




# **Diaspora Engagement Self-Assessment Tool Report DESAT II**

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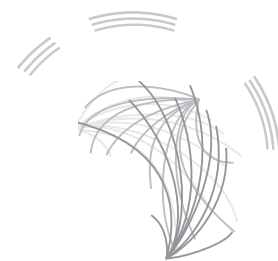
Diaspora Engagement  
Self-Assessment Tool Report  
DESAT II



August 2021

Engaging the Diaspora in the Africa We Want





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# 1 Introduction

Diaspora populations are on the rise all over the world, with the number of international migrants growing at a faster rate than the global population.<sup>1</sup> Africa has one of the largest diaspora communities, and in 2003 its diaspora was encouraged to organize themselves in regional networks and establish appropriate mechanisms that will enable their increasing participation in the affairs of the African Union as observers and eventually, in the future, as a sixth region of the continent that would contribute substantially to the implementation of policies and programmes (Declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit of 2003). According to UNDESA African countries combined had an emigrant stock of over 40 million in 2020<sup>2</sup>; this number is much larger when taking into consideration second and third generation diaspora members and irregular migration.

Leveraging the diaspora for development is now widely recognised as a legitimate, effective and valuable tool for economic development. Whilst most noted for their economic contributions through remittances, diasporas contribute to their home country through multiple forms including social, cultural and economic.

In a bid to ensure a ‘people – centered’ organization, article 3(q) of the Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, gives primacy to diaspora engagement and encourages the full participation of the African diaspora in the building of the African Union. In recent years, the subject of migration and diaspora for development in Africa is becoming a key pillar in policy development among AU Member States. Many African Union Member States

have a committed focus on the diaspora through the creation and appointment of ministries, units, ambassadors and policy<sup>3</sup>. Understanding the diaspora is the first step to opening channels of communication and improving trust. This requires a coordinated approach, especially between the ministries, departments and agencies within a Member States’ government.

Diaspora engagement is a key tool to support and strengthen efforts to mobilise the diaspora and effectively harness their power for homeland development. The upward trajectory in diaspora engagement, however, continues to encounter a number of hurdles exemplified by capacity gaps in Members States to develop effective policies that will enable them to reap development benefits from such engagement. It is worthy to note, that different States are at different levels of success with respect to development of policy frameworks to anchor diaspora engagement.

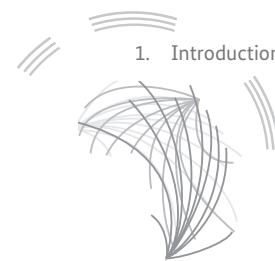
To better understand and address the gaps in diaspora engagement, the Diaspora division of the Citizens and Diaspora Organizations’ Directorate (CIDO) of the African Union Commission instituted the continental biennial Diaspora Focal Points Workshops (DFPW) with three-pronged objectives:

1. to map the current continental participation of the diaspora in the different Member States and create proposals leading to the development of a legal framework on the participation of the diaspora (Politically, Socially and Economically) in the AU;
2. the development an African diaspora score card which will help amongst other things to measure performance, identify the appropriate capacity-build-

<sup>1</sup> [www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/popfacts/PopFacts\\_2017-5.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/popfacts/PopFacts_2017-5.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Migrant Stock data can act as a proxy for diaspora populations, as global diaspora populations are not measured.

<sup>3</sup> The AU Reports that 45 AU Member States have appointed a diaspora focal point.



- ing support, based on outcomes of the institutional capacity-building assessment and help define and strengthen the relationship between the AU, the MS, and the diasporas and;
3. the election of the new steering committee.

The African Union's development of the Diaspora Engagement Self-Assessment Tool (DESAT) is therefore paramount in response to the clear need to enhance Member States' technical capacity to understand their progress in diaspora engagement, relative to other Member States, and to be given guidance on improving their engagement activities.

The DESAT is a tool by which Member States of the African Union can monitor, evaluate and report on their respective diaspora engagement activities. The AU aims to use the DESAT results to identify and address the challenges of Member States through capacity building measures. The DESAT also highlights opportunities for peer-to-peer learning by identifying good practice among peers.

The DESAT is an evolving tool. The 2021 report is the second iteration of the DESAT building on the framework developed in DESAT I in 2019. For the DESAT II version an additional pillar has been added that measures the extent to which Member States have included and integrated their diaspora into humanitarian crisis planning and response such as in the response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

### 1.1 Project Objective

The objective of DESAT II in 2021 is to build on the work done in 2019 with DESAT I and to invite other Member States to complete the DESAT and review their activities and work in diaspora engagement within a structured framework.

Following on from the completion of the DESAT II, Member States that have been invited to complete the DESAT will be invited to tailored capacity building training. The DESAT will identify areas of relative strengths and weakness and opportunities for peer-to-peer learning across Member States.

### 1.2 Project Approach

DESAT I in 2019 covered 11 countries within Africa including Burundi; Central African Republic (CAR); Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Gambia; Ghana; Kenya; Liberia; Madagascar; Nigeria; Rwanda; Zimbabwe.

In 2021, the African Union with support of GIZ launched a second round of the DESAT in Africa. DMA Global and the African Diaspora Policy Centre assisted Member States to understand the DESAT and self-assess and score their activities.

Fifteen Member States were selected to complete this version of DESAT, but due to a variety of challenges eventually seven Member States were able to submit a completed DESAT during the project.

The countries that completed the DESAT II were Benin; Cape Verde; Côte d'Ivoire; Ghana; Guinea-Bissau; Lesotho; Mali; Nigeria; Senegal; Somalia and Togo.

Notably, Ghana and Nigeria also completed the DESAT in 2019 and therefore can use the DESAT as a tool to monitor progress over time.

The DESAT was administered to Member States using different types of remote engagement, via video, via phone, over email, over WhatsApp. The responses were then collated and analysed to produce this report.

# 2 The Diaspora Engagement Self-Assessment Tool (DESAT)

The DESAT allows African Union Member States to systematically review and assess their current diaspora engagement environment.

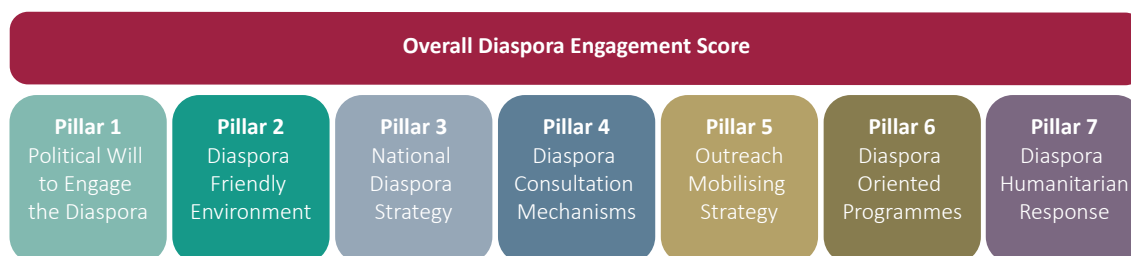
Based on a structured framework, the tool breaks diaspora engagement down into separate pillars (or categories). Answers to multiple-choice survey questions in each pillar quantify a Member States’ self-assessed level. The DESAT calculates an overall diaspora engagement score, individual pillar scores and creates an automated recommendation list.

The DESAT is designed to allow the easy identification of strengths and weaknesses in diaspora engagement environments, the ability to monitor scoring over time and to facilitate Member State comparisons and benchmarking.

## 2.1 DESAT Framework

The DESAT is sub-divided into seven pillars that reflect the ‘broad front’ of diaspora engagement activities. Each pillar comprises several indicators that reflect and capture the different aspects of the pillar.

**FIGURE 1 OVERVIEW OF DESAT FRAMEWORK**



**Pillar 1** Political Will has five indicators and looks at the level of commitment across government in mobilising the diaspora; the establishment of a diaspora focal point within government; technical and financial capacity of the diaspora focal point; and the extent of multi-stakeholder cooperation on the diaspora engagement agenda.

**Pillar 2** Diaspora Friendly Environment has six indicators and asks questions about the level of diaspora rights; the role and political representation of the diaspora; the availability of accessible, incentive mechanisms to invest; and the level of support services for prospective migrants and the diaspora overseas.

**Pillar 3** National Diaspora Strategy reviews the diaspora engagement strategy status of the Member State; the effectiveness of the strategy in terms of being achievable and actionable; the level of consultation undertaken and buy-in from the diaspora that has been achieved; and how well linked the strategy is to other government policies and agendas.

**Pillar 4** Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms has four indicators and explores formalised open communication channels with the diaspora at both the grassroots and a high level; the extent to which the government is engaged in formal consultation with the diaspora; and the focus on capacity building within government to support diaspora organisation and communication.





**Pillar 5** Outreach Mobilising Strategy has six indicators and examines how well Member States capture know-your-diaspora (KYD)<sup>4</sup>; their data collection capacity and their facility to update and use databases; the visibility of the diaspora environment in the home country and diaspora partnership opportunities; published information specifically for the diaspora, showcasing investment opportunities for the diaspora; and cultural events support.

**Pillar 6** This Diaspora Orientated Programmes surveys diaspora programmes run solely by Member States governments intended to engage diaspora as well as joint programmes run in conjunction with the private sector or diaspora networks to improve diaspora engagement and/or mobilise resources from the diaspora.

**Pillar 7** The Diaspora Humanitarian Response pillar explores the level of coordination between traditional humanitarian response actors and diaspora humanitarian response actors, recognising the important role they both play in humanitarian response, and whether there is a focal point for coordination between the two. This pillar also examines the extent to which mapping diaspora humanitarian response actors has been undertaken and to what extent there is formalised capacity building and sharing of knowledge between traditional humanitarian response actors and diaspora humanitarian response actors.

<sup>4</sup> KYD is the process of data collection; mapping the location of the diaspora; compiling inventories of diaspora skills and experience; and engaging a wide range of diaspora members in listening exercises to understand what the diaspora has to offer, what it is willing to offer, and what it expects from the government in turn.

## 2.2 DESAT Weighting Methodology

The weights are the backbone – the intelligence – of the DESAT model, reflecting the relative importance of various diaspora engagement activities. Including weights in the DESAT means that not all diaspora engagement activities are considered equally important and that the results reflect their relative importance. Weights are fixed: they are standardised across countries and year-on-year to enable iterative comparisons.

In the DESAT, different weights are attributed to each pillar and are also attributed to the representative indicators within each pillar. Figure 2 provides an overview of pillar weighting.

DMAG and the African Diaspora Policy Centre used their expertise and experience and consulted with other experts in this field to determine the weights. A consultative process was undertaken with experts in this field from GIZ, African Union, DMA Global, ADPC, Shabaka, ICMPD and IOM. The weights awarded in this model will be subject to scrutiny and are likely to vary from one expert to another. However, these are the weights that form the basis of this DESAT model.

Given the introduction of Pillar 7 (Diaspora Humanitarian Response) the weightings are not the same as in DESAT I which does not allow for a direct comparison between the two iterations. A review of Nigeria's DESAT scores are compared in Box 1 using DESAT I weightings to compare like-for-like between 2019 and 2021.

**FIGURE 2 DESAT PILLAR WEIGHTING**

<b>Pillar 1:</b> Political Will to Engage the Diaspora	20.0 %
<b>Pillar 2:</b> Diaspora Friendly Environment	20.0 %
<b>Pillar 3:</b> National Diaspora Strategy	12.5 %
<b>Pillar 4:</b> Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms	20.0 %
<b>Pillar 5:</b> Outreach Mobilising Strategy	14.0 %
<b>Pillar 6:</b> Diaspora Oriented Programmes	8.5 %
<b>Pillar 7:</b> Humanitarian Response	5.0 %

**Political Will** shows the diaspora that their home government is committed to creating, developing and sustaining a relationship with them. A **Diaspora Friendly Environment** emphasises Member States’ efforts to encourage and support the diaspora in citizenship, political participation, migration and investment in their home country. A Member State’s **National Diaspora Strategy** showcases the appetite for diaspora outreach and collaboration across government. **Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms** are a measure of communication and consul-

tation with the diaspora and a Member State’s ability to support this.

An **Outreach Mobilising Strategy** illustrates a Member States’ commitment to understand who their diaspora is; where they are located; the visibility of diaspora activities; and the availability of information on diaspora opportunities. **Diaspora Oriented Programmes** show consideration and commitment to diaspora-focused initiatives both individually and in collaboration with external stakeholders. **Diaspora Humanitarian Response** recognises the important role the diaspora plays in humanitarian assistance and highlights the need for stakeholder mapping, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Each pillar indicator relates to a specific question in the DESAT framework. See Figure 3.

For example, in Pillar 1 (Political Will), there are five different indicators that have been identified to reflect ‘political will’ (and each has a specific question in the DESAT).

**FIGURE 3 DESAT INDICATOR WEIGHTING**

<b>Pillar 1</b> Political Will		<b>Pillar 2</b> Diaspora Friendly Environment		<b>Pillar 3</b> National Diaspora Strategy	
1 Political commitment	40 %	1 Rights	35 %	1 Strategy	20%
2 Focal point	20 %	2 Political representation	30%	2 Effectiveness	50%
3 Capacity (technical)	15 %	3 Incentive framework	20%	3 Consultation	20%
4 Capacity (financial)	15%	4 Pre-departure services	5%	4 Linkages	10%
5 Cooperation	10%	5 Re-integration services	5%		
		6 Remittances	5%	<b>Pillar 6</b> Diaspora Oriented Programmes	
<b>Pillar 4</b> Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms		<b>Pillar 5</b> Outreach Mobilising Strategy		1 Diaspora programmes	40%
1 Formal channels (grassroots)	25%	1 Data	20%	2 Joint programmes	60%
2 Formal channels (igh-level)	25%	2 Collection capacity	20%		
3 Consultation	30%	3 Visibility	30%	<b>Pillar 7</b> Humanitarian Response	
4 Capacity building	20%	4 Published diaspora information	20%	1 Coordination and focal point	40%
		5 Published investment information	5%	2 Mapping stakeholders	40%
		6 Cultural event support	5%	3 Capacity building and sharing of knowledge	20%



However, of these five, the government's political commitment (for example, having a strong political commitment at the very highest level of government, such as the President or the Prime Minister consistently, and vocally championing the diaspora) is deemed the most important and is weighted at 40 per cent of Pillar 1. Having a focal point (for example, a separate desk or Ministry that is well-known across government and the diaspora and that has a national scope within the government for diaspora) is also considered important and is therefore weighted 20 per cent of Pillar 1, and so forth.

Just as each indicator is weighted to reflect their relative importance to a specific Pillar, each Pillar is also weighted to reflect their importance to a governments' overall diaspora engagement. For example, of the seven pillars, Political Will; Diaspora Friendly Environment; and Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms are deemed to be the most important pillars, demonstrated in the fact that each pillar is weighted 20 per cent of the model. Pillar 7 (Diaspora Humanitarian Response) is lowest weighted pillar, at 5 per cent (see figure 2).

### 2.3 DESAT Scoring

Overall diaspora engagement, pillars and survey questions all follow the same scoring format. A score is marked from 0 to 4, where 4 is a high score and 0 is low score. The scaling of scores was standardised across the DESAT and each score was given a broad description.

By analysing the scores of the different pillars, Member States are quickly able to identify areas of relative strength and weakness and pinpoint areas that need the most attention. Member States are asked to provide additional information as a means

of validating and substantiating their self-assessment scores.

**TABLE 1** DESAT SCORE DESCRIPTIONS

Score	Description
0	Nothing has been implemented and there are no plans to implement
1	Plans for implementation
2	Some implementation has taken place
3	A good level of implementation is ongoing
4	Nothing left to do

### 2.4 DESAT Recommendations

An automated list of recommendations is produced by the DESAT on completion by a Member State. The list is dynamic and is compiled based on input.

The recommendation list shows Member States the top ten areas where there is the most potential to improve their diaspora engagement score. The recommendations provide guidance on next steps, planning and the types of solutions or support that could be implemented. The recommendations should be used as inputs into wider diaspora engagement discussions.

The recommendation list is to be used by Member States as a guide. It is designed to complement, a Member State-specific diaspora engagement review and strategy. As it is designed to be used by all Member States, nuances of a specific country context are not considered.

Member States should refer to their completed DESATs for their full list of recommendations.

# 3

## DESAT Results 2021

In 2021 eleven African countries completed the DESAT II. These countries are Benin, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia and Togo. Ghana and Nigeria are the only countries to have completed both the DESAT I in 2019 and DESAT II in 2021 (see Box 1 for year-on-year comparison of Nigeria).

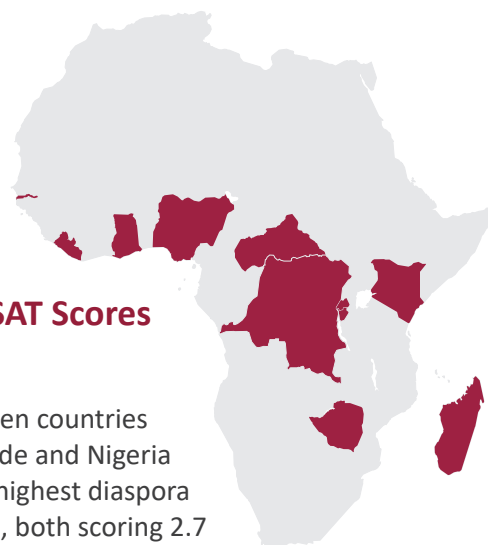
This section provides the results from the DESAT II, looking at the overall DESAT scores and the scores broken down by each of the seven pillars. Through the process of completing the DESAT, it is hoped that Diaspora Desk representatives can identify areas of strength and weaknesses and benchmark their activities against other peer-countries and donors can identify similar areas of weakness and strength across countries.

Based on the information provided through the DESAT II, case-studies of good practice provide insight into **what activities have contributed to their scores.**

### 3.1 Overall DESAT Scores

In 2021, of the eleven countries surveyed, Cape Verde and Nigeria report to have the highest diaspora engagement scores, both scoring 2.7 out of a maximum 4 points. Cape Verde scores especially highly for creating a diaspora friendly environment due to the rights and political representation it affords its diaspora. Nigeria reports a good standard of implementation across most of the pillars.

Both Cape Verde and Nigeria have large diasporas – although not relative in size to one another. Cape Verde's diaspora population is larger than its national population, while Nigeria's diaspora population estimated at up to 15 million. Both countries have a sustained commitment to engage with their diaspora even through political regime changes.



**TABLE 2** EMIGRANT STOCK, TOP HOST COUNTRIES, AND IMPORTANCE OF REMITTANCES FOR DESAT II COUNTRIES

DESAT II Countries	Emigrant Stock (2019)	Top Five Host Countries (2019)					Remittances % GDP (2020)
Benin	666,357	Nigeria	Togo	Cote d'Ivoire	Gabon	France	1.3
Cape Verde	186,372	Portugal	USA	France	Netherlands	Angola	14.3
Cote d'Ivoire	1,114,003	Burkina Faso	Mali	France	Ghana	Benin	0.5
Ghana	970,625	Nigeria	USA	UK	Cote d'Ivoire	Italy	4.9
Guinea-Bissau	103,587	Senegal	Portugal	Gambia, The	Spain	Cabo Verde	8.6
Lesotho	341,580	South Africa	Mozambique	UK	Botswana	Eswatini	23.1
Mali	1,264,700	Cote d'Ivoire	Nigeria	Mauritania	Niger	France	5.7
Nigeria	1438331	USA	UK	Cameroon	Niger	Benin	4.0
Senegal	642,654	Gambia, The	France	Italy	Spain	USA	10.3
Somalia	2,054,377	Ethiopia	Kenya	Yemen	UK	Libya	35.3
Togo	543,277	Nigeria	Benin	Ghana	Cote d'Ivoire	France	5.8

[1] Unofficial reports suggest that the Nigerian diaspora could be as large as 15 million people.

Sources: UNDESA Total Migrant Stock, 2019; World Bank Personal Remittances, Received (% of GDP), 2020

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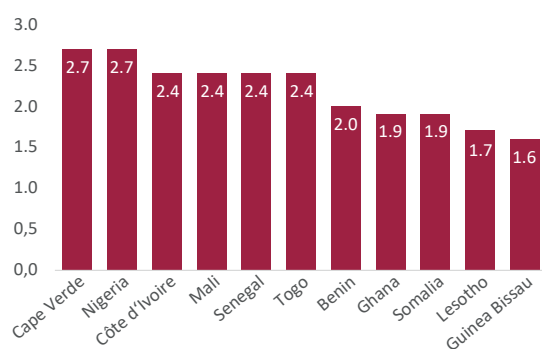
Lesotho scored the lowest among the seven countries surveyed, with an overall DESAT score of 1.7. Whilst Lesotho scores high in areas such as the national diaspora strategy, it still has areas where nothing has been done, such as cultural event support, promoting investment opportunities and political representation of the diaspora. Similarly in Côte D'Ivoire and Somalia, whilst implementation has taken place in some areas, there are others where no actions have yet been implemented, with the focus very much still on planning.

Whilst benchmarking provides an interesting insight, each Member State operates under its own nuanced environment and influences which determines their diaspora

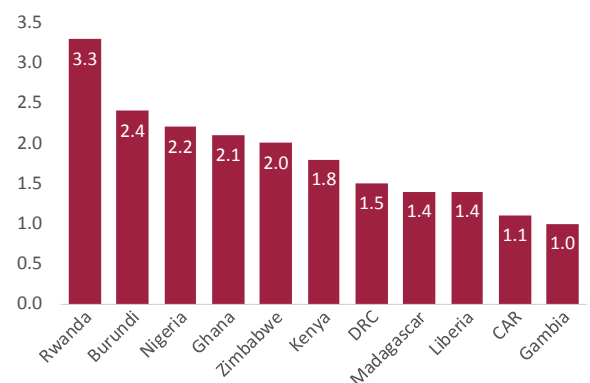
engagement score; these dynamics include the size of the diaspora, the agenda for mobilising the diaspora and so on. With continued assessment over time, the identification of Member States that are prioritising and pioneering good practice diaspora engagement can be identified.

It is not possible to compare directly between scores from DESAT I and DESAT II, due to the addition of Pillar 7 and slight re-assignment of weights. However, the differences are only marginal. Figure 4 provides the scores from DESAT I and shows a similar range in scores, except for that Rwanda scores well across all countries. Nigeria's score has increased since 2019 and Ghana's score has decreased.

**FIGURE 4 OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORES, DESAT II**



**FIGURE 5 OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORES, DESAT I**



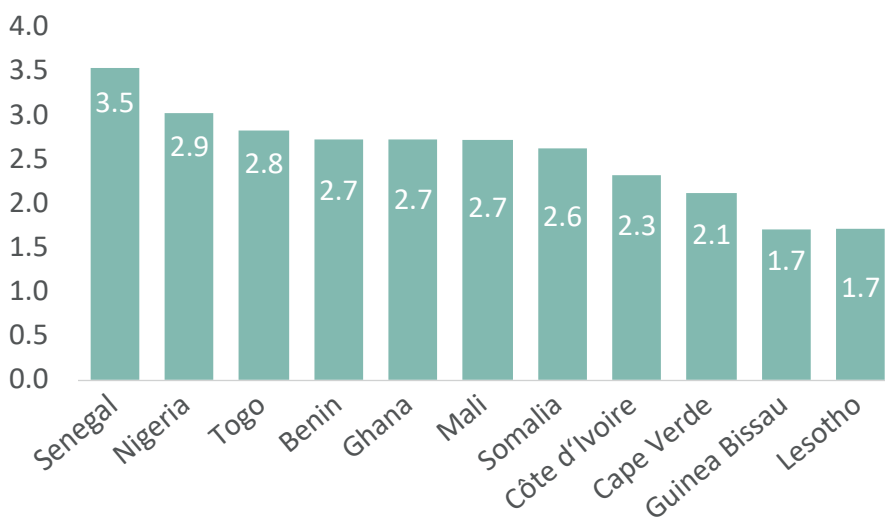
### 3.1.1 Pillar 1: Political Will

Political will is considered important within the DESAT II framework and contributes to a fifth of the overall score. Senegal scores the highest out of all the countries surveyed with a score of 3.5 which indicates strong political will. Senegal has strong political commitment and a clear and consistent focal point that is well-known across government and the diaspora (see box below). The technical capacity of the diaspora office is also sufficient to perform mandated activities and there is a good level of multi-stakeholder cooperation from the diaspora desk with other departments and agencies. Senegal’s political will score is slightly let down by its financial capacity to implement on all its plans.

However, the financial capacity of the diaspora desk in Senegal is significantly more resourced than as reported in Benin, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Mali, which all report to not have financial resources for implementation. Translating political will and commitment into providing diaspora desks with the financial capacity to implement plans is clearly still a challenge. In Lesotho and Somalia, encouragingly, there are plans in place to increase financial capacity of diaspora engagement.

Lesotho scores 1.7, indicating that it is still in the planning phases and is currently working with international development partners and creating a diaspora focal point.

**FIGURE 6 PILLAR 1: POLITICAL WILL SCORES**



### Good Practice Senegal – Political Will

Senegal has demonstrated strong motivations to recognize and engage with its diaspora, coining the Senegalese diaspora as the ‘15<sup>th</sup> region of Senegal’.

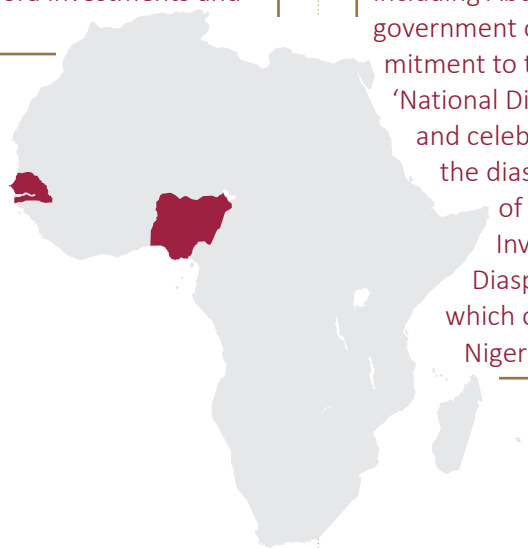
The Directorate-General for Senegalese Abroad (Directorat Générale des Sénégalais de l’Extérieur, DGSE), housed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad (Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et des Sénégalais de l’Extérieur, MAESE) is the diaspora focal point, working to develop and promote diaspora engagement policies and programmes.

The Directorate-General is formed of two departments, 1. the Direction de l’Assistance et de la Promotion des Sénégalais de l’Extérieur (DAPSE), which focuses on diaspora engagement, and social protection for the diaspora; and 2. the Direction de l’Appui à l’Investissement et aux Projets (DAIP) which focuses on supporting and attracting diaspora investments and business.

### Good Practice Nigeria – Political Will

The Nigerians in the Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM) government agency is the diaspora engagement focal point. The agency oversees diaspora engagement policies, projects and participation, in order to mobilise diaspora funds and skills for development in Nigeria. Drafted in 2019, the National Diaspora Policy was launched in May 2021 with the objective of engaging, enabling and empowering the Nigerian diaspora as agents of change.

The Office of the Special Assistant to the President on Foreign Affairs and Diaspora (OSSAPFAD), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF) are the main stakeholders in the steering of NiDCOM and are fully engaged. Diaspora focal point offices and officers to service and engage the diaspora have been established in 33 out of the 36 states in Nigeria Federation including Abuja, the federal capital. The government of Nigeria show their commitment to the diaspora annually with ‘National Diaspora Day’, a day to review and celebrate the contributions of the diaspora to the development of Nigeria, the yearly Diaspora Investment Summit and the Diaspora Investment Trust Fund, which offers investment options to Nigerians in the diaspora.



### 3.1.2 Pillar 2 Diaspora Friendly Environment

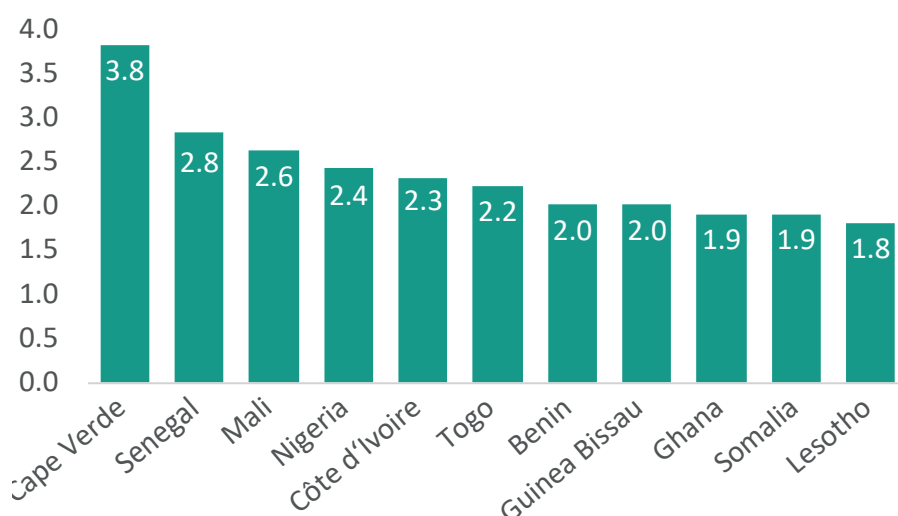
Creating a diaspora-friendly environment is also considered an important component of governments’ diaspora engagement and, as such, comprises a fifth of the DESAT score. Cape Verde has clearly gone to good measures to remove structural and citizenship barriers for the diaspora and put in place programmes and schemes specifically targeting the diaspora (see box below). Cape Verde scores the highest out of all countries surveyed with a self-assessment score of 3.8 out of 4.

Mali scores 2.6 out of 4 as it recognises the rights of the diaspora with dual citizenship and allows them to vote from abroad. There is an agreement with France for social protection. The diaspora is represented in certain institutions in Mali and will be in the future national assembly.

Ghana scores 1.9 allowing the diaspora the right to dual citizenship and the right to vote, however they are restricted from holding top levels of political office whilst remaining dual citizens and the ability to vote is not currently available in any diaspora host country. The existing investment framework is not specific to the diaspora with plans in place for development of a diaspora specific investment framework.

Somalia also scores 1.9 and has plans to improve the friendliness of its environment for the diaspora with plans to introduce services and incentive programmes. Lesotho reports a score of 1.8 weakened as it does not currently have any political representation from the diaspora, in terms of being able to hold office, seats in government or having someone at Ministerial level that represents their views.

**FIGURE 7** PILLAR 2: DIASPORA FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT SCORES







### Good Practice Cape Verde – Political Will

In Cape Verde, diaspora members have the same rights as nationals living in the country. Cape Verde's constitution gives diaspora the right to dual nationality, to participate in parliamentary and presidential elections from abroad, and reserves three parliament seats for the diaspora – the Africa, America and Europe constituencies. They can vote from abroad at all embassies on the same day as citizens and it is suggested that the recent government was voted in by diasporan youth.

Cape Verde has a diaspora investment framework in the country and the diaspora can open foreign currency bank accounts. Diaspora services overseas are offered in partnership with top diaspora host countries, including Senegal and France. Pre-departure training programmes have been offered in the past.

The government offers a good level of diaspora support services. The government deals with the protection and consular assistance of the diaspora including updating the consulates; social pension; social security; agreements in health; mobility; and agreements on driving licences.

### 3.1.3 Pillar 3 National Diaspora Strategy

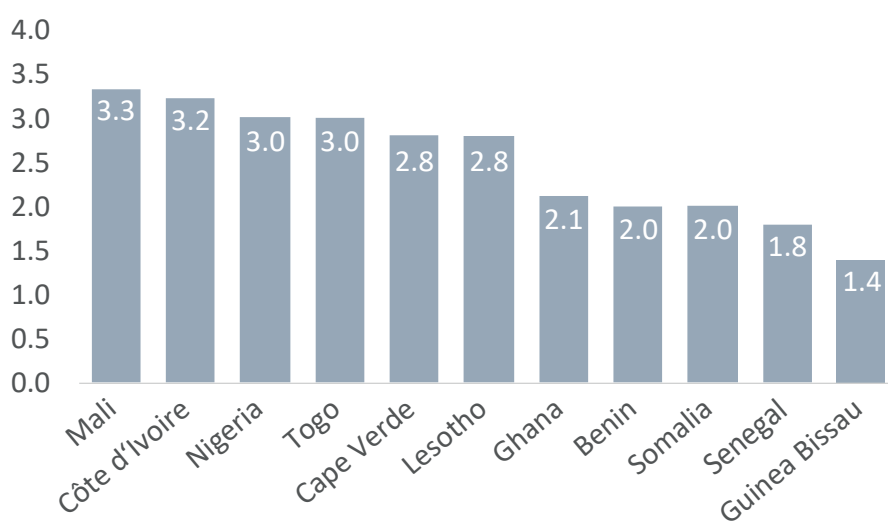
National Diaspora Strategy was the highest scoring pillar across all surveyed Member States and is a good indicator that the strategic approach of diaspora engagement is a priority across the continent. Scores ranged from 1.4 to 3.3. Mali has the highest score of 3.3, Nigeria had the second highest score of 3.0.

All surveyed countries, except for Somalia, have a diaspora engagement strategy. Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Nigeria all report to having a national plan or strategy (tapping, embracing and governing framework) that has been approved by parliament and some parts have been implemented. Across these three countries the strategy was designed through a consultative process with good

linkages to other government policies and strategies. The strategy or plan is considered effective in relation to the capacity to deliver, objectives, deliverables and outputs.

Somalia reported the lowest score, with no National Diaspora Strategy currently in place but plans to start creating a national diaspora policy framework in July 2021. Somalia has plans to consult with diaspora academics and experts in the development of the policy framework and plans to link it with the National Development Plan. Many of the government ministers, including the President, used to be members of the diaspora and there is strong encouragement to include the diaspora across all aspects of government.

**FIGURE 8** PILLAR 3: NATIONAL DIASPORA STRATEGY SCORES



### **Good Practice Mali – National Diaspora Strategy**

The Malian National Migration Policy was adopted in 2014 and is dedicated to the enhancement of the diaspora capabilities for the country's development. The objectives of the policy are:

1. To develop the intellectual, scientific and technical diaspora skills
2. To enhance the diaspora contribution in the implementation of local development projects
3. To encourage investments and the mobilisation of financial resources
4. To promote the artistic, cultural, athletic and touristic diaspora entrepreneurship
5. To strengthen diaspora involvement in national politics

The Ministry of Malians Abroad is responsible for the implementation of National Migration Policy and executes this through activities including missions to consult with diasporan Malians; assisting Malians abroad; monitoring of the repatriation process; and the reintegration of Malians abroad.

Before the introduction of the policy, the Malian diaspora were already heavily involved in basic infrastructure development of their country of origin, on their own initiative. Projects include village water supply; rural roads; building schools; health centres; and the development of agricultural projects.



### 3.1.4 Pillar 4 Consultation Mechanisms

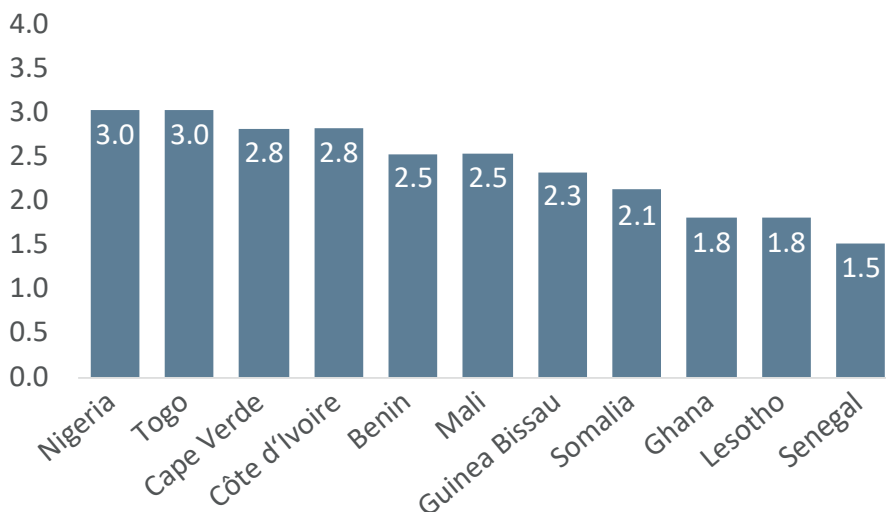
The importance of consultation mechanisms in diaspora engagement to promote dialogue, inform activities and build trust is reflected in the DESAT weighting. The Consultation Mechanisms pillar accounts for a fifth of the DESAT score. In 2021, of the eleven countries surveyed, Nigeria and Togo scored the highest with scores of 3 out of 4. See the box below for more on Nigeria’s activities in this area.

Ghana, Lesotho and Senegal were the lowest scoring among those surveyed, scoring 1.8, 1.8 and 1.5, respectively. Lesotho has plans to create high-level communication channels with the diaspora to complement the grass roots channels that are in place and Ghana’s high communication channels will be developed as part of the National

Diaspora Engagement Policy currently being drafted.

Within Pillar 4, Lesotho, Somalia, and Mali do not currently have any formal channels of communication established between government and diaspora. The government does not currently have any formal representation on platforms that provide a voice to the diaspora; however, this is planned in all three countries. According to interviews, Senegal has some grassroots channels of consultation through their Embassy networks, however they do not have any formal channels of consultation (e.g. the government being part of platforms that give voice to the diaspora) and no plans to. They also do not currently have a Diaspora Day that many countries do.

**FIGURE 9 PILLAR 4: DIASPORA CONSULTATION MECHANISMS SCORES**





### **Good Practice Nigeria – Consultation Mechanisms**

Nigeria has multiple, strong formal channels of communication with its diaspora, including through government agency diaspora desks, email, a live chat function on NiDCOM's website, a dedicated diaspora call centre unit and through diaspora events and summits.

A good level of consultation takes place with the diaspora including the 'Presidential dialogue with Nigerians abroad' event, launched in 2002 and aimed to increase the participation of the Diaspora in Nigerian affairs. The Diaspora Investment Summit is convened annually alongside the Nigeria Diaspora and Alumni Network (NIDAN) and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission.

The government also invests in building the capacity of the consulates and diaspora networks and supports organisations.

### 3.1.5 Pillar 5 Outreach Mobilising Strategy

Outreach Mobilising Strategy was a low scoring pillar compared with the others where Ghana, Somalia, Lesotho, Guinea-Bissau and Mali all scored below 2 out of 4 indicating that they have low levels of implementation in this area, some work planned and some areas that have not yet been looked at. Pillar 5 shows that these five countries do not currently have a good database on their diaspora, which would aim to include information on numbers; type of emigrant; country; location; pro-

file; skills etc. Furthermore, their reporting shows that they do not have the capacity to collect this information at present. Published information specifically for diaspora is generally weak across the board.

Nigeria scored the highest in this pillar with a score of 2.9 for its data collection (see box below) and specific information available to the diaspora through NiDCOM website.

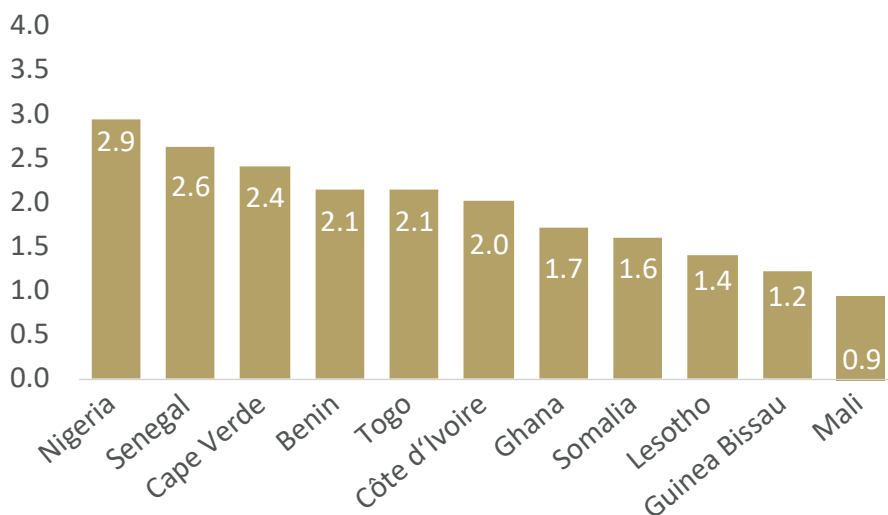
#### Good Practice Nigeria – Outreach Mobilising Strategy

In June 2021, NiDCOM launched the [Diaspora Data Mapping and Registry Portal](#) with support from the IOM. This is a critical tool to mobilise the diaspora and create a valuable dataset that includes information on numbers in diaspora, country and location within country; demographics, including skills; and financial capacities and how to communicate with them.

The portal has launched in the top ten Nigerian diaspora host countries and will be extended to 20 countries in 2021, indicating an investment in capacity to improve the quality of data collection. There is reported to be substantial use of the database and the information is regularly updated.



**FIGURE 10 PILLAR 5: OUTREACH MOBILISING STRATEGY**



### 3.1.6 Pillar 6 Diaspora Oriented Programmes

Mali scores the highest in the pillar on diaspora orientated programmes with a score of 3.6 out of 4. Similarly, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Senegal all score 3 out of 4 with some specifically designed diaspora investment vehicles and some diaspora skills and knowledge transfer programmes implemented.

Benin and Lesotho score 0.8 on this pillar due to the absence of any programmes that focus on attracting skills and knowledge transfer from the diaspora for homeland development.



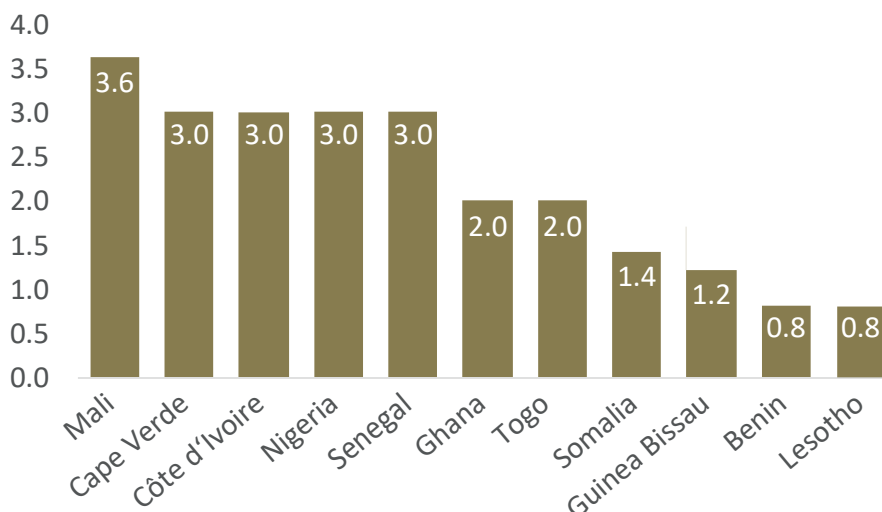
#### Good Practice Mali – Diaspora Oriented Programmes

Since 1998, in partnership with UNDP, Mali has been implementing the Transfer of Knowledge by Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) programme. Based on the success of this programme, it is currently being institutionalised where the programme is being taken over by government, overseen by the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Malians Abroad. The main objective behind the programme has been to transfer knowledge from the scientific and technical Malian diaspora to contribute towards national development.

To this aid, TOKTEN has facilitated the temporary return of diaspora to support the University of Mali through visiting lecturers and overseeing of thesis. Since 2008, the scope of the programme has been broadened to include technical assistance to health, agriculture and SMEs, with the diaspora supporting through consultations, training and support-missions.

To date, 629 expats have enrolled on the programme, 976 reinforcement missions have taken place, 28,348 people have benefited from the programme, 179 structures have benefited and 237 people have received training through SMEs support.

**FIGURE 11 PILLAR 6: DIASPORA ORIENTED PROGRAMMES**



### 3.1.7 Pillar 7 Humanitarian Diaspora Response

Humanitarian Diaspora Response was, on average, the lowest scoring pillar, which indicates that this is a relatively new area of focus in diaspora engagement. This pillar only constitutes 5% of the overall DESAT score, reflecting its narrow focus.

Somalia scores the highest in this pillar with a score of 2.8. The Somali diaspora have a track record of providing humanitarian assistance in times of crisis and the diaspora is involved in humanitarian coordination

and planning. There is also good mapping of Somali humanitarian organisations, groups and networks with past or potential experience to be involved.

Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and Lesotho had the lowest score of 0, as their diasporas are not engaged around humanitarian assistance. These Member States have not faced the same level of humanitarian crisis as other surveyed countries and therefore will be less likely to focus on this area.

#### Good Practice Somalia – Diaspora Humanitarian Response

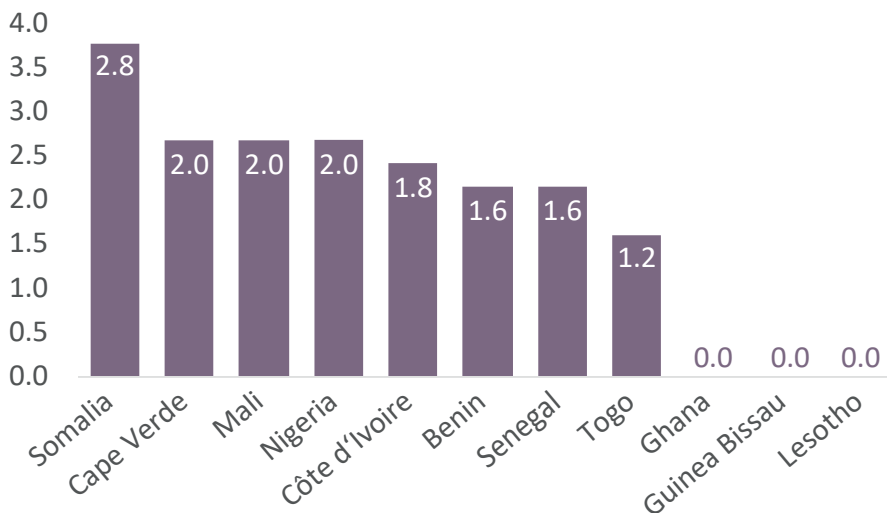
The Somali diaspora have a long history of playing the role of humanitarian actors supporting Somalia through providing remittances, skills transfer, volunteering, and humanitarian assistance since the beginning of civil war in the 1990s.

Several organisations are coordinating engagement and dialogue with key stakeholders to continue efforts to enhance diaspora humanitarian assistance, including the Diaspora Emergency Action and Coordination (DEMAC), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the New Ways Organisation.

The #SomaliaResponds movement, in partnership with IOM, was launched in May 2020 by Ministry of Health and Human Services to appeal to diaspora communities to support the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. Donations supported the main public hospital in Somalia with medicines, biomedical and laboratory equipment for COVID-19 and PPE supplies.



**FIGURE 12 PILLAR 7: DIASPORA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE**



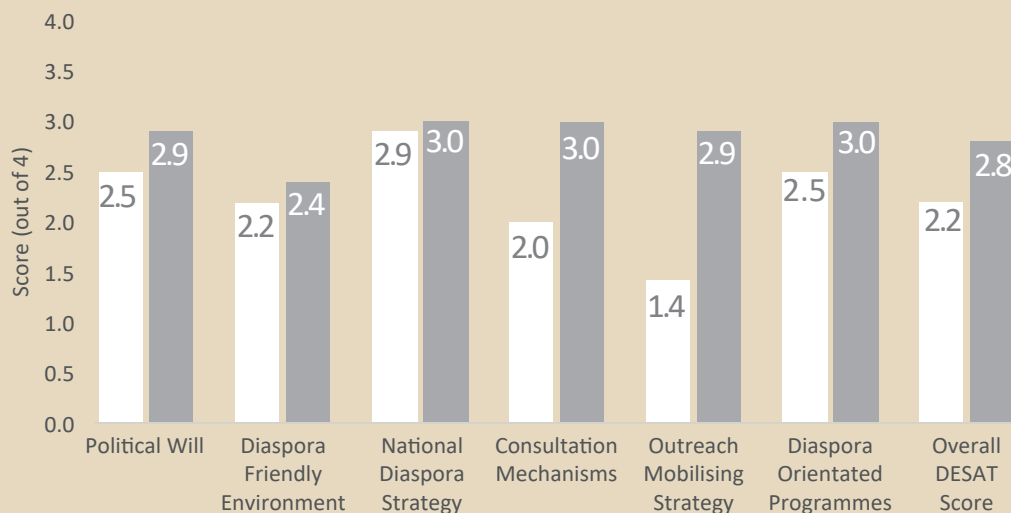


### Box 1: Nigeria DESAT I and DESAT II Comparison

Nigeria was the only country surveyed in both the DESAT I in 2019 and DESAT II in 2021. There have been slight modifications to DESAT II which means it is not possible to compare results directly between the two iterations. In the below graph, the DESAT II scores have been applied to the DESAT I framework to allow for consistent monitoring over-time.

Figure 13 shows that overall, Nigeria’s DESAT score has increased from 2.2 to 2.8 over the two years. (In the new DESAT II framework, Nigeria scores 2.7, showing that the difference between the two frameworks is not significant). Scores in every pillar have increased, reflecting the Nigerian government’s increasing commitment to diaspora engagement. The most notable increase in scores are in Pillar 4 (Consultation Mechanisms) and Pillar 5 (Outreach Mobilising Strategy). Since DESAT I, the Nigerian government has now implemented the data mapping portal, which was previously in the planning phase, and which is being updated regularly. Similarly, in terms of consultation mechanisms, the Diaspora Desk in 2019 reported that there was some formal consultation with the diaspora but have increased opportunities for dialogue through summits and events and building the capacity of consular and diaspora networks.

**FIGURE 12 DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT IN NIGERIA 2019 – 2021**



# 4 Conclusion

Getting Diaspora Focal Points to complete the DESAT II was challenging and in some cases indicates a lack of capacity of these Focal Points, in terms of availability of time. There is a need to increase awareness of the DESAT and promote its value among Member States. The forthcoming trainings targeting Member State Focal Persons and high level officials of Member States will provide this opportunity.

The DESAT training sessions will cover understanding the importance of political will, creating a diaspora friendly environment, creating an effective diaspora engagement strategy, the importance of consultation mechanisms, knowing-your-diaspora and outreach, designing diaspora programmes and including the diaspora in humanitarian response. Case studies on diaspora engagement have been developed for peer to peer learning, alongside a knowledge sharing platform.

The DESAT shows that there is large variation between the seven sample countries in terms of the breadth of diaspora engage-

ment activities they are involved in, and both to what extent and how effectively the plans are being implemented.

It is not surprising, given the sheer size of the Nigerian diaspora and the relative importance of the Cape Verdean diaspora to Cape Verde, that these two countries score highly and are found to have implemented a broad range of activities to a good, and considered, level.

Like Cape Verde, Lesotho is a small country with a relatively large diaspora (16 per cent of the overall population). However, the results from the DESAT indicate that the government is at the beginning of its journey in terms of formally engaging with its diaspora, with encouraging plans underway. Lesotho has the potential to learn from the experience of other countries through this process. Similarly, whilst Somalia has an active diaspora and many good attributes in terms of consultation, they too report to be predominantly in the planning process of formalising their engagement.

**FIGURE 14 MEAN AVERAGE SCORES OF THE DESAT PILLARS ACROSS THE SEVEN SURVEYED COUNTRIES IN DESAT II, 2021**

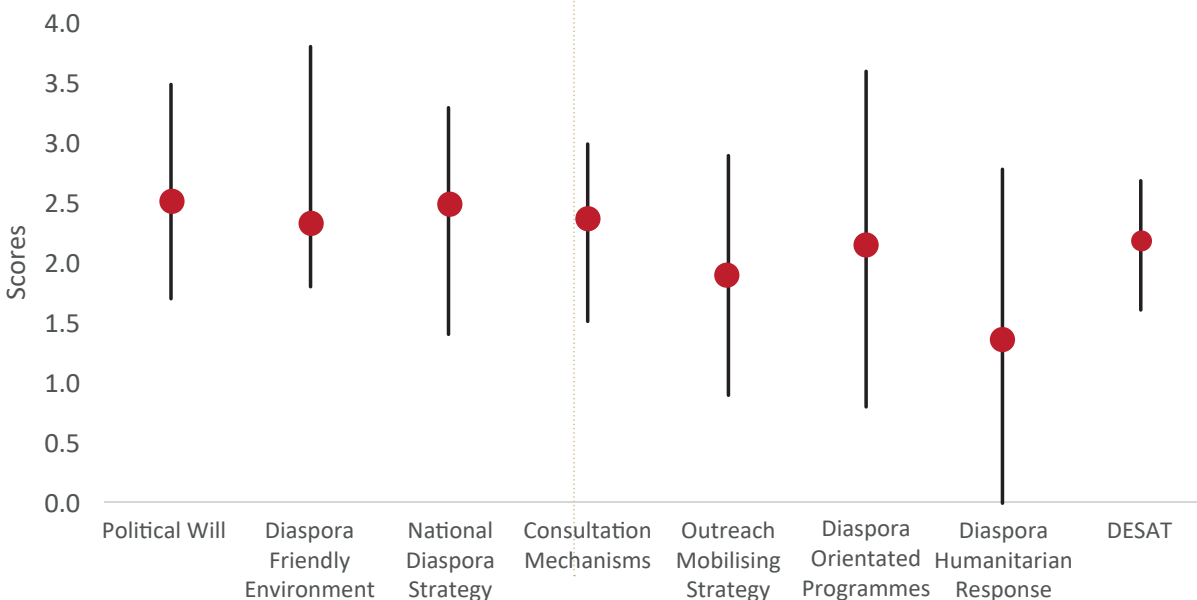


Figure 14 shows the average score across the eleven sampled countries for each pillar and the range in scores by each. Pillar 1 has the highest average score and whilst political will generally demonstrate governmental appreciation for the potential role of the diaspora in homeland development, five out of the eleven surveyed Member States report have no financial capacity or are only in the planning stages of this. In order for Diaspora Representatives to be able to carry out the activities in the Diaspora Strategy, it is key that political will and support translates into budgets.

Pillar 3 (National Diaspora Strategy) also has a high average score indicating that most of the sample countries embark on a national strategy to define their areas of work, having established a focal point or desk. The DESAT invites the diaspora focal point to consider important aspects such as the effectiveness of their strategy and whether the diaspora has been a key contributor to the design of the strategy.

The highest score was in Pillar 2 (Diaspora Friendly Environment), where Cape Verde government has made strong efforts to welcome and include the diaspora in the Cape Verdean economy, politics and society.

Conversely, the lowest scores are in Pillar 5 (Outreach Mobilising Strategy), Pillar 6 (Diaspora Orientated Programmes) and Pillar 7 (Diaspora Humanitarian Response). There are notable weaknesses across Member States in mapping the diaspora, the quality of this data and the capacity to undertake data collection. Knowing your diaspora – who they are, where they are and how to communicate with them – underpins the success of many other activities.

Similarly, the results indicate that across multiple countries, there are more programmes focused on incentivising diaspora investment, rather than targeting skills and knowledge transfer. Again, there are opportunities for countries to learn from each other about how to develop programmes and initiatives that support these important diaspora contributions.

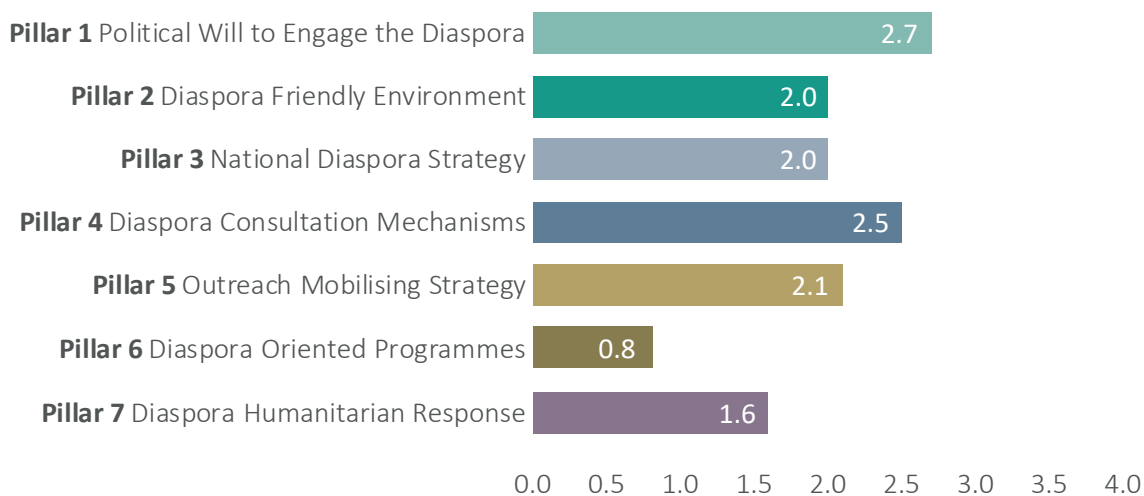
Scores on how well the diaspora is involved in humanitarian response planning are low across countries, except for Somalia. This reflects how new this area is in terms of research and that it is also likely to be a higher priority for countries with a history of humanitarian crises than countries without this history.



### A. 1 Benin

<p><b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b></p>	<p><b>Completed</b> June 2021</p>
<p><b>2.0</b></p>	<p><b>Completed by</b> Lydia Ganye Thon, Director of Consular Affairs and Beninese Abroad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>

#### Benin DESAT Pillar Scores 2021





**Pillar 1**  
**Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.7**

Political commitment in mobilising the diaspora is shown through the inclusion of the Benin Development Pact with the Diaspora within the 1990 Constitution and the Directorate for Consular Affairs and Beninese Abroad, the dedicated diaspora focal point under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. There is a low level of technical capacity within the directorate, and they have no financial capacity at present. There is some multi-stakeholder cooperation at the annual general assemblies of the High Council of Beninese Abroad, an independent private institution focused on engaging diaspora associations; facilitating their participation in national political life; protecting their rights and interests; and promoting investment in Benin.

**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.0**

The Beninese diaspora have rights to dual citizenship and the ability to vote from the main host countries, there are plans to enable diaspora to hold public office. The diaspora enjoys the same investment incentives as a foreign investor and there is some focus on remittances through activities with microfinance institutions. Some diaspora overseas services are offered but pre-departure services are still in the planning phase.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 2.0**

A National Policy for Beninese Abroad has been in place since 2000 and has been implemented through missions and lobbying heads of diplomatic and consular missions of Benin. A new diaspora policy is currently being developed, and linkages with other

policy and consultation with the diaspora for input are planned.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.5**

Good formal channels of communications for the diaspora exist through the High Council of Beninese Abroad and they provide some representation for the diaspora at a government level. There is a good level of capacity building within them through diplomatic and consular missions of Benin abroad and they are able to conduct some consultations with the diaspora.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.1**

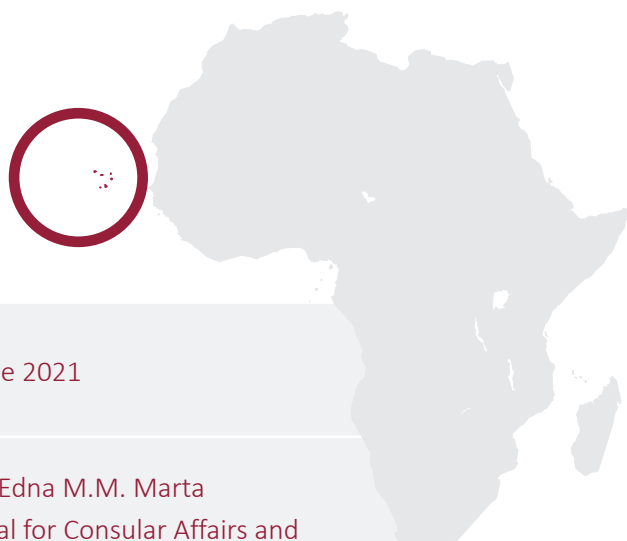
Though diaspora data from diplomatic and consular missions of Benin abroad is available, this data is weak, due to a low-level data collection capacity, and does not fully represent the estimated four million Beninese diaspora. Diaspora investment information is published by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. There are plans for a diaspora website.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 0.8**

Benin has had some small-scale diaspora investment programmes focused on real estate, but no skills and knowledge transfer programmes have been implemented or planned.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 1.6**

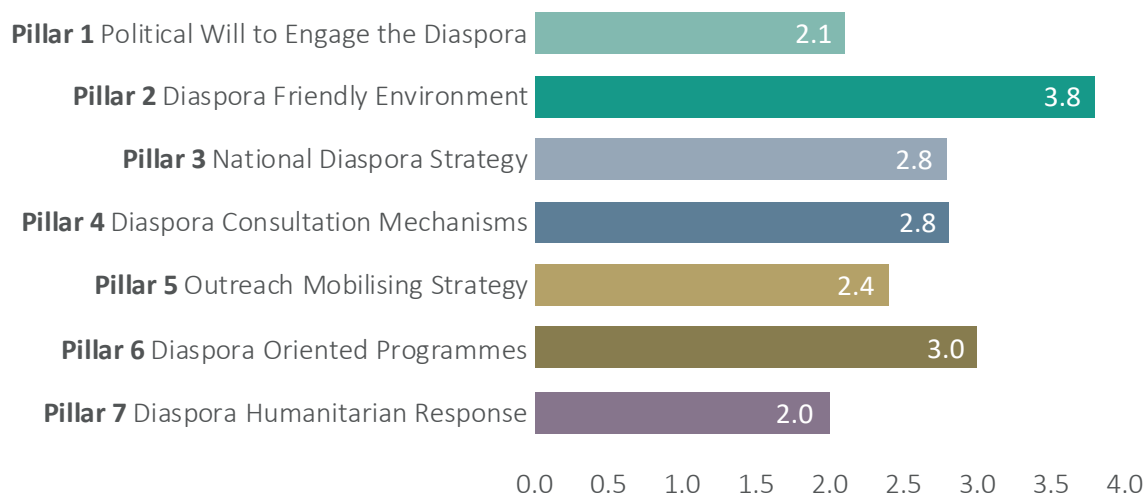
There is little diaspora involvement in humanitarian coordination and planning but there has been some mapping of diaspora humanitarian actors.



## A. 2 Cape Verde

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> June 2021
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Edna M.M. Marta Director General for Consular Affairs and Migrations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration

### Cape Verde DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### Pillar 1 Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.1

The creation of the Ministry of Diaspora (Ministeres des Communautés) in 2021 shows the political commitment to mobilising the Cape Verdean diaspora, who outnumber the national population. The Ministry has some technical capacity, working in

consultation and collaboration with other government ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Finance. At present, the Ministry has zero financial capacity and the Ministry of Diaspora continue to be supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until this role can be transitioned.



**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 3.8**

As dual citizens, the Cape Verdean diaspora have the same rights as an in-country national; they can vote from their host countries at embassies, hold political positions and there is an allocation of diaspora seats for representation at national assemblies. The Code of Investment for Diaspora provides an investment incentive framework. Pre-departure services are offered to prospective migrants and students and there are agreements for social benefits in host countries where there are large numbers of Cape Verdean diaspora.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 2.8**

The National Strategy on Emigration and Development was adopted in 2014 and a revision process is currently being undertaken in order to update. Diasporans are consulted on the development of the policy and there are good linkages with other government policies and strategies.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.8**

Formal channels of communication with the diaspora are administered through embassies and consular services, with meetings being held in host countries. A good level of consultation and capacity building takes place with the diaspora, on a regular basis.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.4**

A small diaspora database exists, but this is out of date, though there are plans for improved data collection activities. Visibility to the diaspora is mainly achieved via outreach through diaspora organisations and associations in host countries. There is a good level of diaspora information published and dispersed during field visits and a code for diaspora investment outlines the benefits of investing back home. Cultural events are supported and attended by government, who also support artists through cultural and social associations.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 3.0**

The Diaspora for Development of Cabo Verde (DiIAS de Cabo Verde) programme, implemented with IOM support, mobilised the human, social and professional capital of the Cape Verdean diaspora towards the development of key sectors health, infrastructure and education.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 2.0**

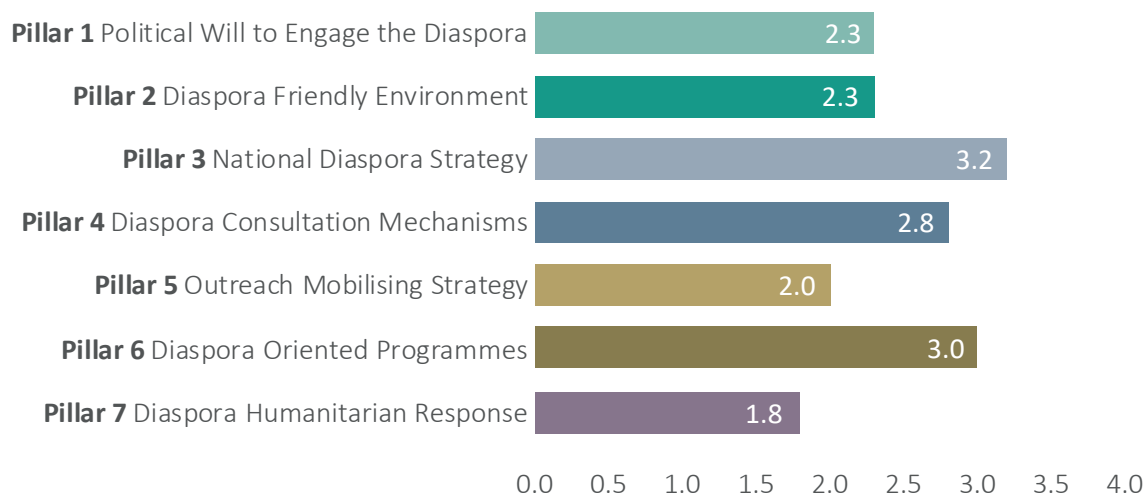
The Cape Verdean diaspora have responded to humanitarian crises with assistance in the past but there is no formal mechanism in place for coordination and planning. Diaspora organisations that would participate in humanitarian assistance are known, but not mapped. Capacity building and sharing of knowledge occurs on an ad hoc basis.



### A. 3 Côte d'Ivoire

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> June 2021
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Sako Mamadou, Assistant Director, Ministry of African Integration and Ivorians Abroad

#### Côte d'Ivoire DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### **Pillar 1 Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.3**

There is some political commitment towards the diaspora, and this is managed by the Diaspora Directorate as the focal

point. The unit has technical capacity but has limited funding to build out its services further. Working groups on diaspora issues, comprising different government ministries, departments and agencies, are convened.





**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.3**

Dual citizenship is only permitted by descent and by marriage. These citizens are empowered with the same rights as citizens living in country and with the ability to participate in elections from abroad in 19 diaspora host countries.

There is some representation of the diaspora in government at the Senate and on the Social and Economic Council. Pre-departure services are not offered, but there is a good level of diaspora support services offered in host countries. There are plans for a diaspora incentive framework and initiatives focused on remittances.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 3.2**

There is a National Diaspora Engagement Strategy that is currently being adopted, with some parts already successfully implemented in advance. Bilateral meetings, consultations, workshops and forums have taken place with the diaspora. The National Diaspora Engagement Strategy is linked to the National Development Plan.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.8**

Formal channels of communication include diaspora forums and meetings with the President of Côte d'Ivoire in host countries. The diaspora has been consulted on the National Diaspora Engagement Strategy.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.0**

A website for mapping the diaspora is currently being piloted in France, Senegal

and the USA, with plans to extend to other top host countries. Visibility is increased through regular information sharing, meetings and news. Some published diaspora information and diaspora investment information exists but is only tailored for selected regions at present. The government participates in and supports cultural events organised by the diaspora.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 3.0**

Specific mechanisms for the diaspora to incorporate private companies and to reintegrate of returnee entrepreneurs are in place, with EUR 500,000 spent on supporting diaspora enterprises to date.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 1.8**

There was more government support towards the diaspora during Covid-19 than diaspora support of CIV. But the Ministry of Cooperation would be the one to lead any such responses. Some diaspora organisations in the USA sent facemasks to CIV.

There are several diaspora organisations that work on humanitarian response or general charitable activities. The government is aware of and knows how to contact these organizations.

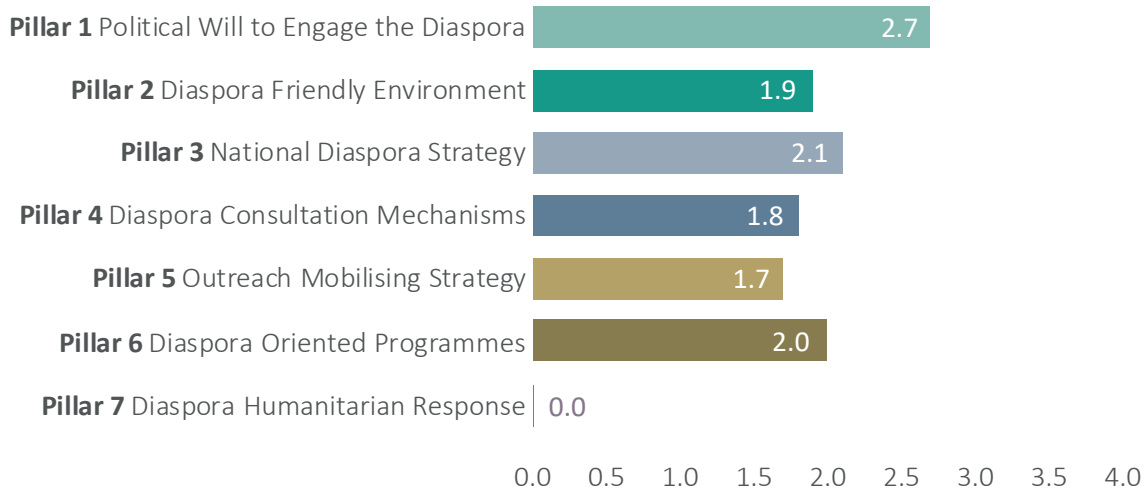
There is a capacity building workshop with the Micic project which bringing together actors across the government and international partners on how to respond to a humanitarian crisis. The diaspora does not yet participate but there are plans for them to do so.



## A.4 Ghana

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> August 2021
<b>1.9</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Director Akwasi Ababio, Diaspora Affairs Office, Office of the President

### Ghana DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### Pillar 1 Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.7

The Diaspora Affairs Office, Office of the President created under current government in 2017, operates as the diaspora focal point in collaboration with the Diaspora Support Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration. The government of Ghana continue to show their commitment to the diaspora through initiatives and legislation such as the Year of Return, 2019 (a year-long programme initiative to commemorate the 400th anniversary and the cumulative resilience of all the victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade), Beyond the Return, 2020 (a 10-year initiative to

strengthen the relationship with the diaspora and attract further diaspora interest in to Ghana) and the drafting of the Homeland Return Act, a bill to encourage and facilitate the return of the global african diaspora to reside in Ghana. Funding is available as a government office though high levels justification and advocacy are required in order to obtain them. Additional funding is provided through donor partners support. The DAO have had a good level of multi-stakeholder engagement since it's inception and the Diaspora Engagement Policy Multi Stakeholder Dialogue meeting held in August 2021 with over 60 key stakeholders in attendance, is an example of this.



**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 19**

Ghana’s diaspora have the right to dual citizenship and the right to vote but cannot vote due to logistical weaknesses in the electoral processes. The diaspora are restricted from holding the top levels of public office, if they wish to continue to remain dual citizens. There is no specific investment framework in place for the diaspora but this is to be developed as part of the Homeland Return Act. No pre-departure services are offered for migrants or students and there are plans to offer diaspora overseas services in the future, some services are on offer in host countries through donor institutions. There is a good focus on remittances with past partnerships with IOM and KPMG to implement recommendations from Ghana remittance market assessments conducted.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 2.1**

The drafting of the National Diaspora Engagement Policy is underway with a 1 week Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue workshop was held in August 2021 to provide an opportunity for input from key stakeholders and review progress before submission for approval. There has been a good level of consultation with the diaspora in the strategy through past and current government.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 1.8**

The main communication channels with the diaspora are email, social media and at events. High level formal channels of communication will be defined and developed as part of the Diaspora Engagement Policy. There is some level of capacity building for diplomatic missions through diaspora orientation that the Director of the DAO conducts

with newly appointed ambassadors of host countries, to present to the agenda for diaspora engagement and what role they play.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 1.7**

The MoFA has some data sets on the diaspora and there is some collection on individuals that approach the DAO but there is no formal process and data is not up to date. Visibility has been increased by appearances at global events by the DAO Director and the Deputy Director. A DAO magazine was published quarterly pre-COVID and there are plans for more efforts to increase visibility with donor support. A diaspora portal or guide is in the pipeline and investment information is available from the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre but this is not diaspora specific. The DAO supports diaspora organisations in host countries on cultural events through funds or goods.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 2.0**

Whilst there are no formal diaspora skills and knowledge programmes currently being implemented, the DAO encourage eligible diaspora members to take part in Ghana’s one-year National Service Scheme and creates and facilitate internship opportunities. A key pillar of Beyond the Return initiative is “Give back to Ghana” and further programmes are to be developed through this pillar.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 0.0**

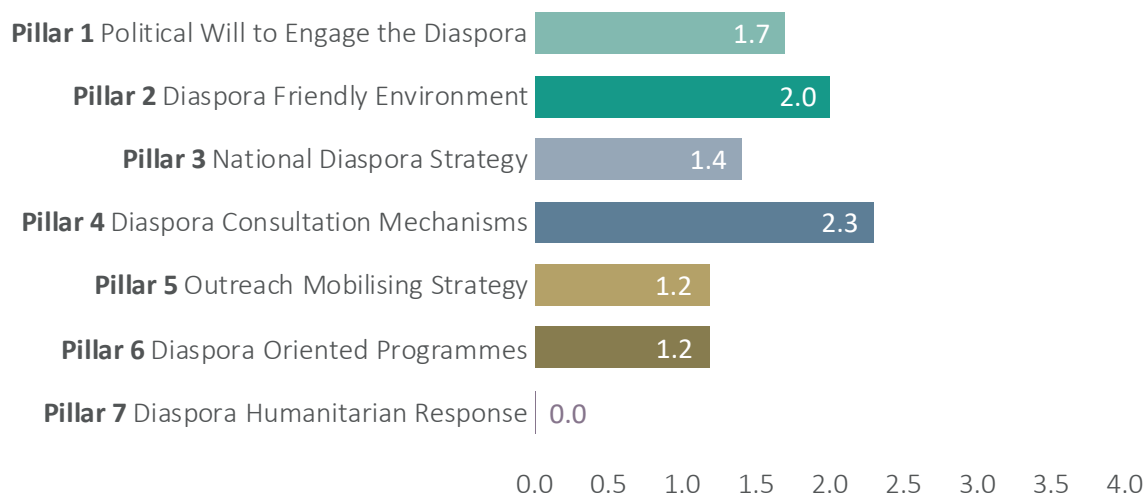
There has been no involvement of the diaspora in humanitarian assistance coordination and planning to date.



### A. 5 Guinea-Bissau

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> August 2021
<b>1.6</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Braima Mane, Director General of Bissau Guinean diaspora

#### Guinea-Bissau DESAT Pillar Scores 2021





**Pillar 1**  
**Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 1.7**

There is some political attention focused on the diaspora in Guinea-Bissau where the The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, Directorate of Communities acts as the embedded diaspora focal point. The directorate has some technical capacity and zero financial capacity, strengthened by partenring with international organisations on initiatives. Multi stakeholder cooperation with other government ministries, departments and agencies takes place on an ad-hoc basis.

**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.0**

The Guinea-Bissau diaspora are given the right to become dual citizens and have the right to vote in their host countries, though only the diaspora in Europe tend to exercise their votong rights and voting from the US is not currently possible. The diaspora have voting contol over two seats in the National People’s Assembly. There is no specific investment framework for the diaspora or investors more broadly but there are frameworks for import and export taxes that would include the diaspora. Health care services are available for Portugese diaspora and there are current negotiations to put in place further social protections. Plans are in place to work with the private sector to create finanical products for the diaspora including remittances.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 1.4**

A national diaspora strategy is being developed with support from IOM and diaspora consultations are taking place for input. There are plans for this strategy to be linked to other government policy through the

national development plan yearly alignment meetings.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.3**

The main channel used to engage the diaspora is email, interactions are also made through the diaspora website and social media. There is some ad-hoc consultations that are undertaken with the diaspora and some level of capacity building through embassies and consulates.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 1.2**

Whilst a diaspora portal for data collection is in the pipeline, there is no data available on the diaspora at this time. Visibility to the diaspora is currently channeled through embassies in host countries, plans are place to develop diaspora outreach tools and services to be channeled through radio and online. There is no investment information available to the diaspora at present.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 1.2**

Guinea-Bissau has partnered with IOM to launch a skills transfer programme and is the planning phases to launch the Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) programme with UNDP. There are no previous or planned investment initiatives that have target the diaspora.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 0.0**

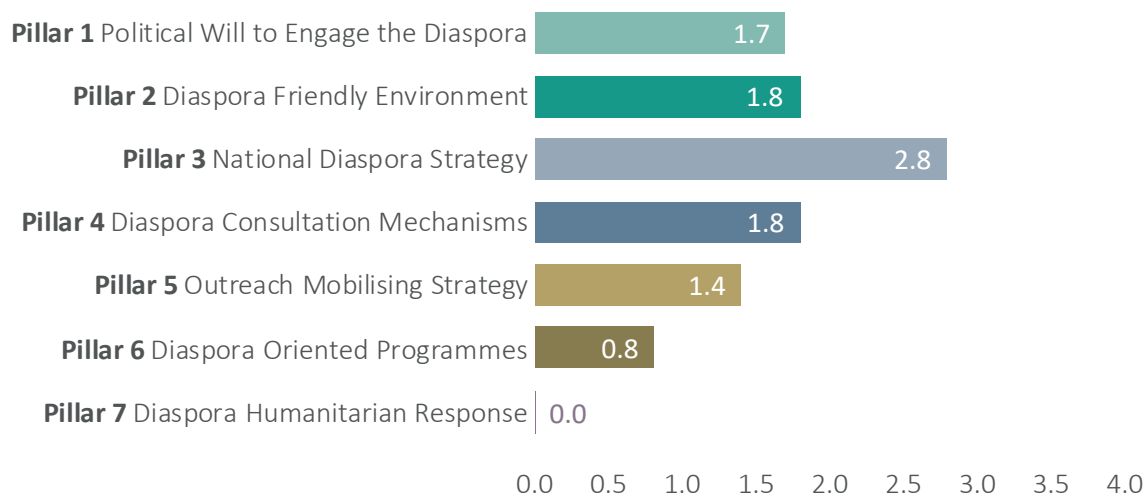
There has been no involvement of the diaspora in humanitarian assistance coordination and planning to date.



## A. 6 Lesotho

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> June 2021
<b>1.7</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Molefi Nyaka, Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### Lesotho DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### **Pillar 1** **Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 1.7**

Lesotho is implementing the “Enhancing Co-ordination and Strengthening Institutional Capacity to effectively engage with Diaspora in Lesotho” plan, with support from the IOM, and plans to establish a Diaspora Directorate within the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs. Once established, the Directorate will be allocated technical and financial capacity. There is sufficient cooperation among national stakeholders across several activities including diaspora outreach forums; participation in technical meetings; and the development of a diaspora strategy and policy.



**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 1.8**

Dual citizenship is permitted in Lesotho: diaspora members are allowed to vote and participate in national reform and development of policy frameworks. However, the diaspora is not permitted to participate in politics, and they are not represented. The Diaspora Engagement Strategy for Trade and Investment has been in place since 2019, providing an investment incentive framework. Some pre-departure programmes exist for migrant workers and international students, and the Ministry of Labour offers migrant re-integration services. The Government has a deferred payment system that facilitates remittances from migrant mine workers based in South Africa.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 2.8**

A National Diaspora Policy was launched in 2021 and will be harmonised with a National Diaspora Strategy that has also been developed before implementation. The diaspora was engaged at a good level in the development of the new policy and a priority action is to improve the coordination between the Government and the diaspora.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 1.8**

The government communicates with the diaspora through established outreach forums and there are plans to create an online diaspora platform for them to be serviced through. Whilst the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs has offered some capacity building to Lesotho missions abroad, with support from IOM, there is still room for a more comprehensive offering. Some capacity building with the diaspora has been conducted virtually.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 1.4**

A small diaspora database exists, built from data collected from outreach forums and surveys conducted during COVID and there are plans for a diaspora website. The database and website will be managed by the Diaspora Directorate, once formed. There is an appetite to establish support and engagement around social and cultural events in host countries.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 0.8**

In the past, outreach forums and roadshows have led to some small-scale investments from the diaspora. Lesotho has an opportunity to explore and design programmes and products, individually and in collaboration, aimed at meeting diaspora appetite to invest and willingness to contribute to their home country.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 0.0**

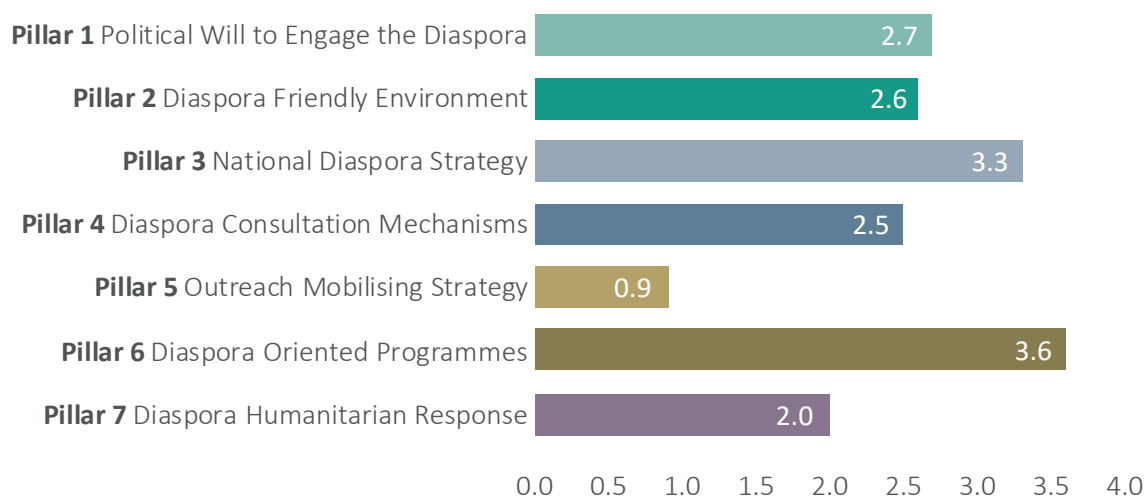
There has been no involvement of the diaspora in humanitarian assistance coordination and planning to date.



### A. 7 Mali

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> June 2021
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Dr Boulaye Keita, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Malians Abroad

#### Mali DESAT Pillar Scores 2021







**Pillar 1**  
**Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.7**

There is political commitment in Mali to amplify the role of the diaspora through a national migration policy and its action plan, adopted by the government in 2014. The Ministry in Charge of Malians is the dedicated focal point, supported by the Delegation of Malians Abroad. The Ministry has technical capacity amongst its staff and is mainly funded through donors. Some multi-stakeholder coordination with other government ministries is undertaken.

**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.6**

Mali's diaspora are able to obtain dual citizenship, have voting rights and can participate in national elections from their host countries. There is diaspora representation in government by six diasporans on the national Transition Council, the interim government.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 3.3**

The National Migration Policy has been in place since 2014 and is being implemented. The policy was developed in consultation with the Malian diaspora, who have been very active in the development of Mali before the policy was adopted.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.5**

Information and awareness missions to diaspora host countries are carried out at

both policy and technical level and there are plans to create a diaspora website. Malian diaspora associations in host countries are key facilitators in consultation with the diaspora and for capacity building.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 0.9**

A data collection strategy and database should be created to house qualitative data on the diaspora that is regularly updated, improving the pillar score. Diaspora information is published through official websites of the State and the Diplomatic and Consular Missions. Cultural event support is limited to government participation in events when invited.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 3.6**

The TOKTEN programme has been facilitating skills and knowledge transfer from the Malian diaspora since 1998 and there have been some investment initiatives that have targeted the diaspora.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 2.0**

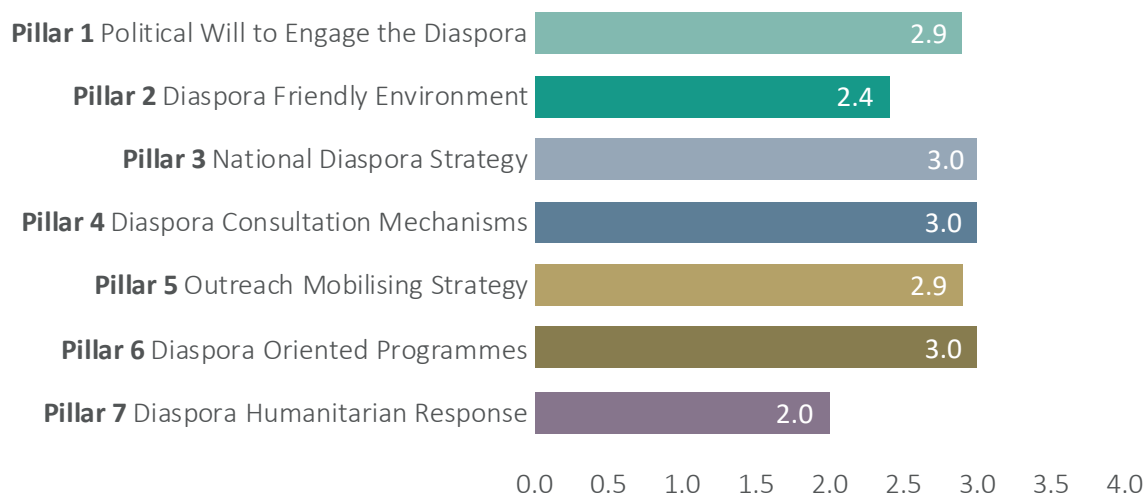
Current diaspora involvement in humanitarian coordination and planning is weak but there are known diaspora humanitarian actors due to previous humanitarian support during the Mali war, in 2012.



## A. 8 Nigeria

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> June 2021
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Funmi Komolafe, Principal ICT Manager, NidCom

### Nigeria DESAT Pillar Scores 2021





### **Pillar 1** **Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.9**

Political commitment has been shown through the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM), an established government agency for the diaspora. NiDCOM is the dedicated focal point to the diaspora and all major government agencies have a diaspora desk for engagement. There is a good technical capacity in NiDCOM and a budget was allocated to the agency for the first time in 2021. There is a good level of multi-stakeholder cooperation.

### **Pillar 2** **Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.4**

Dual citizenship is possible and the diaspora have all the same rights as a Nigerian living in Nigeria. There is diaspora representation in government. There are plans for an investment incentive framework, pre-departure and diaspora overseas services. Introduced in 2021 by the Central Bank of Nigeria, the “Naira for Dollar Scheme” is a remittance focused initiative that offers NGN 5 to remittance receivers for every USD 1 sent to them.

### **Pillar 3** **National Diaspora Strategy, 3.0**

The National Diaspora Policy was launched in 2021, following a long period of approval. The diaspora had a good level of consultation on the policy and there are linkages with other government policies.

### **Pillar 4** **Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 3.0**

Diaspora desks at major government ministries, departments and agencies are the major formal communication channels with

the diaspora. NiDCOM is now the central channel for any form of communication. Diaspora consultation takes place at Annual Diaspora Day Conferences and at diaspora functions in and outside of Nigeria. There is a good level of capacity building through embassies.

### **Pillar 5** **Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.9**

There is a growing, regularly updated diaspora database within NiDCOM and a portal for data collection and mapping is being developed. Visibility to the diaspora is promoted through the annual National Diaspora Day overseas and NiDCOM ensures they are well represented. Specific diaspora and investment information is regularly published in the NiDCOM website.

### **Pillar 6** **Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 3.0**

The Diaspora Investment Summit is convened annually in collaboration with the Nigeria Diaspora and Alumni Network (NIDAN) and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission. There have been some joint programmes on skills and knowledge transfer in the past and a Nigeria Diaspora Technology Summit is being considered.

### **Pillar 7** **Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 2.0**

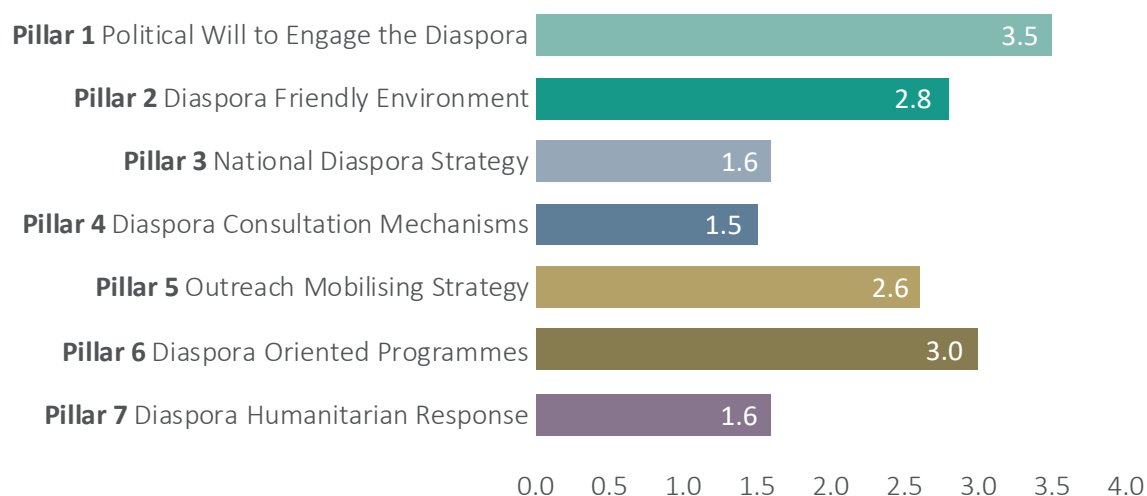
Nigeria has a good level of diaspora involvement in humanitarian coordination and planning through the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, which also houses a diaspora desk representing NiDCOM. There is some mapping of humanitarian diaspora actors but no capacity building between the diaspora and the humanitarian focal point.



## A. 9 Senegal

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> August 2021
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Ibrahim Cisse, Director, Support to investments of diaspora

### Senegal DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### **Pillar 1 Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 3.5**

The government has shown a strong commitment to the Senegalese diaspora, coining them the “15th region of Senegal”. The Directorate-General for Senegalese Abroad

(Directorat Générale des Sénégalais de l’Extérieur, DGSE) is the diaspora focal point. There is a good level of technical capacity within the directorate but financial capacity is low with a less than sufficient budget for project implementation. There is some multi-stakeholder coordination at all levels.



**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.8**

Dual citizenship is offered. There is the right to vote and voter education. The diaspora can vote in national elections in all host countries, as long as they are registered with a voters card. There is good representation of the diaspora within government. There is a framework for transportability of social benefits – signed and agreement with Spain and other countries. There is good political representation of the diaspora within government and specific incentive frameworks in place for the diaspora.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 1.6**

Whilst there is no official diaspora strategy, several initiatives exist and are being implemented at Directorate-General level and through the diplomatic missions. There is a good level of input from the diaspora as there is regular feedback mechanisms from the missions. Plan Sénégal Emergent 2014-2035 (PSE) sets out Senegal’s development priorities. including the aim to boost economic cooperation, regional integration and the participation of Senegalese abroad.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 1.5**

The main communication channels with the diaspora are through social media, particularly Facebook, there are no formal channels of communication at present. The diaspora also communicate directly with embassies and consulates in host countries, this channel is used for any consultation activities required. There is some level of consular capacity building being implemented.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.6**

There are several pools of diaspora data across different government ministries, agencies and departments but this information is not consolidated or up to date. A diaspora census is in the pipeline to understand more about diaspora numbers and profiles. Visibility is maintained through the Directorate-General and host country embassies and published diaspora information is planned. Published investment information is readily available and cultural events are supported through directorate attendance and funding, budget dependent.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 3.0**

The Fund in Support of the Investment of Senegalese Abroad (FAISE) promotes investments by Senegalese abroad operating in two parts: the Fund for Senegalese Abroad (FSE) to finance diaspora projects in Senegal, and the Fund for Women in the Diaspora (FFD), which promotes women entrepreneurship in host countries. The Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) programme with UNDP has been implemented.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 1.6**

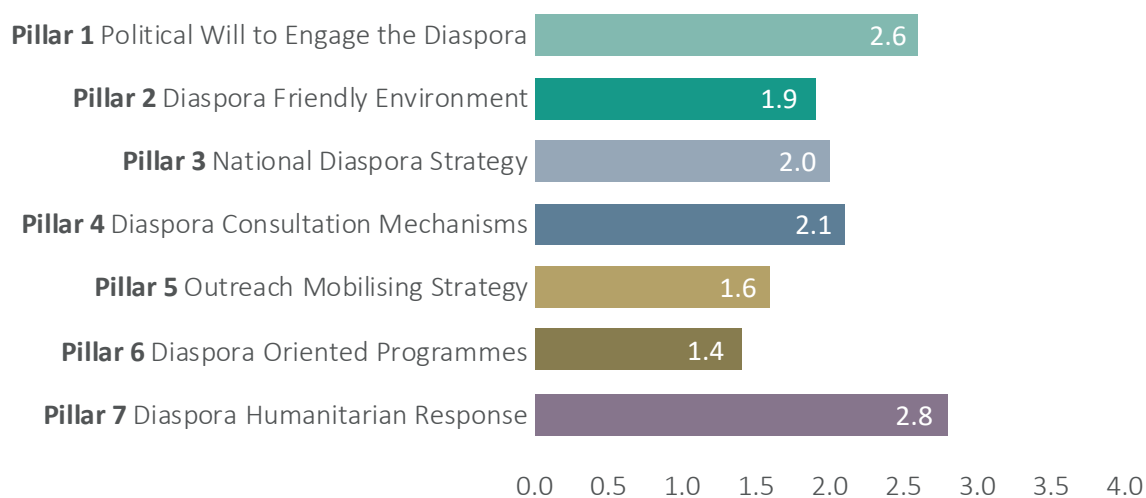
Due to COVID a national mechanism has been created for humanitarian crises response and the Directorate-General for Senegalese Abroad and diasporan political representatives are engaged stakeholders. There has been no mapping of diaspora humanitarian stakeholders and no capacity between the diaspora and humanitarian actors.



## A. 10 Somalia

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed June 2021</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Mohamed Abdi Ali Director of Diaspora Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

### Somalia DESAT Pillar Scores 2021





**Pillar 1**  
**Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.6**

There is consistent political attention focused on the diaspora; the Office of Diaspora Affairs (ODA), as the main diaspora engagement focal point, has been asked to support mobilisation of the diaspora during instability. There is some technical capacity within the ODA and, whilst a budget has been requested for the last two years, there has yet to be an allocation. Multi-stakeholder coordination currently happens on a regular basis.

**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 1.9**

The Somalian diaspora are permitted to become dual citizens and are to participate in national elections in country, with a mechanism to vote abroad being developed. The diaspora has the ability to hold public office and be represented at different levels in government. There are no initiatives that are focused on remittances, but there are plans for a diaspora incentive framework for investments, pre-departure and diaspora overseas services.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 2.0**

In Starting in July 2020, the Diaspora Department will begin a diaspora engagement policy framework with support from IOM, with plans to include the diaspora in consultation and link the framework to the national development plan. Despite no existing formal engagement framework, a number of diaspora organisations are well engaged and registered with the government.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 2.1**

Formal There are formal channels available to the diaspora through email and social media

and more are due to be created with plans to appoint diaspora attachées at embassies abroad. Pre-COVID-19, regular consultation events would take place with the diaspora in-country and in host countries, and there are plans to support capacity building in consular and diaspora networks.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 1.6**

RCAThere are plans for a diaspora database and website to be developed, once a diaspora engagement policy framework is in place. There is some data available on diaspora organisations registered with the government. The Directorate of Somalia Investments will publish investment information that includes the diaspora on occasion and the government will sponsor some cultural events in host countries.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 1.4**

Somalia have held diaspora investment events in the past, but they have not been regularly scheduled or well attended due to a lack of promotional activities. There are plans to develop diaspora skills and knowledge transfer programmes.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response , 2.8**

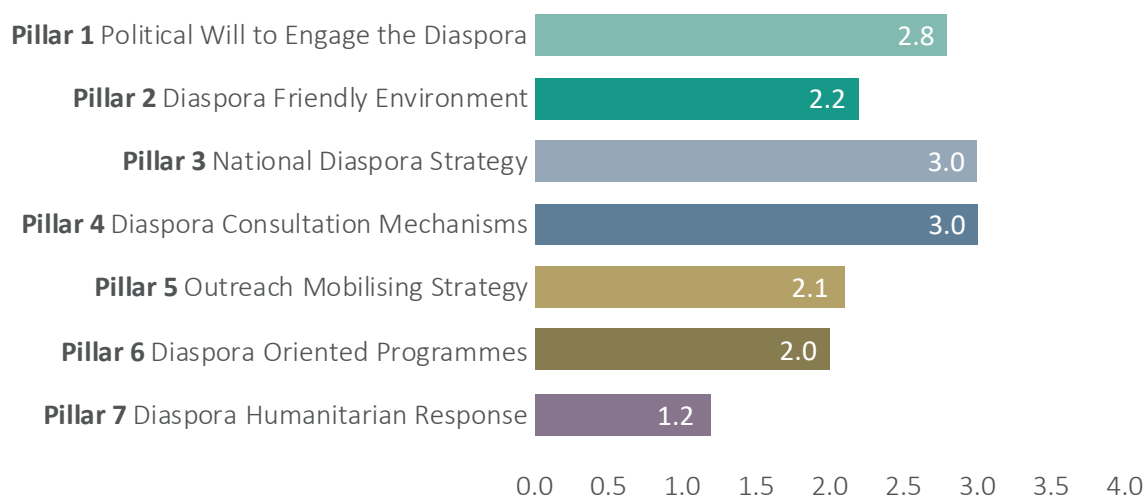
There has been a good level of diaspora involvement in humanitarian assistance coordination and planning to date through the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Humanitarian and Disaster Management. Diaspora organisations with past experience, or potential as humanitarian diaspora actors, have been mapped and there have been ad hoc instances of knowledge sharing and workshops.



### A. 11 Togo

<b>OVERALL DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT SCORE</b>	<b>Completed</b> August 2021
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Completed by</b> Director General of Togolese diaspora

#### Togo DESAT Pillar Scores 2021



#### Pillar 1 Political Will to Engage the Diaspora, 2.8

Togo has shown consistent political will towards mobilising the diaspora through the creation of a Directorate of Togolese Abroad, within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2005 as the diaspora focal point, launch of a government roadmap for Togolese living abroad in 2019 and the creation of a High Council of Togolese Abroad (HCTE) to better structure diaspora representa-

tion and the launch of the Diaspora Window in 2021, a flexible and inclusive online platform to respond to the demands and expectations of Togolese Abroad with projects and support. There is technical capacity within the directorate that needs to be strengthened but there is no specific budget allocated, additional support is provided from technical and financial partners. There is national coordination on diaspora involvement in development, with a wide range of stakeholders in participation.





**Pillar 2**  
**Diaspora Friendly Environment, 2.2**

The diaspora have the right to participate in election but can not be granted dual citizenship. The diaspora is represented in parliament by former diaspora members, with some being appointed whilst in the diaspora. A common investment framework that is applicable to the diaspora and a number of decrees from the Ministry of Economy and Finance relating to diaspora incentive measures. There are some pre-departure and diaspora overseas services available and there are plans for initiatives that focus on remittances.

**Pillar 3**  
**National Diaspora Strategy, 3.0**

The government developed a roadmap for Togolese Abroad in 2019, this has been aligned to the Togo 2025 Plan, the national development plan with an action program to strengthen the contributions of the diaspora to Togo.

**Pillar 4**  
**Diaspora Consultation Mechanisms, 3.0**

There are many diaspora events organised at local level in host countries and this is the main channel used for grass roots communication.

**Pillar 5**  
**Outreach Mobilising Strategy, 2.1**

There is some available data on the diaspora through the diplomatic missions, consular and immigration services. Data collection capacity has been weak due to lack of coordination, however a diaspora mapping and

census project is advanced stages of development. There is some visibility of the High Council of Togolese Abroad's diaspora work through their actions plans and initiatives in collaboration with the diaspora focal point and the diaspora desk. Diaspora information is available through the official website of the Directorate of Togolese Abroad and a guide for Togolese Abroad is being drafted. Some cultural event support is offered through representation at events by heads of diplomatic missions and directorate staff.

**Pillar 6**  
**Diaspora Oriented Programmes, 2.0**

In May 2021, Mali launched the Diaspora Window, an online platform where diaspora can get information related to procedures and steps to follow, to contribute to the country's development. and the action program for strengthening the contributions of the Togolese diaspora in alignment with the Togo 2025 Plan, the country's development roadmap. Flagship projects of the action plan in 2021 include a census of Togolese Abroad and the development of a directory of entrepreneurs and investors from the diaspora.

**Pillar 7**  
**Diaspora Humanitarian Response, 1.2**

The management of humanitarian crises is managed mainly by the National Civil Protection Agency, under the authority of the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection, in the support of NGOs, technical and financial partners. There is a low level of diaspora involvement. A diaspora actors mapping initiative is underway and could help potential diaspora humanitarian actors. There is currently no capacity building between the diaspora and humanitarian actors.

