



Development and Peace Foundation (SEF), Bonn
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Eschborn

Berlin Summer Dialogue 2010

Municipal Cooperation with Migrant Networks

Opportunities for Development, Peace and Integration Policy

Berlin Town Hall
2-3 September 2010

In cooperation with:

Advisory Board for Development Policy,
Senate Department for Economics, Technology and Women's Issues, Berlin
German Association of Cities and Towns (*Deutscher Städtetag*), Berlin/Cologne
State Office for Development Cooperation at the Senate Department for
Economics, Technology and Women's Issues, Berlin
Society for International Development (SID), Berlin Chapter

Programme

Conference languages: German, English, Croatian (simultaneous interpretation)

The topic:

The **Berlin Summer Dialogue 2010** will provide a forum for academics and practitioners from various regions of the world to analyse the many different forms of cooperation that exist between cities and transnational migrant/diaspora networks, with a view to developing proposals for more intensive and systematic cooperation.

Migrants often establish transregional networks. They thus create a link, at the societal level, between the various host regions, while also maintaining close contacts with their home regions. At the same time, the potential of transnational migrant networks, mainly at local level, to support cities' growing aspirations to contribute to regional and global policy development is attracting greater attention from policy-makers and academics. However, the question of how cities can utilise this potential in practice has yet to be analysed systematically. The Berlin Summer Dialogue 2010 aims to make a contribution here.

The thematic areas where migrants and their regional and international networks could play a key role, and which will be considered in more detail at the event, are economic cooperation and social development, peacebuilding and the establishment of local governance structures and the shaping of national and international migration regimes.

There has been much discussion recently about the contribution made by migrants - in the form of remittances - to the development of their home countries and regions. However, other ways of supporting economic development are increasingly coming to the fore as well. Examples are the transfer of migrants' know-how back to the countries of origin, perhaps through a permanent or temporary return home, or a direct economic commitment such as foreign investment or support for the development of business links. These activities are also having development policy impacts and are creating opportunities for municipalities to play a supportive role while simultaneously generating benefits for themselves. This topic will be the focus of the first panel.

Through their personal and cultural links to their home regions, migrants have a heightened awareness of local conflict constellations and potential solutions. Until now, this knowledge has mainly been utilised through informal channels - if, indeed, it is utilised at all. However, cities with established governance structures can provide relevant and valuable know-how for the development of local institutional structures and participatory models of governance at communal level - in short, state-building "from below". Migrant networks can act as transmission lines here. The precise form that this can take will be discussed by the second thematic panel.

The opportunities and challenges created by migration are most apparent in large cities and conurbations. They thus have a legitimate interest in influencing national and international policies aimed at managing migration flows, as well as in measures to promote migrants' integration. This interest was most recently expressed in the "Integrating Cities Charter", adopted by Eurocities in February 2010. In this Charter, the 16 signatory cities - including Berlin - call *inter alia* for a stronger role for cities in making integration work and shaping international and European integration strategies and migration policies. Here too, early dialogue with migrant networks would seem appropriate and may even be a key to establishing an ultimately successful migration and integration regime in the face of overlapping interests, as the third panel will seek to demonstrate.

The final session will summarise the conclusions drawn by the three panels and identify some of the practical criteria for the systematic involvement of migrant networks in cities' international activities and for more structured cooperation.

Thursday, 2 September 2010

From 10.00 hrs Registration

Welcome

11.00 hrs **Almuth Nehring-Venus**
Permanent Secretary for Economics, Technology and Women's Issues
of the State Government of Berlin
Member of the Board of Trustees of the Development and Peace Foundation

Klaus Brückner
Director of the GTZ-Representation in Berlin
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Berlin
Member of the Board of Trustees of the Development and Peace Foundation

Introduction

Chair of introductory session:

Klaus Brückner

11.15 hrs Opening speeches

*Cities as "Nerve Centres" of Globalisation -
Active Players in the Global Governance System?*

Professor Saskia Sassen
Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology
Columbia University, New York

*Cities as Global Governance Actors -
The Example of Cologne*

Jürgen Roters
Mayor of the city of Cologne

12.00 hrs Plenary discussion

12.45 hrs Lunch

Session I

Development Policy at the Municipal Level

What do migrant networks have to offer?

Key issues:

- How can the multifaceted potential that migrants and their networks have to offer in the development context be identified by cities and the divide between activities geared to integration and those geared to development be bridged?
- Which role can be played by the municipalities in promoting and supporting migrant networks in the context of their development and economic activities? How can migrants be equipped to play a meaningful role in development cooperation at the municipal level?
- Which measures can help to encourage local companies to identify and utilise migrants' potential - specifically, their international knowledge and contacts - in their business links with other countries?

Introduction and Chair of Session I

Regina Bauerochse Barbosa

Head of the Sector project "Migration and Development"
Economic Development and Employment Division
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Eschborn

14.00 hrs Input: The Example of Munich

Renate Hechenberger

Head of the Office for International Cooperation
City of Munich

14.15 hrs Comments and panel discussion

Rolf Graser

Executive Director
Forum der Kulturen Stuttgart (Forum of Cultures Stuttgart) -
Office for Intercultural Affairs and Umbrella Organisation for
Migrants' Associations Stuttgart

Christian Kouam

President
Cameroon Diaspora Network Germany, Wolfsburg

Dr Stefan Wilhelmy

Senior Project Manager
Service Agency Communities in One World
Capacity Building International (InWEnt), Bonn

15.00 hrs Plenary discussion

16.00 hrs Coffee break

Session II

Peacebuilding and the Establishment of Local Governance Structures A new field of cooperation for cities and migrant networks?

Key issues:

- How do migrant networks support the development of legitimate sustainable structures following civil wars/transition processes in their home countries?
- How much scope is there for migrant networks to cooperate with municipalities from consolidated democracies, in order to contribute to the establishment of local governance structures in crisis-torn home countries and home countries in transition?
- Can conflict escalation resulting from diaspora activities be countered by cooperating with host municipalities?
- What are the options for municipalities to support “state-building from below” in countries in transition?

Introduction and Chair of Session II

Professor Brigitte Fahrenhorst

Chair of the Society for International Development, Berlin Chapter
Chair of the Advisory Board for Development Policy at the
Senate Department for Economics, Technology and Women's Issues, Berlin
Member of the Advisory Board of the Development and Peace Foundation

16.30 hrs

Input: Engaging diasporas in peace-building activities

Dr Cindy Horst

Senior Researcher
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

16.45 hrs

Comments and panel discussion

Wolfgang Garatwa

Senior Planning Officer
Competence Centre Prevention, Security and Peace
Security, Reconstruction and Peace Division
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Eschborn

Dr Awil Mohamoud

Executive Director
African Diaspora Policy Centre, Amsterdam

Stefan Rother

Research Fellow
Arnold Bergstraesser Institute for Socio-Cultural Research, Freiburg

17.30 - 18.30 hrs Plenary discussion

ca 19.00 hrs

Reception by GTZ

Welcome by

Klaus Brückner (GTZ Berlin / SEF Board of Trustees) and
Professor Brigitte Fahrenhorst (SID Berlin / Advisory Board for
Development Policy Berlin / SEF Advisory Board)

Session III

National and International Migration and Integration Policy What role for municipalities and their migrant populations?

Key issues:

- Which opportunities are available to cities and associations of municipalities to help shape migration policy at national and international level? How can they draw on their experience and utilise their links with migrant communities to good effect?
- How can transnational migrant networks bring their interests to bear, in a more effective way, in the formulation of migration and integration policy at national and international level? Is more intensive cooperation with municipal actors a promising approach in this context?
- Which legal and political frameworks are required at local, regional, national and international level in order that migrant networks are able to sustainably contribute to development?

Introduction and Chair of Session III

Dr Uda Bastians-Osthaus

German Association of Cities and Towns, Berlin

09.00 hrs

Input: "Circular Migration": Theory and Practice

Dr Helmuth Schweitzer

Director

Office of Intercultural Affairs, City of Essen

09.15 hrs

Comments and panel discussion

Tom De Bruyn

Senior Research Associate

Research Institute for Work and Society (HIVA)

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Gibril Faal

Chairman

African Foundation for Development (AFFORD), London

10.00 hrs

Plenary discussion

11.00 hrs

Coffee break

Session IV

Towards Structured Cooperation with Migrant Networks in Cities' International Activities

Key issues:

- How can cooperation between migrant networks and cities - or, indeed, international associations of cities - be made more systematic and placed on an institutional footing? Which processes have already proved of value?
- To what extent can migrants serve as "resource persons" for municipal administrations, which generally have only limited international experience to draw on? How can cities deal with the plethora of migrant networks, and which selection criteria are useful and necessary here?
- What role can cities (in host as well as in sending countries) play for migrant networks to jointly strengthen local governance structures and local development?

Introduction and chair

Annette Bähring

Head of Unit "Regional and Local Governance, Decentralization"

Planning and Development Department

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Eschborn

11.30 hrs

Panel discussion with:

Saliou Gueye

Commissioner for Integration and Migration

City of Ludwigsburg

Professor Felicitas Hillmann

Department for City and Migration Research

Institute for Geography

University of Bremen

Tayfun Keltek

Chair

Regional Council for Integration North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf

Željko Sabo

Mayor of the city of Vukovar

12.30 hrs

Plenary discussion

13.30 hrs

Summary and Political Outlook

Emeritus Professor Dietrich Thränhardt

University of Münster

13.45 hrs

Closing remarks followed by light refreshments

Dr. Michèle Roth

Executive Director

Development and Peace Foundation, Bonn