Summary of the project

Leveraging Diaspora Contribution to Local Employment Creation in the Horn of Africa

The African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) in partnership with The Network University (TNU) launched in November 2017, an inception phase for a multi-year project aimed at “leveraging Diaspora contribution to local employment creation in the Horn of Africa”. The main objective of the project is to facilitate the investment of the Diaspora entrepreneurs in the growth and expansion of the agribusiness sector of the economy in the rural areas of the region. The activities of the project will be particularly implemented in the East of Ethiopia, East of Sudan and North Uganda that are largely houses large refugee populations from the neighbouring countries. The duration of the inception phase of the project is from 15 November 2017 to 14 May 2018 (6 months in total). On the basis of the result of the inception period, a multi-year project will be developed that will be implemented in the second phase of the action.

Vibrant agribusiness sector cannot only contribute to increased food security, job creation, increased income generation of rural workers and tangible poverty reduction, but also alleviate the situation of the large refugee population located in these areas. It is also in line with the worldwide efforts of leveraging Diaspora remittances to productive and sustainable development in their countries of origin. In this regard, the project is both timely and innovative as it will contribute to meeting one of new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which is an inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.¹ This is the rationale that justifies to initiate this proposed action which fits well with the current NL/EU migration policy in the Horn of Africa.

The ultimate goal of the project is to realise the setting up of a number of joint-ventures in the agribusiness sector of the economy in these areas in which local, Diaspora and European-based SME’s collaborate and run in partnerships. The ventures are expected to provide a decent living, skills training and employment to local population as well as women and youth residing in the refugee camps in these locations.

NB. This inception phase of the project is supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For more information about the project, see www.diaspora-centre.org.

¹ Diaspora are explicitly mentioned as one of the strategic partners in the 8th SDG which is to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.