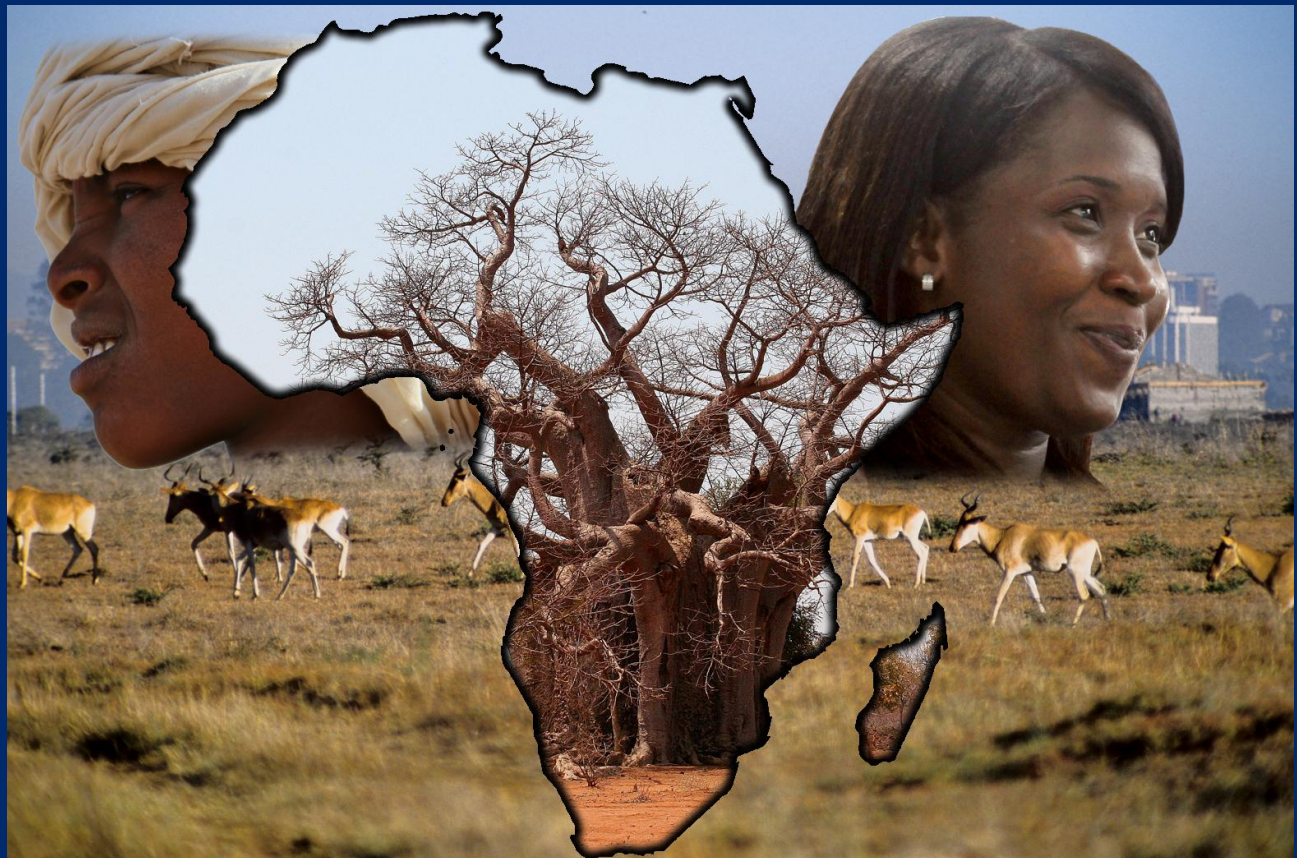




USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN THE U.S. AND ITS INTERACTION WITH BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN AFRICA



June 2012

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The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government

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ACRONYMS

ABCG	Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group
ACTS	The African Center for Technology Studies
ADESO	Africa Development Solutions
AU	African Union
AWF	African Wild Life Foundation
BATS	USAID Africa Bureau's Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support Program
BCI	Bonobo Conservation Initiative
BCTF	Bushmeat Crisis Task Force
CDD	Community-driven Development
CEANA	Council of Ewe Associations of North America
CI	Conservation International
CMP	Conservation Measures Partnerships
DAC	Developing Congo Another Way
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAWLS	East African Wild life Society
FDA	Foundation for Democracy in Africa
FDI	foreign direct investment
FESS	Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability
FLASC	Florida Africana Studies Consortium
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IdEA	International diaspora Engagement Alliance
IDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IMO	International Migration Organization
IRG	International Resources Group
IRTC	International Research and Training Center (Cameroon)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JGI	Jane Goodall Institute
MPI	Migration Policy Institute

MUIENR	Makerere University of Environment and Natural Resources (Uganda)
NGOs	non-governmental organizations
NIDO	Nigerians in the Diaspora Organization
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
PAES	Partnership for African Environmental Sustainability
PBS	Public Broadcasting Services
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TRAFFIC	Trade Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce
UCLA	University of California Los Angeles
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCN	Wild Life Conservation Network
WCS	Wild Life Conservation Society
WWF	World Wild Life Fund

BACKGROUND

"What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility – a recognition on the part of every American that we have duties to ourselves, our nation and the world; duties that we do not grudgingly accept, but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character than giving our all to a difficult task."

–President Barack Obama, Inaugural Address, January 2009

The financial power of the African Diaspora (hereafter referred to also as “the African Diaspora” or “the Diaspora”) community in the United States is evident through remittances, private and institutional philanthropy, investment projects, and private equity funds. Diaspora communities are articulate advocates for change in their countries of origin across generations. There is, however, little information on the linkages between Diaspora individuals/communities and natural resources conservation in Africa. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Africa and its conservation partners have cooperated in this study to identify existing collaboration between conservation groups and the Diaspora, as well as the Diaspora and biodiversity conservation initiatives in their countries of origin. Based on findings, the partners make preliminary recommendations for expanding these linkages for increased conservation and development impact in Africa.

To the USAID Africa Bureau’s Biodiversity Analysis and Technical Support (BATS) partners,¹ this diaspora “represents a potentially powerful communication vehicle for advocacy, funding, and organizational resource for effecting lasting change on behalf of biodiversity conservation and natural resources management in Africa.”²

The study was conducted in two parts:

1. A baseline survey to understand the nature, aims, and actions of African Diaspora communities in the United States, the range and diversity of organizations and activities they engage in, the various tools they use, their institutions and methods currently deployed, and how they align their interests with the conservation community.
2. To use this understanding in conjunction with ideas and input from a focus group to produce a *White Paper* that will identify, recommend and analyze appropriate actions for USAID and its conservation partners to act as facilitators or catalysts for interaction within an emerging community of practice.

This White Paper aims at understanding the knowledge needs for USAID and its conservation partners to engage the African Diaspora in biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa. The findings and recommendations in this paper support the contention that engaging the African Diaspora more effectively in biodiversity conservation represents a timely and innovative approach.

This White Paper is anticipated as an information resource to provide perspective for policy-makers, advisors, directors, and managers, and also government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

¹ The current BATS team consists of US Forest Service’s International Programs office, the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG), the Environmental Law Institute, Development Alternatives, Inc. CK2C project and International Resources Group (IRG). ABCG is comprised of African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Conservation International (CI), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

² International Resources Group Statement of Work, Work Order No. I CA-USGI, December 2011

personnel engaged in biodiversity conservation programs in Africa. The White Paper suggests promoting synergies and complementarities between USAID and its partners, the African diaspora communities in the United States, and between these, their non-governmental partners on the continent and the states' institutions. It suggests improvement in the effectiveness of communication and advocacy activities undertaken by USAID and its biodiversity partners through collaboration with the African diaspora communities in the United States.

The African Diaspora might also benefit from this document in engaging the field of biodiversity conservation in their countries of origin. The White Paper analyzes the recommendations of the current forms of engagement with African Diaspora communities/organizations in biodiversity conservation and identifies concrete ways for improving that engagement. These recommendations will give policy-makers an opportunity to lead the way toward different forms of engaging the African Diaspora; acknowledging and harnessing their potential for biodiversity conservation in the continent. The White Paper's findings are relevant to other USAID Diaspora programs and can be used to incorporate the lessons learned from the African Diaspora and biodiversity conservation's experience into new programs.

STUDY METHODS

This report was prepared from the review of relevant documents, websites, and literature on the African Diaspora in the United States and its role in conservation in Africa. A short online survey questionnaire was prepared and distributed to conservation organizations, academic institutions, and foundations that implement and support conservation initiatives in Africa. The survey asked a set of 10 questions to determine the level of Diaspora collaboration with these institutions and to gauge their general level of interest for potential engagement with the conservation community. Of the 19 surveys sent out, 15 responses were received.

Telephone calls and meetings were also held with resource individuals and organizations (See Resource List). In addition, a half-day Focus Group discussions was convened between USAID representatives, conservation institutions staff, and African Diaspora organizations to review the findings and make recommendations. (See Annex A)

NOTE TO THE READER

In general understanding, the African Diaspora includes continental Africans and African-descended peoples that exist globally, following a series of subsequent migrations. Diaspora creation includes, first of all, migration, but also involves some historical, emotive, political, economic, and cultural connections to a homeland and a consciousness of that interaction.

This study focuses on one of the constituencies of the African Diaspora – the contemporary continental African Diaspora specifically located in the United States. Because of its more recent formation and for the purposes of this study, the understanding of the African Diaspora refers to “continental African ethnic minority groups of migrant origins residing and acting in the United States but maintaining strong sentimental and material links with their countries of origin – their homelands.”³

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Babacar MBow is an independent scholar whose work focuses on bridging academic and community knowledge. He has widely published on the subjects of African Diaspora memory, modernity, post-modernity, political philosophy, and sustainable development. He served for 11 years as the Broward County Libraries Division International Programs & Exhibitions Coordinator. He is the editor of *Philippe Dodard: An Idea of Modernity in Haitian Contemporary Art* (Deschamps/Educa, 2008), the award-winning

³ For a more exhaustive discussion on the subject see Carole Boyce Davies and Babacar Mbow. *Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins Experiences, and Culture*. Vol. I, II, III, ABC-CLIO, Santa Barbara, California, Denver, Colorado, Oxford, England, 2008.

Benin: A Kingdom in Bronze (Broward Library, 2004), *Plugging: Identities in Contemporary Haitian Art* (FLASC, 2011), and was co-editor with Claudine Michele of *Hersya Barjon: The Descent of the Lwa* (UC Santa Barbara, 2005). He is the Managing Editor of the three-volume *Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora* (Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2008).

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I. INTRODUCTION

The past two decades have seen a marked increase in the attention given by USAID to the issue of biodiversity conservation in Africa. Through the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act, Congress's biodiversity earmark, and coordinated action by USAID and its implementing partners, sustained efforts to improve biodiversity conservation in Africa have led to a broadening and deepening of biodiversity initiatives and goals within USAID/Africa programming. This increased programming has focused primarily on improving direct action in Africa to enhance biodiversity conservation. While USAID has been working with Africans based in Africa to implement conservation initiatives, the significant population of the African Diaspora in the United States has not significantly been involved in these efforts.

Diaspora communities have been forged worldwide as a result of international migration that has occurred both by choice and force. In the last 35 years, the number of worldwide international migrants has almost doubled, from 76 million to 150 million. As migration has increased, so has the level of engagement by these communities in their country of origin. In this regard, remittance flows have garnered significant attention as the second-largest source of financial resources to developing countries, just behind foreign direct investment (FDI). Diaspora communities also play a vibrant role in the development in their country of origin beyond remittances in the form of investments, volunteerism, information and knowledge transfer, and tourism and trade, to name a few.

In 2009, USAID commissioned studies conducted by the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) to analyze diaspora engagement in areas such as entrepreneurship, philanthropy, capital markets, nostalgic trade and tourism, volunteerism, and advocacy. In November 2010, MPI released the six studies in a book titled "Diasporas: New Partners in Global Development Policy."

Following on work with African Diaspora networks to encourage development via entrepreneurship, and enterprise development (e.g., USAID-funded African Diaspora Marketplace), USAID now looks to understand how and where the motives and desires of African Diaspora groups intersect with its biodiversity conservation aims.

Biodiversity conservation in Africa, as it is implemented by USAID and its partners, has not given priority to interaction with the African Diaspora communities in the United States. The reasons why the African Diaspora and the biodiversity conservation community have not worked more closely seem to point to the process used for developing policies and funding sources for biodiversity groups as one of the potential causes. These policies and funding sources were conceptualized before the acknowledgment of the African Diaspora's potentially crucial role in African development in general and biodiversity conservation in particular. Another cause may be simply that conservation and African Diaspora movements developed independently and were motivated by different reasons and focuses.

The potential impact of the U.S.-based African Diaspora on biodiversity conservation has failed to gain the attention of those communities in areas where Diaspora organizations and institutions could be actively mobilized. The key constraint to their successful political mobilization lies primarily in their lack of awareness, which in turn stems from an absence of inquiry into potential benefits. Such a limited knowledge base hinders formulating appropriate policies and practices that could be translated into feasible strategic interventions and realizable actions.

The human resources and strategic potential of the African Diaspora in the United States have not been sufficiently leveraged to promote and advance effective biodiversity conservation policies and programs in Africa. Over the past 10 years, the aspect of the Diaspora that has received the most attention from academics and government agencies has been the size, direction, and impact of financial remittances transferred by the Diaspora to their respective homelands (Newland & Patrick 2004). The Diaspora,

however, also transfers non-financial values that influence the development of its homelands, and values that could make a significant contribution to the environment on the continent.⁴

This White Paper explores the state of the African Diaspora communities in the United States, their institutions, and their peoples. It examines the interactions of these communities with conservation efforts in Africa and the literature on these interactions, as well as the challenges and opportunities for policy development for U.S. agencies and their subsidiary circles in aligning themselves with African Diaspora communities in the United States. The successful harnessing of these opportunities will require a broad spectrum of resourceful actors and stakeholders in conservation circles and beyond, both in Africa and in the United States.

⁴ Isodore Okpewho and Nkiru Nzegwu. *The New African Diaspora*, Indiana University Press, Indiana 2009.

2. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- A survey of African Diaspora associations, conservation organizations, foundations, and academic institutions with conservation initiatives in Africa has confirmed minimal engagement of the Diaspora in biodiversity and natural resource conservation.
- Conservation organizations are enthusiastic about engaging the African Diaspora in their work, although many have not yet actively thought of mechanisms for doing so. There is eagerness to find out more about Diaspora associations and interests.
- Diaspora individuals and associations have not yet considered conservation a priority for engagement, which may seem to reflect an enthusiasm deficit for the issue. The root cause of this seems to suggest conservation is still being associated with traditional Western interests and values; hence, the Conservation organizations and USAID need to demonstrate conservation relevance and communicate links with development priorities.
- Some Diaspora individuals and groups have established environmental initiatives in Africa. These are largely driven by personal desires and interests to address specific environment and/or social issues in Africa. The programs are generally plugged into the wider conservation apparatus in the United States.
- Developments in the environment sector – such as green development, payment for environmental services, private sector partnerships, global tourism and international trade opportunities – provide fresh ground for engaging the Diaspora.
- Climate change is emerging as a field of interest for the Diaspora – having observed its impacts in Africa, the pressure it exerts on fragile ecosystems and livelihoods, as well as the interest in African governments to be engaged in managing for climate and other global change.

3. THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN THE UNITED STATES

The term *African Diaspora* refers to the dispersal of African peoples all over the world. The word *diaspora* is of Greek origin (*dia*, meaning “through,” and *spora*, which refers to the process of sowing). Thus, *diaspora* refers to the dispersal of seeds as well as the result of the dispersal. The implication of “through” in the first part of the word also gives a metaphorical sense of the movement aspects of diaspora, that is, “through different routes.” (Boyce-Davies & Mbow 2008) The dispersal that created the African Diaspora occurred through forced migration (transatlantic slavery) from the 15th to the 19th century and more recent induced migrations caused by internal conflicts and imbalances within the global economy. These processes resulted in the relocation and redefinition of Africans in a range of new locations throughout the world.

As part of the new global migration of skilled and unskilled people leaving areas of low capital formation and economic development for highly advanced economies, the Africans who have settled in the United States during the last decades represent the largest number of Africans in more than 200 years to have done so. Holly E. Reed and Catherine S. Andrzejewski provide data on [demographic and socioeconomic characteristics](#) of African immigrants in the U.S. The addition of data from the 2007 American Survey also added more updated data. Kristen McCabe’s [size and geographic distribution](#) puts the number of African immigrants residing in the United States in 2009 at about 1.5 million. The top countries of origin for the African born were Nigeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghana, and Kenya.

The African Diaspora is amongst the fastest growing populations in the United States – although small compared to other foreign-born groups such as the Latino and Asian communities. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that approximately 364,000 Africans had immigrated to the U.S. by 1990, and this population more than doubled to over 881,000 by 2000.

GROUP TYPOLOGY OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

The U.S.-based African Diaspora is involved in many activities that benefit its home countries. A World Bank estimate of documented remittance flows to Sub-Saharan Africa in 2003 is \$4 billion.⁵ These remittances provide much-needed finances for ensuring household security and alleviating poverty. Remittances also help siblings, kin, and friends to start or expand businesses, build houses, and undertake self-financed projects and investments. As social networks, they mobilize through hometown and national associations and groups for community development.

The African Diaspora community network is very diverse; the published figures range between 400 and 600 association and community organizations.⁶ This proliferation reflects both the mosaic of nationalities and ethnicities of this immigration, and also the dynamism of social actors who explore the areas of freedom of American society.

⁵ According to Sander and Maimbo (2005), recorded remittances do not reflect the true picture: In Sudan, for example, informal remittances are estimated to account for 85% of total remittance receipts. <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTFINDINGS/Resources/find247.pdf> While African governments have not been able to use their Diaspora remittances in ways that other regions have (e.g., in securitization), immigrants who use official banking channels have helped expand banking services by increasing the number of rural people who open and maintain bank accounts, thereby laying the groundwork for improved credit access in rural areas.

⁶ Les migrants d'Afrique. *Afrique-États-Unis* 630(1993): 26.

COUNTRY, MULTI-COUNTRY NETWORKS AND HOST COUNTRY LOBBYING AFRICAN DIASPORA ORGANIZATIONS⁷

While the African Diaspora is often organized along hometown/village and ethnic lines, national and host country lobbying umbrella groups are also emerging.

Sample of African Networks and Organizations

Organization	Address
Association of Angola People in U.S.	4846 North Lawrence, Philadelphia, PA 19120
Manu Elements Cultural & Development Association	P.O. Box 13013 Silver Springs, MD 20911 Tel: (301) 592-1988
Association of Congolese Community in Los Angeles	1531 N. Fuller Avenue, 20 W. Hollywood, CA 90046 Tel: (323) 874-0193
Cape Verdean Progressive Center / (Cape Verdean Women's Guild)	329 Grosvenor Avenue East Providence, RI 02914
Egyptian American Cultural Assoc.	P.O. Box 3725 Maclean, VA 22103 Tel: (310) 295-2755
Ethiopian Community Development Council	1038 South Highland St. Arlington, VA 22204 Tel: (703) 685-0510
Akuapem-Mma Fekuw Association	14105 Jeremiah Lane, Bowie, MD 20721 Tel: (301) 390-5145
Assembly of Nigerian Nationals	654 Girard St, NW, 512 Washington, DC 20001
The Foundation for Democracy in Africa	1200 G St NW Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005 Tel: (202) 331-1333
Nigeria Foundation for Social-Economic Development	650 Rockefeller Building Cleveland, OH 44101 Tel: (216) 771-5632
Association of Senegalese in the United States	6 West Broadway, 5 th New York, NY 10001
Ugandan National American Association, Washington D.C. Chapter	P.O. Box 11595 Burke, VA 22009 Tel: (202) 473-1592

⁷ For a more extensive list of contemporary African Diaspora organizations, see *Resource List*

4. DIASPORA ATTITUDES TOWARDS BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN AFRICA⁸

Judging from our interviews and research, members of the African Diaspora exhibit the full range of attitudes towards biodiversity conservation – from enthusiastic to negative. Many tend to see mainstream conservation of biodiversity as the preserve of international organizations and as a matter removed from their immediate interest and concern. The image of the white hunter turned conservationist who protects the wild life from rural communities is etched in many minds. This stereotyped protectionist model has been reproduced through the many conservation and national park-themed films and stories further promoting the myth of a wild Africa without Africans.

For many in the Diaspora, this is the image they have brought with them to their adopted country. They express their reservations about modern-day explorers and conservationists in Africa and consider them vestiges of a bygone colonial era. There is some unease about the enthusiasm that wild life conservation attracts from Western countries, further entrenching the idea that conservation is a foreign concept based on Western sensibilities and values.

Among the Diaspora are some people who have never actively considered biodiversity conservation (at least from its mainstream conceptualization) and others who reject the idea entirely – as they believe it to be a concept interesting only to Western tourists. There are those who have made a conscious decision not to involve themselves in issues surrounding protected areas in their home countries. They believe that conservation in general and large protected areas in particular already attract a lot of money and the problem is the lack of trickle-down effect to park-adjacent communities.

Many express their frustrations with the inability of national authorities to channel enough resources to the actual management of national parks and reserves. Hence, they prefer to steer clear of issues surrounding protected areas as they tend to attract the attention of corrupt politicians interested in them as sources of side revenue. Instead, they concentrate on other economic and social development initiatives in neglected urban and rural communities.

At the same time, many in the Diaspora have similar stories of families and relatives having to walk long distances for firewood and water, the disappearance of wooded areas and forests they knew when they were young, and how they no longer see the familiar wild life of their youth. It is important to them to see the restoration of the landscapes they remember from their childhoods; the connection between this desire and current conservation action in Africa by Western organizations is not readily apparent.

⁸ This section is a summary of attitudes that emerged during various conversations with Diaspora representatives.

5. DEVELOPMENTS IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN AFRICA

Over the past decades, the face of biodiversity conservation has been evolving on the continent. Conservation efforts have moved away from the traditional protectionist approach of hard border parks to managed use of natural resources for the benefit of African peoples. (USAID, 2008) Although the large global conservation organizations still dominate the field, national African organizations such as Nature Kenya, Rwanda Environmental Conservation Organization, The Wild Life and Conservation Society of Zambia, and Cameroon Environmental Watch have gained prominence and are actively engaged in conservation on the ground.

Talented and dedicated Africans are now at the helms of conservation initiatives and institutions in Africa and internationally. Individuals such as Professor Wangaari Maathai⁹ inspired and encouraged people to action at home and abroad. In various countries, a number of young and dynamic Africans have emerged on the biodiversity conservation scene. There is also an impressive level of awareness of issues such as climate change and biodiversity – even among young school children.¹⁰

Over the past two decades, the topic of biodiversity conservation has been incorporated in the education system of many countries and children are developing an appreciation for biodiversity and conservation from a very early age¹¹ (Albrecht and Seeley (Eds) 1987, Muller and Betley 2009, McDuff 2000). This may translate into Africans arriving in the U.S. with more interest in conservation in their home countries.

Conservation is still a lonely road for many in Africa, and often gets edged out by economic and other priorities. Those working in conservation are faced with common problems, such as corruption, mismanagement, and lack of resources. People who manage to implement conservation against the odds need to be given platforms, such as the Goldman Environmental Prize,¹² to help promote the successes and opportunities of conservation-minded ventures. Stories of individuals facing and surmounting difficulties for the good of their people and their environment may resonate with the Diaspora, as many of them left their homelands frustrated by similar challenges.

Looming threats such as climate change and chronic food insecurity present grounds for Diaspora engagement through cross-cutting initiatives and the demonstration of development linkages with biodiversity conservation. Opportunities to work on innovations in renewable energy, sustainable farming, and in new technology to improve access to information, security, and transparency are now more apparent and provide attractive entry points for new collaborations.

⁹ Wangari Maathai (1940-2011) was a Kenyan environmentalist and political activist. Dr Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement that focused on planting trees, environmental conservation and women's rights. She was a member of Parliament and an Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources. In 2004, she became the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for "her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace".
<http://greenbeltmovement.org/w.php?id=3>

¹⁰ During the implementation of the World Bank program [Connect4climate](#), implementers were impressed by the level of knowledge regarding climate change and biodiversity among young children in Africa.

¹¹ http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACL961.pdf, <http://www.ces.aed.org/pdfs/Africa2.pdf>

¹² <http://www.goldmanprize.org/>

6. DIASPORA-LED CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT-RELATED PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

The organizations presented in this section were all established and led by members of the African Diaspora. None of them fit the traditional conservation organization model, yet have within them components oriented towards biodiversity conservation. There may be more Diaspora-led initiatives with an environmental bent; however, those presented here were considered more aligned with biodiversity conservation as defined by USAID.

Wild4Life

This San Francisco-based non-profit started out as an HIV prevention and treatment program for wild life conservation employees in sub-Saharan Africa. Wild4Life now provides wider health services to people in rural areas outside the reach of conventional health services. Started in 2008, they have established successful programs at a number of sites in 12 countries.

The founder, Kel Shepey, is a Zimbabwean and a trained wild life biologist who began collaborating with the Wild Life Conservation Network (WCN) on HIV treatment and prevention for their staff in the field. Wild4Life was born of this collaboration and in addition to WCN, it now partners in the field with Wild Life Conservation Society, Wilderness Safaris, One Acre Fund, Gorongosa National Park Restoration Project, Olifants Game Reserve, and Lewa Conservancy.

Dir Biyabir

Formed in 2006, Dir Biyabir is non-profit based in Mountain View, California that supports local development projects in Ethiopia's poorest areas. It was established by a small group of women from the Ethiopian Diaspora. Dir Biyabir has secured funding from the Christensen Fund based in San Francisco to support a youth environmental conservation program in the northern Shewa region of Ethiopia.

This membership-based organization recruits members online as well as by showcasing its projects at Diaspora events.

The Art of Solomon W. Jagwe

Solomon W. Jagwe is an artist, originally from Uganda, who has been living in the U.S. for many years. He specializes in art and visual technology. He has been using his skills to raise awareness about the plight of the mountain gorilla in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and his native Uganda. Some of his recent productions include a comic book in two editions, titled Galiwango Obulamu Bw'ekisodde, Kasobeza. The comic books' hero is Colonel Kasobeza and the books recount his journey from rebel fighter to becoming a forest ranger and a mountain gorilla advocate. The books are currently available in English and Luganda, as Mr. Jagwe is passionate about making his message available to the local people living adjacent to the parks that support gorilla habitats. He also plans to publish them in other local languages.

Mr. Jagwe is currently raising funds to make an animated film entitled Galiwango: A Gorilla's Tale of Survival and Perseverance. The film follows the perils of a baby gorilla captured in the forest and sold into the illegal wild life trade. Through this film, he hopes to raise awareness on deforestation in the Virunga and Bwindi forests and its impact on the Batwa people and wild life. Mr. Jagwe collaborates with the Uganda Wild Life Authority, who help drum up local support for his work.

Horn Relief

Horn Relief is a non-profit with offices in Washington, DC, Kenya, and Somalia that supports development in Somalia through capacity building, youth leadership, empowerment of women, and protection of the environment.

The former Executive Director and co-founder of Horn Relief, Fatima Jibrell, was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for Africa for her social and environmental leadership in starting an environmental movement in Somalia. She has also been awarded the 2008 National Geographic Society/Buford Award for Conservation.

Ms. Jibrell contributed greatly to reducing the destructive charcoal trade and co-established Sun Fire Cooking, which provides low-cost solar cookers to communities in Somalia. By highlighting the importance of a healthy environment, she has managed to work across clan and regional lines to manage natural resources.

Under a new Executive Director, Degan Ali, Horn Relief is now rebranding itself as an African organization and has recently added projects in South Sudan. Their new name will be ADESO (Africa Development Solutions). They currently manage a \$30 million portfolio and receive funding from USAID, the European Union, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and OXFAM (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief), among others. They also received a large amount of funding from the African Diaspora in the U.S. for their famine relief work. They have plans to return to their roots in the environment – which the Executive Director believes should be Africa’s next pressing topic, akin to the movement against apartheid – and launch a call for action to Africans in and outside the continent.

Partnership for African Environmental Sustainability (PAES)

Partnership for African Environmental Sustainability is a registered non-profit in Ethiopia, Uganda, Zambia, and in the United States, where PAES maintains an office in Vienna, Virginia. The key activity areas include sustainable land, water, and forest management; climate change, risk, vulnerability, mitigation and adaptability; and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

The founder and President of PAES, Dr. Mersie Ejigu, is a former Minister of Planning and National Development and was also the Minister of Agriculture in Ethiopia. He was also Assistant Director General for Programs and Policy of International Union for Conservation of Nature in Gland, Switzerland.

Among its recently concluded projects is the “National Strategic Environmental Assessment Guideline” for the Government of Rwanda. The project was sponsored by One UN¹³ and the Government of Rwanda, in collaboration with the Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability (FESS). In the past, PAES has also conducted an environmental threats and opportunities study of Southern Sudan for USAID. The study involved the assessment of biodiversity and tropical forests in order to provide input to the development of a USAID country strategy.

PAES is registered with the World Bank, the African Development Bank, and is accredited to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). It maintains strategic partnerships in and out of Africa. In Africa it partners with The African Center for Technology Studies (ACTS), Addis Ababa University, Makerere University Institute of Environment and Natural Resources (MUIENR), the University of Dar Es Salaam, and the Forum for Social Studies (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia).

Among its funding sources are the European Union, the GEF, The World Bank, United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), and USAID.

¹³ <http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=6064>

7. CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS' ENGAGEMENT WITH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA¹⁴

U.S.-based conservation organizations generally lack formal mechanisms to involve the Diaspora in their programs. Some programs, however, have managed to engage the Diaspora effectively and there is a growing understanding of the potential impact the Diaspora could have on conservation in Africa. Given the magnitude of remittances that flow to the continent as well as the Diaspora's role in sectors such as health and education, conservation organizations have begun to think about harnessing some of these forces for conservation ends.

Conservation organizations tend to have their traditional set of partners with whom they collaborate and exhibit a level of inertia in seeking out non-traditional possibilities. It takes time to establish and maintain new relationships, and therefore organizations understandably have to prioritize the demands on their limited resources. There is also the issue of scale, whereby a larger and more established organization may be slower to take up new ways of doing business.

As the examples of collaborative initiatives cited later in this section show, the engagement with the African Diaspora by conservation organizations is often driven by one or two individuals within the organization, and often in pursuit of achieving a discrete and defined goal. For example, in 2008 World Wild Life Fund teamed up with the U.S.-based Congolese musician, Samba Mapangala, to compose a song about conservation in the Virunga Mountains. A counter-example is provided by the case of the Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI), whereby engaging the Diaspora was at first attempted as an end in itself, simply to "engage" them. In the case of BCI, this has led to unpredictable and mutually beneficial outcomes throughout the lifetime of the program (see below).

Some individuals have had to work with the Diaspora despite opposition and discouragement from their own organizations- an opposition that seems to stem from a lack of appreciation for the power and influence of the Diaspora in home countries. Those who have invested time in building partnerships with Diaspora groups report having benefitted immensely from them. Below are some examples of such engagements.

Example I: Bonobo Conservation Initiative and the Congolese Diaspora

One organization that has had tremendous success in working with the Diaspora is the Bonobo Conservation Initiative, founded in 1998, and active in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since 2001. BCI President Sally Coxe and other BCI founders partnered with the Congolese Diaspora in the U.S. from before the beginning of the program. On a personal quest to learn Lingala, one of the main languages in DRC, Ms. Coxe joined a Congolese evangelical church in the Washington, DC area and met individuals who were later instrumental in enabling her to set up a culturally appropriate and locally embedded and originated program on the ground. Some of the individuals she met in the church went on to play significant roles in BCI. One fellow church attendee served on the BCI Board of Directors and later returned to DRC to work in the government, and later, the private sector, facilitating support for BCI and its Congolese NGO partners. Congolese medical professionals in the Diaspora advised BCI on creating a health clinic in Kokolopori. Others helped translate documents.

¹⁴ Views expressed in this section are summaries of conversations with conservation practitioners (See Resource List).

Ms. Coxe has managed to establish genuine and mutually respectful relationships with the Congolese Diaspora. From facilitating an innovative Sister City cooperation between Falls Church City, Virginia and Kokolopori in DRC (which hosts the community-based Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve), to sponsoring an individual to learn how to set up eco-villages, creating his own NGO, and facilitating relationships with faith-based communities in the DRC, her partnerships have had a transformative effect on the program.

The Diaspora has many, varied relationships with BCI; this would merit a small case study of its own.

Example 2: Focus groups in Bushmeat study¹⁵

Beginning in July 2007, Responsive Management, a company that specializes in survey research on natural resources and outdoor recreation issues, worked with the Bushmeat Crisis Task Force (BCTF) to conduct a series of focused group surveys of Central and West Africans living in the U.S. The focus group surveys were carried out to find out the demand and awareness of the illegal bushmeat trade in the U.S. The focus groups were selected in the major metropolitan areas of Atlanta, New York, and Washington, DC. The project was funded by TRAFFIC, the wild life trade monitoring network; the Wild Life Conservation Society; and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Responsive Management used Diaspora individuals with wide networks in the Diaspora communities to find groups for the studies. The study gathered information on general attitudes to bushmeat consumption within the groups and helped BCTF determine possible means to address the bushmeat crisis through protein/food substitutes, law enforcement, education, and awareness.

Example 3: Samba Mapangala & Virunga

In 2008 WWF partnered with a U.S.-based Congolese musician, Samba Mapangala, who is very famous throughout Central and East Africa, to produce awareness-raising conservation-themed songs. He has also taken on environmental stewardship as his favorite topic and includes it in most of his new songs.

Matthew Lewis of the WWF African Species Conservation Program had been a fan of Mr. Mapangala's music for a very long time and knew how popular he was in East Africa. When he discovered that Mr. Mapangala lived near Washington, DC, he contacted him about working with WWF on an awareness project through music. He was very enthusiastic about the initiative, and he has since independently taken his environmental-themed music on tour in Africa. It is difficult to formally measure awareness levels before and after the project, but WWF is reasonably comfortable that the song has reached its target audience.

Example 4: Capacity building initiative at Njala University, Sierra Leone

The Capacity Building program within the Wild Life Without Borders of the U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service is supporting a capacity building program at Njala University in Sierra Leone in collaboration with Dr. Mohamed Bakarr, a native of Sierra Leone, who is a Senior Environmental Advisor at the Global Environment Facility in Washington, DC. The aims of this project are for faculty of Njala University to conduct capacity needs assessments and to develop short courses on wild life and

THE NKOYI MERIT AWARD

During the annual Congolese independence celebrations in 2009, the Congolese Community of the Greater Washington DC Metro Area presented BCI with the Honorary Nkoyi Merit Award of Goodwill for "outstanding achievements in community development and nature conservation." The Kokolopori Falls Church Sister City Partnership also received an Honorary Nkoyi Merit Award.

The awards, which in the past were given only to Congolese individuals, are a testament to BCI's place among the Congolese Diaspora network, and their recognition of the project's place in their home country.

¹⁵ http://www.responsivemanagement.com/download/reports/Bushmeat_Focus_Group_Report_3.pdf and

http://www.responsivemanagement.com/download/reports/Bushmeat_Focus_Group_Report_1_2.pdf

protected area management for government agencies, civil society, and the private sector. There will be a follow-up new short course on conservation that will involve experts from within and outside Sierra Leone.

Dr. Bakar envisions this collaboration as the beginning of a larger goal to establish a West African Conservation and Biodiversity Center at Njala University. He has made many contacts during his career in international conservation, and will draw on these relationships to ensure world-class technical input to the Center's development and operation.

Example 5: University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) International Research and Training Center in Cameroon

UCLA has established the International Research and Training Center (IRTC) in Yaoundé, Cameroon. This permanent regional research hub in the Congo basin will train African scientists and make available the wealth of knowledge and expertise found within the extensive University of California system.

The IRTC will support research in areas of climate change and environmental degradation, among others. One of the directors of the program is Dr. Kevin Yana Njabo, who is based at the Center for Tropical Research Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at the University of California Los Angeles. The training center could provide the opportunity for diaspora scientists to train the next crop of natural resource managers in the Congo Basin.

8. CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS' ENGAGEMENT OF THE FOREIGN MISSIONS

Many conservation organizations keep informal contact with embassies of countries where they implement programs. The relationship often consists of embassy representatives being invited to talks given by visiting field staff at conservation organizations. There do not seem to be any formal channels of communication with the embassies whereby organizations provide regular updates on program activities, and periodic contacts are largely ad hoc and opportunistic in nature.

African Wild Life Foundation tries to maintain a relationship with all Washington, DC-based African diplomatic missions, with more frequent contact with embassy officials of countries where AWF has significant presence. In particular, Jimmiel Mandima, a Director for Program Design, Policy at AWF, and his predecessor, have maintained regular contact with relevant representatives of the embassies of Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, among others, and have started making inroads to West African embassies such as Benin. AWF also maintains contact with the African Union Diplomatic Mission in Washington, DC, which allows it to reach out to the pan-African diplomatic constituents under the auspices of the African Union (AU). AWF makes an effort to keep the embassies abreast of major developments in AWF conservation programs in their respective countries through special events and small group meetings, whenever practically feasible. An example of such outreach was the joint hosting of a luncheon to celebrate AWF's 50th Anniversary in 2011.

Embassies tend to change their staff periodically, which makes building and maintaining links challenging; however, organizations understand that it is important to maintain some level of contact with the embassies. In general, the embassies are interested in conservation activities and programs that have direct relevance to people's livelihoods. The importance of conservation for eco-tourism development is a major draw for them and this linkage is often highlighted at meetings.

9. RESULTS OF ONLINE SURVEY OF CONSERVATION BODIES

A short online survey questionnaire¹⁶ was sent out to conservation organizations, foundations, academic institutions, multi-national organizations, and the Capacity Building section of the U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service's Wild Life Without Borders program. All those surveyed maintain conservation programs in Africa. The 10-question survey was meant to provide a snapshot of the organization's level of engagement with the Africa Diaspora. A follow-up telephone call or personal meeting to the survey responses provided more nuanced findings of the different types and levels of engagement.

Of a total of 19 survey questionnaires sent out, 15 were completed. A large majority of the survey respondents said they considered the study a timely and important initiative and commended USAID for undertaking it. They were also eager to be kept informed of any future developments.

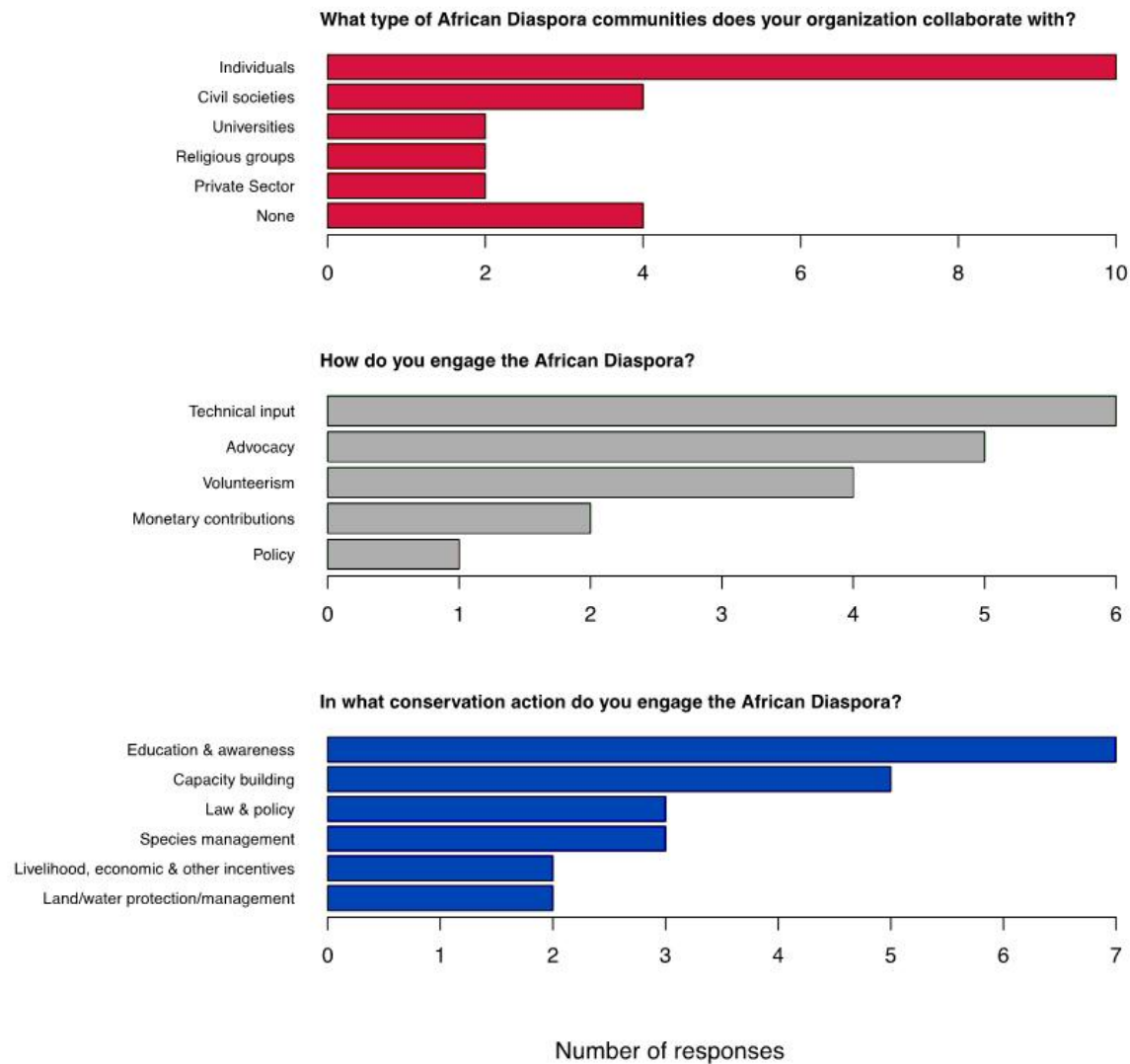
A selected summary of the survey findings is presented in the figure below and takes into account the responses from WWF, WCS, CI, JGI, BCI, the Greenbelt Movement, AWF, MacArthur Foundation, TNC, State University of New York at Albany, Institute for the Conservation of Tropical Environments at Stony Brook University, UCLA Center for Tropical Research, and U.S. Fish and Wild Life Services (Capacity Building, Wild Life Without Borders.)

Findings

- A majority of the collaborations were with Diaspora individuals, which may suggest the opportunistic nature of many of the collaborations.
- Many African students come from families that are in positions to have an effect on biodiversity conservation – whether they are in the military, the government, business, or other positions of influence in their home countries.
- Academic institutions have ready access to the Diaspora through their students. Professors at universities are approached by second-generation Diaspora students interested in research opportunities in their countries of origin.
- One academic institution surveyed actively seeks out the Diaspora by inviting them to events and successfully engages them to participate and provide financial support to ongoing conservation actions.
- There is an interest in finding a mechanism that allows conservation organizations to reach African students and invite them to relevant brownbag presentations or provide them with information on issues of overlapping interests.
- Engaging the Diaspora's expertise provides a culturally appropriate technical assistance and provides capacity building opportunities on the ground.
- Institutions would benefit from a study that provides basic information on the Diaspora and demonstrates the potential power of engaging the Diaspora.

¹⁶ The [Conservation Measures Partnership](#) (CMP) taxonomy of conservation action were used to define our categories of conservation activities

Survey Results: African Diaspora in the U.S. and Biodiversity Conservation



I0.THE AFRICAN DIASPORA: MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS AND POTENTIAL POWERFUL ACTORS FOR CONSERVATION

In the foreword to *Diasporas: New Partners in Global Development Policy*, 2010, Karen D. Turner highlights the emerging recognition of Diaspora groups as both major stakeholders and potentially powerful actors that are using their influence and financial resources to contribute to the development of their countries.¹⁷ This emergence is noticeable in both the United States and African Union (AU) foreign policies.

In the United States, the Obama administration “has identified global engagement and partnership as hallmarks of his foreign policy – a vision that places Diaspora engagement at the heart of U.S. foreign assistance strategies.”¹⁸ The African Union is enthusiastically pursuing the integration agenda in Africa and is reorienting and introducing structures of civil society in the Diaspora and in Africa, to liaise with the processes and formal political structures in Africa. This contributes to the contemporary African Diaspora’s emergence as a major stakeholder and a powerful actor that could be leveraged to support biodiversity conservation.

In the Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, particularly article 3 (q), the Member States of the African Union States Parties to the Constitutive Act of the African Union have agreed to adopt the Constitutive Act to “invite and encourage the full participation of the African Diaspora as an important part of our Continent, in the building of the African Union.”¹⁹

To these ends, the African Union has been holding consultations with its Diaspora groups in North America, Brazil, the Caribbean, and Europe to discuss strategies for designating the African Diaspora worldwide as Africa’s sixth region (along the lines of the regional economic commissions). For example, a Consultative Planning Meeting of the North American African Diaspora was held in Washington, DC in 2004 and in New York City in June 2007. These consultations provided inputs into a high-level AU summit in Johannesburg. Issues of the environment and sustainable development were also part of the 2002 First Africa Union Western Diaspora Forum held in Washington, DC through a special Public Health/Environment session chaired by Dr. Gershwin Blyden.²⁰

After an awareness campaign via the internet and in Congo Brazzaville, conducted by the Association Developing Congo Another Way (DAC) based in Belgium, led by Jean-Claude Beri, about the environmental consequences of the use of plastic bags, the Congolese government had in its Council of Ministers on June 1, 2011, taken the decision to ban the production, importation, and marketing of plastic bags in the Republic of Congo.

This measure will be effective January 20, 2012. A campaign has been launched by the Ministry of Commerce, to raise awareness of the coming into force on the date of this government action.

<http://berijc.over-blog.com/article-la-gestion-du-dossier-interdiction-des-sacs-plastiques-madame-munari-dans-l-impasse-88037047.html>

¹⁷ Karen D. Turner. Foreword: *Diasporas: New Partners in Global Development Policy*. USAID, Migration Policy Institute, Washington DC, 2010

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ www.au.int

²⁰ <http://democracy-africa.org/articles/aurep02final.html#Health and Environ>

While the African Diaspora's involvement with biodiversity conservation are at best slim, their accomplishments in other related fields (political, educational, health, and economic) can serve as precedents for how interactions could leverage future actions. This would, however, require a move by the biodiversity organizations and funding institutions away from scholarship to advocacy. Scholarship differs from advocacy because it embraces a commitment to incremental accumulations of knowledge drawn from analyzing and interpreting an empirical record, and a will to revise that knowledge in light of new information. Advocacy embraces a commitment to a particular position or interest, devising strategies to promote or defend it that change in the light of new configurations of political power or resource flows.²¹ Advocacy would enable members of the African Diaspora to apply its know-how in the field of political, economic, and cultural mobilization to biodiversity conservation.

In recent times, there has been a tremendous interest about Africa's biodiversity generated within the international community resulting in renewed support, substantial pledges, and commitments by and from the continent's development partner-governments. Of the 193 Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the 168 signatures, 34 African countries have already developed National Biodiversity Targets in the framework of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. For Biodiversity conservation communicators, there is no better time than the present to mount an advocacy and communication campaign – to intensify activities and programs in order to take advantage of this unique opportunity to secure wider support within the African Diaspora communities.

Specialized networks of knowledge and professional organizations of the African Diaspora can contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa. These specialized networks include groups outside the mainstream intellectual spheres but can play vital roles in the lives of Africans at home and abroad. Through such organizations, the African Diaspora can participate significantly in biodiversity conservation in Africa.

For conservation to be accessible and exciting to the average Diaspora individual there has to be a shift in the message and the messengers. An effective communication and advocacy strategy should increasingly involve Africans and the African Diaspora currently active in conservation and make linkages between conservation and other development and socio-cultural ongoing initiatives on the continent.

The advocacy/communication strategy must also campaign for and support biodiversity conservation capacity building in the rural areas from where these Diaspora individuals originate. Those implementing the strategy should ensure effective communication between U.S.-based associations, their correspondents on the continent, and national structures.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN THE UNITED STATES

While reference is often made to immigrants' remittances to their home countries, beyond that, the significant contributions of the contemporary African Diaspora in the United States stem from their broader perspectives compared to counterparts who remained at home. Many of these recent immigrants spent significant periods of their lives, including early education, even up to undergraduate level, in their home countries. Further education and socialization in their host countries provided them with an added dimension to problem-solving and finding solutions, which enabled them to discern between state-of-the-art practices and the way things are done in their home countries. Therefore, the potential of the African Diaspora lies in the innovations its members can make in their home countries concerning the way things are done. This innovative capacity can be seen in contributions they have made in their countries' acquisitions and applications of the new tools of communications and mass media.

²¹ David Schoenbrun. African Pasts for African Futures in a time of radical environmental change.
<http://www.northwestern.edu/african-studies/docs/working-papers/Schoenbrun-Final-HistPolWorking.doc-1.pdf>

The African Diaspora, like other immigrant groups, contributes to their home countries' well-being in many ways. They provide much-needed financial support to family and communities, establish small businesses, put private commercial vehicles on the road, stimulate new home constructions, and develop artisan enterprises. They also serve as cultural ambassadors, helping to extend and maintain public infrastructure such as schools and hospitals. In particular, their fledgling networks are beginning to deliver services in the health and education sectors.

While African governments have not been able to use their Diaspora remittances the way other regions have (e.g., in securitization), the few immigrants who use official banking channels to remit to their families have helped expand banking services. This has resulted in increasing the number of rural people who find it necessary to open and maintain bank accounts, a process toward improved credit access by rural people. These efforts might also have contributed to improved performance of rural banks and possibly breaking the myths about the formal banking sector among rural people.

Although African Governments have begun to recognize the potential contributions of their Diaspora to home country development, serious efforts on the part of governments in terms of strategies and instruments to harness these potentials are lacking – beyond the use of catchphrases (African news media are replete with phrases such as “turning brain drain to brain gain”) or creating ministerial positions in cabinets or within the Presidency to be responsible for Diaspora affairs without accompanying strategies that engage the Diaspora. As a result, institutional relationships between home countries and the Diaspora are weak. In the absence of institutionally-supported networks, well-educated African immigrants make efforts on their own to relate to colleagues who have remained or returned to home country institutions such as universities or research centers, providing them with current literature and occasionally linking them with research interests in the advanced countries.

The activities undertaken by the U.S. African Diaspora can be summarized as follows:

Household security and (rural) poverty alleviation: Activities of the African Diaspora, like other diasporas (for example, the Chinese Diaspora), in support of their home countries are essentially private, personal, and informal (as opposed to public and professional), starting with family and gradually extending to institutions that support the family – such as schools, churches, mosques, and temples, with its progression from remitting money to relatives to social investment in communities of origin, with a special emphasis on education. In so doing, African migrants, like other diasporas of the developing world, inject much-needed financial resources where they are needed most – at the household, and particularly the rural family, level. This is the level that is usually neglected in African nations where donor activities, which largely concentrate on national governments and the formal sector, are not able to reach effectively.

Female child education: A significant percentage of the African migrants' remittances are toward providing education and health services for family members irrespective of gender – from parents to siblings and their children – and investments in family occupations – particularly agriculture and small-scale businesses. Diaspora remittances have contributed immensely to female child education, improved family health, and reduction in infant mortality rates.

Small business development: The African Diaspora have spawned several small businesses, often for their siblings who might have completed some form of apprenticeships – hairdressing, fitter-mechanics, masonry, carpentry, arts and crafts, etc. – and family businesses, usually agriculture and retail sectors.

Agribusiness development: In addition to direct investments in family agricultural activities in the home country, the fact that African immigrants often continue to prefer their ethnic foods can contribute to improvements in agriculture at home. This food preference has given rise to a number of ethnic food stores wherever significant populations of these immigrants reside, and therefore contributed to job creation, both at home and abroad as well as introducing the host countries to African dishes. This Diaspora demand for ethnic foods can contribute to improved food processing, packaging, storage, and market-chain extension.

Community and rural development: The African Diaspora is mainly organized along hometown/village and ethnic lines; hence, these organizations are described as Hometown Associations in traditional development literature. The African Diaspora contributes to community development through a focus on family and households in the country of origin. They provide financial support for building schools, hospitals, and other service centers in their hometowns and villages – much more consistently and to a higher degree than what is delivered by governments and donors through community-driven development (CDD) instruments.

Real estate development: A significant proportion of the new home constructions in the urban areas on the continent belong to Africans living abroad. This has impacted local businesses in terms of construction, brick manufacturing, masonry, woodwork, and carpentry (furniture, roofing industry, doors and window frames, etc.).

Other notable activities of the African Diaspora include:

- Forwarding thematic literature, material, and technological equipment to their countries of origin
- Making relevant information, technical knowledge, and know-how available to home country institutions
- Linking counterparts who remained at home with projects implemented in the host country/region
- Promoting beneficial relations between the country of origin and the host country
- Channeling resources for humanitarian causes and for the education of young expatriates in the host country and of young people who remained in the country of origin
- Building up their influence in order to have an effect on internal policies in both the host country and the country of origin
- Advocacy for U.S. laws and programs benefiting their natal country
- Serving as representatives of expatriates in host countries

COUNCIL OF EWE ASSOCIATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Members of the Council of Ewe Associations of North America (CEANA), an umbrella group of Ewe people of Ghana, Togo, and Benin recently (July 2007) provided communal labor and \$25,000 toward construction of a three-unit classroom complex for a junior secondary school in Ghana. CEANA had in the past undertaken various activities, including donation of about \$3.4 million worth of medical equipment to 10 hospitals in Ghana and Togo. The items included an electro-cardiogram and large quantities of hospital supplies.

PALM OIL IMPROVEMENT

In the early 1990's, the demand for palm oil and *fufu* by some African immigrants led to increased use of canned palm oil pulp, and cassava / yam flours – replacing the traditional pounding with mortar and pestle. Inspection of food imports into the host countries has uncovered some malpractices, e.g., artificial coloring of palm oil produce with dangerous chemicals, leading to an improvement in the quality of foods sold in the home market as well, when these practices are addressed.

- Facilitating assimilation of new arrivals (especially on university campuses in the host country) and thus helping to train the next generation
- Sponsoring students from countries of origin

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

Despite the proliferation of activities undertaken by the African Diaspora, it is worth noting that biodiversity conservation figures as the “poor relative” in their concerns. Judging from our interviews (See Resource List) and research, there seem to be, however, some areas where the Diaspora’s interests intersect with those of the conservation community:

- Climate change emerges as a field of interest for the Diaspora. They are cognizant of its impacts in Africa, and the pressure it exerts on fragile ecosystems and livelihoods. They have also taken note of the African governments’ interest in managing for climate change. This can provide an entry point for the Diaspora’s involvement.
- The Diaspora’s investment in their home countries is on the rise and with this comes the need to diversify investment options. Conservation-friendly investments such as ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, green energy alternatives, and carbon off-set initiatives, present attractive options.
- Many of the Diaspora’s activities center on improving the livelihoods of those in the home countries. Preventing and reversing environmental degradation is a key part of enhancing the lives of the poor at home, especially since a disproportionate percentage are still dependent on natural resources.
- The Diaspora is highly educated and savvy, and sensitized to the needs of those in their home countries. As conservation often involves sensitive issues around contested resources, the Diaspora’s role as intermediaries or “sounding boards” for what is politically and culturally possible and appropriate is invaluable.
- As there are numerous Diaspora groups and associations, it will be a challenge for any one group to demonstrate the linkages between a given association’s interests and biodiversity conservation in Africa; however, getting this type of message across is a crucial beginning to any collaboration. The Foundation for Democracy in Africa holds annual AfrICANDO²² conferences with a different topic every year – could be explored as an opportunity for collaboration. Among past topics of discussion are “Africa’s participation in transnational economic growth” and “Promoting the use of appropriate technology for rural community development in Africa.” The conferences bring together Diaspora groups, civil societies, government officials from the U.S. and Africa, and business leaders. The Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA) has expressed an interest in hosting a conference on the theme of conservation.

Overall, it is important to note that an effective collaboration places the Diaspora as actors – and not accessories – in a manner that allows them to highlight linkages to their home populations, particularly those that have not yet accessed contemporary know-how and are suffering the brunt of poverty.

²² <http://democracy-africa.org/AfrICANDO.html>

II. RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANALYSIS FOR ENHANCING THE ROLE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN AFRICA

A WAY FORWARD

The findings and recommendations analyzed in this section are the results of research, a survey, and interviews conducted from December 2011 to March 2012, and from a focus group convened on February 22 at the headquarters of International Resources Group (IRG) in Washington DC. The recommendations support the contention that engaging the African Diaspora more effectively in biodiversity conservation represents an essential component in line with orientations both in global institutions such as the [United Nations](#) (UN), the [World Bank](#), [The Western Hemisphere African Diaspora Network](#) and the U.S. administration.

Based on detected correlations between the strategic collaboration by the U.S. and Diasporas and their respective ancestral homelands on the one hand and the socio-economic and technological development of those homelands on the other, actions on the recommendations could provide a conceptual foundation for the biodiversity conservation-African Diaspora correlation. This could also make way for a new era for implications on transnationalism and development in the African continent.

The recommendations provide a starting point for building alliances between the conservation community, USAID, and the African Diaspora with the recognition that the Diaspora is a “potentially powerful communication, advocacy, funding and organizational resource for effecting lasting change on behalf of the biodiversity and natural resource conservation in Africa,”²³ The recommended actions fit within USAID’s overall principle of African ownership of the African development process.

I. Establishment of platforms for information exchange

African Diaspora Biodiversity Conservation Conference. Organized by the African Diaspora, USAID and its conservation partners, this conference will bring together many of the African Diaspora experts and practitioners in the United States alongside their counterparts in the continent. Many of them are known to have distinguished themselves in the U.S. and are experts in their various professions and as a group. Professional groups such as academic associations, lawyers, engineers, and physicians associations exist in the U.S. and these bodies will also have their say in the development of an African Diaspora agenda for support to biodiversity conservation in Africa. The conference would also allow USAID and U.S.-based conservation organizations to showcase their activities and programs in Africa.

Interviews with various Diaspora groups have highlighted the overarching importance of livelihood improvement for people in home countries. In communicating their programs, USAID and the conservation community need to demonstrate how their programs address issues of poverty and development. Programs such as Feed the Future and initiatives to combat global climate change should be highlighted as they provide grounds for collaboration.

²³ International Resources Group Statement of Work, Work Order No. I CA-USG1, December 2011

In addition, organizing or using existing continental African annual gatherings to firmly anchor biodiversity conservation in the African Diaspora is a good idea, as these venues are attended by the most influential members of the African Diaspora and African decision-makers. Having biodiversity conservation as a theme will ignite interest in the practical potential of the African Diaspora and deeper consciousness on the part of the decision-makers at home for biodiversity conservation in Africa. The African Studies Association, for example, at its next annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA in November 2012 will include sessions on 1) Africa and the African Diaspora and 2) Environment and Urbanization.

African Diaspora and Conservation web portal. A more immediate goal of African Diaspora Biodiversity Conservation Conference will be the establishment of a web portal of African professionals and experts and biodiversity conservation organizations and initiatives. The portal will be a dynamic tool that will be continually developed and maintained. This would provide a formidable network of individuals and institutions for biodiversity conservation and development. This activity will not only dramatically raise awareness about biodiversity conservation, but will showcase the African Diaspora potential on a global scale.

Alliance with Media organizations and networks. The African Diaspora has developed proactive relationships with journalists and editors in their homelands that can be used for dissemination of information on biodiversity conservation. For example, groups of journalists from Africa train at the Institute for Democracy in Africa in Miami. There are numerous emerging African TV networks and radio stations in the United States. The African Diaspora arranges regular briefings with reporters and journalists, and media executives. Some of the reporters, journalists, and media executives are also invited to annual national and continental Diaspora conferences and workshops on an ongoing basis. Conservation organizations and USAID should look to these institutions in their outreach efforts.

African voices in biodiversity conservation. USAID, conservation organizations, and academic institutions should ensure that African conservation practitioners based in the U.S. and in Africa communicate their work to audiences in the U.S., and the Diaspora in particular (e.g., through brownbag presentations, virtually on the portal, etc.). This will enhance Diaspora groups' sense of identification with and ownership of biodiversity conservation in Africa.

As a starting point, USAID could use case studies from its own past and current initiatives that would highlight the role of Africans in conservation and ensure these are made available to audiences in the U.S. and Africa.

Existing Channels of Information. Use forums such as the webinar/seminar by the Migration Policy Institute on Diaspora issues, ABCG meetings, and the USAID FRAMEweb to highlight the potential role of the African Diaspora in biodiversity conservation and broaden the discussion on the topic.

2. Support to African Diaspora biodiversity conservation initiatives

Marketplace for conservation initiatives. Using the framework of the USAID-funded *African Diaspora Marketplace*, which promotes development through entrepreneurship, and enterprise, USAID could set up such a funding mechanism for Diaspora-led ideas and initiatives for biodiversity conservation.

While allowing those with ongoing and planned biodiversity conservation projects to find potential means of support, this also provides incentives for others to mainstream biodiversity conservation within development considerations.

3. Incorporate African Diaspora input in the design, implementation, and advocacy for biodiversity conservation programs

Creation of African Diaspora biodiversity conservation advisory bodies. USAID and conservation organizations would benefit from having advisory bodies consisting of members of the African Diaspora who would promote the interests of the Diaspora in biodiversity conservation. The exact make-up and

function of the advisory bodies can be determined based on discussions between Diaspora representatives and counterpart projects, programs, and organizations.

Putting an African Face on biodiversity conservation advocacy. This recommendation poses the fundamental need for African Diaspora's presence on the advocacy front together with the conservation community. Whether at the UN Headquarters in New York, or at the U.S. Congress in Washington, DC, it is important for the major international biodiversity conservation partners to see the benefit of including the African Diaspora in advocacy forums. In addressing international forums, the African Diaspora is well-positioned to call attention not from only their government, but the media, the populations, foundations, think tanks, and professional and pressure groups.

The African Diaspora has demonstrated its efficiency in targeting Ambassadors at the UN and in Washington D.C. These are important target audiences. They have a wide range of contacts, with politicians, business groups, and media in the U.S. The African Diaspora can mobilize them to communicate with their interlocutors regarding biodiversity conservation in a consistent manner. In order to enable them to communicate this message, the African Diaspora needs to be center-stage through interactions on a regular basis about the developments and achievements by the biodiversity conservation community.

U.S. GOVERNMENT DIASPORA INITIATIVE

U.S. collaboration with the Diaspora is articulated in President Obama's identification of global engagement and partnership as hallmarks of foreign policy. The Obama administration refers to the Diaspora as the "fourth D" after Diplomacy, Development and Defense. This is a historic shift in the administration's view of global migrants.

The newly created office of Special Representative for Global Partnerships in the Secretary of State's cabinet lists among its two new endeavors Diaspora Engagement, which the office argues has "untapped diplomatic and developmental potential." The emerging recognition of Diaspora groups as both major stakeholders and potentially powerful actors that are using their influence and resources to contribute to the development of their countries is then an opportunity for gains in biodiversity conservation in Africa.

"You have the potential to be the most powerful people-to-people asset we can bring to the world's table. Because of your familiarity with cultural norms, your own motivations, your own special skills and leadership, you are, frankly, our Peace Corps, our USAID, our OPIC, our State Department rolled into one..."

Hillary Rodham Clinton,
US Secretary of State,
Global Diaspora Forum, Spring 2011

For the U.S. administration, the diaspora should be an integral part of the State Department's foreign policy efforts, helping to shape America's relationship with the rest of the world. In the spring of 2011, the U.S. State Department convened the first Global Diaspora Forum. The three-day event was hosted jointly by the Department of State, USAID, and the Migration Policy Institute. The Forum brought together U.S.-based Diasporas to recognize and celebrate the positive contributions of diaspora communities in fostering cross-cultural understanding and undertaking development initiatives in their countries of origin or ancestry. More than 350 leaders from diaspora communities across the world were on hand to discuss the role that Diasporas can play in foreign policy and development efforts. The ultimate goal of the Forum was to encourage diaspora-centric public-private partnerships while cultivating learning and knowledge-sharing among the various diaspora communities to go beyond cooperation and [be] about partnership.

The State Department acknowledges diaspora groups and individuals as the first to respond to natural disasters, economic stagnation, poverty or civil unrest. The office of Special Representative for Global Partnerships has developed several concepts/initiatives within the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA). They include: **Diaspreneuershship, Diasplomacy, DiasporaCorps, Diaspora 2.0, Diasphilanthropy**. These concepts/initiatives are designed to engage diaspora communities, the private sector, and public institutions in a collaborative process. The goal is to support the development of

diaspora-centric partnerships that promote trade and investment, volunteerism, philanthropy, diplomacy, entrepreneurship, and innovation in countries of origin. The political will and larger framework is therefore available within which USAID and its conservation partners can collaborate with the African Diaspora for biodiversity conservation in Africa to be among the “Dias”.

This emerging recognition of the Diaspora is a good opportunity. Because there seems to be a feeling, at least in some African Diaspora quarters, of the necessity for rethinking the paradigm on conservation practices and sustainable development in Africa. This diversely expressed necessity, stems from a quest for a sense induced by transnational socio-cultural and political dynamics across the continent, USAID, and global institutions – whose leaders (whether they recognize it or not) have been called on, for at least two decades, to reassess interactions models in the international community. In this context, there is a need for a biodiversity conservation model that innovates to accompany fast mutations at work in the global environment.

The key element in the mutations, the African Diaspora – by its number and wide geographic presence – is no longer limited to the borders of a third continent, but a transnational constituency participating in the shaping of the global landscape. The implications of such a situation are multiple. They notably pose the arduous problem of representation on which to seat a profound definition of the collective conservation community, confronted with the emergence of new forms of socio-cultural and political interactions, counter-arguments, and legitimate questioning of policy models.

DOING THE “LITTLE THING”

“It's the little things citizens do. That's what will make the difference. My little thing is planting trees.”

–Wangari Maathai

If we see the African Diaspora as a “de-localized” local population actively involved in content creation and conduct of programs and policies designed to change the lives of their home communities, usage of its full participation will entail the conceptualization of the constituency not as an end in itself but as a partnership in empowering the people on the ground. This requires seeing the African Diaspora’s potentials in intrinsic rather than purely instrumental considerations; the difference being in the striving to foster and enhance people’s capacity to have a role in their own society’s development.

Necessary Transformations

One of the focus sub-groups (see Annex A) has identified issues of need for additional and more current data and specific ways to link Diaspora and stakeholders. The group also emphasized the critical aspect of outreach to grassroots. These and other suggestions the group made highlight both the interest and commitment of stakeholders to engaging the African Diaspora.

The African Diaspora is a distinct constituency in African affairs. For African Diaspora members, biodiversity conservation is not an isolated, compartmentalized concept but an integrated part of sustainable development – of which the lack thereof is among the fundamental reasons for their existence as such; global development imbalances are the genesis of their coming to being as Diaspora. They view biodiversity conservation in the context of one of their cultural characteristics – the notion of return. But return to what landscape?

The African Diaspora “memory landscape” is conditioned upon an idealization of the putative ancestral home and collective commitment to its maintenance, restoration, safety, and prosperity. The notion of return typically gains unquestioned collective approbation. Their inclusion in biodiversity conservation efforts fits an already established imaginary.

The African Diaspora's increasing influence in their countries of origin and of settlement has been extensively documented, which demonstrates that their competencies can provide the foundation for an innovative new approach to biodiversity conservation. In *Tracking Skilled Diaspora: Globalization, Brain Drain and the Postcolonial Condition in Nigeria*,²⁴ Nduka Otiono quotes Ali Masrui's analysis of the Nigerian contribution to the U.S. labor market:

According to the December 2002 U.S. census report of the 400,000 African immigrant workers age 16 and older in the United States, 36.5 percent are in managerial and professional specialties. This figure compares with 30.9 percent for native-born American. It is estimated that 64 percent of Nigerians 18 and older living in the United States have one or more university degrees.

Otiono also cites the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) according to which a World Bank study puts, in the late twentieth century, the estimates of "Nigerian professionals in senior positions in the USA at 10,000." The study also cites the Association of Nigerian Physicians in America as having 4,410 registered members.²⁵

These have consistently revealed that the African Diaspora's ways of using their location and resources (material and otherwise), grounded in progressive principles of sustainability, have immensely contributed to development in their countries of settlement. Philippe Emegwali, the Nigerian-born supercomputer analyst submits that "One in three African University graduates lives and works outside Africa." In short, African Diaspora knowledge and resources represent critical yet mostly untapped opportunities in USAID and its partners' conservation efforts.

Another focus sub-group provided important insights into institutional issues and the importance of communication tools such as a portal and other social media. These issues have also been preoccupying to the Diaspora. As early as 2000, at the founding of the Nigerians in the Diaspora Organization (NIDO) mooted by then President Olusegun Obasanjo, one of the objectives was "to create a database of Nigerian professionals in the Diaspora, which would facilitate easy access to the specialist skills and technologies that exist among Nigerian abroad that could be tapped by government and the private sector for national development efforts."

The African Diaspora is a dynamic and mobile community. Its modes of operating can sometimes be constrained by administrative constraints that are too institutionalized. Agencies and institutions also have their own constraints. What is required then is an innovative approach rooted in performance evaluation and recognition of existence of alternative know-how.

The African Union's collaboration with the African Diaspora at the beginning of the Diaspora engagement trend is a worthy example. The first AU African Diaspora town halls were all organized by a continental Diaspora group, the Foundation for Democracy in Africa. The African Diaspora also led the efforts for article 3 (q), which embedded the Diaspora in the AU constitutive act. The Definition of the African Diaspora Technical workshop organized in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago was also entirely organized by an African Diaspora Group in collaboration with the AU. There are achievements in policy, advocacy for African affairs, and development. USAID and its partners need to facilitate linkages to these as suggested by the focus group.

Most African governments have set up national structures, some at cabinet level, some at the level of parliaments, and yet others in the presidencies and within civil society. Because of the close relationships of the African Diaspora (at the individual or organizational levels) with African governments, they can tap these key allies in the popularization of biodiversity conservation projects and programs at the

²⁴ Nduka, Otiono. *Tracking Skilled Diaspora: Globalization, Brain Drain and the Postcolonial Condition in Nigeria*. *Transfers* 193), Winter 2011: 5-23 doi:10.3167/trans.2011.010302

²⁵ *Ibid.*

national level. These country structures serve as a depository for biodiversity information and experience; the African Diaspora is well-placed to work with them to enhance their effectiveness. The emerging usage of African languages in Diaspora communication could also facilitate the dissemination of biodiversity information at the local level. This would help to promote African ownership of biodiversity conservation. While Diaspora-home government relations used to be tense at times, the high level appointments of Diaspora members seem to ease previous misunderstandings. Today, two members of the Western African Diaspora Network are holding top of rank cabinet minister positions in their native countries – President Alassane Dramane Ouattara of Côte d’Ivoire and Nigerian Minister of Finance Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala were both once active members of the African Diaspora community. In Senegal, both the former Prime Minister Idrissa Seck and Foreign Affairs Minister Cheikh Tidiane Gadio were from the New York Metropolitan Diaspora.

African Diaspora preoccupation with the development of their homeland is well documented. A logical next step in this process would be to develop biodiversity conservation plans that will include them as full partners. The research shows that there are efforts by the African Diaspora to plan and implement conservation programs. Yet knowledge about these groups and their efforts remains scattered and incomplete. In contrast with hired “outsiders,” the African Diaspora is already present in their homeland through various initiatives and projects. The existing decision-making structures that govern African Diaspora organizations and their initiatives lead to greater local buy-in on the decisions reached. Local populations have far greater emotional and material ties to the Diaspora; thus, the dynamic of Diaspora-led conservation efforts is potentially more prone to lead to the successful outcome of conservation initiatives on their homeland. These are critical in considering initiatives for biodiversity conservation over the long term and for sustainability.

12. CONCLUSION

Given the recommendations and analysis we present in this report, the most feasible and socially beneficial addition for long-term success is for USAID and its conservation partners to work constructively with the African Diaspora, as challenging as that may be. To proceed in this fashion would require that stakeholders adopt a stance of open dialogue and concerted collaboration in diverse contexts to reach out to local people, government officials, and other institutions. This approach would more likely be grounded in commitment as opposed to mere lip service. At the same time, it would offer a stronger practical and moral foundation for accountability for efficient biodiversity conservation efforts in Africa.

Our knowledge of the African Diaspora and its potential engagement with biodiversity conservation in Africa is evolving. For the most part, the recommendations in this study suggest a “path opening” approach to seeking solutions. These solutions are a bit like an iceberg – most of it hidden from view. Jane Guyer and Paul Richards have sought to reinstall the debate beyond the “crisis talk” to explore how forms of thought that does not regularly refer to the touchstone of writing is acquired, stored, elaborated and mobilized.²⁶

The African Diaspora’s interactions with biodiversity conservation in Africa can then be seen as the unknown portion of the iceberg which, once revealed, helps to merge its potential with conservation efforts in the quest for solutions to the biodiversity crisis and environmental degradation of the African continent.

According to the International Migration Organization (IMO), of the 150 million migrants throughout the world, 50 million are of African origin. According to Logan (1999), the flux of African experts toward the West increased considerably in the 1980s and 1990s, making Africa the continent with the highest qualified immigrants in the world. At least 100,000 African-born students have done post-graduate degree work in the United States.²⁷ The deleterious effects of this brain drain are mitigated by the growing inclusion of the African Diaspora in the development process of the continent. The Diaspora’s economic contribution has become vital for some countries. Studies conducted by IMO indicate that in several countries, the amount of money transferred by members of the African Diaspora to their home countries is higher than that of foreign development aid received.

This financial power and expertise could largely benefit biodiversity conservation the same way it did for the information technology sector. Most pioneering African companies that have specialized in computer sciences, the Internet, and related services such as private IPs, cybercafés, multimedia, and telecommuting have been created by members of the Diaspora from the United States and Europe.

Members of the African Diaspora aspire to express their citizenship and take part in current development processes. Electronic networks, by reducing the distance with homelands through the establishment and maintaining of political and sociocultural relationships, can greatly contribute to bringing biodiversity conservation center-stage.

²⁶ Jane Guyer and Paul Richards. *The Invention of Biodiversity: Social Perspectives on the Management of Biological Variety in Africa*, *Journal of International African Institute*, Vol. 66 No. 1, *The Social Shaping of Biodiversity Perspectives on the Management of Biological Variety in Africa*, (1996) pp.1-13, Cambridge University Press

²⁷ For more on this subject, see Tana Worku Anglana *Guide to the new Diaspora*.
http://www.africansocieties.org/fr_giugno2002/fr_guidelanouvelle.htm

The African Diaspora's intellectual contribution to questions related to biodiversity conservation could be considerably increased by structuring dialogues via the internet in the form of "knowledge networks." These networks, whose goal is to connect members of the Diaspora with their countries of origin through knowledge capacity sharing, are already linked to countries such as Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Senegal. In this way, information technology contributes, at least partly, to the repatriation of the intellectual capital from the Diaspora.

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ANNEX A: SUMMARY OF ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS: AFRICAN DIASPORA AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOCUS GROUP

February 22, 2012

IRG Offices, Washington DC

A half-day Focus Group²⁸ meeting was organized to provide input to the development of the White Paper and to suggest means to enhance collaboration between the conservation community and the African Diaspora. After an overview presentation of the draft White Paper (A Lay of the Land Report), advance copies of which were provided electronically, the Focus Group was organized into two discussion groups. The groups were to discuss the draft, identify what was missing, and make recommendations to be analyzed and incorporated in the final draft. These recommendations were put on flip charts. An audio version of the meeting also exists within the IRG office.

Discussion Group A:

Question #1: What is missing from the Lay of the Land Report and corrections to be made?

- Description of the Diaspora: More recent data on numbers should be provided, as well as some more data to show the economic and political power of the Diaspora.
- Provide a complete list of organizations involved in the study.
- Reframe some of the language in the report to sound more neutral.
- Provide specific suggestions on how to link diaspora and stakeholders.
- Outreach to grassroots should be a critical aspect.
- Provide data/evidence on how change in curricula in schools has had an effect on biodiversity on the ground.

Question #2: What are your priorities in engaging the Diaspora in biodiversity conservation?

- Before the portal, we need a summit that brings together the Diaspora, conservation organizations, USAID, and others.
- The next UN General Assembly will be deliberating on Climate Change. Need to use this platform to have the summit. Later, a portal can be used to codify the links made at the summit.
- Need to define the term “Diaspora” so there is a common understanding of the term in the U.S. and Africa.
- The portal should be in multiple languages used in Africa: French, English, Portuguese.
- Tailor outreach efforts based on regional strengths/interests (Central, Southern, East Africa).

²⁸ Participants of the focus group: Dawit Zeleke (TNC), Fred Oladeinde (FDA), Tony Mokombo (Pastor), John Scherlis (Advisor, BCI), Walter Knausenberger (USAID), Jimmiel Mandima (AWF), Yvon Resplandy (USAID), Natalie Bailey (ABCG), Anne Lewandowski (IRG), Luke Kozumbo (IRG), Yemeserach Tessema, Babacar MBow, Alisia Kachmar (IRG, Meeting Facilitator)

- Provide some report or evaluations on the two African Union workshops.
- USAID will have to define how working with the Diaspora can be incorporated in existing USAID priorities/strategies.

Discussion Group B

Question #1: What is missing from the Lay of the Land Report and corrections to be made

- Overview presentation should have linked to draft report clearly.
- Need to clearly state why the diaspora should invest time/money/effort to working with conservation issues (must identify incentives, and awareness levels).
- Creation of portal is a very good recommendation. Identify each side's interests/motivations.
- USAID has broad objectives; how does the Diaspora fit within these objectives? Measurement of results is very important (e.g. data).
- There are "initiatives" such as Climate Change and Feed the Future and it is important to tie Diaspora/conservation to this to get traction in USAID.
- The data in the report is from 2000 census, update to 2010 numbers.
- Need to address how countries of origin view their diaspora populations.
- Possible to include Diaspora Encyclopedia in Annex? (or a link?)
- Results of online survey – not sure graph on p.19 is helpful. Don't use % on X-axis, use numbers. What is the significance?
- Need more explanation of what these graphs mean or imply.
- Text boxes on Diaspora activities are helpful, more if possible.

Question #2: What are your priorities in engaging the Diaspora in biodiversity conservation?

- Need to inform the Diaspora about the Global Forum on Diaspora (where Secretary Clinton's will be present) in June 2012 (www.diasporaalliances.org) run by the MPI.
- Will need to approach MPI about discussing Diaspora/conservation issues here and make the ties with the Symposium.
- Biggest key is to know who and what exists within the Diaspora. Who can IP's reach out to? Where are these people?
- Important to set examples from high levels.
- NGOs and other groups want to plug into Diaspora to understand better the opportunities that exist. How the Diaspora gives possibilities for action.
- Emphasize that relationship and trust building is very important, a one-off project is not the answer.
- Finding linkages between professional organizations and ideas/activities in the conservation community and in various African countries.

- Priority should be given to biodiversity conservation being talked about within the African Union Missions.
- Need more information on the African groups outside of Africa and see how they can further connections and work in Africa.
- AWF is unique in that it has its HQ in Africa and is uniquely positioned to reach out to the Diaspora.
- For USAID
 - Priority: Coherence at government level in Diaspora policies and other overarching policies/politics. E.g. understand that there may be tension between Diaspora and host country (e.g. Zimbabwe)
 - Priority to create policies that are sensitive to tensions between Diaspora and their home countries

GROUP SESSION # 2: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WAY FORWARD

Discussion Group B:

1. Make linkages with Climate change and Feed the Future
 - ABCG is involved in a working group that is trying to integrate Natural Resource Management with Feed The Future.
 - Interview the working group and understand what exactly they are doing.
 - Vanessa Dick at WWF is the contact.
 - Hadas Kushnir at USAID.
2. Larger conservation organizations are generally less interested in this area. The exception is CI which has just revised its Mission statement, need to reach out to them.
3. A “Workshop” hosted by USAID is feasible
 - Bring Diaspora groups, conservation groups (Africa Bureau is likely option).
 - This would build trust.
4. Conservation groups should attend Diaspora gatherings.
5. There is a webinar/seminar by MPI on Diaspora issues – should broach issue with MPI on topic of biodiversity (Yvon Resplandy will provide info). This is a recurring platform for raising awareness.
6. AU should be able to reach out to push conservation issues with Missions. This will be helpful to unify various missions.
7. ABCG meetings – use these meetings to promote this effort; promote it via FRAMEweb.
8. Check if USAID can fund the effort to identify players for the UN General Assembly; to compile information on Diaspora members that are influential – This would be a good resource from which conservation organizations can draw.

9. Understand that creating “databases” of individuals is very time consuming and expensive. It is easier to deal on the level of organizations.
10. On ABCG listserv, ask members to self identify organizations, nationalities, conservation specialty.
11. Blog on FRAME – Reference breakfast seminars – cross-pollinate and disseminate issues on biodiversity on blog that could be picked up by KDMD.

DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PLENARY

1. Ex-Diaspora body to liaise with Diaspora groups and USAID and biodiversity conservation groups.
2. Example of the PBS series is one example of giving platform to African conservationists.
3. A portal (however envisioned) will be key.
4. Need targeted outreach to UN General Assembly members in September.
5. Should understand that this effort is ongoing and is a continual process and one that will require continued involvement of many actors – not just USAID or ABCG (for example).
6. Promulgate stories that show important ties between livelihood and conservation issues.
7. Use NPR “story corps” model to promote diaspora experiences.
8. World Bank’s “connect4climate” is another good model.
9. Encourage Diaspora or African journalists to assemble pieces that could be disseminated to promote importance of environment. The idea is to have work generated at various local levels to make Diaspora aware of positive conservation action and results in their countries of origin. This would also encourage African journalists to publish these stories and promote good conservation practice.

ANNEX B: AFRICAN DIASPORA GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES (ILLUSTRATIVE)

PAN AFRICAN

African Community
Resource Center
532 S. Vermont Avenue, 104
Los Angeles, CA 90020
Tel: (213) 367-1450

African Chamber of Commerce of PNW,
Seattle, WA
www.africanchamberofcommercepnw.com

African Chamber of Commerce (DFW)
Dallas, TX
www.africanchamberdfw.or

Constituency for Africa (CFA)
Washington DC
www.cfanet.org

Africare
Washington DC
www.africare.org

TransAfrica Forum
Washington DC
www.transafricaforum.org

Africa Femmes
Silver Springs, MD
www.congresinternationalfemmes.org

African Ancestry
Washington DC
www.africanancestry.com

African Diaspora Women's Network
Washington DC
www.dawners.org

Foundation For Democracy in Africa 1200
G Street NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC
20004

[www. Democracy-africa.org](http://www.Democracy-africa.org)

ANGOLA

Assoc. Angola People in U.S.
4846 North Lawrence
Philadelphia, PA 19120

CAMEROON

Manu Elements Cultural &Development Association
P.O. Box 13013
Silver Springs, MD 20911
Tel: (301) 592-1988
Tel/Cal: (909) 272-1718

Cameroon Professional Society, Blatimore
www.cps-usa.org
Leliale Cultural Association, Platteville, WI
<http://lebialem.tripod.com>

Cameroon-USA Chamber of Commerce,
Jacksonville Florida
www.cam-usa.org

CONGO

Assoc. of Congolese Community
in Los Angeles
1531 N. Fuller Avenue, 20
West Hollywood, CA 90046
Tel: (323) 874-0193

Congo Defense Fund
P.O. Box 674
Granger, IN 46530
Tel: (619) 293-0916

Congo Unity
1451 South Rimpau, 102-230
Corona, CA 91719
Tel: (909) 272-1594

CAPE VERDE

5-O Club
329 Governor Avenue
Providence, RI 02914

Amigos das Crianças
30 Wendover Street
Dorchester, MA 02125

Amigos de Boa Vista
93 Hall Street
East Providence, RI 02914

Amigos dos Concelho
dos Mosteiros
142 Adams Street
Dorchester, MA 02125

Arquipelago
915 Dorchester Avenue, 507
Dorchester, MA 02125

Assoc. Caboverdiana
e Brockton
100/102 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02403
Tel: (508) 559-0056

Cape Verdean Assistance Committee
122 County Road
Plympton, MA 12367
Tel: (617) 585-8567

Cape Verdean Athletic Club
350 Atlantic Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Cape Verdean Progressive Cntr
(Cape Verdean Women's Guild)
329 Grosvenor Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914

Cape Verdean Social Club
1181 North Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06701

Cape Verdean West Assoc.
1916 Tuolumne Street
Vallejo, CA 94589
Tel: (510) 261-3610

Cape Verdean Women's Social Club
52 Dewey Street
Stratford, CT 06497

Cape Verdean-American Community
Development
of Rhode Island
120 High Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Tel: (401) 726-8729

Capitol Cape Verdeans of Sacramento
8119 Tevrin Way
Sacramento, CA 95828
Tel: (916) 689-5237

EGYPT

Egyptian American Cultural Assoc.
P.O. Box 3725
Maclean, VA 22103
Tel: (310) 295-2755

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopian Community Development Council
1038 South Highland St.
Arlington, VA 22204
Tel: (703) 685-0510

GHANA

Akuapem-Mma Fekuw Association
14105 Jerimiah Lane,
Bowie, MD 20721
Tel. (301) 390-5145

Asante Kotoko Assoc.
13946 Marbleston Drive
Clifton, VA 90124
Tel. (703) 802-0032

Asanteman Kuo
8660 Welbeck Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20897
Tel. (301) 670-9467

Assoc. of South California
P.O. Box 875189
Los Angeles, CA 90087
Tel./Fax (310) 675 6890

Council of Ghanaian Associations
Atlanta, Georgia
Tel. (770) 381 0069

Council of Ghanaian Assoc.
P.O. Box 7645
Langley Park, MD 20787
Tel. (301) 772 6634

Ebusua
8003 Quentin Street
New Carrollton, MD 20784
Tel. (301) 345 3697

Ga-Adanme Association
1208 Twig Terrace
Silver Spring, MD 20905
Tel. (301) 989-9449

Ghana Association
5 Carriage Court
Little Rock, AR 72211
Tel. (501) 224 5030

Ghana Association of Delaware Valley
P.O. Box 19942
Philadelphia, PA 19143
Tel. (609) 488 0595

Ghana Association of Oregon
P.O. Box 11034
Portland, OR 97211
Tel. (503) 281 6324

Ghana Association of Houston
P.O. Box 940578
Houston, TX 77094
Tel./Fax (281) 578 7847

Ghana Association of New York
1268 Clay Avenue 5A
Bronx, NY 10456
Tel. (718) 992 3817

Ghana Leadership Society
P.O. Box 515092
Dallas, TX 75251
Tel. (214) 956 9129

Ghana National Assoc. of Metropolitan Chicago
P.O. Box 7123
Chicago, IL 60690-7123
Tel. (773) 955 1246

Ghana RN Assn.
3701 Mass. Ave., #602
Washington, DC 20016
(703) 597 3906

Ghanaian Assoc.
c/o Dr. O. Agyapong
Dept. of Sociology/
Criminal Justice
403 Perry-Paige
Tallahassee, FL 32307
Tel. (850) 385 942

Ghanaian Assoc. of Boston
40 Calvary Street
Waltham, MA 02154
Tel. (781) 647 4944
Tel. (617) 862 9095

Ghanaian Assoc. of Central Virginia
P.O. Box 34762
Richmond, VA 23234-0762
Tel. (804) 796-2375

Ghanaian Association of Delaware Valley
P.O. Box 19942
Philadelphia, PA 19143
Tel. (609) 488 0595

Ghanaian Association of Greater Cincinnati
7296 Tarragon Court,
West Chester, OH 45069
Tel. (513) 759 6165

Ghanaian Association of Pittsburgh
Dept. of African Studies
University of Pittsburgh
230 S. Bouquet Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Tel. (412) 648 7214

Ghanaian Association of Sacramento
P.O. Box 232172
Sacramento, CA 95823
Tel. (916) 427 9260

Ghanaian Association of South Florida
2801 S.W/ 15th Street, Deerfield Beach, FL
33442
Tel. (954) 426 6585

Ghanaian Association of Carolinas
P.O. Box 502192
Charlotte, NC 28256
Tel. (704) 567-2510

Ghanian Association of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 1015
Madison, WI 53701-1016
Tel. (608) 258 0261

Kwahu Comm. Assoc.
8660 Welbeck Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20897
Tel. (301) 670-9467

New Juabenman Assn.
4706 South Park Court
Dale City, VA 22193
Tel. (703) 730 6298

Okyeman Kuo
8855 Winding Hollow Way
Springfield, VA 22152
Tel. (703) 913 4905

Triangle Area Ghanaian Association
139 S. World Drive
Apex, NC 27502
Tel. (919) 363 2244

Volta Club
18731 Curry Power Lane
Germantown, MD 20874
Tel/Fax (301) 972 4106

Wassail Association
2520 10th Street NE #09
Washington, DC 20018
Tel. (202) 526-9213

Council of Ghanaian Assoc.
P.O. Box 7643
Langley Park, MD 20787
Tel: (202) 526-9213

Ga Adangme Society of California 13880 Maple
Ridge Lane,
Chino Hills, CA 91709
Tel: (909) 590-2182

Ghana Association of RI
104 Garden Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Tel: (401) 727-4456

LIBERIA

Amunyeh Assoc.
534 North 56th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139

Centre - Liberian Assistance
2601 E. Victoria St.
Dominguez Hills, CA 90220

Cleveland Liberian Assoc.
1690 Belmar
Cleveland Hts, OH 44118

First United Christian Church
109 Victory Boulevard
Staten Island, NY 10301

Grand Gedeh Association
881 North 46th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139

Grand Gedeh Association in the Americas
5331 Pine Street
Philadelphia, PA 19143

LACE
1892 Beersford Road
East Cleveland, OH 44112

Liberian Children Hospital Foundation
5303 Colorado Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20011

Liberian Community Association of Denver
19150 East Napa Drive
Aurora, CO 80013

Liberian Community Assoc. of Little Rock
9119 Tedbrun Circle
Little Rock, AR 72709

Liberian Community Assoc. of Oklahoma City
3225 South East 55th
Oklahoma City, OK 731235

Liberian Assoc. of Tulsa
1724 North Tacoma Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74129

Liberian Community Assoc. of Washington, DC
P.O. Box 60255
Washington, DC 20255

Liberian Org. of Cleveland
1975 Ridgehill Road
Cleveland Hts. OH 44121

Liberian Peoples Org.
30218 West 29th Street, 7-C
Brooklyn, NY 11224

Liberian Refugee Relief Fund
P.O. Box 29085
Washington, DC 20017

Liberian Social Justice Foundation
P.O. Box 31438
Cincinnati, OH 45231

Liberians in Columbus
1740 Brice Road, 9
Columbus, OH 43068

Mothers of Liberia
79 Decatur Street, Ste. 1
Brooklyn, NY 11216

Liberian-American Community Org. of
Southern California
P.O. Box 77818
Los Angeles, CA 90007

United Nimba Citizens
61 North 11th Street
Newark, NJ 07101
Tel: (973) 399-1169

United Nimba Citizens Council
835 Squirell Hill Road
Charlotte, NC 28213

MOROCCO

Assoc. of Moroccans in United States
P.O. Box 33028
Washington, DC 20033
Tel: (202) 462-7979 Ext. 47

Moroccan-American Assoc. of New England
P.O. Box 381074
Cambridge, MA 02238
Tel: (617) 984-5859

Moroccan Friendship Assoc.
P.O. Box 77724
Atlanta, GA 30357
Tel: (404) 876-4899

NIGERIA

Akwa Ibom Foundation (Atlanta)
751 N. Indian Creek Dr, 226
Clarkson, GA 30021

Akwa Ibom State Assoc.
P.O. Box 91226
Washington, DC 20011

Asaba Progressive Union
1806 Summerview Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Akwa Ibom State Assoc.
P.O. Box 409122
Chicago, IL 60640

Assoc. of Nigerian Architects and Engineers
350 5th Avenue, Ste. 3304
New York, NY 10118

Akwa Ibom State Assoc. of Nigeria U.S.A.
15600 NS 7th Avenue, 704
Miami, FL 33169

Assembly of Nigerian Nationals
654 Girard Street, NW, 512
Washington, DC 20004

All Ngwa Cultural Assoc.
6218 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20011

Assoc. for the Progress of Advancement of
Nigerians
P.O. Box 5057
Chicago, IL 60680

Anambra State Assoc. of NJ
85 John Street
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Association of Nigeria
P.O. Box 720632
Oklahoma City, OK 73172

Anambra Progress. Union
9925 211th Street
Queens Village, NY 11429

Association of Nigerian-Americans
P.O. Box 30171
Omaha, NE 68131

Anambra-Enugu Assoc. of New Jersey
P.O. Box 1237
Newark, NJ 07101

Association of Nigerian Engineers in Minnesota
P.O. Box 582404
Minneapolis, MN 55458

Anioma Assoc. of Nigeria
P.O. Box 998
Adelphi, MD 20783

Assoc. of Nigerians for Unity and Progress
9837 Three Lakes Circle
Boca Raton, FL 33428

Anioma Cultural Union
1721 Grand Avenue, I-K
Bronx, NY 10453
Tel: (718) 731-8546

Assoc. of Nigerians in CT
P.O. Box 26465
West Haven, CT 06516

Arkansas Association of Nigerians
P.O. Box 1925
Little Rock, AR 72203
Tel: (501) 664-0900

Assoc. of Nigerians in MI
16603 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227

Asaba Cultural Union
Tri-State Area
10031 4th Avenue, 2-D
Bayridge, NY 11209

Assoc. of Nigerians in New Orleans
P.O. Box 58518
New Orleans, LA 70158

Assoc. of Students –Citizens of Akwa Ibom
State in U.S.
P.O. Box 41983
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Federal Council of Nigerians in South Florida
18905 NW 31st Avenue
Carol City, FL 33056
Tel: (305) 685-7709

Bendel State Assoc.
P.O. Box 2832
Washington, DC 20013

Igbo Organizations
P.O. Box 737487
Elmhurst, NY 10373
Tel: (718) 471-4810

Congo Headquarters
P.O. Box 711
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33302
Tel: (305) 760-5655

Igbo U.S.A.
1632 Earl Street
Union, NJ 07083
Tel: (908) 851-2521

Delta People's Forum
16-52 233rd Street
Cambria Heights, NY 11411

Igbo Women's Assoc. of CT
P.O. Box 9164
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Edo Association
P.O. Box 43770
Washington, DC 20010

Igwebuike Igbo Cultural Association
P.O. Box 33177
Baltimore, MD 21218

Edo Club of Nigerian Jersey
P.O. Box 1313
Elizabeth, NJ 07201
Tel: (908) 442-1265

Ijebu Association
P.O. Box 43064
Washington, DC 20009

Edo Organization of NY
P.O. Box 380900
Brooklyn, NY 01238

Ikare Association
6801 Beacon Place
Riverdale, MD 20737

Ekiti Community Assoc.
12908 Canblaton Drive
Largo, MD 20772

Imo Boston Organization
P.O. Box 7232
Quincy, MA 02269

Enugu State Association
7667 Maple Avenue, 912
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Isiukwu Ato Union
6221 Springhill Ct. 301
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Essan Association
P.O. Box 91711
Washington, DC 20018

Island Club of Nigeria
P.O. Box 1009
Cranston, RI 02914

Etsako U.S.A.
243 Nesbit Terrace
Irvington, NJ 07111

Iksekin & Urhobo Assoc.
5802 Annapolis Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

Kalabari Association
146-05 Hillside Avenue, 24
Jamaica, NY 11435

Kalabari Society of Houston
P.O. Box 571630
Houston, TX 77257
League of Patriotic Nigerians
P.O. Box 37191
Los Angeles, CA 90037

Majestic Ekimogun Assoc.
P.O. Box 27222
Providence, RI 02907

Mbaitolu Association
1222 Girard Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Mbano Peoples Assoc.
2105 Amherst Road
Hvansville, MD 20783

Mgbidi Ebeleri Heritage
2514 Wood Park Drive
Foresville, MD 20747

Mutual Union of Tiv in U.S.
1030 Ocean Avenue, 6-A
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Namsu Electoral Committee
95 Morton Village Dr., 413
Boston, MA 02126
Tel: (617) 296-2001

National Assoc. of Nigeria
P.O. Box 720632
Oklahoma City, OK 73172

National Assoc. of Nigerians
P.O. Box 54
New York, NY 10037
Tel: (212) 283-1028

Ndoka Assoc. in America
P.O. Box 91903
Washington, DC 20090

Nigerian Assoc. Rochester
14 Franklin Street, Ste. 1002
Rochester, NY 14604
Tel: (716) 262-4840

Nigerian Assoc. New Engl.
160 Platinum Circle
North Hampton, MA 01061

Nigerian Association of South Florida
12938 SW 133rd Court
Miami, FL 33186

Nigerian Association of Southern California
300 North D Street
San Bernardino, CA 92018

Nigerian Community in Dallas, Texas
P.O. Box 214633
Dallas, TX 75221

Nigerian Community Assoc. of Indiana
4040 Luzemburge Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Nigerian Community in Greater Cleveland
P.O. Box 28033
Cleveland, OH 44128

Network of Nigerian Engineers and Scientists
114 Marston Hill
Amherst, MA 01003

Ngwa Association of Nigeria
923 Jonathan Court
Prospect Heights, IL 60077

Ngwa Cultural Organization
3205 Wallace Avenue
Bronx, NY 10467

Nigeria Foundation for Social-Economic
Develop.
650 Rockefeller Building
Cleveland, OH 44101
Tel: (216) 771-5632

Nigerian Community of Nashville
1326 8th Avenue
Nashville, TN 37208

Nigerian Community - Newark, NJ
109 Chelsea Avenue
Newark, NJ 07106
Tel: (201) 399-1609

Nigerian Foundation of Michigan
18915 Sorrento
Detroit, MI 48235

Nigerian Aid Foundation
2655 Tullie Circle, Ste. 112
Atlanta, GA 30329

Nigerian American Society
P.O. Box 231311
Hartford, CT 06103
Tel: (203) 724-1811

Nigerian Association in Colorado
2413 Washington Street
Denver, CO 80205

Nigerian Association in the Triad
16 Hollycrest Court
Greensboro, NC 27410

Nigerian Association of Greater Cincinnati
P.O. Box 19708
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Nigerian Ministry
Council International
P.O. Box 41186
Washington, DC 20018

Nigerian National Alliance
P.O. Box 60141
Chicago, IL 60626

Nigerian National Org. U.S.(National
Headquarters)
P.O. Box 23449
Providence, RI 02903

Nigerian Organization
P.O. Box 653
Newark, NJ 07101
Tel: (201) 926-0640

Nigerian Patriotic Assoc.
706 59th Place
Fairmount Hts. MD 20743

Nigerian Peoples Forum
P.O. Box 020297
Brooklyn, NY 11202
Tel: (718) 714-1513

Nigerian Professionals of Oregon
P.O. Box 447
Portland, OR 97208

Nigerian Progressive Union
P.O. Box 21030
Jackson, MS 39389
Tel: (601) 992-0875

Nigerian Student Union
Iowa State University,
EO Bldg.
Ames, IA 50011

Nigerian-American Assoc.
28 Penniman Road
Allston, MA 02134

Nigerian-American
Multi Service Assoc.
35 Ganet Circle
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Nigerian-American Social
& Cultural Org.
2 Gray Fox Lane
Albany, NY 10023
Tel: (518) 452-6306

Nigerians Assoc. of America
1480 Tr. 46 W, Unit 218
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Organization of Nigerian Women
35-63 Bainbridge Avenue
Bronx, NY 10467

Obuduwa Club of Nigeria
P.O. Box 380-661
Brooklyn, NY 11238

Org. of Nigerian Women in Health
3916 Kansas Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20011

Ogun State Assoc. of U.S.
P.O. Box 59513
Baltimore, MD 21201

Org. of United Nigerians
P.O. Box 2792
Houston, TX 77252

Okigwe Community
P.O. Box 447
Bronx, NY 10458

Org. of Nigerian Unity
230 Pelham Road, 195
Greenville, SC 29615

Ondo Development Org. In the Americas
P.O. Box 55688
Washington, DC 20040

Rivers State Assoc.
P.O. Box 59586
Chicago, IL 60659

Onima U.S.A.
P.O. Box 45801
Madison, WI 53711

Rivers State Foundation
P.O. Box 15312
Dallas, TX 75315

Org. Advancement of Nigerians
P.O. Box 2637
Brooklyn, NY 11202
Tel: (718) 859-9335

Nigerian American Forum
9910 South Beverly Avenue
Chicago, IL 60643

Org. Nigerian Professionals in U.S.A.
P.O. Box 686, Rust College
Holly Springs, MS 38635

Nigerian Club of U.S.A.
P.O. Box 38
Maplewood, NJ 07040
Tel: (201) 484-0261

Org. Nigerian Professionals in U.S.A.
3028 Gertility Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70122

Nigerian Eagles Society
P.O. Box 566
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
Tel: (908) 545-2348

Organization of Nigerian Citizens
P.O. Box 66220
Baltimore, 21239

Nigerian Foundation
P.O. Box 3334
Houston, TX 77253

Organization of Nigerian Nationals
P.O. Box 74262
Dallas, TX 75374

Nigerian Society for Progress
P.O. Box 247993
Columbus, OH 43224
Tel: (614) 292-8732

North Nigerian Assoc.
P.O. Box 409143
Chicago, IL 60640

The Ogbomoshos in U.S.A.
P.O. Box 896
New York, NY 10030

The Org. of Nigerians in the Americas
P.O. Box 200985
Austin, TX 78720

Urhobo National Assoc.
P.O. Box 8433
New York, NY 10116
Tel: (718) 832-7339

Ugiri Progress. Community
P.O. Box 737245
Elmhurst, NY 11373

Umuna Assoc. of Chicago
P.O. Box 7687
Chicago, IL 60680

Umunnakwuike Assoc. of Owerri
P.O. Box 3603
Baltimore, MD 73003

Umunne Coop. Assoc.
1433 Franklin Avenue, 7-A
Minneapolis, MN 55404

UNIMA U.S.A.
P.O. Box 45801
Madison, WI 53711

Union of Nigerian Friends
P.O. Box 1838
Arlington, TX 76004
Tel: (817) 784-9080

United Nigerian Assoc. of Delaware
P.O. Box 5882
Newark, DE 19714

Urhobo Club of Nigeria U.S.
P.O. Box 778
Bronx, NY 10467

Women Com. for the Org. for Nigerians in the
U.S.A.
9727 Mt. Pisgah Road, 510
Silver Springs, MD 20903
Tel: (301) 445-7322

Yoruba Cultural Association
612 Eastern Avenue
Belwood, IL 60104

Zumunta Association
6315 Landover Road, T-2
Clievery, MD 20785

Zumunta Georgia Chapter
3758 Highway 85, 8-B
Riberdal, GA 30224

SENEGAL

Assoc. des Senegalese d'Amerique
6 West Broadway, 5th
New York, NY 10001

Assoc. of Senegalese
16314 Seter Street
Missorion City, TX 77489

Fulani Speaking Assoc.
1171 Fulton Street, 2
Brooklyn, NY 11215

L.A. Senegalese Assoc.
P.O. Box 79423
Los Angeles, CA 90079
Tel: (213) 748-3101

Regroupment Des Senegalese de Rhode Island
P.O. Box 40552
Providence, RI 02940

Senegalese Support Society
7600 Maple Avenue, 707
Tocama Park, MD 20912

SIERRA LEONE

Friends of Sierra Leone
P.O. Box 15875
Washington, DC 20003

Fullah Progressive Union
7861 Riverdale Road, 303
New Carrollto, MD 20781

Kono Union
62378 64th Avenue, 4
Riverdale, MD 20737

Lokomasama Family
7009 Highview Terrace, 102
Hyattsville, MD 20782
Tel: (301) 559-7109

Madingo Descendants Assoc.
12203 Cable Lane
Ft. Washington, MD 20744
Tel: (301) 203_1924

Pujehun Descendents Assoc.
317 Syria Court
Ft. Washington, MD 20744

Sakoma
6010 Surrey Square Lane
Forestville, MD 20747

Sanda Progressive Union
1801 16th Street NW, 305
Washington, DC 20009

Sierra Leone Institute of Policy Studies
735 Sligo Avenue, 206
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Sierra Leone Nat. Assoc.U.S.
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