

# **Michael Fanizadeh**

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

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Cologne

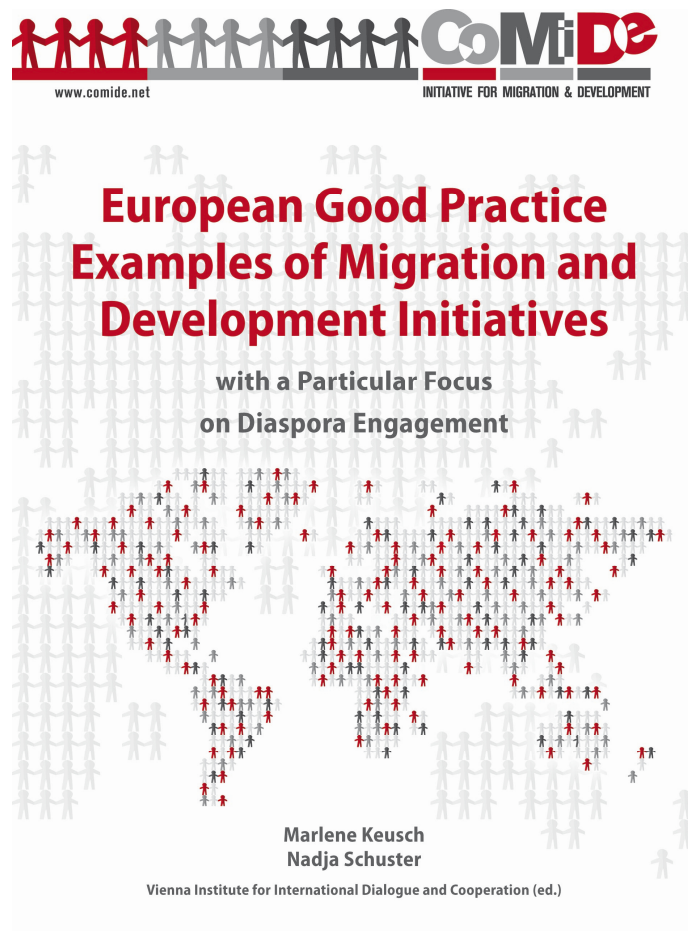
- **CoMiDe, the “Initiative for Migration and Development”, was implemented from 2011 to 2014 by VIDC (lead agency), Suedwind (Austria), COSPE (Italy), the Peace Institute (Slovenia) and SDI (Slovakia).**
- CoMiDe managed to raise awareness about the links of migration and development as well as the 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.**



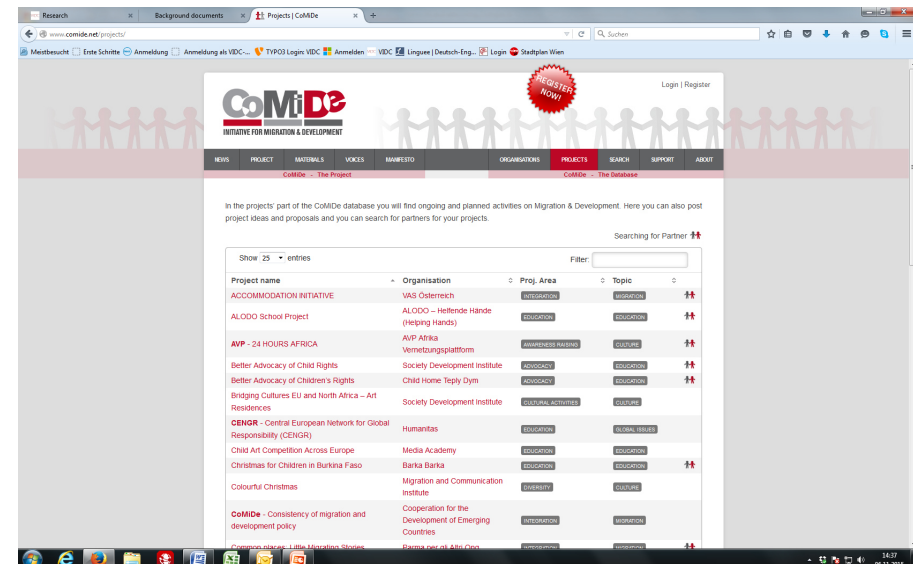
# Activities



## Research



## Conferences and Networking



## 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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