

ADEPT

RESEARCH

Optimising african diaspora organisations engagement in local development

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DISCLAIMER

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ABSTRACT

ADEPT, the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform, brings together Europe-based¹ African diaspora organisations and individuals implementing development projects in Africa as well as diversity and integration-related actions in Europe. ADEPT's mission is to amplify their influence and impact on both continents. As part of this mandate, ADEPT commissioned a study to improve understanding of the impact of African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOS) based in Europe on local development in Africa. The analyses are based on a scientific and technical literature review, an online survey, interviews with international and African development related organisations, and in-depth case studies of projects on which ADDOS and African authorities cooperated. The report scrutinises ADDOS functioning, partnerships, funding and project management. It takes a specific look at ADDOS' relationships with European and African authorities, the impacts of their actions to achieve locally the sustainable development goals. The analysis underlines the multiple contributions of diasporas to local development, their role in local development projects, and the internal and external factors that enable or constrain the efficiency of their actions. To help improve collaboration between ADDOS and other development partners, the study shares recommendations for ADDOS, local and national authorities in Africa and Europe, and international development organisation.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADDOs	African Diaspora Development Organisations
ADEPT	Africa Europe Diaspora Development Platform
AFD	Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency)
AU	African Union
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FORIM	Forum des organisations de solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (Forum of international and migration-rooted solidarity organisations)
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German International Cooperation Agency)
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
SDC	Swiss agency for Development and Cooperation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations

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DEFINITIONS

<p>DIASPORA</p>	<p>The study refers to the International Organization for Migration' definition of diaspora (IOM Glossary on Migration, 2019, p49): "Migrants or descendants of migrants whose identity and sense of belonging, either real or symbolic, have been shaped by their migration experience and background. They maintain links with their homelands, and to each other, based on a shared sense of history, identity, or mutual experiences in the destination country.</p>
<p>FIRST GENERATION OF DIASPORA</p>	<p>The term 'first generations' refers to diaspora populations who have experienced migration themselves. They were born abroad (the country of origin) and came to settle in a given country (the destination country). This notion does not refer to a single historical period, but to the migration waves of the 1970s as well as to the recently arrived migrants.</p>
<p>NEW GENERATIONS OF THE DIASPORA</p>	<p>In French national statistics, children of at least one immigrant parent born in the destination country are referred to as "descendants of immigrants". But this method only captures direct descendants (second generation). As a descendant of an immigrant is not an immigrant, his or her children are no longer considered to be of immigrant origin in the official figures. Nevertheless, by new generations, the study refers to the children of second and of the third generations retaining emotional and material ties to the country of origin of their parents / grandparents.</p>
<p>AFRICAN DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATIONS (ADDO)</p>	<p>African Diaspora Development Organisations are understood as organisations funded and administered by one or several members of the African diaspora and engaged to improve the living conditions of their members or other beneficiaries in one or several localities in Africa. For the vast majority, ADDOs are small local organisations, but they can group into larger platforms or umbrella organisations at national or international scales. They are based in the locality of residence but are also active in African localities: they can be qualified as trans-local organisations (Grillo and Riccio 2004; van Ewijk 2016). The study refers to ADDOs members as any person who contributes to the association purpose either as a volunteer or through paying a membership fee.</p>

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	The process and the result of all activities carried out in a sub-national territory (region, department, rural or urban area), aiming to improve living conditions in the broad sense. Economic, educational, social and cultural activities, as well as those related to access to essential or secondary services, are all part of local development, whether they are carried out by public or private actors, whether or not they are citizens of the territory.
REMITTANCES	Interpersonal financial transfers between migrants and their countries of origin (Gelb et al. 2021). Remittance can be individual or collective.
INDIVIDUAL REMITTANCES	Remittances sent by individuals acting on their own. Those are of three types: family support, philanthropy (donations for charity, public goods or productive projects), profit-generating investment. (Brown et al. 2009)
COLLECTIVE REMITTANCES	Individual donations channelled through formal or informal groups of migrants, either of philanthropy (donations for charity, public goods or productive projects) or for profit-generating investment. (Brown et al. 2009)
SOCIAL REMITTANCES	Social remittances are the ideas, behaviours, identities, and social capital that flow from residence countries to origin country communities. Those can contribute to transforming sending-country social and political life (Levitt, 1998).
DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION	Decentralized cooperation is a form of partnership for development between two local authorities of different countries. The local councils sign a memorandum of understanding defining the sector in which the local authorities cooperate on a common project, the budget, partners and timing.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONTEXT, OBJECTIVES AND STUDY PERIMETER

ADEPT, the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform, brings together Europe-based² African diaspora organisations and individuals implementing development projects in Africa as well as diversity and integration-related actions in Europe. ADEPT's mission is to amplify their influence and impact on both continents.

As part of this mandate, ADEPT commissioned a study to explore African diaspora organisations' engagement in local development and to inform policies, programmes, and practices in order to optimise the local impact of African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOs).

The study was carried out between July and November 2021. It explored existing knowledge on this theme through literature review and institutional interviews. It also researched the operational experience of ADDOs through an online survey and six case studies. As the first phase of the study highlighted that ADDOs could work with local authorities as project coordinators through direct interventions, or as partners of decentralized cooperations. Three cases per type of intervention were selected in the second phase of the study:

DIRECT INTERVENTION	PARTNERSHIP WITHIN A DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION
 <p>SENEGAL - FRANCE Promote the professional integration & local entrepreneurship of the disabled of Goudiri, in the Region of Tambacounda, Senegal</p>	 <p>TUNISIA - MOROCCO - ITALY Contribute to the improvement of temporary & circular migration patterns between Italy, Morocco & Tunisia</p>
 <p>NIGERIA - BELGIUM Encourage & support rural farmers to plant nutritious indigenous food crops especially those that are rare or threatened with extinction</p>	 <p>MOROCCO - BELGIUM Support the commune of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine & its civil society in the development of a social & solidarity economy</p>
 <p>GHANA - CZECH REPUBLIC Increase the access to education & empower women in the village of Obom & its surroundings</p>	 <p>COMOROS - FRANCE Promote the cultural diversity of the villages & towns of the island of Ngazidja & put the communes at the heart of the daily life of the Comorians.</p>

² ADEPT's members are based in European Union's Member States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Norway.

MAIN LEARNINGS

This part summarizes the main results of the report. All these elements will be presented thoroughly in the next sections.



LESSON 1

ADDOs impact on development is subject to scientific debates. Nevertheless, their contributions are clear in a wide range of localities and sectors.

The relationship between diasporas and development is subject to scientific debates and opposing conclusions can be found. Based on his study of the Togolese migration, Bréant (2013) notes that the discourse of international organisations, which encourages migrants to work at their level for the development of their country, is disconnected from reality. For him, this discourse has not reinforced their culture of transnational engagement. Berhanu (2019) observes that "*Globally, the size and development-related role of the diaspora has been increasing (...). The literature on the nexus between migration and development indicates a reciprocal interaction between the two.*" **These studies present global perspectives on migration and development. Nevertheless, in various localities and sectors, the local contribution of ADDOs is clear.** Access to water, health, and school constructions are frequent examples of ADDOs' contributions in areas of massive emigration. For example, in Kayes (Mali), as of 2011, 34% of schools, 42% of health centres, 19% of fountains, boreholes or well had benefited from some financing from diaspora organization (Bernard et al. 2014). Those local initiatives contribute to the improvement of living conditions but rarely make the beneficiaries autonomous (Charef and Gonin 2005).



LESSON 2

The contribution of ADDOs to local development is multifaceted and always aligned with at least one of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The financial contribution is the most visible and studied contribution. Direct financial transfers to beneficiaries of projects, funding of new infrastructures, or donation of start-up funds for income-generating activities are common examples.

But other types of contributions exist:

- ▶ ADDOs are composed of members giving out time, knowledge and competencies for the success of the development initiatives. This constitutes a strong human capital.
- ▶ ADDOs bring subtle social change through activities/relationships/initiatives called social remittances: giving important roles to African youth in project local management, they help empower new generations; putting women as central beneficiaries contribute to women empowerment.
- ▶ Diasporas' Networks are determining aspects of ADDOs' contributions in their projects. The individual networks in Europe and African of each ADDO member help overcome administrative difficulties, help beneficiaries for their professional insertion or entrepreneurial project, and facilitates ADDOs partnerships with other development organisations.

In practice, ADDOs' projects always contribute in one way or another to the local implementation of SDGs. Nevertheless, the integration of SDGs in their projects is not always conscious since self-funded ADDOs do not have a systematic understanding of SDGs. There is also generally no monitoring of the achievement of quantitative indicators. On the other hand, funding mechanisms and partnerships between ADDOs and local authorities through decentralized cooperation create new objectives and implementation modalities for local development projects where SDGs are systematically integrated.



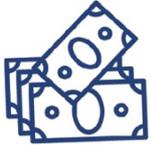
LESSON 3

Collective commitment can be based on geographical or thematic interest.

There is no scientific consensus on one unique classification of diaspora organizations. Their interventions can nevertheless often be classified as geographical or thematic:

- ▶ The organizations focused on a geographic area use a bottom-up approach. They answer to the needs raised by the local communities. Hometown organisations or decentralized cooperation are good examples: they answer to several needs of local communities, but on a specific territory.
- ▶ The organizations focused on a specific thematic use a top-down approach. They focus on one theme they deem very important for development on the model of NGOs. A good example is The Foodbridge vzw (see case study).
- ▶ Those two types of collective commitment entail different leader profiles, members profiles financing and growth logics.

We can wonder if the new generations of the diaspora will maintain the same kind of collective commitment than their parents had. Some research shows that they have diverse types of engagement (political, humanitarian, human rights). Human rights are frequently seen as the cause that mobilises the most numerous, powerful and diverse transnational engagement (Arouche, Lardeux, and Zobel 2020). These findings can be completed with observations from the technical literature that the **2nd and 3rd generations would have a lesser geographic-focus and would be more prone to act at national and pan African level with innovative ways.** We can therefore assume that in the next decades, the number of ADDOs with a thematic focus might increase.



LESSON 4

ADDOs can finance part of their project but have to look for external fundings.

- ▶ The most recurrent form of project funding for ADDOs is the contribution of their members, through annual membership fees or donations for each project. The amount ADDOs can self-finance depend on the number and on the wealth of its members, but also on the country of residence. It has been brought to our attention for example that in Czech Republic, in 2015, the law for association changed and made impossible membership fees.

ADDOs also take part in **social events** where they collect donations or entry fees from the public. For small ADDOs, obtaining **grants and annual subsidies** can be a major challenge. Depending on the country of residence and origin, ADDOs can apply for:

- ▶ Municipality, region or federated state grants for associations (in some cases, specific grants for international cooperation projects exist).
- ▶ Grants in the country of residence or of origin through diaspora-oriented programs. Grants from private organisations such as foundations, companies they work in...

Being associated to decentralised cooperation is an indirect fund mobilisation for ADDOs: their financial contribution is often reduced or non-existent, and their volunteer work can be valued in the local development projects budgets.



LESSON 5

Partnering is neither systematic nor easy but brings value to the ADDOs intervention.

For ADDOs involved in the development of their place of origin, **close relatives** are often informal partners in development projects. **ADDOs members who returned to their place of origin** can create a twin organisation, or a local branch to facilitate development projects. For ADDOs with less personal ties in their intervention localities, or invested in a sector they don't master, working with **local or specialised associations and NGOs** can be an efficient partnership when tasks repartition is clearly established.

The people interviewed in the study support close cooperation between **ADDOs and African or European authorities**. In our online survey, most respondents stated they wish to, or are already working with African and European authorities. The **case studies in this report show effective cooperation** between ADDOs and local or national authorities in Europe and Africa: most projects received grants or access to public facilities such as offices from European public institutions and all projects were implemented (if not designed) after discussions with African authorities. **Many variables can however facilitate or hinder partnerships** between the two. Political environments in Africa can create suspicion and distrust between ADDOs, the population and local or national authorities: early dialogue, co-conception of projects, frequent and direct communication are key trust building and appeasement measures.

In some decentralised cooperation, ADDOs are key actors of the project: they can be the reason of the creation of decentralised cooperation; they act as cultural and linguistic translators, thus reduce misunderstandings and their consequences; their

network in both countries can open new perspectives and help overcome obstacles. In triangular cooperation between European and African authorities, ADDOs drastically increase the bilateral learning between authorities. For all these positive effects to be optimal, the role of ADDOs in the cooperation must be clearly designed and accepted by all stakeholders.



LESSON 6

The external environment impacts the ability of ADDOs to engage in local development in Africa

External restraining factors to the contribution of ADDOs to local development can be:

- ▶ The difficult access to external funding, when there are no specific funding mechanisms in the country of residence and of origin/intervention.
- ▶ The difficult access to internal funding when their community is too small and/or too poor, when the associative culture is not prone to private donations, etc.
- ▶ In the country of origin/intervention, the environment can potentially be restraining in terms of corruption, administrative malfunctions, local conflicts, instability, and uncertainty.
- ▶ In the country of origin/intervention, the potentially tense relationship between the government and the diaspora can result in mistrust and doubt but also in attempts at political recuperation
- ▶ The sometimes-cold reception from local populations and authorities.

On the contrary, external enabling factors to the contribution of ADDOs to local development can be:

- ▶ Funding and support mechanisms for ADDOs such as the PRA-OSIM or the PAISD.
- ▶ The structuring and professionalisation of diasporas. Umbrella structures such as FORIM or ADEPT can play a role in both building knowledge and facilitating experience sharing
- ▶ The existence of service centres for associations which can benefit ADDOS in the host country. These service centres can support the ADDO on accounting, legal, fund management, fund raising, project management, monitoring and evaluation, etc.
- ▶ The host country's development cooperation policy priorities vis-à-vis the country of origin which affects the amount of policy attention given to its diaspora communities.
- ▶ The willingness of donor, local authorities, and NGOs to work with ADDOs (and inversely).



LESSON 7

Capacity-building and professionalization can leverage several of ADDOs internal restraining factors

Most ADDOs are small structures, based on voluntary work and financial participation of their members. The members are **rarely professionally trained** to coordinate development projects in Africa. Voluntary work implies small time slots to work on the project (evenings, weekends, holidays...) and rare professional project management skills. The distribution of management tasks can create **power struggles** between the members and slow down the project advancement. These issues may affect how ADDOs are perceived when they work with partners: as unorganised associations, not truly able to manage projects. This could contribute to distrust between diasporas and their partners. Another internal limitation of the engagement of diasporas in local development can be the linked to the **physical and social distance** between ADDOs members and the location they want to engage in especially in the context of the covid pandemic. Those internal restraining factors can be limited through capacity-building, professionalization and local partnerships.

To conclude, ADDOs are development actors to consider, with their specificities.

To some extent, ADDOs can be compared to international NGOs: they have a **transnational** engagement, are answering the needs of local communities and **invest various development sectors**. Yet, most ADDOs engage at a **very local scale**, and build **strong relationships** with the beneficiary population as local NGOs do. Diasporas networks can also be great advantages in development projects, for example to find qualified diaspora members who can help train or mentor beneficiaries.

At the national and local levels, ADDOs bring value in decentralised cooperation including them. They become **cultural and linguistic translators**: they ensure good communication between cooperation partners, ease miscomprehensions and are often in frequent contact with the beneficiaries. Locally based ADDOs help build beneficiary-oriented development programs. **They can partner with a wide range of development actors in multicultural environments. Therefore, well organised and financed ADDOs would be valuable assets for local development in Africa.**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

To increase the engagement of ADDOs in local development and their local contribution to SDGs, we identified three key success factors:

1. Direct ADDOs engagement on projects referring specifically to SDGs, taking into account women-, youth- and environment-related stakes, and aligned with the national and local strategies in their area of intervention.
2. Increase ADDOs internal capacities to design, raise funds and implement (directly or as partner to a decentralized cooperation project) projects which are relevant for beneficiary populations, coherent in the local context, implemented with effectiveness and efficiency, and sustainable.
3. Favour an enabling context of intervention both in Europe and in Africa and support a greater visibility of their contribution to social and economic development in the residence and origin countries.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships can contribute to those three success factors, which lead to specific recommendations.

<p>NGOS / TRANSVERSAL</p>	<p>Improve knowledge of the international solidarity ecosystem of each country with the objective to better integrate the actions of ADDOS.</p> <p>Promote a better participation of ADDOS in the double space (Europe / Africa) to strengthen their social integration in Europe and international solidarity initiatives with Africa.</p> <p>Agree to take time to build up ADDOs skills and capacities. More specifically, in the projects integrating ADDOs:</p> <p>Clearly identify the role of each actor and value it, this is true for all actors and especially for ADDOs which are often relegated to a lesser role in the case of big projects with professional actors like international NGOs or local authorities.</p> <p>Accept to shift some working hours at night and on weekends when ADDOs volunteers are available.</p>
<p>DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES/BANKS AND DONORS</p>	<p>Development agencies/banks have a major role to increase the contribution of ADDOs to local development. two approaches are possible</p> <p>Specific focus in their strategy to give more weight to ADDOs as development actors: development agencies/banks can design mechanism to co-finance ADDOs projects with technical assistance on the model of PRA-OSIM. They can also include partnering with professional civil society organizations in order to increase common understanding and assist ADDOs in improving their competencies in project management, financial education and management, monitoring and evaluation</p>

	<p>and fundraising. This approach is relevant in countries where the diaspora is already dynamic and structured and at European level.</p> <p>Transversal approach: ADDOs can be considered as development actors in their own rights and able to bring linguistic, social and networking inputs to the projects.</p> <p>Reinforcing their capacities is possible by encouraging big development organizations and local authorities to integrate them in their projects and by communicating on how they can be helpful for their projects.</p>
<p>AFRICAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES</p>	<p>For the countries of origin, whose diaspora is already intervening collectively through ADDOs, a major stake for national authorities is to drive ADDOs projects and investment in the areas and sectors where they can have the greater impact and synergies. This will limit resource scattering and align actions.</p> <p>State of play: a first step is to identify the countries of destination where the diaspora is structured in ADDOs, the drivers of their collective interventions, their sectors and areas of intervention in the country of origin and their major challenges. This diagnosis aims also at placing this item on the agenda of international cooperation discussions and agreements.</p> <p>Diaspora structuration: this mapping can be the base to help ADDOs regroup in umbrella organizations which can share good practices and gain visibility in their country of residence.</p> <p>Enabling environment: ADDOs can benefit a lot from the application of a Migration and Development strategy which consider them and recognize their impact. They can also benefit from the improvement of the business environment especially regarding bribery, administrative malfunctions, and security.</p> <p>Specific offer: on the model of PAISD or of the 3x1, national authorities can design mechanisms to co-finance ADDOs projects in strategic sectors and areas. To be efficient, this mechanism must include technical assistance.</p> <p>Communication: explaining and valuing the contribution of diasporas (financial and non-financial) in public discourse and media to foster trust with ADDOs and facilitate their actions.</p>
<p>EUROPEAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES</p>	<p>In the countries of destination, a major stake for the national authorities is to facilitate the integration of migrants in the economy and local communities. Migrant associations can play an important role here too. Moreover, well-integrated diasporas are in a better position to contribute to the development of their country of origin</p>

	<p>since they benefit from more financial resources and networks:</p> <p>Enabling environment for associations: ADDOs action can benefit from laws and mechanisms facilitating their financing in their countries of residence such as ability to collect membership fees or tax exemption of donations. They can also benefit from knowing and using mutual services for associations such as pooling of HR, accounting, communication, etc.</p> <p>Diaspora collective dialogue and structuration: in countries with a great number of diaspora organizations, the structuration of diaspora networks into an umbrella organisation such as FORIM in France can enhance their national representation and increase more efficiently their capacities.</p>
<p>AFRICAN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND DECONCENTRATED STATE SERVICES</p>	<p>Creating partnerships with ADDOs intervening on their territories is necessary to orient their actions to areas aligned with population needs and local plans.</p> <p>Establish an efficient communication with ADDOs working on their territory, by orienting them to the administrative and political services managing the sector they want to develop.</p> <p>During the project's implementation, local authorities should make sure ADDOs actions are not hampered by predatory behaviours or political opposition from the local administration staff or political opponents.</p> <p>If possible and when necessary, the local authorities can contribute in-kind to the project through land donation for example. This participation often facilitates the obtention of subsidies for ADDOs based in Europe.</p>
<p>EUROPEAN LOCAL AUTHORITIES</p>	<p>Creating partnerships with ADDOs from their territories can be an efficient way of fostering the social and political integration of minorities and create direct relationships with them.</p> <p>Several tools can be mobilised, from municipal or regional grants to integration of ADDOs in their international policy through decentralised cooperation.</p> <p>Clarify the role and contribution of the ADDOs with them. For ADDOs already engaged in local development, decentralised cooperation can be disruptive as their position changes: ADDOs become partners and facilitators in multistakeholder project and are not the project managers.</p> <p>Value the contribution of ADDOs in the project documentation, budget, and communication.</p>

<p>ADDOS</p>	<p>Experiment new ways to raise funds: depending on the ADDO, this may be through crowdfunding or through answering calls for projects.</p> <p>Improve the efficiency of their own projects: ADDOs can do so in training some of their volunteers in project management, financial. They can also improve the efficiency in their own projects by finding partners in their country of residence and origin.</p> <p>Participate in bigger projects as partner: Organizations focused on a specific thematic can approach international NGOs specialized in similar sectors of intervention. Organizations focused on a geographic area can approach the local authorities in their country of residence to evaluate the possibility of decentralized cooperation. For both, a challenge for ADDOs will be to get new competencies and to assess themselves as real partners by highlighting volunteer time and monetising the impact of their actions.</p>
<p>ADDOS UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION</p>	<p>ADDOs capacity reinforcement for example by offering adapted free trainings and events to share good practices.</p> <p>Advocacy work to authorities, development institutions, international NGOs to facilitate the forging of partnerships at local level by ADDOs.</p>

2. CONTEXT, OBJECTIVES & METHODOLOGY

A) CONTEXT, OBJECTIVES AND STUDY PERIMETER

CONTEXT

ADEPT, the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform, brings together Europe-based³ African diaspora organisations and individuals implementing development projects in Africa, as well as diversity and integration-related actions in Europe. ADEPT's mission is to amplify their influence and impact on both continents. ADEPT is 51-member strong and has a network of several hundred organisations and individuals⁴. ADEPT's members are engaged in a wide array of sectors including entrepreneurship, gender equality, water and sanitation, and agriculture. This engagement is also characterized by interventions at multiple levels, notably at sub-national scale (local, state and regional) with local actors.

Being critical actors to enhancing local governance, implementing local democracy and ensuring proper delivery of public services, local authorities are key contributors to Africa's development at the local level. Therefore, sound collaborations and partnerships of diaspora organisations with local authorities – in residence and origin countries – may boost the relevance and effectiveness of diaspora organisations' actions in local development. This is all the more relevant given the significant role played by local authorities in development in general, and in the nexus between migration and development more specifically, as has been recognised and enshrined in European texts and international agreements. This is the case of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration⁵ and more recently of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument⁶ proposed by the European Commission.

³ ADEPT's members are based in European Union's Member States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Norway.

⁴ For further information see www.adept-platform.org and www.adept-mag.org

⁵ Adopted on December 2018, the Global Compact for Migration aims to “create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries” and to “promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants” in its Objectives 19 and 20 respectively.

⁶ A seminal document was published by the Commission in this regard in 2008: Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the EESC and the CoR, Local authorities: Actors for development (SEC(2008)2570. Brussels, 8.10.2008. COM(2008) 626 final.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

ADEPT commissioned a study to improve understanding of the impact of African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOs) based in Europe on local development in Africa.

General objective of the study

The study explores African diaspora organisations' engagement in local development, and aims to inform policies, programmes, and practices to optimise African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOs) engagement in local development in Africa and thereby their impact. It is intended for:

- ▶ African diaspora organisations conducting development activities in Africa,
- ▶ Local authorities and civil society organisations in Africa and Europe,
- ▶ Policymakers, implementing agencies and other relevant development actors (e.g. private sector and foundations).

Specific objectives of the study

This study aims to:

- ▶ Improve the understanding of African diaspora organisations' engagement in local development in Africa, in particular its specificities;
- ▶ Explore modalities for more effective, efficient and sustainable ADDOs engagement in local development on the African continent;
- ▶ Ascertain the role ADDOs can play to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable local development.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

Reflecting ADEPT's engagement for diaspora organizations all over Europe, and throughout the African continent, the geographical scope is bound to both **African and European continents**. The dynamism of ADDOs in some European and African regions (Western Europe, West, East and Northern Africa) leads to more actions and dynamics being identified in these territories. The actions studied have been implemented in African countries **between 2015 and 2021**.

B) METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the study was defined at the outset, in association with ADEPT. The study was divided into three complementary phases carried out between July and November 2021.

The sources of the study are diverse. A first phase of the research is threefold with:

Institutional Interviews - A first set of interviews was held with representatives of European and international institutions concerned with migration issues.

Literature review - For a growing range of international development institutions, African Diaspora are becoming major players in African development. Given this interest, two types of articles and reports were selected to answer some of the research questions:

- ▶ To understand how African Diasporas contribute to local development, scientific papers proposing differing perspectives on the question were studied. The large number of case studies allowed us to understand the local contexts in which ADDOs engage in local development, what difficulties they face, and the limits of their actions.
- ▶ With a prospective view, financial and technical institutions engaged in international development wrote a severalty of reports on how African Diasporas can become major actors of African local development. This report will refer to these as “technical literature”.

Online survey - to understand ADDOs functioning, membership, activities and funding, an online survey was launched toward ADDOs in Europe. The objective was to know the diversity of ADDOs interested in this study: the scale, sector and location of their activities, the origin and number of their members, a description of a project they implemented and their relationships with African and European authorities. The 31 answers received helped us identify the cases thoroughly studied in the second phase.

In the second phase of the research, six case studies were selected and analysed to give an in-depth perspective of projects in which ADDOs played a role in local development. The intention was to choose a geographically representative sample of various African and European countries. As the first phase of the study highlighted that ADDOs could work with local authorities as project coordinators through direct interventions, or as partners of decentralized cooperations, three cases per type of intervention were selected. To carry out the case studies, documentation was collected on each project and the stakeholders were interviewed.

- ▶ For direct interventions, interviews with members of the ADDO were performed, plus as relevant: the African partner of the ADDO, the local authorities of the place of their action in Africa and the beneficiaries of the project.
- ▶ For decentralized cooperations, interviews were held with members of the ADDO, the European local authority who established the decentralized cooperation, the African local authority who created the decentralized cooperation and as relevant: the European and African operators of the project, and beneficiaries of the project.

The criteria used to select cases were European ADDOs taking part in a local development project in an African country with clear relations with African and European authorities to implement the project. In addition, the selection process ensured a variety of intervention sectors in line with the SDGs.

The six projects selected are briefly presented in this table.

PROJECT TYPE	EUROPEAN COUNTRY	AFRICAN COUNTRY	THEME AND SECTOR
Direct intervention	Belgium	Nigeria	Agriculture, Responsible Consumption and Production
Direct intervention	France	Senegal	Agriculture, Integration of disabled people
Direct intervention	Czech Republic	Ghana	Women Empowerment, Education
Decentralized cooperation	Belgium	Morocco	Social Economy, Agriculture
Decentralized cooperation	Italy	Tunisia, Morocco	Entrepreneurship, youth vocational integration
Decentralized cooperation	France	Comoros Union	Cultural promotion, decentralization

Table 1 | Presentation of the cases studied

In addition to the case studies, the study outlines interesting examples of tangible accomplishments and difficulties of projects implemented with ADDOs found in the literature review and some interviews.

C) SETBACKS AND LIMITS OF THE STUDY

As part of our methodological approach, it is essential to clearly state the challenges encountered in the main phases of the study: the obstacles met can be anticipated in similar studies to come, but they are also a fruitful manner to understand the thematic studied.

LITERATURE REVIEW

While diasporas interest both scientific and technical institutions, there is an **uneven balance of technical and scientific papers published** on the relationship between diasporas and local authorities in Europe and Africa (some scientific papers, few technical ones), the classifications of diasporas and ADDOs (some scientific papers, almost no technical ones), and diasporas financial investment in Africa (significantly more technical than scientific works). Some themes are well represented in both fields: the role of diasporas in development, the study of financial remittances, and the African states policies towards diasporas.

The literature found is essentially qualitative and based on monographies. While it clearly shows the individual and collective dynamics in a specific project, it gives a limited overall and macro perspective. Monographic works also tend to showcase the regions where diasporas are known to be dynamic and engaged in local development (Northern African, Senegal River Valley, Eastern Africa). Other African regions are far less studied, the ADDOs of these regions are less visible and known.

The limits demonstrated by the literature review helped us identify research themes and areas to further investigate as part of our recommendations at the end of the study.

ONLINE SURVEY

The online survey got thirty-one answers. While this allows us to draw some conclusions, a set of limits can be found in its administration and diffusion:

- ▶ The survey languages were English, French and Spanish: this may have reduced its accessibility for ADDOs of other languages to answer.
- ▶ ADEPT's member organizations were the core target of the survey, and other diaspora networks were used. ADDOs which did not belong to diaspora networks and umbrella organizations were more difficult to reach.

This survey was explicitly inquiring on the relationship between diasporas and authorities: there may be a bias in those results, as people who have experiences to share are more willing to answer surveys, and thus overrepresented.

CASE STUDIES

The direct interventions studied were mostly based on individual interviews, with limited analysis of documentation on the projects. When implementing a project on their own, ADDOs do not systematically make reports on their initiatives, projects and budgets. Monitoring and evaluation of projects is more developed when they get external funding and/or partner with NGOs, national and local authorities or international institutions.

The means of communication with the stakeholders in African remote areas are limited due to technical and linguistic barriers. This particularly affected the discussions with African beneficiaries. The study could work with translators in some countries and therefore overcame that constraint. Nevertheless, it was noticed that in those case studies, linguistic barriers impacted the everyday communication between stakeholders and therefore created misunderstandings.

Despite our efforts to contact many ADDOs and select cases from all African and European regions, the cases selected overrepresent Northern and Western African projects. This reflects the African regions of origin from where ADDOs are the most numerous, active and easily identified through their belonging in Diaspora networks.

3. THE ENGAGEMENT OF ADDOS IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

As development organisations, ADDOs wish to contribute to local, national and regional development in Africa. This chapter aims at understanding their various contributions to local development, to which extent they can contribute locally to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the dynamics of their collective commitment.

A) MULTI-FACETED CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Main Findings

WHAT ARE THE VARIOUS MODALITIES OF AFRICAN DIASPORA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND OF COLLABORATIONS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES?

Relationship between diasporas and development is subject to scientific debates. Access to water, health, and school constructions are frequent examples of ADDOs contributions in areas of massive emigration. However, those local initiatives are not always sustainable solutions. The financial dimension of ADDOs contribution to local development in Africa is universally recognized. Looking closely at their actions, there are other types of contributions: the time and competences ADDOs share constitute human contributions that ought to be valued; ADDOs also introduce new social practices and create ties between African and European territories.

Both the scientific and the technical literature presents **financial and social remittances as one of the main modalities of contribution to the development of the country of origin** (Barhanu, 2019; Black and King 2004). This is also well documented by international institutions (EC Europe, IOM, CIDO). ADDOs members may also transfer cultural and social remittances, as their projects can transform norms and social practices throughout projects' implementation.

Nevertheless, scientific and technical analyses have diverging views on the contributions of diasporas and ADDOs activities in African countries to local development as the **relationship between diasporas and development is subject to scientific debates**, and contradictory conclusions can be found. Bréant (2013) studies the case of the Togolese migration and observes that the discourse of international organizations, that encourages migrants to work at their level towards the development of their country, is disconnected from reality. To him, migration trajectories and histories are more individual and family-related, far from social imperatives of community development. He explains that the emergence of this discourse among diaspora organizations themselves did not increase their culture of transnational commitment and asks "*What If Diasporas Didn't Think about Development*", . Berhanu (2019) observes that "*Globally, the size and development-related role of the diaspora has been increasing (...). The literature on the nexus between*

migration and development indicates a reciprocal interaction between the two.” These studies present global perspectives on migration and development, but papers analysing local contexts in areas of intense diaspora mobilisations show clear and often positive impacts of ADDOs.

Case studies of Northern and Western Africa have documented local development projects at the village level. The contributions of hometown diaspora organisations are important at the local level and target several sectors. **Access to water, health, and school constructions are frequent examples of ADDOs contributions in areas of massive emigration.** For example, in Kayes (Mali), as of 2011, 34% of schools, 42% of health centres, 19% of fountains, boreholes or wells had benefited from some financing from diaspora organizations (Bernard et al. 2014).

Those local initiatives are not always self-sustaining economically: they contribute to the improvement of living conditions but rarely make the beneficiaries autonomous (Charef and Gonin 2005). The hometown diaspora organisations can work in networks grouping the diaspora of the village living in multiple countries. The Soninke communities in Senegal River Valley are a well-known example of massive ADDOs investments and impacts in local development only based on important membership fees and sacrifices the diaspora makes to develop their village of origin (Schmitz and Humery 2008). In countries and areas with fewer emigration rates, scientific works are mainly case studies, and almost no global analyses were found. Local development is mostly approached in some literature outside the perimeter of our study, through research on individual diasporas entrepreneurs.

In contrast to the scientific literature, the technical literature, and the interviews performed defend a much more positive and optimistic view of the actual and potential contribution of diasporas and ADDOs to local development.

“A well-educated and well-connected global diaspora gathers talented people from whom countries can receive remittances, know-how and contacts – and perhaps migrants who will return home. Ultimately, transnational communities and development actors are human resources with more possibilities and economic capital to serve both countries of origin and destination. These are, of course, only some of the ways in which diasporas contribute to development.” William Lacy Swing, Director General, International Organisation for Migration

*(Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, European Union,
UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative)*

Their argument is based on a combination of logical reasoning, case studies and sets of examples. It highlights four main types of contributions.

THE 1ST TYPE OF CONTRIBUTION IS FINANCIAL.

At the individual level, the technical literature often highlights the potential of remittances. Donors focus on this subject since the volume of remittances is colossal: according to the World Bank, remittance flows to low- and middle-income countries (\$540 billion) surpassed both the sum of foreign direct investment (FDI) (\$259 billion) and overseas development assistance (\$179 billion) in 2020⁷. They observe that remittances mostly support family consumption and ambition to facilitate productive investment by the recipient families (Vasconcelos et al. 2017).

Donors also focus on money transfer fees. The World Bank estimated that if the cost of sending remittances was 5% lower, remittance recipients in developing countries would receive over \$16 billion additional dollars each year. This added income could provide more consumption, savings, and investment in local economies. This calculation gave birth to SDG 10.C “By 2030, reduce to less than three per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than five per cent”.

At the ADDOs level, collective remittances are also highlighted in the technical literature as a source of local development as they finance vocational schools, health facilities and other kinds of infrastructures often in the migrants’ region of origin and therefore contribute to improving economic conditions (GIZ and CIM 2013). For the ADDOs, this engagement is philanthropic mostly for public goods or productive projects such as the creation of markets, hydro-agricultural facilities, and support to cooperatives (IFAD and ADEPT, to be published). On the fringes of ADDOs, diaspora groups can also perform profit-generating investments through investment group and collective entrepreneurship.

ORGANISATION Bokemei Foundation	Project description: the Bokemei Foundation was founded by Mr. Abbey, a Ghanaian who lived 30 years in The Netherlands. Since 2012, the organisation has established a knowledge centre in Greater Accra step by step, with facilities that include a nursery school, a primary school, a junior high school and a vocational college. The school is located in a built-up area where there is now water, electricity and some facilities. Bokemei is not financially supported by governments, but generates income through donations, actions and small-scale projects until the school is self-sufficient. More information on: https://www.bokemei.nl/
RESIDENCE COUNTRY The Netherlands	
ORIGIN COUNTRY Ghana	

Box 1 | Improvement of living conditions through investing in education infrastructures

⁷ More information available on: [Defying Predictions, Remittance Flows Remain Strong During COVID-19 Crisis \(worldbank.org\)](https://www.worldbank.org)

A SECOND TYPE OF CONTRIBUTION IS HUMAN.

Human contribution integrates the time and competences the ADDOs and their members devote either to manage their own local development projects in Africa or to contribute as partners to development projects from NGOs, territorial authorities or other actors. ADDOs can assume technical, operational and/or monitoring roles. ADDOs can also enrich the conception and implementation of local development projects thanks to their migratory experience and knowledge of the territory of origin and its citizenship (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC and UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative 2017). Additionally, ADDOs are often aware of updated local affairs and news thanks to their local networks and of the families of their members.

Several interviews highlighted the time diaspora members volunteer for the cause or the project of their organisation. Often, they dedicate time at night and on weekends. In some cases, they take extensive leaves of absence or devote their vacation time to the project.

ORGANISATION The Foodbridge VZW	Project description The Foodbridge vzw was founded in 2014 in Brussels, Belgium, by Maureen Duru who was born and raised in Nigeria. The Food Bridge is focused on the promotion of food cultures, not just as an avenue for sharing communal experience but also as a viable development tool. Their Food Heritage Project aims at encouraging and supporting rural farmers in Nigeria to plant nutritious indigenous food crops especially those that are rare or threatened with extinction. It has a dedicated team of three volunteers involved in the decision-making process and project implementation follow-up in Belgium in addition to the volunteer local coordinator. Questioned about a broad estimation of the time the Food Heritage Project takes them, Maureen Duru revealed <i>“It is like doing two jobs at the same time. Since we do not have any funding yet, we all work, and Faith (the local coordinator) is doing a university course. For Faith and I, it will be a conservative estimate of five hours a day and for the others, two hours. Personally, from morning until sometimes very late, there is always work going on. (...) I have had days like today that I think, is it worth it? Then I get updates or feedback showing how we have impacted people I do not even know personally and that gives me courage.”</i> Read the complete case study in part 6.
RESIDENCE COUNTRY Belgium	
ORIGIN COUNTRY Nigeria	

Box 2 | Mobilizing volunteers for the promotion of indigenous food crops

A THIRD TYPE OF CONTRIBUTION IS SOCIAL

Sometimes referred to as Social Remittances, ADDOs can bring innovative ideas, behaviour and practices to their countries of origin⁸. Akin to financial remittances, the social remittances can be individual or collective. For example, the Moroccan migrants in the Netherlands help to introduce youth issues to Moroccan municipalities and help Dutch municipalities to deal with the new 'diversity' issue (Van Ewijk 2016). The cultural and linguistic proximity of ADDOs with the country of origin also allows them to act as agents of dialogue and of change for the development of their communities and to create bridges between their country of origin and of residence (ADYFE 2019).

ORGANISATION The Humanitas Afrika	<p>Project description</p> <p>Humanitas Afrika is a pan-African non-profit organization in Prague, Czech Republic. It is recognized by the Ministry of Social Welfare in Ghana. It has been intervening in Obom since 2002 and is the only NGO there. One of its objectives is to empower women in the area. To do so, it helped in creating a local association “The Afrika Women Association of Obom” which offers micro financing and workshops about health, finance, business management to women in the area, etc. Several testimonies show that the presence of Humanitas Afrika changed the perception of the village inhabitants both on education and on the “<i>cause of ladies</i>” to quote the Chief of Obom.</p> <p>Read the complete case study in part 6.</p>
RESIDENCE COUNTRY Czech Republic	
ORIGIN COUNTRY Ghana	

Box 3 | Supporting Woman empowerment

A last type of contribution is the promotion of ties between countries

ADDOs can play a role in promoting cooperation and economic links between countries at the local level. This can be through diaspora professional association or through the connection of local authorities in the country of origin and of residence.

ORGANISATIONS Imane, Marobel & Steunproject	<p>Project description</p> <p>In Antwerp, the diaspora from Ouled Daoud is particularly involved in decentralised cooperation thanks to the family ties they had before the decentralised cooperation started. The members of the associations wanted to have a positive impact on their village of origin and initiated the creation of three agricultural cooperatives with their own funds. The city of Antwerp quickly supported these initiatives and involved the three diaspora associations in the decentralised cooperation.</p> <p>Read the complete case study in part 6.</p>
RESIDENCE COUNTRY Belgium	
ORIGIN COUNTRY Morocco	

Box 4 | Promoting cooperation and economic links between cities in Belgium and Morocco

⁸ Social capital can often be mixed with human capital. Social capital is related to networks, whereas human capital is associated to people's skills, experiences or knowledge.

Even if it is outside the scope of the current study, it is worth mentioning that diaspora organizations can also play a role in local development in their country of residence, working on the assistance and integration of recently arrived migrants and on the promotion of diversity, tolerance and the African culture. It can be assumed that this way, ADDOs help in maintaining the link of 2nd and 3rd generations of diaspora with Africa and potentially to nourish future local development initiatives with their country of origin. A detailed example is presented in annex.

B) CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS).

ARE THE SDGS KNOWN AND INTEGRATED BY ADDOS IN THEIR PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES?

In practice, ADDOs' projects always contribute in one way or another to the local implementation of SDGs. Nevertheless, the integration of SDGs in their projects is not always conscious since self-funded ADDOs do not systematically know and/or communicate on SDGs. There is also generally no monitoring of the achievement of quantitative indicators. On the other side, funding mechanisms and partnerships between ADDOs and local authorities create new objectives and implementation modalities for local development projects, where SDGs are systematically integrated even if there may still be a need for methodological reinforcement.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as “*a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity*”. The goals are broken down in specific targets. The local implementation of SDGs by ADDOs entails amongst others:

1. ADDOs projects' objectives are aligned with SDGs.
2. ADDOs and their members are aware of SDGs.
3. ADDOs integrate SDGs in their project design, monitor the achievement of SDGs targets and communicate about them.

With regards to point 1, there is ample evidence, if scattered, that ADDOs contribute locally to SDGs through their own project or as partners in decentralized cooperation projects. Below is a table illustrating with real-life examples⁹ their local contribution to SDGs:

⁹ From our case studies, the PAISD mechanism, the study on Malian collective investment (FIDA, ADEPT, 2021)

	Provision of basic necessities to a village shop		Construction and equipment of an agricultural farm where disabled people can grow food for their own consumption and to sell
	Development of a market garden, purchase of collective machinery, construction of storage and creation of markets, etc.		Assistance to asylum seekers and refugees to get access to housing and basic services
	Construction and equipment of health centres, dispensaries, maternity units, housing units for medical staff, etc.		Financial and technical assistance to farmers to grow indigenous and nutritious crops with organic methods
	Construction and equipment of high schools, colleges, schools, libraries, computer rooms		Education on reforestation and combating desertification, installation of anti-erosion devices
	Microfinancing and empowerment workshops for women		Financing of a sustainable fish farming centre with a fish smoking point
	Financing of water towers, boreholes, drinking water supply network		Promotion and protection of indigenous crops to halt biodiversity loss
	Equipment of wells with a photovoltaic pump for agricultural irrigation		Through decentralized cooperation : Festival des Communes, which supports Comorian communities to combat violence against women and to improve health and sanitation and brings them closer to the people of the Comorian villages
	Creation and support of cooperatives in agriculture, breeding, crafts and ecotourism		Through decentralized cooperation : cooperation between training, employment and youth services in Italy (city of Milan and Turin), Morocco (city of Beni Mellal, Khouribga and Fquih Ben Salah) and Tunisia (city of Tunis) involving the diaspora
	Interest-free loans to small-scale agro-industrial enterprises		

Table 2| Examples of ADDOs intervention for each Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)

Regarding points 2 and 3, two cases can be highlighted:

- ▶ Self-funded ADDOs do not systematically know or refer to SDGs in their communication. Their project communication rather explain how they answer to needs raised by local people or to resolve a local problem they have identified themselves. They mostly do not integrate SDGs in their project design and even less monitor the achievement of SDGs targets.
- ▶ ADDOs involved in decentralised cooperation and/or asking for public subsidies generally know and refer to SDGs since it is one of the selection criteria to get grants. For example, for PRA-OSIM mechanism, gender, youth or environmental consideration must be justified by ADDOs in the project application form (although until 2018 only gender consideration was part of the scoring criteria). Nevertheless, there may still be a need for methodological reinforcement to improve the integration of SDGs in their project design and the monitoring of SDGs targets achievement.

Focus on gender and youth issues

The literature review and case studied showed decentralized cooperation projects including ADDOs always have a secondary focus on women or youth within the activities.

Regarding projects designed and implemented by the ADDOs, the specific focus on women and youth is not systematic. A recent survey¹⁰ of Malian diaspora organizations on their projects supporting entrepreneurship, based on the answers of 90 organizations, showed that most of their projects target the entire population of a village or a region ($\approx 60\%$ of respondents). About 20% were exclusively oriented to women and around 10% were exclusively oriented to youth. This study was specifically focused on projects supporting entrepreneurship, it is probable that those last two proportions would be much higher for projects related to education and health.

C) TYPES OF COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT

Main Findings

THROUGH WHICH CLASSIFICATIONS CAN WE BETTER UNDERSTAND ADDOS FUNCTIONING AND THE COMMITMENT OF THEIR MEMBERS?

ADDOs tend to engage in local projects either with a thematic or with a geographical approach. Geographical engagement creates local development projects in a specific area and can tackle several sectors as they answer to diverse local population needs. Thematic engagement can be done in several regions and countries and are usually based on ADDO members' interests and/or competencies.

There is no scientific consensus on a unique classification of diaspora organizations. On the contrary, the categories used by academics are tailored to the subject of their research and generally applied to case studies. Below are some examples of hypothesis and analysis axes used.

- ▶ **The migration motives approach** - Black and King (2004) focus on the region/country of origin of diasporas and/or on the migration motives to explain the level of structuration of diasporas. An example of organised communities can be found with West African migrants and more specifically from the Senegal River Valley. They are known to be grouped in highly organised associations closely linked to the village of origin. Hometown diaspora organisations are organized in networks of different levels (region of origin, ethnicity, country of origin and/or country of residence).
- ▶ Most of the time, those ADDOs have a strong geographical focus and directly answer the needs raised by the local communities.
- ▶ **An urban or rural nexus** - Grillo and Riccio (2004) use the origin of migrants from urban or rural areas to explain the characteristics of the collective commitment. In “Translocal Development: Italy–Senegal”, the authors explain that their case studies

¹⁰ IFAD and ADEPT. To be published. Pratiques et préférences d'investissements collectif et individuel de la diaspora malienne en France, Espagne et Italie. Research report (Title subject to change)

concern small groups of Wolof-speaking migrants, connected with urban areas, which engage in collective enterprises with varied interest, while networking for their personal activities. They clearly differentiate that model from the Soninké hometown diaspora organisations in France whose migration involves communities, usually living in collective accommodations and answering to the needs of their village of origin. The commitment of diaspora organizations with more urban acquaintance may be seen as more individualistic, more thematic and with less territorial focus.

- ▶ **The Family ties variable** - Tiemoko (2004) adopts another approach interesting to apply to associative leaders. He focuses on the links maintained by diaspora individuals with their families to see their impact on the transfer of human, social and financial capital. In “Migration, Return and Socio-Economic Change in West Africa: The Role of Family”, he explains that people who have regular family ties with the country of origin would remain on the classic models of sending money to their family or contributions for social projects (building a mosque etc.) but would know the local context and its specificities very well. On the contrary, individuals who have fewer regular relations with their families would be "innovative" as they would not limit their contribution to traditional family support, but would create a business, invest profitably etc. It is possible that the profile of the associative leaders may impact the approach used by the ADDO in its local development projects.

Those three approaches allow to distinguish two main profiles of organizations:

- ▶ The organizations focused on a geographic area (in this study, these are essentially structured diasporas, potentially more rural members having strong family links with their hometown).
- ▶ The organizations focused on a specific thematic (in the case studies, the thematic organisations are more urban diasporas, without systematic ties with family members in Africa).

	ORGANIZATIONS FOCUSED ON A GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ORGANIZATIONS FOCUSED ON A SPECIFIC THEMATIC
PROJECT DESIGN LOGIC	Those organizations use a bottom-up approach. They answer the needs raised by the local communities. A good example are hometown diaspora associations ¹¹ and decentralized cooperation projects.	Those organizations use a top-down approach. They focus on one thematic they consider as central for development, similar to NGOs. A good example is The Foodbridge vzw (see case study).
LEADER PROFILE	Diplomatic – they must be legitimate both in their country of origin and of residence and be able to align the objectives of the	Technician/Militant/Campaigner – they must convince the different stakeholders that their specific approach brings strong values to beneficiaries.

¹¹ An example for the Sedhiou region (Senegal) can be found on the following link: https://www.grdr.org/IMG/pdf/sedhiou_final-3.pdf

	project partners and beneficiaries.	
MEMBERS PROFILE	Members of the diaspora coming from the same geographic area. For some countries of origin, the members can be quite numerous (e.g. median of 50 members for Malian organizations).	Member of the diaspora and other people committed to African development, convinced by the association objectives. For most organisations of this type, the number of members is limited.
FINANCING	Donations from members can be a significant resource, even if they also try and raise additional fundings (public grants, private donations, etc.)	The total amount of donations from members can be limited by the size of the organisation, which therefore has to communicate a lot and look for external resources (public grants, private donation, partnerships, etc.)
DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH PERSPECTIVES	The low level of basic infrastructure in the areas of origin can encourage those organisations to invest first in local development projects under the control of the municipality (school, health centre and drinking water supply). Once these basic needs have been met, those diaspora organisations move on to projects generating income (markets, hydro-agricultural developments and agricultural cooperatives) (IFAD, ADEPT, to be published). Those organizations can also enlarge their geographical focus (from the village to the municipality to the region).	The test of their intervention logic in one location can encourage those organizations to replicate it to other areas within the country or in another country. They can also enlarge their intervention to close thematic in the same localisation.

Table 3 | ADDOs geographic or thematic engagement

The budget and financial resources of ADDOs is an important variable in categorising ADDOs in terms of size. Financial resources can allow the development of projects of greater or lesser scale and technicality. They also make it possible to recruit employees who professionalise the way in which ADDOs operate. An organisation with employees can respond to more calls for projects and create leverage to carry out large-scale projects but this involves significant and regular operating costs. The case studies and literature review show that the professionalisation of ADDOs is limited to date, and that most ADDOs rely on volunteers whose mobilisation and commitment over time is a crucial issue.

An interesting question is: will the new generations of the diaspora maintain the same kind of collective commitment as their parents? To our knowledge, there is yet no research with extensive surveys to answer that question. Some research based on interviews and small surveys highlight the diversity of the 2nd and 3rd generations regarding their social, educational and/or professional situation but also regarding the links they have with their country of origin and the legacy they received from their parents' migratory background. This diversity results in different types of engagement (political, humanitarian, human rights) which encompasses a wide range of reasons for action. Human rights are frequently seen as the cause that mobilises the most numerous, powerful and diverse transnational engagement (Arouche, Lardeux, and Zobel 2020). These findings can be completed with observations from the technical literature that the 2nd and 3rd generations would have a lesser geographic-focus and would be more prone to act at national and pan African level with innovative ways. It can therefore be assumed that in the next decades, the number of ADDOs with a thematic focus might increase. This trend might be amplified with the fight against climate change.

4. ADDOS INTERVENTIONS: PARTNERS AND FUNDING

A) FUNDING


Main Findings

HOW DO AFRICAN DIASPORA ORGANISATIONS MOBILIZE FINANCIAL RESOURCES DEDICATED TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT?

The most recurrent form of project funding for ADDOs is the contribution of their members, through annual membership fees or donations for each project. ADDOs also take part in social events where they collect donations or entry fees from the public. For small ADDOs, obtaining grants and annual subsidies can be a major challenge. Depending on the country of residence and origin, ADDOs could apply or advocate for the development of:

- ▶ Municipality, region or federated state grants for associations (in some cases, specific grants for international cooperation projects exist).
- ▶ Grants in the country of residence or of origin through diaspora-oriented programs¹².
- ▶ Grants from private organisations such as foundations, companies they work in...

Being associated to decentralised cooperation is an indirect fund mobilisation for ADDOs: their financial contribution is often reduced or non-existent, and their volunteer work can be valued in the local development projects budgets.

All ADDOs self-finance, partly or totally, their projects thanks to contributions of their members. Those can take three forms:

- ▶ Ordinary membership fees paid monthly or annually. These are generally of low amounts (50€ to 200€ per year).
- ▶ Project contributions. These are dedicated to specific projects and paid at the discretion of each member. They can be of much higher amounts. It is not rare that association leaders and very involved people donate more than a 1000€ euros for a project to come into being.
- ▶ Time and material. These are most of the time hidden contributions: they do not appear in the association's accounting documentation and are often not valued in euros-

¹² For example, in Mali, the CoDevelopment program finances ADDOs projects in their hometown.
<http://codeveloppementmali.ml/>

equivalent by the ADDOs outside of decentralized cooperation. Time is nevertheless a resource provided by the ADDO for local development which has an economic value even if it is provided at no cost by volunteers. In some cases, members of the ADDOs even pay for some expenses which benefits the project with no compensation: a common case is flight tickets to go to the country of origin.

- ▶ The amount ADDOs are able to self-finance depend on the number and on the wealth of its members, but also on the country of residence. It has been brought to our attention for example that in Czech Republic, in 2015, the law for association changed and made membership fees impossible.

Most ADDOs are also able to mobilize external fundings. Those can take many forms:

- ▶ Donations from non-member individuals. These financial or in-kind donations can be triggered through events, through an intensive communication on social networks and through the ADDO website as evidenced by the case studies. More seldom, ADDOs can resort to crowdfunding campaign. In the last years, some platforms targeting diasporas specifically have been created like Fiatope¹³.
- ▶ Donations from companies (e.g. philanthropy corporate foundations, public or private companies...). Scarce, those financial or in-kind donations are generally obtained through a partnership and/or a common project with a company¹⁴.
- ▶ Subsidies from the public. Those grants can be achieved after an application and a selection process by the grant provider. Their amount and award conditions can vary greatly. They can also integrate technical assistance to develop the ADDO capacities¹⁵.
- ▶ The ability of the ADDO to leverage the external funding depends both on its internal capacities (network, ability to communicate and to fundraise) as these funds can be scarce and not identified by ADDOs. It also depends on its geographical area of intervention as not of origin and host countries offer the same access to funding (cf. part 5b. external factors). In Europe, France is known to offer several funding mechanisms for ADDOs that are national (e.g. PRA-OSIM), regional (e.g. YCID¹⁶) and with their local council. Several decentralized cooperation initiatives integrate ADDOs, even if they don't have specific financing mechanism.

¹³ <https://www.fiatope.com/>

¹⁴ For example, the company Sogea-Satom created the ISSA programme to finance development projects in Africa sponsored by employees. <https://www.fondation-vinci.com/fondation/fr/page/international.htm> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpQhfDBv8YU&t=1s&ab_channel=Sogea-Satom

¹⁵ For example, the Seine-Saint-Denis French department (studied in the decentralized cooperation with the Comoros) created the "Via le Monde" fund for associations engaged in international cooperation. <https://vialemonde93.net/>

¹⁶ <https://www.yvelines.fr/solidarite/cooperation-internationale/le-gip-yvelines-cooperation-internationale-developpement/solidarite-internationale/>

OPERATOR FORIM	Project description The PRA/OSIM is a national support and co-financing mechanism for local development projects carried out by Diaspora Development Organisations.
FUNDERS Ministry Of Europe And Foreign Affairs [Meae] And The French Development Agency [Afd].	The mechanisms rest on a network of labelled support operators (OPAP) through which all applications are submitted after a preliminary assessment with individualised and/or collective support. Chaired by FORIM, a joint review committee is made up of a panel of representatives from diaspora organizations, local authorities, academics, donors and development institutions. After examining the applications, its members deliberate on the eligible projects and ultimately decide whether or not to allocate co-financing. The sustainability of the project, the involvement of a partner in the Global South, the integration of gender in the projects and the coherence with local and national development policies are particularly considered.
RESIDENCE COUNTRY France	The total budget of the project must not exceed 120,000 euros. The grant request is limited to 15,000€ and may not represent more than 70% of the total amount of the of the project. 70 to 80 projects are financed each year. More information available on: IV - Les objectifs du programme (forim.net)

Box 6 | Example of a financing mechanism in France, the PRA-OSIM

- ▶ Other funding mechanisms exist at the European level (ADEPT seed funding program) and at the national level (e.g. in Germany: BMZ funding for "private sponsors"¹⁷) but not in all European countries. In Africa, some countries have also created funding mechanisms to facilitate the action of ADDOs like Senegal (PAISD) or Mali (Cellule Technique de Codéveloppement).

¹⁷ <https://diaspora2030.de/service/weitere-foerderangebote/bmz-foerderung-fuer-private-traeger/>

OPERATOR PAISD	<p>Project description</p> <p>The PAISD supports and subsidises up to 70% of the local development actions of diaspora associations in their country of origin (focus on France, Belgium, Spain and Italy). The PAISD presents the following results obtained since 2005:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 192 socio-economic infrastructures supported by diaspora associations which benefited from technical support and funding - 7.6 million EUR mobilised by the diaspora and their partners in strategic sectors: Education-Vocational training (53% of investments - High schools, colleges, schools, libraries, computer rooms, etc. - 24,181 pupils), Health (23% - health centres, dispensaries, maternity units, housing units for medical staff, etc.- 329,100 people covered) & Access to drinking water (24% - infrastructure for access to drinking water including: water towers, boreholes, drinking water supply network, private connections - 185,900 users of hydraulic works) <p>The projects supported must be carried out by legally constituted associations and the projects must be coherent with public policies, namely the PSE (Plan Sénégal Emergent), sectoral strategies and local development plans.</p> <p>More information available on: https://paisd.sn/</p>
FUNDERS Republic Of Senegal, European Union, French Development Agency [AFD].	
INTERVENTION COUNTRY Senegal	

Box 7 | Example of a financing mechanism in Senegal, the PAISD

The question of access to funding arises differently when ADDOs participate in decentralised cooperation. In those cases, the territorial authorities are responsible for raising and managing the funds. From our case studies, it seems that ADDOs in those projects act as volunteers without having a dedicated budget, even for networking activities.

B) RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

ADDOs and local and national authorities

Main Findings

ARE ADDOS WILLING TO WORK WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR RESIDENCE?

ADDOs are willing to develop good relationships with local authorities in Europe and Africa for the success of their development projects. Political environments in Africa can create suspicion and distrust between ADDOs, the population and local or national authorities: early dialogue, co-conception of projects, frequent and direct communication are key trust building and appeasement measures.

ADDOs seem to be willing to partner with local authorities in Europe and in Africa to implement their initiatives. Many variables can however facilitate or hinder partnerships between the two.

A willingness to cooperate...

Close cooperation between ADDOs and African or European authorities is embraced in speeches by all our respondents in the study. In our online survey, most respondents stated that they wish to, or are already working with African and European authorities.

ARE YOU PRONE TO WORK WITH...	AFRICAN LOCAL OR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES?	EUROPEAN LOCAL OR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES?
Yes, we already do	22 – 71.0%	19 – 61.3%
Yes, we would like to	8 – 25.8%	10 – 32.3%
I don't know	1 – 3.2%	2 – 6.4%
No, we are not interested	0 – 0%	0 – 0%

Table 4 | ADDOs' answers to the online survey - 31 respondents

The case studies in this report are additional examples of effective cooperation between ADDOs and local or national authorities in Europe and Africa: most projects received grants or access to public facilities (for example, free or reduced fares to access to meeting rooms) from European public institutions (municipality, region, public institutions specialized in migration or on specific sectors as water infrastructures), and all projects were implemented (if not designed) after discussions with African authorities. The literature review gives a more balanced perspective: if ADDOs are open to meet and collaborate with African authorities, the depth and quality of their relationship with authorities depends on the local contexts.

...Affected by national and local contexts in Europe and Africa

For **ADDOs based in Europe**, the location of the association can influence their ability to partner with local authorities. During the study, almost all ADDOs encountered are based in urban areas. To explain this, it can be assumed that urban ADDOs can more easily join diaspora networks and get access to useful resources to implement their projects. Numerous European municipalities and regions with an important part of migrant population engage in “welcoming cities¹⁸” networks (Lacroix and Furri 2020), and can give subsidies to ADDOs projects (Østergaard-Nielsen and Acebillo-Baqué 2016). Some European large cities like Antwerp (Belgium) systematically partner with diaspora organisations when they engage in international cooperations, and national “co-development” programs are developed in France and Italy to finance ADDOs’ projects in their country of origin (Vincent-Mory 2021; Grillo and Riccio 2004), even if the impact of such programs on local development is contested (Khoudour-Castéras 2010). An overall literature review shows particularly dynamic relationships between European authorities and ADDOs in Belgium, France, Italy or Spain, to name but a few. Less information is available on ADDOs outside major urban immigration areas, but similar cooperation between small municipalities or regional authorities and ADDOs could possibly be found or initiated.

In Africa, the implementation of local development projects encourages the development of cooperation between ADDOs and African authorities. At the national level, the members of

¹⁸ For examples, see: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/interculturalcities/networks>, <https://www.icorn.org/>, <https://www.anvita.fr/en/who-are-we/>.

ADDOS can **distrust the authorities** of the country where their projects take place: corruption, administrative malfunctions or political instability are sometimes criticised by ADDOs (Gsir and Mescoli 2015). The administrative procedures can slow down the project implementation, but **early collaborations with local or national authorities** have helped some of the cases studied to overcome these issues. In areas where diasporas are very active, as in the Senegal River Valley, local and national authorities often facilitate ADDOs initiatives and insert them within the national development framework. Yet, the fact that ADDOs are private organisations working for public interest can undermine the collaborations between the two. Some public infrastructures financed by ADDOs cause tensions as diasporas can contest national or local authorities in their management of an infrastructure considered as “diaspora owned”. While local authorities have scarce resources in most African countries, diaspora contestations can hinder local authorities’ willingness to cooperate with them (Schmitz and Humery 2008; Lima 2005).

IS DECENTRALISED COOPERATION FACILITATED OR HAMPERED BY ADDOS’ ENGAGEMENT?

What are the assets of a triangular cooperation between ADDOs and local authorities in Africa and Europe? ADDOs are key actors in decentralised cooperation: they can be the reason for the creation of decentralised cooperation; they act as cultural and linguistic translators, thus reducing misunderstandings and their consequences; their network in both countries can open new perspectives and help overcome obstacles. In triangular cooperation between Europe and Africa authorities, ADDOs drastically increase the bilateral learning between authorities. For all these positive effects to be optimal, the role of ADDOs in the cooperation has to be clearly designed and accepted by all stakeholders.

Positive impacts of ADDOs and authorities’ cooperation

Decentralised cooperation¹⁹ is a fruitful cooperation mechanism when it associates ADDOs. Using ADDOs’ qualities and dynamism, it offers to scale-up the magnitude of diaspora organisations’ activities, with the help of European and African authorities. It also eases ADDOs pressure to manage the financial and administrative dimensions of local development projects.

For van Ewijk (2016), ADDOs can have three roles in decentralized cooperation: instigators of the cooperation between the European and African authorities; a linguistic and cultural translation and facilitation role; project resources for the network and knowledge they can share when the project is blocked. These roles significantly **increase two-way learning** between local authorities. Their knowledge of the local context, of the African country’s political news is more accurate thanks to regular exchanges with their families and with the beneficiaries of the projects (Tiemoko 2004).

¹⁹ The study mostly refers to decentralized cooperation instead of city twinning because city twinning is a loose and immaterial form of exchange between two local authorities of different countries. Decentralised cooperation implies the creation of a common project benefiting both localities: as this study focuses on local development, city twinning is less pertinent to the study.

ORGANISATION ADEGAM	Project description: The ADEGAM, an association of Kayes region diaspora (Mali) living in Yvelines department (France) federated Simby municipality and the Yvelines department to develop an ambitious water distribution system in the Malian locality. The ADEGAM has a local representation in Mali, which facilitated the communication with Malian local and national authorities. In France, ADEGAM received grants from the FORIM in the PRAOSIM program at its second attempt and was technically accompanied by the Yvelines YCID organisation. The Malian municipality of Simby contributed to the project through administrative facilitation (local council approval), communication with the population and securing access to public and private land. More information at: (Innogen Consulting n.d. p.56) https://www.pseau.org/outils/ouvrages/forim_etude_les_formes_d_engagement_de_la_diaspora_malienne_2021.pdf
RESIDENCE COUNTRY France	
ORIGIN COUNTRY: Mali	

Box 8 | Efficient collaborations between ADDOs, African and European authorities without decentralised cooperation protocols

ADDOS and other stakeholders

Main Findings

HOW DO ADDOS IMPLEMENT PROJECTS LOCALLY, WITH WHICH LOCAL PARTNERS?

For ADDOs involved in the development of their place of origin, close relatives are often informal partners in development projects. ADDOs members who returned to their place of origin can create a twin organisation, or a local branch to facilitate development projects. For ADDOs with less personal ties in their intervention localities, or invested in a sector they have not mastered, working with local or specialised associations and NGOs can be an efficient partnership when tasks repartition is clearly established.

- ▶ **ADDOs' members' close relatives** – ADDOs projects can help develop the location where the diasporas families live, and some projects are based on the local monitoring of family members of ADDOs members. While this partnership is built on personal trust, it can affect the relationship between the diaspora and the family: volunteer management of construction works, finances and monitoring a project can be a burden for family members and can create tensions between diasporas and their close relatives.
- ▶ **Autonomous implementations: ADDOs' local branches or local coordinator** - In our online survey, 37% of the ADDOs had an African branch in the country they developed projects. Having a local branch can make local project implementation easier, as a sound collaboration between ADDOs and African stakeholders is enabled.

- ▶ **Local association or NGO²⁰** - When the ADDO does not have a local branch, partnerships with local associations or NGOs can make the project more locally embedded: development associations and small NGOs are more aware of the realities of the locality where the project is implemented than diasporas who don't live there. As diasporas are sometimes perceived as foreigners for the population, working with a local organization can be an efficient way to legitimise their actions.

- ▶ **International NGOs and associations** – International NGOs have internal procedures differing from most ADDOs' way of working. ADDOs members are rarely international cooperation professionals. These characteristics create rare collaborations between the two, and diasporas can feel excluded as they are rarely able to work on projects during office time because of their own professional responsibilities. Some NGOs and associations are specialized in ADDOs reinforcement and help diaspora organizations in highly technical projects (e.g. access to water and sanitation).

- ▶ The fact that ADDOs are strongly attached to a territory without living there can be a difficulty for project management: trustful relations have to be maintained with partners on the territory in order to meet the actual needs of the population they are helping. When they work with other partners, they can feel excluded from the project implementation. Building trust and communicating regularly with the partners on the field often helps overcome this difficulty.

²⁰ Depending on the African countries the projects are implemented in, we can find more associative development organisations (e.g. in most French speaking Africa) or local NGOs. This can vary depending on the funds associations and NGOs are allowed to collect, or on their actions perimeters (e.g. hometown associations or thematic NGOs).

5. RESTRAINING AND ENABLING FACTORS TO ADDOS ENGAGEMENT



WHICH FACTORS CAN LIMIT OR DETERMINE THE ENGAGEMENT OF AFRICAN DIASPORA ORGANIZATIONS IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT?

An external factor of ADDOs' engagement is the associative culture in the country of intervention and of residence which impacts the ability of ADDOs to self-finance and to get volunteers for their project. and the existence of mechanisms to financially or technically assist ADDOs' projects is also a major stake. In a more general perspective, trust has to be built between ADDOs, the beneficiary population and local authorities in Africa. But ADDOs functioning are also key: the members must agree on the administration, distribution of tasks and contribution levels in order to donate time, money or share their expertise in local development projects.

A) ADDOS INTERNAL FACTORS

RESTRAINING FACTORS

Most ADDOs are small structures, based on voluntary work and financial participation of their members. The members are **rarely professionally trained** to coordinate development projects in Africa and may have a poor grasp of key concepts in international cooperation, such as the SDGs. Voluntary work implies small time slots to work on the project (evenings, weekends, holidays...) and rare professional project management skills. Funding of the project, **unbalanced distribution of tasks** between the ADDOs members, and no **working premises** can create internal tensions. The distribution of management tasks can create power struggles between the members and slow down the project advancement. Moreover, self-funding is the main resource for a large number of ADDOs, and it builds up expectations on the project success for the contributors. These issues may affect how ADDOs are perceived when they work with partners: as unorganised associations, not truly able to manage projects. This can contribute to distrust between diasporas and their partners. Another internal limitation of the engagement of diasporas in local development is the **physical and social distance** between ADDOs members and the location they want to engage in. The social, political, or economical evolutions of an African territory they come from are fast and can be hard to accept. This may either hinder the will to develop a territory less understood or lead to actions that don't answer to the actual needs of the beneficiaries.

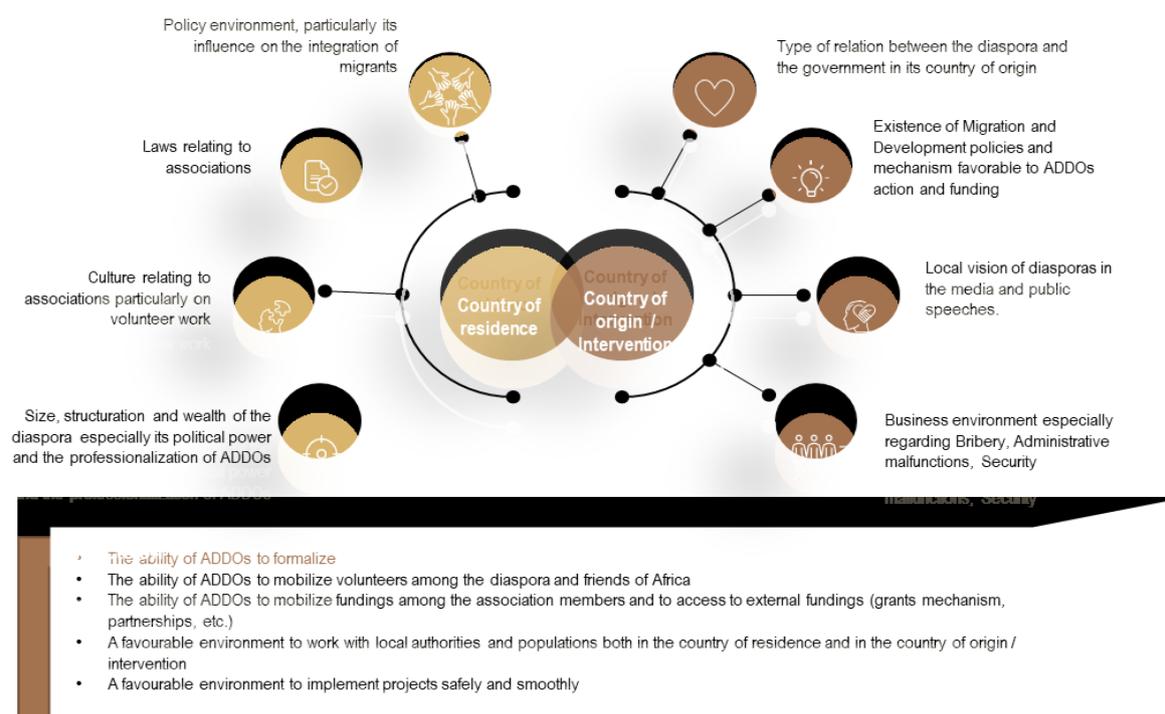
ENABLING FACTORS

Positive aspects of ADDOs characteristics can on the other hand facilitate the engagement of ADDOs in local development. As Tiemoko (2004) argues, strong family ties between

ADDOs members and their relatives in an African country are an added value. Diasporas with strong family ties tend to engage in the long run, and in more economical and social sectors than diasporas with distant relationship with their relatives. Gsir and Mescoli (2015) underline that **frequent travels of ADDOs members to their country of origin** strengthen the trust with local partners, and creates a strong and efficient ADDOs local network, improving projects implementation. Astute tasks distribution **valuing the competences of each ADDO member** can improve their dedication and the quality of projects. ADDOs highly qualified members can be great resources to develop projects in their fields of expertise (El-Cherkeh et al. 2007), and can **transfer their skills and knowledge** to the beneficiary population. The promotion of the individual contributions of ADDOs members, can have a great impact on the commitment of diasporas in local development through ADDOs projects. It is a form of **reward of the voluntary engagement** of association members.

B) EXTERNAL FACTORS

- ▶ Historically, ADDOs had to wait until the laws of European countries allowed foreigners to form associations (1981 in France²¹, 1985 in Spain²² and 1990 in Italy²³) to be able to formalise themselves and thus to be able to access public funding and acquire visibility in their territory(ies) of action. This gives a first illustration on how the environment can impact ADDOs. The figure below synthetizes the different external factors that can impact their engagement in local development.



²¹ Law No. 81-909 of 9 October 1981 repealed the decree-law of 12 April 1939, re-establishing the freedom of association for foreigners, initially enshrined in the law of 1 July 1901.

²² Organic Law 7/1985, of 1 July 1985 on the Rights and Freedoms of Foreigners, supplemented by STC 115/1987 and STC 236/2007.

²³ Law No. 39 of 28 February 1990, known as the Martelli Law.

The ability of ADDOs to mobilize their community is impacted by their country of origin and their history of migration. As seen earlier, the migrants from the Senegal Valley who migrated for economic reasons to France were keen to create associations. Nevertheless, the formalization of the associations, the tendency of the community to get involved on a voluntary basis and/or to make donations is also impacted by the associative culture in their country of residence.

According to Edith Archambault (n.d.), the associative sector in Europe has two common characteristics:

- ▶ a. it represents a significant economic weight in terms of share of employment
- ▶ b. it receives significant public funding

4 variants can be identified:

- ▶ a. the corporatist model (France, Germany, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands) where associations are heavily financed by the government and are highly professionalized with little recourse to volunteers. Associations often implement actions of general interest.
- ▶ b. The Anglo-Saxon model (United Kingdom, Ireland) where associations work closely with local authorities and involve many volunteers. Their funding is more diversified, they can benefit from public funding but also from large donations.
- ▶ c. The Scandinavian model (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and the post-communist countries) where associations are mostly new and implement projects in favour of their members. They benefit from a high level of voluntary participation. The origin of their funding is diversified: little public funding but a lot of private donations and a significant participation of the project beneficiaries.
- ▶ d. The Mediterranean model (Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece) with a less developed voluntary sector, a weaker culture of voluntary work and substantial public funding.

Box 9 | Various associative cultures in Europe

RESTRAINING FACTORS

External restraining factors to the contribution of ADDOs to local development can therefore be:

- ▶ The difficult access to external funding, when there are no specific funding mechanisms in the country of residence and of origin/intervention.
- ▶ The difficult access to internal funding when their community is too small and/or too poor, when the associative culture is not prone to private donations, when the law does not allow membership fees (see case study).
- ▶ In the country of origin/intervention, the environment can potentially be restraining in terms of corruption, administrative malfunctions, local conflicts, instability, and uncertainty.
- ▶ In the country of origin/intervention, the relationship between the government and the diaspora can potentially be tense in case of war or internal conflicts. This can result in mistrust and doubt but also in attempts at political recuperation
- ▶ Sometimes, local populations and authorities can see ADDOs projects as disconnected with their realities and in favour of diaspora own interest.

ENABLING FACTORS

On the contrary, external enabling factors to the contribution of ADDOs to local development can be:

- ▶ The existence of funding and support mechanisms for ADDOs such as the PRA-OSIM or the PAISD presented above.
- ▶ The structuring and professionalisation of diasporas. Umbrella structures such as FORIM or ADEPT can also play a role in both building knowledge and facilitating experience sharing among ADDOs
- ▶ The existence of service centres for associations which can benefit ADDOS in the host country²⁴. These service centres can support the ADDO on accounting, legal, fund management, fund raising, project management, monitoring and evaluation, etc.
- ▶ The host country's development cooperation policy priorities vis-à-vis of the country of origin which affects the amount of policy attention given to its diaspora communities and organisations.
- ▶ The willingness of donor, local authorities, and NGOs to work with ADDOs (and inversely).

²⁴ For example in France : <https://www.csa95.com/accompagner/> or <https://www.cava49.org/nos-services/>

6. CASE STUDIES

This part aims at presenting six case studies to give an in-depth perspective of projects in which ADDOs played a role in local development:

3 direct intervention projects

- ▶ The Food Heritage project implemented in Nigeria by The Foodbridge vzw (Belgium);
- ▶ An agricultural cooperative farm project implemented in Senegal by the Association of the Disabled People of Goudiri and Surrounding Areas (France);
- ▶ An education and women empowerment project implemented in Ghana by Humanitas Afrika (Czech Republic).

3 decentralized cooperation projects between

- ▶ The city of Antwerp (Belgium) and the rural municipality of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine (Morocco) on the development of social economy;
- ▶ The department of Seine-Saint-Denis (France) The governorate of the island of Grande Comore (Comoros), the Comorian Association of Mayors of Ngazidja on Cultural promotion and decentralization;
- ▶ The city of Milan and Turin (Italy), the cities of Beni Mellal, Khouribga and Fquih Ben Salah (Morocco) and the city of Tunis (Tunisia) to contribute to the improvement of temporary and circular migration patterns between Italy, Morocco and Tunisia.

Those projects were selected because they concern European ADDOs taking part in a local development project in an African country with clear relationships with African and European authorities to implement the project.

The information collected through the documentation and the interviews of stakeholders of those six case studies was used to challenge and illustrate the literature review performed in the first phase of the study. They also provided interesting inputs on the different context and challenges ADDOs can face from one country to another.

A) THE FOOD HERITAGE PROJECT IN NIGERIA

Overview:

The Food Heritage project is implemented in Nigeria by The Foodbridge vzw, a Belgium non-profit organization. Its general objective is to encourage and support rural farmers to plant nutritious indigenous food crops especially those that are rare or threatened with extinction.

The Foodbridge vzw is a non-profit organization recognized by the Flemish government. It aims to highlight the potentials of food cultures in building bridges between people and across communities and to show that food cultures is a viable development tool.

History: The Foodbridge vzw was founded in 2014 in Brussels, Belgium, by Maureen Duru. At first, the association's activities were only in Belgium, but from 2018, The Foodbridge vzw started their first project in Nigeria: The Food Heritage Project.

Members and board of the association: The founder and director, Maureen Duru, was born and raised in Nigeria. She lived in Lagos for 10 years before joining her husband in Belgium. She was able to mobilize 12 active volunteers in Belgium and six people in Nigeria (coordination, expertise, finance) around the association project. In addition to her, 12 people from the Africa diaspora (of Nigerian, Ghanaian, Kenyan and Zambian origin mainly) volunteer for the association. They work mainly on projects in Belgium, but they also occasionally provide contacts/networks in Nigeria.

Activities: The association is structured around four core areas: a. Protection of indigenous food systems and cultures b. Access to acceptable and nutritious food c. Economic empowerment of farmers d. Research and education. The Foodbridge vzw performs most of its activities in Belgium for which it receives funding from the Brussels Flemish government, respond to calls for projects and forge partnerships to finance them.

The Food Heritage Project, a well-structured project, in pilot-phase

Sector: Agriculture

Countries: Belgium - Nigeria

Context: The Food Heritage Project is one of the two international projects of The Foodbridge vzw²⁵. It emerged from several observations made by the founder in her motherland:

- ▶ In Nigeria, nutritious indigenous crops are less cultivated, and this farming knowledge is disappearing along with the indigenous knowledge of older generations.



²⁵ The second one is an ongoing Agrofood Entrepreneurship Training for African farmers, aimed at training 150 farmers. This is financed with grant from the Transpetrol Foundation, COLEACP and in partnership with different African and European partners including ETIKA. The first phase for Nigeria is completed and facilitated the to training of 70 farmers since 2020 in good agricultural practices, access to premium markets and organic farming.

- ▶ The consumers cannot find those indigenous crops on the market anymore, and as a general matter, they don't know what is used in cultivating their food (GMO, use chemicals).
- ▶ The farmers think there is no market for those crops anymore and see no use in cultivating them since they would not be able to sell it.

Objectives: The Food Heritage Project brings a comprehensive answer to that situation. Its general objective is to encourage and support rural farmers to plant nutritious indigenous food crops especially those that are rare or threatened with extinction. More specifically, it aims at:

- ▶ Building resilient communities by supporting rural farmers.
- ▶ Promoting organic farming, food safety and health.
- ▶ Safeguarding Nigerian food heritage.
- ▶

Beneficiaries: Its beneficiaries are of two types:

- ▶ The rural farmers and their families, who get free access to indigenous seeds, technical assistance and access to market among others. In terms of location, farmers are located in Kaduna State, Benue state and Imo state.
- ▶ The consumers, who get a rare offer of organic indigenous nutritive crops.

Activities: To achieve those goals, the project entails three types of activities.

- ▶ Selection and reproduction of seeds: initially the project started with four crops. Now, it comprises species of 10 different types of indigenous crops including tubers, vegetables, pulses and spices.
- ▶ Selection and support to farmers: the project provides to its partner-farmers seeds, material (mobile phone, animal waste as fertilizer) and training to use organic farming methods with no chemicals fertilizers.
- ▶ Information and access to profitable markets: the project aims at finding local guaranteed buyers with the Farm to kitchen initiative. This activity has not started yet.

Planning and level of advancement: The Food Heritage Project began in 2018.

- ▶ The first pilot phase permitted to list nutritive and rare crops, to recover some of those crops, to start cultivating yams with two farmers, to produce some seedling and to have the yield tasted in Belgium. At first, using WhatsApp and diaspora network, The Foodbridge vzw asked Nigerian farmers to give the names of crops or species that they knew to be nutritious but were no longer widely grown. The association also selected two farmers, trained them and had a first yield. Unfortunately, the first harvest was not too encouraging because of a draught which affected the farmers. Some of the yield was sent to Belgium where it was appreciated and the rest of it was kept as seedling for pilot 2. This first experience underscored the necessity to have irrigation in the farms.
- ▶ The second pilot allowed the recruitment and training of two additional farmers in Nigeria and to enlarge the type of crops cultivated through the experiment. With the covid pandemic and the raising insecurity, the local coordinator had increasing difficulties to provide materials and support for this planting season, which drove the association to provide them the farmers with mobile phone. Furthermore, some of the farmers found it difficult to stick to the traditional farming method by not using chemical herbicides, fertilizers etc because the cost of using manual labour to clear weeds is five

times more expensive than using herbicides. The harvest will take place in December-22 and will allow Foodbridge to test its model of commercialization.

- ▶
- ▶ In the future, after its proof of concept, The Foodbridge vzw would like to:
- ▶ Increase the number of farmers in Nigeria; the objective is to have 12 farmers growing indigenous crops with the Heritage project and 35 trained farmers
- ▶ Start training farmers in Ghana as a first step, then also grow indigenous crops in Ghana as a second step
- ▶ Duplicate the model to Cameroun and Liberia

Financing: To get funding, the Foodbridge vzw answers to calls for projects and looks for sponsors for the children of the farmers. It receives private donations in funds or in kind (mobile phones). Nevertheless, the difficult access to grants for anglophone associations impacts the ability of the project to grow and to perform efficiently. For example, the volunteer coordinator for north central Nigeria, Faith Abah, gives her time to prospect new farmers and train them; she gets allowances to reimburse her travel fees but could be more efficient with a laptop or better mobile phone to take pictures although as she explains as yet, The Food Heritage Project does not get funding from the diaspora. They are thinking of creating a specific offer: for example, the diaspora could sponsor a farmer and then a percentage of the harvest would be donated to their family in the country.

COLLABORATION PROCESS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholders and role of each one in the different stages of the project:

- ▶ The Food Heritage Project's main actors are:
- ▶ The Foodbridge vzw which looks for funding and leads the project with the help of a local coordinator.
- ▶ The farmers who sign a contract with The Foodbridge vzw.
- ▶ The regular communication with farmers is managed by the coordinator, Faith Abah.

- ▶ The Food Heritage Project also mobilizes other actors such as:
- ▶ For funding: private donors (Belgium and Nigeria)
- ▶ For access to research and information: the Professor Nzelu, Head, Department of Food Technology at Federal Polytechnic (Oko, Nigeria) and Meise Botanic Gardens (Belgium)
- ▶ For networking and support: The local coordinator meets traditional and religious leaders when she visits a village. The Foodbridge vzw also jointly applied with the community to get a borehole for drinking water in Ejaa Adupi village.

Project governance:

The project size is still limited as The Foodbridge vzw adopted a Test-And-Learn approach to expand steadily (as opposed to quickly) and grow into a self-sustainable social enterprise. Nevertheless, it has a dedicated team of three people involved in the decision-making process and project implementation.

Drivers of diaspora engagement

Even if their contribution is limited as now, the thematic might be of greater interest to the Nigerian diaspora in Belgium because when they live away from home, people in diasporas have difficulty to get African food, so they are sensitive to this topic. To increase their engagement to the project, The

FoodBridge might offer the access to products for them or for their family and give them more ability to help the project from Belgium.

Project results

Contribution of the project to local development

- ▶ The project is only in its pilot phase, its contribution to local development is therefore still limited:
- ▶ It trained and equipped 12 farmers in Nigeria, active in the Food Heritage Project.
- ▶ It contributed to education by paying the school fees of the children of partner-farmers.
- ▶ It contributed a little to local employment with the organic methods that require manual weeding.
- ▶ It contributed to recover and grow again nutritive and rare crops.

The nascent relationship with communities about the water access may increase the local impact of the project, as well as the test of the 'access to market component' to see how the production is valued.

Contribution to SDGs

At the level of the association, the SDGs are known. The Food Heritage Project aims to contribute to sustainable development goal 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 8 (Decent Jobs and Economic Growth) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) are present, even if the achievement of SDGs target has not yet been measured. There is no specific focus on gender and youth.



To remember

- ▶ Strong ability of this ADDO to partner with stakeholders in Belgium and Nigeria
- ▶ Project designed with a thematic approach, focused on food systems and cultures
- ▶ Project implemented locally thanks to a volunteer project coordinator and in relation with local authorities
- ▶ Main difficulties linked to project financing, to the covid pandemic and the rural context of intervention (no drinking water, no electricity, no irrigation, etc.)
- ▶ Local contribution to sustainable development goal 1 (no poverty), two (zero hunger), 8 (Decent Jobs and Economic Growth) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)

B) AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE FARM PROJECT FOR THE BENEFIT OF DISABLED PEOPLE IN GOUDIRI AND SURROUNDING AREAS (SÉNÉGAL)

Overview:

The agricultural farm project is implemented in Senegal by Association of the Disabled People of Goudiri and Surrounding Areas, a French association. Its general objective is to promote the professional integration and local entrepreneurship of the disabled of Goudiri, Tambacounda.

The Association of the Disabled People of Goudiri and Surrounding Areas is a non-profit association registered in France. It aims to promote the development of disabled people through training and work (market gardening, poultry farming and agricultural farms) and to collect medical equipment, wheelchairs, crutches and clothing for disabled people. It carries out its activities in France and in Senegal.

History: The structure was founded by Mrs Salamata Dramé in June 2015. This commitment echoes her personal story: handicapped by polio since the age of four years old, Salamata grew up in Senegal where, due to lack of support and funding, she was forced to stop her studies. Then living in France, she wanted to change the way people look at disability and to make the population of Goudiri and its surroundings aware that people with disabilities can also participate fully in the development of their territory. To make this project a reality, she received help from several actors, including the Collectif des Associations Citoyennes de l'Est Val d'Oise (CAC-EVO) and the Maison des Associations du 20ème Arrondissement de Paris, which gave her advice and guidance on the construction and management of the project as well as on the search for funding.

Profile of the members and the board: The association board is composed of three members (a president, a secretary and a treasurer). It is supported by 23 voluntary members who intervene punctually - people with disabilities based in France as well as people from the Senegalese diaspora.

Other activities carried out: The association intervenes in Goudiri within the framework of the implementation of the Agricultural Cooperative Farm project, but also concentrates part of its intervention on targeted actions in France, such as the organization of public events to raise awareness among French people to the difficulties of disabled people in Senegal in general and in particular in Goudiri and surrounding areas.

Agricultural Cooperative Farm Project for the benefit of disabled people in Goudiri and surrounding areas

Sectors: Agriculture, Professional integration, Disabilities

Country concerned: Senegal, Tambacounda region, Goudiri village

Objectives: The project carried out by the association aims to promote the professional integration and local entrepreneurship of the disabled of Goudiri, in the Region of



Tambacounda, Senegal. More specifically, the association's mission is to:

- ▶ Contribute to food security.
- ▶ Lift people with disabilities, especially women, out of poverty by creating jobs for them on an agricultural cooperative farm in Goudiri.
- ▶ Promote better care for people with disabilities.
- ▶ Improve the way people look at disability.

Beneficiaries:

- ▶ Direct beneficiaries: a group of 50 people with disabilities.
- ▶ Indirect beneficiaries: the inhabitants of Goudiri (estimated at 5,000 inhabitants) (*via awareness-raising actions on disability and access to locally produced farm produce*)

The project aims to provide beneficiaries with comprehensive support: availability of developed and equipped land, marketing of farm products within a collective framework to generate income and create employment and therefore economic and social value.

Activities implemented:

To achieve its objectives, the project implements several activities:

- ▶ An information and awareness campaign for the inhabitants of Goudiri and its surroundings.
- ▶ The construction and equipment of a farm with wells equipped with pumps powered by solar panels.
- ▶ The development of agricultural and livestock perimeters and the installation of a wire fence.
- ▶ The construction of two sheds to house chickens and sheep and of a guard house.
- ▶ The training of 50 disabled people in targeted occupations in the region (agriculture and agri-food).
- ▶ **And more recently:** Transportation of the beneficiaries between their homes and the farm.

Timeline and level of progress: The Project started in 2018 and is currently being implemented. Some readjustments to the initial conception were made for both technical and financial reasons:

- ▶ The chicken house, once completed, proved to be not viable and not suitable for housing chickens due to the heat. It was eventually converted into a store, secretariat, and guardian room with toilet.
- ▶ The construction of the well started on time but, due to the death of the contractor, the work had to stop.
- ▶ The two water tanks and the solar pump work but are insufficient in terms of voltage and irrigation capacity.

For the time being, the products from the market gardening are only sold individually by the beneficiaries or used for their own consumption. The collective dimension, sought by the project, is not yet effective.

Amount and type of funding: It is difficult to estimate the total amount of the project because new needs have recently emerged in terms of equipment and materials. However, the project was able to benefit from a wide range of support (grants, co-financing, private financial and material donations), including:

- ▶ Support from FORIM (via the PRA-OSIM scheme) of 11,000 euros. A new application has recently been submitted to finance the mobility of the beneficiaries between the farm and their home.
- ▶ Support from the city of Paris of about 38,500 euros (the project was identified through the Maison des Associations of the 20th arrondissement of Paris).
- ▶ A first funding from ADEPT and then the renewal of a request for support for an amount of 3,500 euros.
- ▶ Private donations of about 8,000 euros collected thanks to communication actions on social networks (support of an association of young people from Loir et Cher who went to participate in the construction of the well and were able to bring their specific competencies to access water thanks to photovoltaic energy).
- ▶ The associations' own funds (contribution of the members of the association)

- ▶ Various contributions to be valued:
 - Collection of clothes and materials in France and sent via containers to Goudiri.
 - Direct contributions from the municipality of Goudiri: a donation of two hectares of land as well as a car with petrol and driver for the sensitization of the neighbouring villages.
 - A donation from the Ministry of Agriculture (local agriculture department) of 180 trees.

Stakeholder collaboration process

Stakeholders and their role in the different stages of the project: The association has been able to surround itself with both technical and financial partners to implement the project. They intervene via their contributions in a regular/punctual way on one or several specific axes of the project. Only a few volunteers (some of whom are from the Senegalese diaspora), assist the implementation of the project over time in France or in Goudiri.

- ▶ The partners in France are the City of Paris, the Follow-up Committee of the Symposium on Senegalese Abroad (CSSSE), the CAC-EVO, partner associations in Ile de France: Femmes pour le Dire, Femmes pour Agir, Insertion handicap, the FORIM, ADEPT, an association of young people in Loir-et-Cher. Most of the partners in France were mobilized thanks to the communication set up by the association's manager on social networks as well as through participation in association events organized on her town.
- ▶ The partners in Senegal are: the Regional Development Agency of Tambacounda, the Directorate of Agriculture of Goudiri, the Mayor of Goudiri, the Inter-village Association of Sinhtio M.Boubou, the Health Centre of Goudiri.

The association has managed to establish important partnerships with local authorities in Senegal, which are essential to the smooth running of the project, as its manager points out. Nevertheless, although necessary, partnership relations fluctuate significantly according to the electoral calendar, which has an impact on the availability of the authorities during the campaign period. The majority of partnerships in France are financial. As Salamata Dramé is the only person working full-time for the association, the time she has available for follow-up activities is greatly reduced for the search for partners and funding.

Project governance: There is no real governance established for this project. The project leader takes charge of everything, she coordinates, supervises and monitors the project from France. On site, the project can count on the mobilization of volunteers who ensure a follow-up. The Mayor of the Goudiri municipality and the Prefect are also involved in this follow-up.

Diaspora engagement factors: Diaspora engagement is manifested through this project by:

- ▶ The desire to maintain a strong link with the territory of origin,
- ▶ The will to intervene in response to a failing system in Senegal regarding the care of people with disabilities.
- ▶ The will to propose concrete solutions linking Employment and Disability and to make people aware in France and in Senegal that people with disabilities can contribute to local development.

The mobilized actors from the diaspora intervene in "solidarity with Senegal" on a cause that affects them.

Several factors were mentioned as potentially limiting diaspora mobilization:

- ▶ The ability to mobilize funding to implement their projects.
- ▶ The difficulties to mobilize people in France or in Senegal to dedicate volunteer time to the project.
- ▶ The prejudice against project leaders from the diaspora at the local level. Some people believe the association's action is implemented out of personal interest and not for common good. This prejudice is the marker of a lack of communication at local level. As mentioned by one of the project's technical partners intervening in support of the project, "*It is necessary to know the*

institutional environment and the civil society of the locality where we intervene. Accounting for the resources of international solidarity implies giving feedback to the populations.”

Project outcome

Project's contribution to local development: The project is currently facing a major water supply issue. Although grants have enabled the digging of a well powered by photovoltaic panels, and the installation of two water tanks, there is still limited capacity to irrigate the entire farming land. The needs are estimated at seven tanks to cover the water requirements. The beneficiaries can therefore only use part of the land made available to them for their own consumption and some commercialization. The objectives in terms of market gardening and livestock breeding could not therefore be achieved at the end of these two years of the project despite a strong ownership of the project by its beneficiaries.

Consideration of the SDGs: The SDGs are well known by the head of the association. They are included in the objective of the project: *"the farm has the ambition to strengthen the autonomy of disabled people towards income generating activities, in order to achieve the SDGs"*. There is no focus on gender and youth issues.



To remember

- ▶ Strong ability of this ADDO to get funding in France (PRA-Osim and City of Paris) and in-kind contribution in Senegal (Municipality of Goudiri, Ministry of Health)
- ▶ Project designed with a thematic approach, focused on professional integration of disabled persons
- ▶ Project implemented locally thanks to local volunteers and in close relationship with local authorities
- ▶ Main difficulties linked to the technical project implementation in Senegal (unsuitable chicken house, irrigation capacity) and remote project management concentrated on one person
- ▶ Local contribution to sustainable development goal 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 8 (Decent Jobs and Economic Growth) and 10 (Reduced inequalities)

C) EDUCATION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN OBOM, GHANA

Overview

this project is implemented in Ghana by Humanitas Afrika, a Czech non-profit organization. Its general objective is to increase the access to education and to empower women in Obom and its surroundings.

Humanitas Afrika is an African-Czech and pan-African non-profit organization in Prague, the Czech Republic. It has a registered branch in Ghana and partners with local organizations in Kenya. Its aim is to promote awareness, understanding, respect, and peaceful coexistence between Africans living in the Czech Republic and the Czechs, as well as with other cultures. In its activities, Humanitas Afrika has a specific focus on women and children. They are also sensitive to environmental issues and global African diaspora issues.

History: Humanitas Afrika was founded in 2000 by some Africans and Czechs. It started with social and cultural activities and information in Czech Republic. Two years later, it started a first humanitarian project in the continent of Africa, in Ghana.

Members and board of the association: All members of the association are volunteers. They come from all backgrounds: European (mainly Czech, Polish and Slovak), African, Caribbean, and Southern American. As a pan-African organization, Humanitas Afrika works with African embassies and country-based communities and organisations (Ghanaian, Ethiopian, Tanzanian, Kenyan, Congo, Nigerian, etc.). The association is represented by a board member and the council of advisors and administrators who reflects the membership.

Activities: Humanitas Afrika currently is active in the Czech Republic and on the African continent (Kenya and Ghana). It has also been very active previously in Burkina Faso and Benin. The activities include culture, information about Africa, events and humanitarian project. Below are two examples:

- ▶ The African Information Centre provides information, educational activities (discussion groups, movie screening, etc.) and library services about Africa to the public in the Czech Republic.
- ▶ Each year, a cultural celebration for Africa Day is organized.

The education and women empowerment in Obom, a long-standing project with visible effects

Sector: Women empowerment, education

Countries: Czech Republic / Ghana

Context: Obom is situated in rural Accra District. It is the biggest village in the area with about 4 000 people. It now has access to electricity but previously not. Seven smaller villages around it are also covered by the project. This area was chosen because of a meeting

between a teacher of the village and the Head of Humanitas Afrika. It shows the lack of opportunities for children to continue their education to secondary school and university in the village. Humanitas Afrika saw the potential for development for the youth, women, and the community.



Objectives: The general objective of the project is to increase the access to education and to empower women in the area. More specifically it aims at:

- ▶ Giving the opportunity to children to go to basic school, secondary school up to university.
- ▶ Offering vocational training to the youth.
- ▶ Providing financial education and solutions for women to develop their activities.
- ▶ The logic behind those activities is that it is possible to improve drastically the social and economic situation of a village by acting both on the immediate needs of the families and on the strategic educational opportunities for the children.

Beneficiaries: The direct beneficiaries include:

- ▶ The children and youth of Obom and its surroundings,
- ▶ The women of Obom and its surroundings.
- ▶ Indirectly, the whole village benefit from having more economic activities and educated youth.

Activities and results: The patronage of school children started in 2002, the vocational workshop project in 2005 and the microfinancing program in 2007, so the activities have been long-standing. We will summarize here the current activities and their results.

- ▶ Education to poor children: this activity is based on a sponsorship of children by individuals or companies in Czech Republic. Humanitas Afrika select poor children thanks to a thorough background check, and then then register them on Humanitas Africa website. There, prospective patrons can read their story and decide which child they wish to sponsor. Depending on their age and needs, the sponsored children can get their private school fees paid, access to school material and to food, allowances for transportation and even boarding school. In 2021, they had 77 children in this program. To follow-up the education and maintain the link between sponsor and child, Humanitas Afrika gives information twice a year to patrons (letter from the child, photo and school report). Since 2002, over a thousand children benefited from this project.
- ▶ Vocational training in dressmaking: this option is offered to the school leavers, both girls and boys, and other youth from Obom and the surrounding villages. The training takes three years and is conducted under the supervision of two experienced dressmakers from the community. Humanitas Afrika, in partnership with the Afrika Women Association of Obom. Humanitas Afrika helped build the workshop, develop the training course, and currently continues financing the cost of running the workshop. Currently, 20 people have graduated and 30 boys and girls are under training.
- ▶ Microfinancing programs for women: this activity is managed by the Afrika Women Association of Obom thanks to the initial funds provided by Humanitas Afrika. The financing is interest-free. Its amount depends on the business and “credit history²⁶” of the beneficiary. A first loan can range from 1000 to 2000 GHS (140 to 280€) for a duration of six months to one year. The financing is provided to registered members of the association after a background check thanks to the local presence of the association and sometimes in consultation with the chief of the village. An assessment of the businesses and strategy is also performed. After the financing, the woman beneficiary pays each month an amount corresponding partly to the reimbursement of the loan and partly to a saving. In case of difficulty, the saving is used to reimburse the monthly credit payment and/or the duration of loan is increased. This mechanism allows almost a 100%

²⁶ To be understood as if the beneficiary already had a microloan and reimbursed it fully and in time.

reimbursement rate. In 2021, the association had between 40 and 50 members, who meet twice a month. In addition to the microfinancing, the association offers workshops about health, finance, business management etc. So far, between, 100 and 120 women have benefited from microfinancing.

- ▶ Every Humanitas activity is linked with each other. Some women in the association have children in the educational programs. At the end of vocational training, young women can ask for a microfinancing.

Financing: To quote Kofi Nkrumah, the president of Humanitas Afrika, “*people don’t believe the kind of work we have done with so few resources*”. Nevertheless, financing the activities is challenging for Humanitas Afrika:

- ▶ In the past, Humanitas Afrika had some financial resources from memberships fees. But, in 2015, the law for association changed and apparently made impossible membership fees.
- ▶ Humanitas Afrika now raises private donations and look for child patrons through the website, the online communication (the Facebook account has more than 500 followers and a video series of testimonies from beneficiaries) and through cultural and public activities.

Humanitas tried to answer call for projects to get grants but highlights that it is often a loss of precious time. Due to lack of capacity, they have not tried yet to get funds through a crowdfunding campaign. Humanitas Republic just launched their YouTube channel. It must be underlined that the Ghanaian and the Kenyan communities in Czech Republic do not have themselves enough financial means to co-fund the program in their respective countries.

Collaboration process with stakeholders

Stakeholders and role of each one in the different stages of the project:

The project main stakeholders are:

- ▶ Humanitas Afrika which looks for funding and leads the project with the help of a volunteer local coordinator, Emmanuel Hayford, two supervisors for the dressmaking workshop and some volunteer staff.
- ▶ The Afrika Women Association of Obom, which was created in 2007 with the help of Humanitas Afrika and now manage the microfinancing activities.
- ▶ The local authorities, represented by the chief of Obom, who are well aware and supportive of the activities. They offered a land for the project and estimated their needs were taken into account.

According to testimonies, Humanitas Afrika is well-known and has good relationship with the local population.

Project governance:

Humanitas Afrika in Czech consult with the coordinators in Ghana and the local opinion leaders in Obom: the Chief of the village, parents of children and teachers in the community, youth and women groups.

Drivers of diaspora engagement

Although the project is implemented by an ADDO, the Ghanaian, and the Kenyan diaspora play no role in it. They are however in contact with Humanitas Afrika for the activities in Czech Republic.

Project effects

Contribution of the project to local development

- ▶ The results from the project are quite visible:
- ▶ Each year, about 70-80 children in the education program.
- ▶ Each year, about 30 young people in the vocational program and 20 people who have graduated so far.
- ▶ So far, between 100 and 120 women have benefited from microfinancing.

But the contribution to local development goes beyond that. According to interviewed people, before, the highest that anyone in the village could go to was basic school and girls were getting pregnant at an early age. Now, the village has five university graduates and girls stay longer in school. One beneficiary, Amina Abdullah benefited from the education program and is now the first fashion designer in Obom. She communicates through Instagram (@adwoa_pyee), had four apprentices and wants to grow her business. To quote her: *“I am very grateful that they (Humanitas Afrika) have sponsored my career; they believed in my talent; (...) I owe everything to them.”* The Chief of Obom also greatly values the inputs of Humanitas Afrika, the help they are giving to poorest students and to the *“cause of ladies”*. He insists on the necessity for the village to continue benefiting of those.

Contribution to SDGs

Despite Humanitas Afrika little communication on that aspect, the project contributes to the following SDGs: 1 – No poverty 4 – Quality education 5 – Gender equality 8 – Decent Jobs and economic Growth 10 – Reduced Inequalities



To remember

- ▶ Project designed with a geographic approach, focused on Obom in Ghana
- ▶ Project implemented locally thanks to a volunteer local coordinator and in close relationship with local authorities
- ▶ Main difficulties linked to project funding
- ▶ This ADDO was able to contribute in a sustainable way to the development of the village through education and women empowerment. Goals 1 (no poverty), 4 (quality education), 5 (Gender equality 8 (Decent Jobs and Economic Growth) and 10 (Reduced inequalities)

D) DECENTRALISED COOPERATION BETWEEN OULED DAOUD ZEKHANINE AND ANTWERP

Overview

This decentralized cooperation project was inspired by the initiatives of three associations of Oulad Daoud Zekhanine nationals in Antwerp. Its objective is to create, strengthen and support income-generating activities within agricultural and livestock cooperatives.

Description of the project

Sector: Agriculture, social economy

Countries involved: Morocco, Belgium

Background:

In 2010, after an assessment of its twinning with Paramaribo and Durban, the municipality decided to change its approach to decentralised cooperation. The decision was based on the presence of large African communities in the city, and their activities in supporting the development of their own regions of origin. Remittances are traditionally used to help their families in their daily lives. By bringing communities together in partnership with the city of Antwerp, the organisations can develop a greater contribution to local development. Cooperation between the municipality and diaspora associations also has an empowering effect on communities seeking to be more integrated in Belgium. The projects of three associations of Oulad Daoud Zekhanine nationals were strengthened by the city, for a systemic approach to economic development and a strengthening of communal skills.

Objectives:

The project aims to support the municipality of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine and its civil society in the development of a social economy. This objective translates into the creation, strengthening and support of income-generating activities within agricultural and livestock cooperatives. The administrative services of the municipality have benefited from technical support, and the project has opened up the development of ecotourism in the municipality. These activities have made it possible to involve populations who previously had limited integrated into economic development: women, the municipality's youth, and all the ethnic communities of the rural municipality.

Beneficiaries:

The main beneficiaries of the project are the members of the agricultural cooperatives: three cooperatives were created and supported by the associations of the Antwerp-based African diaspora; seven new cooperatives were created within the framework of the project, including three women's cooperatives. At the municipal level, the project's activities benefited the technical services (social and economic service, secretary general) and the inhabitants active in agriculture, livestock, crafts and ecotourism. The project has particularly integrated the women of the municipality into its economic activities, following literacy and cooperative management courses.

A Multi-actor decentralised cooperation

The decentralized cooperation between the city of Antwerp in Belgium and the rural municipality of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine in Morocco involves a large number of stakeholders and required the creation of appropriate coordination methods: the ACCORPE association was created to ensure a centralization of activities.

Profile of Project Partners:

On a daily basis, the project is supported by four partners from Belgium and Morocco.

- ▶ The city of Antwerp is one of the most populated cities in Belgium, and a significant part of its inhabitants are of Moroccan origin. Antwerp received a grant from the Belgium Department for Development and Humanitarian Aid to finance the programme.
- ▶ The rural municipality of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine is located in the Kbdana mountain chain in Morocco. It is an area of emigration for the youth towards the surrounding cities and foreign countries for lack of economic opportunities. The municipality facilitated the administrative procedures for the creation and management of agricultural cooperatives.
- ▶ ACCORPE (Association de Concertation et de Coordination pour le Développement Rural et la Protection de l'Environnement) has played the role of a platform for the coordination and implementation of decentralised cooperation between partners from Morocco and Belgium. Its members represent all the stakeholders: Moroccan local elected officials, representatives of local populations, agricultural cooperatives, and two agricultural engineers.
- ▶ The three Moroccan diaspora associations Imane (Initiatief Marokkaanse Netwerken), Marobel and Steunproject are in charge of the support of three agricultural cooperatives of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine. Each cooperative was created before the beginning of the decentralized cooperation thanks to the support of an association of the diaspora.

The decentralised cooperation Antwerp-Ouled Daoud Zekhanine was supported by networks in Belgium and Morocco on various aspects.

- ▶ The VVSG (Vereniging van Vlaamse Steden en Gemeenten vzw) is the association of cities and municipalities in Flanders. The VVSG supported the application of Antwerp and other cities to the federal government for subsidies. The grants are intended to strengthen the administrative capacity of cities in the Global South. Through this programme, the city of Antwerp received a 217,194 euros grant.
- ▶ A group of public actors from the city of Antwerp (universities, school teams, medical corps) participated in the project through practical and cultural exchanges with their counterparts from Ouled Daoud Zekhanine.

Project governance and communication:

In this international project, the different languages spoken by the partners limit the ability of Antwerp and Ouled Daoud to be in direct contact. The partner associations of the decentralised cooperation - ACCORPE and the three diaspora organisations - play a crucial role as intermediaries and implementers of the project.

ACCORPE is the actor at the heart of the governance of the cooperation project: its board of directors is composed of representatives of all Moroccan stakeholders. ACCORPE organises a meeting every month, and whenever it is necessary, with the project members to decide on the project's orientations. On a daily basis, the partners exchange information with ACCORPE and the diaspora by phone, video conference and mobile applications. When tensions or disagreements arise, the consultation of all the partners makes it possible to take orientations that suit the various stakeholders. As part of the project for which the Diaspora is responsible, the city of Antwerp has signed bilateral agreements with each association and holds regular meetings with each.

Mobilization of the diaspora in the project

Factors of the diaspora involvement in the project

The diaspora from Ouled Daoud is particularly involved in decentralised cooperation thanks to the family ties they had before the project was launched. The members of the associations wanted to have a positive impact on their municipality of origin and initiated the creation of agricultural cooperatives. The city of Antwerp quickly supported these initiatives, which encouraged the involvement of the diaspora associations in the decentralised cooperation scheme. Participating in a development project allows the associations to maintain their link with Ouled Daoud and to get to know the realities experienced by the inhabitants of the municipality.

Diaspora contributions and added value

The decentralized cooperation between Ouled Daoud and Antwerp would not have been born if the three associations of the diaspora were not known and supported by the city of Antwerp.

- ▶ **Creation of the project:** The three associations invested personal funds and were supported by Antwerp to create three agricultural cooperatives in Ouled Daoud, which was the model that the decentralised cooperation replicated.
- ▶ **Communication between partners:** In the framework of an intercultural project, the knowledge of the diaspora of Belgian and Moroccan cultures facilitates the understanding between the partners of the different countries. A website was created to present the Moroccan territory and the project activities.
- ▶ **Feedback:** The diaspora is in direct contact with the inhabitants of Ouled Daoud and visit regularly, these frequent exchanges facilitate the monitoring of the project, including during the pandemic. The diaspora facilitate the identification and reporting of problems encountered by the project beneficiaries.
- ▶ **Network mobilisation:** For the success of the project activities, the members of the diaspora associations put their personal network in Belgium and Morocco at the service of the project. This can facilitate the management of challenging situations at different stages of the project.

Project outcomes

Activities implemented:

The decentralized cooperation project lasted five years, the subvention financed the last three years and allowed:

- ▶ The creation of seven agricultural cooperatives, including four women's cooperatives. The three cooperatives already established in the municipality by the Antwerp diaspora associations were also strengthened through material support and training of cooperative members.
 - ▶ Literacy courses that empower the women supported by the project.
 - ▶ The development of ecotourism in the region through the rehabilitation of several dwellings.
- The finalized project cost €217,194, invested thanks to the Belgium Department for Development and Humanitarian grant. The investments of the city of Antwerp and the three diaspora associations before the start of this project was taken into account and allowed them not to further finance the project.

Contribution of the project to local development:

Before any measurable outcome, the stakeholders see positive externalities that are the consequence of the project:

- ▶ Funding a platform that groups all the project stakeholders to learn new ways of functioning: how to efficiently collaborate with diverse partners, debate and exchange of views, write and share meeting minutes...
- ▶ The population mindset is much more open to working with foreigners, this is particularly seen amongst women in Ouled Daoud Zekhanine.
- ▶ For the municipality of Ouled Daoud Zekhanine, having benefited from a project that boosts economic life has made it easier to benefit from investments from the Moroccan government to improve its accessibility: the economic potential of the area has been acknowledged by the state. The municipality is now a more credible partner for cooperation projects.

The decentralized cooperation revitalized the agricultural and economic life of the rural municipality.

- ▶ The agricultural cooperatives that existed before the project started, increased and diversified their production between 2017 and the end of 2021. Yet, the cooperatives have not been granted sanitary clearance for marketing by the government. One cooperative had to redirect its activities (rabbit farming instead of sheep and goat cheese). This problem generated a great frustration for the diaspora who invested in the cooperatives before the creation of the project.
- ▶ Women have become increasingly important in the economic life of the community. They now have opportunities to meet and learn together and become more socially and economically independent.
- ▶ The objective of enhancing the local heritage through ecotourism has been partially achieved: the COVID crisis has stopped all ecotourism activities at the end of the project. Yet, the inhabitants have been sensitized, and learnt the tourism assets of their regions, improved accommodation offers, and one ecotourism association was created in 2021.

Contribution to the SDGs:

Prior to the decentralized cooperation, the Moroccan diaspora was not always aware of the SDGs, but their projects were already responding to them. The sustainable development goals were particularly important for the city of Antwerp, and the decentralized cooperation reinforced their integration into the general and specific objectives of the project. The strengthening and economic integration of women was a particularly important dimension of the project and was supported by the project partners and beneficiaries.



To remember

- ▶ Decentralized cooperation project designed based on the existing projects of three ADDOs
- ▶ Project implemented with many stakeholders thanks to the coordination of ACCORPE association
- ▶ ADDO involved in creation of the project, communication between partners, reporting of problems encountered by the project beneficiaries and network mobilization
- ▶ Main difficulties linked to the different languages spoken by the partners which limit their ability to communicate directly
- ▶ The decentralized cooperation revitalized the agricultural and economic life of the rural municipality.

E) DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ISLAND OF NGAZIDJA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SEINE-SAINT-DENIS

Overview

This decentralized cooperation was born out of the mobilisation of the Comorian diaspora living in the French department. It had different phases, the most recent being the Festival des Communes.

Description of the project

Sector: Cultural Heritage Promotion and decentralization

Countries concerned: Comoros Union, France

Background: The decentralized cooperation between the island of Ngazidja and the department of Seine-Saint-Denis was born out of the mobilisation of the Comorian diaspora living in the French department²⁷. The department supported the numerous Comoran associations of Seine-Saint-Denis while they created a common platform and created a mutual interest exchange through a cooperation agreement signed with the governorate of the island of Great Comoro (Ngazidja) and the association of mayors of the island. The Festival des Communes (Festival of Municipalities) is the most recent cooperation project, the decentralized cooperation also supports Great Comoro municipalities in projects on violence against women and improve health and sanitation.

Objectives: The Municipalities Festival of Ngazidja has two main objectives:

- ▶ Promoting the importance and cultural diversity of the villages and towns of the island of Ngazidja,
- ▶ Putting the municipalities - recently created since the decentralization of the Comoros - at the heart of the associative life and daily life of the Comorians.

Several secondary objectives are central to this project:

²⁷ In the administrative divisions of France, the department is one of the three levels of government under the national level between the administrative regions and the communes. There are 1010 departments in France.

- ▶ The promotion of traditional knowledge and cultural associations of women in each Comorian village;
- ▶ Enhancing the traditional and modern cultures of Comorian youth.

Beneficiaries:

The main beneficiaries of the project are the cultural and artistic associations and groups in the villages of Ngazidja Island. The women's and youth associations of the various villages were particularly targeted and included in the project through the choice of festival categories (traditional dance, urban dance, cooking, music, slam). The project also enabled the agents and mayors of the young Comorian municipalities to be put at the centre of the cultural life of their territory.

A Multi-actor decentralised cooperation

Profile of Project Partners

Decentralized cooperation has brought together a myriad of Comorian and French operational actors, which can be grouped into three categories.

- ▶ The institutional leaders of the decentralized cooperation are the Governorate of the island of Grande Comore (Ngazidja) and the Comorian Association of Mayors of Ngazidja (AMN), partners with the department of Seine-Saint-Denis. The three actors have created the decentralized cooperation agreement, the reference framework of the project.
- ▶ The operators of the project in the field are the Comorian association Ulanga and the French association Africolor. These two partners are in charge of carrying out all the activities and coordinating the budget.
- ▶ The facilitating partner of the project is the Platform of Comorian Associations of Seine-Saint-Denis (PFAC 93). These two partners acted as relays of information and communication on the project to their members and the general public. Faced with difficulties in the progress of the project, they also mobilized their network to remove obstacles encountered by field operators.

The Festival des Communes also received material support and grants to finance its budget of 220,000 euros. The material resources were provided by the Comorian municipalities. The main financial contributors were the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (€75,000), the French departments of Reunion (€20,000 and an employee made available) and Seine Saint Denis (€30,000) and the French Embassy in the Comoros (€15,000).

Project governance and communication

The project partners meet in a steering committee at important stages of the project. The committee is composed of members by right and invited members. The members by right are the donors of the project (Conseil départemental de la Réunion, Embassy of France), the founding actors, operators and facilitators of the project (Governorate of Ngazidja, Conseil départemental de Seine-Saint-Denis, Ulanga, Africolor, Plateforme des Associations Comoriennes de Seine-Saint-Denis and Association des maires de Ngazidja). On a daily basis, Ulanga and Africolor, the project operators, communicate individually with the stakeholders to keep them informed of the progress, and request the support of one or more partners to overcome the difficulties encountered.

Mobilization of diaspora in the project

Factors for diaspora involvement in the project

PFAC93 has been involved in the project since its inception and is in direct contact with the Seine-Saint-Denis departmental council to coordinate its involvement. The departmental council has supported the structuring of PFAC93 to encourage the involvement of Comorian associations that are members of the platform within the project. This project to promote the culture of the Comorian associations' country of origin echoes the activities carried out by Comorian associations in Seine-Saint-Denis, thus creating a bridge between Seine-Saint-Denis and the territory of origin of the Comorian diaspora.

Diaspora contributions and added value

Without the relations between the department of Seine-Saint-Denis and the Comorian associations of the department, the cooperation with the island of Ngazidja would not have been possible. The

associations grouped within the platform of Comorian associations of Seine-Saint-Denis have a good knowledge of Comorian villages and of youth, women's and cultural associations. As such, PFAC 93 has participated in the identification of local actors to be involved in the project, and of the key cultural and political actors of the country. In parallel to the project in the Comoros, PFAC 93 organized a "Festival Miroir des Comores" in Seine-Saint-Denis. Closely linked to the Festival des Communes, this mirror festival also promoted the Comorian heritage and enhanced the value of France-Comoros decentralised cooperation among the inhabitants of the department.

Project Outcomes

Activities implemented:

The creation of the Ngazidja Island Municipalities Festival is the key activity. This new festival was divided into several phases, in the format of a competition. Before the festival started, the mayors and the associative actors of the 28 municipalities of the island were sensitized to help promote the project's objectives.

The first phase of the festival was municipal: each municipality organized a competition to select a representative for each category of the competition among all the village associations (music, dance, slam, cooking...).

The regional phase brought together the representatives of the municipalities to select a finalist to represent the region in the final.

The final phase brought together all the regional finalists in a big cultural event in front of the Comorian authorities. A delegation of French artists was supposed to participate in this final, but the health crisis prevented their travel.

Contribution to local development:

The Festival des Communes de Ngazidja has helped to promote decentralisation in the Comoros. According to Great Comoro Island authorities, the municipalities, the regions and the Island district have gained in visibility and have been strengthened by the project. The village identities are very strong in Great Comoro, and each municipality groups several villages. The mayors can have difficulties to be recognised as legitimate authorities because the population identifies themselves as members of a village and not as part of the municipality. Being the center of the decentralised cooperation implementation, the municipalities have acquired skills in the management of associations, and are more accounted and legitimate in the eyes of the population and traditional authorities of villages. The project also strengthened Comorian cultural groups: Comorian women's and youth associations have become more visible and their contribution to Comorian culture is well accepted.

Contribution to the SDGs:

The project has achieved several sustainable development goals. The main objective achieved is the development of effective institutions to strengthen peace and equality within the island. The consolidation of Comorian local municipalities brings the people of the Comorian villages and the municipalities closer together. A second objective is the reduction of gender inequalities: Comorian women have been put at the centre of several categories of the competition. A secondary objective of the project has been to strengthen the tourist attractiveness of the Comoros through the enhancement of its heritage. This objective indirectly contributes to the economic development of the island.

- ▶ Decentralized cooperation born from the mobilisation of the Comorian diaspora living in the French department.
- ▶ Project implemented with many stakeholders with well-defined roles and governance
- ▶ ADDOs involved in the project since its inception and performing cultural and networking activities to bridge Seine-Saint-Denis and the territory of origin of the Comorian diaspora.
- ▶ The decentralized cooperation helped to promote decentralisation in the Comoros and legitimize Comorian cultural groups.
- ▶

F) DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION BETWEEN CITIES IN ITALY, TUNISIA AND MOROCCO

Overview

This decentralized cooperation stems from the mobility partnership agreement signed on March 2014 by Tunisia and the European Union. Its overall objective of the action is to contribute to the improvement of temporary and circular migration patterns between Italy, Morocco and Tunisia. A Tunisian diaspora organisation has been involved by the municipality of Turin, thanks to past fruitful collaborations, but with no formal role.

Description of the project

Sector: Youth Entrepreneurship

Countries concerned: Tunisia, Morocco, Italy

Background: The Mentor project stems from the mobility partnership agreement signed on March 3, 2014 by Tunisia and the European Union, with ten member states including Italy. Tunisia is the second country bordering the Mediterranean to sign this partnership, following the signing of the first partnership agreement with Morocco in June 2013. The Mentor project meets several objectives of the partnership and associates Morocco and Tunisia to promote the training of young people to entrepreneurship in the context of short-term migration.

Objectives: The overall objective of the action is to contribute to the improvement of temporary and circular migration patterns between Italy, Morocco and Tunisia. Four specific objectives refine the scope of the actions:

- ▶ 1. To strengthen cooperation between training, employment and youth services in Italy (city of Milan and Turin), Morocco (city of Beni Mellal, Khouribga and Fquih Ben Salah) and Tunisia (city of Tunis).
- ▶ 2. To improve the skills of socio-educational animators and actors of the concerned territories in order to promote circular and temporary migration of young people.
- ▶ 3. To increase the information of Tunisian and Moroccan citizens on legal circular and temporary migration to Italy and the EU
- ▶ 4. To increase access to the labor market for young Tunisians and Moroccans in their countries of origin thanks to training opportunities in Italy (Turin and Milan) through an operational improvement of Article 27 of the Italian law on immigration.

Beneficiaries: The main beneficiaries were twenty young Tunisian and Moroccan graduates in Turin and Milan (ten young people per city) for a three-month internship. The young people had the opportunity to benefit from a professional growth path and to develop professional and entrepreneurial skills in Italy.

Twenty Italian companies also benefited from the project by hosting the young people, they obtained new employment supports financed by the project, and above all expanded their network in Morocco and Tunisia. Mentor has given Italian companies in the municipality of Turin and Milan the opportunity to internationalize their activities by collaborating with the internship recipients.

A Multi-actor decentralised cooperation

Profile of Project Partners

The Mentor partnership has equal representation from all core partners.

- ▶ In Italy, the partners are the city of Milan (lead partner), the city of Turin and the Piemonte Lavoro development agency.
- ▶ The Moroccan partners were the municipality of Khouribga, the Ministry of Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Issues, ANAPEC - National Agency for the Promotion of Employment and Skills (Sections of Beni Mellal and Chaouia-Tadla and the Polydisciplinary Faculty of Khouribinare
- ▶ In Tunisia, the main partners are the municipality of Tunis and the National Youth Observatory (ONJ).

In addition, there are technical partners

- ▶ Anolf Piemonte: the NGO selected for actions in Morocco and Tunisia
- ▶ The involvement of the Tunisian diaspora in the city of Turin has been important, even fundamental at certain points in the project. The Tunisian diaspora has been involved by the municipality of Turin, thanks to fruitful past collaborations. Yet, the diaspora wasn't an official Mentor partner.

As for the municipality of Milan, however, the Moroccan or Tunisian diaspora has not been involved, especially since the relationship between the municipality of Milan and the city's diaspora associations is mainly developed with the Senegalese diaspora.

On a day-to-day basis, the project activities and budget are managed by the partners of the municipalities of Milan and Turin, by the agenzia Piemonte Lavoro and the Anolf Piemonte. The overall budget was 540,000 Euros, 90% of which came from a grant from MPF (Mobility Partnership Facility of the ICMPPD - International Centre for Migration Policy Development with funds from the European Commission). The bulk of the budget is dedicated to the costs of the internships, including the pre-departure and post-return activities of the interns.

Project governance and communication

The governance of the project team was coordinated by Milan. A project coordination committee formed by the partners was created, and local consultation committees were in charge of each area of action, guiding and following the project's steps. These consultation committees were formed by the partners and by all the actors interested in the project (third sector, businesses, diasporas, academics, etc.). Each committee met at least three times during the year and a half of the project, sometimes with guests from other territories (e.g. the person in charge of Milan participated in one day of the local committee in Tunis and at least two in Turin).

Communication has been very regular and effective: although the creation of the Mentor website has been delayed. The campaign to recruit young people and regular migration to Tunisia and Morocco went well: social networks were used (partner Facebook pages and dedicated Mentor Morocco and Tunisia pages), then the trainees were trained to manage the blog, but their workloads within the companies left them little time to run the blog. Third-party videos and press releases were also produced throughout the project.

Mobilization of diaspora in the project

The diaspora in this project did not play an official partner role, but their support for the project was important.

- ▶ First, it disseminated and publicized the project throughout its network,

- ▶ It also helped to find companies willing to host internships for young people arriving from Tunisia and Morocco.

From a technical point of view, it was very interesting to have the diaspora as a partner of the project for the municipality of Turin. The diaspora worked with the beneficiaries and the companies in Turin to ensure an effective match. Thanks to its strong relationship with the diaspora in the area.

- ▶ When the leaders of the various partner municipalities went to Turin, the role of the diaspora was fundamental to make the relationship not only institutional, but also cultural, interpersonal and lively.
- ▶ They acted as mediators between the partners of the three countries: their support, not only linguistic, but also cultural, was central.
- ▶ Their role in orientation was also important, allowing Moroccan and Tunisian youth to be advised by the diaspora on how to adapt to the Italian realities and social life coming from a Northern Africa country.

The important role of the Turin diaspora in the outcome of the project has been recognized. A second Mentor 2 program plans to involve them as official partners.

Project Outcomes

Activities implemented:

In a chronological approach, several activities can be identified in each phase of the project:

- ▶ Among the first activities carried out was the constitution of working groups that involved many different actors who then took part in the project. Experts from the municipalities of Milan and Turin, as well as actors representing the training and placement services, carried out a study on the territory of the two cities, and of the most interesting sectors in which to place the beneficiaries. As a result, an awareness and information campaign was conducted among young people in Tunisia and Morocco on temporary and circular migration.
- ▶ The second phase of the project concerns the selection of young candidates in Morocco and Tunisia, then the search for companies in Italy and the orientation of the candidates. The young people carried out professional internships, benefited from a pre-partnership tutoring and a post-internship insertion training.
- ▶ To replicate the project based on the evaluation of the results, Mentor has allowed the publication of guidelines and recommendations for the implementation or improvement of procedures for the realization of professional internships in Italy and in the European Union, with a focus on migration and local development.

Contribution to local development:

The project beneficiaries were able to achieve a level of knowledge that allowed them to make important professional and growth developments once they returned to their country. Many have taken the step to become independent entrepreneurs. The decentralized cooperation project also allowed Italian companies in Turin and Milan to open up to internationalization towards the two North African countries. This was not a one-way benefit, but an exchange that benefits the territories of the three partner countries.

Some companies in Italy have invested in their trainee's professional projects in order to try to develop in the Moroccan and Tunisian markets. The networking of different actors reinforced the positive economic development of all areas of intervention.

Contribution to the SDGs:

One of the main objectives is Objective 4: Invest in quality basic education/training to improve the lives of Moroccan and Tunisian youth, and thus contribute to sustainable development. Education is the only way to guarantee economic and sustainable growth. This goal is also closely linked to the next one (SDGS 5), as the partnership selected the beneficiaries according to a gender equality principle.

The other important goal that the project sought to consolidate is Goal 8, which aims to encourage sustainable, inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. The beneficiaries were able to take advantage of the internship that allowed them to work for Italian business networks after the project ended, some tried to become foreign representatives of the

companies for which they did the internship. The skills acquired were also useful for creating jobs in the country of origin upon their return.

Finally, Objective 17 (Strengthen and enhance the partners in the countries we work with) is one of the most important points for the success of the project. Although in Mentor 1 there was no formal involvement of the Moroccan and Tunisian diaspora as partners, the relationship between all partners is perceived as fair and equal.



To remember

- ▶ Decentralized cooperation stemmed from the mobility partnership agreement signed by Morocco, Tunisia and the European Union, with ten member states including Italy.
- ▶ Project implemented with national and local stakeholders with the coordination of an NGO, Anolf Piemonte.
- ▶ ADDOs involved by the municipality of Turin as an informal partner: networking both in Italy and in Tunisia, acting as linguistic and cultural mediator and assisting in youth orientation. A second Mentor 2 program plans to involve them as official partners – recognizing their value-added in Mentor 1.
- ▶ Local contribution to sustainable development goal 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), 8 (Decent Jobs and Economic Growth) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

7. CONCLUSION: SHOULD ADDOS BE MORE INVOLVED IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT?

IS THERE AN ACTUAL IMPACT OF ADDOS IN AFRICAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT?

The global relationship between diasporas and development is subject to scientific debates. Most research papers underline the investment of diasporas and the processes through which they bring new social practices, essential infrastructures and economic support. However, some scientists criticize some international organisations' discourses on diasporas' potential to become major development actors as they consider that it is disconnected from reality (see part 3.1.).

If the role of diaspora in national development is not obvious, a clear consensus is found in the recognition of diasporas' impact on the **improvement of living conditions of their relatives**, through regular financial remittances. Secondly, **ADDOS' contributions are also clear in a wide range of localities and development sectors**. Access to water, improvement of health infrastructures, school constructions or support for agriculture are widespread ADDOs initiatives at a local level. Areas of important emigration, like the Senegal river valley, or Northern Africa benefit from ADDOs' massive investment in infrastructures for the region general interest. From the literature review and case studies, ADDOs projects seem to systematically **tackle at least one sustainable development goal**, even if they don't always know them nor measure the attainment of SDGs targets.

ARE ADDOS A UNIFORM GROUP OF DEVELOPMENT ACTORS?

African Diaspora Development organizations can be of various size and have a variety of objectives. Their projects are of several types, amount, cover a wide range of sectors, and involve a large variety of partners.

All these elements can affect their interventions, efficiency, size, and impact in favour of sustainable development goals.

European and African contexts also have great influences on ADDOs' capacities to be structured and professionalised. ADDOs' contributions are not always visible and welcomed, depending on the location and on how well their initiatives are adapted to the local and national contexts. The funding of their project depends on European associative culture and environment: number and contribution of the members, existence of public or private grants destined to ADDOs. All these factors can explain the geographical differences in ADDOs' engagement in local development: some European and African countries and regions see intense ADDOs activities, while others mostly benefit from diaspora members' individual contributions.

WHAT ARE ADDOS' CONTRIBUTION TYPES?

Several types of ADDOs' contributions to local development in Africa were identified. The financial contributions must not overshadow other central dimensions of ADDOs engagement, distinguishing them from other development organisations.

The financial contribution is the most visible and studied contribution. Collective remittances to beneficiaries of projects, funding of new infrastructures, or donation of start-up funds for income-generating activities are diverse ways through which ADDOs finance local development.

- ▶ ADDOs are composed by members giving out time, knowledge and competencies for the success of the development initiatives. This constitutes a strong **human capital** and characterises ADDOs practices.
- ▶ Analysing local communities benefiting from ADDOs engagement, the transfer of **social remittances** is outlined. The cultural norms of diasporas are different from African norms. ADDOs bring subtle social change through projects: giving important roles to African youth in local project's management, they help empower new generations; putting women as central beneficiaries or nominating them as president of ADDOs have positive impacts for women in the local beneficiary communities.
- ▶ **Diasporas' Networks** are determining aspects of ADDOs contributions in their projects. The cumulated contacts in Europe and African of each ADDO member is crucial for their projects. It can help overcome administrative difficulties, help beneficiaries for their professional insertion or entrepreneurial project, and facilitates ADDOs partnerships with other development organisations.

WHAT IS THE ADDED VALUE OF ADDOS' ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AS COMPARED TO OTHER DEVELOPMENT ACTORS (INCLUDING LOCAL NGOS)?

To some extent, ADDOs can be compared to international NGOs: they have a transnational engagement, are answering the needs of local communities and invest in various development sectors. Yet, most ADDOs engage at a very local level, and build strong relationships with the beneficiary population as local NGOs do. This is harder to do for international NGO programs, who are often targeting multiple territories with limited time. ADDOs often engage in the long run to ensure the viability of the projects they develop. This is facilitated by the voluntary engagement of ADDO members: a long-term engagement does not always imply more funds to be mobilised. Diasporas networks can also be great advantages in development projects, for example to find qualified diaspora members who can help train or mentor beneficiaries.

At the national and local levels, ADDOs bring value in decentralised cooperation including them. In two of the case studies, they played a role as initiators of decentralized cooperation. More generally, ADDOs also become cultural and linguistic translators: they ensure good communication between cooperation partners, ease miscomprehensions and are often in frequent contact with the beneficiaries. Locally based ADDOs help build beneficiary-oriented development programs. They can partner with a wide range of development actors in multicultural environments. Therefore, well organised and financed ADDOs are valuable assets for local development in Africa.

WHAT ARE THE PERSPECTIVES OF ADDOS ENGAGEMENT AFTER THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC?

The Covid 19 has transformed ADDOs' relationship with their counterparts and beneficiaries in Africa and Europe: the travel restrictions made it more difficult to go on the site of the projects, to develop partnerships with African authorities, or to organise social gatherings in Europe to collect funds, communicate on their actions, etc.. The crisis transformed ADDOs' modalities of engagement: the African partners equipped with smartphones can become more active in the project implementation than before; the sanitary needs related to COVID increased the engagement of ADDOs in the health sector. An encouraging perspective is that the projects observed in the study slowed down but did not stop during the pandemic. Whether the organisations engage on thematic or geographical motives (hometown organisations) do not affect their determination to implement development projects until their end.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

To increase the engagement of ADDOs in local development and their local contribution to SDGs, three key success factors were identified:

1. Maximize ADDOs' engagement on projects referring specifically to SDGs, taking into account women-, youth- and environment-related stakes, and aligned with the national and local strategies in their area of intervention.
2. Increase ADDOs' internal capacities to design, raise funds and implement (directly or as partner to a decentralized cooperation project) projects which are relevant for beneficiary populations, coherent in the local context, implemented with effectiveness and efficiency, and sustainable.
3. Favour an enabling context of intervention both in Europe and in Africa and support a greater visibility²⁸ of their contribution to social and economic development in the residence and origin countries.

Those three key success factors lead to recommendations for each type of stakeholders below:

- ▶ National authorities in Africa and Europe
- ▶ Local authorities in Africa and Europe
- ▶ Development Agencies/Banks and Donors
- ▶ ADDOs and Umbrella Organizations
- ▶ Civil society organisations in Europe and Africa
- ▶ Social Science Researchers

Nevertheless, three recommendations for civil society organisations in Europe and Africa, seem appropriate for other actors, given that ADDOs are mostly small associations with benevolent staff. They are to:

- ▶ Improve knowledge of the international solidarity ecosystem of each country with the objective to better integrate the actions of ADDOS.
- ▶ Promote a better participation of ADDOS in the double space (Europe / Africa) as actors of social integration of migrants in Europe and actors of international solidarity with Africa.
- ▶ Agree to take time to build up ADDOs skills and capacities.
- ▶ More specifically, in the projects integrating ADDOs:
- ▶ Clearly identify the role of each actor and value it, this is true for all actors and especially for ADDOs who are often relegated to a lesser role in the case of big projects with professional actors like international NGOs or local authorities.
- ▶ Accept to shift some working hours at night and on weekends when ADDOs volunteers are available.

²⁸ The States can initiate communication campaigns showing the impact of ADDOs activities, like the Senegalese PAISD program (https://paisd.sn/accompagnement_subvention_projets_developpement_local/), or the FORIM in France during the International Migration Day.

A) NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN AFRICA AND EUROPE

African national authorities

For the countries of origin, whose diaspora is already intervening collectively through ADDOs²⁹, a major stake for the national authorities is to drive ADDOs' projects and investment in the areas and sectors where they can have the greater impact and synergies. This will limit resource scattering and align actions. A methodology with several steps can be applied:

- ▶ **State of play:** identify the countries of destination where the diaspora is structured in ADDOs, the drivers of their collective interventions, their sectors and area of intervention in the country of origin and their major restrictive factors. This diagnosis aims also at placing this item on the agenda of international cooperation discussions and agreements.
- ▶ **Diaspora structuration:** this mapping can be the base to help ADDOs regroup in umbrella organizations which can share good practices and gain a visibility in their country of destination. If the relationship between the diaspora and its country of origin and residence countries allows it, diaspora umbrella organisations can also represent ADDOs in a dialog with the regional and national authorities of their country of origin.
- ▶ **Enabling environment:** ADDOs' actions can benefit a lot from the application of a Migration and Development strategy which consider them and recognize their action. They can also benefit from the improvement of the business environment especially regarding bribery, administrative malfunctions, and security.
- ▶ **Specific offer:** on the model of PAISD or of the 3x1 described below, national authorities can design mechanism to co-finance ADDOs projects in strategic sectors and areas. To be efficient, this mechanism has to include technical assistance as well as a referral desk to orient ADDOs to local agencies, local authorities and NGOs which may help them. The monitoring and evaluation system need to be anticipated from the start to factualize the impact of those initiatives.
- ▶ **Communication:** Explaining and valuing the contribution of diasporas (financial and non-financial) in public discourse and media can foster trust with ADDOs and facilitate their actions.

According to Gelb et al. (2021) the 3x1 program started at local level and got a nation-wide dimension in 2001 In Mexico. Three levels of government (local, state, and federal) were matching every \$1 sent by collective remittances.

The 3x1 program financed more than 6,000 projects, mobilising an average of \$15 million dollars per annum. The funded works were for 31% street and communications infrastructure, for 20%t water and health infrastructure, for 20% energy infrastructure, for 17% building and for 13% public spaces. Studies show the program had a positive impact on employment and labour force participation in Mexican municipalities and that it had significantly and positively affected household access to sanitation, water, and drainage in participating rural villages Duquette-The authors of the study compare it to a similar mechanism the PARE 1+1 scheme in Moldova which was less successful. According to them,

²⁹ Some diasporas intervene mainly individually and therefore it may be more effective for their countries of origin to mobilize individual diaspora investment, entrepreneurship, and competencies.

this may be explained by the fact that the 3x1 programme emerged from the existing collective remitting among the Mexican diaspora while the PARE 1+1 was established by the government. Additionally, the Mexican 3x1 programme included technical support from Mexico's Social Development Ministry.

Box 10 | A success story: 3x1 Program in Mexico

European national authorities

In the countries of destination, a major stake for the national authorities is to facilitate insertion of migrants in the economic and social life. Migrant associations can play an important role here too. Moreover, well-integrated diasporas are in a better position to contribute to the development of their country of origin since they benefit from more financial resources and networks. To do so, two recommendations concern:

- ▶ **Enabling environment for associations:** ADDOs action can benefit from laws and mechanisms facilitating their financing in their countries of residence such as ability to collect membership fees or tax exemption of donations. They can also benefit from mutual services for associations such as pooling of HR, accounting, communication, etc. It must be underlined that in some areas, those services exist but are not known by ADDOs.
- ▶ **Diaspora collective dialogue and structuration:** in countries with a great number of diaspora organizations, the structuration of diaspora networks into an umbrella organisation can enhance their national representation and increase more efficiently their capacities as well as the transmission of good practices. Historically, in France, it was the French Government which encouraged the structuring of the diaspora organizations through a two-year process of consultation that recognised the role of the ADDOs and ended with the creation of FORIM.

B) LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN AFRICA AND EUROPE

African local authorities and deconcentrated state services can play a major role in the success of ADDOs' local development initiatives in their territory. ADDOs' direct interventions can be crucial for the development of certain public services for which the local authorities do not have sufficient resources. When a good relationship is established with ADDOs based in Europe, the ADDOs can mobilise their European local authorities and try to create greater development projects through decentralised cooperation directly benefiting African local authorities.

- ▶ A first step is often the establishment of efficient communication with ADDOs, by orienting them to the administrative and political services managing the sector they want to develop. This enables the ADDOs to discover the administrative procedures they must comply with, and to participate in frequent follow up meetings on the advancement and difficulties of the project.
- ▶ During the project's implementation, local authorities should make sure ADDOs actions are not hampered by predatory behaviours or political opposition coming from the local administration staff, political opponents or beneficiaries. A hostile climate can bring an end to a local development project, or of any future project planned.
- ▶ If possible and when necessary, the local authorities can contribute in-kind to the project through land donation. This participation often facilitates the obtention of subsidies for

ADDOs based in Europe, as a sign of good-will and guarantee that counterparts are taking stakes and interests in the project.

For **European local authorities**, creating partnerships with ADDOs from their territories can be an efficient way of fostering the social and political integration of minorities, and create direct relationships with them. Several tools can be mobilised, from municipal or regional grants to integration of ADDOs in their international policy through decentralised cooperation. To initiate decentralised cooperations and international policies with ADDOs, critical success factors are to be met first:

- ▶ A diaspora has to be brought together in an organisation in the territory of the local authority, or in the neighbouring areas. This facilitates the identification of ADDOs already invested in local development and integrated within diasporic communities.
- ▶ The role and contribution of the ADDOs must be decided with them. For ADDOs already engaged in local development, decentralised cooperation can be disruptive as their position changes: ADDOs become partners and facilitators in multistakeholder projects and are not the project managers anymore. A seat in steering committees, or frequent meetings with ADDOs and local authorities are possibilities.
- ▶ The contribution of ADDOs needs to be valued in the project documentation, budget, and communication: time, linguistic translation, cultural facilitation, or investments made before the launch of the decentralised cooperation are all assets for a decentralised cooperation.

C) DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, BANKS AND DONORS

Development agencies/banks have a major role to play in order to increase the contribution of ADDOs to local development either as a specific focus in their strategy or as a transversal approach.

- ▶ **Specific focus in their strategy:** to give more weight to ADDOs as development actors, development agencies/banks can design mechanism to co-finance ADDOs' projects with technical assistance on the model of PRA-OSIM. They can also include partnering with professional civil society organizations in order to increase common understanding and assist ADDOs in improving their competencies in project management, financial education and management, monitoring and evaluation and fundraising. In terms of financing, project funding is necessary but financing of some structure costs with specific objectives is also needed to help some ADDOs in their scaling up. This approach is relevant in countries where the diaspora is already dynamic and structured and at European level to support major ADDOs in countries where no mechanism exists.
- ▶ **Transversal approach:** ADDOs can be considered as development actors in their own rights and able to bring linguistic, social and networking inputs to the projects. Reinforcing their capacities is possible by encouraging big development organizations and local authorities to integrate them in their projects and by communicating internally on how they can be helpful for their projects. The decentralized cooperation between cities in Italy, Tunisia and Morocco is an interesting example.

D) ADDOs AND UMBRELLA ORGANIZATIONS

The case studies highlighted that ADDOs already do much with little resources. It seems unrealistic for them to do more, all other things being equal, but they can increase their local impact in three ways:

- ▶ **Experiment new ways to raise funds:** depending on the ADDO, this may be through crowdfunding or through answering calls for project. For many organizations, digitalizing the collection of membership fees can facilitate the financial management but also formal money transfer to their country of origin / intervention since it makes it easier to justify the source of funds in line with anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) rules.
- ▶ **Improve the efficiency of their own projects:** ADDOs can do so in training some of their volunteers in project management, financial education and management, monitoring and evaluation and fundraising. There are free online courses on those thematic in addition to what exists in their country of residence. They can also look for volunteers already possessing those competencies from the diaspora, such as the new generations recently graduated, and from the other people interested in the development of Africa. They can also improve the effectiveness of their own projects by finding partners in their country of residence and origin. Foodbrigde case study is an interesting example in that matter.
- ▶ **Participate in bigger projects as partner:** Organizations focused on a specific thematic can approach international NGOs specialized in similar sectors of intervention. Organizations focused on a geographic area can approach the local authorities in their country of residence to evaluate the possibility of decentralized cooperation. For both, a challenge for ADDOs will be to get new competencies and to position themselves as a real partners by highlighting volunteer time and monetising the impact of their actions.

Umbrella organizations have a role to play to facilitate this capacity reinforcement for example by offering adapted free trainings and events to share good practices. Their advocacy work towards authorities, development institutions, international NGOs can also facilitate the forging of partnerships at local level by ADDOs.

E) SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCHERS

The literature review shows blind spots on the relationship between ADDOs and local development. Social scientists interested in these dynamics could see interests exploring specific dimensions of ADDOs' engagements that are incompletely known.

Studies on African diaspora members grouped in ADDOs are essentially monographies following the activities of a limited number of organisations, mostly coming from important emigration areas (Northern, Western and Eastern Africa). Most works focus on institutionalised organisations created by first generations of diasporas. Those works present subtle and detailed analysis of local contexts in which ADDOs operate, and the social and economic consequences of their actions, but the cross-reference reading cannot fully give generalisable overviews: some the African regions are less investigated, and even a gradual generalisation may homogenise ADDOs, filtering out the diversity of their activities, funding, members, etc. In a **trans-local**³⁰ **perspective** analysing both European and African local contexts, the following research thematic would be helpful to fill knowledge gaps.

- ▶ Lack of an overall vision of the impact of diasporas in local development.
- ▶ **Quantitative investigations targeting larger numbers of ADDOs** could help give overviews of ADDOs engaged in local development in both Africa and Europe. Works on larger scales can help identify categories of ADDOs based on their actions (scale, funding, sectors, partners), members (origin, generation, education, political engagement...), their relationship with African local contexts (thematic or geographical engagement) or the relative importance of collective dynamics vs individual ones (comparing ADDOs members' financial contributions to ADDOs projects with their overall donations and investments in Africa).
- ▶ Investigate a wider range of countries

As previously observed, countries with massive emigration or immigration rates are well studied in Africa and Europe. Better knowledge of ADDOs coming from or living in countries with fewer migration flows could help identify new dynamics of ADDOs impact in local development. Are ADDOs members more or less integrated in their country of residence? Does this affect their ability to implement local development initiatives? Are ADDOs working in African countries with small diasporas in Europe more or less solicited to engage in local development? Does this affect the relationship with local and national authorities? These research problems could make appear new characteristics of ADDOs engagement, and introduce new scientific paradigms.

- ▶ See the impact of associative cultures on ADDOs dynamism

³⁰ Trans-localism is a notion that pays attention to the links between two local areas in different countries: the simultaneous activities of diasporas in their place of residence and of origin create a bridge between the two. See Grillo and Riccio (2004).

- ▶ In the country of residence and of origin, the recognition of diaspora associations can drastically affect the means and efficiency of their actions. Strong associative cultures in Europe can allow ADDOs to receive/gain important financial and technical help from the authorities. On the other hand, when associations are less legitimate from an institutional point of view, or associated with political opposition in Africa or Europe, their ability to implement powerful actions can be hindered.
- ▶ **Analyse local engagement from diaspora's second and third generation.** A wide majority of ADDOs studied in current research works are funded by the first-generation of diasporas. Studying ADDOs composed of second and third generations of diasporas could show new dynamics in the engagement of ADDOs members. What are the dynamics of the engagement of subsequent generations? Is it less related to the location of origin and targeting any African country? Does it change the project funding or implementation (knowledge of social codes, relationship with African authorities and beneficiaries, interest in decentralised cooperation, etc.)
- ▶ Analyse the evolution and growth of professionalised ADDOs and draw lessons for the support of other ADDOs. A majority of the ADDOs studied in research papers are small. Like any small association operating on semi-voluntary resources, the operating costs are almost non-existent, which generate a lot of efficiency, resilience and agility. Does this resist the professionalisation and change of scale of diaspora organisations? How does the change of scale affect their impact on local development?

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

A) PRESENTATION OF THE REFERENCES

COLLECTION PROCESS

The scientific literature was mainly collected on scientific articles databases (Jstor, Cairn, publishers websites). Some references were based the authors' previous works and collected before the study. The technical and operational papers used were drawn from classical search engines. Some works issued by organizations interviewed were shared with the authors by the people interviewed in the first and second phases of the study. This part (A) and the next (B) present the sources cited in this report. The last part (C) shares exhaustively the scientific references consulted.

TYPES OF PAPERS

Scientific references

Most Scientific references are issued from peer-reviewed academic journals: this guarantees the scientific quality of the methodology used by the authors. Most articles analyse the dynamics of ADDOs in Europe and Africa, often at specific countries and region levels. Some chapters of social science books on African migrations are literature reviews, they helped understand the state-of-the-art and scientific debates on African diasporas and ADDOs.

Technical Research papers from international organizations and national development agencies

International UN Agencies and European development agencies conducted or financed in-depth studies on diasporas and ADDOs' engagement. Those works propose overviews of ADDOs engagement at continent or country levels, good practices that ought to be developed. They give more practical ideas of ADDOs successful initiatives. Combining those research papers with scientific works can help build a balanced view of ADDOs engagement.

Operational reports from development organizations

With a project-oriented approach, operational reports help understand ADDOs' projects in practice: their funding and ADDOs partners, the project phases, the difficulties met and how they were dealt with. These reports were collected through multiple channels: ADDOs shared them with us when they could (for example, final report to give after receiving a grant), development agencies can combine presentations of the projects they financed or implemented, formal return of experiences papers can present several projects with sectoral or geographical similarities. These give a very practical image of ADDOs engaged in local development. They however mostly present ADDOs that obtained grants, and not associations solely acting out of their members' contributions. In this report, those reports are used to give examples in the boxes, presenting specific ADDOs actions.

IMPACT ON THE STUDY

Most works used in this study are at a micro level, representing specific projects, locations, and one ADDO at a time. This allows to pay attention to local dynamics that enable or restrain ADDOs engagement in local development. Yet, few propose generalisable examples, observations or analyses. (A)references cited in the report (B) and the and additional scientific references (C) are presented below.

B) CITED REFERENCES

The grey literature references (technical and operational papers) have an asterisk (*).

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10. ANNEXES

A) ONLINE SURVEY QUESTIONS

1. Name of your organization

2. Date of creation

3. Profile of your organization) (*several answers accepted*)

- ▶ Hospitality association
- ▶ Cultural association (dance, music...)
- ▶ African students Association
- ▶ Association for the development of a specific region (village(s), city of origin)
- ▶ Development association in one or more countries of origin
- ▶ Advocacy association in Africa
- ▶ Partisan association (representation of an African political party)
- ▶ Associations Network at the European or national level
- ▶ Other (please specify):

4. What is the profile of your members?

- ▶ 1st generation
- ▶ 2nd or 3rd generation
- ▶ Newcomers, recently arrived
- ▶ Mixed: several profiles of members
- ▶

5. Where does your organization carry out projects and/or actions? (*several answers accepted*)

▶

6. Where is/are your organization headquarter(s)? (*Several answers accepted*)?

7. In which other countries are you locally implanted (*several answers are possible*)?

8. Is your organization prone to work with European local and national authorities?

- ▶ Yes, we already do
- ▶ Yes, we would like to
- ▶ I don't know
- ▶ No, we are not interested

9. Is your organization prone to work with African local and national authorities?

- ▶ Yes, we already do
- ▶ Yes, we would like to
- ▶ I don't know
- ▶ No, we are not interested

10. Has your organization carried out a local development project before?

By local development, we refer to all the activities carried out in a delimited and sub-national territory (region, department, rural or urban area) whose objective is to improve living conditions in the most comprehensive sense. Economic, educational, social and cultural activities, as well as those related to access to essential or secondary services, are all part of local development, whether they are carried out by public or private actors, whether or not they originate from the territory.

- ▶ Yes
- ▶ No

Next section: only for the “yes” answers

In this part, we would like you to select a completed development project that is the most representative of your organization, and answer the questions based on that project.

11. At what level was this project implemented? *(Several answers accepted)*

- ▶ Village
- ▶ City
- ▶ Region
- ▶ Several regions of the country
- ▶ Other (please specify):

12. In which sector(s) did this project operate?

- ▶ Agricultural production
- ▶ Agricultural processing
- ▶ Renewable energy
- ▶ Water or waste management
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Support for Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Transport and accessibility services.
- ▶ New Information and Communication Technologies
- ▶ Tourism
- ▶ Industry
- ▶ Trade
- ▶ Construction sector
- ▶ Business services
- ▶ Other (please specify):

13. What activities were carried out by your organization in this project?

- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Seeking additional funding
- ▶ Management of the project's operations
- ▶ Management of the project's administration and financesu Advocacy
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Monitoring and evaluation
- ▶ Other: specify

14. Did you work with any partners for the realization of this project? (Several answers accepted)

- ▶ No partners (direct implementation)
- ▶ In partnership with a local company
- ▶ In partnership with a local NGO
- ▶ With local authorities in Europe - Please specify
- ▶ With local authorities in Africa - Please specify
- ▶ With national or regional authorities in Europe - Please specify
- ▶ With national or regional authorities in Africa - Please specify
- ▶ In connection with a diaspora organization
- ▶ Other (please specify)

15. What was the overall budget of the project? (in euros)

- ▶ Less than 10,000 €
- ▶ From 10,000 € to 50,000€
- ▶ From 50,000€ to 100,000€
- ▶ From 100,000€ to 500,000€
- ▶ From 500,000€ to 1M€
- ▶ More than 1M€

16. Can you describe the project: objectives, beneficiaries, technical and financial partners. Did it include Sustainable Development Goals, gender or youth empowerment issues?

Free text

17. If you accept to be contacted for this study, please provide us with your contact information

B) INSTITUTIONS INTERVIEWED IN THE FIRST PHASE

GIZ – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - German cooperation and development agency

European Commission DG INTPA - Directorate General for International Partnerships - Unit G2 - Local Authorities, Civil Society Organisations and Foundations

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation

IOM – International Organization for Migration

AFD – Agence Française de Développement (French cooperation and development agency)

Enabel – Belgian cooperation and development agency

AU-CIDO – African Union’s Citizens and Diaspora Directorate

SDC – Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

African Development Bank

FCDO – United Kingdom Cooperation and Development Office

FORIM – Le Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations

Council of European municipalities and regions

C) EXAMPLE OF HOW ADDOS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE

ORGANISATION	RESIDENCE COUNTRY	ORIGIN COUNTRY:
HAPANI	Northern Ireland	Somalia

HAPANI stands for Horn of Africa People’s Aid Northern Ireland. This association was founded in 2011 in Belfast by Suleiman Abdulahi, a migrant from Somalia, to assist refugees, asylum seekers, individuals and families from the Horn of Africa who are living in Northern Ireland. With a focus on gender, social, and religious equality, it aims to develop initiatives, raise awareness, challenge intolerance, and provide support to those in need. The creation process of the association is interesting as they started with a need assessment in their first year. This assessment was performed by Dr Orna Young from the Institute for Conflict Research to identify and assess the social and economic needs of this community in adapting and integrating into society in Northern Ireland. Six areas were identified: discrimination; language; housing; providing meeting venue; women issues; and mental health provision.

Based on this, HAPANI developed many activities including support services essential to the wider asylum seeker and refugee needs including interpretation / translation, training, capacity building, language classes, support to report hate crimes and engage in the criminal prosecution process, holiday programmes, children sporting activities, etc. The table below shows a sample of three activities and their results in Belfast:

ACTIVITY	RESULT
DESTITUTION AND HOUSING PROGRAM	HAPANI has a partnership with the National Zakat Foundation. It applies on behalf of individuals (destitute people) to charities. Last year, this support helped 250 individuals to get access to housing and furniture with a total support of 95 000£.
HOMEWORK CLUB	The Homework Club takes place for three hours four times a week. It is attended by 50 children in average and is animated by a total of 70 volunteers last year. The Homework Club is free but has a social impact in terms of integration, success at school and even mindset-changing for both students and volunteers.
ONE CHILD – ONE DEVICE INITIATIVE	This initiative aims to provide refurbished laptops and internet access to 150 children to aid in reducing the education gap resulting from the digital divide. It is financed through a crowdfunding campaign. So far, they were able to purchase 70 laptops.

The different activities are performed thanks to:

- ▶ A large mobilization of volunteers from all walks of life that HAPANI trains, coordinates and in some case equips with phones for example
- ▶ The office that is provided free-of-charge by the Municipality
- ▶ Partners such as the Queen University in Belfast and Aston University in Birmingham thanks to which HAPANI as a one full-time volunteer. HAPANI has also developed relationships with / has direct representation on: Belfast Unemployment Resource Centre, Equality Commission, Belfast Migrant Forum, Racial Equality subgroup and others. The model relies also on the dedication of the founder, Suleiman Abdulahi, who works 40 hours a week for HAPANI. All this allows the association to have 18 000 £ running costs in 2020.

In the last years, HAPANI has also started duplicating to Somalia its model based on volunteers which they train and coach. The local structures seem quite independent in their organization, but the study did not study their functioning and the result of their activities because they are very recent (with no hindsight).