at local level.

Obstacles



- **Institutional capacities:** While the Direction de l'Assistance et de la Promotion des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur (DAPSE) is the lead agency for diaspora engagement and has developed a structured approach to diaspora engagement, the fact that migration is a domain shared across many different ministries and committees can be a source of confusion and inefficiency. Effective implementation of Senegal's diaspora engagement policies is hindered by frequent personnel changes and the fluctuating human, financial and logistical resources allocated to diaspora engagement.
- **Access to official information** on diaspora policies is often quite limited. The DGSE's page on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs currently lacks detailed information.
- **Perceptions of approach to the diaspora:** The perception amongst many in the diaspora is that the government's approach is one-way, designed to attract their funds and skills, rather than treat them as partners in national development. Although Senegal is one of the few countries to have established diaspora deputies in the National Assembly, progress is still needed to develop and implement policies that enable greater and balanced engagement across a wide spectrum of activities.

14 MTM i-Map Volet Migration et Développement – SENEGAL

15 Personal communication, ICMPD April 2020

16 MIGRATION AU SENEGAL PROFIL NATIONAL 2018, UPDATED 2019, FMM West Africa / ANSED, available at: https://rodakar.iom.int/sites/default/files/documents/Rapport_PM_S%C3%A9n%C3%A9gal_jan2019.pdf

17 Giulia Sinatti (2019) Return migration, entrepreneurship and development: Contrasting the economic growth perspective of Senegal's diaspora policy through a migrant-centred approach, *African Studies*, 78:4

18 <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/389303/politique/senegal-quinze-deputes-de-plus-diaspora/>. In order for these new MPs to be elected, eight new constituencies have been created: two in Europe, one in the Americas, one in Asia and the Middle East, and four others in North, West, Central and Southern Africa. See <http://www.assemblee-nationale.sn/deputes-de-l-hemicycle-1-all.xml> for more information

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Programme of Support for Solidarity Initiatives for Development – PAISD ¹⁹

HUMAN CAPITAL + DATA

PAISD is a mechanism aiming to mobilise and support solidarity actions and economic initiatives from the Senegalese diaspora in France, Belgium, Spain and Italy for the benefit of Senegal.

The programme provides funding of up to 80% for local development activities carried out by diaspora associations in Senegal. It also conducts studies related to investment opportunities, and mobilises highly qualified expertise and youth from the diaspora for short-term missions in Senegal in education, agribusiness, health, environment, communications and tourism.

INVESTMENT

Fund in Support of the Investment of Senegalese Abroad (FAISE)²⁰

FAISE was created in June 2008 and aims to promote investments by Senegalese abroad who have financial resources and wish to invest in Senegal's national development. FAISE operates two funds: the Fund for Senegalese Abroad (FSE) to finance diaspora projects in Senegal, and the Fund for Women in the Diaspora (FFD), which promotes women entrepreneurship in host countries.

PROPERTY & BONDS

The Housing Bank of Senegal (Banque de l'Habitat du Sénégal, BHS) Diaspora Bond ²¹

BHS has promoted real estate investments for the diaspora through several actions, principally concerning collection, monetary transfers and access to credit.²² It has also launched a Diaspora Bond with the aim of raising 20 Billion XOF.²³

¹⁹ <https://paisd.sn/>

²⁰ <http://faise.sn/>

²¹ <https://www.bhs.sn/>

²² https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/33213/INTERACT_RR_2014%2016_.pdf;sequence=1

²³ <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/778363/economie/senegal-la-banque-de-lhabitat-lance-ses-diaspora-bonds/> . The operation offers a remuneration of 6.25% per annum over a period of 5 years. The price of the bond is 10 000 XOF. The repayment of the invested capital will be gradual with a 2-year grace period and the annual interest of 6.25% will be paid semi-annually

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Senegal is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Senegal as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) www.ecowas.int

Senegal is a member of the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) and of the WAEMU (Commission of the West African Economic and Monetary Union) and of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).

Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) <http://www.cen-sad.org/>

Senegal is fully integrated into all the key organisations of the international community. It is a member of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

- **National institutions**
 - At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad (*Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur, MAESE*) <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad's mission is to prepare and implement the foreign policies of Senegal defined by the President of the Republic, and the management and support of Senegalese living abroad.²⁴

- At sub-ministerial level

Directorate-General for Senegalese Abroad (*Directorat Générale des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur, DGSE*)

The DGSE- is the lead agency for diaspora engagement within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, and works to develop diaspora engagement policies and programmes. It comprises two Directorates, the Direction de l'Assistance et de la Promotion des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur (DAPSE), which focuses on diaspora engagement, and social protection for the diaspora; and the Direction de l'Appui à l'Investissement et aux Projets (DAIP) which focuses on supporting and attracting diaspora investments and business.²⁵ <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/>

²⁴ <https://www.sec.gouv.sn/d%C3%A9cret-n%C2%B0-2019-806-du-17-avril-2019-relatif-aux-attributions-du-secr%C3%A9taire-detat-aupr%C3%A8s-du-ministre>

²⁵ <https://www.sec.gouv.sn/monsieur-amadou-ba>

Programme of Support for Solidarity Initiatives for Development – PAISD <https://paisd.sn/>

PAISD falls under DAPSE and is a mechanism aiming to mobilise and support solidarity actions and economic initiatives from the Senegalese diaspora in France, Belgium, Spain and Italy for the benefit of Senegal (see Spotlight section for more detail).

Fund in Support of the Investment of Senegalese Abroad (FAISE) <http://faise.sn/>

FAISE, created in June 2008, aims to promote productive investments by Senegalese abroad who have financial resources and wish to develop projects in Senegal (see Spotlight section for more detail)

High Council of Senegalese Abroad <https://www.facebook.com/groups/108772815751/>

An advisory body supporting the DAPSE's work, the High Council of Senegalese Abroad is responsible for initiating, coordinating and implementing government policies aimed at ensuring the well-being of Senegalese abroad and represents diaspora associations around the world.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association pour le Développement par l'Innovation Sociale au Sénégal (ADISS) France <http://www.adiss.fr/qui-sommes-nous>

Development activities

ADISS encourages the creation of high-impact enterprises in Senegal, by supporting the design of projects and the fundraising. It aims to create economic actions within the framework of Social Innovation through a collaborative platform.

La Coordinadora de les Associacions Senegaleses de Catalunya (CASC) Barcelona <https://catsen.org/fr/>

Development activities

CASC's mission is to be a channel for communication and management for formal and informal Senegalese organisations in order to strengthen their participation in policies and interventions within the framework of development cooperation with Senegal. It runs a range of development projects in Senegal. CASC also works to encourage the individual and collective promotion of Senegalese residents in Catalonia and facilitate their social inclusion.

La Fédération des Sénégalais de la Diaspora (FSD) http://www.sendiaspora.com/?fbclid=IwAR2K0-Zj0n-JGjm4EBIEeRhE5X-SW_GaWHfHKkdsqOfCXALVkrZacjJZ8zd8

Development activities

FSD is a social platform for bringing together Senegalese in the diaspora to scale-up and share economic and social capacities, work to defend migrants' rights, and facilitate exchanges between the diaspora and the authorities of the host countries and those of Senegal.

FSD provides training tools for improved social and economic integration of migrants in host countries or upon their return to Senegal and also works to facilitate access of migrants and families to platforms for pooling and optimisation of insurance, investment and savings funds.

Sunugal Italy <https://www.sunugal.it/>

Development activities

Sunugal is a socio-cultural association created on the initiative of a group of foreign citizens, mostly Senegalese and Italian, with the aim of promoting exchange initiatives between the two countries. It acts as a liaison network between immigrants in Italy and families in Senegal. Sunugal's activities can be grouped by country of intervention:

- **Italy:** dissemination of information on the Global South and migration to the wider public; support of the immigrant population;
- **Senegal:** promoting exchange initiatives between countries in the South and Global North; supporting the socio-economic development of the areas of origin of immigrants in Italy.

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International Centre for
Migration Policy Development

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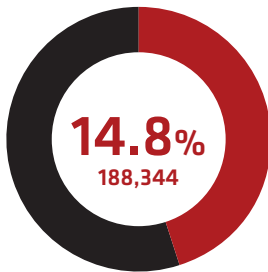


Diaspora engagement mapping MAURITIUS

Facts & figures

Emigration

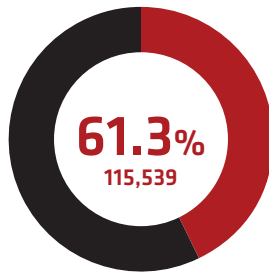
% of emigrants in total population



♂ 45.2%
♀ 54.8%



% of which in the EU



♂ 43.0%
♀ 57.0%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **1.7%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **255**



Top countries of destination

France	48,820
United Kingdom	48,766
Australia	31,380
Canada	16,933
South Africa	14,883



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad



Terminology: Mauritius defines diaspora as: “a Mauritian citizen holding a valid Mauritian passport, a child or grandchild of this Mauritian citizen, whether or not they hold a Mauritian passport.”³

The Mauritian Diaspora Scheme



The Mauritian Diaspora Scheme aims to “encourage professionals and other Mauritian entrepreneurs living abroad to come and practice in Mauritius as employees or by setting up their own account in sectors where their expertise is in great demand.”⁴ It provides incentives for diaspora engagement, investment, and skills transfer under a single, integrated scheme (see Spotlight section).

1 Constitution of Mauritius (1968, amended 2011). Full text available at: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_126778.pdf

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 Investment Promotion Act

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2015** ● **Investment Promotion Act**⁵ provides the basis for the main policy framework governing diaspora engagement in Mauritius. It established the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme, which is administered by the Economic Development Board under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the principal migration ministry within the Mauritian government.⁶
- 2017** ● **Vision 2030**⁷ is the government of Mauritius' long-term development strategy. While it does not reference diaspora explicitly, it does stress Mauritius' deep connections with Europe, Africa, and Asia as a means to attract investment, the importance of SMEs to the country's future growth, and sets out ambitions to become a 'cyber island', which can be achieved with foreign expertise. There is scope therefore for aligning this with diaspora engagement policies and programmes in the future to promote the return of diaspora professionals.
- 2018** ● **National Migration and Development Policy** was developed by the National Steering Committee on Migration and Development in collaboration with the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) between 2012-2017 as part of the EC-Funded MiEUX programme.⁸ This policy aims to provide a balanced approach to migration and development that supports delivery of the government's Vision 2030 Strategy. The policy includes three main axes: facilitating safe, regular and orderly migration; maximising the socio-economic and human development impact of migration and minimising its negative consequences; and strengthening the domestic migration governance framework. The first two of these axes relate most strongly to diaspora engagement, and focus on promoting brain circulation, and diaspora investment and enterprise. The policy recognises the importance of the SME sector in particular in maintaining economic growth as part of Vision 2030, and seeks to encourage diaspora investment in growth sectors such as agro-industry, manufacturing, tourism, financial, information communications technologies, and the ocean economy.⁹ It was formally endorsed by the Government on 1 June 2018.¹⁰ The current state of publication and implementation is unclear, and the policy does not seem to be publicly available yet.
- 2019** ● **Immigration Act and Non-Citizens Employment Restrictions Act.** Originally adopted in 1970, these Acts have been amended several times over the past two decades to manage migratory flows more effectively and align them with national development and investment priorities, especially in relation to addressing labour and skills shortages caused in part by emigration of Mauritian professionals.^{11,12} As of 2019, spouses of Mauritian citizens who are non-residents are required to apply for Work and Occupation Permits.¹³ This has implications for diaspora families, and this seems to contradict the guidelines for the Mauritius diaspora scheme (see below).

5 Full text of the Investment Promotion Act is available here: <https://www.mra.mu/download/InvestmentPromotionRegulation-sNo196of2015.pdf>

6 See Mauritius Immigration Policies, Laws and Regulations Handbook - Strategic Information and Regulations 2018

7 Available at: https://www.un-page.org/files/public/mauritius_jan-feb_2017_reprint_compr.pdf

8 <https://www.mieux-initiative.eu/en/actions/167-mauritius-accelerated-partnership-for-economic-integration-apei-labour-migration>

9 National Migration Policy 2018

10 <http://www.govmu.org/English/News/Pages/Government-approves-proposed-Migration-and-Development-Policy-.aspx>

11 <http://attorneygeneral.govmu.org/English/Documents/A-Z%20Acts/1/Page%201/IMMIGRATION%20ACT,%20No%2013%20of%201970.pdf>; see also <https://allafrica.com/stories/201904170914.html>

12 For a comprehensive discussion of these frameworks, see: IOM 2018 Migration Governance Snapshot: the Republic of Mauritius <https://migrationdataportal.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/Migration%20Governance%20Snapshot-%20The%20Republic%20of%20Mauritius.pdf>

13 <https://www.mcci.org/en/media-news-events/business-updates/regulations-under-the-non-citizens-employment-restriction-act-for-foreign-spouse/>

» Trends

Mauritius is a country that was forged during the colonial period out of migration from across the Indian Ocean by diverse diasporic communities with links to Africa, India, China, Europe, and beyond. As such its government is keenly aware of the need to capitalise on these links to harness diaspora financial and intellectual capital and maintain growth in the country's economy. Increasingly it is seeking to engage with its diaspora not just in Europe, but also in India and China, to leverage investment.¹⁴

As 'brain drain' is an issue of concern, Mauritius has sought to adopt strategies to encourage diaspora return.¹⁵ The skills mismatch between tertiary level education and the job market has been acknowledged as one of the root causes of unemployment in Mauritius and the government. To address this, the government put in place the Mauritian Diaspora Research Funding Scheme (MDRFS), aimed at bringing in experts from the Mauritian diaspora to stimulate research or teaching programmes. The scheme had disappointing uptake, however, so it was absorbed into the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme which sought to make it a more sustainable policy by providing incentives for permanent diaspora return, such as tax advantages.¹⁶ However, the lack of dedicated skills transfer schemes means that short-term voluntary diaspora skills transfer risk being neglected. The Mauritius Diaspora Scheme is an ambitious attempt to create a simplified, single point of entry for diaspora engagement. However, since its launch, the results of the scheme and its impact remain unclear.

Obstacles



- **Need to build second and third generation diaspora connections:** Many Mauritian emigrants settled in Europe, North America, and South Africa, where they forged successful careers. Whilst these may return to Mauritius as retirees, their children and grandchildren often lack the same connection to the country. This will be important to address labour and skills gaps, as well as to enable skills transfer to build capacities in the future.
- **Perception that the government is more interested in expatriate over diaspora contributions:** Historically Mauritius seemed to prioritise recruitment of, and investment from, expatriates rather than the diaspora. The Mauritius government has sought to address this with the introduction of its Diaspora Scheme.
- **Lack of economic opportunities for skilled professionals:** Emigration of skilled professionals has been an issue since the 1960s. The government is keen to encourage their return. However, the lack of economic opportunities for returnees serves as a barrier to diaspora return.

14 <https://www.orfonline.org/research/india-africa-maritime-cooperation-the-case-of-western-indian-ocean-57250/> ; see also Cowaloosur H. (2014) *Diaspora in Mauritius: A Recipe for Contested Development*. In: Sahoo S., Pattanaik B. (eds) *Global Diasporas and Development*. Springer, New Delhi; and Gopaldas (2019), 'Does Mauritius have an identity crisis?', Institute for Security Studies, available at: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/does-mauritius-have-an-identity-crisis>

15 See Vision 2030 and the draft National Migration and Development Policy.

16 <https://www.village-justice.com/articles/inciter-les-citoyens-mauriciens-expatriees-retour-mauritian-diaspora-scheme,32847.html>

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



EDB Mauritian Diaspora Scheme

NETWORKS

Also known as the Mauritius Diaspora Programme, this brings together a range of incentives and entitlements to encourage inward migration, investment, and skills transfer from the diaspora, including tax exemptions, access to the Property Development Scheme (below), and right to permanent residence for Mauritian diaspora who are not citizens of the country.¹⁷ The scheme has a dedicated diaspora web-portal. <http://www.diaspora.mu/>

Property Development Scheme (PDS)¹⁸

HOUSING

The PDS, which forms part of the EDB Mauritius Diaspora Scheme set out above, offers the right to residency in Mauritius to a purchaser and their family, and allows the development of a mix of residences for sale to non-citizens, citizens and members of the Mauritian diaspora. Under the new PDS Guidelines, at least 25% of the residential properties developed under PDS must be sold to Mauritians and members of the Mauritian diaspora.

International Conference of the Mauritian Academic Diaspora 2018¹⁹

NETWORKS

The University of Mauritius organised a conference on the topic of 'Mauritian diaspora: Showcasing international success' in 2018. Government ministers joined over 30 members of the Mauritian academic diaspora to discuss topics such as artificial intelligence and robotics, econometrics, ICT, medicine, nanotechnology, social sciences and humanities, law, marketing, education, and international relations. Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth said "the academic excellence that the diaspora can bring to the local universities will be instrumental in boosting their competitive edge, resulting in job and wealth creation."

¹⁷ <http://www.diaspora.mu/>

¹⁸ <https://www.sovereigngroup.com/mauritius/immigration-and-residency-in-mauritius/>

¹⁹ <http://www.govmu.org/English/News/Pages/Mauritian-Academic-Diaspora-is-an-important-Asset-for-the-Country,-states-PM.aspx>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Mauritius is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent the country as part of the AU CIDO Continental Meetings.

Southern African Community for Development (SADC) <https://www.sadc.int/>

Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) <https://www.comesa.int/>

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Prime Minister's Officer (PMO) <http://pmo.govmu.org/English/Pages/default.aspx>

The PMO is the national focal point for issues pertaining to migration and diaspora engagement.

Ministry of Finance and Economic Development <http://mof.govmu.org/English/Pages/default.aspx>

The Ministry oversees delivery of the Mauritius Diaspora Programme by the Economic Development Board (EDB)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade
<http://foreign.govmu.org/English/Pages/default.aspx>

The Ministry provides consular services to Mauritian citizens abroad.

- At sub-ministerial level

Economic Development Board (EDB) www.diaspora.mu

EDB is responsible for administering the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme

National Steering Committee on Migration and Development

The Committee coordinates between government entities is facilitated by the National Steering Committee on Migration and Development, chaired by the Prime Minister's Office. Established in 2015, the Committee is composed of relevant ministries dealing with migration issues, as well as the Bank of Mauritius and the Economic Development Board (EDB, created as a result of the merger of the Board of Investment, Enterprise Mauritius and the Financial Services Promotion Agency).

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association Franco-Mauricienne France <https://www.facebook.com/Association.Franco.Mauricienne/>

The association organises cultural activities for the Mauritian diaspora in France.

Association musulmane mauricienne de l'océan indien France <https://www.ammoi.fr/>

Development activities

The association provides religious education for Mauritian Muslims in France as well as supporting local Muslim educational projects in Mauritius.

Mauritian Diaspora Project <https://www.facebook.com/mauritiandiasporaproject>

Development activities

A network of researchers in the diaspora and in Mauritius that undertakes social research on issues affecting Mauritius and its diaspora worldwide.

Mauritius Hindu Association United Kingdom

<https://beta.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-details?regid=1120485&subid=0>

Development activities

The association provides social, cultural and educational services to the Mauritian diaspora in the UK, and delivers local education and poverty reduction projects in Mauritius.

Mauritian Islamic Welfare Association (MIWA) United Kingdom https://directory.walthamforest.gov.uk/kb5/walthamforest/directory/service.page?id=vA9_MU0JHpA&directorychannel=1-3

Development activities

MIWA provides after school classes for young Mauritians, educational seminars and conferences, as well as English as a Second Language classes, boxing and self-defence classes for men. They also support social enterprises in Mauritius.

The Mauritian Telegu Association in the UK

<https://beta.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-details/?regid=1021132&subid=0>

Development activities

The association works to promote the culture, religion and language of the Telugu faith among the communities in the United Kingdom. It also endeavours to relieve poverty amongst community members in the UK and Mauritius.

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Implemented by



Funded by
the European Union



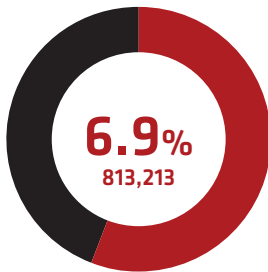


Diaspora engagement mapping TUNISIA

Facts & figures

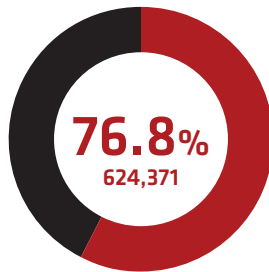
Emigration

% of emigrants in total population



♂ 56.1%
♀ 43.9%

% of which in the EU



♂ 57.7%
♀ 42.3%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **5.3%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **1,936**



Top countries of destination

France	427,897
United States	130,541
Italy	109,387
Germany	38,220
Israel	22,894



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Tunisia refers to its diaspora as 'Tunisians abroad' (Arabic: التونسيون المقيمون في الخارج *al-tūnisiyyūn fi-l-khārij*; also الجالية التونسية *al-jāliyyah al-tūnisiyyah*; French: *tunisiens résidents à l'étranger*), although the term diaspora is also used in some contexts.

Tunisia does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

11963 Code de la Nationalité Tunisienne, available at : <https://www.ecoi.net/en/file/local/2022022/5e00d4e64.pdf> . Amendment no. 93-74 of July 12, 1993 modified the Code du Statut Personnel to give wives the right to transfer her patrimony and nationality to children to the same extent as husbands, even if married to a foreigner, with her father's approval. This is important to the diaspora, as it enables women to pass on Tunisian nationality to their children. The legal change predated similar legislation in other North African states by over a decade. Full text available in French at: <https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/73374/74946/F-1287339442/TUN-73374.pdf>
 2 Tunisians abroad have had the right to vote in presidential elections since 1988, and in parliamentary elections since 2011. Version consolidée de la loi organique n° 2014-16 du 26 mai 2014, relative aux élections et référendums telle que modifiée et complétée par la loi organique n°2019-76 du 30 août 2019: <https://legislation-securite.tn/fr/node/44286>.
 For more information, see Jaulin, T. (2016), 'Geographies of external voting: the Tunisian elections abroad since the 2011 Uprising', Comparative Migration Studies 4, 14.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2014** ● **Organic Law N° 2014-16, Relating to Elections and Referenda** was a result of demands from Tunisians abroad for greater political rights, i.e. the right to become representatives in the Assembly, and the right for dual nationals to become President.³ The number of diaspora representatives in the Tunisian parliament is proportional to the size of the diaspora, which makes Tunisia unique in this regard.⁴
- 2016** ● **The National Development Plan 2016-2020⁵** sets out a number of measures relevant to diaspora engagement, including: strengthening links with diaspora organisations and communities abroad; protecting the human rights of Tunisians abroad in their country of residence, including agreements on international social protection; and creating new opportunities for the transfer of skills and experience, especially in terms of tech transfer and diaspora investment. It includes a target to increase the percentage of Tunisians abroad taking their annual holiday in the country from 5% to 30% by 2020.⁶
- 2017** ● **The National Migration Strategy⁷** was firstly elaborated in 2012, when Tunisia undertook a series of consultations that led to the first version of the National Migration Strategy. A consultation process was launched in July 2017 with various national and international partners, including the diaspora.⁸ Its current state of implementation remains unclear. One of the strategy's five pillars is 'human development and social inclusion', under which are included objectives in relation to: protecting the rights and interests of Tunisian migrants and strengthening the links between them and with Tunisia; strengthening the contribution of migration to socio-economic development at the local, regional and national levels; and promoting regular migration of Tunisians. The strategy also recognises governance reform and strengthening of institutions as priorities to enable these objectives to be achieved.

» Trends

Historically, Tunisian migration policy tended to be focused on diaspora management and provision of social services to this group, as well as controlling labour (e)migration. Tunisia's approach was widely considered as transactional by Tunisians and by EU states.⁹ Despite this, Tunisians in the diaspora feel a strong motivation to contribute to the development process in their home country, and many choose to invest and open businesses in their villages of origin.¹⁰

The Office of Tunisians Abroad (Office des Tunisiens à l'Étranger, OTE) within the Ministry of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Tunisians Abroad, was initially established in 1988 to promote national identity and support the integration of Tunisian migrants abroad.¹¹ Following the launch of the Tunisian Presidential Programme in 2009, the focus of strategic policies turned

3 Loi organique n° 2014-16 du 26 mai 2014, relative aux élections et référendums, available at: <http://www.isie.tn/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Loi-Organique-n%C2%B02014-16.pdf>. An unofficial English version is available at: <http://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/africa/TN/tunisia-organic-law-on-elections-and-referenda>

4 Jaulin, Thibaut (2016). 'Geographies of external voting: the Tunisian elections abroad since the 2011 Uprising, Comparative Migration Studies, Springer 2016'. Comparative Migration Studies 4. The 2019 elections saw 18 seats reserved for deputies representing the Tunisian community abroad, see http://www.migrationpolicycentre.eu/docs/migration_profiles/Tunisia.pdf ; http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/04/c_1384448615.htm

5 Full text available (Arabic only) at: http://www.mdici.gov.tn/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Note_d_Orientation_2016_2020_VF.PDF

6 Ibid.

7 Full text available at: http://ote.nat.tn/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/SNM_FRA_FINALE.pdf

8 <http://ote.nat.tn/la-strategie-nationale-migratoire-snm-2017/>

9 See, inter alia, Poussel, S (2017:205-220), 'Tunisia and its diaspora: between protection and control' in Agnieszka WEINAR (ed.), Emigration and diaspora policies in the age of mobility, Cham: Springer; and Cohen-Hadria (Ed) et al (2018), , The Eu-Tunisia Privileged Partnership - What Next?, EUROMESCO Joint Policy Study. Available at: https://www.euromesco.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/EuroMeSCO-Joint-Policy-Study_EU-Tunisia-Partnership.pdf

10 Delahaye S.G., Tejada G. (2019) Transnational Investments of the Tunisian Diaspora: Trajectories, Skills Accumulation and Constraints. In: Elo M., Minto-Coy I. (eds) Diaspora Networks in International Business. Contributions to Management Science. Springer, Cham

11 The Office of Tunisians Abroad (OTE): Art.14, law n° 60-88 of June 2, 1988.

increasingly to national development, including provision of social and cultural services to the diaspora, as well as economic benefits from remittances and investment, business networks, and knowledge transfer.¹²

The 2011 revolution - influenced and supported by diaspora contributions and activism - provided an opportunity for a change in direction, and new structures and policies were introduced. Following the 2011 elections, the newly appointed government recognised the potential contributions the Tunisian diaspora could offer to national development efforts by establishing a specific migration department within the Ministry of Social Affairs.¹³

In addition to new services through the OTE, the government has sought to introduce new data collection tools (such as a register of overseas professionals), and research bodies, in particular the Observatoire National pour la Migration, to help develop an evidence base regarding this key national strategy priority (see Spotlight section).

During consultations on the 2019 budget for the Ministry of Social Affairs, representatives in the national assembly argued that there were insufficient resources allocated for programmes targeting the diaspora, and called for a dedicated national strategy for the Tunisian community abroad in order to boost the country's economic development.¹⁴

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust:** Historically, there has been a lack of trust in government structures for diaspora engagement, as these were perceived as linked to the government's focus on controlling emigration. The 2011 revolution helped clear the slate in this regard, creating much greater opportunities for diaspora engagement. However, there remain concerns in the diaspora about the Ministry of Social Affairs being the lead agency for diaspora engagement because of this legacy, and there have been calls for a dedicated diaspora ministry to be established.
- **Poor coordination** between institutions responsible for diaspora issues continues to be a barrier to more effective diaspora engagement, despite institutional and other reforms.
- **Slow implementation:** The development of the National Migration Strategy was well received by many in the diaspora as a bold and comprehensive strategy concerning migration and diaspora engagement, but the gap between policy development and implementation is a source of frustration and risks disengagement. This is another factor feeding into the lack of trust mentioned above.
- **Lack of resources for diaspora engagement:** The diaspora have complained that government resources allocated to diaspora engagement, and in particular diaspora outreach and community centres, is insufficient to mobilise diaspora contributions effectively in Europe and the US.

12 Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Priority co-operation fields: [http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=27&tx_ttnews\[pointer\]=12&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=605&cHash=528bb871d5bf29394505cc7516888ca4](http://www.diplomatie.gov.tn/index.php?id=27&L=2&tx_ttnews[backPid]=27&tx_ttnews[pointer]=12&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=605&cHash=528bb871d5bf29394505cc7516888ca4)

13 Kriaa, M. et al (2012). Migrations des Tunisiens en Libye : Dynamiques, défis et perspectives, Tunis : Banque Africaine de Développement (BAD) and IOM, 2012.

14 <https://www.webmanagercenter.com/2018/12/03/427784/budget-2019-necessite-dune-strategie-nationale-pour-les-tunisiens-a-letranger/>

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Migration Governance and Strategy Programme (ProGres Tunisie)¹⁵

PARTNERSHIP

This partnership programme aims to strengthen migration governance and institutional coordination in Tunisia, with two components relevant to diaspora engagement. With support from ICMPD, the first of these focuses on migration governance to operationalise the National Migration Strategy; to implement a statistical survey on migration in Tunisia (TUNISIA -HIMS); and to improve coordination and implementation of the different programme components. The second, supported by GIZ, focuses on diaspora mobilisation and development of employment and investment opportunities through diaspora mobilisation, including support for diaspora investors.

INVESTMENT + ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Facilitating Diaspora Investment and Entrepreneurship

This initiative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Central Bank of Tunisia facilitates diaspora investment and entrepreneurship, including support for start-up businesses, digitalisation of transactions, and development of more flexible foreign exchange regulations.¹⁶

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

MEETAfrica (Mobilisation Européenne pour l'Entrepreneuriat en Afrique)¹⁷

A partnership between the French Development Agency (AFD) and Expertise France to support innovative diaspora entrepreneurship, this is a flagship programme of the Rabat Process that provides expert advice and mentoring, as well as access to start-up funds, for diaspora investors in different African countries. In Tunisia it supports a range of diaspora enterprises in sectors such as science and technology, health, renewable energy, and organic agriculture.¹⁸

HEALTH

Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI): Support to the Governorate of Kasserine socio-health system

The governorate of Kasserine has partnered with the Tunisian community residing in Tuscany, Italy, to address a critical lack of health infrastructure in the regional Kasserine Hospital, and surrounding health centres. The "Support to the Governorate of Kasserine socio-health system" initiative aimed to develop resources and more effective practices with the support of the Tunisian community residing in Italy, Croissant Rouge National Tunisien, and COSPE- Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti.¹⁹

15 <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/region/north-africa/tunisia/favoriser-la-mise-en-oeuvre-de-la-strategie-nationale-migratoire-de-la-en>; http://www.ins.tn/sites/default/files/pdf_actualites/Pr%C3%A9sentation%20ProGreS_C1%20-%20Lancement%20TUN-HIMS%20_DS_191010.pdf

16 Source: <https://www.bct.gov.tn/bct/siteprod/page.jsp?id=235>

17 <http://meetafrica.fr>

18 <http://meetafrica.fr/projets/tunisie/>

19 http://www.migration4development.org/sites/m4d.emakina-eu.net/files/jmdi_funded_projects-tunisia_1.pdf ; <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2017/01/10/migration-an-overlooked-tool-for-local-development/>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions

- At regional level

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Tunisia is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Arab League <http://www.leagueofarabstates.net/ar/Pages/default.aspx>

Community of Sahel–Saharan States

<https://web.archive.org/web/20110917064539/http://www.uneca.org/cen-sad/fr/index.htm>

- National institutions

- At ministerial level

Ministry for Social Affairs

The Ministry for Social Affairs is the lead ministry for migration issues and for Tunisians abroad. It oversees the Office of Tunisians Abroad, the National Migration Observatory, and the Higher Council for Tunisians Abroad (see below).

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

The MFA is responsible for consular affairs. Tunisian consular social affairs officers provide advice to Tunisian diaspora in countries of residence.

Ministry for Development, Investment and International Cooperation (MDIIC)

The MDIIC is responsible for investment promotions and development cooperation. In partnership with the MFA and the Central Bank, it is developing diaspora investment schemes.

- At sub-ministerial level

The Office for Tunisians abroad (Office des Tunisiens à l'Étranger, OTE)

The Office of Tunisians Abroad (OTE) maintains a database of skilled diaspora and those that might be willing to participate in development initiatives. This database facilitates contacts between organisations, diaspora groups and associations, and civil society actors; enhancing their ability to network effectively, their access to information and knowledge sharing, although it remains rather theoretical at this stage.



The Higher Council for Tunisians Abroad (Conseil Supérieur des Tunisiens à l'Étranger)

The Council is a consultative body of the OTE (see above), announced in 2016, that arose from diaspora proposals from 2011 onwards, although legal provisions for such a body were made in 1990. It is to be consulted on draft laws and regulations, international conventions and treaties relating to Tunisians abroad. Decrees for its formal establishment were due to be published in 2018.²⁰

National Migration Observatory (Observatoire National pour la Migration, ONM)

ONM is a public administrative institution under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs. It is responsible for collecting information and related data at the national and international levels, ensuring that it is updated and analysed regularly and for conducting research and studies on migration. Its web portal provides access to reports and ONM's databases. ONM has started working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen information collection and management in relation to migration and the diaspora, and in particular institutional coordination.²¹ One activity of this work will be the review and updating of the 'Jelia' directory of Tunisians Resident Abroad. ONM Data Portal: <http://data.migration.nat.tn/fr/>

Dar El-tounsi

The OTE established the Dar El-tounsi ('House of the Tunisian') network of socio-cultural spaces in 2000 in order to support the activities of the Tunisian community; to design and implement social mentoring programmes for the diaspora; and to enable young people to pursue cultural and educational activities.²²

Social Attachés

Originally created in 1972, the Social Attachés are assigned to Tunisian embassies and consulates in Europe, Canada and the Arab world to protect the interests of Tunisian nationals abroad, in terms of social security coverage, handling marital conflicts, and ironing out difficulties encountered in health, judicial and administrative fields.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association des Tunisiens des Grandes Ecoles (ATUGE) France, United Kingdom 1990 www.atuge.org

Development activities

ATUGE is a non-profit, Tunisian diaspora professionals' association. A network of more than 3500 people, ATUGE brings together students, young graduates and alumni of French Grandes Ecoles. ATUGE has a presence in Tunis, Paris and London and runs an international network that works to strengthen cooperation with Tunisia through investment events organised in all three cities and to connect Tunisians in the diaspora with Tunisia through regular events and projects.

²⁰ <https://www.webmanagercenter.com/2018/07/24/422655/les-decrets-portant-sur-la-creation-du-conseil-superieur-des-tunisiens-a-letranger-seront-bientot-publies-adel-jarbouli/>

²¹ Personal communication, ICMPD Tunisia, April 2020

²² <http://consulat-tunisie.ca/>



Association de Soutien aux Enfants (ASSEN) France 2010 www.assen-asso.org

Development activities

ASSEN is a diaspora humanitarian association founded by young Tunisians living in France. ASSEN helps the most destitute children in Tunisia and around the world.

Association des Compétences Tunisiennes résidant en Suisse (ACTS) Switzerland 2016
<https://www.asso-acts.ch/>

Development activities

ACTS works to mobilize the skills of Tunisians residing in Switzerland in order to contribute to the achievement of Tunisia's priority development objectives. ACTS aims to be the reference point for consultation with Tunisian diaspora experts in Switzerland in target sectors such as health, ICT and technology, banking services, the green economy, institutional governance and soft skills, finance, investment, and exports.

Association Tunisiens des Deux Rives France (T2RIV) France <https://www.t2riv.org/>

Development activities

T2RIV works to support the Tunisian people in their march towards freedom, justice, democracy and development. Its priority is providing assistance to the most disadvantaged through social, humanitarian and economic activities. The Ministry of Women, Family and Children, in partnership with the Association Tunisiens des Deux Rives France (T2RIV) and the governorate of Sidi Bouzid, have rolled out a local development project designed to revive the farming sector within the region. Supported by the knowledge, practical skills, and remittances of the Tunisian diaspora in France, rural women of Sidi Bouzid are supported to actively engage in farming activities that generate a permanent income.²³

PONTES Ricerche e Interventi Italy 2006 <http://pontes.it/>

Development activities

PONTES Ricerche e Interventi is a Tunisian diaspora organisation in Italy, part of the transnational civil society network PONTES, which operates between Italy and Tunisia and, more generally, between Europe and Middle East and North African countries. PONTES was founded to promote diversity and integration actions of migrants, with a specific focus on the integration of second-generation young people and migrant women. Its projects include maternal and child protection centres (SMEs) in Tunisia, and the COMACT DIASPORA project to promote entrepreneurship in the diaspora.

23 Source: <http://www.migration4development.org/en/projects/profiles/tunisia>

Réseau ALYSSA France 2005

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/R%C3%A9seau-Alyssa-page-officielle-275194449168822/about/>

Development activities

Réseau ALYSSA is an international network of Tunisian skills. It is an apolitical diaspora association bringing together a group of people of Tunisian origin to exchange, share and create value in solidarity with Tunisia. The network, created in 2005 in Lille, works to mobilize the skills of Tunisians abroad for development. It also raises funds for education projects in Tunisia. ALYSSA is developing a platform for OTE dedicated to Tunisian diaspora organisations around the world, intended to serve as a hub for calls for projects in various areas of development, economic meetings, cultural exhibitions, organisation of a 'Tunisia week', visits, and internships targeting the diaspora.

Written by: **AFFORD**
Edited by: **EUDiF**
April 2020



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Funded by
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Find out more at www.diasporadevelopment.eu

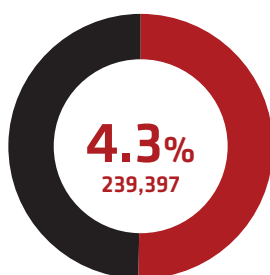


Diaspora engagement mapping REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Facts & figures

Emigration

% of emigrants in total population

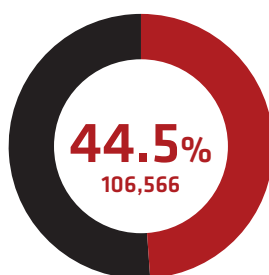


♂ 50.5%
♀ 49.5%



Remittances as a share of GDP: -
Remittances inflow (USD million): -

% of which in the EU



♂ 49.0%
♀ 51.0%



Top countries of destination

France	76,499
South Africa	34,445
Tanzania	22,434
Gabon	16,194
Mali	11,849



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad³



Terminology: The Republic of the Congo refers to its diaspora as *'Congolais de l'extérieur'*, but also uses the term diaspora in some contexts.

Congo does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

¹ Loi n° 35-1961 du 20 juin 1961 portant le Code de la nationalité congolaise sets out citizenship of the Republic of Congo, which does not permit dual citizenship. Full text available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4db4.html>

² Loi n°9-2001 du 10 décembre 2001 portant loi électorale sets out that any Congolese citizen abroad may vote in elections if they are registered on the electoral register. French text available at : <https://economie.gouv.cg/sites/default/files/Documentation/Lois/2001/n%C2%AF9-2001%20du%2010%20d%C3%87cembre%202001.PDF>

³ Ibid.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



There is a paucity of official information from the government of the Republic of Congo on its migration policy frameworks.

- 2012** ● **Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2012 (DISCERP 2012-2016)**⁴ sets out a range of areas that are of relevance to diaspora engagement. These include the restructuring of diplomatic missions to attract foreign direct investment in addition to an easing of legal and tax constraints to benefit the diaspora to encourage their active involvement in the country's development⁵.

The plan further states that a comprehensive approach must include the integration of migration in development frameworks and strategies against poverty, and the involvement of diaspora and transnational networks in development strategies. There is also an acknowledgement of the need to improve management of remittances, along with comprehensive and targeted assistance programmes for labour-focused migration, facilitating the return and reintegration of migrants.⁶ It is not clear how these policy intentions have translated into formal migration and development policy frameworks.

» Trends

Relations between the government and its diaspora are very strained and characterised by deep mistrust. This has informed the slow development and implementation of diaspora engagement policies and programmes.

In 2013, the African Development Bank commissioned a consultant to develop a diaspora mobilisation strategy.⁷ In 2014 IOM supported the Republic of the Congo to develop a diaspora mobilisation strategy,⁸ and members of the Congolese diaspora were consulted on this.⁹ However, political instability in the country, and in particular the Constitutional Referendum and the 2016 elections, have hindered the Congolese government's progress on diaspora engagement.

The Congolese government is keen to strengthen the potential for diaspora skills transfer to support the country's development. Stemming 'brain drain' has been at the centre of diaspora engagement attempts. To this end, in October 2018, the Congolese government sent a delegation from the Department of Congolese Abroad (DCE) on a fact-finding mission to the *Conseil de la communauté marocaine à l'étranger* (CCME) in Rabat, Morocco. The purpose of this mission was "to benefit from Moroccan experience and expertise in the field of migration, especially in its organizational aspect," said HE M Jean Philippe Ngakosso, specifying that the newly created DCE needed the support of a country like Morocco "which has made a long journey in this field."¹⁰ These explorations build upon the policy aims outlined in the Growth, Employment, and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (2012-2016 DSCERP), which seeks to facilitate return migration and the effective engagement of the diaspora in the country's development.

4 Full text available at: <https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/sites/default/files/downloads/policy-database/CONGO%29%202009-2016%20National%20Development%20Plan.pdf>

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 <https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Procurement/Project-related-Procurement/Congo%20-%20Elaboration%20de%20la%20strat%C3%A9gie%20de%20mobilisation%20de%20la%20Diaspora%20pour%20la%20reconstruction%20et%20le%20d%C3%A9veloppement%20du%20Congo%20-%20Contract%20Award.pdf>

8 <http://www.adiac-congo.com/content/cooperation-loim-renforce-les-capacites-du-gouvernement-congolais-dans-les-strategies-de> ;

9 <http://www.adiac-congo.com/content/diaspora-les-congolais-de-letranger-reflechissent-une-strategie-nationale-dintegration-au>

10 <https://www.ccme.org.ma/fr/activites/54017>

Obstacles



- **Lack of trust:** Probably the largest obstacle to diaspora engagement is a lack of trust between the government and its diaspora. The government has viewed the diaspora as a threat to its political stability, while the diaspora is distrustful of the actions of the government.
- **Frameworks:** The Republic of the Congo has been slow to build its policy and institutional frameworks in relation to diaspora engagement; there is still no agreed upon diaspora policy, and while there are some initiatives, they risk being piecemeal and ineffective. Development and implementation of diaspora engagement policies and programmes are further hindered by deep divisions within the diaspora, which is largely perceived as being resolutely opposed to the Brazzaville government.¹¹
- **Institutional focus on migration management:** The Republic of the Congo has been affected by regional conflicts and instability and has had to manage significant numbers of migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries whilst at the same time seeking to stem outward migration and brain-drain from its own citizens. As a result, the government's focus has tended to be on border management rather than migration and development.
- **Limited and informal remittance transfers:** The majority of remittances is sent via informal transfer pathways, making the value difficult to quantify. Moreover, these remittances tend to be small amounts intended to provide for the basic needs of family members, rather than for business investment or development projects.¹²

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Involvement of the diaspora in the elaboration of the National Strategy for the Development of the Digital Economy 2018-2022

Key actors and digital enthusiasts in Congo met in March 2018 in Brazzaville to validate the national strategy document for the development of the digital economy of the Republic of Congo. The strategy was developed with the aim of including the diaspora in the ICT sector in order help diversify the Congolese economy. The Ministry for Posts, Telecommunications and Digital Economy saved money by opting for a participatory approach that made it possible not only to develop local skills, but also to involve the Congolese diaspora in the process of drafting this strategy.¹³

DIGITAL

MIDA Congo-Brazzaville¹⁴

The main objective of the Migration for Development in Africa programme was to strengthen the capacity of the Government of the Republic of the Congo to mobilise the Congolese diaspora's skills for a beneficial contribution to the development of the country. MIDA aimed to respond to the challenges of human resource shortages facing Congo-Brazzaville in two priority sectors: health and higher education.

HEALTH +
EDUCATION

11 <https://blogs.mediapart.fr/jecmaus/blog/110418/congo-la-strategie-suicide-dune-diaspora-en-manque-dunite> ; see also L., F. Guibert, T. Jaulin, S. Mesplé-Somps (eds) (2018) *Migrants, acteurs des changements politiques en Afrique?*, Deboeck supérieur

12 <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/13218-understanding-global-remittances-corridors-in-the-democratic-republic-of-congo-drc.html>

13 <https://www.digitalbusiness.africa/congo-brazza-apres-participation-public-de-diaspora-strategie-de-developpement-de-leconomie-numerique-cours-de-validation/>; www.postetelecom.gouv.cg

14 <https://iomfrance.org/mida-congo-brazzaville>



In order to achieve this objective, IOM undertook two parallel processes:

- Strengthening the capacity of the government in the mobilisation and management of the Congolese diaspora through its *Cellule de Mobilisation de la Diaspora* (Diaspora Mobilisation Unit) based at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Congolese Abroad.
- Implementation of an effective mobilisation of the Congolese diaspora in France, in close collaboration with the Forum of International Solidarity Organisations for Migration (FORIM), to contribute to the development of health and higher education sectors in Congo-Brazzaville.

UNDP and PRATIC partnership to support digital technology an innovation

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the association PRATIC signed a memorandum of understanding on 17 April 2019 in Brazzaville to support Congolese start-ups and incubators through an innovation accelerator laboratory, in order to help the country achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).¹⁵

¹⁵ <http://www.adiac-congo.com/content/osiane-2019-le-pnud-et-lassociation-pratic-lancent-un-laboratoire-dacceleateur-dinnovations>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Republic of the Congo is a member of the African Union and nominates a Diaspora Focal Point to attend the AU-CIDO continental meetings.

Economic Commission for Central African States (ECCAS) <http://www.ceeac-eccas.org/>

Republic of the Congo is a member of the Economic Commission for Central African States (ECCAS)

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Congolese Abroad

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.cg/en/ministry/>

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Congolese Abroad implements policies in the areas of foreign affairs, cooperation and the Congolese abroad, with key aims relating to promoting the interests of Congolese abroad and managing labour migration.

A Ministry of Congolese Abroad was originally established in 2010. This was absorbed into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Congolese Abroad in 2014.

- At sub-ministerial level

Department of Congolese Abroad <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.cg/ministere/le-secretariat-general/departement-des-congolais-de-letranger/>

The *Département des Congolais de l'Étranger* (DCE) was founded in 2011 and is headed by an Under-Secretary-General, who has the rank and prerogatives of a non-resident ambassador. The mandate of the DCE includes improving data collection relating to the skills and whereabouts of Congolese nationals living abroad, as well as identifying associations and organizations of Congolese abroad. It is also tasked with proposing strategies to encourage Congolese abroad to become involved in the national development process.

Diaspora organisations in Europe



Association Développement Relations Nord-Sud (ADRNS) France <http://www.adrns.org/>

Development activities

ADRNS aims to encourage and support organizations, public and private, French, African and foreign as well as individuals in the establishment, development, production, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes affecting the green economy, ecological agriculture, circular economy, the knowledge economy and the men and women of the diaspora.

Coordination d'appui aux projets de solidarité internationale pour le Congo (CAPCOS) France
<http://www.capcos.fr/index.html>

Development activities

CAPCOS is an association based in Paris which brings together more than 25 French international solidarity associations and organisations of migrants from Congo Brazzaville as well as individuals contributing to actions in support of the populations of Congo Brazzaville. CAPCOS provides a platform for pooling resources and skills between member organisations and works to create synergies between member organisations in order to strengthen a network of expertise, skills and know-how in the development and implementation of international solidarity projects.

Diaspora Congo Brazzaville (DCB)¹⁶ France

Development activities

DCB is a non-profit, politically neutral association, wishing to federate Congolese abroad, wherever they are, in a dynamic that transcends all cleavages (regional, political, confessional, social...) with the aim to develop and optimise the capital represented by Congolese abroad as a lever for solidarity and development.

DCB has set up a programme for the development of family agro-pastoral farms. The project aims to raise awareness of the work of small farmers, which lacks recognition,¹⁷ as well as reduce poverty in rural areas, offering sustainable activities for the development of family agricultural production centred mainly on breeding, fishing and farming. Before the launch of the project, members of the Congolese diaspora met with the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Rigobert Maboundou, to present the project and get the government's support in implementing it.¹⁸

PRATIC (Promotion and reflection, around Information and Communication Technologies) France 2008
<https://www.facebook.com/pratic.congo> <https://twitter.com/pratic242?lang=en>

Development activities

The association was established in Paris with the ambition to establish a global reflection around ICT between experts, professionals, students and users of ICT in Congo in order to collect concrete proposals and bring applicable solutions for the development of ICT from different actors (State and civil society).¹⁹ The PRATIC association has organised several symposia and 'reflection days' in France and Congo on the digital economy and its potential.²⁰

¹⁶ <https://www.helloasso.com/associations/diaspora-congo-brazzaville>

¹⁷ <http://adiac-congo.com/content/un-programme-en-faveur-de-lagriculture-familiale-29186>

¹⁸ <http://www.adiac-congo.com/content/agriculture-familiale-la-diaspora-congolaise-envisage-daccompagner-les-groupements-locaux>

¹⁹ <http://www.forums.congopage.com/Nouvelles-technologies-de-la>

²⁰ <https://journals.openedition.org/rfsic/6489>

Réseau International des Congolais de l'Extérieur (RICE) France
<https://lerice.fr/le-reseau-international-des-congolais-de-lexterieur>

 **Development activities**

RICE's mission is to bring together Congolese of origin or nationality around the development of the Congo and to coordinate their associative activities around the world. RICE is strongly oriented towards the promotion and development of entrepreneurship in Congo and brings together the diaspora in all its diversity and skills.

Written by: **AFFORD**
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Find out more at www.diasporadevelopment.eu

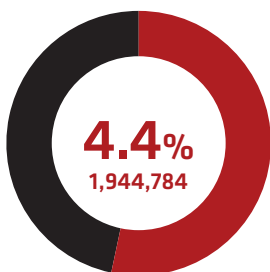


Diaspora engagement mapping ALGERIA

Facts & figures

Emigration

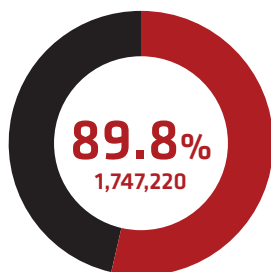
% of emigrants in total population



♂ 53.6%
♀ 46.4%



% of which in the EU



♂ 53.8%
♀ 46.2%



Remittances as a share of GDP: **1.0%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **1,830**



Top countries of destination

France	1,575,528
Canada	68,822
Spain	57,140
Israel	44,422
Belgium	27,633



Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Voting from abroad³:

At embassies/consulates



Terminology: Algeria refers to its diaspora as 'Algerians (residing) abroad' (Arabic: الجزائريون المقيمون بالخارج *al-jaza'iriyoun al-muqayyimoun bi-l-kharij*), as well as 'the national community established abroad' (French, *communauté nationale établie à l'étranger*).

Algeria does not have a diaspora engagement policy.

¹ The 1970 Code of Algerian Nationality and amendments sets out issues of citizenship for Algerians, and confers the right to dual nationality. It defines Algerians as born to either an Algerian father or an Algerian mother. In 2005, Algeria recognised that women have the right to pass on their nationality to children born of a foreign father. Full text (French and Arabic) available at: https://droit.mjustice.dz/code_nation_alger.pdf

² Since 1997, Algerian citizens abroad have been given the right to vote in Algerian elections. The right to vote of Algerian citizens residing abroad was further elaborated on in Article 11 of the Electoral Law 2007. Full text (French and Arabic) available at: https://www.joradp.dz/J02000/2012/001/F_Pag.htm

³ Ibid.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework⁴



- 2012** ● **Electoral Law Reform of 12 January 2012** reserves 8 of the 462 seats in Algeria's National Peoples' Assembly to represent Algerian citizens residing abroad. The reform also reaffirmed expatriate voting rights.⁵
- 2015** ● **Action Plan of the Government on the Implementation of the Programme of the President of the Republic (2015-2020)** addresses, *inter alia*, issues relevant to the Algerian diaspora including: fostering cultural links with Algerians abroad and the contributions of the diaspora to national development, in particular for diaspora professionals trained abroad. It also includes better protection for Algerian diaspora returnees.⁶ Chapter 7 focuses on Algerian nationals established abroad, noting that: "The national community abroad has always constituted a major concern for the Algerian state [...] activities will be undertaken to improve the conditions of citizens in host countries, strengthen consular and judicial protection, supporting Algerian associative movement, and establish pathways in particular to national skills abroad."⁷
- 2020** ● **Action Plan of the Government on the Implementation of the Programme of the President of the Republic** adopted in February 2020⁸, includes a reference to "initiating incentives for diaspora investment capital and updating double taxation treaties" under a section on "Knowledge economy and accelerated digital transition", including facilitation of access to appropriate sources of finance access for start-ups, in particular by setting up a dedicated fund. It also encourages venture capital investments⁹

» Trends

Algeria has moved significantly from being a newly independent state that was distrustful of its diaspora, to one that is actively seeking to recruit diaspora returnees for national development. Labour migration in the 1970s and 1980s, primarily to Europe as well as other MENA states, brought a development paradox – an increase in remittance inflows, but also an increase in 'brain drain' as skilled migrants left the country.

The focus of Algeria's diaspora engagement in recent years has been primarily on skills transfer and recruitment of high-skilled diaspora professionals to fill skills gaps in the country.¹⁰ However, it is unclear what progress has been made by the government to deliver against the objectives targeting the national community abroad set out in Chapter 7 of the Action Plan of the Government on the Implementation of the Programme of the President of the Republic for the years 2015 to 2020.

Algeria is also promoting diaspora enterprise and return such as through the PACEIM scheme in partnership with the European Bank, or the more recent ANSEJ diaspora entrepreneur support scheme (see Spotlight section for both).¹¹ Since the mid-2000s when the security situation improved, there has been a flow of Algerian diaspora entrepreneurs from Europe or North America returning to the country seeking to take advantage of economic opportunities.¹²

4 For a fuller discussion of legal and policy frameworks relating to migration and diaspora in Algeria, please see Fargues, P (ed) (2013), EU NEIGHBOURHOOD MIGRATION REPORT 2013 pp9-24, available at: https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/27394/MPC_EU_NeighbourhoodMigrationReport2013_web.pdf?sequence=5

5 Ibid.

6 Full text (French) available at: <https://www.cabri-sbo.org/en/documents/governments-action-plan-for-the-president-of-the-republics-implementation-programme>

7 Ibid.

8 <http://www.aps.dz/en/algeria/33006-executive-approves-action-plan-to-implement-president-s-programme>. Full text in French available at: http://www.apn.dz/fr/images/actualite_speciale_2/Plan-action-gouvernement-fr-6-fev-2020.pdf

9 http://www.apn.dz/fr/images/actualite_speciale_2/Plan-action-gouvernement-fr-6-fev-2020.pdf

10 Abdelkader Djeflat 2012, 'Les compétences algériennes à l'étranger: entre tabous et fausses promesses', *Hommes et migrations* 1300 | 2012 : Nouveaux modèles migratoires en Méditerranée <https://journals.openedition.org/hommesmigrations/917>

11 <http://www.animaweb.org/en/paceim>

12 <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/10/french-algerians-return-parents-native-land-151006110146341.html>

There is also an interest in the diaspora as being well placed to unlock investment finance, especially in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, industry, new technologies and energy transition.¹³

Algerian diaspora organisations, mostly based in France, have been active for several years in implementing co-development projects in Algeria, albeit on a small-scale.

Obstacles



- **Legacy of distrust:** There is a legacy of distrust between the government and its diaspora, stemming both from Algeria's difficult independence from France, and from the Algerian civil war in the 1990s.
- **Lack of strategic focus on diaspora engagement:** Irregular migration from Sub-Saharan Africa from the 1990s onwards has turned Algeria into a country of transit for migrants seeking to reach Europe. The priority of the government has therefore been on migration and border management, rather than diaspora engagement.
- **Lack of fiscal incentives:** In comparison with other African states, diaspora remittances to Algeria make up only 1.1% of GDP, so there is not the same fiscal incentive for the government to prioritise mobilisation of diaspora financial capital. Government-led diaspora initiatives have arguably prioritised brain circulation over other forms of diaspora engagement.

SPOTLIGHT: Effective practices



Support for Diaspora Enterprise

The Programme d'Aide à la Création d'Entreprises Innovantes en Méditerranée (PACEIM), delivered in partnership with the European Investment Bank, ran from 2011-2014, and aimed to accompany and support the creation of 100 innovative businesses in the South and East of the Mediterranean.¹⁴ In addition, since 2017, young Algerian diasporans (18-35 years) have been eligible to apply for start-up credit for micro- and SMEs in Algeria at the National Youth Employment Support Agency.¹⁵ Incentives include access to unsecured loans; access to additional loans if necessary for triangular financing; and tax exemptions during business start-up and the first three years of operation.

<http://www.ansej.org.dz/index.php/fr/>

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

¹³ <https://www.pwc.fr/fr/assets/files/pdf/2019/02/pwc-the-report-algeria-2018.pdf>

¹⁴ <http://www.animaweb.org/en/paceim> ; see also: [https://www.ird.fr/toute-l-actualite/communiqués-et-dossiers-de-presse/cp-2012-programme-paceim-30-laureats-soutenus-pour-creer-leur-entreprise-au-sud-de-la-mediterranee/\(language\)/fre-FR](https://www.ird.fr/toute-l-actualite/communiqués-et-dossiers-de-presse/cp-2012-programme-paceim-30-laureats-soutenus-pour-creer-leur-entreprise-au-sud-de-la-mediterranee/(language)/fre-FR)

¹⁵ http://www.algerian-consulate.org.uk/images/COMMUNIQUE_AUX_JEUNES_DE_LA_COMMUNAUTE_NATIONALE_A_LETRANGER_.pdf



EDUCATION + NETWORKING

Summer Universities for Algerians Abroad

Algerian diplomatic missions have organised a number of events targeting Algerian diaspora professionals in Europe, the US and Canada, and regularly hold 'summer university' courses and events in Algeria involving guest lecturers and experts from the Algerian diaspora.¹⁶ The aim of the scheme is to promote skills transfer and build the connections of young Algerians in the diaspora with their country of origin.

HOUSING

Affordable Housing in Algeria for the Algerian community established abroad

The Algerian Ministry of Habitation, Urbanism, and Towns established the 'Logements publics promotionnels' (LPP) affordable housing scheme in 2014 to support young Algerians with means to acquire affordable property and get on the property ladder. Successful applicants pay a monthly subscription.

The LPP scheme is also open to Algerian diaspora youth (35 or under) who own no property and who have received no additional state aid; the criteria for minimum salaries has been waived for Algerians abroad.

<http://www.mhuv.gov.dz/Pages/Article.aspx?a=74>

<http://www.enpi.dz/>

<http://www.aps.dz/en/algeria/27281-algerian-community-abroad-gets-access-to-housing-programme-in-2018>

ENTREPRENEURSHIP + WOMEN

Support for Rural Women Entrepreneurs in Algeria

The Association Migration Solidarité et Échanges pour le Développement (AMSED) works to improve the economic situation of women in rural communities in Tizi-Ouzou in the Kabylie region of Algeria through diaspora skills transfer to develop agricultural and apiculture skills, and provide them with the tools required to develop and maintain their livelihoods. It encourages ecological projects, in particular recycling of clothing and beekeeping, in order to preserve the environment.

<https://www.amsed.fr/codeveloppement/>

¹⁶ <http://www.konsulat-algerien.de/Competences%20Nationales%20etranger.htm>

Annex:

List of Actors

Diaspora related institutions



- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) www.au-cido.int

Algeria is a member of the African Union and nominates a diaspora focal point to represent Algeria as part of the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO) Continental Meetings.

Arab League <http://www.leagueofarabstates.net/ar/Pages/default.aspx>

Algeria is also a member of the Arab League, the Arab-Maghreb Union, and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States.

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) http://www.mae.gov.dz/default_en.aspx

The MFA oversees Algeria's foreign relations, and its relations with the Algerian diaspora. Developing links with the Algerian diaspora has been a concern for the Algerian government for decades, and several government bodies have been created to respond to this, including the Delegate Ministry in Charge of the National Community Established Abroad established in 2009 and dissolved in 2019.

Secretary of State for the National Community and National Skills Abroad

This position has responsibility for diaspora engagement and diaspora skills transfer. The role was created in the Cabinet Office in 2020.¹⁷

- At sub-ministerial level

Consultative Council for the National Community Abroad

The Consultative Council for the National Community Abroad was set up in 2010 and works to “establish bridges between Algerians and create a sustainable partnership between Algerian competences inside and outside the country.”¹⁸ The Consultative Council is responsible for the permanent improvement of services for nationals abroad, particularly in the context of consular protection, but also for promoting the participation of national expertise established abroad in Algeria's development in scientific, economic and other fields.¹⁹

¹⁷ <https://emb-algeria.org/about-algeria/>

¹⁸ <https://amb-algerie.fr/la-fonction-coordination-consulaire/> ; <https://amb-algerie.fr/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/ccne.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://www.djazairress.com/fr/lemaghreb/22601>

Diaspora organisations in Europe



A.I.D.A - Association Internationale de la Diaspora Algérienne France
<https://www.facebook.com/AlgerianInternationalDiasporaAssociation/>

Development activities

AIDA works to connect Algerian diaspora associations and diaspora professionals worldwide for networking, training, and employment opportunities.

AMSED (Association Migration Solidarité et Echanges pour le Développement) France
<https://www.amsed.fr/codeveloppement/>

Development activities

AMSED delivers co-development and overseas volunteering opportunities for people in France and Algeria.

Association des Anciens Appelés d'Algérie et leurs Amis Contre la Guerre (A4CG) France <http://www.4acg.org/>

Development activities

A4CG is a secular Algerian diaspora association, independent of any political, philosophical or religious institution. It carries out co-development projects in France and Algeria, including local development, women's empowerment, and education programmes.

Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations France www.forim.net

Development activities

FORIM is a leading African diaspora network based in France. Although not primarily an Algerian diaspora group, its members include many Algerian organisations in France, and they have funded and co-delivered a range of educational, entrepreneurship, WASH, and other development projects in Algeria over the last decade.

Touiza Solidarité France 2012 <http://www.touiza-solidarite.org/?lang=fr>

Development activities

The Touiza Solidarité network is made up of the Touiza Solidarité association in Marseille and Touiza Solidarité Ile-de-France in Paris. The network serves France's Algerian and Moroccan diaspora communities and carry out co-development projects in Algeria, Morocco, and France.

Its projects in Algeria include a solidarity fund; community development projects in the Wilaya of Tizi-Ouzou; and the CODESOL project²⁰, supporting rural artisan skills through training young people and connecting craftsmen and women to local markets.

20 <http://new.cofundy.com/projects/a9b410d8-e819-419f-82c8-0999ff93e7ba/codesol-artisanat-kabyle>

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