



## Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on  
Migration and Development

# Presentations of the Thematic Meeting

“Promoting the **positive effects** of regular migration for **sustainable development**: the role of **entrepreneurship** and **diaspora engagement**”

Promouvoir les effets positifs de la migration régulière pour le développement durable :  
le rôle de l'entrepreneuriat et l'engagement avec la diaspora

15-16  
May 2024

Lisbon,  
Portugal

Sous la coprésidence du Portugal et du Sénégal  
Under the co-chairmanship of Portugal and Senegal



REPÚBLICA  
PORTUGUESA



AGÊNCIA PARA A  
INTEGRAÇÃO  
MIGRAÇÕES E ASILO



République du Sénégal  
un Peuple, un But, une Foi

Project funded by the European Union



As part of the Support Programme for the Africa-EU  
Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD



**Rabat Process**  
Euro-African Dialogue on  
Migration and Development

# Capitalisation of results in the framework of the Rabat Process

Activities on thematic area 1

**15 May  
2024**

**Rabat Process Secretariat**

Project funded by the EU



In the framework of the Support Programme to the  
Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD)



Project implemented by ICMPD

# Area 1: Development benefits of migration and root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement



**10** thematic meetings



**10** knowledge tools  
(studies, mappings, assessments)



**18** strategic documents  
(outcome reports, recommendations)



**6** videos



**3** infographics



WORKING DOCUMENT :  
MIGRATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT POLICIES  
AND STRATEGIES

European Regional Analysis  
Denmark, Finland, France, Spain,  
Sweden, Switzerland

Country Factsheets  
France  
Switzerland

April 2021



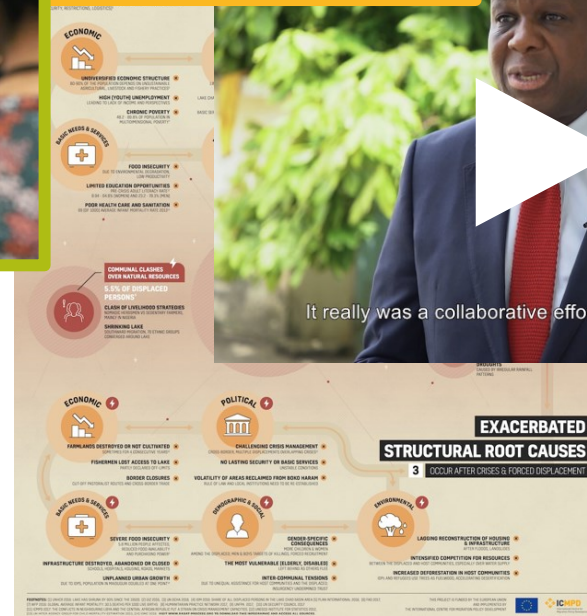
WORKING DOCUMENT:  
MIGRATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT POLICIES  
AND STRATEGIES

Regional Analysis and Country Factsheets:



THE ROOT CAUSES  
INTERNATIONAL EMIGRATION

STUDY CARRIED OUT BY NELLY ROBIN  
FOR THE ICMPPD



It really was a collaborative effort, also at technical level.

**PROMOTING DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT**

Rabat Process  
International Centre for Migration Policy Development

THE RABAT PROCESS ROME PROGRAMME, 2015-2017

"Promote the positive potential of migration and of the diaspora, both for the country of origin and the country of destination" (10)

50% of RABAT PROCESS countries have a national diaspora strategy

65% have a national diaspora strategy in development

15% have a national diaspora strategy in progress

FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

IMPLEMENTED BY ICMPPD

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE RABAT PROCESS AND ITS INTEGRATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.PROMOTINGDIASPORAENGAGEMENT.COM





## Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) Follow-up

# Rabat Process Thematic Meeting

Promoting the positive effects of regular migration for sustainable development: the role of entrepreneurship and diaspora engagement

Lisbon, Portugal | 15-16 May 2024

Funded by the European Union



**Support to the Africa-EU Dialogue on Migration (MMD)**  
Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) Follow-up

Implemented by ICMPD



The JVAP Database is a self-reporting tool used on a voluntary basis. By design, the dataset is a partial overview of initiatives linked to the JVAP domains and priorities. ICMPD assumes no responsibility or legal liability concerning the content of the data and its use.



# Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP)

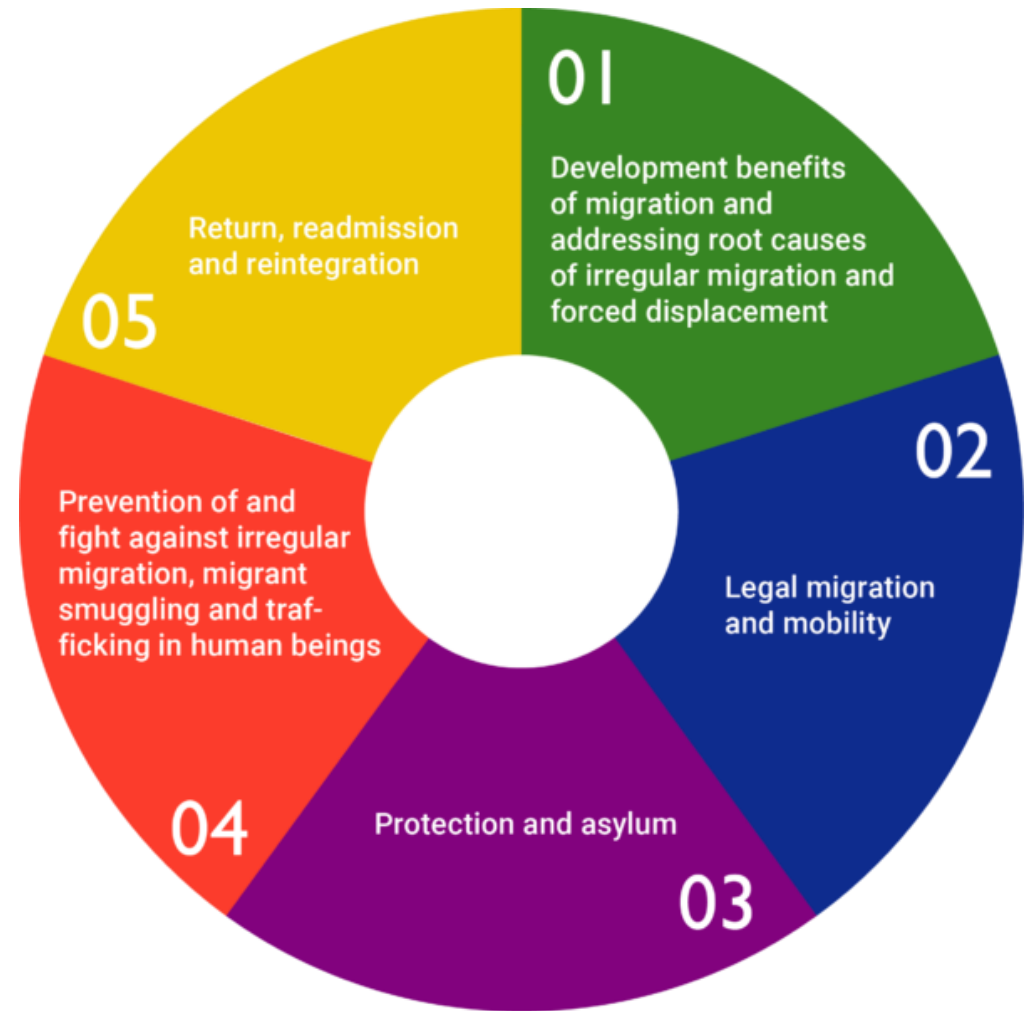
JVAP is the result of the **2015 Valletta Summit**.

Aims to **strengthen cooperation** between Africa and Europe on migration.

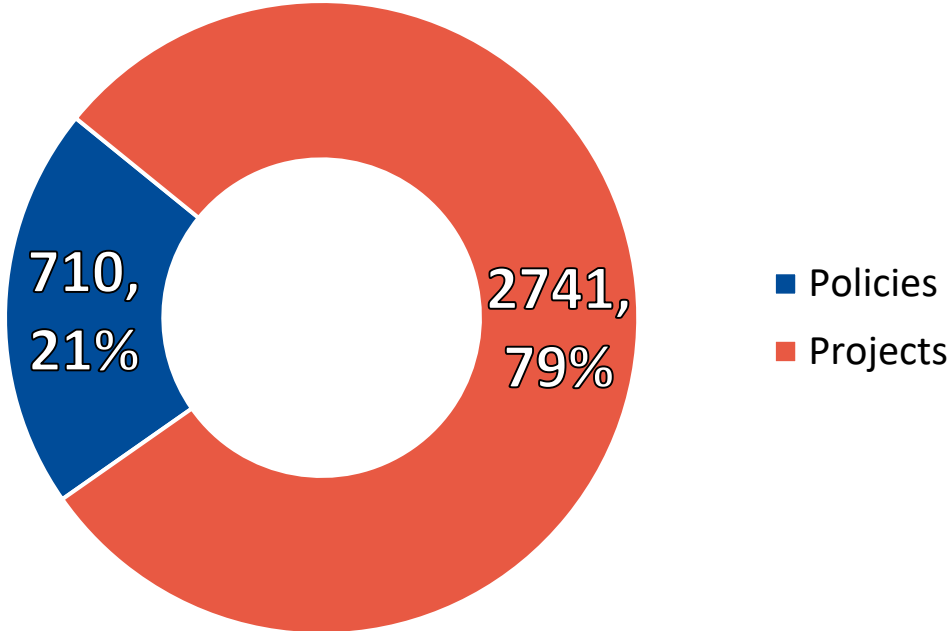
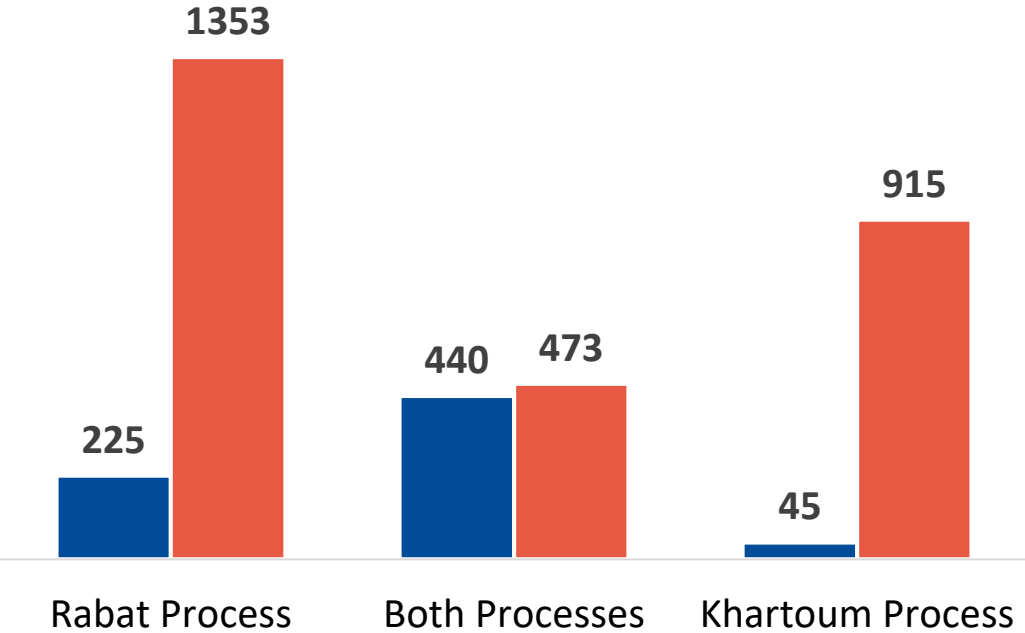
Is built on **5 Domains** and **105 Priority Areas**.

Covers **Projects** and **Policies**:

1. Implemented since 2015
2. Funded / adopted by JVAP Partners
3. Implemented in the KP / RP regions
4. Relating to the JVAP Domains



# JVAP Data – General Overview

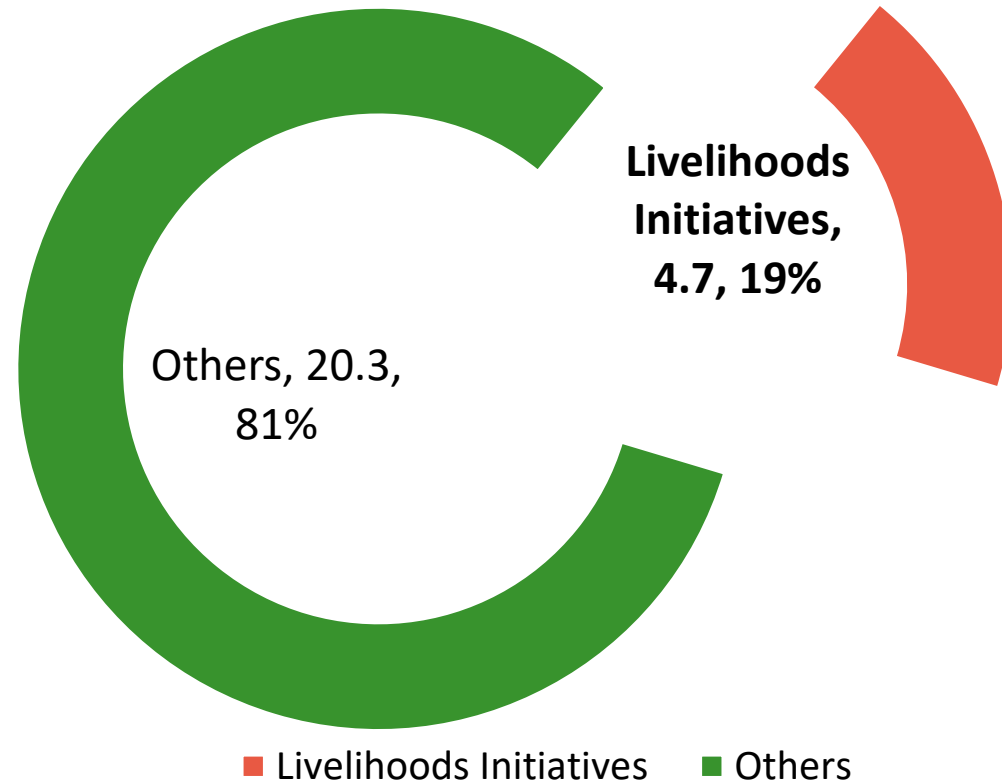


# Livelihoods-Focused Initiatives

The JVAP Database shows three major groups of initiatives:

1. Emergency assistance
2. Development cooperation
3. Livelihoods initiatives

Share of Livelihoods-Focused Initiatives  
(in billion EUROS)



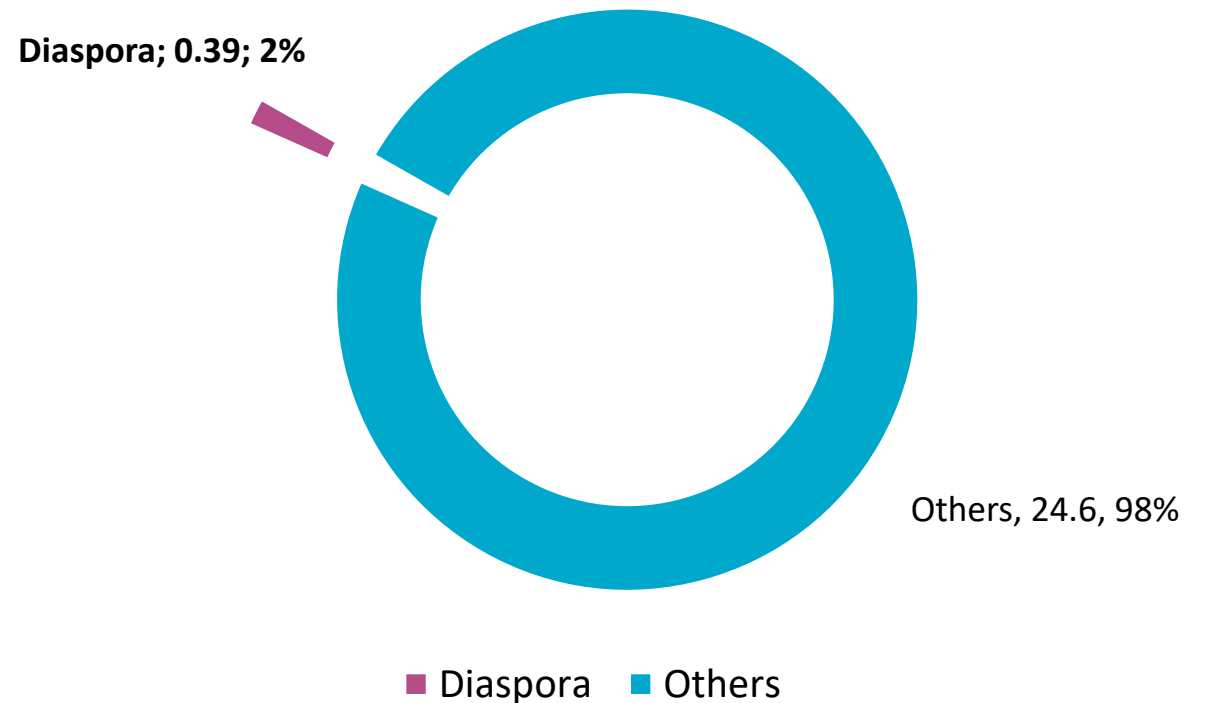


# Diaspora & Entrepreneurship

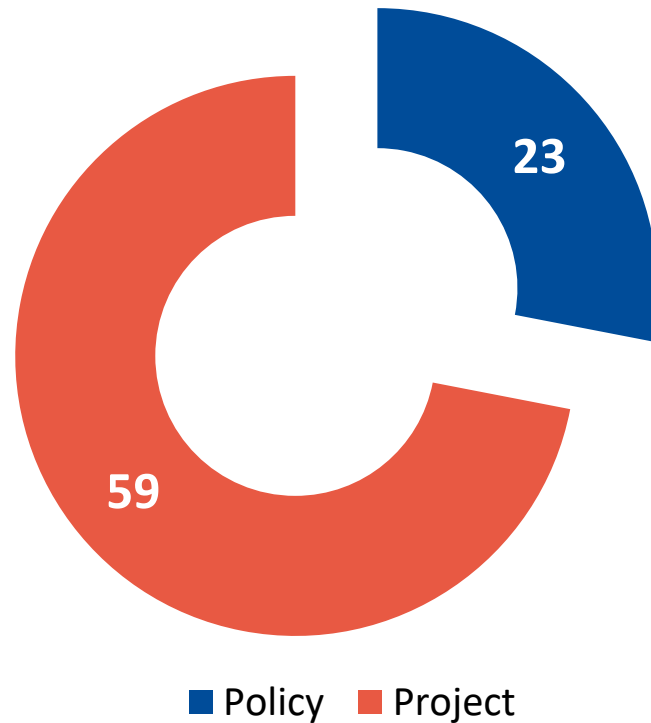
According to the Data, diaspora & entrepreneurship seen with different lenses:

1. As a **sub-component** of major development initiatives
2. As a **co-component** in livelihoods-oriented interventions OR
3. As the **main focus**

Share of Diaspora-Focused Initiatives  
(in billion EUROS)



# Diaspora-Focused Initiatives

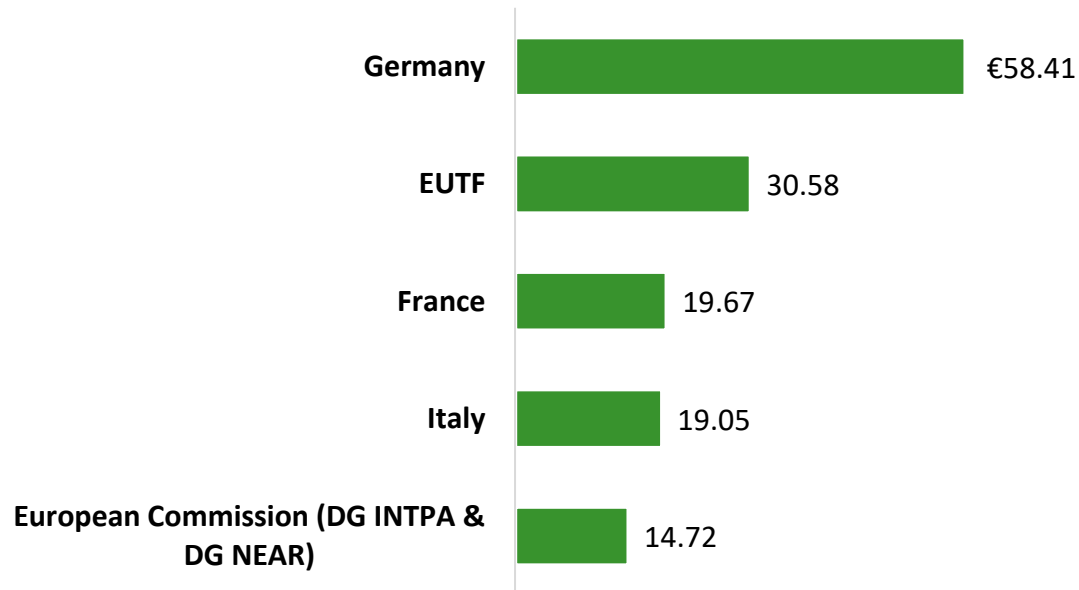


**82**  
Initiatives

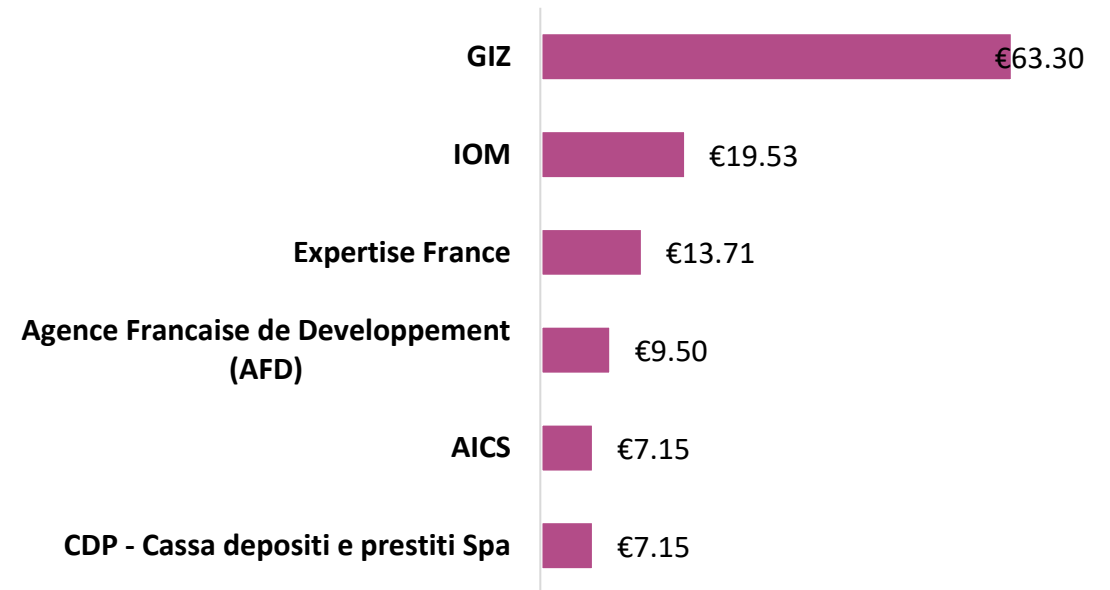
**€ 399 M**  
Funding

# Diaspora-Focused Initiatives

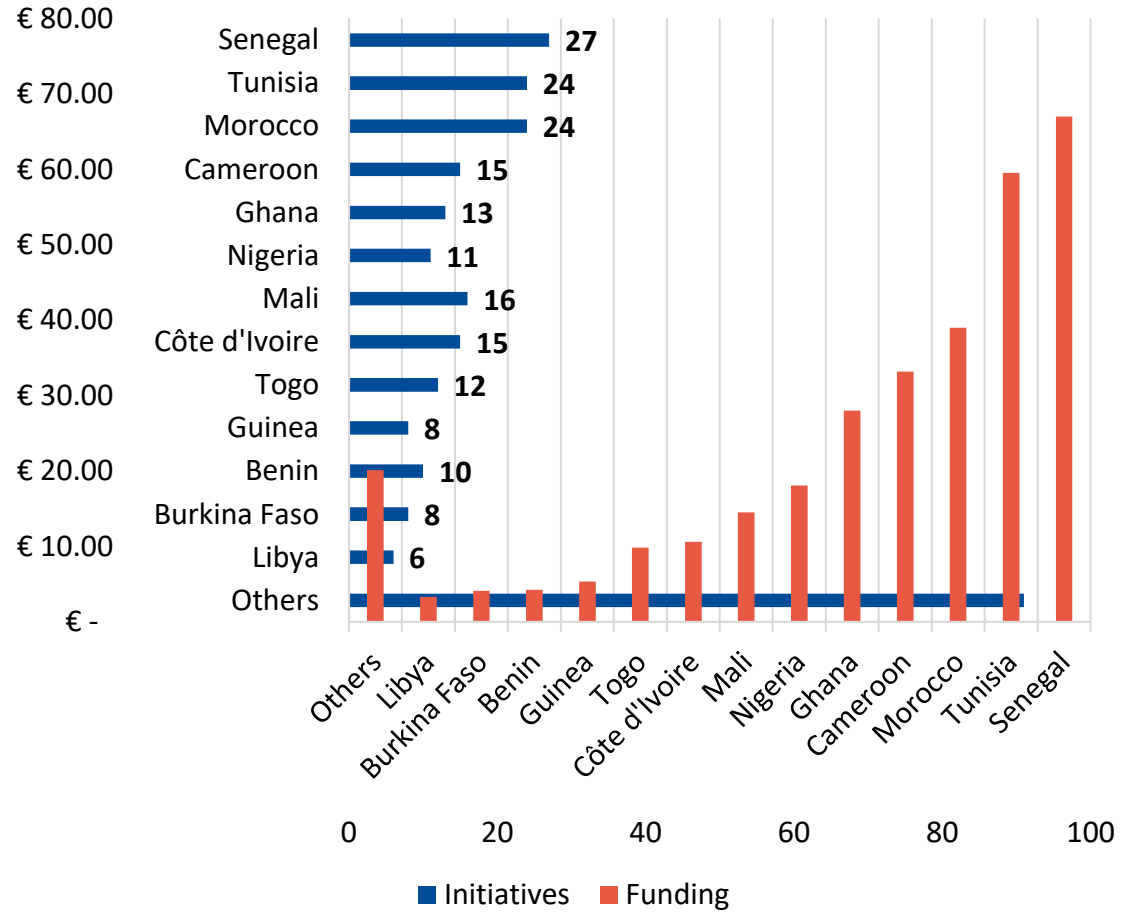
**Top 5 Donors**  
(in millions)



**Top 5 Implementing Organisations**  
(in millions)



## # of Initiatives and Funding per Country (funding in millions)



# Selected Examples

## Projects

The EU Global Diaspora Facility (EU DiF) –  
ICMPD

Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour  
Migration Governance and Labour Mobility  
- THAMM III – GIZ

FAPS DIASDEV - étude de faisabilité du  
projet Diasdev – AFD, AICS

## Policies

Cooperation Programme between  
Morocco and Belgium (ENABEL)

Ghana: Diaspora Engagement Policy  
(DEP)

Côte d'Ivoire: Law N° 2016-886  
adopting the new Constitution

# Questions

1. Do we know everything?
  - A. If **Yes**, is this all?
  - B. If **No**, why don't we know about the rest?
2. How do we coordinate?
3. How do we exchange experiences?



# Take-Aways according to the JVAP Database

1. Diaspora-focused initiatives **represent less than 1%** of total **funding** since 2015.
2. Lack of data **needs to be further studied**:
  - Due to civil society and private funding being seen primarily responsible?
  - Due to diaspora-focused initiatives being implemented mainly in Europe?
  - Any other explanations?
3. The **role** of diaspora and strategies employed in JVAP initiatives are **unclear**.
4. Specific **policies were enacted** at national levels to strategize diaspora-focused initiatives, supported by bilateral cooperation agreements.





# Thank You

[www.ease.gov.cv](http://www.ease.gov.cv) pay the  
Joint Valletta Action Plan Follow-up Support Team

[www.jvapfollowup.org](http://www.jvapfollowup.org) | [jvapfollowup@icmpd.org](mailto:jvapfollowup@icmpd.org)

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**Support to the Africa-EU Dialogue on Migration (MMD)**  
Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) Follow-up

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# DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Jason Gagnon  
OECD Development Centre

15 May 2024



**Rabat Process**  
Euro-African Dialogue on  
Migration and Development



## National Development Plans (NDPs)

- Definition
  - Guide a country's development efforts
    - set out clear goals, objectives and policies
    - in most countries, a designated government agency takes the lead in formulating NDPs and in their implementation
  - Can be long-term strategies (5+ years) or short-term plans (5 years)
  - Typically of high-level, strategical thinking
- Objective
  - How is migration referenced in NDPs?
    1. Is diaspora engagement in any way prioritised as a policy area in national development planning?
    2. What trends can be detected?
    3. What are specific examples of governmental referencing to diaspora engagement?



- Methodology

- Create a data base of NDPs
- Conduct search of 10 key words in NDPs
- Conduct qualitative analysis
- Analysis of migration is reference in NDP
- Follow-up search in 2023

- Sample

- 92 short-term and 66 long-term strategies
- Regions covered: Africa, Asia, LAC, Oceania
- Income levels covered: LIC, LMIC, and UMIC
- NDPs in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese
- Years covered: 1997-2023, average starting year 2016

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**Key words**

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migration

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international migration

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immigration

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diaspora

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returnee(s)

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refugee(s)

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asylum

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IDPs

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remittances

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migrants

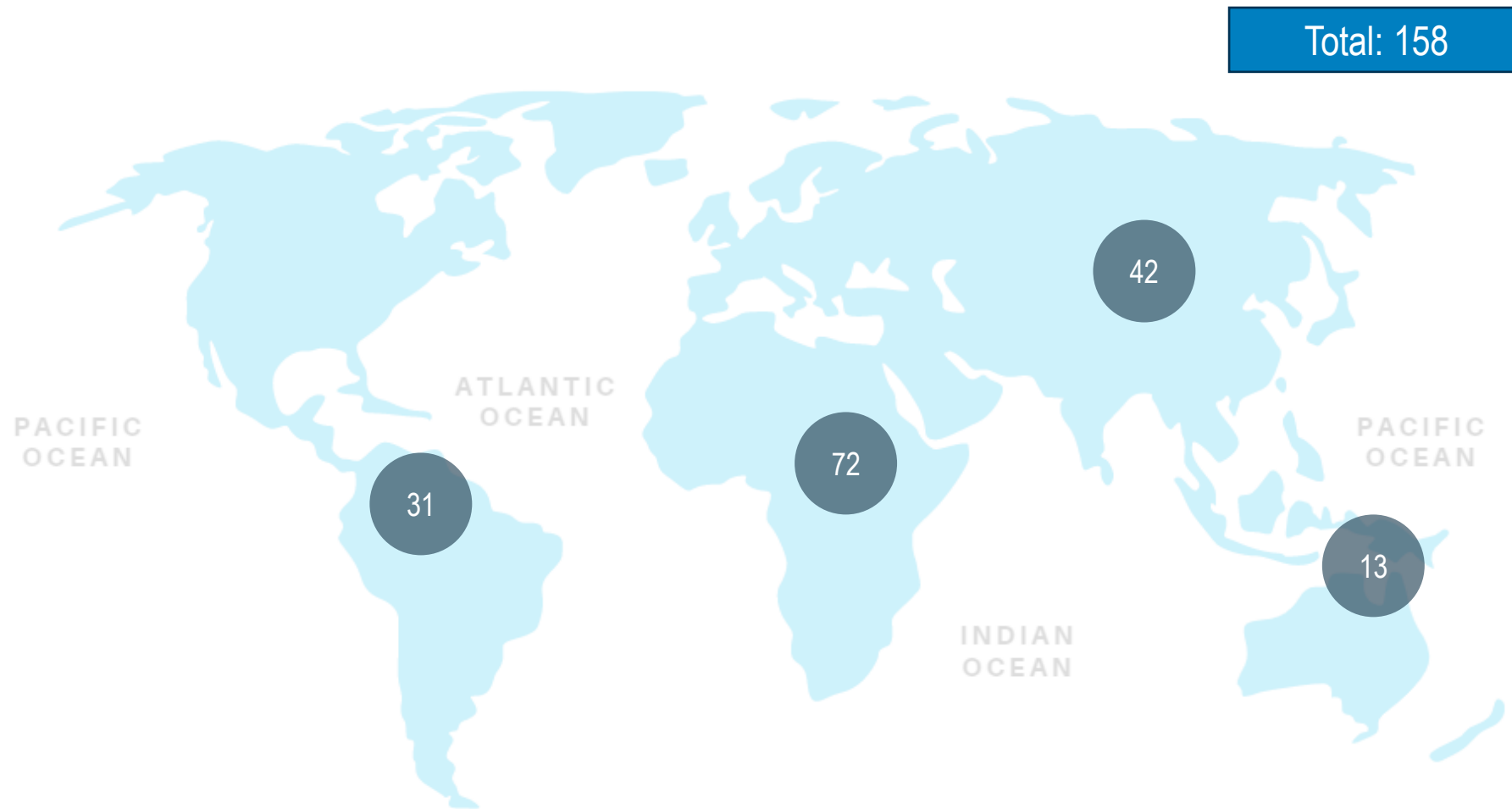
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## KEY WORD SEARCH

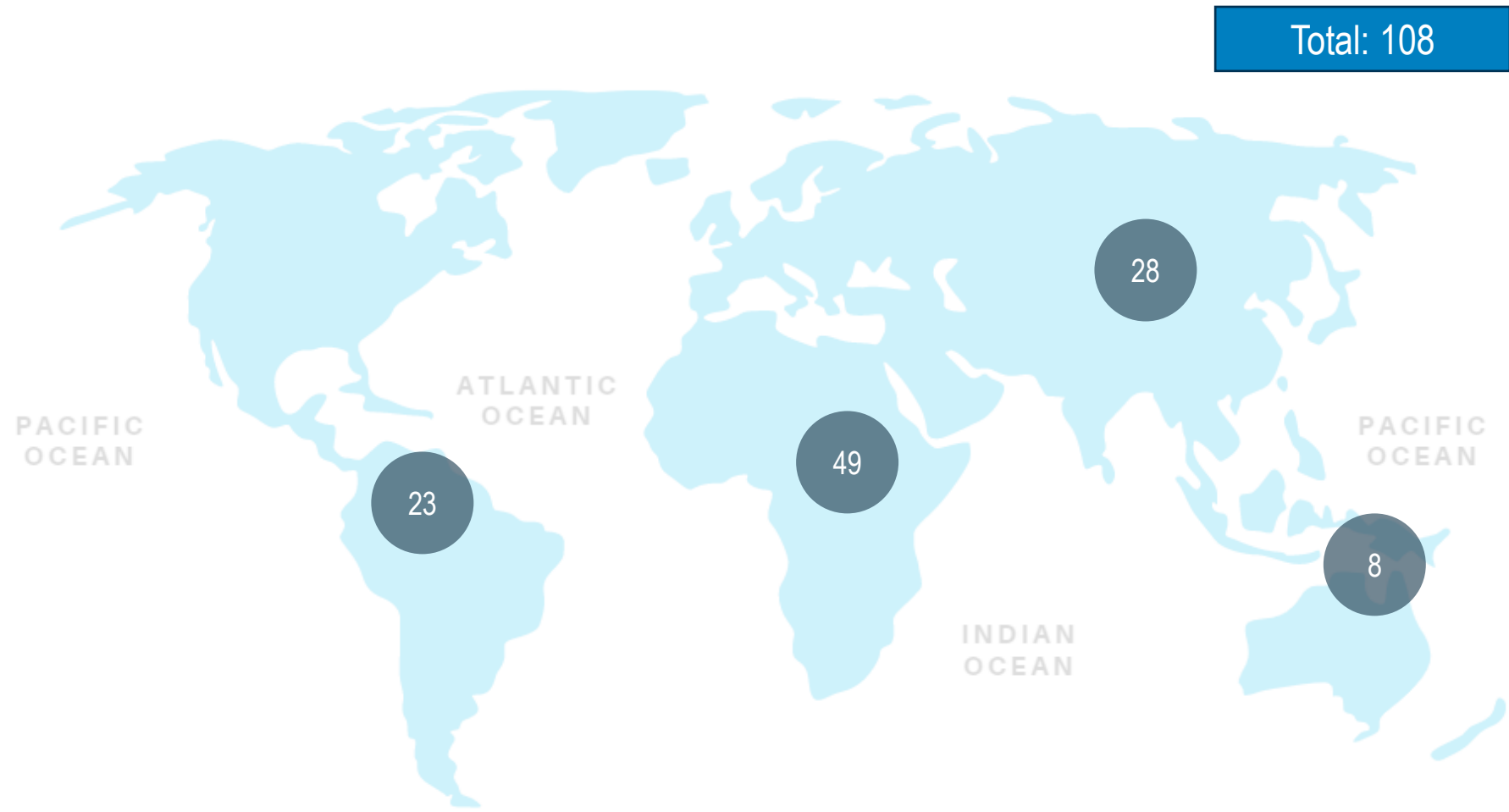
| KEY WORDS               | DERIVATIVE KEY TERMS                                  |
|-------------------------|---|
| Migration               | internal migration, migrations                        |
| International migration |   |
| Immigration             | immigrant   |
| Diaspora                | diasporic, communities abroad, exiled                 |
| Returnee(s)             | return, returned, return migration, reintegration     |
| Refugee(s)              |   |
| Asylum                  |   |
| IDPs                    | internally displaced persons, displaced, displacement |
| Remittances             | diaspora funds, transfers, diaspora bonds             |
| Migrants                | immigrants, emigrants                                 |

# >> Distribution of total documents analysed





# Distribution of countries covered

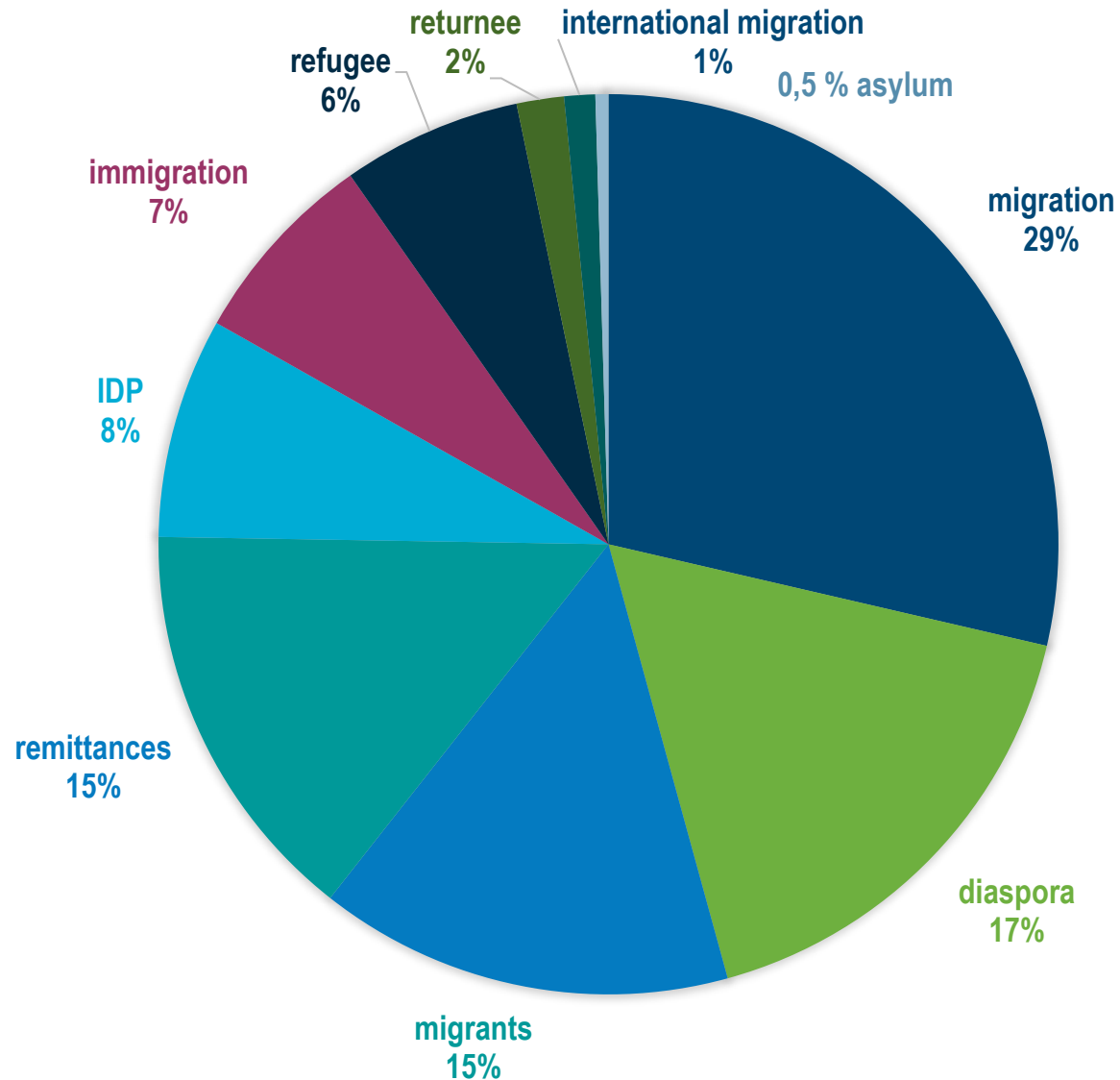


Total: 108





# There are many different types of references in NDPs



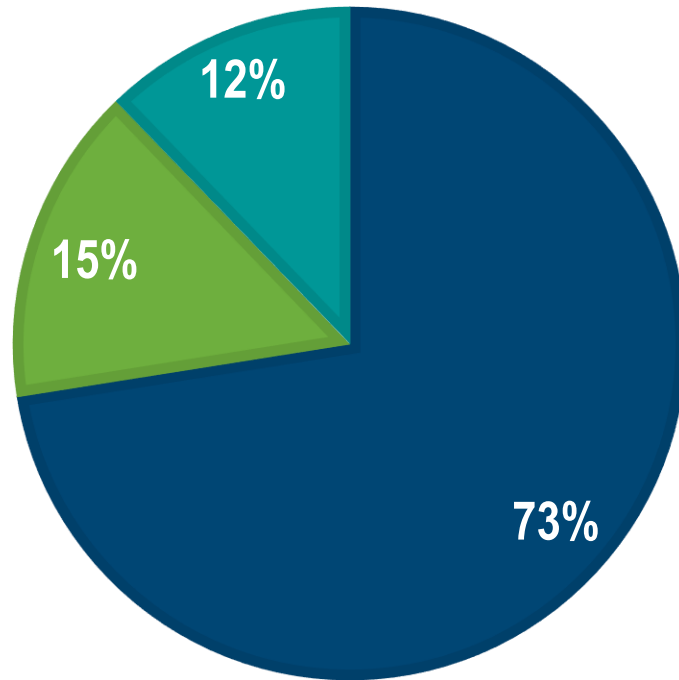
## Three findings on diaspora references

- > 17% of the total references (661 out of 3863) are to diasporas, making diasporas the second most frequent key term after migration.
- > 48 % of the analysed NDPs include references to diaspora (76 out of 158 NDPs).
- > 56 % of the countries analysed refer to diaspora in their NDP (60 out of 108 countries)

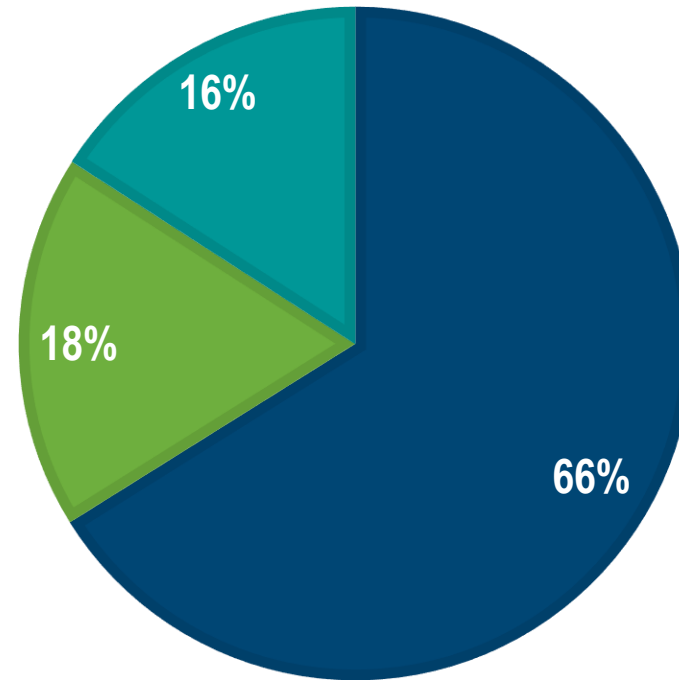


# Short-term strategies have more references on diaspora than long-term strategies

### LONG-TERM STRATEGIES



### SHORT-TERM STRATEGIES

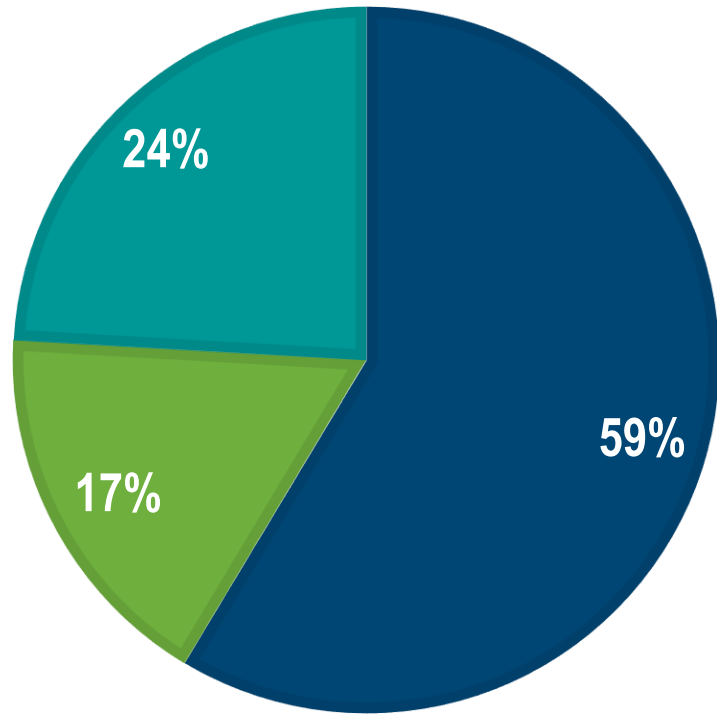


- Diaspora
- Remittances
- Other references

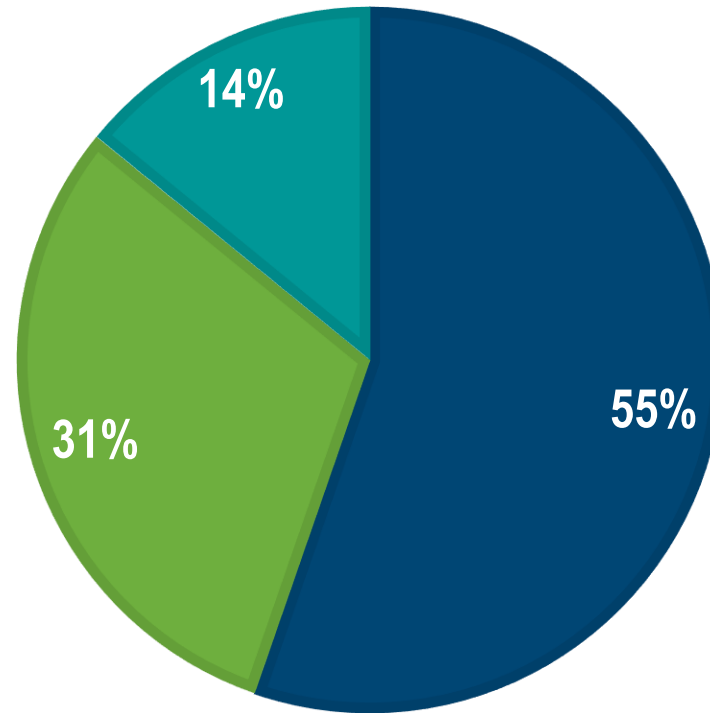


# A longitudinal analysis of 22 countries comparing two NDPs over different time periods shows that references to diasporas almost doubled

FIRST WAVE



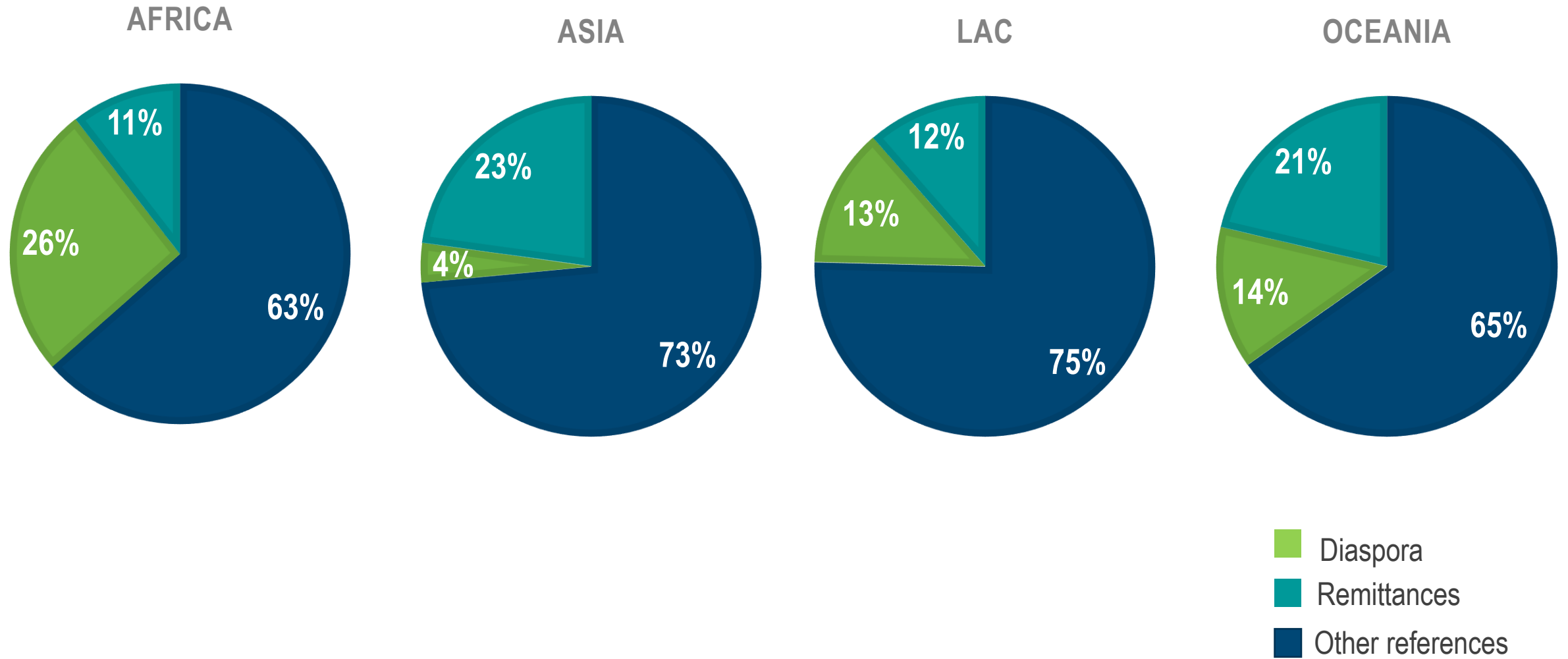
SECOND WAVE



- Diaspora
- Remittances
- Other references

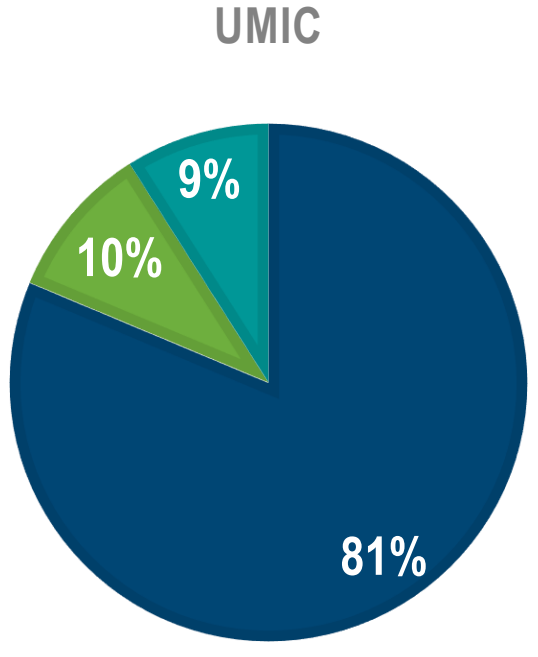
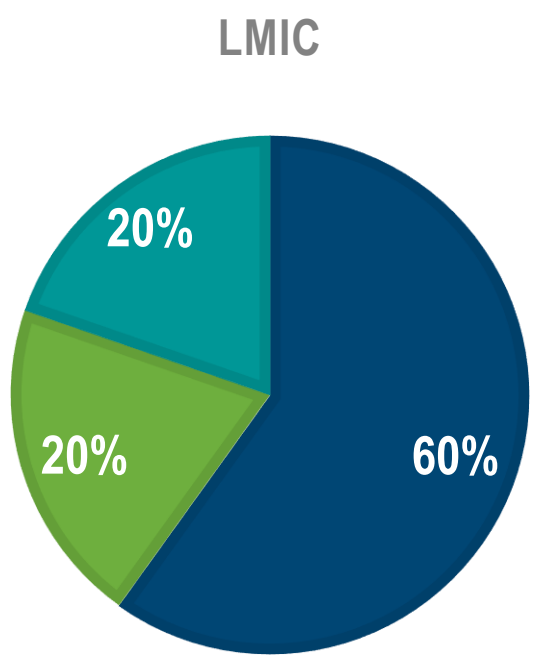
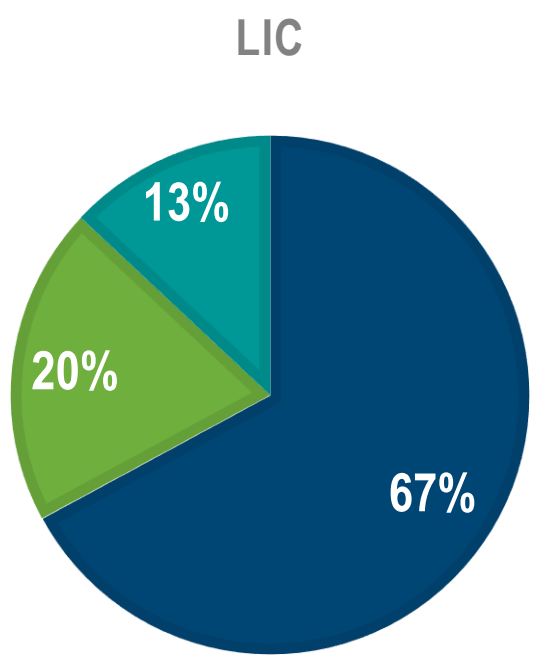


# The number of references to diasporas in the NDPs was highest in Africa





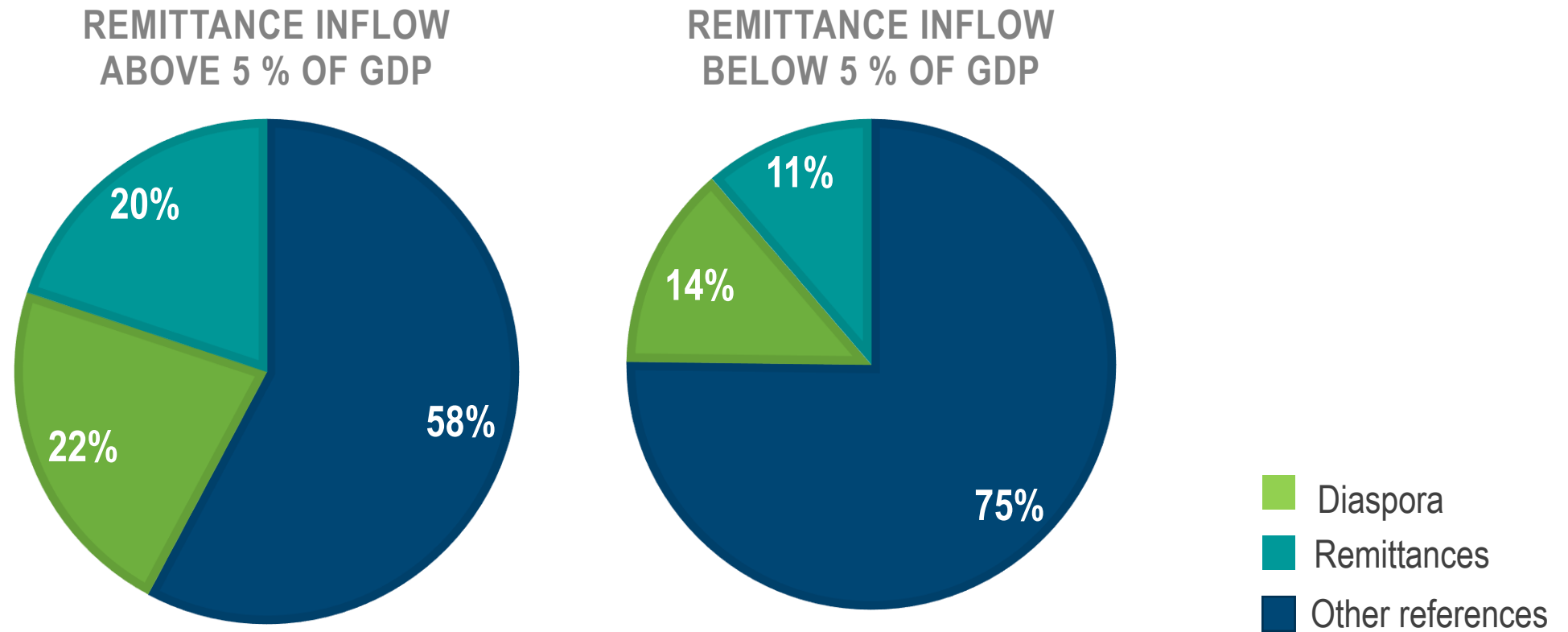
# Looking at different income levels, lower middle-income and lower income countries referred more often to diasporas than upper middle-income countries



- Diaspora
- Remittances
- Other references

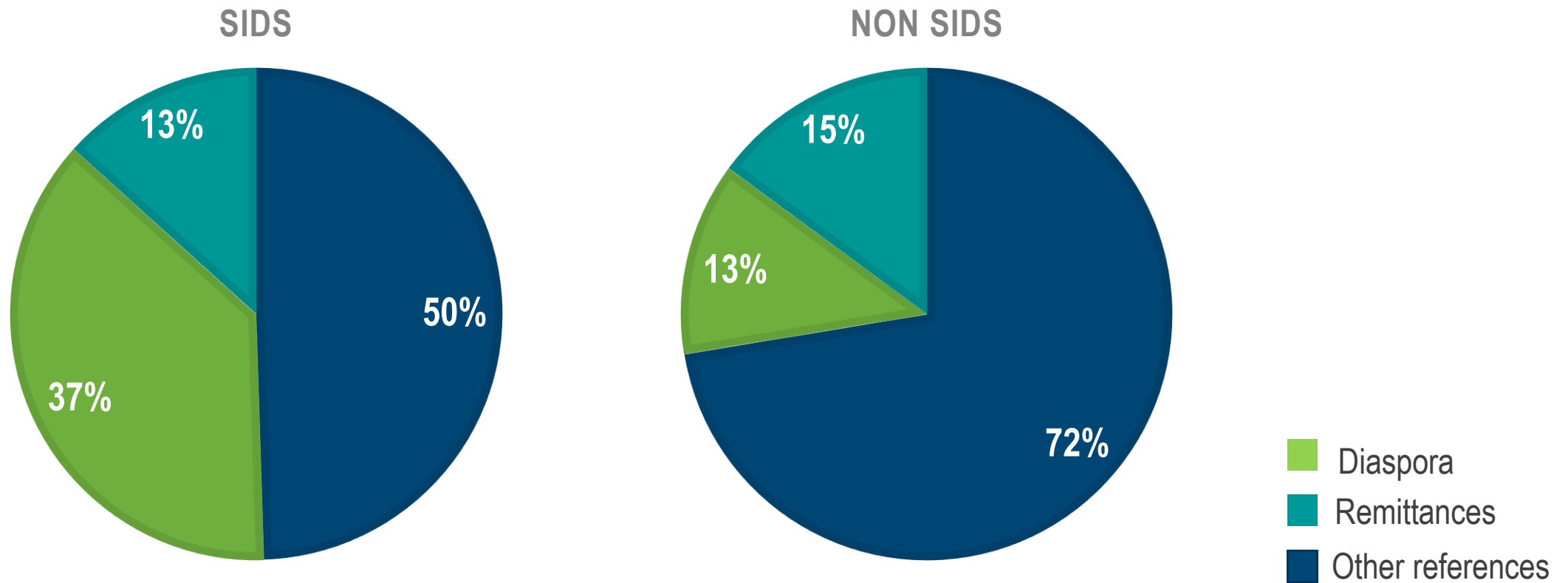


# Countries with remittance inflows above 5% of their GDP have more references to the diaspora than countries with remittance inflows below 5% of their GDP





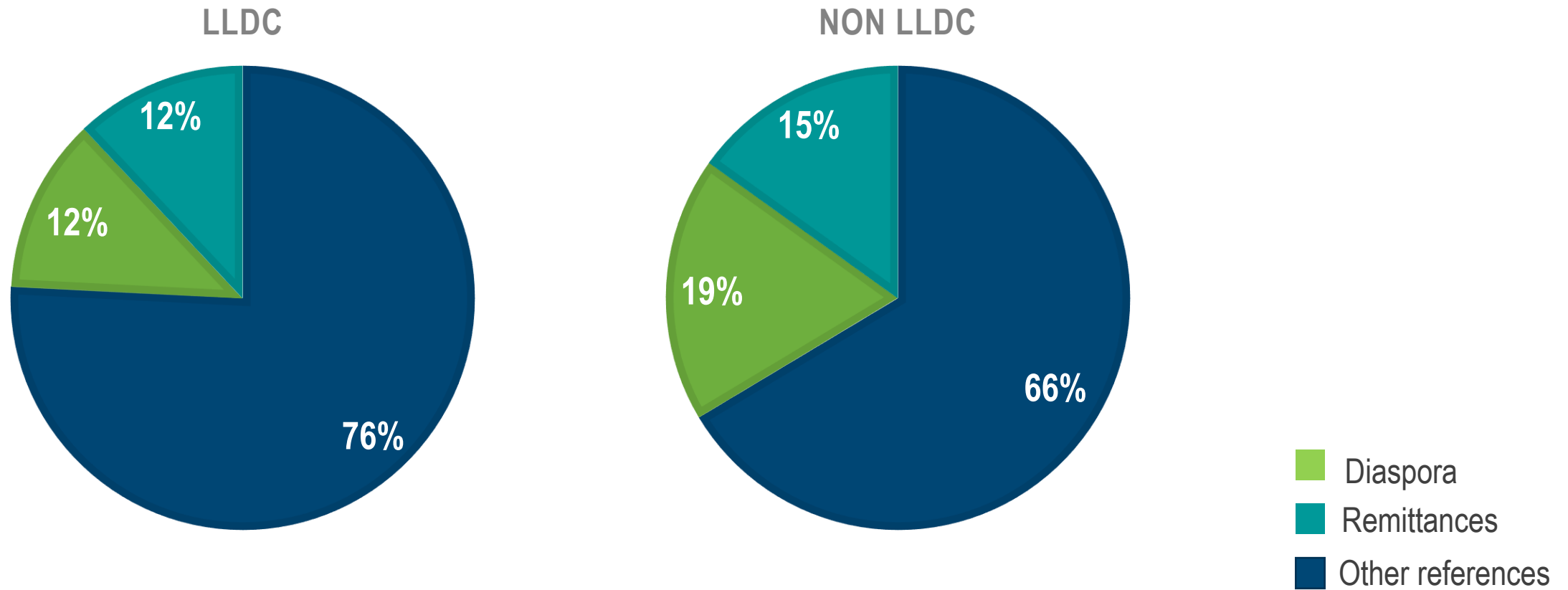
**SIDS refer more to diasporas than non-SIDS: 37 % of references in SIDS are to diasporas, while only 13 % of references in non-SIDS are to diasporas**





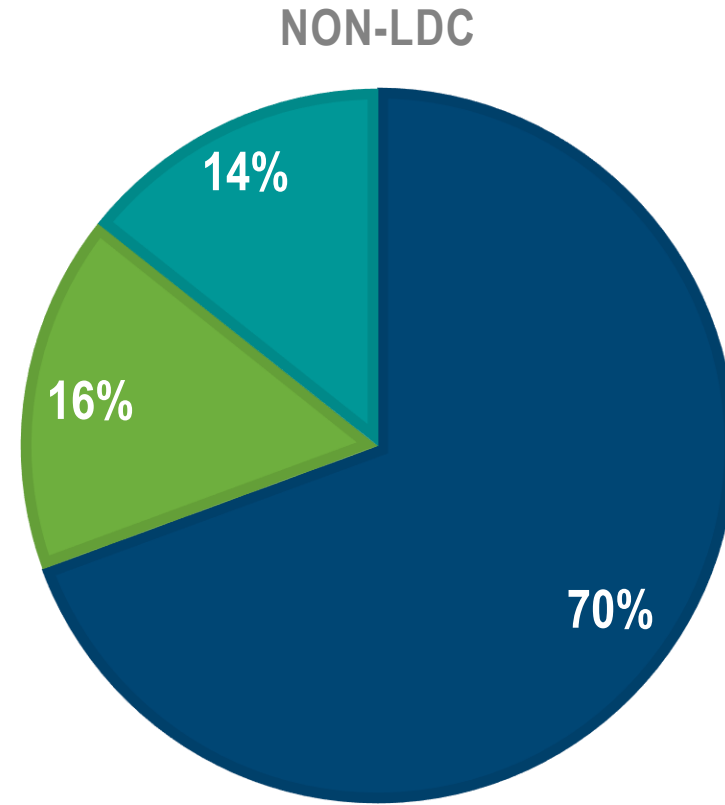
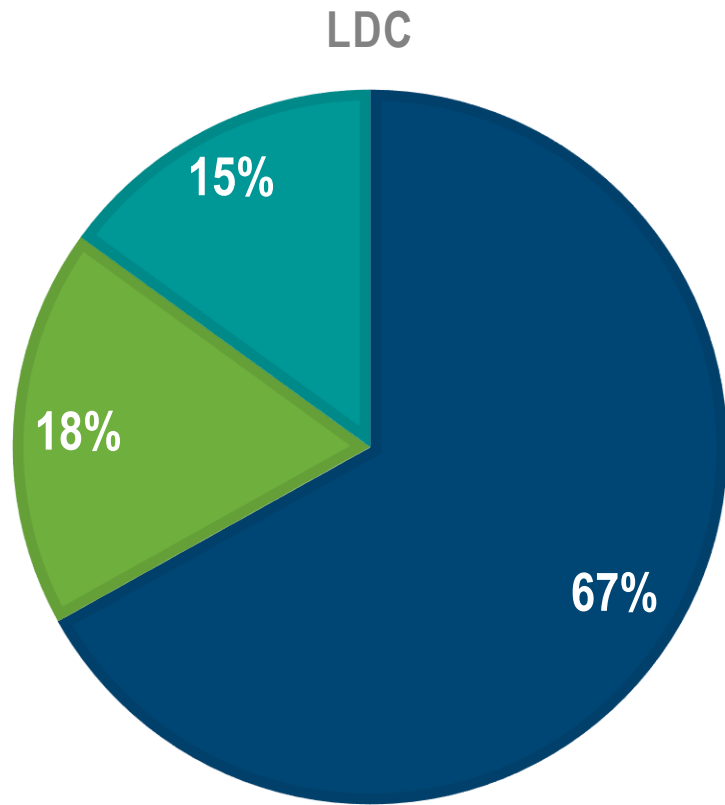


# Land locked developing countries have less references to diaspora and remittances





# Least developed countries do not have more references on diasporas



- Diaspora
- Remittances
- Other references



### > Areas of contribution (what?)

- > knowledge transfer
- > remittances
- > employment creation

### > Engaging diaspora (how?)

- > Policies and Planning
- > Diaspora networks and coordination
- > ICT services

### > Challenges

- > Legal barriers
- > Structural issues
- > Insufficient data and information
- > Brain drain



- > Areas of contribution
  - > **knowledge transfer**
  - > remittances
  - > employment creation

## > Knowledge transfer

- > **Gabon** : improve diaspora knowledge transfer by creating an exchange platform, which will also provide information on business and investment opportunities.



- > Areas of contribution
  - > **knowledge transfer**
  - > remittances
  - > employment creation

## > Knowledge transfer

- > **Nigeria and Tonga:** diaspora as a key actor in national education
  - **Nigeria:** strengthen linkages with Experts and Academics in the Diaspora (LEAD programme)
    - promote staff and student exchange programmes



- Engaging diaspora
  - > Policies and Planning
  - > **Diaspora networks and coordination**
  - > ICT services

## Institutional reforms and coordination

- **Gambia and Lesotho** : plans to create a Diaspora Directorate
- **Ghana** : relocation of the Diaspora Affairs Bureau from the Foreign Ministry to the President's Office
- **Kenya** : establishment of National Diaspora Council of Kenya (NADICOK)
- **Angola** : creation of exchange platforms to disseminate important information on the country's development and investment opportunities



### > Need for diaspora strategies

- > **India, Ghana, Lesotho, and Cameroon :**
  - develop and implement a diaspora strategy
- > **Cameroon :** provides a comprehensive overview on the issues such a strategy should address
  - creation of a framework for permanent dialogue between the government and business diaspora
  - creation of specialised institution in charge of diaspora questions
  - the effective management of dual nationality and the improvement of banking systems to facilitate the transfer of remittances and the granting of loans
  - campaigns to strengthen national unity and ways to support the diaspora (e.g. consular services)

### > Public investment

- > **Pakistan :** “Pakistan Banao Certificate” Diaspora bond , aims to tap into the international savings of overseas Pakistanis for investment
- > **Uganda :** mention **Ethiopia and Kenya** as examples where diaspora bonds successfully finance public infrastructure
- > **Sierra Leone :** mention formalization of financial contributions from the diaspora through the creation of stop-shops and diaspora bank accounts
  - relaxing capital controls for diaspora businesses



### > Diaspora in post-conflict contexts

- > **Liberia** : highlight diaspora as active actors in post-war reconstruction efforts
  - provide food items, medical commodities and volunteer during emergencies
- > **The Gambia** : refers to importance of providing diaspora in exile a space to contribute to development of country

### > Diaspora in destination countries

- > **Niger** :
  - strengthen the integration of the diaspora in destination countries to strengthen role as development actors
- > **Cabo Verde** :
  - integration, well-being and empowerment of diaspora (and their descendants) in the host countries in social, economic and political terms





### > Challenges

> Legal barriers

> Structural issues

> Insufficient data and information

> Brain drain

> Legal barriers:

- **Lesotho** : prohibition of dual citizenship as a critical obstacle

> Structural issues:

- **Somalia** : lack of assistance and mechanisms to connect the diaspora with local development initiatives and Somali businesses

> Data:

- **Kenya and Tonga** : insufficient information on the size of the diaspora, their geographic concentration, and socio-economic situation in destination countries

> ICT:

- Many countries focus on policies and strategies to reach out and actively involve the diaspora through better ICT services
- **Viet Nam and Eritrea** : emphasise the need to improve ICT and other communication channels



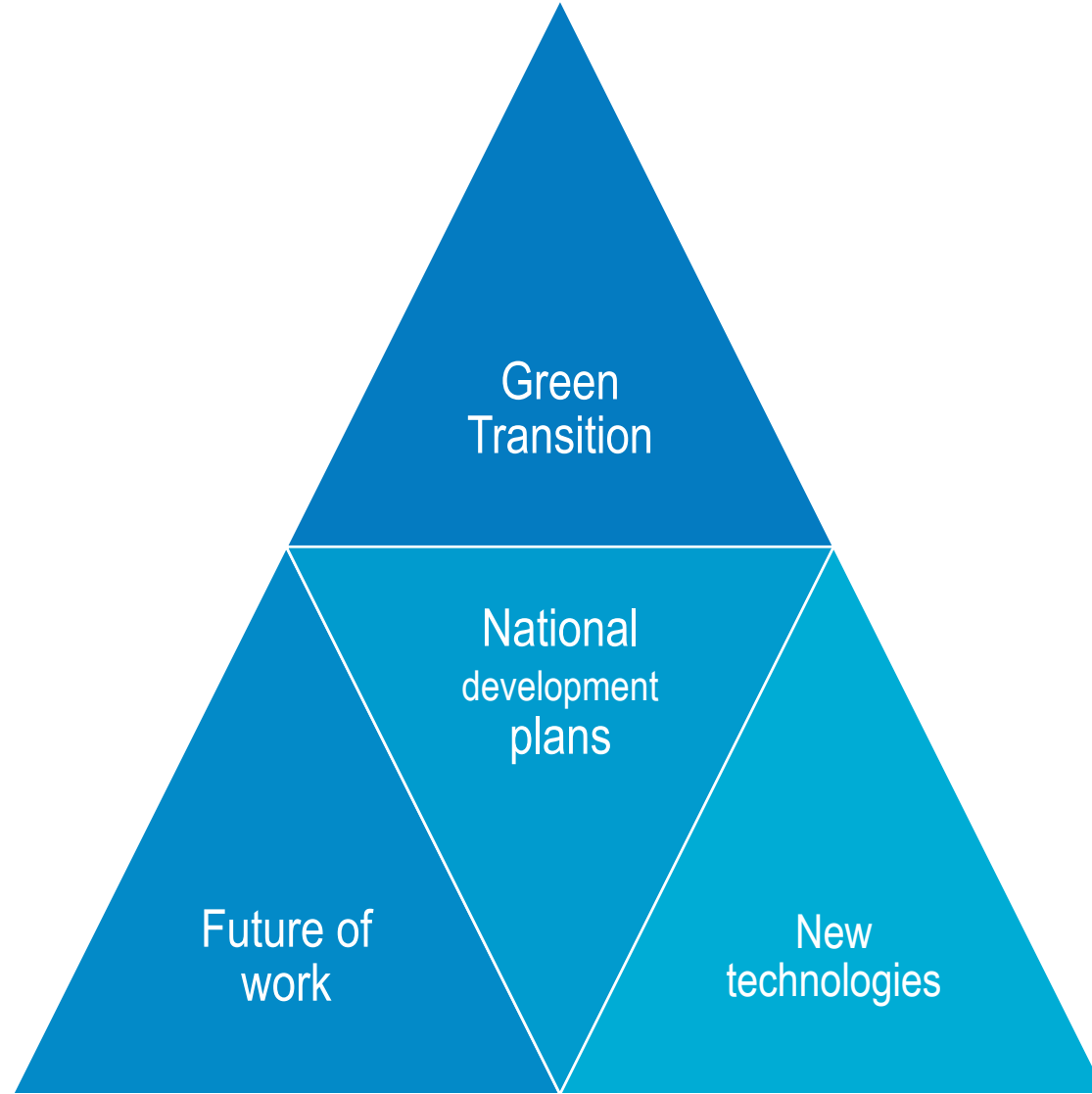
- > Poverty alleviation
- > Promotion of economic development
- > Policies to formalise remittance systems and reduce transaction costs
- > Negatively perceived dependencies



- Migration and diaspora engagement matter, and will continue and become even more relevant in the future
- Diaspora can contribute to development: knowledge transfer, remittances, employment creation
- Migration is increasingly referenced, but not necessarily mainstreamed
  - Siloed approach
  - Lack of references on migration as a solution to structural issues
  - Challenges related to diaspora: obstacles to engage diaspora



# Biggest gap: Integrating diaspora engagement into the broader picture





Roundtable 3: Diasporas as actors of economic, social and cultural development

[Background Paper](#)



[Diasporas, the invisible heroes of climate action](#)

[Les diasporas jouent un rôle précieux dans la lutte contre les vulnérabilités climatiques dans les pays d'origine](#)



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15 May 2024

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**Rabat Process**  
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