DEMAC

DIASPORA
EMERGENCY ACTION
& COORDINATION

DEMAC TOOLKIT POCKET GUIDE
GUIDANCE ON INTEGRATION OF DIASPORA IN STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

DEMAC TOOLKIT POCKET GUIDE

The DEMAC Toolkit is a compilation of ten short, hands-on pocket guides on diaspora humanitarianism. Out of the ten, five guides are tailored to humanitarian practitioners, covering the following topics:

1. Definition and typologies of diasporas

2. Awareness raising materials on diasporas' role in emergency response

3. **Guidance on integration of diaspora in stakeholder analysis**

4. Methodology to map & assess the engagement of diaspora in humanitarian crises

5. Guidance for collaborative advocacy with diaspora

This pocket guide is focusing on guidance on integration of diaspora in stakeholder analysis. Interested in the other four booklets? Find the complete DEMAC Toolkit with all ten pocket guides on our website www.demac.org

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Why this DEMAC toolkit?

The DEMAC toolkit intends to offer practical guidance to humanitarian practitioners to enhance engagement and coordination with diaspora organizations involved in humanitarian response.

The toolkit is inspired by DEMAC lessons learned and good practices on diaspora humanitarianism. It provides guidance and definitions for humanitarian actors and sets the framework for increasing understanding, knowledge and engagement with diaspora organizations in humanitarian settings.

The toolkit does not intend to provide a binding, predetermined list of interventions or types of activities that may or may not be implemented, as this is dependent on the specific context and would appear overly prescriptive. Therefore, DEMAC encourages adaptation of this resource to the respective local situation.

GUIDANCE ON INTEGRATION OF DIASPORA IN STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Stakeholders' analysis is a key tool used by organizations to not only understand the context, develop their security protocols and access strategies, but also to discuss potential partnerships, or plan programmatic interventions and specific activities. Diaspora organizations are key actors who are often forgotten in humanitarian actors' stakeholder analysis.

This tool aims to show why and how to integrate diaspora organizations in stakeholder analysis at different levels and with different angles. It can serve as an inspiration for each humanitarian organization to integrate diaspora in their internal stakeholder analysis methodology.
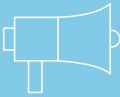
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While diaspora organizations are often considered in stakeholder analysis as actors in the political sphere, they are often overlooked as humanitarian responders. It might be hard to see the direct connections, as beneficiaries often have invisible ties to diaspora or do not want institutional humanitarian actors to know about these, out of fear their aid might be lessened.

Some examples where diaspora can play a role and thus be considered in Stakeholder analysis:

Donors / investors / Safety nets providers		Diasporas provide financial safety nets and links to local organizations in the response that might not be visible in the first place. They play a key role in providing stable support to communities, local businesses, institutions (health facilities, schools, etc.) as well as emergency support at the onset of the crisis with dedicated fundraising efforts.
Contributors to conflict dynamics		Diasporas can both foster peace and conflict and contribute to dynamics by reinforcing conflicts lines outside of their country of origin or can contribute as peacemakers and third-party mediation in homeland conflicts.
Knowledge providers / Mentors / Advisors		Diaspora can transfer technical knowledge, innovations and expertise, and act as mentors and advisors, and foster local innovative approaches.

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Advocates		Diaspora can relay key messages and advocate on behalf of the communities, yet also influence the agenda and priorities that might be set at local, regional or global level.
Referrals		Diasporas can play a crucial role in referral mechanisms and as trusted intermediaries of communities. Often, they are not referred to as 'Diaspora' but 'relatives abroad' or "community". Local communities contact the diaspora to report needs as well as issues such as discriminations, threats or abuses.
Humanitarian Actors with enhanced access capacities		Diaspora and their local partners might have access to areas which INGOs and International Organizations cannot reach. In these hard-to-reach areas, diasporas are among the few actors able to provide substantional support to communities in need.
Multi-faceted actors		Diasporas can act as extension to local actors and volunteer groups, but at the same time also can play a role as political actors or act more as donors and INGOs in supporting communities. As humanitarian actors they often work across sectors to provide aid and can be seen as nexus actors bridging humanitarian, peace, development interventions.

ABOUT
DEMAC

The mission of DEMAC is two-fold:

1) to enable inclusive coordination and collaboration among diaspora organiza-
        tions providing humanitarian assistance, and across diaspora organizations and
        institutional humanitarian actors, and

2) to facilitate higher levels of engagement and visibility for diaspora
        organizations in the humanitarian system.

The objective is to contribute to transforming the humanitarian eco-system by laying
the groundwork for a deeper understanding of diasporas as humanitarian actor
groups with different modus operandi for the implementation of aid in practice,
identifying and opening potential spaces for engagement and cross-fertilization, and
improving coordination between diaspora and institutional relief providers.

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