**Migrants as Actors of Development: Prospects for the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

This issue of the newsletter is a special edition dedicated to the theme of the emergence of the diaspora as development actor. In the article by Carola Ritzenhoff from the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM), a joint initiative of the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the German Federal Labour Agency, the author presents the highlights of the Diaspora and Development roundtable which was organized in Eschborn (Germany), on 27-28 June 2013.

The CIM, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) brought together a total of 70 invited diaspora organizations from Europe. The roundtable provided diaspora organizations with the opportunity to put forward their own ideas and proposals for the post-2015 development agenda that will replace the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The roundtable resulted in the formulation of recommendations.

Among the participants a spokesman was nominated (Karim Saafi) for submitting these requests to the informal meetings of Civil Society held on 13 and 14 July 2013 and to the interactive hearings organized by the United Nations on 15 July 2013 in New York.

The AEP Project Coordinator, Gibril Faal was also given the opportunity to voice his concerns and to provide food for thought with respect to the issues at stake for diaspora organizations in the global development framework.

In the article he contributed to this Newsletter, Gibril Faal focuses particularly on the importance of migrants’ remittances for sustainable development and as a continuous tool for self-help. In many poor countries, the volume of remittances is several times higher than official development assistance. This money provides an additional advantage in that it circulates and is used to benefit the local economy, as the funds are paid directly to households and families for their basic needs, small investment, education or health. With these funds, migrants contribute to the efficient and sustainable development of their countries and support their adaptation to the demands of globalization.

Onyekachi Wambu argues along similar lines. In his article, he explains why it is essential to mobilize the capacity and potential of the diaspora for the post-2015 agenda. The diaspora could be the key to or act as motor for stimulating participatory and sustainable development in Africa, It is time that the diaspora is recognized as a global partner for development.

Albert Suh-Njwi’s article has the merit of showing the contribution of the diaspora to changes, here, in light of political upheavals provoked by the Arab Spring. There is proof that the diaspora influences sociocultural aspects as well as the economic and political levels in favor of the development of origin countries.

Happy reading.

Arthur Yenga

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‘We are hot!’ – Migrants’ proposals for the post-2015 Development Agenda

"We are hot!" declared John K. Bingham, Head of Policy of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) – one of the leading civil society organisations working in the field of migration and development – to the audience at the Diaspora and Development Roundtable in Eschborn on 27-28 June 2013. His comment captured the mood among the 70 or so representatives from European migrant organisations attending the event. On both days of the conference, the creative tension among the migrants was palpable. At the request of the United Nations, they finally had the opportunity to put forward their own ideas and proposals for the post-2015 Development Agenda, which will replace the Millennium Development Goals.

This was the background to the conference, which was hosted by BMZ, the CIM Sector Project Migration and Development, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

MIGRATION IN THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Little consideration was given to migration issues and migrants’ views during the process to decide on the Millennium Development Goals in 2001. With the revision of the MDGs now firmly on the UN’s agenda, however, this is about to change. On the second day of the Roundtable conference, participants nominated Karim Saaifi from the Belgium-based African Diaspora Youth Network Europe to act as their spokesperson at an informal interactive hearing of NGOs hosted by the United Nations on 15 July.

His task was to present their recommendations at the hearing, whose outcomes will then feed into the United Nations’ second High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) in New York in October 2013.

MORE VISIBILITY = MORE PARTICIPATION

There was no shortage of ideas about migration and development during the discussions at the two-day conference, so the challenge was to set priorities. A comment made by Chukwu-Emeka Chikezie, Director of UP!-Africa Limited in the UK, resonated with all the participants: ‘We don’t have to speak with one voice, because our different ideas are an asset. But we have to be better organised in order to make ourselves heard. Very few people are aware of all that the diaspora has achieved through its commitment.’ And he summed up: ‘People can only involve us if they know about us and our strengths.’

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX CHALLENGES

Mindful of their shared goal to improve living conditions for people in their countries, the participants finally agreed a set of recommendations, which were summarised in the ‘Priority Issues & Recommendations for the 2013 UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development’. The document contains an eight-point, five-year action agenda, addressing topics such as Diaspora, Migration and Integration Policies for Development; Diaspora, Migration, Education and Labour Markets: Tackling Youth Unemployment; Migrant Women: on Equal Footing – Women in the Diaspora, and Diaspora Organisations in Development Cooperation.

* Carola Ritzenhoff, CIM (Centre for International Migration and Development).
Remittances could be as sustainable as international development finance

* By Gibril Faal, Chair of AFFORD

What shall we be wearing this summer when the G8 comes to town? When the UK last hosted the summit in 2005, we wore white. Everywhere I looked, I saw people wearing white. Those rubber wristbands declared our commitment to ‘make poverty history’. Since then, we’ve experienced a double dip recession, mounting redundancies and rising youth unemployment, bringing us closer to the degrading and painful effects of poverty.

For the 2013 G8 summit, the major UK NGOs have launched the IF campaign to end hunger. Perhaps post-recession, policy makers shall have greater empathy and understanding of the compounded problems faced by developing countries. As for migrants and diasporas, the awful stench of poverty and deprivation continues to occupy their senses as they manage their new lives. They strive daily to enrich families and communities in poor countries across the world. This is done without fuss or fanfare, by cleaners and clinicians, builders and bankers alike, making them the hidden heroes of international development.

In the UK, private international donations are estimated at £1bn, compared to formal remittances estimated at £2.5bn. According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), in 2011 Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries was $136bn, with $50bn going to Africa. In the same year, Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) to developing countries was $336bn, with Africa receiving $21bn. Private international donations from the UK are £1bn, compared to formal remittances estimated at £2.5bn.

In May, the Global Forum on Remittances (GFR) convened in Bangkok. Remarkably, there is still resistance from policymakers to provide remittances with the fiscal and regulatory advantages accorded to FDI, ODA or charitable donations. In 2006, I proposed a remittance tax relief and matching scheme to the UN – RemitAid – comparable to the UK’s Gift Aid. The Finance Ministers of the world’s poorest countries adopted a resolution on RemitAid, however the global economic crisis of 2008 prevented OECD governments from adopting the appropriate tax relief policies.

**REMITTANCES AS SUSTAINABLE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

Remittances are particularly important for sustainable development because the process is based on a continuous mode of self-help. In many poor countries, the volume of remittances is several times that of ODA and FDI, accounting for 10-15 per cent of the national income of many medium-sized developing nations.

The World Bank describes remittances as anti-cyclical, reflecting the fact that inflows are on a steady and growing pattern, with the tendency to increase further.
in times of both natural and man-made crises. Remittance inflows in poor countries are not countered by outflows in the form of interest, debt, dividend and expatriate payments.

Funds circulate more times in the recipient economy and are made directly to the households of ordinary citizens, thus improving the multiplier effect and increasing financial and civil empowerment. Studies have confirmed that remittances contribute to the relief of poverty and amelioration of human welfare in poor countries because the inflows are spent on food, shelter, education, health services, community projects and other activities in line with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In February Cass Business School published a report stating that households ‘remitting’ money overseas are more likely to make donations to per cent domestic UK charities: 42 per cent amongst remitters compared with 29 per cent of households in the general population.

**COMMUNITY TAX RELIEF SIMILAR TO GIFT AID FOR REMITTANCES**

Like any other method of investment, remittances need the attention of progressive public policies. RemitAid is a scheme which mitigates the current imperfections and optimises the developmental benefits of remittances. However, unlike other tax incentives such as Venture Capital Trust, Enterprise Investment Scheme and even Gift Aid, RemitAid would be a fully-fledged ‘community tax relief’, whereby the full tax rebate or match funding is collected and pooled together in a common fund – instead of it being paid directly to individual remitters.

This pooling of rebates or match funds eliminates motive, means and opportunity for abuse and creates resources substantial enough to fund effective and innovative development activities missed out by remittances, ODA and FDI. RemitAid will work in a simple way, helping to make development more effective and sustainable, fit for the demands of the 21st century.

* Gibril Faal is chairman of AFFORD which works to expand and enhance the role diasporans play in Africa’s development. He is the founder of RemitAid, board member of DFID’s Global Poverty Action Fund and director of GK Partners, a UK-based company specialising in socially responsible entrepreneurship and ethical finance.

This article was first published in the Independent newspaper (UK) on 15/06/13

**Post-2015: It’s Time to Harness Diaspora Power**

* By Onyekachi Wambu

Growth alone is not enough. The MDGs alone are not enough. Africa needs sustainable, inclusive development and in this, the diaspora could be key. In 2000, the UN established eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be achieved by 2015. These targets helped create a co-ordinated effort to reduce poverty across the globe, and impressive progress has been made in a number of areas.

But even if all of the eight goals and targets are met, many countries would still remain poor and underdeveloped. This is because the MDGs – as valuable as they may be – do not deal with the underlying reasons why people remain poor. Furthermore, they fail to take into account the ways in which the diaspora, who remit nearly half a trillion dollars to developing countries annually, can be harnessed to help facilitate the structural and economic transformation so crucial to sustainable development.

Nowhere are these trends more evident than in Africa. The World Bank reports that the continent is growing at an average of 5-6% annually, yet poverty levels
and unemployment remain high. Meanwhile, diaspora remittances are thought to significantly outweigh Western aid.

**FOLLOWING CHINA’S EXAMPLE**

As Yaw Ansu, Chief Economist at the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET), has pointed out, *growth alone is not enough*. That is why over 50 UK-based African diaspora organizations, under the Africa-UK umbrella, are pushing for a different focus for the post-2015 MDG architecture. These groups take the view that international development must not focus solely on poverty reduction in line with the MDGs, but also foster wealth, drive structural reform and create employment opportunities.

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**AFRICAN DIASPORA IS KEY**

In this drive towards inclusive economic and structural transformation, the African diaspora can have an important role to play.

Africa only has to look to the example set by countries such as China which has made one of the most impressive contributions in reducing poverty over the past 30 years but not through the MDGs. China used foreign investment and diaspora remittances to help accelerate a competitive industrial and agricultural policy, focussing on the development of infrastructure, education and skills. With the benefits of low labour costs and healthcare improvements, China was able to enjoy a dramatic economic take-off.

Whilst growth induced by commodity price rises, discoveries of natural resources or increases in foreign assistance can be significant, it is simply not sustainable without the infrastructure to support it. For Africa, this means relying less on aid and primary commodities, and more on industry, manufacturing, and knowledge-based services. It also means agriculture along with upgrading skills and technological capabilities to compete in the global marketplace.

**African Diaspora is key**

In this drive towards inclusive economic and structural transformation, the African diaspora can have an important role to play.

Take, for example, the diaspora-led social enterprise Sacoma UK which works in Kenya and Uganda to provide structural support to small-scale rural farmers. Through a combination of training, financial and technical services, this organization works closely with communities to help prepare produce for export to a UK market. This not only helps certain rural populations earn sustainable incomes but contributes to the development of African small-holder agriculture and helps increase investment in African agribusiness.

As well as being uniquely placed to foster these kinds of partnerships, members of the diaspora can also be critical in providing additional foreign direct investment along with educated and skilled manpower.

Africa’s mobile technology boom, for example, began in part thanks to the contributions of better-known members of the diaspora such as Mo Ibrahim, who founded the telecommunications company Celtel. The growth of this sector has helped connect businesses to each other as well as rural dwellers to those in the city, providing unprecedented access to information and financial systems. It has been singled out as one of the most important tools for facilitating economic and development activity in Africa since the turn of the century. Studies on the use of mobile money services such as M-PESA, for example, suggest that rural Kenyan households using the technology have seen a rise in their incomes of 5-30%.

It is only through these kinds of transformations that Africa will be able to create enough productive jobs and impart the right skills for a modern economy, improving people’s living standards in economically balanced societies. And that calls for looking beyond short-term growth and taking a long-term perspective in setting an agenda for a sustainable economic future, something in which the diaspora can be central.

A Diaspora Ministerial Conference held in Geneva on 18 June urged the High Level Panel of Eminent
Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda to include global diaspora alongside national governments in ‘Forging a New Global Partnership’. If Africa is to see genuine and inclusive growth, a post-2015 framework will need to incorporate these critical enablers of structural transformation as well as harness the resources of the diaspora, who must now be recognised as a global partner for development.

This article was first published in Think Africa Press (www.thinkafricapress.com) on 26/07/13

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Role of the diaspora in post-Arab Spring Reconstruction

* By Albert Che Suh-Njwi

An Austrian statesman, Prince Klemens Wenzel von Metternich, once remarked: ‘When France sneezes, Europe catches the cold’, referring to the 1848 revolutions which started in France and spread to other European states. This can also aptly explain the revolution that ignited in Tunisia later in 2010 and spread like wild fire across the Arab world. In the spring of 2012, from North Africa to the Middle East, governments were either been overthrown or pushed to jump from power in four countries: Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen.

Pro-democratic reforms were ushered in Jordan and Kuwait as shifting tendencies towards better governance, while events in neighbouring countries and early signs of the flu in their respective countries pressured rulers in Sudan and Iraq to quit things before things quit them by publicly denouncing their intentions to seek re-election when their terms expired. Only Syria proved to be weathering the storm, but for how long? It is anyone’s guess as the country is now in total turmoil and undergoing auto destruction. These events singly or collectively culminated to what contemporary pundits in the social media refer to as the ‘Arab Spring Revolution’.

One can safely state that the first phase of the Arab Spring is only an affaire accompli; it is just the battle won and not the war. As the Arab Revolution strongly suggests, holding elections without first guaranteeing individual and minority rights could lead to the rise of illiberal democracy and the tyranny of the majority, as unfolding event demonstrate in the second Egyptian revolution.

This argument is pivoted on the premise that pulling down regimes and holding free and fair democratic elections are per se not enough, but such should be accompanied by a well-grounded constitution in which all attributes of libertarian democracy are enshrined. In other words, free and fair elections form an integral part of the revolution.

It would therefore be erroneous to hastily conclude that the North African Arab Spring is the end of the game. It should constitute the second phase, which requires the laying down of state institutions in conformity with Montesquieu’s trias politica, or division of powers, between the Legislature, Judiciary
and Executive. The consolidation of these also forms an integral part of this phase where laws are put in to the test; how they are enacted, modified or eradicated over time. The overall achievements can only be measured in terms of the impact this will have on posterity and through indicators such as freedoms (speech, religion, association, owner of property, and choice), rights of the minority, women’s equality, equal access to opportunities and national wealth, and the rule of law. The on-going organized chaos which has characterized the period after the falling of the regimes can either be attributed to the attempt of some revolutionaries to maintain these gains or an attempt by some to do away with them.

HOW DOES THE DIASPORA GET INVOLVED?

As long-distance-political agents, the Arab diaspora is needed in all the phases and most importantly now than ever before in the reconstruction process. Although the on-going debate on the role of diasporas as either ‘peace-brokers’ and ‘peace-breakers’ in Africa is still very controversial, the contributory efforts of diaspora as stakeholders in post-conflict reconstruction, nation-building through the promotion of peace and development is undisputable and not a far-fetched illusion. Notwithstanding and as far as the Arab Spring is concerned, first, their ability facilitate the mobilization of the masses through the social media while in far-off lands is seen as an invaluable contribution.

Second, their ability to provide financial and other logistics to support the revolutions in homelands is a great achievement with an outstanding example in the case of Libya where some members of the diaspora actually headed the conflict fronts to overthrow Gaddafi. These support the argument that diasporas practice long-distance nationalism. This is posited fact that although they have left home, they still stay very much in touch; or to put it better, they are still very much emotionally attached to their countries of origin. Evidence of this is that they follow the socio-cultural, economic, political developments at home with keen interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The various liberties already gained and still to be gained from the revolution form the basis for sustainable development and peace for the countries. These two complement each other as sustainable development brings about lasting peace and vice versa, both constituting the reconstruction phase while simultaneously consolidating what has been achieved. This is where the diaspora comes in as an inevitable stakeholder in the reconstruction and consolidation processes through the following recommendations.

Capital is needed for reconstruction, development and prosperity. The diaspora remains a true partner in foul weather when foreign investment is curtailed. Even international financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF believe that diaspora investments could help to meet some of the funding needs in the years ahead in order to revamp their homeland economies.

Intellectual capital manifested through good leadership as well as best practices remitted by the diaspora will prove to be indispensable for reconstruction and consolidation of the political structures in the newly-born democracies. The diaspora will impact their homelands positively with the reversal from ‘brain drain’ to ‘brain gain’.

Social capital will lay concrete foundations for capacity-building of civil society that has hitherto suffered persecution from the ancient regimes.
Diasporas stand to inculcate the art of tolerance by creating awareness built on social cohabitation. This would eventually generate political sophistication with the effects being felt in every spectrum of society.

Cultural capital is advanced on the premises that the revolution did not aim at eradicating historical and cultural institutions but to render them more dynamic.

Lastly, it is accepted that the diaspora has emerged as transnational actors. This is evident in its ability to mobilize resources towards the reconstruction of post-conflict societies. Given the homogeneity of the Arab regions, it is debatable as to whether the model of ‘good practices’ propounded by DIASPEACE research on diasporas contribution to peace in the Horn of Africa involving Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea can be applied to the North of Africa as part of the post-revolutionary peace-building process.

The ability of the diaspora itself to mobilize resources and to prove or convince the new leaders and civil society without any reasonable doubt that their involvement is an indispensable asset towards achieving sustainable peace and development; that they are worthy ‘peace brokers’ and not ‘peace breakers’. Also the capacity-building cohesion that prevails within the ranks of the diaspora is also non-negligible.

The political will expressed through the enthusiasm of the leaders of the newly emerged democracies in the Arab world to absorb the ideas and the potentials of their diaspora is of paramount importance. At this juncture, it becomes clear that the ball is in the court of the custodians of the newly acquired and evolving democracies. This would be the unique opportunity for them to harness and tap into the resources of the diaspora by engaging with them through meaningful and strategic dialogue. Failure to do so will make them no different from their predecessors. They risk steering the ship towards the rocks and posterity would hold them as ‘enemies’ instead of ‘children’ of the revolution.

The role of the diaspora in shaping the future of the North African Arab Spring countries cannot be downplayed. As emerging transnational stakeholders or co-development actors, they hold the master key towards sustainable peace and advancement of that part of the African continent - South of the Mediterranean. They possess the tools to remit both financially and psychologically. Their level of political sophistication and civil society building capacity is unparalleled with any in the region. If given the chance, they can contribute to deliver the goods that will consolidate the newly worn liberties through institutional structures and mechanisms that would render the Arab Spring ‘glorious’ and a Mission Accompli.

* Albert Che Suh-Njwi is Project officer for the EADPD Project at the African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) and Dphil researcher on Migration and Development at Twente University, Enschede, the Netherlands

For further information:

EXTERNAL LINKS:

Video of the speech by Karim Saafi from African Diaspora Youth to UN representatives in New York on 15 July (starts after 37:35 minutes)

Homepage of the Migration and Development sector programme on the GIZ website:
www.giz.de/migrationdevelopment

http://blogs.independent.co.uk/2013/06/15/remittances-could-be-as-sustainable-as-international-development-finance/

**AEP - PROFILE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN SWEDEN**

**SWEDEN**

Independence: 6 June 1523  
Area: 410,335 sq km  
Population: 9,532,634  
Migrants (with Swedish and foreign nationality):  
African migrants (with Swedish and foreign nationality): 110,000

**Ranking list of the 12 largest African diaspora groups**

1. Somalia (40165)  
2. Ethiopia (14314)  
3. Morocco (7779)  
4. Egypt (4345)  
5. Tunisia (4258)  
6. Gambia (4056)  
7. Nigeria (3300)  
8. Uganda (3140)  
9. Kenya (2730)  
10. Burundi (2677)  
11. Sudan (2600)  
12. DR Congo (2402)  
13. Greece (2148)  
14. South Africa (2146)  
15. Ghana (2107)

**Migration to Sweden**

African migrants rank in the 3rd place with about 110,000 people, behind Asian and European migrants. The first refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) to Sweden were about a thousand Asians expelled from Uganda in 1972. During the era of family unification (1972-89), the only significant numbers entering the country form SSA were refugees from Ethiopia and Somalia. Somali with 35,000, Ethiopians with 15,000, Eritreans with 9,000, and Moroccans with 7,500 are today the largest African diaspora communities. Tunisians, Gambians, Egyptians, Ugandans, Nigerians, Burundians and migrants from the Democratic Republic of Congo are other groups with considerable numbers. The numbers of migrants from these countries and from the Great Lakes region and parts of West Africa reached 26,500 in 2004, as settled refugees sponsored members of their families who were accepted for permanent residence in Sweden. By 2005, only 70,000 of the 1.1 million foreign-born people in Sweden were of sub-Saharan Africa origin.

**Networking level of African Diaspora Organizations in Sweden**

Capacity building and fundraising programs are less available the African diasporas disposal. It also depends on the size of the African Diaspora association, especially the smaller, less formal groups, lack capacity in areas like fundraising, strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation as well as project and financial management. A lack of networking and solidarity among African diaspora organizations is observed frequently. There is the lack of a strong umbrella organization coordinating the network of African diaspora organizations who are active in Co-development. This also explains the reasons for lack of useful and durable links between the different organizations and communities undertaking development projects in Africa.
Until recently, Sweden has been receiving immigrants in record numbers. Attitudes remain remarkably positive as the new centre-right government says it has no immediate plans to reject newcomers. Sweden relative attention to the African diaspora members and organizations, maybe due to their relatively small number. Africans diaspora associations are becoming more visible on many levels of Swedish society. However, they are facing structural discrimination and social marginalization.

Notwithstanding, the Swedish International Development Agency has funded a study on content and technology for an ICT-platform Diaspora Link, “Network for Transnational Diaspora Entrepreneurship as a Development Link between Home and Residence Countries”

The North African Committee is composed of leading persons from the North African diaspora living in Sweden, one per North African country, and plays a strategic bridge-building role to help establishing viable high level networks and a fruitful exchange of experiences, information and expertise. It offers Business development assistance through the organization of:

-Trade fairs to develop connections with potential local partners and buyers;
-Round tables/seminars and courses to learn how to tap into business opportunities and successfully navigate in the Swedish and North African business environment;
-Business matching opportunities with potential customers and partners targeted to your specific interests and requirements

Further links about the African Diaspora in Sweden
http://dsv.su.se/en/research/research-units-centres/news/diaspora-1.113236
www.nai.uu.se www.mah.se http://www.somsweden.com

Specifics and particularities of the African Diaspora in Sweden
Although African migrants enjoy the excellent social welfare system offered by Sweden as in most Scandinavian countries, there is very little institutional support for migrants’ projects in homelands and less opportunities for migrants to obtain jobs. More so, the possibilities in obtaining an employment depend to a large extent on a person’s origin, nationality and religion. However, no explanatory factors have been established to pinpoint the causes of structural discrimination, even though successive governments have criticized the government for encouraging the production of ideological discourse rather than seriously determining the facts, analyzing the problems, and developing feasible strategies to deal with the shortcomings.

Although having an education may increase the chances to enter the Swedish labour market research shows that even highly educated migrants have difficulties getting jobs within their professions. Foreign-born with foreign diplomas face the greatest difficulties. These challenges drastically limits the resources for migrants and diaspora organizations have to fend for themselves to raise funds for co-development projects in homeland. Also some good practices will be presented. There are many migrant oriented projects going on around in Sweden run by the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise.

The outcome of all these projects is not always visible as evaluation reports are seldom written and their impacts is not felt by migrant groups who in most part will like to see these projects extended to foster development in homeland countries. This has become more visible in the periods of global depression which have caused policy-makers to systematically reverse it good time policies by placing stringent measures which are less favourable to migrant labourers. Despite these challenges, emanating partly from lack of institutional support and discrimination, African Diaspora organizations involved in co-development projects have learnt to establish viable partnerships with some NGOs and private investment initiatives. These include Women Empowerment, Health, Education, Media and Women Empowerment with charities and grassroots groups working against female genital mutilation.
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Some Useful links

Africinterglob www.africinterglob.com
Vara,vilja,kunna www.varaviljakunna.se
Afrikan Nätverk http://www.allabolag.se/8024573860/AFRIKANSK_DIASPORAS_NATVERK_I_AKTION_ADINAKT
Nav www.navs.se
Unitelinvest www.unitelinvest.com
Skyddsvärnets www.skyddsvarnet.se
Nordic Africa Institute www.nai.uu.se
International Student Advisor www.mah.se
Union of Somali organization in Sweden (Somalisk Riksförbundet i Sverige) http://www.somsweden.com
Next Generation Africa www.joefrans.se
Network for Women scientists in Sweden and Europe of African origins (NAWES) www.nawes.org

The EADPD project is financed by the European Union and co-financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit