



Side Event for the Second Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa:

## **Developing, Reviewing, and Implementing Diaspora Engagement Policies – How Can Civil Society and Diaspora Organisations Shape those Policies?**

**Thursday 3 October 2024, 13:00 – 14.30 (EAT), 12:00 – 13:30 (CET), 11:00-12:30 (WAT)**  
online

Registration:

[Join Us at the RMRF Side Event “Diaspora Engagement: Shaping Policies Together”! - GIZ \(diaspora2030.de\)](https://diaspora2030.de)

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French

### **Concept Note and Agenda**

#### **I. Background**

The upcoming side event on diaspora engagement policies and the role of civil society and diaspora organizations takes place within the framework of the Second Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa. Recent trends in Africa emphasize the growing formalization of diaspora engagement policies, supported by frameworks such as Agenda 2063 and GCM objective 19 promoting diaspora contributions to sustainable development. African governments are at different stages of developing, reviewing or implementing their diaspora engagement strategies. The event will explore how diaspora and civil society can collaborate with governments to shape effective migration governance related to diaspora engagement. This is in line with GCM’s whole-of-society approach, which promotes the active participation of diverse stakeholders.

#### **II. Description and Objectives**

We will explore Diaspora Engagement Policies and the crucial role of local civil society and the diaspora in shaping these policies. This virtual event brings together diverse perspectives from Ghana, Cameroon, and Ethiopia and their diaspora communities, featuring insights from government partners, civil society organisations, researchers, and international organisations. It allows for insights into the different phases of Diaspora Engagement Policies – development, review and implementation – and the specific role CSOs and diaspora organizations can play in each of these.

The objectives of this event are to:

- Share best practices on developing, reviewing and implementing diaspora engagement policies in Africa
- Highlight entry points and different roles civil society and diaspora organisations can play in the diaspora policy process
- Distil key opportunities and challenges on diaspora organisation and government collaboration, as well as other CSO actors.

### III. Agenda

90 minutes

Interpretation: English, French

<b>13:00–13:15</b>	<b>Introductory Remarks</b>	Marianne Haase, <i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ</i>
<b>13.15-13.25</b>	<b>Setting the Scene: RMRF &amp; CSO engagement</b>	Monami Maulik <i>Civil Society Liaison Officer, United Nations Network on Migration Secretariat</i>
<b>13:25-14:00</b>	<b>Learning from the Continent - Panel</b>	Nora Marketos, <i>Moderator</i>
	<b>Africa:</b> Trends in Diaspora Engagement Policies and Involvement of CSOs in Africa	Angela Naa Afoley Odai, <i>Citizens &amp; Diaspora Directorate, AU</i>
	<b>Ghana:</b> Implementing the Diaspora Engagement Plan	Einstein Ntim, <i>Diaspora Affairs, Office of the President, Government of Ghana</i>
	<b>Ethiopia:</b> Reviewing the Diaspora Engagement Policy	Tibebu Tafesse, <i>Ethiopian Diaspora Service, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Ethiopia</i>
	<b>Cameroon:</b> Developing a Diaspora Engagement Policy	Jean-Yves Medang, <i>IOM Cameroon</i>
<b>14:00-14:20</b>	<b>Dialogue Across Sectors:</b> CSOs and Diaspora Engage with Policymakers and Policy Advisors	<i>Civil Society and Diaspora Organisations from Ghana, Ethiopia and Cameroon</i>
<b>14:20-14:30</b>	<b>Wrap-up &amp; closing remarks</b>	Paddy Siyanga Knudsen <i>Independent Expert</i>

#### IV. Speakers

**Marianne HAASE, Head of Component MEG, GIZ** (introductory remarks): Marianne Haase leads a component at the Programme “Shaping Development-Oriented Migration” at GIZ in Germany. Before that, she has worked as an advisor for German government institutions and for several academic institutions on labor migration and development and diaspora engagement.

**Monami MAULIK, Civil Society Liaison Officer, United Nations Network on Migration Secretariat** (setting the scene): Monami Maulik coordinates the meaningful engagement of civil society and stakeholders globally with the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration (GCM). She founded a migrant workers organization in the U.S. and has worked on migrant workers, gender and racial equality advocacy.

**Angela Naa Afoley Odai, Head, Diaspora Affairs, African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate, CIDO** (input): Angela Naa Afoley Odai is a seasoned migration expert with over 10 years of experience advising stakeholders and building strategic relationships. With a proven track-record of addressing national and international audiences on complex migration issues, Angela brings to the table nuanced perspectives that add depth to the discussion.

**Einstein NTIM, Diaspora Affairs, Office of the President, Republic of Ghana** (panel): Einstein Ntim leads the Innovation, Engagement, and Communications arm at the Diaspora Affairs, Office of the President, of the Republic of Ghana. He also chairs the Global Startup Ecosystem (GSE), which educates startups, governments, and corporations on innovation and tech enablement.

**Tibebu TAFESSE, Minister Counselor II, Research Coordinator, Ethiopian Diaspora Services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Ethiopia** (panel) *TBC*. Tibebu Tafesse is the research coordinator for the Ethiopian Diaspora Engagement Policy review team, composed of university researchers, researchers, and policy designers from the Ethiopian Federal Ministry bureaus.

**Jean Yves MEDANG, IOM Cameroon** (panel): Jean Yves Medang is the National Program Officer for the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) initiative at IOM Cameroon. Before holding this position, he worked with Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD) and KMPG.

**Paddy Siyanga Knudsen, Independent Consultant** (final remarks): A development economist by training, Paddy Siyanga Knudsen has worked for IOM China and sits on the Diaspora Advisory Board of the GIZ MEG Programme. She advises a wide range of clients in the areas of migration and development, decentralisation and public policy.

**Nora MARKETOS, WINS Global Consult** (moderator): Nora Marketos is a strategic advisor, with extensive experience in multi-stakeholder partnership development and global migration dialogue processes. She has worked for the UN Secretariat, supporting the first High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development at the General Assembly in 2013, for the Swiss Foreign Affairs Ministry, working on international migration policy as well as for UNHCR Syria.