



By the Numbers

244 million

Estimated number of international migrants worldwide in 2015 (up 41% since 2000)

#1

The U.S. is home to the largest number of international migrants

\$432 billion

Amount of officially recorded remittances sent to developing countries in 2015; Global remittances recorded at \$582 billion

\$56 billion

Amount of recorded remittances sent from the U.S. in 2014

THE OPPORTUNITY

Over the last 45 years, the number of people worldwide living outside their country of origin has almost tripled to over 230 million. The United States has the largest number of diaspora members of any country in the world. Indeed, virtually all Americans have immigrant roots—and these roots are a quintessential part of our national narrative. As informal ambassadors for the U.S. in their countries of heritage, the diplomatic and developmental influence of global diaspora communities has been largely overlooked.

INTERNATIONAL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT ALLIANCE

The Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships at the U.S. Department of State in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) in May 2011. IdEA harnesses the resources of diaspora communities to promote sustainable development and diplomacy in their countries of heritage. By supporting programs around entrepreneurship and investment, volunteerism, philanthropy, and innovation, IdEA provides a platform to leverage diaspora resources and collaborate across sectors. In late 2013, Calvert Foundation became the managing partner of IdEA, bringing a unique perspective through its impact investing expertise.

THE PILLARS

IdEA focuses on four key areas of diaspora engagement:

- Investment & Entrepreneurship
- Philanthropy
- Volunteerism
- Innovation

IdEA collaborates with diaspora communities, the private sector, civil society, and public institutions to:

- Convene Partners
- Mobilize Resources
- Develop Capacity
- Implement Projects

CURRENT INITIATIVES

- **Diaspora Map:** The Diaspora map activates IdEA’s membership database by visually representing organizations working on diaspora issues around the world. As a platform to enable collaboration, the map brings IdEA’s mission to life by allowing users to search and sort by diaspora, activities and opportunities. The map provides a central space for diasporas seeking to give back to find organizations that are working in their sector or country of interest. map.diasporaalliance.org
- **Global Diaspora Week (GDW):** GDW—October 11 – 17, 2015—was a week dedicated to diaspora communities and their contributions to global development. GDW created awareness, enabled collaboration and enhanced learning amongst those working with diaspora communities in different locations around the world. In 2015, we had over 90 events hosted in more than 20 countries diasporaalliance.org/global-diaspora-week-2015/.
- **MicroMentor:** MicroMentor connects business mentors with budding entrepreneurs around the world through a simple and accessible online platform available in English, Spanish, and French. Through IdEA’s e-mentoring group on MicroMentor, mentors and entrepreneurs can search for one another based on sector, geography, language, areas of expertise, and more. Through our group, diaspora members have access to a community thousands strong. micromentor.org/idea
- **Capacity Development Trainings:** IdEA hosts monthly capacity development trainings to support our members. Training topics are diverse and have included leadership training, mentorship and strategic planning. While some trainings are in-person, others are online to enable broad participation among our membership. diasporaalliance.org/capacity-building/
- **Diaspora Investment Initiatives:** Through IdEA’s managing partner Calvert Foundation, IdEA supports two diaspora investment initiatives. Focused on Latin America and India, these diaspora investment initiatives engage members of the diaspora as investors in their countries of heritage. calvertfoundation.org/india and calvertfoundation.org/raices
- **Fish 2.0:** IdEA joined forces with Fish 2.0, a sustainable seafood business competition, to bring a focus to the Pacific Islands (PI). IdEA’s support brought additional resources to PI entrepreneurs such as capacity building workshops in PI; an additional \$45,000 in capacity building funds for PI businesses at the finals; a focused call to PI diasporas to participate as investors and advisors to entrepreneurs, and more. fish20.org/

Connect with IdEA

Website:

diasporaalliance.org

Twitter:

[@DiasporaIdea](https://twitter.com/DiasporaIdea)

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/DiasporaIdEA

Direct Contact:

Sara Gallagher, Program Officer

Tel: 301.280.6051 Email: sara@diasporaalliance.org