

# Policy Requirements for Diaspora Engagement: The case of Zambia

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# Contents

- Background Scenario – Zambia
- Status – Diaspora Engagement Policies
- Policy Opportunities and Threats for Zambia

# Background Scenario – Zambia

- Location: Central/Southern Africa
- Population: 12-13 million
- Poverty levels:  $\approx 60\%$
- GDP Growth: 6-8 %
- Aid flows: 2009 ODA \$300m
- Remittance estimates: \$70-80m
- Diaspora location: UK, USA, Canada, Australia, Southern African subcontinent, Global.

# Diaspora Engagement Policies

- Dual citizenship (Parliament, NCC, President)
- Investment promotion (Development Agency)
- Census (Dept. of Registration, CSO)
- Land allocation facilitation (Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Local Government)
- Skilled labour recruitment (Ministry of Labour)
- Remittance transmission (Bank of Zambia, Stock Exchange, private banks)
- Consular assistance/ facilitation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- Policies are not a unitary coordinated state strategy but are spread over numerous institutional and legislative arrangements and programmes that come into effect at various times, for varying reasons in home countries.
- Policies require administering in countries additional to the country owning the policies, affecting persons not resident in the policy implementing country.
  - Gamlen (2006)



# Policy Opportunity – Dual Citizenship/Remittances

Nigeria averaged at \$ 800m per annum, from 1990 to 2001 but increased considerably on attaining dual citizenship in 1999.

**Table 4. Nigeria Remittances from 2000-2006**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
US\$millions	1,392	1,167	1,209	1,063	2,273	3,329	5,397*

Source: Ratha, 2007, p. Nigeria, \*IFAD, 2007, p. 8 The IFAD figure may have been compiled using different methods from the Bank, however for the purposes of this paper it well illustrates the trend.

For Ghana following on from the adoption, average annual remittances rose from \$30-40m range to more than doubling the estimate after the dual citizenship declaration.

**Ghana Remittances from 2000-2006**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
US\$millions	32	46	44	65	82	99

Source: Ratha, 2007, p. Ghana

# Policy Opportunities - Continued

- National Population Census.
- Sixth National Development Plan – Formulation.
- Investment Regulatory frame and Surge.
- Government / IOM collaboration.
- Presidential, Cabinet level support.



# Diaspora Policy Potential Threats

- Inadequate data on Diaspora demographics.
- Low policy formulation coordination – which may result in policy conflict.
- Populist verses technical needs of Diaspora, pending institutional arrangement.

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Thank you