



PRESS RELEASE

4th Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD 4) on:

'Climate change, migration and development: how to enhance the impact of African diaspora organisations?'

Paris, 3 December 2015 – The **Forum of Migrant’s International Solidarity Organisations (FORIM)**, the **Africa - Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT)**, the **African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC)** and the **Association of Young Guineans of France (AJGF)** are coming together to hold a day of reflections and exchanges on the subject of ***'Climate change, migration and development: how to enhance the impact of African diaspora organisations'*** as part of the 'Perspectives and Shared Experiences' seminar series, to be held on Saturday 5th December 2015 at the Forest Hill Hôtel (28 Ter Avenue Corentin Cariou, 75019 Paris).

Bringing together a broad panel of representatives of African diaspora organisations from several European countries, members of official African delegations to the 21st Paris Climate Change Conference (COP 21), representatives of development organisations in France and civil society from Africa, as well as from among FORIM and ADEPT’s institutional partners, this event aims to analyse the issues and challenges raised by climate change in Africa and the position of migration in the Paris COP 21 negotiations; and in particular to raise awareness of the diverse contributions of the African diaspora supporting local people in countries of origin to mitigate the challenges of climate change and adapt to it.

Indeed, climate change directly affects local people in numerous ways, especially in terms of food security. In 2013, 22 million people were displaced due to natural disasters, twice as many as in the 1970s. Although this increase is largely attributable to changing demographics in vulnerable areas, it is evident that environmental hazards such as rising sea levels, salinisation, and the destruction of arable land, as much as natural disasters, have an enormous impact on population displacement.

In this context, the 'Perspectives – Shared Experiences' seminar held midway through the proceedings of Paris Climate Change Conference (COP 21) will enable issues of climate change and population displacement to be considered in depth, highlighting the important contributions of the African diaspora through: local development projects aiming to build resilience among local communities to the impacts of climate change, participating in overall mitigation and adaptation efforts to prevent climate change, as well as supporting people in areas affected by humanitarian crises caused by climate change.

Conclusions and recommendations developed as part of this seminar will serve to enhance the capacity of diaspora development actors, as well as inform national and European policies and programmes to combat climate change.

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