# Thematic Meeting on Diaspora Engagement Strategies

**Entrepreneurship and Investment**  
5 October-6 October 2016  
Bamako, Mali  
Chaired by the Republic of Mali and the French Republic

## Agenda

### 5 October 2016 (Wednesday)

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<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
<td><strong>Reception and registration of participants</strong></td>
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<td>09:00 – 12:30</td>
<td><strong>Opening ceremony and context</strong></td>
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<td>Welcoming address from the Mayor of Commune IV of Bamako</td>
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<td>Statement by the Rabat Process Secretariat</td>
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<td><em>International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)</em></td>
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<td>Statement by the European Union</td>
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<td><em>The Ambassador of the European Union Delegation in Mali</em></td>
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<td>Statement by the French Republic</td>
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<td><em>The Ambassador of France in Mali</em></td>
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<td>Statement by the Republic of Mali</td>
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<td><em>Minister of Malians Abroad</em></td>
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<td>09:30</td>
<td><strong>Official photo</strong></td>
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<td>09:45 – 10:00</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
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<td>10:00 – 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Presentation of the context</strong></td>
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<td>Outline of the upcoming sessions by the Presidency</td>
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<td><em>Mali</em></td>
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<td>Presentation and discussion of the background paper</td>
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<td><em>The African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), Ms Opoku-Owusu</em></td>
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<td>Presentation and discussion of Mali’s public policy and actions focused on the Malian diaspora</td>
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<td><em>ICMPD, National Expert, Mr Keita</em></td>
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<td>Presentation and discussion of France’s public policy and actions related to the</td>
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diasporas of countries of the Rabat Process region
France, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Berthelot

Presentation and discussion of the European Union’s initiatives
European Union, Ms Chiaro

12:00 – 12:30 Outline of the working groups, presented by the moderators
WG1 – AFFORD, Ms Opoku-Owusu
WG2 – African Development Bank (AfDB), Mr Sambe

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

Working Groups, WG (14:00 – 16:00)
Day 1 - Investment

For this session, the participants will be divided into two parallel working groups. Each working group will treat different sub-topics. The session will be opened by a chair and the discussion will be led by a moderator/rapporteur.

**Topic of Working Group 1**
Identification of policy/strategy options and of programmes focused on strengthening an enabling framework for businesses and focused on migrants in the country of origin and destination, aimed at migrant entrepreneurs of the diaspora.

**Topic of Working Group 2**
The diaspora uses a variety of financial instruments to invest in their host country and country of origin. In order to genuinely make use of these resources as a tool for development and poverty reduction, the capacities of existing institutions should be strengthened, while remaining open for new and innovative mechanisms.

**WG 1 : Good practices in the area of policies and national stakeholders**

Improving knowledge and understanding of regional and national simplification, promotion and diversification policies of investments made by the diaspora; the role of agencies, fora, exchange platforms and other stakeholders playing a role in the promotion and diversification of investments.

**Chair of the session** : Cameroon, Ministry of External Relations
**Moderator** : AFFORD, Ms Opoku-Owusu

**Sub-topic 1.1 : the national and regional policy framework to simplify, promote and diversify investments made by the diaspora**
- Morocco, Ministry in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs, Mr Berrada
- France, Ministry of Foreign Affairs France, Ms Tardieu: *French policy to support productive investments by diasporas*
- Nigeria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Tsavsar
- Mali, Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration, Mr Keita: *Mali national framework for*
Sub-topic 1.2: the role of public agencies, fora, exchange platforms and other stakeholders in diaspora investment promotion and diversification

- Productive Investments Promotion Fund for Senegalese Abroad (FAISE), Mr Gassama
- Centre for Promoting Investment in Côte d’Ivoire (CEPICI), Mr Kety
- Investment Promotion Agency Mali (API-Mali), Mr Touré
- Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (FORIM), Ms Sakho
- Nigerian Diaspora Direct Investment Summit (NDDIS), Mr Folayan

WG 2: Diasporas’ access to financial instruments

Promoting the importance of a better access to financial instruments for the diaspora in order to facilitate investments; awareness-raising about new tools to encourage renewed commitment, using new technologies. The discussion will focus on the facilitation of remittances; the improvement of access to bank loans and micro-credits; the innovation of financial instruments by using new technology; incubators as a model to multiply initiatives.

Chair of the session: Belgium, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, External Trade and Development Cooperation
Moderator: ADB, Mr Sambe

Sub-topic 2.1: Financial inclusion as a means of developing SME

- Mouamalat Assahiha Bank (BMS), Mr Lemrabott: *The Islamic finance at the service of the Diaspora*
- Homestring, Mr Smaller: *Targets and opportunities for crowdfunding investors in emerging & frontier markets*

Sub-topic 2.2: Innovative financial instruments and opportunities for SME through the use of modern technologies

- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ivory Coast (CCI-CL), Mr Orega: *Programme « Champion », innovative project on the notation at the service of diaspora and SMEs.*
- Positive Planet in Mali, Mr Koné: *The valuation of resources issued from migration through financial education, Experience of Positive Planet in Mali*

Sub-topic 2.3: Facilitating remittance flows: increasing opportunities for entrepreneurship

- African Institute for Remittances (AIR), Dr. Misati: *Remittance costs and strategies of mobilizing diaspora resources for investment*
- NGO Diaspora CEDEAO, H.E. Ambassador Alexander: *Accesses of the diaspora to sustainable development through the maximization of existing resources*
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), FIER Programme, Mr Coulibaly: *Presentation of the project for Professional Training, Inclusion and Support of Entrepreneurship of Rural Youth (FIER) and of the microcredit website Babyloan.org*

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break
**Opening of day 2 in the plenary session**

09:30 – 10:00  Outline of the working groups, presented by the moderators  
WG1 – Member of the ADEPT Network (Africa Europe Diaspora Development Platform), Mr Jabbi  
WG2 – Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI), Ms Irvine

**Working Groups, WG (10:00 – 12:00)**

**Day 2 - Entrepreneurship**

For this session the participants will be divided into two parallel working groups. Each working group will treat different sub-topics. The session will be opened by a chair and the discussions will be led by a moderator/rapporteur.

**Topic of Working Group 1 and 2**

This Workshop will focus on a practical discussion on how to develop effective diaspora engagement policies for the purpose of strengthening partnerships with other countries, diaspora associations and other actors. Improving the links to diaspora and partnerships with others is important as diaspora are important assets to the development of a country, and thus need to be nurtured in a collaborative way. Aside from their renowned role as senders of remittances, diaspora also act as brokers of knowledge and agents for more successful partnerships in the private sector as well as in the public sector. Diaspora can lead the change, while governments can catalyze their impact, and vice-versa.

The role of local authorities: encouraging initiatives by collecting empirical data on local diaspora, maintaining relationships with these communities, allowing their engagement in the elaboration of local policies and facilitating the creation of networks by attracting and orienting remittances towards local development, by implementing projects at the local level (i.e. direct investments in the border regions or markets) and taking into account the cross-cutting dimension of gender.

**WG 1 : The role of South-South and triangular partnerships (migrants/diaspora – country of origin – country of destination)**

The workshop will present the different ways to learn from the experience of others and exchange on the good practices for South-South and triangular cooperation to strengthen diaspora initiatives by public institutions. The objective is to understand how to develop a strategy, assess the diaspora, share practices on how to engage in South-South and triangular cooperation through partnership frameworks and knowledge sharing tools.
Chair of the session: Central African Republic, Ministry of Planning, Economy and International Cooperation
Moderator: ADEPT network member, Mr Jabbi

Sub-topic 1.1: Formal and informal public partnerships
- ICMPD, Migration EU eXpertise (MIEUX), Mme Jolivel
- France, Expertise France, Ms Constans: the “MeetAfrica” initiative

Sub-topic 1.2: Understanding and communicating with the diaspora – Knowledge transfer as a driver of entrepreneurship
- Côte d’Ivoire, Ministry of Ivoirians Abroad, Mr Konaté
- Sikasso Network of women repatriated from Côte d’Ivoire, Ms Keita
- African Diaspora Youth Forum in Europe (ADYFE), Mr Diakité

Sub-topic 1.3: Building innovative partnerships with the private sector
- United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Ms Traoré
- International Bank for Mali (BIM), Mr Bocoum
- Impact Hub Bamako, Mr Keita
- Mali Business Incubation and Innovation Centre, Ms Bengaly

WG 2: The local level’s contribution to development

Developing a territorial approach: how to build solid local public institutions that can be genuine focal points for migrants? How to develop efficient local services that respond to the needs of the migrant community? How to involve and rely on civil society? How to increase local economic opportunities and opportunities for local integration in line with the national level?

Chair of the session: Swiss Development Cooperation
Moderator: The Joint Migration and Development Initiative, JMDI, Ms Irvine
National Expert: ICMPD, Mr Keita

Sub-topic 2.1: The role of decentralised cooperation, local governance and of integration measures
- Dr Keita: Strategies to create links between migrant associations and local authorities
- GRDR-Migration-Citizenship–Development, Ms Doukouré: Strengthening multi-stakeholder dialogue and practices with a view to building common knowledge independent of practices in the area of migration and development
- Mali, Coordinator of the Migration and Development Project Management Unit, Mr Bathily: The question of diaspora investments in the framework of local development

Sub-topic 2.2: The main challenges encountered at local level and the development of a territorial approach
- ICMPD, Ms Huss: The proactive and influential role played by cities globally – The importance of building networks at local level
- Speeches by local authorities of Mali: the President of the Circle of Kayes, the mayor of Koussané, the mayor of Konia; the mayor of Douentza
- ICMPD, Mr El Mouaatamid: Good practice examples for successful diaspora mobilization: the distinction between the local and national perspectives
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<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>12:30 –13:30</td>
<td>Presentations of the results of the Working Groups by the moderators, followed by discussion</td>
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<td>Conclusions of the Thematic Meeting (15:30 - 16:30)</td>
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<td>Presentation of the conclusions of the co-chairs</td>
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<td>Closing remarks by Mali</td>
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