



## Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership Newsletter

Issue n° 8 - June 2013

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### MME Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership

Dear MME friends,

I gladly share with you the eighth issue of the Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) Partnership Newsletter.

Migration and Development initiatives are under the spotlight in this special issue. We start off our journey in Bangkok where the 2013 Global Forum on Remittances looked at reducing remittances costs. At the global level, we highlight the launch of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) project. At the local level, we investigate how decentralised cooperation can boost development and both assistance to and integration of migrants. We continue our journey in Washington D.C. to find out how the African Union Diaspora/Flagship/Legacy Projects can be put rolled out.

In addition, as the MME Project Support comes to a close at the end of the year, we reflect on both the achievements of the MME Support Project and challenges it faced along the way. We also (re)discover the potential of diaspora bonds, as well as present you a brief overview of the new European Commission (EC) Staff Working Document on Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration together with the EC Communication on Migration and Development.

I wish you a pleasant reading.

Lukas Gehrke,  
Director

### EVENTS

#### 1. Press Release

*Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 June 2013*

A two-day focus group meeting took place in Brussels on 17 and 18 June to review the second Action Plan of the Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) Partnership and chart proposals for the future strategic policy document. 37 participants attended the meeting, including representatives from the African Union Commission (AUC) and European Commission (EC) and various EU and African states, as well as representatives from regional economic communities (RECs), international organisations, and African civil society organisations.

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#### 2. The 2013 Global Forum on Remittances looks at low-cost remittances

*Bangkok, Thailand, 20-23 May 2013*

This time the Global Forum on Remittances (GFR) took place in Bangkok (Thailand). The forum brought together government, civil society and private sector stakeholders working on maximizing the development impact of migration. At a time of economic instability in most of the

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regions of the world, the relative resilience of remittances as an international flow is a stabilizing force for many nations. The 2013 GFR looked at the supply and intermediation sides of remittances more specifically at the cost of sending money.

[Read more](#)

### 3. Developing knowledge for nomadic times

*Washington D.C., USA, 19 April 2013*

The World Bank launches a new brief on remittance flows in 2012 and the project Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration (KNOMAD). On the 19th of April the World Bank published the 20th issue of its “Migration and Development Brief” on global trends in remittance flows in 2012 and launched the project Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), a platform for knowledge exchange in the field of migration and development. Both of them bear witness to the fact that migration will become in the future even more crucial for development.

[Read more](#)

### 4. The Decentralised Cooperation...a new focus for development?

*Brussels, Belgium, 9-10 April 2013*

A meeting in Brussels gathered actors from all over the world in order to discuss the future of decentralised cooperation. Decentralisation, local governance and local economic development are all parts of the same puzzle, which tries to compose the increasing diversification of the “local” into a common effort towards growth and prosperity. Decentralised cooperation is another piece of it, also in relation to migration and development (M&D) initiatives – this is the message of the “Assises of Decentralised Cooperation” meeting.

[Read more](#)

### 5. Operationalizing the outcomes of the first Global African Diaspora Summit

*Washington D.C., USA, 25-28 March 2013*

The African Union Commission in cooperation with the World Bank organised a Consultation/Workshop on operationalising the Legacy Projects in Washington DC from 25-28 March 2013. The five Flagship or Legacy Projects are the African Diaspora Volunteer Corps, the African Diaspora Skills Database, the African Institute for Remittance, the African Diaspora Investment Fund and the Development Market place for African Diaspora.

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## FEATURES

### 6. Unlocking the potential of diaspora bonds

Diaspora bonds can give African development a push, says a recent economic brief of the African Development Bank. Remittances not only enhance the livelihood of families in developing countries, but can also boost economies, finance micro-credit schemes or infrastructures and contribute to development programmes in countries of origin. Therefore, migrants have a great potential to offer in favour of development. The question is: how can we effectively unlock it?

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## forward in the consolidation of the Africa-EU dialogue



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### Related News

1. [Informal Hearings and High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development](#)
2. EALA passes one-stop border law. [Read more](#)

### Useful links/ publications

1. ACP Observatory: [Spotlight on the Young and Skilled: Exploring the potential contribution of Kenya's diasporas in the South](#)
2. ACP Observatory: [South-South Return Migration - Challenges and Opportunities](#)
3. ACP Observatory: [The remittances framework in Lesotho - Assessment of policies and programmes promoting the multiplier effect](#)
4. ACP Observatory: [Internal Migration in Nigeria - A positive contribution to human development](#)
5. ACP Observatory: [South-South Extraregional Migration: An Overview of Emerging Trends](#)
6. World Bank: [2012 Send Money Africa Report, April 2013](#)

## 7. Environmentally Induced Migration Through the European Union's Lenses

The need for a more comprehensive approach to the challenges posed by the nexus between environmental change and migration is put into the limelight in the recently published European Commission (EC)'s Staff Working Document (SWD) on Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration, and the EC's Communication on Migration and Development.

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## PROJECT SNAPSHOT

### 8. The MME Support Project: a step forward in the consolidation of the Africa-EU dialogue

On 31 December 2013 the MME Support Project will come to an end. It is time to look back on the different challenges faced by the Africa-EU Migration, Mobility, Employment and Higher Education Partnership (MME) Support Project and to focus on its main achievements. Since January 2010, the Support Project has successfully organised 11 meetings, which have gathered around 737 people from Europe and Africa, senior officials from both continents and the RECs, practitioners, experts and representatives from the Civil Society Organisations to discuss migration, mobility, employment and higher education.

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Any information or initiative you want to see published in this newsletter? Do not hesitate to contact our team: [MME@icmpd.org](mailto:MME@icmpd.org)

MME Partnership is part of the Africa-EU Strategy.  
More information on [www.africa-eu-partnership.org](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org)

This newsletter is produced by the EU-funded Support Project to the MME Partnership implemented by:

7. Migration Policy Practice: [Volume III, Number 2, April-May 2013](#)

8. RMMS: [Migrant Smuggling in the Horn of Africa & Yemen: the social economy and protection risks](#)

9. RMMS: [Mixed Migration in Kenya - The scale of movement and associated protection risks](#)

