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Side Event Report

Global Diaspora Summit

Seeing eye to eye – effective and constructive cooperation between diaspora and governments in countries of destination for sustainable development

SUMMARY

Co-organised by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the organisation team of the <u>Diaspora Summit 2022 - Diaspora beyond 2030</u>, the side event gave the audience inspiration on how effective and constructive cooperation between diaspora and governments in countries of destination/residence on development cooperation can look like.

KEY TAKE-AWAY POINTS & ACTIONABLE ITEMS

Disclaimer: This summary was prepared by GIZ on behalf of BMZ. It does not necessarily reflect the views of any particular panellist.

- 1) To equip and improve the involvement and possibilities of diaspora organisations (specifically in fragile contexts), it is important to address their needs. BMZ for instance supports the diaspora through multilevel networking opportunities, and through financial means. To understand the needs of the diaspora, it is important to listen to one another. For instance, BMZ has supported the initiative of the German Diaspora Summit 2022 Diaspora beyond 2030, organized by the diaspora itself. BMZ considers the resulting position paper as a good step to improve government-diaspora cooperation in Germany. The position paper contains seven political demands to the German government concerning this cooperation. The demands relate to representation, participation, financial support, bureaucratic and organisational hurdles, formats for consultations and studies.
- 2) An ideal eye-to-eye cooperation between the diaspora and governments would consist of governmental support in the coordination of fragmented diaspora organisations. Even though civil society umbrella organisations play an important role, some of them are perceived very exclusive. Ideally, diaspora organisations would be appreciated through eye-to-eye levelled working partnerships. This would mean including diaspora organisations in the planning and mapping of their participation possibilities. Moreover, it would mean to receive the opportunity to be heard and considered at an organisational, as well as a structural level for example through financial funding to complement the mostly voluntary engagement of the diaspora.
- 3) The future of government-diaspora alliance should consist of **shaping development goals together.** Moreover, a closer cooperation needs to be based on lessons learned and form a part of the German government's activities and policies regarding migration issues. German

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development cooperation works closely together with the diaspora e.g. through the Programme Migration & Diaspora or WIDU.africa. Lastly, the alliance should show the continuation of the constructive dialogue, that has developed so far, through the joint consideration of future programs and the joint impulse to make financing for structural developments within the German diaspora setting possible.

4) It is important to **provide tailor-made offers** to specific groups within the diaspora to engage in sustainable development. In Germany, for instance, there is a growing number of new organisations called "Neue Deutsche Organisationen", with members of second, third, or fourth generation. They have a different perspective on and approach to development cooperation than traditional diaspora organisations. Their social and cultural capital is different, since they mostly grew up in Germany and therefore they have other perspectives, opportunities and resources than first-generation diaspora.

PARTICIPATION

appr. 40 participants from Governments, diaspora, and academia

NEXT STEPS

- Continue conversation between BMZ and diaspora summit organization team on position paper to improve diaspora-government cooperation in Germany
- Explore possibilities to extend cooperation between German Development Cooperation and the diaspora, for instance on joint actions, joint programming and impulses to make financing for structural developments within the diaspora setting possible

SCREENSHOTS

n/a