

Connecting Diaspora for Development



Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the global lead agency on migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. With 165 member states and more than 9,000 operational staff, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

The main project of IOM's Migration and Development programme in the Netherlands is Connecting Diaspora for Development (CD4D). CD4D supports development of targeted sectors in selected countries by strengthening the capacity of key institutions through the engagement of their diaspora communities in the Netherlands.

Engaging diaspora with their countries of origin is an important aspect of IOM's work. CD4D enables diaspora professionals to use their knowledge and expertise for the institutional and sectorial reconstruction and development of their country of origin. Through temporary physical and online assignments, professional diaspora members, residing in the Netherlands, are linked to institutions in six target countries: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Sierra Leone and Somalia.

Project principles:

- Demand driven, based on identified needs in the selected countries.
- Knowledge and skills transfer through short assignments in the country of origin and online assignments, based on Terms of Reference provided by the Host Organization.
- Alignment with national development strategies and policies.
- Cooperation with identified key institutions within priority sectors for which a development plan will be made, based on a Theory of Change.
- Strengthening capacities and commitment of key institutions to involve diaspora for development.
- Close cooperation with diaspora communities for long term engagement.
- Establish partnerships between institutions in countries of origin and countries of residence.



Country	Priority Sectors
Afghanistan	Healthcare and Infrastructure (Rural and Urban Development)
Ethiopia	Agriculture/Food Security, Education and Healthcare
Ghana	Agriculture/Food Security, and Healthcare/ICT
Morocco	Innovations, Migration and Public Governance
Sierra Leone	Agriculture/Food Security, Education and Healthcare
Somalia	Agriculture/Food Security and Infrastructure