Summary Report

Diaspora-Development Dialogue (DDD)

'Migration and Development in Times of Crisis: Common Obligations and Collective Action'

Wednesday, 30th September 2015
Albert-Schweitzer-Haus, Schwarzspanierstrasse 13, Vienna, Austria

Vienna, September 2015
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Photos
Based on transcriptions

The Third DDD is organised in partnership and supported by:

ADEPT is financed by the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation:
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Introduction:

This year forum was organized in collaboration between Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation – (VIDC), Radio Afrika TV and ADEPT, the forum was supported by Südwind VAS Österreich. The forum gathered more than 150 participants, experts, guest speakers and youth workers all the way from Europe and Africa, the forum was composed of one long day of panel discussions and workshops highlighting the complex situation of migration and possible solutions towards development.

This year DDF 3 focused on bringing out practical recommendations and action points to face and confront the migration crisis through practical panel discussions and working group including ‘How to Counter Xenophobia and Facilitate Integration’ and ‘How to Maintain Diaspora Development Input in Times of Crisis’

The dialogue on DDF 3 focused on migrated-related crises for the following main reasons:

- **Crisis Across the World:** There are increasing incidents of large and concentrated influxes of migrants across the world, with new forms of perilous sea and land journeys in Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and South East Asia. This current situation requires examination by development practitioners and policy makers.

- **Negative Narrative:** There is a need to maintain dialogue with governments and engage with communities in sending, transit and host communities in the face of a new wave of dominant negative media narrative which portrays migration as a problem and source of socio-economic disruption.

- **Improving Development:** Migrants, Diasporas and their partners need to create innovative ways to maintain and improve the development input and impact of migration, especially in times of economic, social, political and other forms of crisis.

This report is based on the transcriptions of the speakers’ contributions recorded during the Conference on 30th of September 2015 in Vienna.

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1 DDD : please check the Annex 1 for brief description on the DIASPORA-DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD)
1. Presentation of Partners:

- **Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation - VIDC**

VIDC is one of the most tradition-steeped non-profit-making non-governmental organizations (NGO) in Austria. It has consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The institute was founded as a think tank for global issues at the ‘Conference for Economic Cooperation and Partnership’, which took place in July 1962 in Salzburg and Vienna. Initiators were Bruno Kreisky together with other prominent politicians of the so-called third world, such as Tom Mboya from Kenya and Ahmed Ben Salah from Tunisia. VIDC’s core political aims are, on the one hand, the promotion of critical public awareness with respect to social, political, cultural and economic developments and democratic movements, and, on the other hand, the set-up of an international dialogue on the basis of equality and respect. From 2011 to 2014 VIDC was the lead agency of the transnational project CoMiDe – Initiative for Migration and Development.

- **Radio Afrika TV**

Radio Afrika TV was founded in 1997 and works in the field of Media for Development, with special interest in Africa and African representations. The organization believes that for the development process of Africa and the media coverage of the continent, it is important for Europeans and African journalists to interact and exchange information. This will lead to improved communication within a context of mutual respect, reflecting different perspectives. Africa is not only about civil war, drought and disaster. Radio Afrika TV provides training and exchange programmes for African and Austrian journalists. In cooperation with the Austrian Development Agency and UNIDO, it also works on Women and Youth Entrepreneurship programmes to minimize brain drain and fight against poverty. Based on the experiences of UNIDO in vocational training in Malakal, South Sudan, in 2008, Radio Afrika started pilot programmes in Tanzania and Sudan.

- **ADEPT**

ADEPT's mission is to ‘improve and enhance the capacity and impact of the African diaspora organizations that are involved in development activities in Africa’. This mission is pursued through delivery of services to diaspora organizations and individuals in Europe and Africa. In particular, ADEPT will help Africa Diaspora-Development Organizations (ADDOs) in the EU, Switzerland and Norway to:

- Optimize their development engagement in Africa
- Professionalize their organizations and activities
- Create effective partnerships in Europe and Africa
- Expand and improve their development activities in Africa
- Influence the policy and practice of development cooperation.
ADEPT is funded for 2014-17 by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the European Commission. Further funding is being sought from other donors. ADEPT emerged out of the pilot Africa-Europe Platform (AEP) project that ran from 2010 to 2013, which was funded by the European Commission with co-funding from SDC, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

- The professional ADEPT service-delivery directorate will focus on:
  - Providing training and guidance
  - Producing directories and databases
  - Showcasing best practices
  - Disseminating information and announcements
  - Undertaking action research
  - Facilitating networking and partnerships
  - Conducting consultations and joint positions
  - Policy representations and negotiations
  - Positive images and representation of Africa.

2. Activity Background and Context:

'Migration and Development in Times of Crisis: Common Obligations and Collective Action' is the third follow up forum of Diaspora-Development Dialogue.

Every DDF focuses on a single theme. This enables participants to explore enough of the factors and issues related to the theme, and make practical and feasible suggestions and recommendations. ADEPT seeks to adopt, develop and integrate each DDF theme into its core and supplementary programme of work – in collaboration with partners.

This year Theme of DDF 3 focused on 'Migration and Development in Times of Crisis: Common Obligations and Collective Action' and the sub-themes of DDF 3 have been chosen to explore ‘imaginative new schemes and programmes’ and generate ‘positive and practical recommendations and action points’. The two sub-themes are: 'How to Counter Xenophobia and Facilitate Integration' and 'How to Maintain Diaspora Development Input in Times of Crisis'.

3. Aims and objectives:

The overall aims of the Diaspora-Development Dialogue are to:

- Facilitate face-to-face networking between diaspora organizations and individuals involved in African development.
- Facilitate practical partnerships between migrant and diaspora groups and international development agencies and institutions in different European countries.
- Facilitate effective dialogue through discussions, debates and exchanges on migration and development.
**Activity program:**

- **Welcoming session:**

  *This session introduces the programme of the day covering aims of the dialogue, details of the agenda, logistical matters and opening statement by guest speaker.*

  **Mr. Michael Fanizadeh** – Coordinator, VIDC
  **Mr. Alexis Neuberg** – Director, Radio Afrika TV & Advisory Council Member of ADEPT

  **Mr. Michael Fanizadeh** – Coordinator, VIDC:

  “Ladies and Gentlemen,

  May I ask you to take your seats?

  Ladies and gentlemen,

  My name is Michael Fanizadeh. I am the responsible project manager at VIDC/ and would like to warmly welcome you to today’s conference “Migration and Development in Times of Crisis. Common Obligations and Collective Action”

  We are very happy about the large audience and I am especially pleased to welcome all our speakers, who arrived from more than 20 countries to take part in today’s conference. Thank you for attending.

  Before we start I have to say thank you to the co-organizers of the conference today, the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform and Radio Afrika TV.

  The event today is part of a European-wide dialogue process started by ADEPT entitled “Development Diaspora Forum,” which aims to organize an exchange between Diaspora organizations and development policy figures. Because migrants are still rarely seen as participants in sustainable development in their respective regions of origin. In the past, the dialogue forums have taken place in Copenhagen (November 2014) and Malta (May 2015).

  You will learn more about the ADEPT network from my colleague Alexis afterwards.

  I would also like to thank the Austrian Development Agency, the European Commission and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, that financed today’s event, as well as my colleagues at VIDC, especially Irène Hochauer-Kpoda, who actively supported me with organizing the event. We also appreciate the support of VAS and Südwind, two of our ongoing our cooperation partners in Austria on Migration & Development.

  Just a few technical comments from my side:
Today’s event will take place in English and French with simultaneous translation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Musyl and Mr. Schmolz, our interpreters today, for their challenging work.

I would also like to mention that drinks and snacks in the coffee breaks. Also we are pleased to invite you to a light lunch.

Furthermore, you will find feedback forms on our event, which we ask you to fill out and put in the box at the door. Our events are documented and available on our website afterward at www.vidc.org or you will be e-mailed the documentation if you have signed up for the VIDC/Wiener Institut mailing list. You can sign up for this outside at the information table.

One word about the discussion Groups in the afternoon: As you could see in the programme, we have planned two discussion groups in the afternoon. Discussion group 1 is in English only and will take place in the Kapelle (4th floor), discussion group 2 is here in the conference room. Outside you will find posters, where you could register for one of the discussion groups.

**Content:**

The forum is in particular important today, because two years after the first refugee catastrophe off of Lampedusa where 366 people drowned in October 2013, accidents on water and land are still happening. More and more people are dying while attempting to make it to Europe and reach the wealthier countries of Northern Europe. There is still no political strategy on how to deal with increased migration to Europe. This is applies to the attempt to manage migration through the EU and the nation states (Frontex, Dublin Regulation, etc.) as well as to development policy that should make a greater effort to react to the political and economic instability in the countries of origin and to speak out against human rights violations during migration, fragility, conflicts, environmental hazards, unemployment, and extreme poverty.

This dialogue forum will especially focus on issues of migration and development in the context of the current migration crisis. But the forum is also taking place at a time that is very important for development and migration policies in general. On one hand, the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been adopted at a UN summit in New York this weekend, which will establish the development goals of the international community by 2030. On the other hand, the international community will gather in mid-October for the eighth Global Forum on Migration and Development in Istanbul.

I wish us a very interesting conference and gathering today and I will now hand over to my colleague Alexis Neuberg from Radio Afrika.”

**Mr. Alexis Neuberg** – Director, Radio Afrika TV & Advisory Council Member of ADEPT:

Mr. Alexis agreed the participants and the guest speakers; he wished all the ones coming from abroad a big welcome to Vienna. He explained that this event took place is central Europe “Vienna”, the idea behind it is to make connections and build linkage bridges. He
He asked people from different countries to stand up (Hungary, Slovakia, France, Switzerland, Germany, South Africa, Kenya, UK, Croatia, Romania, Belgium…), he considered them all as ADEPT family members, and again he welcomed them to Vienna, and started his speech in French.

He asked non-French speakers to hold their instrument; he introduced the event by mentioning ADEPT focus area work, which has as objective to enhance the capacity-building of individuals and organizations in Africa and Europe, through ADEPT we extend the development opportunities in Africa and influence the political level and boost the cooperation practices. This organization that is financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Alexis thanked the Swiss Agency on behalf of ADEPT team for the continuous support, and for being the model to follow by shifting the creation of such organizations, developing the skills of negotiation, project management, good practices and enhance the discussions and actions towards collective objectives.

Alexis mentioned the refugee’s flood that is highlighting the news recent weeks and questioned why people traveled miles and miles to arrive to Austria and Germany, he brought to the discussion of the influence that happen in Europe when some Africans countries are facing peace and economic crisis, he emphasized the fact that UN can no longer decide on people who leave their countries to safe places seeking for peace and better life, there is an urge necessity to find out solution and help these people and ensuring that there is a strong integration.

He concluded by congratulating ADEPT London team and mentioning that Austria today makes a great example of cooperation and integration.

And then wished a great conference for everyone and hand it over Dr. Ikier Ataç.

- **First Panel: Context setting on migration situation and commitment towards collective actions:**

  Moderator: Dr. Ilker Ataç, University of Osnabruck, Germany.

*Ilker* welcomed everyone to the first panel discussion session. He highlighted the two subject areas to be discussed in this session:

- The lesson of migration in the perspective of global; what kind of legal instructions for migration.
- Migration and development in the perspective of the temporary situation.

He represented the speakers of the session: *Ms. Knapp* (she works in lobbying, global commitment toward migration) and *Ms. Pinl:* (from Turkey, works on the situation of the refugees in Turkey) and then Mr. Gibrill Faal: (Expert and global leader)

*Mr. Ilker* opened the floor for questions from the public.
What are the global commitments and obligations on migration and development?

Ms. Anny Knapp-Chairwoman, Asylkoordination Austria

She started by asking the public guests whether they know the meaning of the international law, and especially the international human rights law, and she expressed that she wants to emphasize on the new instruments that have been developed the last 17 years ago, like the conventions that are to combat discrimination and the right of the child have been signed by countries leaders, the official countries representatives who signed these conventions are obligated to ensure and implement these agreements and to protect these rights.

She highlighted that there is a convention of refugee (1951) that was signed in Geneva by more than 150 countries which should be an instrument to protect also the rights of refugees.

She highlighted that there are strong human rights instruments established among the European Union, including rights of freedom of expression, the right not to be put in dangerous situation; the EU witnessed very important development of human rights protection, including fundamental rights that were agreed in Lisbon: the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

However there are other rights, which are not settled so strong in times of crisis for refugees like the right to work, and this is a right that is not well established globally.

One of the rights that we see in the refugee section that could be restricted is the right of the private life due to security and public reasons, so there are some rights that are not really guaranteed. She added that for human rights organizations, NGOs and human rights activists; these rights shouldn’t be restricted in times of crises, and the prove is the last events that ensured that refugees have limited rights in situation of crisis.

As the last crisis shows when the refugees move from Balkan countries to reach countries like: Germany, Austria and Sweden... this is encouraging for us as civil society organizations to do something for these refugees, and do something about the current situation that might have serious consequences on the region.

She emphasized the necessity to have on the European level mechanisms of solidarity between the European member states, these mechanisms of solidarity which were translated into so-called Dublin convention which estates that each member state needs to care and protect the refugees, since several months, the member states have been negotiating new mechanisms of solidarity (even that no country is obligated to do so), so now on the table there are suggestions and proposals like: dividing the refugees on states according of the population number or the income of the countries, but she isn’t sure if such systems and proposals will bring any changes, Greece for example didn’t fulfill to have asylum seeking facilitations, which made refugees to go to other countries where are there are possibilities, like in Germany and Sweden... Italy in the other hand, which is also the second spot for the refugees, was not really able to receive the refugees
in its best ways, they only left them to rest for a while before deciding whether the refugees can move to other countries, so basically Italy was not responsible for the care neither the integration of these refugees.

Currently the states are negotiating the location system, which means that countries who have bigger number of refugees will give the other countries to take some of the asylum seekers; now 120000 asylum seekers should be given to other European countries, but it is not clear if all member states will agree on this decision, especially some of the eastern European countries who aren't ready to accept this new agreement.

Then there are other solutions on the global level: settlement, quotas, so that other states take refugees from Lebanon, or Jordan to other European countries, and these refugees who are selected by refugee agencies, and obviously these people will stay longer which requires assistance, care and integration process in the host countries. This could be a suitable mechanism of solidarity with people who are in need of international protection, even though and based on last year negotiation, we can notice how slow the system is, it seems very hard to bring these ideas forward.

There is the other proposed solution which is to close the borders, which is not the right solution but it will violate the human rights values in the EU.

We should focus on how can we protect the human rights in other regions, and that includes the countries where there is the conflict (the case of Syria for example), so that they have their rights as well and won't be obligated to move to other countries.

- What is the situation with the Syrian refugees in Turkey?

  **Ms. Pırıl Erçoban** – Association for Solidarity with Refugees (Mülteci-Der), Turkey

Ms. Pırıl thanked the event organizers for the invitation and welcomed the public as well.

She talked about different elements concerning the situation of Syrians in Turkey:

**“Brief Overview of Turkey’s asylum system:”**

Law on Foreigners and International Protection, which was the very first asylum law of Turkey, accepted by the Parliament in April 2013 and came into full force in April 2014.

For non-Europeans Turkey offers either temporary asylum (conditional refugee) in the case of individual international protection claims or temporary protection in case of mass influx.

Another type of “protection” which we witnessed in the case of the influx from Iraq from May 2014. Some of them were granted renewable “humanitarian residence permits” for one year.
Non-refoulement is an integral part of the national legal framework (Law on Foreigners and International Protection Art. 4)

Syrian refugees are, on the other hand, treated under the temporary protection and are not given access to individual international protection procedure in Turkey (except some extremely vulnerable ones).

**SYRIAN REFUGEES:**

Turkey is now the world's largest recipient of refugees. According to the latest official statements, there are 2.2 million registered Syrians in Turkey (plus more than 210,000 non Syrian under individual international protection system). Almost one out of two Syrian refugees in the region is now hosted by Turkey and they are under temporary protection regime.

**Legal Framework:**

In April 2011 when Syrian began to flee in Turkey, the Government immediately announced that:

- Borders will be open for those fleeing Syria
- There will be no forced returns
- Basic needs will be provided as much as possible by the state

Basic tenets of Turkey’s Directive of TP are:

- Syrian nationals, stateless people from Syria, refugees from Syria (Palestinians) are under TP
- There is no time limitation to the TP (contrary to the EU Directive & UNHCR Guidelines) & the duration/cancellation/termination of the TP will be determined by the Board of Ministers
- Those under TP cannot apply for individual international protection (contrary to EU Directive & UNHRC Guidelines)
- Areas of responsibility of each state institutions involved (esp. that of between AFAD & GDMM) are indicated.
- To some extent, rights -like access to health services, education- and obligations of those under TP are regulated in a manner to bind all interested institutions (like hospitals & schools) (yet there is still many areas left untouched)
- Conditions for access to labour market were drawn broadly and left to subsequent changes in legislation.

**Rights & Services Available & Challenges Faced By Syrian Refugees:**

**Status-wise & registration:**

A status in limbo: Their status in Turkey is for ever temporary till return because of geographical limitation to the 1951 Convention. This amounts to a temporary statelessness especially for those who are born in Turkey.
There is no prospect for legal integration in Turkey. There is no prospect for durable solution. Only the most vulnerable ones in a limited capacity could be assessed by the UNHCR for resettlement to a third country. However, resettlement quotas for Syrian refugees are well too small compare to their numbers.

Registration: Despite the great achievements in registrations since 2014, there are serious gaps and challenges in the registration system. For example delays may occur in registration. Identification of vulnerable individuals especially if vulnerability is not easily visible does not exist. It is also a fact that there are many unregistered ones despite the government says that all have been registered. Some fear that if they are registered the Syrian regime will be allowed to have the list or that if they consider going to Europe in future, they would be returned to Turkey due to the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement and/or fear of being returned to a “safe zone within Syria” that the Turkish government has been lobbying for. Another problem is the fact that registration systems of GDMM and AFAD are not compatible with each other.

CAMPS:

About 260,000 out of 2.2 million Syrian refugees in Turkey are livings in about 25 government-run camps in 10 cities.

Living conditions in camps in general –container camps in particular- are said to above international standards –housing, NFIs, food cards, access to health, education (Syrian schools) & other recreational services like vocational trainings are available.

Challenges at Camps:

- Not enough capacity for all
- Some camps are at zero distance to the border with Syria
- There are doubts that the civilian character of the camps is not well observed. Those who do not support any side in the Syrian conflict or from ethnic-religious minorities do not want to go the camps for the fear of that the camps are controlled by the opposition and/or that there may be Syrian regime intelligence in camps.
- Establishment and maintenance of private life/ privacy is very difficult esp. in tent camps.
- Movement of camp residents in & out of the camps could be restricted (requirement of pre-registration for daily exits in advance; in some camps it is reported that permits take several months to receive)
- Fears for the personal security of girls & women in particular (GSBV)
- No independent monitoring is allowed
- There are those who do not want to live dependent on assistance
- Chances of working is slim
- Complaints that prices in the markets in the camps are much higher than those outside
- For long could they live in tents in hot summer and cold winter days?

OUTSIDE CAMPS:
Housing:

The majority of non-camp Syrian refugees in Turkey live in urban or peri-urban areas, renting and sharing accommodation with an average of 1-4 other families and surviving through temporary employment (mainly daily/monthly or seasonal labour) and with minimal assistance.

There have been sharp increases in rental prices and, as a result, it is often difficult to find affordable rentals. Many landlords discriminate Syrians refusing to rent house to them etc. Rise rental prices cause tension among the local population who are also badly affected by this trend.

Access to Work:

Although the extremely hard conditions for work permit was relaxed for Syrians only those came to Turkey with their passport and can get residency permit (which is very difficult very small in number) can enjoy this relaxation of the existing criteria. Otherwise, access to work permit and formal work is extremely difficult under the existing legal framework.

Problems providing medical equipment/items and medication for outpatients existed especially for outside camp population in some cities. A recent protocol between AFAD and Ministry of Health is expected to solve the problem.

There are serious capacity problems in health services. Hospitals in border provinces offer approximately 30% to 40% if not more of their services to Syrian refugees with the same resources before the crisis. Thus, there are capacity issues in the hospitals which in return cause hostility against Syrians at hospitals by hospital staff as well host community members.

Language problems between patients and hospital staff are another challenge.

Education:

Since September 2014, in line with the reforms made by the MoNE circular, Syrian refugees have rights to access to formal education through the national system or temporary education centers with Syrian curriculum (Syrian schools). However, at the close of the 2013/2014 school year, it is estimated that 70% of Syrian children were still out of school.

Lack of awareness, lack of knowledge on existing education facilities, long distances to schools (transportation fees); infrastructure problems ( overcrowded classes, not enough classrooms), language barrier and problems arising out of lack of documentation to enroll in Turkish public schools, discrimination and bullying at schools, concerns about the quality of education at Syrian schools (some are said to be adopting religious education); concerns about certification/compatibility of Syrian schools with national system; difficulty to return to school after years of being out of school are basic problems. But economic problems are the biggest barriers as majority of the children at
very early ages have to take the role of main bread winner within the family. This causes low schooling rate and child labour.

**Xenophobia & Hate Attacks:**

Belief that refugees are responsible with sharp rises in rental prices & unemployment rate and in decrease in hourly/weekly payments (belief that employers prefer Syrian workers); that they are getting the already limited national resources; belief that refugees are given priority at hospitals, social help services etc; tendency to see all as troublemakers, criminals, terrorists, beggars, city dwellers, parasites not willing to work but asking for more etc. are wide-spread among local population.

City rumors that Syrians are paid 1000 Dollars monthly and that they can vote at elections receive wide attention in social-media.

There are rumors among the public that Syrians disturb law and order. In fact, the numbers of criminal cases in which refugees are directly involved are very low and, in most cases, Syrians living in Turkey are the victims.

The lack of political will for integration policies and impunity of perpetrators of hate crimes encourage hate speech and crimes.

**Recommendations:**

In the countries of origin there has to be sincere international political will and concrete attempts to reach peace and stability in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan in particular. Displaced persons should be guaranteed that they will not be forced to return unless a real peace and stability is achieved and that returns will be on voluntary base only.

For the neighboring countries: Neighboring countries find it difficult to cope with economic, social and political consequences of the refugee influx. More financial and technical aid and solidarity is needed.

But, there are more that Turkey, as the principal country affected most by this refugee crisis, could do. Namely:

- Lifting of geographical limitation to refugee protection & durable solution so as to allow for permanent status for refugees
- Reform the legal framework to allow easily accessible work permits for qualified, semi-qualifies and non-qualified labour force.
- Fight against xenophobia, hate speech & crimes; do not let impunity related with crimes of hate.
- Better access to education and health services
- Effective protection of vulnerable individuals (UAC, victims of human traffic, torture, violence, elderly persons, disabled persons, LGBTIs, persons with security concerns)
- Effective access to legal remedies must be achieved by Turkey.

For Europe and international community:

- More and concrete attempts to show solidarity
- Meaningful financial assistance to neighboring countries is necessary but definitely NOT enough must abandon the policy of “we give you more help, but let them come to Europe” policy
- Much higher number of refugees must be given access to territory and protection not bigger camps in neighboring countries
- More sensitivity towards the responsibility taken by neighboring countries.
- Safe and legal channels to Europe must be established

Policies like destructing smuggling boats; establishing asylum offices or huge camps in 3rd countries are not effective, will not end irregular movement; and are risky as this actually means the continuation of discriminative policies of “we select who is suitable to live in Europe and let only them in Europe”.

- What are the types of migration crises in host countries that jeopardise development actions?

Mr. Gibril Faal – Interim Director, ADEPT

Mr Gibril started by expressing his great gratitude on behalf ADPET to be among the audience to discuss and share with them his thoughts on the migration subject.

He spotlighted that the way we are running our countries is like the way we are running our lives in order to reach progression; the story of human kind is the story of solving problems to achieve progression, so this is the normative framework, crisis and difficulties are supposed to be exception we are dealing with. He highlighted that the crisis should be an exception and short in term of period timing, the crisis need to be to be handled through different strategies, like ensuring laws that guarantee fundamental rights. He underlined the different existing frameworks like human rights and refugees conventions and other conventions of socio-economic development which relate migration to development which should lead to progression rather than crisis. He mentioned that on 27 September the SDGs were adopted by world leaders in New York, this new framework that highlighted the link between migration and development, even though not everyone is satisfied with the SDGs agenda.
He then invited the public to understand the nature of the crisis; when we face a crisis, we need to understand and come up with new ways when it arrives; the Syrian and Mediterranean crisis are the best examples we are living today, while attending conference in Malta on the Mediterranean crisis, Mr. Gibril observed the different approaches on the typology of crisis, he underlined that there are three types of crisis: the ones that distract us from our strategy goals, the ones that caused irreversible progress we achieve, and the ones that make us settle new progressive ambitions, the last one is scary but there is a need to discuss it.

Among the European countries that have refugees, there is a progressive framework that the countries use, he gave an example from the UK; a passing law that warns if someone rent a house to an illegal migrant, it is concerned as criminal and the person would be punished for that. According to Mr. Gibril, this is a step backward from civilization, because considering this act as criminal by law is in itself a type of crisis, it is an extreme example.

Mr. Gibril questioned “How come we are in this situation? Why are we distracted? How come having 30000/40000 people in Europe suddenly causes us this destruction?” While in Lebanon quarter of the population are refugees, when Turkey that has spent 6 billion dollars for refugees even though the economic situation of UK is bigger than the one of Turkey. When in Jordan there are millions of refugees...Mr. Gibril emphasized that it depends how we recognize the crisis and he challenges the government and the civil society to look again at this crisis.

He invited the public to look at this crisis and he described it through 4 elements: the active factors, the lack of reactive response, the element of perception, and the element short time, he illustrated these 4 elements through the example of “international football games” when big events like football receive many people, it is not considered as crisis, but if they stay longer, it is an issue, and this the active factor.

The reactive element is: Do you have the capabilities, the structures and the institutions to receive them, including: hotels, constructions, buildings.... It depends on the degree of capability of structures that will enable to receive people; if you have it then there should be no crisis.

The third element is perception: in this level he explained the fact that these things happen, and underlined that to understand the perception, there is a need to observe the process through 2 elements: the mass media/the communication of what we receive, and then the view of 2 extremist groups: the one who do not want the refugees to come to their countries, and the ones who want to open the borders for everyone, and the other element is the public opinion: the formation of the public opinion.

The crisis should be short by time by nature; otherwise we will always call it a crisis, which becomes chronic.

Mr. Gibril questioned also how should we react? 40 years ago we had a high level of degree of resilience, here in Europe we have strategic planning, systems, plants, resources for resilience to confront situations of problems like nuclear crisis, climate
change, and these are crises that will happen, and we are called to be prepared for it, it is the same case as the case of refugees crisis, we need to have the tools to prepare for it.

He concluded by saying that opportunities are made from the migration crisis and Germany will take this crisis seriously to come up with positive narrative strategies to confront other challenges of 40 years from now.

Dr. Ilker Ataç thanked the speakers for their informative and rich thoughts and then opened the floor for discussions and question from the public.

**Question and comments from the public:**

- “I'm a refugee, when I came I didn’t want to leave my country, people don't just leave their lives, families, cultures just like that ... They do so because they have no more choice left behind. So the governments need to do something to stop the war, why do you complain now while Europe contributed in the war in Syria in a way or another. The world needs to stop seeking their political interests everywhere, if they want peace.”
- “This problematic explains that we live in a sick society, the Union of Europe that doesn't exist in reality, i quote the definition of Mr. Gibril « the crisis should be short », but do we really have a crisis? We speak now that it is Europe crisis, but is it the crisis of Europe? United Nations has the obligation to control and assure peace, we have witnessed when USA and Europe provided Bashar Assad with arms, which directly contributed to the civil war in Syria.”
- “Hello, my name is Beatrice, I’m an immigrant who decided to go Africa (South Africa), where people are much aware about what is happening in Europe, for this we should start change and come up with new narratives, I wrote a book “Follow me to Africa”, and in Africa there are children who have smartphones and access to internet, where the media shows other things, we should make sure that we change the narratives. Positive strong narrative of Africa.”
- “Countries sign different conventions on peace and arms distribution, are there any legal punishments of countries that don't respect these signed conventions?”
- “A refugee is just a simple person like me and you, it's just a person who looks for better peaceful place, refugee is not a criminal”
- “In Turkey, there are different organizations that work to help refugees, to ensure these refugees continue their lives and get integrated in the society, the infrastructures should be there to receive these people, but organizations have been facing issues with receiving funds for that, for that there should be a guarantee of sustainable financial help for these organizations”
- “We have witnessed that migration plays an important role in the development not only for the home countries but as well home countries.”
- “How can we organize the right to protect Asylum, if some countries receive only refugees from specific religions, which is a direct discrimination”.
- “I’ve heard that more than 5000 refugees are coming in winter period, how are you going to receive them?”
- “I’m from Ghana, I want to make one correction about the refugees that media miscommunicated, refugees didn’t come here not to rub Europeans but they are human beings who came for peace”
“The public opinion is very important; the Austrians are becoming influenced by what happen in Austria, the political parties need to ensure the situation.”

Feedback from the speakers:

Ms. Anny Knapp: “We have different human rights conventions, in Strasburg the person can complain and seek assistance and the state will be held responsible. We should respect the identity of people arriving; the needs of migrants should be addressed to meet the needs.

Yes the European countries need to come up and take actions; it’s not the deal of only Germany but also of all other European countries.”

Ms. Pırıl Erçoban: “We need real and sincere international and political solution to face the issue, social and economic and political solutions in countries of origin, it was a wrong strategy and we understand it now, I give you the money and you manage, No, it is important to come up with strategies and mechanisms in origin countries and also to receive the refugees equally.”

Mr. Gibril Faal: “I will comment on two things: the fact of those who said we will only accept people from specific religion, that’s a discrimination, and the other thing is public opinion: I think we should able to have different narratives; I’m not an expert in media and public opinion, but I believe that there is should be a different narratives.”

Second Panel: Challenges faced by different stakholders in times of migration crises

Panel discussion and Q&A - Chaired by Mr. Micheal Fanizadeh, VIDC, Austria

What are the challenges faced by different stakeholders in times of migration crises?

Mr. Micheal welcomed again the audience and asked them to welcome the panelist, he highlighted that “The Syrian crisis is no longer a crisis, instead we need to focus on the current situation of migration in Europe, and we will listen from people who came to Austria as refugees to enrich our discussion. We will start by Greece: which suffered as neighbor country of turkey.”

Mr. Lujubisa Vrencev-Thessaloniki Municipality Migrants’ Integration Council, Greece

Mr. Lujubisa has a rich working experience in different Balkan countries; Mr. Micheal asked him “What are the challenges faced by different stakeholders in times of migration crises from the view of Greece?”

He thanked the public and Mr. Micheal, He has noticed what is going on and how the situation changes on daily basis, in Greece, he showed the map of the Aegean Islands, his organization focus is how our institution work and how the institutions are handling with all these obligations in terms of different international agreements which European
countries have to follow, he captured that they didn’t focus on refugees even though they have interviewed them starting from Rhodes Island.

900% increase in arrivals from January to August 2015, in the first eight months of 2015, an estimated 433,000 migrants and refugees have reached the EU by sea, most of them – 310,000 via Greece, out of which 91% originating from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. 40% of all sea arrivals in 2015 occurred in August, over 100,000. This composes 50,000 more than in July and almost doubles the figure of the total arrivals in 2014 (43,500).

The numbers are figured in random way? Police are doing the hard work of identification, the regular problem that police face is lack of staff, where are the refugees going to stay after the registration is another issue, and it was easy when it was 10 times less people, but now it became very challenging.

In some islands there are different humanitarian issues, there is also the issue of the municipality, the reason why the municipality decided at a certain moment to put the refugees away from street, (they stay in the shelters) municipality provide them with two meals a day, and electricity, this is the situation in Kos, it could be described as situation without bigger problem.

Lesvos Island has more serious challenges where many refugees pass through often; there is a camp of the municipality which hosts only 200 people only, provide services for only this limited number of people.

Then there is the Fantastic Five, which described in the Tilos Island, which is a small Greek island and municipality located in the Aegean Sea. It is part of the Dodecanese group of islands, and lies midway between Kos and Rhodes. It has a population of 780
inhabitants (2011 census). Along with the uninhabited offshore islets of Antitilos and Gaidaros, it forms the Municipality of Tilos, which has a total land area of 64.525 square kilometres (24.913 sq mi). Tilos is part of the Rhodes regional unit.

Tilos is a small Greek island and the municipality located in the Aegean Sea. It is very dangerous and difficult to reach there; the fantastic number one is: the limited number of the police officers (3 of them), Fantastic number two: the municipality location, fantastic number three: the police officers need to call the owner of the hotel, fantastic four: the police men don’t have a boat, and the fantastic five: the advisor of the mayor.

But there is hope, UNHRC group are focused on reception process which will be very decent, the coordination is the first thing that might help there, but no one knows what will happen tomorrow, if this ship is imported on that Island more people will come, because there will be more facilities, there is a need of the enhancement of reception sites/registration centers at first entry points, access to information, access to temporary accommodation and materials assistance to the most vulnerable individuals, assistance to persons with specific needs, psychological enhancement trainings for governmental and non-governmental workers, cultural mediation services and interpretation services.

Also, there is a need to provide basic reception conditions including (shelter, water, food, sanitation) with serious hygiene, health and fire risks, sanitary facilities are urgently needed, particularly toilets and a more effective waste management strategy, There is a need to improve and rehabilitate all existing registration and reception facilities (Samos, Lesvos), in Kos, Rhodes and Tilos there is an urgent need to identify suitable sites for registration and reception facilities.

Then Mr. Micheal added: “The absence of institutions is unbelievably happening, and this crisis didn’t come over a night, there was no will to support Greece in this crisis, the same thing with Italy since 2 years ago. Italy of course was the first country and we had to invite someone from there to tell us more. Ms. Manuela De Marco-Caritas Please give us your take on this subject”

Ms. Manuela De Marco-Caritas, Italiana, Italy:

“I’m happy to talk about this topic today, Italy has known about 40 years of migration inflation, Italy has different migrants come from different background, contexts, and some come from conflicts, violence, looking for job....

Italy has always been a country of migration: emigration before, until the 60s of the last century and immigration then, since the early 70s of the past century.

The first immigration flow to Italy mainly consisted of students coming from Greece, Iran; women from Brazil, Cape Verde, Somalia, Eritrea, Philippines and Latin American countries, which were employed in domestic work, and also agricultural workers and fishermen from Tunisia and Morocco. It was an economic migration which has seen a
remarkable expansion / growth in the last twenty years of the last century (1990-2010), in which the foreign population in Italy grew by almost 20 times, exceeding the 4 million of people. Global growth in the number of migrants is rather slow in the past 5 years: currently, the number of legally residing more than 5 million people, about 10% of the Italian population.

From the 90s onwards the arrival of forced migrants began, first for the conflict in Yugoslavia, and then for Albania and Kosovo crises. Here, since 2008, following the first North African emergency (2008), the events related to the Arab Spring (2011) and the occurrence and recurrence of old and new conflicts in several areas of North Africa and the near Middle East (2013-2014), there was a remarkable increase in the number of arrivals by sea.

All of these migrants have been submitted automatically in the Italian procedure for granting international protection and in many cases they were rejected, for not fulfilling the law’s conditions.

Updates on Italian migrant background: 2014 and 2015:

In detail, in 2014, refugees and migrants arrived on Italian shores were over 170,000 and nearly 65,000 were the international protection applications. The year 2014 shows accentuated this trend: the monthly trend in landings recorded a steady increase from January to September, when touching a peak of 26,107 arrivals. In the following months the number of refugees and migrants arriving by boat on Italian shores a slight contraction, remaining always above 6 thousand monthly arrivals (December 2014).

In early 2015, the trend shows numbers greater than 2014, more than 1,000 units per month over the same month last year.

At 14 September 2015, about 121,500 immigrants have come to our shores, mostly Eritreans, Nigerians, Somalis, Sudanese, and Syrians.

Given these arrivals, in 2014 applications for international protection were almost 65 thousand, with a sharp increase compared to 2013, when they were about 27 thousand. Almost all of the applications were presented by men (92.3%), a higher percentage than the previous year (86.3%). The unaccompanied minors who in 2014 have applied for international protection were 2,584, a number three times higher than that in 2013 when the demands were 805.

Having a look on the first five months of 2015, the situation is that about 25 thousand applications for international protection were presented and in almost all cases by men (90%). The vast majority of asylum seekers (64%) are of African origin (the first three countries are Nigeria, Somalia, Gambia), followed by those who are from the Asian region (24%).
Between 2014 and 2015 it has significantly decreased the arrival of Syrian citizens, who in 2014 were the second largest nationality (21% of the total); while in 2015 they fell to 6%.

Note also the entry of Ukraine in the top ten nationalities for asylum, if in fact in 2014 the asylum seekers from this country were just over 2,000, in 2015 the same number was achieved in just the first five months.

Of course, the significant fact is the automatism with which people arriving by sea are directly placed in the asylum procedure.

**Migrants landed on Italian Coasts:**

31.12.2014 175,000 (138,000 at 30/09/2014)

121,500 (to 09/14/2015)

**APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION:**

65,000 (31.12.2014)

25,000 (at 1.6.2015)

The deaths in the Mediterranean: about 2,900 until the middle of September 2015 (in 2014 they were about 3,500).

**Some reflections:**

The scenario offered by migration flows in the last year, especially with the great exodus of Syrian citizens, which affected in particular the route from Greece, through the Balkans, towards northern Europe, has strongly urged Europe to find workable solutions, invoking the solidarity of all the Member States.

"The migration is a shared responsibility of all Member States and all Member States are now called upon to meet this historic challenge. These were the words of the High Representative / Vice President Federica Mogherini who added: "We all know that a real answer in the long run will only be possible if we tackle the root causes, ranging from poverty to the instability caused by war, until the crisis in Lebanon and Syria.»

Debate and not compact at European level has played a mirror image even in Italy.

Although the highlight of the migratory pressure this year saw Greece particularly involved, in Italy this year we have numbers similar to 2014 that need answers and solutions, as did last year. We had the northern regions, ahead of Lombardy and Veneto, which have stated on several occasions that they no longer accept refugees because their territories are now saturated. It is clear that, looking at the figures, things are very different from how they are presented. The numbers are still sustainable, but evidently prevail reasons of short-sighted policy, which looks to their own advantage by
downloading on the backs of refugees and other Italian regions the consequences of these choices.

Caritas has been in the past and is still at the forefront of interventions in favor of migrants, both in Italy and abroad.

In Italy this commitment is witnessed by all the diocesan Caritas, they are accepting asylum seekers, as they have done since the first arrivals of refugees in our country. It's an effort that involves, for our network, throughout the country, from north to south, with over 60 diocesan Caritas committed to accept and protect more than 8,000 people, both through projects Spar, through reception centers or in extraordinary structures own, with internal resources, in cases of people who have completed the period of institutional reception but who have not yet all the tools and autonomy they need to be accompanied some more 'in their permanent inclusion in our society.

On the other side, the fact of being part of a European and international network of antennas gives us able to understand the changes and evolution, even sudden, the phenomenon, and this is in the countries of departure, which in those transit and the final destination of migrants, to confront, to promote discussion groups, to share information and intervention practices.

This is our effort to create a system: in recent months that have seen a large influx of arrivals in the Mediterranean and along the Balkan route, we tried to coordinate aid and support to Caritas of the countries most involved and perhaps overwhelmed by a flow which were not used and at the same time we did not forget to continue our advocacy action with the European institutions, through Caritas Europe and the task force it on.

The connection to the Caritas network in Europe and the world for more effective action, in terms of practical help and advocacy


Caritas organizations across Europe are deeply frustrated by the inability of the European decision-makers to reach a common solution to the current migration crisis. This incapacity clearly shows that Europe is definitely losing its compass, as Pope Francis’ warned the European Union during his speech to the Parliament in November last year.

This failure not only prolongs unnecessary suffering among the hundreds of thousands of migrants and asylum seekers blocked at different borders across the Balkan Route but it also puts in peril the very essence of Europe as a common project based on solidarity, democracy and liberty.

Caritas Europa is convinced that there are many good solutions to this crisis. Solutions that are within a hand’s reach if only the political will follow. Among other solutions,
Caritas Europa proposes a fourfold approach to tackle this crisis, save lives in an efficient and humane manner, and provide long-term durable solutions:

In Europe:
- Set up safe and legal pathways to Europe, including recognition of the humanitarian visas and refugee statuses across the European Union; lifting of visas in case of crisis; extension of family reunification; and resettlement programmes that are adapted to the real needs;
- Accompany those arriving via safe and legal channels with efficient integration policies that foster sustainable social integration among others via labour and education integration, etc.

Overseas:
- Contribute to ensuring that living conditions in refugee camps foster a further human development of the refugees, including school and child activities; adult education; and reintegration in labour markets nearby.
- Invest in diplomatic and political measures to end war and gain sustainable peace in conflict affected countries.
- We are also concerned about the so-called "hotspot" approach, we are concerned about the idea that European countries of first entry of migrants, such as Italy and Greece, should implement big centers in which identifying the disembarked migrants, and deciding, after a "prima facie" evaluation, if they can apply for asylum or not, and be relocated in another country. And, by the way, in Italy we have not adopted the list of the safe countries of origin and every migrant can apply for asylum.
- Our network of trans-European dimension, allows us also to understand the migratory movements that will become increasingly significant in the future. Talking about this we are concerned not only for the consequences of wars and conflicts, but also for another incoming form of forced migration: the one for environmental reasons, that cause natural disasters and make impossible for people to stay in their own countries, after having lost their home, labor, land. The countries and international organizations should take account of the impact of this forced migration which is already involving about 22.4 million people in the world, providing with appropriate forms of legal protection and concrete solutions/alternatives for the victims.

The Migramed initiative:
In order to improve and strengthen the coordinating role of the network and take full advantage of its opportunities for the links between countries of origin, transit and destination of migrants, Caritas promotes Italian from 2010 the initiative called Migramed. It is a discussion table, which currently meets once a year and that, under the hat and with the participation of Caritas Europe, gathers together Caritas concerned by
migratory movements in the Mediterranean, both of the northern shore (Italy, France, Spain, Malta, Cyprus, Greece, Albania, etc.), that the southern shores (Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Syria). The Migramed is an opportunity to:

- Update and deepen in specific working sessions the countries' situation and the specific commitment pursued by Caritas in those realities;

- Start planning common action, or even bi or multilateral;

- Elaborate final statements on Caritas network's position related to the migrants most relevant issues, which can be used for PCRs at national or international level.

The Pope's message and the response of Caritas

The Pope recently appealed the parishes, religious communities, the monasteries and shrines throughout Europe to express the reality of the Gospel and accommodate refugees. A concrete gesture in preparation for the Holy Year. Starting from the diocese of Rome, the Pope turned to the bishops of Europe so that their dioceses support his appeal.

Starting from his appeal, there has been obviously a great mobilization by local churches, parishes, families, a great surge of solidarity which is definitely a good sign. However, as Caritas Italiana, we have also pointed out that the reception of asylum seekers arriving in our country (mostly as a result of landings) has to be provided with all the guarantees and safeguards foreseen by the laws.

It is important to stress that it is necessary to provide for asylum seekers not only services such as food, shelters, but also legal, sanitary, linguistic, social, services and they must be provided by skilled staffs, otherwise, despite the outpouring of people's generosity, it risks doing harm more than good.

Let's just think about the complexity of the administrative procedure for the attribution of a legal status: this task can be neither simplified nor underestimated and must be run by professionals able to provide to the applicant the best possible care.

Not to mention the problems of a psychological / health of the asylum, because of his personal story and the trauma of the journey itself: also in this field, it is necessary to give positive and effective responses to the person.

Several times in the past, as Caritas network we complained of the inadequacy of institutions / organizations / etc who managed the reception centers of asylum seekers and raised our voice against their improvisation. So we asked to the Ministry of Interior to act as guarantor of the quality of reception, activating forms of monitoring the quality of services addressed to asylum seekers.
And clearly, for us, the Ministry of Interior and the prefectures must continue to do that also for the services eventually provided through this spontaneous mobilization, outside the governmental centers.

The above premise must not discourage from finding areas, segments, areas of intervention useful against these people.

We believe that a very sustainable intervention by parishes or families can be easily activated towards people who have already defined their legal status, obtained a stay permit, and already received basic services as linguistic and social orientation, but are still not able to support their own path towards integration in our society.

Families and parishes could play a very important role in the process of social inclusion. They have a high potential as vehicles of integration: refugees, subsidiary protected people, and humanitarian ones, could greatly benefit from their hospitality.

Finally, a second level reception’s alternatives are also helpful to free up posts in government centers to allocate the newcomers.

**Refugee in my house: an initiative successfully tested:**

Caritas Italiana, thanks to the contribution of the CEI, has already experienced in 2012 a significant project called "Refugee in my home", where Italian families, through the Caritas supervision, received and hosted refugees their houses. The beneficiaries were about 40 and allocated in ten dioceses, from the North to the South of Italy.

The project aimed to give centrality to the family, conceived as a system of relations that support the process of inclusion of people.

Thanks to the positive impact of this experience, in the next months, we are going to reply this initiative, introducing a bigger involvement of the parishes and of the whole community, and increasing the number of the beneficiaries. At the end, the expectation is also to sensitize much more our communities on this phenomenon, through concrete gestures of solidarity.

Another front: "Presidio" in defense of seasonal workers

We launched the "Presidio" in July 2014 to respond to the phenomenon of the exploitation of seasonal migrant workers in agriculture, which involves many foreigners "formally" in order with the stay permit, even refugees or entitled of a form of international or humanitarian protection, but who cannot find other opportunities of integration into the labor market, outside those connected to agricultural work, which often apply rules of engagement and tasks harmful to the rights of the person.

Objective of the project is to ensure a constant presence of Caritas in many areas in Italy, from Sicily to Piedmont to assist and give proximity to these workers engaged in agricultural sector and unfortunately subject to severe forms of exploitation.
In ten dioceses of Italy, therefore, it is active a “Presidio mobile unit” prepared to offer assistance for immediate needs, including legal assistance and health care, accompaniment to the practices of renewals residence permits as well as accurate information on the work related laws.

The poor housing conditions and the fragile administrative position contribute to make these workers vulnerable to various forms of abuses, such as non-payment of salaries, more working hours officially declared than those actually worked, arbitrariness in the choice of working days by the employer, the lack of integration of social and medical assistance - health appropriate.

Offering these people a reliable and developed system does not only mean to recognize their dignity, but also reaffirm the rule of law: giving a name and a face to the victims of exploitation, we can also go back to the root of these abuses and helping the institutions to stop them.

With Presidio project we are also trying to reinforce the network between all the actors involved in tackling the phenomenon, both at local and at national level, and we are also trying to stimulate their interventions, also providing some suggestions in order to promote a culture of legality among the employers, the producers and the distributors of the agricultural products”.

Then Mr. Micheal: “It is important to recognize that Italy has made many efforts. I think that also we miss the knowledge of the education that we need to provide and to develop. Now let’s move on with Mr. Salah and Mr. Marcus who arrived to Europe in different contexts, Salah, a Syrian-Kurd Musician who came to Austria in 2013 and we have Marcus Okoh – African Migrant/Refugee (Based in Austria): from Nigeria, he came to Austria on 1999 but received the Asylum only 2 years ago.”

Mr. Salah Ammo-Syrian Musician:

“First I would like to thank you for the invitation, the challenges facing refugees are different since I left Syria to UK to continue my studies, and because of the situation I was obligated to be considered as a refugee so that I could bring my wife and my child, but I was kicked out from UK and came to Austria where I received the Asylum; why I am a refugee? Why Syrians? To be a refugee isn’t a choice, it is something that many people are responsible for, and every Syrian refugee has personal story that made him/her to cross the sea for better life, I cannot speak the story of each one of them, but I can tell that they all seek a peaceful place.

I was impressed of the helping people at “Westbahnhof” in Vienna; this shows how people are very welcoming.

I think there is a problem which is the political campaigns in Austria, when the politicians who try to feed the citizens with fears to win the elections, I believe that the politicians are part of the problem. And there is a need to not perceive the migration
crisis as a Greek issue, Italian problem or an European crisis but to look at it as Syrian crisis as well, because people are been killed and displaced over Syria.

This could happen to anyone, because it is possible. Basically the system in Austria isn’t smart enough, some people receive the asylum but wait 9 month to take the German classes and to participate in the integration activities, I believe the refugee question is a human thing, all other things are other stuff, but for me the most important thing is the humanitarian sense of people.”

**Mr. Michael:** “Thank you, I think you discussed with other Syrians about the crisis, what do they think about the situation, what is the support they are seeking for?”

**Mr. Salah:** “It is true that I’ve been communicating with the Syrians in Austria, whom claimed that some politicians are using their political campaigns to scare people, but refugees are people who can affect positively the country, a lively example is that I work and my wife is working also, and we pay taxes for this country, this is something to keep in mind.

European countries should think that this issue is a collective issue not only an issue of a specific country (ex: Greece, or Jordan or Lebanese...). Why politicians are complicating this problematic? While it is easy to solve!”

**Mr. Michael:** “Thank you, cooperative development Is what we need. Mr. Marcus Okoh – African Migrant/Refugee (Based in Austria): from Nigeria, 1999 he came to Austria but received only 2 years ago the Asylum. 14 years for the case to be decided, it is unbelievable, what do you think? Do you think that politicians are focusing now on Syria and forget about Africa?”

**Mr. Marcus Okoh-**Nigerian Pastor:

The long way to get the Asylum in Austria, Mr. Marcus waited 14 years to get his papers in Austria. He emphasized on the necessity of integration between the migrants and the Europeans, he said that it was not easy for him to get adapted at beginning with the Austrian society for the lack of systems and processes that would facilitate the integration.

He also highlighted that people bring development, for this we shouldn’t have this negative image about migrants and refugees, because among them; they are intellectual people which will bring positive change and development in their host societies.

Marcus believes that host countries should do more for those us come all the way to Europe, he shared that the 14 years that he has lived in Austria; he has done a lot of things by investing in the Austrian society. He believes that the system should change and be more adaptable, as it is very slow and causes misunderstanding. He added “How they and how we define ourselves is very important to start actions.”
Mr. Michael: “Thank you, 14 years is unbelievably long period, now we open the floor for questions and comments from the public”.

Question and comments from the public:

- “My name is Luisa and I’m from Kenya, my question is for Salah, I’m a Musician as well, do you have a movement in the diaspora that has a vision to offer a solution in Syria working with Syrians?”
- “My name is Beatrice, I’m just wondering, Einstein was a refugee, Steve jobs parents are from Syria, it is important to look at the advantage and the positive impact that the refugees can bring to the table. I think we should to talk from the human perspective.”
- “We are still making the same mistake, let’s go back to the roots of the issue, there are half million people coming from Austria, the refugees are coming and we will come because the problem is still there in Africa, the oil and gas companies are still in the African land and the Africans receive nothing, what do you want from African people to do? To stay like this and die from hunger? These refugees wouldn’t want to leave their countries if there was a different better situation?”

Feedback from the speakers:

- **Mr. Salah**: “there is one artistic movement of all Syrian musicians, I have visited two projects, and what we do is to link the Austrian and Syrian music, showing the different cultural perspectives from Syria to Austria.”
- **Mr. Marcus**: “there is a necessity to have oriented African focus strategies, a focus on African problem solution, working on the African ground. African Oriented solution/ Syrian Oriented Solution”
- **Ms. Manuela**: “recommendations from my side is the recognition of this new phenomenal issue, to have concrete political choices, to accompany the integration policies, avoid to leave the people on the street, we are very worried about the choices of choosing among good migrants and not goof migrants. “
- **Mr. Lujubisa**: “In Greece it is important to treat this issue from humanitarian level, introducing significant term of democracy which is very slow, which EU states failed to react towards, why this is happening is a mystery to me, however I think there is a lack of political will to change this which lead to more xenophobic actions and political extremist groups which will have influences on the people. People are coming and will come and there is nothing that will stop them, there will be no wall that will keep them from coming.
I hate hearing in the media about “tsaumani”, because it feeds the Xenophobia. We need quick response and concrete actions and strategies, and then we can talk about integration.”
- Third Panel: Parallel Workshop Groups:

  ➢ **Group1: How to counter Xenophobia and Facilitate Integration:**

  **Moderator: Ms. Teclaire Ngo Tam**, Education, Sudwind, Austria

  Ms. Teclaire introduced the discussion process, the group was asked to discuss and debate on “What is my definition of xenophobia? What do you think is integration?”

  **Ms. Tea Vidovic**-Centre for Peace Studies, Crotaia:

  They are working directly with refugees and become independent. It is her first input. She is happy to learn from the audience. The Centre was built up for the anti-war campaign. Until the years they managed different focuses. Her focus is xenophobia and refugee integration. They work with lawyers, social workers, representatives of local communities...providing legal aid is second issue, third is advocacy with politician officials. They organize different kinds of trainings and workshops and organize field visits. There is a safe area and atmosphere to create own initiatives. They established the first migrant organization in Croatia. They encourage people to act within social cooperatives “tastes of home” and to present their own culture with food, it is a public campaign for awareness rising. Many refugees are working as translators. The Centre is very active in civic education. They created some handbooks as well as children books - “The story of the people”. It’s for children and adults. Besides that, they try to exchange about the legal system.

  Xenophobia: Croatia face experiences of xenophobia and racism. This time is different. People come with different backgrounds. It is evident to stand with the refugees, where the fear is around us. They try to find more soft approaches. Regarding integration: Croatian institutions are mostly focused on assimilation. It is a process where both have to learn from each other. Refugees can bring something in the society and can develop it.

  **Ms. Tara Polze Ngwato**-Research Director, Solidarity Peace Trust, South Africa:

  Tara is from South Africa. She is a Research Director of STP; she has been living for 14 years in South Africa. She focuses on migrant integration and xenophobic violence. People speak at a normative level which is emotional and other people speak at a formal level. She added that there is the political/strategically level: What generates real changes? It is evident to distinguish between attitude and action. Secondly, what can we do with incentives? Xenophobic attitudes are never about the objective. It is a reflection about us. We have to prepare the ground for engagement. Attitude is not linked to the term of action. There is a fair amount of xenophobic discrimination and violence in South Africa. The violence is not grounded on spontaneous actions. We have to think about the attitude. There are different causes. We are very strategic about that.

  **Ms. Ruxandra Sorina Tanse**-Peace Action Training and Reasearch Institute Of Romania, Romania:
They are working on peace building, education and early warning systems. She introduced her speech with a question: “What do you know about Romania, Xenophobia and Integration?” Many people don’t recognize Roma as a part of society. What about recent reactions? They work as a peace institute, trained in civilian resistance. Personally history is: Doing sports, culture together. Visa question: from Romania to Italy...borders, national borders and mental borders are structures. Ms. Ruxandra mentioned development and peace education at schools as an asset. Discussions with young people and values what can be done are evident. People are invited to take a role. They are working on a delivery basis and try to lobby (to do it in the curricula). Being in the public space is another thing they are doing. They organized “Solidarity days” in Romania. People have a desire to engage after this awareness raising: “Infrastructures for Peace in Romania”. What is inspiring people? Is hearing stories of success and change is possible.

- Group 2: How to maintain Diapora Development Inputs in Times of Crisis:

**Moderator: Mr. Youssouf Diakité**, Founder & President of Vas Osterreich, Austria

**Ms. Alice Eshuchi**- Country Director, Heshima, Kenya

**Ms. Manthitan Sissoko & Mr. Karim Saafi**- African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe

**Ms. Louise Deininger**-Kenyans in Diaspora Austria

**Ms. Miriam Ekiudoko**- Ebony African Cultural, Arts & Human Rights Organization, Hungary

**Mr. Youssouf** agreed the people who attended the workshop, and explained why the workshop changed to panel discussion. “We have today very youthful speakers in this panel, this morning we spoke about the migration crisis, and now we need to concretely figure out and come up with solution recommendations from Africa and Europe.

We start with Ms. Massita, the French representative, she has started her own label of clothing project and she encourages other youth to follow their ambition.

Then Ms. Luisa, from Kenya the president of Kenyans Diaspora Organization, she focuses on African development through the Kenyan development, she is also an artist in Austria.

**Mr. Karim Saafi**, he has a Master in management, he is a member founder and board member of ADYNE.

**Ms. Alice**, from Kenya, the national director Eschema Kenya (which means respect, honor and dignity), human rights, children and women’s rights advocate, Alice will speak on the situation in Africa and how the government can help to face the situation.

The last person is Ms. Mariam, she works on human rights focus, she is from Ethiopia, and she will speak on how to influence the politics for concrete results”

**Ms. Manthitan Sissoko**: African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe:
The refugees have been perceived as criminals, but we tend to forget that they are human beings, skilled, educated, the diaspora should highlight and contribute positively in this topic, through awareness actions.

There is an organization “SinGa” which facilitate the space and discussion between the refugees and the civil society and the hosting organizations through: cultural activities, linguistic activities, exchange activities, educational classes, partnership opportunities, so this is a real and concrete level of integration and awareness.

The diaspora towards Africa: double culture, as African French person I have witnessed the both worlds, so there is very important impacts that people like me can bring to Africa as much as to Europe. Double culture helps us to get beneficial impacts on both worlds.

Diaspora needs to adopt and encourage initiatives like entrepreneurship development which is a way of confront social and economic issues which is basically will influence the political level.

In Africa there has been an initiative for African diaspora to establish a social project, and there is one African diaspora who launched a solar project. The diaspora can be a very important and vital for the contribution of the development.”

Mr. Youssouf: “thank you for these concrete suggestions and examples, now the floor is for Ms. Luisa”

Ms. Louise Deininger-Kenyans in Diaspora Austria

Ms. Luisa: “Distinguished guests, thank you for the opportunity to share with you. Before I start I would like to thank the efforts of the African diaspora in different levels to achieve development. A set of group of Africans launched a forum of capacity building for Africans which has an impact on long and short term perspective with the interest of the diaspora, the admission of immigrants in the education, job search through the involvement of government and non-government institutions, the ministries, control of recruitment, fair migration policies, and control of illegal of migration, we have seen the migration laws, reforms the need to create and manage the migrants workers.

Integrate the diaspora on the national priorities, mainly by relying local policies of peace. address the roots causes of violence, ex: in 2007, in Kenya people have died, after that an initiative was created called “Yes we can”, they have continued to help and encourage the group and contribute to find solution for young people that face issues in this region.

It is important to enforce human rights and justice through establishing short term approach: saving human’s life, we as Kenyans in Africa we contribute in the remittances and investments to contribute to the development of the country.”

Mr. Youssouf: before going ahead, let’s ask Ms. Luisa, what are the concrete strategies to host our sisters and brothers who come to Austria?
**Ms. Luisa:** Austria would need to mobilize people by providing the short term humanitarian aid.

**Mr. Youssouf:** Do you think that Austrian organizations could cooperate together to come with concrete projects?

**Ms. Luisa:** I would advise to partner with existing organizations and come up with results.

**Mr. Youssouf:** Thank you, the floor is yours Mr. Karim.

**Mr. Karim Saafi** - African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe:

**Mr. Karim:** “how can we contribute and oppose to these challenges and issues, let’s all admit to we are dependent, the problem is not only through the media, but also the institutions that spread the Xenophobia spirit and I’m here talking through my organization perspective.

Progression, about 7 years ago group of young people wanted to cooperate their efforts to contribute to the diaspora, and it was the renaissance of ADYNE, the focus is to make change.

We have faced racism situations, the whole point is that the main focus is not only one small of the issue but the whole of it, and to face that we work on education, entrepreneurship, youth development and lobbying for the youth voice among government institutions.”

**Mr. Youssouf:** “Thank you, now, our next guest Ms. Alice”

**Ms. Alice:** “where Kenya comes from and where it is now? The whole African neighbor countries of Kenya have been facing wars situations, the Uganda for example, had a war and Kenya received them with no issue, they opened their home to Uganda, Sudan had war for long time, Sudanese people came to Kenya and called it home, and Somalia also still Kenya opened its door.

I’m looking at the leaders who play an important role in countries stabilities, why Kenyan government is putting us as Kenyans in problem by hosting Somalis also, but the Kenya government is looking forward to ensure stablilty in Somalia, because everyone is influenced by the situation, Kenya as a neighbor country will be influenced if these countries are still in wars, that’s why it is important to help by ensuring peace and receiving people when it is needed, and this is a success story for Europe to learn from.

**Education:** Can educated Migrants in the diaspora contribute to the development of their countries wherever they are, someway somehow this will help the roots of development in Africa.
The Kenya government doesn’t look at the migrants as only humanitarian cause only but also how they can contribute and foster the development.”

**Mr. Youssouf:** “thank you for these fruitful thoughts and now Ms. Mariam”.

**Ms. Miriam Ekiudoko**- Ebony African Cultural, Arts & Human Rights Organization, Hungary:

**Ms. Mariam:** “thank you, happy to hear the different initiatives discussed in this table, we need to look how these good initiatives can joined on one voices and sustain their work for the development especially in times of crisis, the problem is not the migration it’s just a symptom of the real problem, which we don’t want to talk about, but rather I want to speak about the African diaspora over Europe that can contribute and have capacities to help, today we are 7 million African diaspora in Europe, and I’m not talking about only the new generation, but also parents, and also those who like to be considered as Europeans, we need to reach to them all, this way we can influence the policies as a global African voice, this is very important to realize how strong we are here today, and how much we can contribute and help.

It is very important for the Diaspora to cooperate their efforts within the African communities and work closely for effective goals and objectives to achieve concrete results, and this is a big task for us to help our brothers and sisters, and save our identities for people like me who don’t have real connections back home.”

➢ **Workshops recommendations:**

**Group1:**

Recommendations represented by Ms. Teclair:

- Education and training help to counter xenophobia violence and attitudes.
- Integration as a way to help people have a better narratives towards the others and promote their intergration.
- Political intervention in order to confront the racism and xenophobia attitudes and violence.
- Networking exchanging.

**Group2:**

Recommendations represented by Mr. Youssouf Simbo Diakité:
Very fruitful discussion between the public and the guest speakers led to the following recommendations on how to maintain Diaspora Development input in times of crisis:

1- **Diaspora perspective in Europe and Africa:**
   - Diaspora needs to adopt and encourage initiatives like entrepreneurship development which is a way of confronting social and economic issues which will basically influence the political issues.
   - Working on the education, entrepreneurship, youth development and lobbying for the youth voices among government institutions in Africa and Europe.
   - Look how these good initiatives can be joined on a common voice and sustain their work for the development especially in times of crisis, the migration is not the problem.
   - It is very important for the Diaspora to cooperate their efforts within the African communities and work closely for effective goals and objectives to achieve concrete results.
   - The diaspora have a great potential to bring it to the global market, from Europe to Africa to the global, work on the link between African diaspora to Africa, so to identify their identities, the narratives should be transported out of the world which is more than what media shows, the positive stories of Africa.
   - Enhance youth development University activities through Europe and Africa.

2- **Government contribution:**
   - The governments from Africa and Europe are called to collaborate to enhance the capacity building for Africans which has an impact on long and short term perspective with the interest of the diaspora, the admission of immigrants in the education, job search through the involvement of government and non-government institutions, the ministries, and establishing fair migration policies.
   - Work closely with government through banking sector.
   - Build the political knowledge of our African youth and their capacity-building.
   - Generate more reliable data: through mapping demographic and socioeconomic data by providing precious insight into the profiles of diaspora members, and help constructing indicators, which will help to come up with policies related to aspects that range from labor.

3- **CSO/NGO role:**
   - Facilitate the space and discussion between the refugees and the civil society and the hosting organization through: cultural activities, linguistic activities, exchange activities, educational classes, partnership opportunities, so this is a real and concrete level of awareness.
   - Sharing opportunities.
   - Gathering refugees and migrants to discuss best ways for working closely for better contribution in their host/home countries.
4- The media:

- Design effective communication channels to enhance the positive narratives on African Diaspora and confront the stereotypes.

5- Good practices:

- Kenya and Ethiopian governments showed help to the neighbor countries (Uganda, Sudan and Somalia when in conflict times) that faced war situations by hosting and helping them to achieve their stabilities, because their instability could have affect Kenya and Ethiopia.

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- Fourth Panel: Way Forward on Supporting Migration and Development:

**Moderator:** Ms. Malin Frankenhaeuser, Programme Manager, ICMPD, Austria

Ms. Malin thanked the public and represented the speaker panelists.

**Mr. Robet Zeiner** - Director Programmes and Projects International, Austrian Development Agency:

**Mr. Robert Zeiner**: he works for the Austria Development Agency on the section of cooperation and development within they organize different programmes and projects, he highlighted that migration is related to development and vice-versa and for that there is a need for coherent responses. He then underlined one of the project developed by the ADA from 2016-2018 which is focus area is ensuring peace, human security, human rights and migration topic,

He added that the work of ADA contributes to reach the roots of the issues including: poverty, lacking opportunities, health issues... 30 projects have been developed (12 million euros) which are related to migration issues through: providing humanitarian needs, supporting different countries receiving the refugees (Austria gave 15 million euros for Iraq that receives the Syrian refugees), also Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Syria, and also supporting displaced people in Ukraine. He mentioned that ADA helps to reduce the number of refugees through the renewal systems of cooperation, peace approaches and correspondence mechanisms in Africa. We are contributing to the local market by supporting the private sector.

He mentioned that there is a need of coherent response to the migration crisis. Mr. Robert shared with the public that ADA launched a draft of 3-years program 2016-2018, which includes ‘ensuring peace’ and migration management as a priority topic, ADA is providing humanitarian aid in Iraq, Syria, etc. They also contribute in the field of early warning systems (EGAT that aims to contribute to peace and security). ADA contributes to IUCN in Kenya and Uganda. They enhance local markets and support of local capacities of the citizens.
Ms Malin-“thank you for your insights, now the floor is yours Mr. Washington”

Mr. Washington Oloo- Director of Diaspora Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kenya

Mr. Washington Oloo talked about the fact that the Diaspora plays an important role, and that was a demand from the Kenyans to establish a department for the Diaspora inside the Ministry. One of our Kenyan pillars is the Diaspora for our national development, it is important to mainstream the Kenyan Diaspora, there are 3 million of Kenyans in the Diaspora, it is not possible to abandon them, as they can play important role in the development of Kenya.

Mr. Washington then questioned “How can government work with the diaspora when it comes to development? The government needs to invest in the diaspora and open the dialogue between the two parts, the lobbying is necessary, create link between host and home countries, you have the best of the tools to establish that link, the call center can be the best to means for these kind of initiatives. In the SDGs we have the goal number 8 how to reduce remittances, how can we do that? The African governments need to study the possible opportunities to invest in Diaspora.”

Mr. John Kellock-European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights:

Mr. John works on fundamental rights and policies for European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, which is an independent body created by the European Union to advise on human rights issues and integration, he explained that the work of the agency on migration is divided in two areas: one area on what happened in the borders (asylum procedures, facilitation to get into the EU, and ensure the respect of human rights standards), the second area is social cohesion (work on racism, migrants minorities experiences within the EU, employment, education, housing, reactions towards the police...).

He emphasized that with the EUAFR they are trying to work more on integration processes, in the past they worked with local authorities on different integration systems to reach the best practices (what works and what doesn’t work for other countries to learn from), and also they work on the EU keys priorities around inclusive goals where everyone including the minorities and migrants participate in the EU.

He highlighted that racism and xenophobia emphasized on the necessity to respect human right by illustrating image of the current migration crisis and the lack of correspondence of the European institutions. Mr. John discussed the situation in the borders and the different approaches to handle this level; he added “we are trying to work on integration models with different member states to see what works and what doesn’t work”.

Ms. Yvonne Dialoo-Sahli- Programme Officier, Swiss Agency for Development and Coopeartion:

Ms. Yvonne shared: “I’m happy to see different actors representing different organizations, best opportunity to share and discuss, the word opportunities, we believe that migration is a very positive point for development and it is an opportunity, we have to
mandate to tackle the migration but also feeding it by concrete experiences by ensuring the recognition of Diaspora in different sectors, few example: we work on decent jobs in the Middle East, the gulf countries are receiving migrants from Africa and Asia, so we are working to ensure that the work conditions are good and respected. We consider all aspects of migration. Our Diaspora approach, we highlight the work on the home countries level, by making the linking between the different African countries, we have seen the example of Turkey, same the example within the African level where they move around African countries, it is important to see their contribution on that the level.”

Ms. Stine Hyldekjaer- Cooperation Officer, International Ais, European Commission, DEVCO:

Ms. Stine Hyldekjaer spoke about Jordan where she lived for a while where Syrians are been hosted and added: ”We have to link between migration and development and to move from talking to taking actions; we have a program of mobility not only in Europe but in Africa as well. We work with the African Union; we have one Rabat program and the Khartoum program. The EU is the biggest donor, we spent more than 1 billion on these projects in Africa, for example we helped in establishing this platform ADEPT, we need to have a common voice to make a change. There will be another conference in Malta in November about roots causes of migration in Africa and I hope you will take part of it to voice your voices.”

Mr. Gibril Faal- Interim Director, ADEPT:

Mr. Gibril hightlighted briefly about some elements mentioned by the other speakers like Mr. Washington who spoke about the role of Diaspora and their role of working with their home countries, and that the platform ADEPT is playing that role and representative of finding African Diaspora experts and bringing their knowledge into the African level. He spoke about the conference in Malta in May, and added “If we don’t speak our rights as Diaspora, anti-Diaspora groups will go and speak on our behalf and come up with agendas that will not go with our benefits already.”

Feedback from the speakers:

Ms. Malin added that whether there the migration is considered as crisis or not, the migration is receiving a high level of attention at the current period.

Ms. Milan asked Mr. Washington: “What is the role of Kenya in the SDGs level?”

Mr. Washington: He emphasized on the necessity of showing concrete commitment to achieve the SGDs and including the Diaspora voices into the development debate.

Mr. Robert highlighted the necessity to increase the opportunities; including opportunities for migrants and open the doors for new market doors which will harness the economic development of the Diaspora and Europe.

Ms. Milan asked the speakers to share their thoughts concerning the engagement of the Diaspora?
Ms. Yvonne: believes in the capacities of the diaspora and to focus on the long term process among the Diaspora. None of the global goals are highlighting the migration, but it is related to different part of the different goals. “What do we mean by the long term? Narratives are very important, let’s tell our stories our way!”

Ms. Milan asked if anyone wants to add something.

Ms. Stine: “We should not limit Diaspora as economic tool but also cultural and social tool, we need to keep working with countries of origin, and enhance the place of the Diaspora in these countries, and work on remittances and not be limited to the remittances, this platform is very important to voice one voice.”

Mr. Washington added: “We have to lobby for what we want to achieve, let us participate, let’s us contribute.”

Mr. Robert said: “we need to work on common goals, implement the global partnership, find indicators, and match important goals”

Mr. Gibril represented the following elements on migration and development:

- Reaffirm our conviction that there is a positive nexus between migration and socioeconomic development for migrants as well as host, transit, and origin countries…. Our strategic and positive approach to migration and development shall continue irrespective of the occurrence of refugee and migration...
- Condemn the media and public vilification of refugees and migration and the criminalization of irregular through legislation actions....
- Condemn discrimination against migrants and refugees based on religion and ethnicity....

Question and comments from the public:

- Mr. Karim from ADYNE thanked Ms. Stine for the Rabat program updates and he hopes that ADYNE will be part of it, he added the necessity of including Diaspora platforms like ADEPT into the EU-Africa joint strategic programmes in order to bring the Diaspora voice to front line.
- Mr. Alexis: “I want to be sure if I have understood, if I’m good informed if there will be a concrete reform. Please be an ambassador for African organizations to access to other funds to grow”. Mr. Robert answered: “We are working on establishing instruments to facilitate the process.”
- Ms. Beatrice: suggests having that these kinds of events organized in African level, in African countries would have an important impact.
Annex:

List of speakers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Fanizadeh</td>
<td>Coordinator, VIDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Alexis Neuberg</td>
<td>Director, Radio Afrika TV &amp; Advisory Council Member of ADEPT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Philip Jusu</td>
<td>Migration Policy Officer, African Union Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Anny Knapp</td>
<td>Chairwoman, Asylkoordination Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Giibril Faal</td>
<td>Interim Director, ADEPT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Piril Erçoban</td>
<td>Association for Solidarity with Refugees (Mülteci-Der), Turkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Alice Eshuchi</td>
<td>Country Director, Heshima, Kenya</td>
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<td>Ms Manthitan Sissoko &amp; Mr</td>
<td>Karim Saafi – African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (ADYNE)</td>
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<td>Ms Louise Deininger</td>
<td>Kenyans in Diaspora Austria (KIDA), Austria</td>
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<td>Ms Miriam Ekiudoko</td>
<td>Ebony African Cultural, Arts &amp; Human Rights Organisation, Hungary</td>
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<td>Ms Yvonne Diallo-Sahli</td>
<td>Programme Officer, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</td>
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<td>Ms Stine Hyldekkjaer</td>
<td>Cooperation Officer, International Aid, European Commission, DEVCO</td>
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<td>Mr Salah Ammo</td>
<td>Syrian Musician, (Based in Austria)</td>
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<td>Mr Marcus Okoh</td>
<td>Nigerian Pastor (Based in Austria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Manuela De Marco</td>
<td>Chair, Caritas, Italiana, Italy</td>
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<td>Mr Ljubisa Vrencev</td>
<td>Thessaloniki Municipality Migrants’ Integration Council, Greece</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Tea Vidović</td>
<td>Centre for Peace Studies, Croatia</td>
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<td>Ms Tara Polzer Ngwato</td>
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<td>Ms Ruxandra Sorina Tanase</td>
<td>Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania, Romania</td>
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<td>Director of Diaspora Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr John Kellock</td>
<td>European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights</td>
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Forum Program Agenda:

**Migration and Development in Times of Crisis:**

**Common Obligations and Collective Action**

#DiasporaDev_DDF #Migration

**MORNING SESSIONS**

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<td>09.00 – 09.30:</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Opening of Dialogue</td>
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<td><strong>09.30 – 11.00:</strong></td>
<td>Context Setting – Chaired by Dr Ilker Ataç, University of Osnabruck, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Anny Knapp</td>
<td>Chairwoman, Asylkoordination Austria</td>
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What are the global commitments and obligations on migration and development?

What are the types of migration crises in host countries that jeopardise development actions?

What is the situation with the Syrian refugees in Turkey?

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<tr>
<td>11.00 – 11.30:</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30 – 13.00:</td>
<td>Panel Discussion and Q &amp; A – Chaired by Mr Michael Fanizadeh, VIDC, Austria</td>
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What are the challenges faced by different stakeholders in times of migration crises?

Mr Salah Ammo – Syrian Musician, (Based in Austria)
Mr Marcus Okoh – Nigerian Pastor (Based in Austria)
Ms Manuela De Marco – Caritas, Italiana, Italy
### Opening Session of DDD 2, Malta, 28 May 2015
- L to R: Gibril Faal (ADEPT), Martine Cassar (IOM Malta), Minister Abdramane Sylla (Mali), Khady Sakho (FORIM/ADEPT), Minister George Vella (Malta), Ambassador Hanna Simon (Eritrea)

### AFTERNOON SESSIONS

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<td>14.00 – 15.30</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Ms Teclaire Ngo Tam, Education Officer, Südwind, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.30 – 16.00</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
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<td>Feedback from the discussion groups</td>
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<td>16.30 – 17.30</td>
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<td><strong>Way Forward on Supporting Migration and Development</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Ms Malin Frankenhaeuser, Programme Manager, ICMPD, Austria</td>
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<td><strong>Mr Gibril Faal</strong> – Interim Director, ADEPT</td>
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<td>17.30 – 18.00</td>
<td>Launch of ADEPT Website</td>
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<td>Formal close of the Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD)</td>
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<td>18.00 – 19.00</td>
<td>GENERAL NETWORKING &amp; DRINKS</td>
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**Mr Arthur Yenga** – General Rapporteur, Trivision Impact & ADEPT Board Member, Belgium
SUMMARY OF THE SECOND DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT FORUM (DDF 2)  
(Valletta, Malta 27-30 May 2015)

- **DDF Partnerships**: The Second Diaspora Development Forum (DDF 2) was held in Valletta on 27-30 May 2015. It was organised with support from a diaspora organisation called Migrant Network for Equality (MNE) and in partnership with Skop Malta.

- **Training**: Two days were dedicated to formal training on ‘Policy Engagement and Advocacy’ and ‘Fundraising and Resource Mobilisation’. The training programme on ‘Policy’ is accredited by the UK’s CPD Certification Service. Half-day was spent on action planning for ongoing engagement with mainstream partners. Twenty-Eight (28) delegates from 5 Southern European countries (Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain) attended the DDF and received certificates.

- **Dialogue**: The policy dialogue with mainstream partners was on the theme: ‘**From Irregularity to Stability: Strategic and Viable Actions to Prevent Irregular and Dysfunctional Migration**’. The Diaspora-Development Dialogue of (DDD) was attended by about 85 people from over 25 different countries, including two ministers (Malta’s Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Malians Abroad). All the Southern European countries (except Cyprus) participated by sending senior government officials. Apart from the minister, a presentation was made by a Director General from Malta’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at least four other officials attended from two other ministries. Italy was represented by an ambassador and the senior adviser on migration and development from Rome. Portugal was represented by the head of the international department at the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Lisbon. Spain was represented by a senior diplomat and Greece was represented by an ambassador who was also a discussant. Algeria and Tunisia were represented by Director Generals. Eritrea was represented by an ambassador. The Gambian government official was withdrawn from participation a day before the event. The delegates included about 14 ambassadors and heads of mission including representatives of the EU, UNHCR, Ghana, Egypt, Turkey and Serbia. The honorary consuls of Gambia and Mali also attended.

- **Networking**: The diaspora delegates have their origins in about 15 countries, including Guinea Bissau, Zimbabwe and Madagascar. Although the ADDOs were mainly small ones, there were delegates representing relatively large diaspora organisations. There was also a good balance of ADDOs, Maltese CSOs and government representatives. The delegates who made presentations included heads of CSOs in Mali and Gambia, both of whom were former deportees from Europe. Delegates also had the chance to interact and exchange experiences with the Maltese ADDOs. Many delegates visited the Marsa Open Centre. Marsa is one of the largest migrant centres in Malta. It is run successfully by an organisation founded and managed by an African diasporan.
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