
**Terms of Reference MADE Thematic Working Group –
Diaspora and migrants in development**

July 2015 – October 2016

1. General information on this document

The purpose of these Terms of Reference (ToR) is to provide Diaspora and Migrants in Development (DMD) Working Group (WG) members with a reference document, outlining the objectives, activities and working methods of DMD. It will also provide information about how DMD is regulated, how to participate and the monitoring of DMD's activities and outcomes. The African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), DMD's coordinator, has prepared a first draft of the ToR, which will serve as a basis for discussion with members, following discussions with ICMC. This TOR was finalized following discussions with MADE coordinators and with DMD WG members.

2. Background to the DMD Working Group

According to IOM, 232 million migrants and diaspora globally impact an average 4.5 people in their countries of heritage, mainly through remittances. With an increase in migrant numbers due to economic, environmental or political reasons, civil society advocacy is critical for policies and practices that not only ensure the well-being and human dignity of diaspora and migrants, but also facilitate and enhance their contributions to the development of their countries of origin and residence. The need to consistently and collectively step-up civil society's global advocacy efforts and cooperation with governments prompted the establishment of Migration and Development (MADE) Civil Society Network.

Through regional networks, thematic working groups, online exchange and local follow up, MADE aims to increase the collective capacity of civil society to engage constructively with governments in the context of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), and other emerging platforms (including regional ones) that are key for advocacy. MADE regional networks are made up of MADE-Africa, MADE-Asia and MADE-Americas. On thematic topics, MADE focuses on the issues of (a) fair, realistic and efficient labour migration policies, (b) advancing diaspora as entrepreneurs, social investors, policy advocates and partners in development in countries of origin and residence (coordinated by AFFORD) and (c) rights based global governance of migration and development for the benefit of all migrants, families and societies.

As the DMD Working Group co-ordinator, AFFORD will facilitate civil society discussions and advocacy on the engagement of diaspora and migrants as entrepreneurs, social investors, policy advocates and partners in human development in countries of origin, heritage and destination.

A UK-based charity, AFFORD, is a pioneer and innovator in the field of diaspora development, policy and practice, with a mission 'to expand and enhance the contributions that Africans in the diaspora make to Africa's development'.

3. Scope, mandate and objectives of the DMD Working Group

3.1 Scope and strategic priorities

Scope

Diaspora and migrants are huge financial, intellectual, social, political and cultural resources to their countries of origin and heritage. This is often in the form of remittances, direct investments, small scale social projects, knowledge transfer, as well as supporting education, health and day to day living. Despite these significant contributions, recognition for and understanding of diaspora and migrants' ability to impact socio-economic development in countries of origin is still lacking. Additionally, the overall perception of 'migrants' and the use of the terminology are often negative in countries of residence but often also in countries of origin, albeit for different reasons. Migrants in general are often blamed for things that go 'wrong', especially in countries of residence. As a result, institutional support that recognises diaspora contributions and potential is sorely lacking, limiting support for programmes and projects that enhance diaspora and migrants contribution to both countries of origin and countries of residence.

Strategic priorities

The overall strategic priorities are to:

Improve perception, by promoting and enhancing the role of diaspora and migrants as entrepreneurs, social investors, policy advocates and significant development actors, who make a huge impact on the economy in countries of origin and countries of residence; and increase recognition by policymakers of diaspora and migrants' contribution to development

These are guided by past recommendations of previous GFMDs, especially the priorities identified for 2015 to 2016, using point 2 of the 5-year 8-point plan as a starting point.

3.1.1 Specific objectives and expected outcomes

Objective

- Promote and enhance the role of diaspora and migrants as entrepreneurs, social investors, policy advocates and significant actors in development by:
- Providing a platform to communicate, learn and share best practices, as well as developing effective advocacy strategies
- Establishing a strong, effective and vibrant working group;
- Providing positive exposure for diaspora and migrants for development by showcasing best practices and developing evidence based research that lead to policy recommendations.
- Encouraging new partnerships between diaspora and migrants rights, third sector, private sector and public sector.
- Developing policy recommendations and organising outreach and engagement with governments, international organisations and relevant policy makers.

Expected outcomes

- Global financial support for diaspora and migrant SMEs in countries of heritage
- Recognition in post-2015 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) of diaspora and migrants as entrepreneurs, social investors, policy advocates and significant actors in development.
- Strengthened and articulate civil society engaging on diaspora and migrants as entrepreneurs and significant actors in development.
- Effective communication mechanism that enables working group members to jointly strategize and advocate for policy change.
- Policy makers proactively reaching out to diaspora and migrants civil society to inform their work.

4. Main activities of the DMD Working Group

- Contribute to and guide the drafting of the WG's TOR including its advocacy strategy.
- Monitoring and sharing information on relevant local, national and global policies, issues and developments
- Outreach and advocacy to governments and international organizations for recognition of diaspora and migrants as change agents impacting on socio-economic development in countries of origin;

- Contributing to building a civil society thematic database;
- Contributing to, and disseminating reports to diaspora and migrants, civil society and policy makers
- Contribute to identification and mapping of good/best practices
- Representation at GFMD.
- Provide guidance to policy report / brief, including parallel event at GFMD.
- Contribute to design of priority survey which will help bring some consensus on advocacy strategy and areas to focus on.

5. Roles, responsibilities within the DMD Working Group

AFFORD will lead the DMD Working Group and coordinate the working group activities and communications. AFFORD will identify a core group made out of a few members to help guide the thematic working group along, and ensure wider ownership within civil society. While discussions and activities will be held via on-line meetings and open to all members, core group members will be expected to input into the agenda for the on-line meetings and to guide the direction of the working group. This will involve more regular communication with core members. Other roles / structures will be discussed and, if necessary, assigned based upon discussions with the potential core working group members.

6. Membership

Membership of the working group is open to:

- All interested parties, organisations and individuals who have knowledge, experience and expertise in the area of Migrants and Diaspora in Development and subscribe to the aim and objectives of the working group.

The following parties are especially encouraged to become a member of the working group:

- Diaspora and migrants organisations that facilitate or stimulate economic development, as well as initiate and implement activities and projects in their country of origin.
- Diaspora organizations / migrants for development who work on a long term basis with at least one local partner organization in the country of origin;
- Diaspora and migrants organisations with relevant capacity, communication channels, know-how and means to implement activities in both countries of origin and residence;
- Diaspora and migrants organisations who have a broad network, and capable of engaging a range of actors, including government / government institutions, civil society and private sector and other third sector;

- Diaspora and migrants organisations with expertise in research, developing policy recommendations, disseminating knowledge, and influencing and engaging policy makers.
- Diaspora and Migrants social enterprises and other social enterprise / private sector bodies that have interests in, or have similar goals to the DMD WG.
- Other organisations or networks that are not only empathetic to the objectives of the working group, but also have relevant expertise in the areas of entrepreneurship, or have access to a network of relevant policy makers.

7. Working Modalities

The agreed workplan within the MADE programme will be the framework for the working group. Internal communications will take place via frequent emails and on-line platforms. It is estimated that there will be one online meeting a month. Activities to be carried out in-between the online meetings will be discussed and drawn up and member organisations will fulfill tasks and responsibilities according to what is agreed. Core group members will play an advisory role for the working group, while as the lead and coordinator, AFFORD will be responsible for making informed decisions on behalf of the working group.

8. Communication, advocacy and outreach

External communications will be linked to ICMC/MADE communications - contributing to relevant websites, newsletters, press releases, etc. Reports and publications will also be disseminated through websites and social media, including those belonging to members of the working group. All communications will adhere to ICMC/MADE branding guidelines.

9. Synergies with other MADE activities and other relevant initiatives

Other MADE partners will be kept informed about the activities and development of the working group by disseminating relevant information through channels mentioned above. AFFORD will also utilise the google groups set up for regional networks and working group partners to ensure that everyone is kept up to date. Regional partners on the MADE programme will also be invited to have representation on the Working Group's core membership and will therefore be expected to provide the synergies between this working group and other activities led by regional partners. The working group will link up with other relevant civil society initiatives as guided by the programme and by activities.

10. Sustainability of the thematic working group

AFFORD is the secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Migration, Diaspora and Development (APPG – MDD). APPGs in the UK are informal cross-party groups that have no official status within Parliament. They are run by and for Members of the Commons and Lords, and therefore provide direct access to Members of Parliament and House of Lord Peers,

providing an opportunity for policy advocacy. Additionally this APPG covers all Diasporas providing a real opportunity to link up the work on MADE with opportunities for informing, engaging and influencing UK policymakers. We will look into synergies between the DMD Working Group and APPG activities – harnessing this for highlighting DMD advocacy issues. The DMD Working Group will be tasked to further discuss other sustainability options.

11. Monitoring and Evaluation of activities

Six monthly reports capturing the progress and key achievements of DMD will be provided to ICMC.

Updated December 2015

ANNEX: List of Members

Name	Organisation
Core members	Organisation
Bobvan Dillen	CORDAID
Efrain Jimenez	Federación Zacatecana
Estrella Mai Dizon Anonuevo	Atikha Overseas Workers and Communities Initiatives Inc
Joe Frans	Next Generation Africa
Mohammad Atiqun Nabi	International Network of Alternative Financial Institutions (INAFI)
Ndidi Njoku	Markets4Development Ltd
Robtel Pailey	Researcher
Yera Dembele	Federation des associations Franco-Africaines de developpement pour l'appui aux projets economiques (Fafrad - Economique)

Members	Organisation
Chibwe Henry	Diaspora for African Development (DfAD)
Cinthia Thomsen	African Chamber of Commerce Scandinavia
Gerd Junne	The Network University
Jeannette Kah Le Guil	Consortium of African Diasporas in the US (CADUS)
Kate Nkanza	Diaspora for African Development (DfAD)
Lukeki Kaindama	Diaspora for African Development (DfAD)
Marsha Jones	Regarth Group
Neneh Bojang	Inter African Committee
Professor Carl-Ulrik Schierup	REMESO Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society
Sara Gallagher	International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA)
Reiko Harima	Mekong Migration Network (MMN)



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