

# Participant Profile

## E-Learning Programme on Migration and Development

### May 4-29, 2015



**African  
Diaspora**  
POLICY CENTRE



## Acknowledgements

This project report was written by Camilla Jensen, ADPC's SEDIMA Project Associate in 2015 under the leadership of Connie Formson-Lorist, ADPC Programme Coordinator. The objective of this profile is to showcase the dynamic participants, who took part in the inaugural E-Learning Programme on Migration and Development.

Naturally this booklet is only possible because of the 15 active individuals who took time to participate in the online course next to their daily work. Your enthusiastic and dynamic contributions were invaluable in making the E-learning Programme on Migration and Development the success it was - Thank You!

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**Design:** Camilla Jensen



## E-learning programme on Migration and Development

The E-learning programme on Migration and Development is intended for **African policy makers** who are responsible for **diaspora engagement, policy development and implementation** in their respective countries. Building on best-practices and the latest insights from **academics, policymakers and practitioners worldwide**, this executive course explores how African migrants can be supported to contribute to the development of their countries of origin – be it via remittances, investments, tourism, technological support, international networks, or otherwise.

This E-Learning programme is one of three activities of the **Strengthening Policymaking Capacity in the Emerging Diaspora Ministries in Africa Programme (SEDIMA)**. The objective of this programme is to improve the skills of diaspora-oriented policymakers in terms of designing **effective policy instruments** to facilitate the integration of **diaspora-driven development** into the **overall national development agenda** in their respective countries.

## ADPC in Brief

The African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) is a leading Diaspora think tank dedicated to mobilizing African Diaspora in Europe for the development of Africa. We conduct evidence-based, policy-related research based on diaspora perspectives, mindsets, experiences and expertise.

ADPC in The Hague has offered training workshops on Migration and Development to policy makers from 25 African countries in Accra, Dakar and Addis since 2010.

The present online programme reaches out to the staff of the newly formed diaspora institutions at the national and regional level. It creates a forum to share recent accomplishments in diaspora policy all over the world and provides tools to translate this knowledge into concrete national and sub-national policy.

Many African countries have created special ministries or departments to deal with diaspora matters with many new civil servants to develop and implement diaspora policies. Staff often changes positions, and new staff members have to make themselves quickly familiar with international developments in the field to take policies further from there. ADPC and The Network University (TNU) have created this online programme to make experience from all over the world accessible and to facilitate policy making at the cutting edge. The E-Learning Programme is the online equivalent of the face-to-face training workshops on Migration and Development that ADPC has organized in Accra (in 2010 and 2011), in Dakar (in 2013), and in Addis (in 2014).

## Selection Process of Participants

The SEDIMA project as a whole mainly seeks to build capacity for government officials working within African ministries dealing with migration issues. In the initial stages of the recruitment process for the E-Learning Programme on Migration and Development, this group was naturally the ideal cluster from which the participants of the online course should come from.

However, as applications started to roll in, we also received applications from African Trainee diplomats, civil society organisations and diasporas outside of Africa. After careful deliberation, we decided to expand the boundary list. We believed that by having participants from both ministries and diaspora organisations, the online course would indeed serve as capacity building for the boundary partners working in ministries. The E-learning Programme could serve as a facilitator of informal discussion on how ministries and the diaspora could best work together. Consequently, the online course would serve as both a forum of knowledge sharing, but also of knowledge creation.

## Participants

This section will briefly introduce the 15 successful participants of the E-Learning Programme on Migration and Development held in May 2015. In alphabetical order these individuals are:

Abdulkadir Mohamed  
Ali Mohamed  
Edward Kadozi  
Ernest Nana Adjei  
Ghislain Koffi Dodji Nyaku  
Joel Obengo  
Joseph Njue  
Lanto Rahajarizafy  
Makmis Dakyen  
Mary Odhiambo  
Olivera Nedic  
Pim de Ridder  
Shimoni Kiwanuka  
Stella Obita  
Thomas Essel

## Abdulkadir Mohamed,

Director of the Office of Diaspora Affairs under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



*"I was so proud during the meeting of Intergovernmental Authority on Development 5th regional consultative process, how everyone was appreciating my inputs"*

Abdulkadir Mohamed

The Office of Diaspora was recently established in Somalia. This E-Learning Programme was the first time the Office received an offer for capacity building. Because they are currently facing problems with the policy- and institutional framework of the Office of Diaspora Affairs, Mr. Mohamed was mostly interested in the formulation of diaspora policies.

*"This really is a good opportunity for me and the rest of my team"*

Abdulkadir Mohamed

## Edward Kadozi,

Rwandan economic Specialist and PhD Researcher from Amsterdam University. Mr. Kadozi

*"Thank you for the very comprehensive and relevant PPT on policy papers. It is equally important for us who are in the field."*

Edward Kadozi

was interested in topics like remittances and development, brain drain and gain, and the economic potentials of migration.

## Ernest Nana Adjei,

Officer in charge for Diaspora engagement at the Ghana High Commission in Canada. For Mr. Adjei, one of the key objectives of

*"ADPC is always a step ahead and it gives me much joy to participate in this online course."*

Ernest Nana Adjei

participating in this course was to gain insights into the strategies of mobilizing the Diaspora for national development.

*"The course is very strategic and timely, considering the current global discussions on Migration and Development."*

Ernest Nana Adjei



### Ghislain Koffi Dodji Nyaku,

Program Coordinator at Collectif des Associations Contre l'Impunité au Togo. Mr. Nyaku expressed interest in the implications of Diaspora engagement in order to enhance democracy and development in countries of origin. Furthermore, he hoped to learn strategies and best practices within the field of migration and development.

*"This was a wonderful experience and I hope to continue sharing"*

Ghislain Koffi Dodji Nyaku

### Joel Obengo,



Is a Kenyan researcher, security commentator, and expert witness and a Development Reporter (Global Peace and Security Issues)-Global South Development Magazine. Furthermore, Mr. Obengo is an administrator in Kenyatta University. Mr.

Obengo is interested in research on the role of economic and political mis-governance in diasporas home countries as a significant cause of the migrant problem in South Africa. For Mr. Obengo the most relevant tool he learned during the course was how to draft Diaspora policies.

*"Am very grateful for this singular opportunity that changed my view on the nexus of diaspora and development. I learnt how diaspora can be agents of peace in their respective countries of origin."* Joel Obengo

### Joseph Njue,



Works within the Kenyan Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services. He is in charge of County Employment Office that is involved in formulating and implementing employment policies, programmes and strategies, and providing employment services. Mr. Njue was mostly interested in the monitoring of labour migration to other countries and procedures of exporting labour.

*Strongly agreed with the statement: "the knowledge I have gained during the E-Learning programme is relevant in my daily work"*





### Lanto Rahajarizafy,

Is the Director of the Diaspora Division, which has recently been created in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Madagascar.

Mrs. Rahajarizafy is very interested in how a country like Madagascar can benefit from its Diaspora to promote social and economic development.

*“It was a very interesting course. Now that all my staff is nominated I would like to know if I can use the course to build their capacity. We all have to learn about this topic.”*

Lanto Rahajarizafy

### Makmis Dakyen,



Lectures undergraduate students at the Plateau State Polytechnic in Nigeria and conducts research on International Relations, Citizenship Education, Political Economy and Conflict Management and Peace Studies.

*“The experience was rewarding and I wish to commend the Africa Diaspora Policy Centre and the Network University for the privilege accorded me and other participants.”* Makmis Dakyen

Mr. Dakyen took part in the online course to get a better understanding of the dynamics of labour migration, particularly factors that stimulate global human trafficking for perceived better prospects in other parts of the world by people from the developing economies.

### Mary Odhiambo,



Is a Senior Employment Officer at the Kenyan Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services. It was important for Mrs. Odhiambo to get insight into the challenges and opportunities of working with the Diaspora.

*“Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the E-learning course”*

Mary Odhiambo



## Mohamed Ali,



*“This is a great course! Thank you ADPC for inviting me this opportunity to learn more about migration and development”*

Ali Mohamed

President of the Swedish Djiboutian Development Agency (SDDA). SDDA promotes peace and development with Horn of Africa organizations in Sweden that have roots in the region. Mr. Mohamed was mostly interested in how African migrants can be supported to contribute to the development of their countries of origin.

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## Olivera Nedic,

Teacher of Geography and Ethnology from Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Mrs. Nedic is interested in knowledge transfer as

she see the Diaspora as one of the greatest ambassadors of intercultural education, international and cosmopolitan approach to knowledge and skills.

*“I truly enjoyed in the course, it was inspiring and rewarding experience.”*

Olivera Nedic

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## Pim de Ridder,



Is currently undertaking an internship at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Ridder was mostly interested in gaining a better insight into the nexus between development and migration.

### Shimoni Kiwanuka,

is a Ugandan - action aid Bangladesh inspirator people 4 change programme, working with human rights based approach for capacity development.



*“It gives me joy and pleasure to be part of this migration and development course, And am optimistic in achieving a lot of knowledge and skills. Shimoni Kiwanuka*

Mr. Kiwanuka was eager to get better insight into the process of formulating migration and development policies.

### Stella Obita,



Is currently a Ugandan state lawyer working on migration affairs.

Mrs. Obita was mostly interested in learning about return migration,

migrant protection and policy making and legislative drafting relating to migration.

*“Thank you so much for the opportunity to participate in the course.” Stella Obita*

### Thomas Essel,

Works at the Research Department and is the focal point of the Bank of Ghana’s External Financial Relations.



Through participation in this course, Mr. Essel would like to gain a better

understanding of the best practice in attracting, maximizing and sustaining remittances and investments from the Diasporas as tools for development.

*“The course has been very enlightening and I appreciate it so much. My perspectives on migration and Development has changed positively and I can now confidently contribute to these issues as Ghana mainstreams these in Policy.” Thomas Essel*