






Equipping Saint Lucia with tools and capacities to map its diaspora's skills through a pilot exercise in the UK

ACTION BASICS

Beneficiary institution	 <p>The Diaspora Affairs Office, established within the Ministry of External Affairs, International Trade, Civil Aviation and Diaspora Affairs of Saint Lucia, aims to deepen the knowledge of this diaspora in terms of demographic characteristics, skills and degree of attachment to Saint Lucia for evidence based policy making and programming purposes.</p>
Diaspora professionals	<p>One professional from the Saint Lucian diaspora – based in the UK– will be recruited for the Action: Mandy Preville-Findlay, co-founder of Beyond Iyanola, has extensive diaspora engagement and sustainable development experience involving the diaspora in the development of Saint Lucia.</p>
Duration	<p>6 months</p>
Sustainable Development Goals	 

MAIN FEATURES

Context & needs	<p>The Government of Saint Lucia ratified its Diaspora Policy in 2015. The policy sets out the Government of Saint Lucia’s trajectory for harnessing the competences of citizens resident abroad for home country development. It seeks to focus on economic growth, poverty reduction, good governance, capacity building, and policy development that will benefit all. The Diaspora Policy states that “engagement with the Diaspora must be constantly re-evaluated so that the type of engagement policy can shift as the country evolves.” This is in line with the focus on evidence-based decision making required by the Prime Minister from all government departments.</p> <p>The Diaspora Affairs Office sought technical assistance to deepen its knowledge of the diaspora in terms of demographic characteristics, skills and degree of attachment to Saint Lucia for evidence based policy making and programming purposes. Data are currently scarce and a dedicated study has never been conducted. Therefore, capacity development on data collection and analysis, as well as on how to communicate about such exercises was needed by all main parties to be involved in mapping the diaspora i.e. staff from the Diaspora Affairs Office, the High Commission for Saint Lucia in London and the diaspora itself. Enhancing capacities on diaspora mapping methods can enable replication of the exercise, such as in the USA, as the first destination country of Saint Lucian nationals.</p>
Objectives	<p>General objective The Action aims to mobilise a diaspora professional to equip the Diaspora Affairs Office with the tools and knowledge needed to profile the technical, intellectual and financial skills of the Saint Lucian diaspora.</p> <p>Specific objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train the relevant national authorities and diaspora members to be able to replicate the mapping methodology in the long run • Pilot the methodology to ascertain the main features of the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK in terms of skills, competences and degree of attachment • Develop a skills profile of the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK and disseminate the results



ACTION PLAN

DP4D Priority sectors



Digitalisation



Education



Entrepreneurship



Environment



Health

Types of diaspora expertise



Conduct of assessments, research and/or evaluations

- **Needs assessment workshop** to identify the capacity of the Diaspora Affairs Office to collect and analyse data



Organisation of knowledge transfer events

- **Training sessions on data collection, research methods, communication tools and data analysis** for staff from the Diaspora Affairs Office, staff from the High Commission for Saint Lucia in London and diaspora members based in the UK



Development of strategic documents and/or training tools

- **Adaptation of the tools of the standard methodology to the Saint Lucian context** for mapping the skills of the diaspora, including the survey questions and communication materials.
- **Piloting of the methodology** with the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK



Visibility and communication activities

- **Cross-cutting communication activities** with Saint Lucian diaspora organisations and networks in the UK about the action in order to ensure their participation
- **Dissemination event** to be held in Saint Lucia with all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to promote the results for actionable follow-up.



Facilitation of networking and partnerships

Outputs

- **Needs assessment report** outlining the competencies to be developed with the Diaspora Affairs Office
- **An adapted survey** to profile the skills of the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK, and later other countries of residence
- **Communication material** to support the sharing of information related to the action
- **Final report presenting the results** of the mapping of skills of the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK

Expected results

- **Increased knowledge and know-how in data collection and analysis** in relation to mapping diaspora skills
- **Profile of skills** of the Saint Lucian diaspora in the UK
- **Improved peer learning** through the collaboration with a Saint Lucian diaspora expert

Find out more at www.diasporafordevelopment.eu

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