



Diaspora engagement mapping

GUINEA

Facts & figures

Terminology: Guinea refers to its diaspora as 'Guineans abroad' ('Guinéens de l'étranger' or 'Guinéens de l'extérieur').

Political rights



Dual citizenship¹



Right to vote in national elections for citizens residing abroad²



Remittances



Remittances as a share of GDP: **2.46%**
Remittances inflow (USD million): **616.42**

Voting from abroad³:

At voting offices ('bureaux de vote')



Data disclaimer

As diaspora definitions vary widely, we have chosen to use comparable data on emigration as a proxy. This does not include all who consider themselves diaspora and is not necessarily aligned with national definitions of diaspora. Emigration data comes from [UNDESA \(2024\)](#) and remittances from the [World Bank \(2024\)](#).

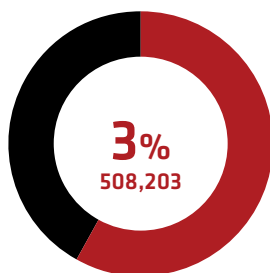
Emigration



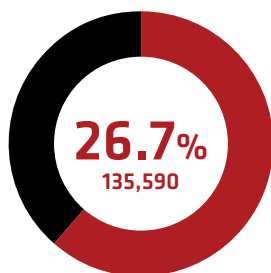
% of emigrants in total population



% of which in the EU



♂ 58.2%
♀ 41.8%



♂ 61.4%
♀ 38.6%

Top countries of destination



Côte d'Ivoire	111,634
France	92,446
Senegal	54,779
Gambia	49,508
Mali	47,098

1 *Code Civil de la République de Guinée*. 2019. Conakry: Assemblée Nationale de Guinée. <https://coursupreme.org.gn/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Code-civil-de-20192334.pdf>.

2 Ambassade de France à Conakry. 2013. "La France Finance Le Vote Des Guinéens De L'Étranger". <https://gn.ambafrance.org/La-France-finance-le-vote-des>.

3 International Organization for Migration. 2018. "Atelier Thématique". <https://www.facebook.com/OIMGuinee/posts/2198518580381593/>.

4 Key informant interview, International Organization for Migration (Guinea), 22 June 2020.

Overview of the policy and legislative framework



- 2011** ● **The Five-Year Socioeconomic Development Plan⁵** contains several references to the diaspora. The diaspora is considered an ‘asset’ in the plan’s ‘assets and opportunities’ analysis. The plan foresees mobilising the diaspora to promote literacy and education, and investment in manufacturing. Furthermore the Plan of Priority Actions for 2011 mentions the preparation of a forum for Guineans abroad and the establishment of the High Council of Guineans Abroad (HCGE).
- 2017** ● **The National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES) 2016-2020⁶** underlines the lack of mechanisms that encourage the transfer of diaspora resources. The PNDES also recognises the diaspora as one of the main funders of local development, especially with respect to basic community services and informal income-generating activities. The PNDES foresees the establishment of a diaspora resource mobilisation arrangement to channel remittances towards productive investments and notes the intention to develop a policy to manage Guineans abroad.
- 2017** ● **The Process for establishing a High Council of Guineans Abroad (HCGE)** was started by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Guineans Abroad.⁷ It foresees the development of the HCGE into a quasi-governmental federative association.⁸ The HCGE is intended to represent the diaspora as a whole, bringing together national councils of Guineans abroad and serving as a conduit for government engagement.⁹ The HCGE was inaugurated at the Diaspora Forum in 2018.¹⁰
- 2020** ● Guinea has drafted and approved its New Migration Policy, which includes a diaspora engagement policy. The aim of the policy is to enable a comprehensive framework for border management and governance of free movement, manage forced migration and unaccompanied minors, and promote regular labour migration for socio-economic development of Guinea and its inhabitants. Axis 5 mentions the need to make the Guinean diaspora a level of development for the country. However, following the September 2021 coup d’état, the policy has been paused with no certain information on when it will come into force.¹¹
- 2021** ● **Vision 2040 for a Prosperous and Emerging Guinea.** Defines the major strategic orientations for long-term development and initiate a process of dialogue to explore the possible futures of the county by considering the contribution of all components of society. One of the means envisaged is to strengthen the participation of the diaspora in the development process.¹²
- 2023** ● The **Diaspora Policy Framework in Guinea** is a policy designed to mobilise the skills, resources and talents of the Guinean diaspora to contribute to national development. The policy aims to do this primarily by facilitating diaspora investments in various sectors (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure, education), as well as engaging the diaspora in the development and implementation of policies through feedback and consultation mechanisms. It also intends to protect the rights and welfare of the diaspora, especially those who are vulnerable to exploitation and discrimination and to promote cultural and social ties with the homeland.¹³

5 Ministère du Plan. 2011. «Plan Quinquennal De Développement Socio-Économique (2011-2015)». Conakry: Ministère du Plan. <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/guinea/docs/publications/demgov/plan-quinquennal-developpement-socio-economique-2011-2015.pdf>.

6 Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération Internationale. 2016. «Plan National De Développement Économique Et Social 2016-2020». Conakry: Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération Internationale. <https://pnidesguinee.org/images/documents/pnides/PNDES%20Volume%201.pdf>.

7 Fafaya Diallo, Alpha. 2017. «Haut Conseil De Guinéens De L’Étranger : « Les Pays Où Il Y A Plus De Mille Guinéens, Il Faudra Mettre Un Conseil De 19 À 21 Membres »». *Guinée Matin*, 2017. <https://guineematin.com/2017/12/20/haut-conseil-de-guineens-de-letranger-pays-y-a-plus-de-mille-guineens-faudra-mettre-conseil-de-19-a-21-membres/#:~:text=Haut%20Conseil%20de%20Guin%C3%A9ens%20de%20l'%C3%A9tranger%20%3A%20%C2%AB%20les%20pays,des%20guin%C3%A9ens%20de%20l'%C3%A9tranger>.

8 Bhoïe Bah, Mamadou. 2017. «Diaspora Guinéenne: Vers La Mise En Place Du Haut Conseil Des Guinéens De L’Étranger?». *Echos De Guinée*, 2017. <https://www.echosdeguinee.net/diaspora-guineenne-vers-la-mise-en-place-du-haut-conseil-des-guineens-de-letranger/>.

9 «Présentation Du Conseil». 2020. *Cge-France.Org*. Accessed June 19. <https://www.cge-france.org/#:~:text=Pr%C3%A9sentation%20du%20conseil,de%20gestion%20de%20la%20diaspora>.

10 Baldé, Alpha Assia, and Saidou Hady Diallo. 2018. «Haut Conseil Des Guinéens De L’Étranger : Kouyaté Djémory D’Allemagne Élu Président», 2018. <https://guineematin.com/2018/01/25/haut-conseil-guineens-de-letranger-kouyate-djemory-dallemagne-elu-president/>.

11 <https://www.mignex.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/d053e-mbp-migration-relevant-policies-in-guinea-v1.pdf>

12 <https://www.resourcedata.org/dataset/rgi21-vision-2040-pour-une-guine-mergente-et-prospere/resource/4a74ca07-ab2a-49e4-9c39-14dd8ee7f585>

13 AFFORD. 2023. « Guide to doing business in Guinea. » <https://afford-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/EN-AFFORD-Guide-Final.pdf>.

2025

The **National Strategy for Labour Migration** was validated in 2025 by the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with development partners. The strategy highlights the importance of bilateral agreements for professional mobility, the portability of migrants' social rights and socio-economic reintegration of returning migrants.¹⁴

Practices

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SYNERGUI - Online business creation services

The government's Private Investment Promotion Agency (APIP) has established an online e-government platform – SYNERGUI – allowing Guineans, including the diaspora, to access businesses creation processes online.¹⁵ In 2019, APIP announced that the Guinean Embassy in Belgium was able to use the platform to allow diaspora entrepreneurs to create businesses, noting that the service would soon be available in Guinean embassies in France, Germany and the United States.¹⁶

BIG Diaspora

In 2020, Coweb Digital Finance, a financial technology ('fintech') company in Guinea and the Islamic Bank of Guinea developed this digital platform to 'solve the problems' of the diaspora, including by enabling the opening of personal and business bank accounts in Guinean francs and euros, rapid bank transfers, creation of enterprises in Guinea, access to property investments, and the relocation of 'high-potential' Guineans abroad back to Guinea.

Diaspora Forum

In 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Guineans abroad, in partnership with APIP and the International Organization for Migration, held its first Diaspora Forum in Conakry. It brought together diaspora communities from around the world and saw high-level government engagement, with the Prime Minister among the keynote speakers.¹⁷ In 2023, following the establishment of the High Council of Guineans Abroad, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with IOM, organised another Diaspora Forum to further strengthen its strategic collaboration with the Guinean diaspora and commitment to mobilising the diaspora for the socio-economic development of Guinea.

Project to support mechanisms for mobilising the diaspora to make a sustainable contribution to Guinea's development (PAMMOD)

implemented by ENABEL, facilitates the contribution of the Guinean diaspora in Africa and Europe to Guinea's socio-economic development by implementing a framework to ease their participation in sharing their skills, providing support, fostering learning, and engaging in exchanges with local Guinean entrepreneurs.

14 <https://www.ilo.org/resource/article/national-strategy-labor-migration-guinea-decisive-step-protection-migrant>

15 «Système National D'enregistrement Des Entreprises En République De Guinée». 2020. *Synergui. Apipguinee.Com*. Accessed June 19. <http://synergui.apipguinee.com/>.

16 Agence de promotion des Investissements Privés. 2019. «Création D'Entreprise Individuelle Pour Les Guinéens Vivant À L'Étranger À Travers La Plateforme SYNERGUI». <https://apip.gov.gn/Actualite/39?fbclid=IwAR1vXDzT5jOp1pSXDx1PCOLGZCZZ0UHR-JKX2mKQFRjQ42dyY3mhYiqmSPU>.

17 France Alumni Guinée. 2018. «1er Forum De La Diaspora Guinéenne À Conakry».

Laval-Guinea Connect Forum 2025

The Forum took place in Laval in October 2025 with the aim of providing a platform for exchange among the Guinean diaspora, as well as showcasing their contributions and recognising them as key players in national development. During the forum, the French Ambassador to Guinea reiterated the government's commitment to supporting diaspora initiatives through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' one-stop shop and the Investment Promotion Agency.

Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN)

The TOKTEN project connects highly qualified Guinean professionals – both locally and from the diaspora – with Guinean public administration structures in order to channel their expertise and skills towards national development. The assignments are based on short-term contracts that include training, technical assistance, investment, cooperation and knowledge exchange.

Guinean diaspora website

The website (www.diasporaguinee.gov.gn) serves as a platform centralising all information useful to Guineans abroad, as well as providing greater visibility for the activities of both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the diaspora.

>> Observations

The “Observations” and “Obstacles” sections contain additional information on the context of diaspora engagement that does not fit directly into the other sections. They are based on a combination of literature review and comments from the authors. New information is incorporated during the annual updates. Readers are invited to verify the relevance of the information at the time of reading, as the context may have evolved.

Overall, Guinean authorities have developed relatively few policies or other initiatives to engage the diaspora. At the policy level, a National Migration Policy was endorsed in 2021¹⁸ and the government affirmed its commitment to engaging the diaspora for economic and social development, but it remains unclear if the policy has measures specifically for diaspora engagement. Despite some references to the diaspora in the current and previous national development plans¹⁹, there are no institutionalised mechanisms to facilitate their socio-economic involvement in Guinea.

Diaspora engagement initiatives have included forums organised by communities abroad and attended by high-level officials from government, as well as study visits.

18 IOM. 2023. “IOM Welcomes Guinea's First Ever Migration Governance Framework”. <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-welcomes-guineas-first-ever-migration-governance-framework>

19 International Centre for Migration Policy Development and the International Organization for Migration. 2020. “A Survey On Migration Policies In West Africa”. Vienna. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/survey_west_africa_en.pdf.

Obstacles



- **Institutional changes:** The minister responsible for diaspora affairs and the name of the department have changed several times over the years, which has arguably limited the government's ability to provide a true focal point to the diaspora and build long-term trust and relationships. Furthermore, the current Directorate General for Guineans Abroad has limited resources to develop its own initiatives.
- **Divergence of government and diaspora interests:** These divisions have contributed to the slow process of federating diaspora associations under the HCGE. For instance, in the Republic of the Congo, the diaspora and the local Guinean Consulate reportedly disagreed about the composition of the national-level Council of Guineans²⁰ – illustrative of disagreements between diaspora and the government that delayed the HCGE's establishment.
- **Political opposition among the diaspora:** While strong opposition from the Guinean diaspora dates back to the political exiles of the Sékou Touré era, in recent years diaspora communities have been vocal in opposing the current president's moves to change the constitution, as well as the violence that followed the March 2020 elections.²¹ Such opposition contributes to mistrust between the government and diaspora, constraining engagement opportunities.
- **Smaller size of higher-income diaspora:** Relative to other West African diasporas, Guineans abroad are more likely to reside in the sub-region, with no high-income countries making the top five countries of destination. As such, the investment potential of the diaspora may be perceived as less significant.

20 Fafaya Diallo, Alpha. 2017. «Haut Conseil De Guinéens De L'Étranger : « Les Pays Où Il Y A Plus De Mille Guinéens, Il Faudra Mettre Un Conseil De 19 À 21 Membres »». *Guinée Matin*, 2017. <https://guineematin.com/2017/12/20/haut-conseil-de-guineens-de-letranger-pays-y-a-plus-de-mille-guineens-faudra-mettre-conseil-de-19-a-21->

21 Faivre, Agnès. 2020. «Violences En Guinée : La Diaspora Réagit». *Le Point*, 2020. https://www.lepoint.fr/afrique/violences-en-guinee-la-diaspora-reagit-31-03-2020-2369435_3826.php.

Annex:

List of actors

Diaspora related institutions

- **At regional level**

African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AU CIDO)

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

- **National institutions**

- At ministerial level

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, African Integration and Guineans Abroad

The MAEGE is responsible for diaspora engagement at the policy level. The MAEGE's diaspora responsibilities come under the Directorate General of Guineans Abroad (DGGE). The High Council of Guineans Abroad was also established under the authority of the MAEGE and the MAEGE hosts the Guinean diaspora website.

2017 The Commission on Foreign Affairs and Guineans Abroad

It is directly linked to the National Assembly. Its missions include bilateral and multilateral relations, including relations with the African Union and ECOWAS, but also the protection of Guineans abroad and diplomatic cooperation.²²

2021 the High Council of Guineans Abroad (HCGE)

It is a body for consultation, dialogue, advice and monitoring of the implementation of government policy on the management of the diaspora.²³

- At sub-ministerial level

Private Investment Promotion Agency (APIP)

Established under the tutelage of the Presidency, APIP promotes private investment and implements the government's investment policy. Aside from developing the SYNERGUI initiative to simplify business creation formalities, APIP has also directly marketed investment opportunities to the Guinean diaspora (notably through investment open days 'Journée Porte Ouverte' in several countries).²⁴ Moreover, APIP has a diaspora support service to provide advice, information and administrative support to Guineans abroad investing in Guinea.²⁵

22 <https://www.assemblee.gov.gn/commission-des-affaires-etrangees-et-des-guineens-de-lexterieur>

23 <https://www.africaguinee.com/articles/2021/05/04/diaspora-guineenne-creation-du-haut-conseil-des-guineens-de-l-etranger>

24 Ministère en charge des investissements et des partenariats publics privés. 2017. «APIP-Guinée À La Rencontre De La Diaspora Guinéenne De France». <https://www.invest.gov.gn/article/apip-guinee-a-la-rencontre-de-la-diaspora-guineenne-de-france#>.

25 «Guinéens Vivant À L'étranger». 2020. Apip.Gov.Gn. Accessed June 19. <https://apip.gov.gn/Guin%C3%A9ens-vivant-a-l-%C3%A-9tranger>.

Diaspora organisations in Europe

Read more about diaspora organisations in "[Starting guide: What is a diaspora organisation](#)"



The Guinean government has attempted to restructure and federate Guinean diaspora associations in recent years into national-level Councils of Guineans which in turn participate in the HCGE. Several Councils of Guineans have been set up, notably in France (the largest), Germany and the UK. A number of other associations have also been set up by the diaspora, particularly in France which hosts associations with diverse objectives and memberships.

Association des cadres et techniciens d'origine guinéenne en France (ACTOG) France 1986

Development activities

ACTOG mobilises diaspora teachers, health professionals, legal professionals, agronomists, veterinarians, engineers and other technical professionals to support projects in Guinea. ACTOG's activities have been supported in the past by the TOKTEN programme, universities in France and other NGOs.

Association des jeunes Guinéens de France (AJGF) France 1997

Development activities

Integration activities

The AJGF aims to strengthen mutual support among young Guineans in France, connect young Guineans in France and Guinea, stimulate diaspora interest in Guinea, and establish partnerships with enterprises to facilitate professional opportunities for young Guineans.

Association des Ressortissants Guinéens et Sympathisants du Canton de Vaud Switzerland

Integration activities

The association brings together Guineans residing in the canton of Vaud through cultural, sporting and social activities.²⁶

Cercle des Etudiants Guinéens en Belgique (CEG-B) Belgium

Integration activities

The CEG-B aims to strengthen solidarity and mutual support among Guinean students in Belgium.

Conseil des Guinéens d'Allemagne Germany 2017

Development activities

Integration activities

Working closely with the Guinean Embassy, the Guinean Council in Germany aims to promote coordination of diaspora activities, interface between the Guinean community in Germany and the Guinean government, and support the engagement of the diaspora in Guinea's development.

²⁶ «Association Des Ressortissants Guinéens Et Sympathisants Du Canton De Vaud». 2020. *Site Officiel De La Ville De Lausanne*. Accessed June 19. <https://www.lausanne.ch/lausanne/vie-pratique/integration/associations-et-migration/associations-de-migrants/association-guineens.html>.

Conseil des Guinéens de France France

- ☑ **Development activities**
- ☑ **Integration activities**

The Council of Guineans in France, a member of the HCGE, brings together France-based diaspora associations to serve as a platform for consultation, provide advice to the government, and act as a monitoring mechanism for the Guinean government's diaspora engagement. It aims to advocate for the diaspora in France and engage the diaspora in the development of Guinea.

Coordination des Associations Guinéennes de France (CAGF) France

- ☑ **Development activities**

CAGF brings together several Guinean associations in France. It also provides several services, including supporting associational projects in the framework of the Agence Française de Développement's Support Programme to Immigrant International Solidarity Organisations' Projects (PRA/OSIM). It serves as a liaison for its member associations, builds capacities of member associations, and advocates for the Guinean diaspora in France.

Fédération des Associations Guinéennes des Hauts-de-France (FAG-HDF) France 2018

- ☑ **Development activities**

FAG-HDF aims to bring together different competencies to develop projects together.

Haut Conseil des Guinéens au UK UK

- ☑ **Development activities**
- ☑ **Integration activities**

The Guinean Council in the UK is an elected bureau set up to liaise between the Guinean government and Guineans living in the UK.

Solidarité Suisse-Guinée Switzerland 2011

- ☑ **Development activities**

Solidarité Suisse-Guinée is an association composed of Swiss and Guinean supporters who share mutual support, sustainable development and knowledge sharing as common values. The association aims to fight poverty, promote sustainable development, and strengthen democracy and human rights in Guinea.

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