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The Use and Benefit of Networks and Networking – The Case of CoMiDe

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CoMiDe, the “Initiative for Migration and Development”, was implemented from 2011 to 2014 by VIDC (lead agency), Suedwind (Austria), COSPE (Italy), the Peace Institute (Slovenia) and SDI (Slovakia).

CoMiDe managed to raise awareness about the links of migration and development as well as the importance of engaging migrants in development cooperation.

CoMiDe has encouraged a political debate on Migration & Development with ministries and international inter-governmental organizations (IOM, ICMPD, European Commission, Africa-Europe Platform) as well as with universities and municipalities.
Goals

• Formulation of coherent migration and development policies at national and EU level.
• Public awareness raising about migration and development issues.
• Bridging the gap between Development and Diaspora organizations.
Activities

European Good Practice Examples of Migration and Development Initiatives
with a Particular Focus on Diaspora Engagement

Marlene Keusch
Nadja Schuster
Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (ed.)

Conferences and Networking

Research

Website and Database
Training and Capacity Building

Lobbying

Manifesto and Campaign
Why networking?

- No cooperation between Migrant and Development CSOs (also not with NGOs working in the field of anti-racism/diversity).
- Underrepresentation of Diasporas in professional institutions of development cooperation.
- Also there is an underrepresentation of Diaspora organizations in state- and privately funded development projects.
- In addition, the volunteer work of Diaspora/Migrant CSOs is not recognized and therefore not encouraged.

Know How Transfer and politicization of Development Cooperation
**Recommendations**

• More workshops and training courses for Diaspora and Development organizations.
• More networking and partnership opportunities.
• Recognition of Diaspora organizations as development actors.
• Diaspora organizations and their umbrella associations should be included programmatically at all levels of development cooperation.
• Development NGOs should include diaspora organisations as experts, partners, dialogue and target groups

Create appropriate (co-)funding options and schemes for Diaspora organizations
Thank you for your attention!

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