

European Expert Workshop Migration & Development at the Local
Level

How Municipalities, Migrants and Migrants' Organizations can Work Together: *Migration & Development Policies at the Local Level*

Petra Mezzetti

CeSPI

Monday, 9th of November 2015, Cologne



Key Concepts

- The Migration & Development nexus (from 2003 onwards discovered because of growing remittances flows)
- Transnationalism and Diasporas
- The Migration & development 'Pendulum' (Hein de Haas, 2012)
- Local Level/Territorial approach



Background

- Pendulum: between pessimistic and optimistic views (brain drain since 1970s; brain gain since 2000)
- Migrants alone, or migration as self-help from below cannot solve development problems (structural issues, non attractive business environments)
- Ministries for Diasporas abroad established after 2000..(Senegal; Morocco; Ecuador; Philippines...)
- UE GAM (2005) and subsequent GAMM (2011)
- 2006 UN High Level Dialogue
- 2007-2015 Global Forum on Migration and Development (Belgium, Philippines; Greece, Mexico, Switzerland; Sweden; Turkey)



France: since the mid 1980s

- Co-developpement Policies/Programmes (development 'déguisé')
- Local Engagement/Spontaneous (migrant organisations)
- Post 2000: Consultative Processes with all stakeholders involved at different levels
- Establishment of FORIM (2002); Co-development Ambassador; Various ministries involved
- Political/administrative changes – less resources/specific target countries (Senegal, Mali)



Italian context

- Milano – in the mid 1990s with Eritreans (support by the Municipality towards Eritrean returnees)
- 2003/2004 Milano with Africa/Africa in Milano
- 2004 40° anniversary of the Twinning with Dakar (Senegalese org involved)
- 2007-2013 Milano with Co-development
- Absence of a National Policy on Co-development



Milano for Co-development (2007-2013/2014)

- 3 calls for projects 2007-2013/2014
- Almost 4,5 M euro (also because of EXPO 2015)
- 66 projects funded
- Most projects in Africa (Senegal) and in LA (Ecuador). Only 2 in Asia.
- Capacity building/training courses
- Learning by doing partnerships between migrant organisations and NGOs

Results/Impact 1/2

- ▶ In country of residence (Italy and beyond) – impact on migrants' integration process:
 - ▶ Legitimacy (not just at the local level; 2014 revised national law policy on development cooperation)
 - ▶ Visibility
 - ▶ Capacity Building
 - ▶ Migrant organisations have become one important actor both concerning integration policies as well as for development cooperation initiatives
 - ▶ NGOs typically working on development start working on territories of residence
 - ▶ Work undergone with different municipal sectors (Welfare and Culture)
 - ▶ Setting up of Forum of the Worlds' City (Forum della Città Mondo)
 - ▶ Launch of the Center for the Worlds' Cultures



Results/Impact 2/2

- Development
 - Agriculture; awareness concerning migration challenges; responsible tourism;
 - Dispersion of interventions
 - Little linkage with NDPs or sectorial policies
 - Too little direct work with homologue LA in third countries



Lessons learned

- Migration is a dynamic phenomenon
- There is no 'solution fits all'
- Political opportunities are nationally but also locally based
- Concerning countries of residence: Importance of multi-level governance and coherent policies (National and Local level)
- Importance of engaging migrants' organisation and local authorities for sustainability beyond Calls for projects/programmes
- In countries of origin: Importance of working with LA in third countries and also validating policies/building policies through consultative processes with civil society and diaspora



ISSUES AT STAKE

- Resources
- Paradigm change: Emergency/Protection and Development
- Call for countries of origins' responsibility for political and economic reforms
- For what Development?
- What role for LA in this area/domain? What is LAs point of view in advancing the 'local' dimension?



THANK YOU

Petra Mezzetti

Petra.mezzetti@cespi.it