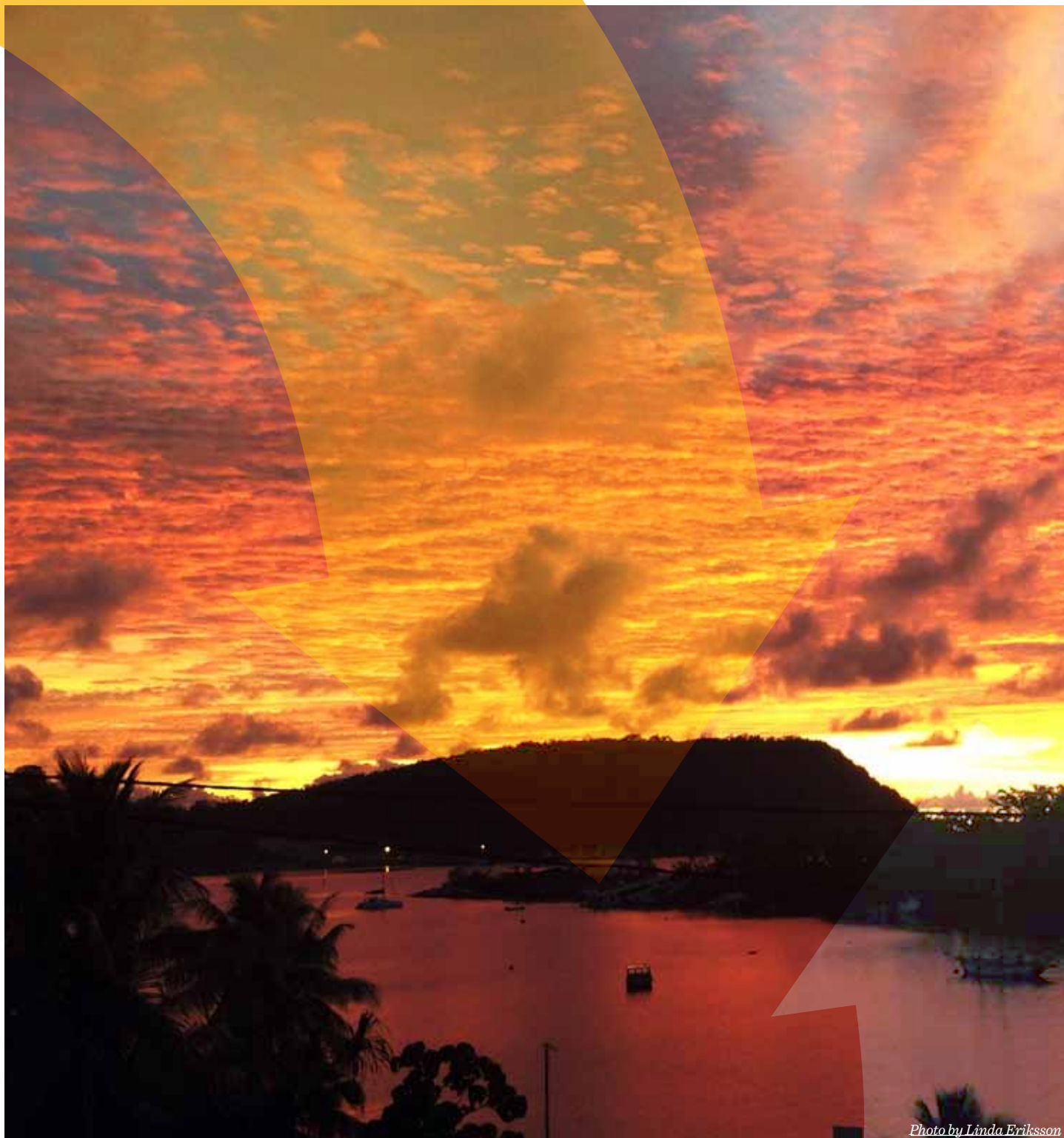


APRIL 2016

# NEWSLETTER 2



*Photo by Linda Eriksson*

# DEAR READER,

As the Assistant Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, I am pleased to bring you the second issue of the ACP-EU Migration Action Newsletter.

At the ACP Secretariat we keep acknowledging the increasing importance of migration within our work and agenda. With a “demand-driven” approach as an essential feature, the ACP-EU Migration Action has shown to be an important initiative to provide concrete support to the recommendations of the ACP-EU Migration Dialogue on Migration and Development. In this sense, the Action does not place external issues or models on the ACP- EU Dialogue agenda but presents real life cases and policies, through requests of technical support by the ACP Member States themselves. These real exchanges serve as inspiration, reinforcing technical capacities, sharing valuable knowledge on migration amongst the ACP regions and between the ACP countries and the EU Member States.

Up to present, more than 40% of the ACP countries have already requested technical assistance to the Action. In the case of the East and Horn Africa and the West and Central Africa regions, the outreach of the activities of Action arrives at 50% of all the countries. The Action has proved to be an effective tool for our countries that I hope will generate even more interest in the coming months.

The core recommendations of the Dialogue, launched in 2012 and 2015, are now fully in process of implementation. Remittances, readmission, visas, trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants are now all tackled by the Action through tailored, high quality, competent, and relevant technical assistance. Moreover, the Action has recently started supporting Non-State Actors in ACP countries and the articles in this Newsletter will indicate to the civil society how to get involved in this funding opportunity.

I hope you will enjoy reading our Newsletter on the outcomes of the Action. Please feel free to contact the Action at: [ACPEUMIGRATIONACTION@iom.int](mailto:ACPEUMIGRATIONACTION@iom.int)



**Ambassador Léonard-Emile Ognimba,**  
ACP Assistant Secretary General

## WHAT IS THE ACP-EU MIGRATION ACTION?

**The ACP-EU Migration Action is a decentralized facility providing technical assistance to Governments in the countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).**

Launched in January 2015, the Action is geared towards supporting activities that promote the 2012 ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration and Development recommendations on visas, remittances and readmission, as well as the 2015 recommendations on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants.



*Photo by ACP Secretariat*

If you would like to get more information on the Action, please visit our website, contact the Action at [ACPEUmigrationaction@iom.int](mailto:ACPEUmigrationaction@iom.int) or get in touch with one of our five Regional Coordinators at [RCACPEUAction@iom.int](mailto:RCACPEUAction@iom.int).

**[WWW.ACPEUMIGRATIONACTION.IOM.INT](http://WWW.ACPEUMIGRATIONACTION.IOM.INT)**

## High Marks in Basseterre (Organization for Eastern Caribbean States- OECS)

*By Pedro Marcelino*

I arrived in Basseterre, St. Kitts, on February 2016, following a visit to Antigua and Barbuda, and ahead of visits to St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica.

Ambassador Sidney Osborne, Commissioner of St. Kitts and Nevis Nevis to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), kindly welcomed me at the airport, and from our first meeting I was impressed by his unwavering enthusiasm for this technical support by the ACP-EU Migration Action.

After spending two weeks visiting St. Kitts and three other OECS member states, and having met well over forty stakeholders, I have developed a clear understanding of the needs of the OECS: to have an overhaul in diaspora engagement and

remittance optimization policies that foster local development. The city of Basseterre is especially symbolic for the OECS because its foundational treaty was signed here. It is also home to the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB).

During my time there, I had the opportunity to observe how the OECS integration permeates day-to-day life. Ambassador Osborne greatly supported me during the assignment, and I would like to thank him for his institutional insight and the bridges he created with government stakeholders.

Sadly, time did not allow for a visit to Nevis, just a short swim away (we could see it shrouded in mist, at one of our stops). However, I have found the Kittitians I have met to be gregarious and proud of their two stunning islands. I now look forward to an OECS-wide diaspora engagement policy that will help the region (re-)connect with its citizens overseas, and create new and innovative opportunities in the upcoming years.



*Photo by Pedro Marcelino*

## Analysing Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants in the Land of Bungee Jumping and Sand Drawings (Vanuatu)

By *Linda Eriksson*

The ACP-EU Migration Action tasked me to conduct a Baseline Assessment in Vanuatu on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants upon request of the Vanuatu Police Force.

Vanuatu Police wishes to rely on a scoping study on those issues to adjust their work. I feel quite confident that it is possible to make a great difference in those areas since very little information is systematically collected in the country.

While carrying out my work in Port Vila, I learned much more than just about trafficking and smuggling people in Vanuatu. I learnt about how institutions are extremely connected with personal links and the need of not neglecting this

and how traditions related to the relations within extended families might make persons vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking. More importantly, I sensed a need not to apply a Western way of looking at and dealing with that reality, which showed to be quite productive for my assignment. I also learnt about the origins of bungee jumping (something very close to my heart since I have jumped off a couple of bridges) and sand drawings.

I feel satisfied of having been able to make the most of my days there also thanks to George, the Regional Coordinator for the Action in the Pacific, and my caring and supportive hosts from the Vanuatu Government.



Photo by Linda Eriksson

## Helping the Modernization of Sudan's Visa System (Sudan)

By *Andrew Gray*

As migration expert for the Action, I have been working in Sudan for over a month.

During this time, I saw a big appetite for change here in Sudan and the sense that engagement with the international community can really help to build local capacity.

The aim of my current work is to review the present visa system in collaboration with the Sudanese authorities and to realise their aspirations for an efficient and modern system. This technical assistance

intervention was directly requested by the Head of the Sudanese Civil Registration and Passports Corporation, General Dahia. He is truly committed to reforming current practices and has been a strong source of support from the very beginning; a support that has helped to bring stakeholders from other ministries on board. I have also received fantastic support from the IOM mission in Khartoum and I am very fortunate that the IOM Mission's

liaison officer, Bashir Ahmed, is a retired head of the Sudanese immigration department.

I hope that my activities will help to lay the ground for a visa system which more accurately meets Sudan's needs for the future. In Sudan they say "Once you've tasted the waters of the Nile you'll be back". I certainly hope that this is the case for me and for the satisfaction that my work will leave behind.



Photo by IOM

## Diaspora Engagement and Remittances: an OECS Priority

*By Peter Norville, Head of Functional Cooperation and Programme Management Unit, OECS Secretariat*

The OECS is made up of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Eastern Caribbean, susceptible to numerous economic and environmental exposures which often compromise their development.



*Photo by Pedro Marcelino*

Our Member States include Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Martinique, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The ACP-EU Migration Action, in consultation with the EU and the ACP Secretariat, responded positively to our request to identify and analyse key issues related to Diaspora Engagement and Remittances.

On July 2015, an expert visited us to analyse the existing situation regarding governance, diaspora engagement and remittances and to develop a baseline assessment that could help us in defining

the next steps for the following intervention. The assessment noted significant deficiencies in terms of the data available on both diaspora and remittances in the region, but provided a number of indicators to measure the progress of regional policy framework that we envisaged in the design of the technical assistance intervention. On these premises, the ACP-EU Migration Action hired an expert on remittances, Mr. Pedro Marcelino, to analyse the existing indicators applied in the OECS Member States.

We would like to thank Mr. Marcelino for his commitment, Mr. Grant, Regional Coordinator for the Caribbean region,

for his support, the team of the ACP-EU Action in Brussels for their guidance and coordination, as well as the European Commission and the ACP Secretariat for their attention to our technical assistance request.



*Photo by Pedro Marcelino*



## Regulation of Mobile Money in Somalia

*By Abdishakur A. Mohamud,  
Internal Audit Department Director,  
Central Bank of Somalia, Somalia*

Somalia is a country that has been in conflict for over twenty years.

Since the collapse of the Central Government in 1991, our country has experienced cycles of conflict that destroyed legitimate institutions and the country's financial infrastructure. Increased global attention of terrorism and money laundering, the lack of anti-money laundering policies, and a need for combatting financial terrorism in Somalia raised the need to regulate the industry. Considering all these challenges and recognizing the importance of the mobile money services, we, at the Central Bank of Somalia, approached the ACP-EU Migration Action for assistance. We highly appreciate the support we are receiving so far. With the help of the Action, the Central Bank of Somalia was able to conduct an initial baseline assessment which consisted of a targeted research on the mobile money market that also reviewed the mobile money regulations.



Further to this initial baseline assessment, next step was to focus on mobile phones as platforms for cross-border remittances: our aim is to contribute to the development of a better regulatory framework and enabling for more efficient mobile money services in our country.

## Paving the Way for the Kenyan Diaspora Investments

*By Mr. Washington Oloo, Director at  
the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade, Kenya.*

The financial contribution of the Kenyan diaspora to many households, to our communities and to the economy of our country is massive.



The Kenyan Government is well aware of this: in this light we asked the ACP-EU Migration Action to provide technical assistance to capture and systematize the investment tools available to the Kenyan diaspora. We hope this can become an important instrument to help our fellow citizens living abroad to assess their options to invest back in their country, accessible also via the web, in the user friendly shape of a digital booklet on remittances.

According to a recent Kenya Economic Update, remittances are 'the single most important source of foreign exchange inflows in Kenya,' exceeding official development assistance. Same findings were encountered by the expert, Mr. Frouws, who conducted the baseline assessment for our technical assistance request; we hope that Mr. Puit, the migration expert soon to start the technical intervention, will well capitalize on those findings. We are ready to provide him with all the support needed for a successful collaboration.

To the point of publishing of this newsletter, twenty seven (27) requests for technical assistance have been submitted by ACP Member States and Regional Organizations and processed by the Action Team. Here below, find their chronological overview.





## THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR NON STATE ACTORS (NSAs)

The Action also promotes activities of Non-State Actors at the local level in the five areas of priority for the ACP-EU Dialogue: visas, remittances, readmission, trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants.

This fund aims to complement the support via the technical assistance for ACP Governments and Regional Organizations with specific initiatives carried out by the

civil society in that same country and in the same sector. In fact, this financial support is available for short-term initiatives/projects by NSAs in the same area where the

technical assistance has been already provided to an ACP Government or Regional Organization.

See the countries where the Action is currently working in the map above,

to see if NSAs initiatives will be soon funded.

## WHAT IS AN NSA?

NSAs are defined (Cotonou Agreement, 2000) as “those players from the private sector, economic and social partners –including trade unions- and civil society in all its diversity according to national characteristics.”

A common feature lies in their independence from the State and the voluntary basis upon which they have come together to act and promote common interests. The ACP-EU Migration Action identifies the proposals of initiatives by the NSAs through a system of restricted calls for initiatives/projects. The NSAs working in a sector (visa, remittances, human trafficking, etc.) are previously identified during the baseline assessment, which is carrying out as a basic step to precede the technical assistance intervention.

The proposals submitted by those NSAs are assessed by the Action and submitted for final evaluation to the European Commission and the ACP Secretariat. The proposals by NSAs must have some common requirements: they must last for maximum 6 months and their total value must be in the range of 40,000 euro. The amount and their duration make this fund particularly useful for those NSAs who implement highly performing and impactful initiatives in the areas of the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration that they want to boost.

## HOW TO ACCESS THE FUNDING FOR NSA INITIATIVES?



If you are interested about this funding opportunity, see [www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/who-can-benefit-nsa](http://www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/who-can-benefit-nsa)



# BASELINE ASSESSMENT:

## A tool for EVALUATION, MAPPING AND MORE

The role of a Baseline Assessment is multifaceted in the processes developed by the ACP-EU Migration Action. While a baseline assessment is usually seen only as an evaluation instrument allowing for the checking of the final results against an initial 'baseline', in the design of the Action this tool has a plurality of purposes.

Additional to maintaining its evaluation significance, it helps to map the main stakeholders on a thematic area as to avoid duplicity and overlapping and involve them in the next phases of the work, to assess the pros/cons of the intervention requested by the Government and suggest adjustments, to identify the NSAs working on that subject, as well as to flag the risks/

advantages of the requested technical assistance. Since the major feature of the demand-driven technical assistance is its quality and the satisfaction of the ACP Government, along the support it provides to facilitate the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration, it is essential for the Action to rely on a tool that guarantees quality technical interventions and a serious measurement of their impact. Therefore, after a technical assistance request sent by an ACP Government or Regional Organization is approved by the ACP Secretariat and the EU, an expert is commissioned to conduct the baseline assessment of the situation on the ground. This short-term assessment also helps the Governments with insights guaranteeing their request is



*Photo by Noni Munge*

feasible and what expected can indeed be achieved.

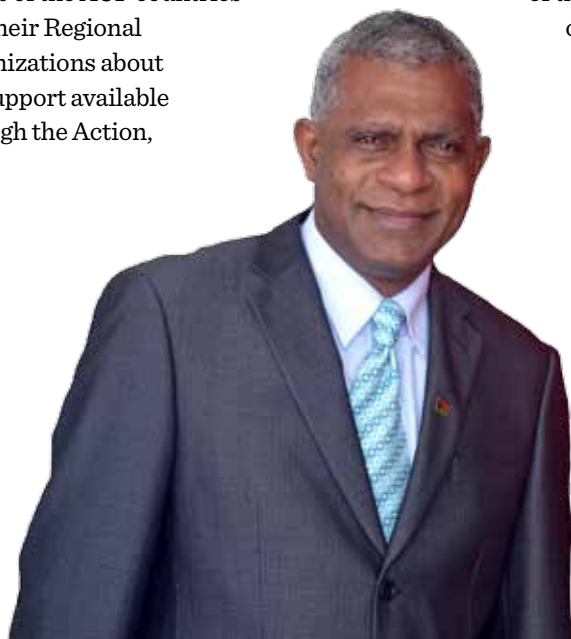
The baseline assessment expert is also responsible for researching and mapping out Non-State Actors in that country as to prepare the field for the non-state actors' initiatives to be supported by the Action.

In order to carry-out a baseline assessment, an expert must have at least 5 years of professional experience in monitoring & evaluation, in the region of the request and preferably also on the subject. With the inputs of the baseline assessment, the actual technical assistance intervention can kick-off with enhanced guarantee for quality of results: the migration expert providing technical assistance will thus be able to implement the necessary foreseen activities incorporating the information and knowledge collected previously during the baseline assessment.

Read some of the Baseline Assessments at  
[www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/know-how-tools](http://www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/know-how-tools)

## MEET THE ACTION

Mr. George Bogiri is the Regional Coordinator for the Action for the Pacific region and is based in the IOM Office in Port Vila, Vanuatu. George's role is to raise awareness of the Governments of the ACP countries and their Regional Organizations about the support available through the Action,



as well as assisting them in their requests for technical assistance, and facilitating the Non-State actors' initiatives in the Pacific region. Prior to joining the Action, George worked for the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu for over thirty years, his last position being the Director General to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

George has extensive experience in migration issues and is a former chairperson of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC). George holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Papua New Guinea. You can contact George at [gbogiri@iom.int](mailto:gbogiri@iom.int) or at [RCACPEUAction@iom.int](mailto:RCACPEUAction@iom.int)

# GEORGE BOGIRI

**Regional coordinator for the Pacific region**

## Work with us

### Be our expert

If you are working for an ACP or EU country or Regional Organization dealing with migration and if you have experience and expertise on a subject related to visa, human trafficking, smuggling of migrants, readmission or remittances, we invite you to contact the ACP-EU Migration Action Central Unit ([ACPEUmigrationaction@iom.int](mailto:ACPEUmigrationaction@iom.int)) and/or the Regional Coordinator in your region ([RCACPEUAction@iom.int](mailto:RCACPEUAction@iom.int)) and to visit our webpage ([www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/work-with-us](http://www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int/work-with-us)) to see how to become one of our experts for short term technical assistance.

