

iDIASPORA

NEWSLETTER

For diaspora leaders, organizations and supporters

WELCOME

Diasporas bring invaluable economic, cultural, human, and social capital to societies. Governments, organizations and partners worldwide have recognized their potential as development actors in multiple initiatives. This newsletter seeks to highlight key diaspora stories, successes, events, resources and relevant activities to both diasporas themselves and their supporters. If you would like to submit to the newsletter, or have any questions, please email idiaspورا@iom.int.

FEATURED STORY

The fourth edition of the Global Diaspora Virtual Exchanges is back!

On May 17th, IOM hosted a multistakeholder consultation to establish the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance (GDPA). The event fostered collaboration among governments, diaspora leaders, youth activists, and policymakers, aiming to accelerate SDGs and maximize diaspora engagement. It marked a significant milestone towards recognizing diasporas as development and humanitarian actors.

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

In each edition of the Newsletter, we will showcase a distinct diaspora organization that is actively engaged in the realm of humanitarian development or other pertinent sectors. In this issue, we introduce you to the Bolivian Roots Association, which is dedicated to promoting communal bonding, facilitating the exchange of opinions, sharing anecdotes, and fostering mutual aid within the Bolivian diaspora community.

REGIONAL FOCUS: SOUTH AMERICA

In this edition, our focus shifts to South America as we explore the dynamic landscape of the South American Conference for Migration 2022. A centerpiece of this conference was the groundbreaking launch of the Roadmap for Empowering the South American Diaspora. This visionary roadmap emerged from a virtual regional workshop, convening approximately 50 delegates from ten member states. These delegates collaborated within targeted thematic working groups, meticulously examining facets including protection, consular assistance, administrative processes, civic participation, data analysis, and intergenerational interaction.

GLOBAL NEWS AND RESOURCES

The concluding page features a compilation of recent news, events, and resources from diaspora organizations and global supporters. Inside this edition, you'll discover supplementary materials, such as a new paper discussing diaspora engagement and social protection, an innovative publication designed to enhance diaspora communication skills, and an informative thematic brief spotlighting crucial diaspora data, among other valuable resources.



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FEATURED STORY

Multistakeholder consultation on the creation of the future Global Diaspora Policy Alliance

On May 17th, IOM organized a pivotal multistakeholder consultation to openly discuss the establishment of the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance (GDPA), addressing working modalities, scope, content, and potential partnerships.

In 2022, IOM co-hosted the Global Diaspora Summit and unveiled The Dublin Declaration—a transformative plan empowering diasporas in sustainable development and humanitarianism. The declaration outlines a visionary framework for diaspora engagement across policies, programmes, and partnerships.

During the GDS, a commitment was made to create the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance (GDPA), fostering collaboration among governments, stakeholders, diaspora leaders, youth activists, and policymakers. The consultation served as a platform to kickstart discussions on the constitution of the Alliance.

The GDPA aims to complement existing facilities, prioritizing diaspora engagement in global development policy frameworks, and accelerating SDG implementation. The event marks a significant milestone, empowering diasporas as key contributors to shaping a more inclusive and sustainable world. Additionally, it featured a photographic exhibition showcasing winners of the [iDiaspora photo contest](#). Watch the full event [here](#).



Participate in the [IOM survey](#) to shape the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance. Contribute insights for an empowering framework, enhancing diaspora engagement in development and humanitarian efforts. Your input counts!

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT



Mother's Days - Photo: Bolivian Roots Association

The Bolivian Roots Association (Asociación Raíces Bolivianas) emphasizes the significance of social support and the creation of spaces that encourage communal bonding, opinion exchange, anecdote sharing, and the fostering of mutual aid. This approach is crucial as it aids in minimizing the vulnerabilities that individuals may face. Furthermore, it leads to enhancements in the working conditions and overall well-being of both migrant individuals and the host community. Every initiative taken in this direction plays a pivotal role in achieving these goals.

More information [here](#).



REGIONAL FOCUS

The Dynamic Journey of South American Diaspora Engagement

Originating from significant European immigration, the emergence of the South American diaspora gained momentum after World War II, marked by impactful waves in the 1970s, 80s, and the 2000s. South Americans have dispersed globally, including settlements in Japan, Italy, Canada, with Spain and the United States being preferred destinations. Despite this, many have chosen neighboring countries, contributing to their homeland's stability and development. The South American Conference for Migration (SACM) has consistently emphasized diaspora engagement, seen during the 2001 and 2005 Conferences and a pivotal moment in the 2012 XII SACM Conference. Here, a preliminary report highlighted varied engagement programs addressing expatriates' needs such as protection, economic rights, heritage preservation, and expanded political rights.

The echoes of this discourse resonated through the XII, XIII, and XVI SACM conferences, resulting in commitments to joint projects that connect with the South American diaspora and exchange best practices. Amidst COVID challenges, this commitment bore fruit during the 2022 XX SACM, marked by the creation of the inaugural Roadmap for Empowering the South American Diaspora.



Source: IOM 2023/Gema Cortés

This roadmap stemmed from a virtual workshop involving 50 delegates from ten member states, organized into thematic working groups exploring areas such as protection, consular assistance, administrative procedures, civic participation, data analysis, and engagement with newer generations. Spirited brainstorming sessions yielded actionable steps forming the Roadmap. Notably, it was underpinned by a comprehensive regional analysis derived from 120 interviews, focus groups, and an online survey involving 1,173 diaspora members.

This analysis unveiled intriguing insights. Notably, 57% of female respondents saw living abroad as offering increased opportunities, with 45% citing enhanced freedom. Women, overall, emphasized the significance of obstacles more than men. Additionally, 51% emphasized scientific collaboration, 52% noted the importance of remittances, 45% highlighted economic investments, and 43% mentioned the impact of tourism.

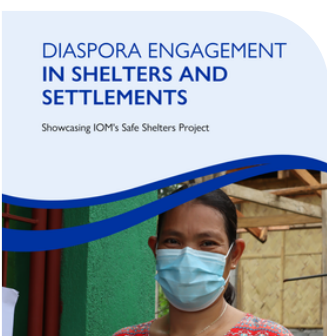
The Roadmap's implementation began with a major step - a regional diaspora engagement training in November 2022. Representatives from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, and beyond convened, facilitating shared learning and regional cooperation. As the journey advances from analysis to collaborative action, South American diaspora engagement thrives, transcending boundaries to unite nations. This journey acknowledges the diaspora's transformative potential, channeling not just remittances but skills, networks, and cultural bonds for positive change.



Explore these key resources on iDiaspora



GLOBAL NEWS AND RESOURCES



Diaspora Engagement in Shelter and Settlements

Following four phases of a USAID-BHA sponsored project, the IOM Washington Diaspora Engagement Unit (DEU) published a case study on Diaspora Engagement in Shelter and Settlements. The case study outlines various ways to engage diaspora in the shelter sector, highlighting examples of Filipino, Bangladeshi, and Haitian diaspora shelter interventions. [Read more.](#)

Diaspora events at HNPW 2023

IOM organized two diaspora-focused events at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, exploring diaspora's contributions to humanitarian assistance and development, and enhancing coordination with other actors. [Learn more.](#)



Discover the significance of informal measures from diasporas in aiding healthcare, education, and more for migrants. [iDiaspora and Routed's publication](#) examines their vital contributions to social protection.



[Meta and IOM collaborated on Facebook campaigns](#) to raise awareness of recurring natural disasters in the Philippines among Filipino Americans. 10M+ reached, showing effective digital outreach for disaster recovery and safety messaging.



Enhance Development Impact: New publication unveils powerful diaspora engagement strategies, communication skills, and innovative tools for transnational initiatives. Explore global insights and recommendations. Available [here](#).



Exciting Release! Discover the latest thematic brief from IOM's GMDAC: [Diasporas and Their Contributions - A snapshot of the available evidence.](#)



[Discover our new course](#) in Spanish, focusing on the Empowerment of Transnational Communities and Diasporas with a Gender Perspective.



GSC Annual Meeting had a diaspora impact session with PSRC and PUSO Foundation. GSC published a case study on IOM-PSRC partnership, providing safe shelter loans post-Typhoon Rai. [Read the study.](#)



IOM Netherlands' publication features inspiring stories of diaspora experts, emphasizing their contributions to development and institutional linkages through the CD4D program. [Learn more.](#)



M4C Award 2023 Migrants and diasporas drive climate action and sustainability. M4C Award recognizes migrant-led initiatives for positive change. For nominations and more information about the M4C Award 2023, click [here](#).

To find more latest news and resources, visit www.idiaspora.org.



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