

1. ADEPT (Africa Europe Diaspora Development Platform)

A leading diaspora development network operating across 28 EU MS and 54 African states

Category: Diaspora & migrants' role in job creation, enterprise, investment and public policy Sub-categories:

- **Diaspora and Migrants as Entrepreneurs and Investors**
 - **Diaspora and migrants' action on job creation and entrepreneurship - policy and practice**
- **Capacity building for all stakeholders:**
 - **Provision of support and capacity building to institutions, governments, and policy makers and other stakeholders**
 - **Technical support provided to diaspora and migrant entrepreneurs and investors**

Category: Beyond Xenophobia - Social Inclusion of Diaspora and Migrants

Paul Asquith

Like many African migrants, Dr Ahmed Bugre made the journey to Europe across the Mediterranean before settling in Malta. After informally supporting the country's migrants in relief work, the Ghanaian ended up running the Marsa centre. The Maltese authorities had effectively abandoned this migrant centre to its residents, many who had fled conflict in Eritrea and Somalia. On Dr. Bugre's first day on the job, he witnessed two murders at the centre, and was himself held hostage for several days.

Dr. Bugre overhauled the management of the centre; ten years later, it is a model of how to run a migrant reception centre. Residents are treated with respect and receive medical and other care. Dr Bugre places a lot of emphasis on skills training for residents, to improve their chances of finding work. So successful has Dr. Bugre's approach been, that the Maltese authorities have agreed to take over responsibility for running the centre again.

Dr Bugre runs a diaspora organisation, Foundation for the Safety of Migrants (FSM) Malta, and is an advisory council member of the Africa Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT), a network focused on African development issues and migration and development policy. ADEPT is led and implemented by diaspora groups based in the 28 EU countries, plus Norway and Switzerland, called African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOs). In 2015, ADEPT provided accredited professional training to 100 of these ADDOs in 15 European countries, with origins in 30 African countries, including Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mauritania, Sudan and Togo.

Awareness of diaspora development activities is low among the general public and 'traditional' development and humanitarian actors. The effectiveness and scale of diaspora development activities in Europe is linked to their ability to integrate in European countries of residence. Dr. Bugre was one of the few representatives at the 2015 EU-Africa Valletta Summit on Migration, which enabled diaspora input into high-level policy fora in Europe and in Africa, and engaged governments and the EU.

Since 2014, ADEPT has worked with five ADDO partners and three mainstream partners to deliver Diaspora Development Forums in Denmark, Malta and Austria on topics as varied as enhancing the diaspora role in job creation in Africa, to actions to prevent irregular and dysfunctional migration.

ADEPT has further facilitated diaspora engagement with over 200 senior officials, policymakers and diplomats from European and African governments, civil society organisations, international

agencies and development institutions. We represented on the High Level Panel on Migration during the 2015 European Development Days.

It has also contributed to policy advocacy for the Financing for Development and Sustainable Development Goals global agreements, and hosted a side event during the Government Days of the 2015 Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD), facilitating five ADDOs to participate in GFMD for the first time.

<http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/may/03/malta-migration-crisis-doctor-artist-engineer-blogger-human-stories->