

# African Diaspora Expertise and Consultation Pool in Austria

Relevance and potential of the diaspora as a sustainable development  
player in Africa



## Training: Piloteprojekt

Wien - Vienna , 06-08.07. 2018

Afripoint

Hofmühlgasse2, 1060 Vienna- Austria

## African Diaspora Experts & Consultants Pool in Austria

*After a three-day training in Afripoint from Friday, July 6 to Sunday, July 8, 2018, the African Diasporas pool of experts and consultants begin their work in Austria.*

*This pool was funded by the Brussels-based international organization - ADEPT (Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform) and set up radio Africa TV in cooperation with Austrian NGOs in Austria.*

*The first training of the pool of African experts and consultants was conducted by experts from ADEPT in Brussels. Fifteen men and women are now available to carry out expert services for sustainable development in Africa, as well as for the development of projects in Africa, as well as in Austria.*

*Their expertise is based on the ADEPT IPLA (Intercultural Participatory Learning and Action) methodology. Participants have up till September to join the ongoing training and networking with already established experts and Austrian NGO consultants and institutions that have a focus on Africa.*

*The training continues with guidance from experts who will mentor participants towards the realization of a pilot project proposal for assessment by varied partners, institutions and corporations as well as the yet to be established Diaspora Development Fund for a commitment.*



## *Relevance and potential of the Diaspora as a stakeholder for sustainable development in Africa*

It is now a commonplace that "immigrants are considered important actors for the development of their countries of origin and their host countries". 2030 of the United Nations sustainable development agenda establishes not only the need to strengthen, but underlines, in particular, the positive contributions of migrants in view of their vulnerability for inclusive growth and sustainable development. <http://www.bpb.de>

**It is time for "brain gain" instead of "brain drain" to be promoted or set in the foreground.**

The African Union recognizes the Diaspora as the 6th African Region. The European Union, as well as many institutions such as the Swiss cooperation for development supported the establishment of the 6 year old ADEPT (African Diaspora Development Platform) - based in Brussels ([www.adept-platform.org](http://www.adept-platform.org)) .

In the year 2013, all full members of the organization 'Global responsibility' ratified a position paper (see annex) to integrate the Diaspora in their work. This paper, however, remains to this day without any significant implementation.



### ***What and how does the Diaspora assist in the development of their countries of origin and host countries?***

According to the study of the German Federal Agency for civic education (<http://www.bpb.de>) "in politics and in the public domain, pundits often argue that Engagement in the Country of origin is contrary to the integration in the destination country. However, studies show the opposite:

*“The better people in the society of the host country are engaged to participate, the more intense they engage for the development in their countries of origin positively. According to the so-called resource-dependent model, migrants who have achieved a higher social status in the host society create more time for migrant organizations. Their informal qualifications and varied contacts put them in a position, to form loose migrant networks commitment in the country to mobilize and procure necessary resources”.*

*“Integration in the host society, for example, in Germany, and the commitment in the country of origin may be two sides of the same coin.*

*The links with the country of origin is based on personal social networks and contacts. Migrants use these transnational connections "between the worlds" and the associated benefits such as intercultural and language skills, and networks for economic activities. Relationships are complex: family ties and obligations can stand in the foreground or the cooperation with clubs, schools, universities, hospitals, the private sector, with local governments or ministries. The relations of the diaspora to their countries of origin are just as diverse as the types to get involved - there is not only one form of engagement.”*

*“Individual money transfers by migrants are the best example of engagement along **personal networks** to their families and friends in the country of origin. This so-called remittances which are multiples of official government aid from around the world make and directly benefit the recipients. Estimates suggest that migrants have transferred around \$ 450 billion to developing countries in the year 2017. These money transfers are often invested in education and health. So the diaspora can contribute directly to poverty reduction in developing countries.”*



## Perception and promotion of African Diaspora Experts - and consultants - Pool in Austria

Whether in health promotion, community development, environmental protection, migration and development among others, African diaspora experts/consultants have the potential and can contribute significantly to Africa's development.

This is because (as members of the African communities) have experiences, relationships and connections, which allow them a better understanding of the social and developmental challenges facing their community situations.

However, African diaspora experts/consultants have in Austria low chances of success, when planning or developing projects, which are supposed to benefit their community.

Instead "foreign experts", who have little experience in the social and cultural context, are favored ahead of Africans for providing solutions and designing projects for solving problems that relate to the needs of Africans. These experts often have little or no access to the context of the communities affected by the problem.

This has led to the development of systems that do not provide the intended improvement.

African diaspora organisations have difficulty in gaining access to necessary expertise or access to the resources needed for their projects.

African diaspora experts/consultants in Austria have difficulty to obtain consulting contracts and to develop projects that meet the needs of Africans.

Africans in Austria have little influence on projects that are developed for and in Africa. This is usually due to insufficient consultation or perception or recognition of the project ideas.

Therefore, many systems that have been developed cannot successfully run.



## Project content

- Recruiting a pool of Africa Austria diaspora experts/consultants.
- Planning and carrying out of seminars for intercultural, participatory learning and action (IPLA) for the trainers of consultants / experts.
- Promotion of consultants/experts on local and international levels, that can accompany the design and development of projects that are tailored to the needs of Africans and advice on same.
- Development of a "unique" instrument for intercultural, participatory learning and action (IPLA), used by the consultants/experts to design projects.
- Support of African organizations in the creation of professional concepts, access to national and international opportunities and tenders, as well as ensuring the implementation and monitoring of projects financed.

## Project target

- To take over a pool of Austro African Diasporic consultants/experts who are ready, an active role in the development of projects, geared to the real needs in Africa.
- IPLA tools that are suitable for the development of projects in the African social and cultural context.



## Protagonists

### I. Trainers:

The trainers are both national and international experts at the **ADEPT - Brussels:**

**Prof. Arthur Yenga MAOMBE (Prof. in Belgium and D.R. Congo) and**

**Kelly JIPE (capacity development manager of ADEPT))**

It was a jour fixe agreed for the training with the Experts. Expertise will create every 2nd Saturday of the month-September also with experts from the Austrian institutions and development organizations, which are active in Africa or committed to

Africa, with the experts and they will focus on the Quality assurance of Projects Exchange. Access to the different funding streams and participate in diaspora for the development of the participants is mediated by these training measures.

### II. Partnership:

This project is supported by organizations and institutions that believe that Diasporan commitment is essential to ensure a sustainable development.

There are currently:

1 ADEPT

2 VIDC: Vienna Institute for development and cooperation

3 Chiala

4 ADYFE

5 Consulate of Togo, Niger and Burundi

Interview with Austrian Development Agency, horizon 3000 and three King action are not yet decided

The parties agree to:

1. To recognize the concept of the ADEPT African Diaspora Experts and Consultants Pool in Austria.
2. To support the pool accordingly with relevant possibilities
3. To integrate the experts in their work
4. To integrate the pool in an advisory function

Supervision and coordination of the Expert Pool shall be conducted through qualified training sourced from relevant partner organizations who delegate a coordination panel to setup and provide relevant capacity training.

### **III. Participants**

Were sourced from people of African descent, who have experience in project management and research activities (see list in the Attachment)

## **Project life cycle**

### **I. Recruitment of participants**

Africans who have project experience, have been asking for application through an open tender by email.

**Tender date: June 4, 2018**

**Application deadline: June 27, 2018**

### **II. Training:**

IPLA - intercultural participatory learning and action.

**Seminar date: Friday, July 6 to Sunday, July 8, 2018**

#### **Content:**

Know-how of project preparation

Techniques of project studies

Ways to public funding

Structures of support programs

#### **Theoretical exercise:**

Tools for applying

Idea of institutions, NGOs with opportunities for funding and supporting projects

Toolkits for the DIASPORA engagement / IPLA project management



**III. Practice:**

The participants implement the knowledge acquired in theory in requests for transfer and promotion of model projects. Target: between 5 and 10 projects or orders. Start: 9 July end: 24 September 2018

**IV. Output:**

The successful participation in the seminar is certified with a certificate of the ADEPT. *At the end of practice and presentation of elaborated projects, the Graduate on the occasion of the ADEPT international training of trainers will graduate in October 2018.*

This diploma draws participants as qualified African diaspora Experts- and consultants out. It is valid in Austria as well as in other European countries.



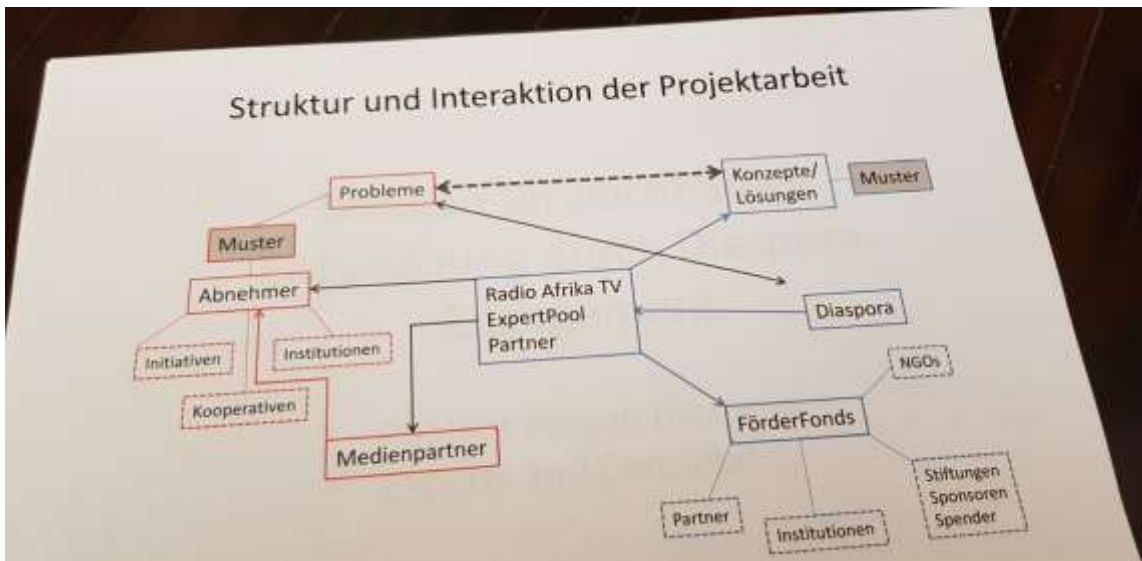
**V. Perspective**

To ensure of the continuity is the created pool African r Diaspora Experts - and consultants following the title of qualification awarded by a coordination panel managed and coordinated. This Committee comprises delegates sent by the partner Organizations.

- VI.
- VII.
- VIII.
- IX.
- X.

## XI. Promotion fund by RATV

A promotion fund is set up with the help of his partner radio Africa TV, to finance the edited projects by the experts. Take one was also other promotions in the claim. According to the African proverb: "Foreign aid comes after the rain is over", to Radio Africa with the help of its partners a seed funds with approximately € 50,000 to 100,000 fitters



## Annex:

### PILOT project

### IPLA BASE PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT

### TRAINING FOR AFRICAN DIASPORA CONSULTANTS IN AUSTRIA

6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in Vienna Austria

### Participants with success

Nr	Title	First name	Surname	Phone	Email
1	Mrs	Irene Estelle	Hochauer-Kpoda		
2	Mr	John Kojo	AMPIA Addison		
4	Mr	Festus	Imarhiagbe		
5	Mrs	Adaora	Ofoedu		
6	Mr	Emmanuel	Kamdem		
7	Mr	Guy Rollins	Nguiateu Kamtamdjou		
8	Mr	Pierre	Mare		
9	Mrs	Otalia	Sacko		
10	Mr	Mamadou	Kone		
11	Mr	Alexis	Neuberg		
12	Mr	Cyprien	Kaboré		
13	Mrs	Janviere	Basenga		
Tr	Mr	Arthur	Yenga		
Tr	Mr	Jipe	Kelly		
PO	Mrs	Ute	Bartos Omelan		