



ICMPD

International Centre for
Migration Policy Development

Empowering diaspora to be the future bridges of investment, education and Innovation

*Observations and Recommendations from Diaspora
Studies in Germany, and Ireland
Best Practices from EU Member States*

Migration Governance Seminar - 10 July 2019

Agenda

ICMPD's work on diaspora engagement

Preliminary results from diaspora studies in Germany, Ireland and Italy

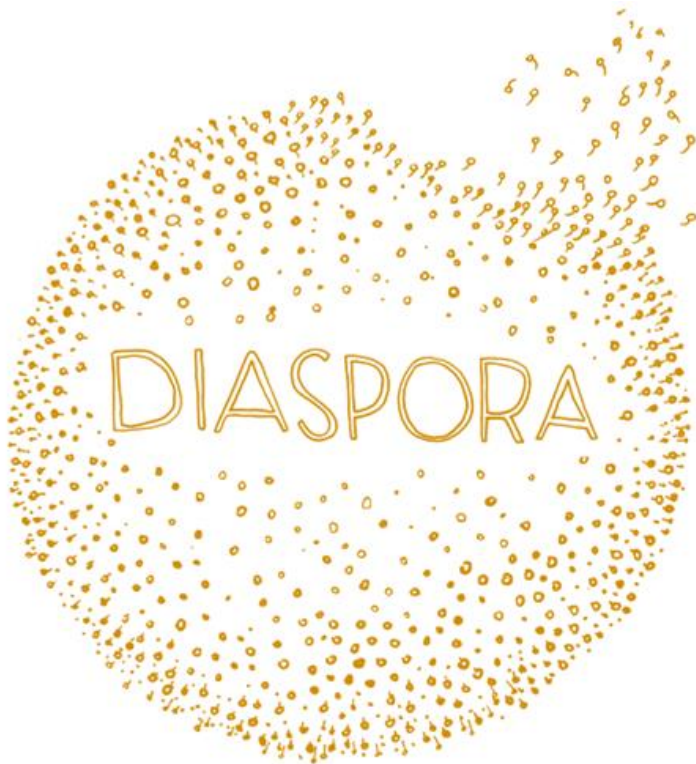
Practices from EU Member States

EU support on diaspora engagement

Some ways forward

ICMPD's work on diaspora engagement

Introductory remarks



- ICMPD strives for comprehensive and sustainable migration governance **in partnership** with those who have a stake in this multifaceted process.
- Migrants and diasporas are key **stakeholders** and we therefore support efforts to engage them.
- ICMPD works on diaspora engagement in many parts of the world and, most recently, also started to **support EU Member States** and EU partner countries.

ICMPD's work on diaspora engagement

"two sides of the same coin"



ICMPD's work on diaspora engagement

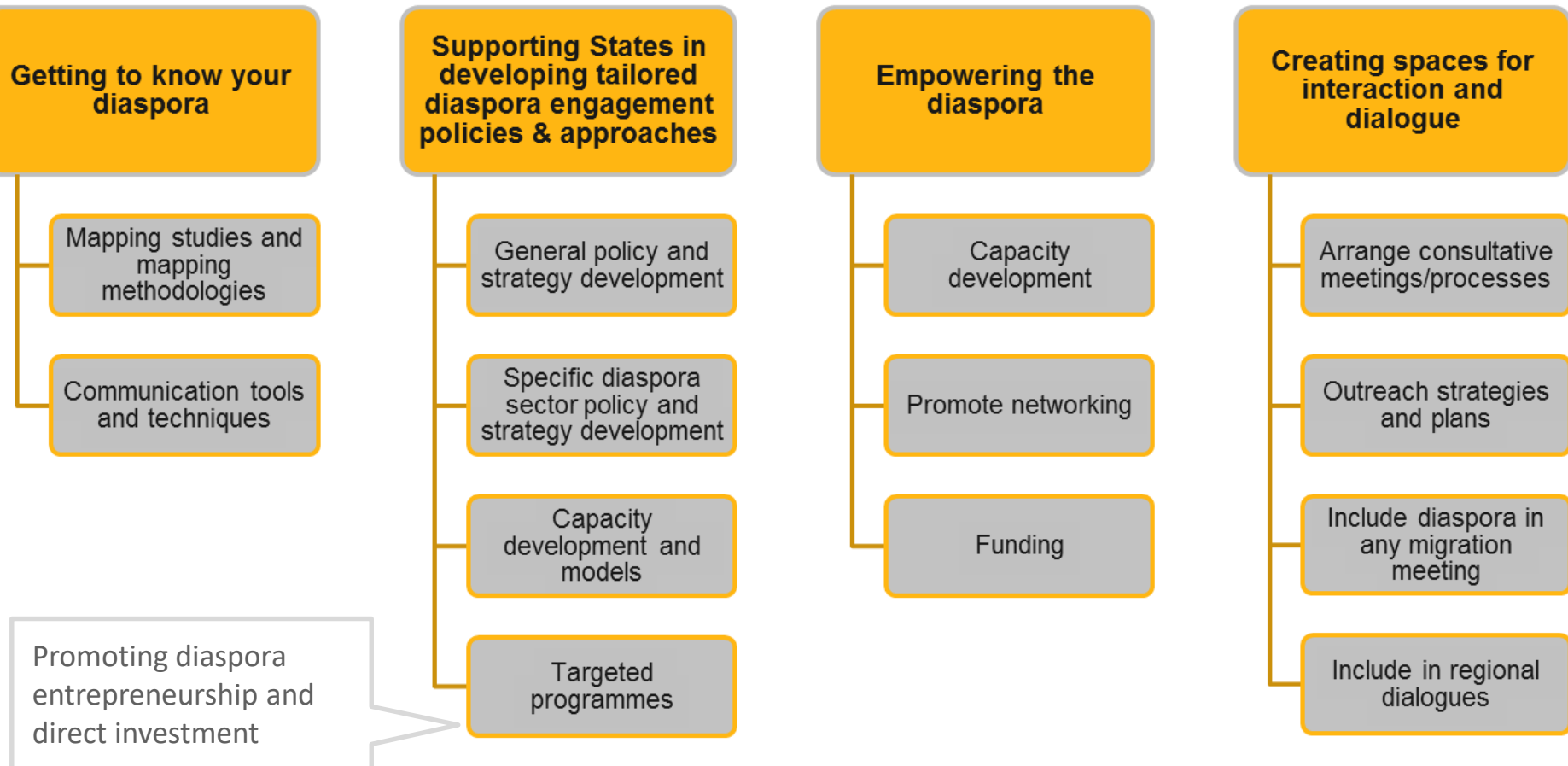
General approach

- Policy and strategy development, knowledge exchanges and trainings, as well as specific outreach programmes and approaches **for government institutions**
- Capacity development and empowerment **for diaspora organisations**
- **Dialogue** and policy discussions are a cornerstone of our work, and continue to be a **catalyst** for generating new knowledge and facilitating network-building in diaspora and development actions.



ICMPD's work on diaspora engagement

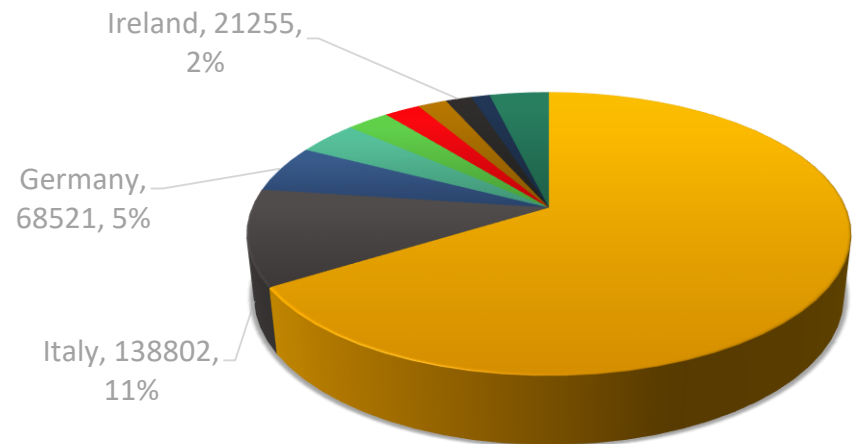
General approach



Diaspora studies in Germany, Ireland and Italy

Objectives and methodology

- Highlighting diaspora contributions to destination and countries of origin
- Identifying migration patterns and channels
- Analysing integration characteristics and the potential of diaspora organisations to support new immigrants
- Identifying diasporas' forms of organisation
- Assessing their economic, social, political and/or cultural connections
- Statistical sources and available secondary information
- Semi-structured interviews with diaspora representatives
- Interviews with host country institutions



2017

Diaspora studies in Germany, Ireland and Italy

Preliminary results from Germany

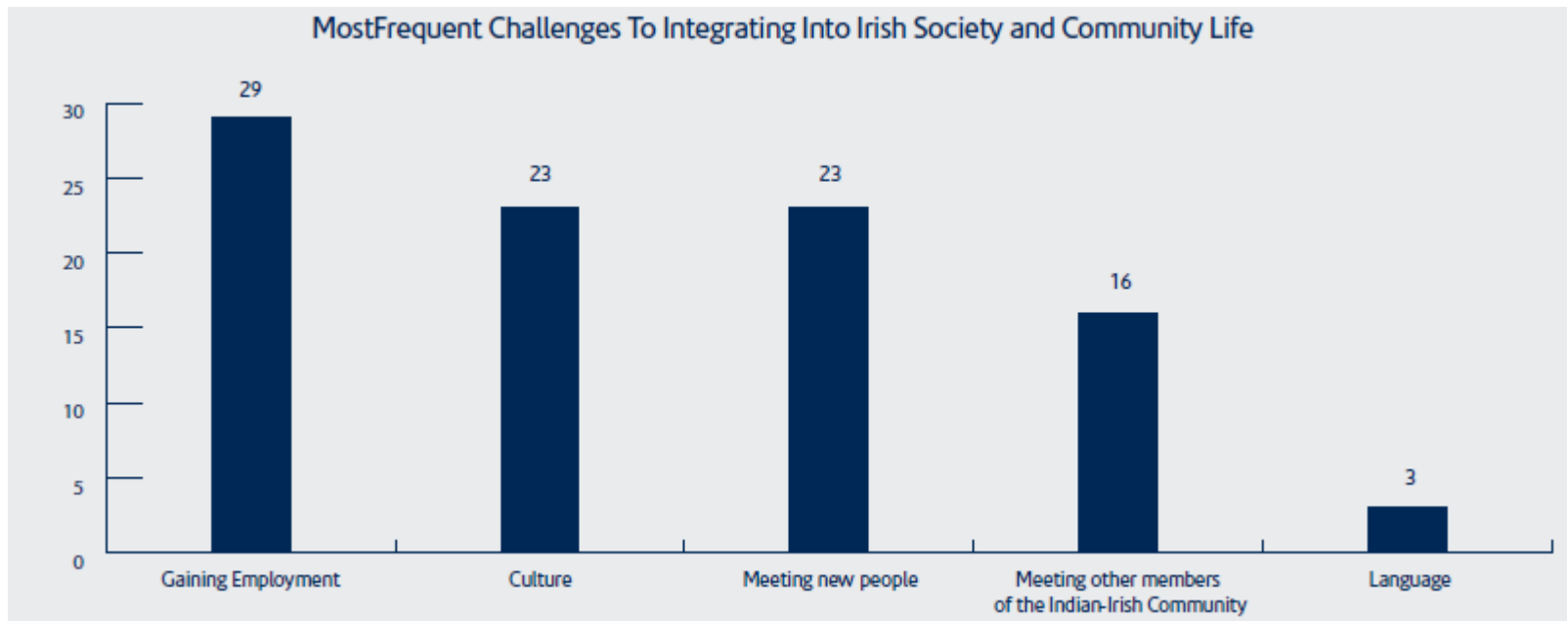
- Three different types of Indian diaspora organisations: Student associations, German-Indian Society affiliates and other diaspora organisations
- Germany is the 6th most popular destination for Indian students
- Lack of information about university admission, targeted support in the phase of securing employment
- Fragmented Indian diaspora organisations but particularly the student associations are very active

	Student associations (ISAs)	German-Indian Society affiliates (DIGs)	Other diaspora organisations
Ease of contact and collaboration	Easy to communicate with. If need be, collaboration with multiple student organisations could be fostered via Indian Students Germany (ISG) or the Embassy. ISG advises and coordinates ISAs.	Tend to be more responsive when contacted via personal referrals since they monitor their DIG mails infrequently. In theory, collaboration could be fostered via DIG Stuttgart, but since each DIG remains largely autonomous, any cooperation would need to be planned with individual DIGs.	Ease of communication and collaboration varies from organisation to organisation. Those in Hesse have been grouped under the umbrella "Friends of India". A meeting with multiple organisations could be organised at the occasion of their periodic meeting with the Consulate General in Frankfurt.

Diaspora studies in Germany, Ireland and Italy

Preliminary results from Ireland

- Most Indians come to Ireland for education, to work in healthcare and for business
- Challenges faced by Indian students: housing, accessing general healthcare and social inclusion and lengthy visa procedures (before they start)
- Diaspora organisations facilitate reception, integration and a feeling of belonging but are fragmented and have limited capacities



Diaspora studies in Germany, Ireland and Italy

Preliminary results from Italy

- Emigrants face very different conditions depending on their legal status and employment situations: Those working in the Northern part experience better work and living conditions and are mostly formally employment while poor labour conditions and (often) irregular status prevail in the South
- Main sectors of employment are manufacturing, dairy production, agriculture or casual jobs
- Recent steep increase in the number of students
- Varying needs, capacities and language proficiency
- Strong cultural and religious ties between Indian communities in Italy and in India
- Lack of links with the host communities
- Diaspora organisations are primarily organised along regional lines and aim to promote culture, language and arts

Practices in EU Member States

Informal meeting of EU Ministers on diaspora policies

Focus: Facilitating the processes of integration and return



Practices in EU Member States

Poland

Government Programme on cooperation between Poland and Poles abroad (2015-20)

Strategic policy goals

- **Language:** Teaching of Polish and enhance knowledge about Poland
- **Culture:** Preservation and strengthening of Polish identity
- **Integration & rights:** increasing involvement in public life, information about rights
- **Return:** Supporting and incentivising the return of Poles and people of Polish origin
- **Networking:** Contacts with Poland



Practices in EU Member States

Ireland

Global Irish – Ireland’s Diaspora Policy (2015)

- Providing welfare services to vulnerable citizens
- Facilitating outreach to diaspora communities
- Developing better communication and information services
- Facilitating return but no actively attracting emigrants to return
- Whole-of-government approach: new Inter-Departmental Committee on Irish Abroad

Practices

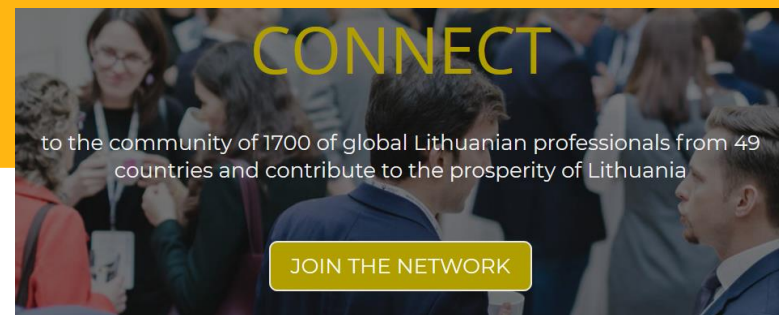
- Emigrant Support Programme – targeting the most vulnerable community members
- Safe Home Ireland - assisting Irish born emigrants over the age of 57
- Back for Business - mentoring programme aimed at returning emigrant entrepreneurs



Our vision is a vibrant, diverse global Irish community, connected to Ireland and to each other.

Practices in EU Member States

Lithuania



Global Lithuania Programme

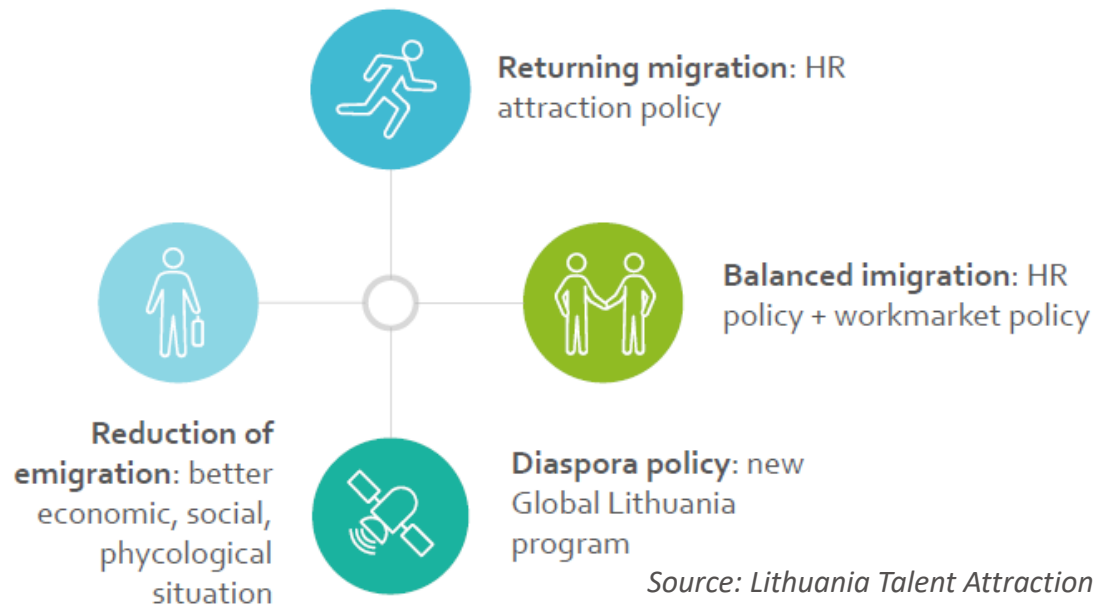
- Maintaining the national identity among Lithuanians living abroad
- Promotion of involvement of the Lithuanians living abroad in the public life
- Strengthening of state-diaspora ties, encouraging emigrants to return
- Promotion the attractiveness of Lithuania abroad

Create Lithuania

- Enables professionals advise to public sector bodies

Talents for Lithuania

- Aims to attract Lithuanian graduates of foreign universities to start their career in Lithuania



Source: Lithuania Talent Attraction strategy and programmes

Practices in EU Member States

Spain

- **A number of initiatives to attract returning citizens at municipal/city level**
 - Subsidised employment, grants for businesses, job linking, information provision
- **Focus on social inclusion measures for returnees living in or at-risk of poverty**
 - Subsidy for returning Spanish citizens
- **Return Guide**
 - Open to all emigrant profiles (families, students, self-employed etc.)
- **Return to Spain Plan:** aims to facilitate the return of emigrants who left the country during the economic crisis
 - Focus on work-related support: mentoring, networking between companies and emigrants, on-line and face-to-face trainings
 - Creation of a one-stop shop
 - Remove barriers that barriers that disincentive returns
 - Open to all emigrant profiles (families, students, self-employed etc.)

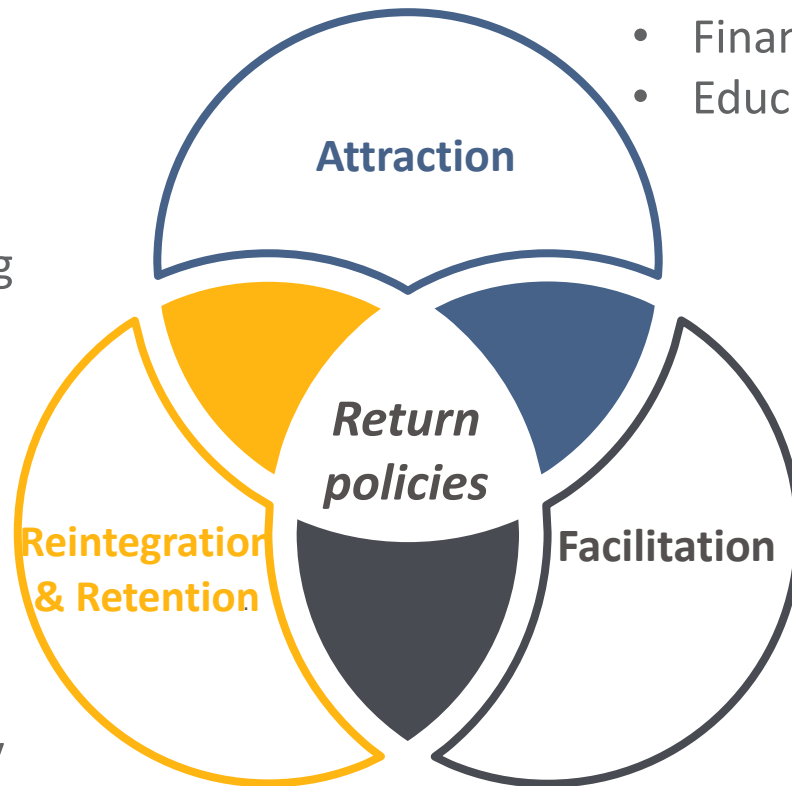
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Supporting the return of
Spanish emigrants
to their homeland

Return policy toolbox

Reintegration & Retention:

- Tailored advice: Mentoring, counselling
- Entrepreneurship support
- Start-up support
- Integration instruments (school, education, language courses...)
- Programmes for highly skilled



Attraction:

- Financial incentives
- Education related instruments

Facilitation:

- Engagement & Information strategies, campaigns
- Diaspora skills database
- Online matching tools for returnees

Engagement and Information

EU's support in the area of diaspora engagement

EU-Georgia mobility partnership – ENIGMMA project

Support to the Georgian diaspora and migrant communities abroad

- Studying the needs and challenges via focus group discussions and face-to-face interviews
- Developing Legal Migration Guidelines in three destination countries

Information provision services to Georgian diaspora

- Information events in Greece, Italy and Spain (“mobile counselling”)

Support youth engagement activities in Georgia

- **Georgia's Young Ambassadors**
 - 15 countries: Austria, Netherlands, Turkey, Germany, Greece, Sweden, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Belgium, Ukraine, Spain, Poland, United Kingdom, United States of America
- International Summer School in Georgia



EU's support in the area of diaspora engagement

EU-Jordan mobility partnership – JEMPAS project

- Development of “A Profile of Jordan’s Expatriates: An overview of Jordan’s emigration patterns and policies”
 - “Mapping methodology, a handbook for data and information collection of Jordanian’s abroad”
- Communication plan for expatriate outreach and training sessions on communication techniques
- Training curriculum for training of trainers on expatriate outreach – integrated in the annual curriculum for diplomats of the Jordan Institute for Diplomacy
 - Pilot training for consular staff
- Outreach event in Germany for Jordanian expatriates active in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Support in the development of a new strategic frameworks



Support to the
Mobility Partnership
between the European Union
and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

A Profile of Jordan's Expatriates

**An overview of Jordan's
emigration patterns and policies**



Some ways forward

Pre-departure

- Orientation for students, via ISAs, partnerships with institutes such as DAAD
- Language learning
- Induction packs, guides, checklists
- Scholarships for those who intend to return
- Legal migration information, incl. visa
- Pathways for vocational training

Return and pre-return

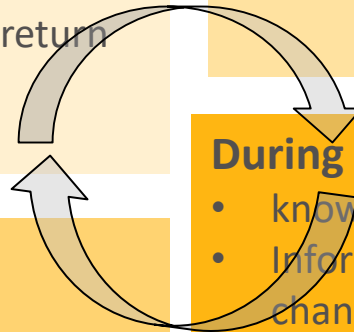
- Assess barriers to return
- Orientation for students, e.g. via ISAs (webinars?)
- Induction packs or guides
- Tourism opportunities
- Financial incentives
- Business support

Arrival

- Support to student associations and diaspora organisations who provide information on housing etc.
- Counselling and information provision

During the stay

- knowledge transfers
- Information about remittances transfer channels
- Facilitate networking among diaspora organisations
- Information about migration provisions among employers
- Orientation and work experience after graduation
- Information on emigrants (labour) rights



Some ways forward

- High potential for **knowledge exchange** in the areas of:
 - return of talent
 - support to vulnerable emigrant communities
 - engage with diaspora organisations and build their capacities
 - Communication and engagement



Thank you very much for your attention!

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