

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, 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

In this seventh edition of the newsletter, you will find a spotlight on the Diaspora 4 Climate Action project, the “Diaspora as Agents of Development” workshop for El Salvador government officials and stakeholders, as well as a series of events focused on diaspora engagement across Europe and the United States.

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

In this edition of the newsletter, we are introducing the Bangladeshi Diaspora Climate Action Group (BDCA)—a network of cross-sector British Bangladeshi professionals united in their mission to deliver action-based solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh. BDCA includes leaders from the public, private, and third sectors, as well as academia.

UPCOMING EVENTS



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Government of Cabo Verde are organizing the International Conference: Future Agenda of Action for Global Diaspora Engagement: Concrete Steps, Impactful Solutions on September 12-13, 2024, in Sal Island, Cabo Verde. The conference will bring together supporters of the Dublin Declaration to gain insights from leading-edge practices in diaspora engagement. Additionally, it aims to inaugurate the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance, envisioned as a pivotal foundation for crafting the future roadmap of global diaspora engagement initiatives. Visit [event_page](#) for more information and [register](#) for online participation.



JOIN US TODAY! [HERE](#)

PAGE 1 of 5

GLOBAL UPDATES

Enhance Your Impact with the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance

Join us online for the International Conference on the Future Agenda of Action for Global Diaspora Engagement, taking place on September 12-13, 2024, in Cabo Verde, Sal. This pivotal event marks the launch of the Global Diaspora Policy Alliance (GDPA), a major initiative born from the Dublin Declaration at the 2022 Global Diaspora Summit.

We invite diaspora communities worldwide to participate in this conference, which will bring together senior policymakers, international agencies, and diaspora organizations to explore collaborative solutions for global development. The GDPA aims to create a powerful network of expertise, focusing on Health and Well-being, Climate Action, and Gender Equality and Youth through its Technical Working Groups.

Your involvement is crucial in shaping policies and programs that maximize the impact of diaspora contributions to sustainable development. Don't miss this chance to be part of a transformative movement that seeks to leverage diaspora expertise for global development. [Register now](#) to participate online and help shape the future of diaspora engagement.



Source: IOM 2024

Empowering Africa: \$5.3 Million Project Unites Diaspora for Transformative Investment and Growth in Eight Nations

The African Development Bank, African Union Commission (AUC), and International Organization for Migration (IOM) have launched a \$5.3 million project aimed at boosting diaspora investment in eight African countries: The Gambia, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan, Togo, and Zimbabwe. This initiative, known as the "Streamlining Diaspora Engagement to Catalyze Private Investments and Entrepreneurship for Enhanced Resilience" (SDE4R) project, seeks to mobilize the human and financial resources of the African diaspora to support socioeconomic development, especially in areas affected by conflict and climate change-

The project, which will benefit at least 50,000 people, focuses on vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and displaced populations. It aims to strengthen the private sector, foster economic growth, and enhance resilience in the target countries. By leveraging diaspora contributions, the project will create new opportunities for investment and entrepreneurship, thereby reducing the need for irregular migration.

This initiative represents a significant collaboration between the African Development Bank, IOM, and AUC, showcasing a strong partnership focused on fostering socioeconomic resilience and development through strategic diaspora engagement.



Source: IOM 2024



GLOBAL UPDATES

Spotlight on Diaspora 4 Climate Action

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring the mobilisation of the whole-of-society. Although diasporas are among the first to respond when disaster strikes, their potential to contribute to climate action remains largely untapped. IOM's [Diaspora 4 Climate Action](#) project, Supported by the [IOM Development fund](#), aims to raise the visibility of diasporas as key climate actors and works with them to develop actionable climate strategies in partnership with national governments and other national and local actors.

IOM UK hosted a two-day innovative peer learning workshop on 11 and 18 May 2024. This event brought together 16 dedicated diaspora members from Bangladesh, Ghana, Jamaica, Moldova, and Somalia, who were identified to become 'Diaspora Climate Champions' and inspire change within their communities. The workshop equipped participants with the fundamental tools to lead climate action initiatives and discussions, including a focus on resource mobilisation, strategic communications, partnership and leadership.

IOM delivered the workshop alongside external facilitators including the [Commonwealth Secretariat](#), [Media Trust](#), and [Sustainability Leadership Kosova](#). Diaspora members also shared and learnt from their professional and personal experiences. You can hear about some of these inspiring stories [here](#).

Learn more about D4C [here](#) and sign-up to our quarterly newsletter [here](#).



Source: IOM 2024/ IOM UK

Diaspora Engagement Workshop in El Salvador

On July 16-17, IOM El Salvador conducted a two-day workshop titled "Diaspora as Agents of Development: Tools, Lessons, and Action." The workshop was attended by 34 participants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and focused on enhancing understanding of the unique roles and contributions of diaspora communities in promoting sustainable development. It also highlighted the strategic importance of integrating diaspora engagement into national policy frameworks.



Source: IOM 2024/ IOM El Salvador

Following this, on July 18-19, a subsequent two-day workshop on the same theme was held in El Salvador, targeting 23 participants from various government institutions involved in the El Salvador+ Catalog. This government initiative is designed to provide a comprehensive range of services and resources to the Salvadoran diaspora, reinforcing the connection between the Salvadoran government and its citizens living abroad. Notably, female participation remained high, with women representing 78% of the attendees across both workshops.

These workshops were organized as part of IOM's "Harnessing Inclusive Global Alliances for Diaspora Engagement" project, supported by the IOM Development Fund.



NEWS

**Diaspora Framework event in Nairobi**

In early summer, IOM Washington's Diaspora Engagement Unit in coordination with the DEMAC initiative organized a multi-day Lessons Learned event in Nairobi. The event aimed to highlight the major successes, challenges, and key areas for future work of the Framework for Diaspora Engagement in Humanitarian Assistance. The event brought together diaspora organizations, government actors, institutional humanitarian actors and other partners, and allowed for a high level exchange of best practices.

For more information on the Framework, [watch this video](#) contact diasporaforhumanity@iom.int.

The Framework is funded by the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance and was developed in partnership with Haiti Renewal Alliance.

**Ukrainian designers featured at New York show**

A group of Ukrainian designers under the collective banner TradewithUA was featured at the August Shoppe Object show in New York City. The designers (Anzy Home, TheHrdWood, Woolberry Bags, WOOD MOOD, Quiet Form, Woolcrafts, and :dodomoom) showcased their wares and highlighted their community impacts – empowering women, prioritizing sustainable practices, and contributing to Ukraine's economic recovery.

The designers have been supported by Powered By People (PBP), a global platform working to empower and enable sustainable brands through innovative tech and financial solutions. PBP collaborated with USA for IOM and IOM for a reception highlighting the Ukrainian creators, and connecting them with potential investors, partners and other stakeholders.

For more information about the collective or their work, contact Anna Zmievskaya at anna@tradewithua.org.

**National Remittance Summit**

On Friday 14 June 2024, IOM Belgium and Luxembourg organized the first ever National Remittance Summit in celebration of the International Day of Family Remittances which is observed every year on the 16th of June. The Summit was the perfect occasion to showcase the preliminary results of the O-REMIT project, which aims at maximizing the impact of remittances sent from Belgium. The team presented the O-REMIT data reports ([online available in English](#)) which analyze the remittance flows and trends from Belgium, as well as a preview of the main qualitative data results on remittance behaviour. To delve deeper into the insights shared at the National Remittance Summit, take a look at the [National Remittance policy brief](#), which highlights key points from the Summit's panelists. The event also displayed the Diaspora Ventures Gallery, where Diaspora Entrepreneurs showcased their products and talents.

**Diaspora Advisory Board (DAB) working groups**

Building on the strong foundations of the first Diaspora Advisory Board (DAB) cohort 2021 - 2023, the newly elected DAB for Belgium and Luxembourg for 2024-2025 has set its thematic priorities for the year. Out of 70 strong applicants, 29 individuals were selected to collaborate with IOM on migration-related matters. The DAB members will be divided into three working groups, each focusing on a specific thematic priority. The chosen priorities are climate change, environment, and sustainable development; employment, entrepreneurship, and skills; and education, culture, and sports. These priorities reflect the Board's commitment to empowering diaspora communities in Belgium and fostering growth.



ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Bangladeshi Diaspora Climate Action Group (BDCA)

The Bangladeshi Diaspora Climate Action (BDCA) group is a network of cross-sector British Bangladeshi professionals united in their aim to deliver action-based solutions that mitigate the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh. BDCA has leaders from the public, private, and third sectors, as well as academia, and boasts a breadth of expertise spanning green finance, law, psychology, sustainable land use, waste management, renewable energy, and decarbonisation.

BDCA have also been working closely with the IOM on the Diaspora for Climate Action (D4C) project since its inception. D4C is a brilliant and pioneering programme that brings together UK diaspora communities from four countries – Albania, Bangladesh, Ghana, and Jamaica – and focuses on climate action. Through the D4C project, IOM will develop diaspora-specific case-studies to map diaspora climate actions in the UK and the national climate frameworks and priorities in their countries of heritage, and produce separate country analysis on how diaspora can feed into national plans. The overall findings will be presented at COP28.



RESOURCES AND EVENTS



IOM, iDiaspora, GRFDT, GDC, MYCP partnered to organize the Global Diaspora Virtual Exchange, the recommendations and insights are documented in the report Public Sector Synergies, Private Sector Alliances, and Diaspora to Diaspora Collaboration.



The International Conference: Future Agenda of Action for Global Diaspora Engagement: Concrete Steps, Impactful Solutions will take place on 12 - 13 September 2024, in Sal Island, Cabo Verde. Visit [event page](#) for more information.



The iDiaspora Journal: Reflections on Diaspora Engagement is a unique tool to reflect deeply on the impact and potential of global diaspora communities. It builds understanding on how diasporas contribute to both host and home societies, enhancing the global dynamism and promise of migration.



iDiaspora insights podcast by IOM Belgium & Luxembourg launched its sixteenth episode of the Diaspora Insights Podcast series and the fourth episode of our Diaspora Dishes miniseries. More can be accessed [here](#).



IOM is working on a diaspora mapping for Ivorians living in France as part of an IDF project. It aims to reach out Ivorian diaspora in France, for a 5-minute questionnaire.



As part of Phase III of the Framework for Diaspora Engagement in Humanitarian Assistance, a series of case studies were developed, please access [Somalia](#), [Haiti](#), and [Philippines](#) fact sheets.

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



JOIN US TODAY! [HERE](#)