



Diaspora Connections

Engaging with Diaspora organisations at multiple geo-political levels



Authorship

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Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank the BIG Lottery Fund for supporting this mapping exercise; Sandra Kabir, Executive Director of BRAC UK, Maher Anjum, DVA Coordinator and Evelyn Rodrigues, DVP Team Leader at VSO UK for their invaluable input; DVA members who took part in the surveys and case studies, without which this report would not have been possible; and research interns Marketa Simonova and Yasmin Uddin for their diligent assistance with the compilation of the stakeholder mapping database.

Layout: www.revangeldesigns.co.uk

ISBN: 978-1-903697-09-2

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Acronyms and glossary

ACP	The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States	GLV	Greater London Volunteering
ADAID	African Diaspora Alliance for International Development	GPAF	DFID Global Poverty Action Fund
ADEFF	African Diaspora Engagement and Facilitation Fund	GTF	DFID Governance and Transparency Fund
AU	African Union	IAVE	International Association for Volunteer Efforts
BIG	BIG Lottery Fund	IDM	IOM International Dialogue on Migration
BUILD	Building Understanding through International Links for Development	IIV	Investing in Volunteers
CEDV	Centre of Excellence for Diaspora Volunteering	IOM	International Organisation for Migration
CEV	The European Volunteer Centre	IVD	International Volunteer Day
CfD	Connections for Development	IYV+10	International Year of Volunteering (2011)
CGAP	Consultative Group to Assist the Poor	MDG	Millennium Development Goals
CGI	Comic Relief Common Ground Initiative	MIDA	Migration for Development in Africa
CONCORD	European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development	MSP	Member of Scottish Parliament
CSCF	DFID Civil Society Challenge Fund	NALC	The National Association of Local Councils
CSO	Civil Society Organisations	NCVO	National Council for Voluntary Organisations
CVS	Community and Voluntary Sector	NEPAD	The New Partnership for Africa's Development
DAF	DFID Development Awareness Fund	NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
DEC	Disasters Emergency Committee	NHS	National Health Service
DFD	Diaspora Forum for Development	PPA	DFID Partnership Programme Arrangement
DFID	UK Department for International Development/UKaid	RCO	Refugee Community Organisation
DVA	Diaspora Volunteering Alliance	SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
DVI	Diaspora Volunteering Initiative	SADF	South Asian Development Fund
DVP	Diaspora Volunteering Programme	UN	United Nations
EP	The European Parliament	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
EU	European Union	UNV	United Nations Volunteer Programme
EYV 2011	European Year of Volunteering (2011)	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
EYV 2011 Alliance	European Year of Volunteering 2011 Alliance	VIO	Volunteer Involving Organisations
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development	VSO UK	formerly Voluntary Service Overseas
		WB	The World Bank

Executive summary

This mapping exercise commissioned by the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA) and VSO UK, sought to identify strategic stakeholders at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local level in order for Diaspora organisations to influence their programmes, policies, and resource allocations for the benefit of Diaspora volunteering and international development. In addition, this paper intends to provide a snapshot of the engagement between Diaspora communities in the UK, mainstream international development organisations, local councils, community based organisations, policy makers and related institutes. It aims to make recommendations on how Diaspora organisations can work more effectively with strategic stakeholders to access resources, funding, and engagement in policy dialogue and change.

Stakeholder database

The major output of the mapping exercise is a comprehensive database of key stakeholders, which includes a summary of the organisations' work and programmes, policies and resource allocations relevant to the Diaspora volunteering and development sector. This database represents a significant resource for Diaspora organisations. It is available on the DVA website and will be kept updated on an ongoing basis by the DVA and VSO UK.

Engagement of Diaspora organisations

Through surveys and case studies of a sample of UK based Diaspora organisations, this research found the following:

The majority of Diaspora organisations surveyed were involved in advocacy work, mostly at the international, followed by the national then local levels, and to a comparatively lesser extent the regional and UK regional levels. Overlapping stakeholders included the United Nations at the international level, as well as the respective government of the country of heritage. At the regional level, examples include work with European, Asian and African regional bodies, demonstrating the range and breadth of existing advocacy work among even the relatively small sample of Diaspora organisations that responded to the initial mapping survey.

A significant 60 per cent of respondents were already engaged in advocacy work with the UK Department for International Development (DFID) on various issues, although only one organisation referred to the joint lobbying of DFID carried out by the DVA members. At the local level, a smaller percentage of Diaspora organisations stated that they carried out advocacy work with local councils across London and also local communities in London. Outside of London, at the UK regional level, there was evidence of engagement with relevant stakeholders in Scotland. The range of issues covered by the advocacy work was wide, with areas of overlap between organisations including education, health, international development, poverty reduction (including input into the poverty reduction strategy papers), and young people.

Diaspora organisations were already advocating with a quarter of the identified stakeholders covering all geo-political levels from local councils and communities to DFID, from European, Asian and African regional bodies to the United Nations. This suggests an improvement from the somewhat bleak picture drawn by earlier VSO (2007) findings that Diaspora organisations were excluded from mainstream international development dialogue, and that Diaspora organisations felt undervalued and invisible compared to other communities in the UK, although levels of engagement did vary and fluctuate between Diaspora organisations.

The majority of survey respondents attributed resources (financial/human resources/time, etc) as one of the main factors accounting for successful advocacy. Correspondingly, the majority of respondents felt that limited resources (financial/human/time, etc) were one of the main challenges when carrying out advocacy work. A few respondents were not involved in advocacy work and this was due to being uncertain as to how advocacy applied to them, or felt that it was a combination of limited resources or limited skills.

The majority of respondents (90 per cent) felt that resources (financial/human/time, etc) would enable them to carry out advocacy work in the future. This was followed by networking opportunities with potential partners/ alliances, and then networking opportunities with influential people.

Many respondents felt that a toolkit on 'how to carry out advocacy work' would be useful along with training on how to maximise the toolkit. The training should be tailored to Diaspora organisations based on their levels of experience of carrying out advocacy work and the level at which they wished to engage in advocacy.

Engagement with stakeholders

Desk research revealed a descending number of relevant programmes, policies and resource allocations that Diaspora organisations could potentially tap into at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local levels. There was a fairly promising scene across all geo-political levels (75 per cent of international stakeholders, 61.5 per cent of regional, 69 per cent of national, 100 per cent of UK regional and 50 per cent of local stakeholders researched for the database). Many of these potential stakeholders recognised the value of volunteering as a means to promote active citizenship (e.g. Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, CIVICUS, Council of Europe, European Commission) and working towards achieving the MDGs (e.g. UNV, VSO UK) or relied on volunteers to contribute to or deliver their work (e.g. DFD, Refugee Council, The Prince's Trust).

Potential resource allocations for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities appeared to be low with only 25 per cent of international stakeholders, 15.4 per cent of regional, 30.8 per cent of national, 60 per cent of UK regional and 50 per cent of local stakeholders listed in the database referring to relevant sources in their websites.

The Diaspora and development agenda is becoming an increasing area of focus for international development agencies and migration policy institutes. A few stakeholders worked hard at most levels to keep volunteering high on the policy agenda (e.g. EYV 2011 Alliance, NCVO, UN, Volunteering England, VSO UK). These efforts culminated in high profile recognition, e.g. the UN International Volunteer Day held annually on 5th December, and the UN International Year of Volunteering, which celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2011.

Recommendations

DVA and VSO

- The DVA should develop an advocacy strategy to target key strategic stakeholders to lobby them to incorporate Diaspora engagement into their programme plans, and develop policies which include Diaspora in development efforts, potentially leading to resource allocations which could benefit Diaspora volunteering and international development.
- VSO should set an example to other stakeholders by developing a Diaspora engagement policy, which articulates its commitment to Diaspora volunteering.
- The following stakeholders already incorporate some aspect of engaging with Diaspora at the programmatic level and should be targeted as first priority for advocacy to consider including Diaspora volunteering as an element of their existing programmes, or when consulting on the design of new programmes.
 - International: Commonwealth Secretariat, IOM, UNV, WB;
 - Regional: ADAID, AU, CEV;
 - National: Comic Relief, DFID, VSO UK;
 - UK regional: London Assembly, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly.
- The DVA and VSO should explore with Diaspora partners and other relevant stakeholders the need for developing a 'toolkit' for advocacy relevant to Diaspora volunteering and international development. This should include a thorough needs assessment of Diaspora organisations, and a review of existing advocacy toolkits for UK based non-governmental organisations (NGO) and volunteer involving organisations (VIO).
- Appropriate, tailored and relevant training should be developed by the DVA and VSO to enable Diaspora organisations to engage in effective implementation of the advocacy 'toolkit'. This would be in keeping with the DVA's key aim to establish itself as a 'virtual' Centre of Excellence for Diaspora Volunteering (CEDV) (DVA, 2010).
- The DVA should facilitate peer learning and sharing of knowledge between Diaspora organisations on advocacy issues through its forthcoming peer mentoring scheme.
- The DVA and VSO should continue to provide opportunities for networking between Diaspora organisations.
- The DVA and VSO should consider involving influential and high profile people in promoting Diaspora volunteering.

- The DVA and VSO should pool resources, research and analysis, and engage with the high level dialogue on volunteering and/ or international development, fostered by the United Nations International Year of Volunteering and European Year of Volunteering, both in 2011, to raise the profile of Diaspora volunteering and potentially tap into funds. Closer to home, they should ensure that London-based Diaspora communities have access to volunteering opportunities at the 2012 Olympic Games so that they can contribute to and feel part of a wider UK community.
- UNV's combined funds for volunteering exceeds \$17million annually, and with the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteering, could be a prime opportunity for Diaspora organisations, armed with evidence of the benefits of Diaspora volunteering, and working collectively through the DVA, to lobby the UN for essential funds to run their Diaspora volunteering programmes.
- The DVA should continue to carry out relevant research and analysis on behalf of Diaspora organisations.

- Diaspora organisations should explore connections with the UNV Online Volunteering service (www.onlinevolunteering.org), to connect in-country organisations with Diaspora volunteers who could provide remote services and advice, particularly following on-the-ground placements.
- NCVO has set up a Funding Commission, which Diaspora organisations may wish to engage with, as it aims by 2020 to create a funding environment that would maximise opportunities for independent voluntary action, and enable civil society organisations (CSOs) to further their goals more effectively and sustainably.

Stakeholders

- The Olympic Games in 2012 is a significant opportunity to celebrate London's diversity and to promote volunteering among Diaspora communities in the UK. The London Assembly should consider having a specific focus on involving Diaspora communities in the Games.
- Organisations such as Greater London Volunteering and Volunteering England could provide Diaspora organisations with volunteer management support and funding.
- Bond, NCVO and The Pressure Group could provide training on advocacy and campaigning, in addition to more targeted training by the DVA and VSO.
- All stakeholders should consider tapping into the considerable expertise and links of Diaspora organisations in order to enhance their development programmes.

Diaspora organisations

- Diaspora organisations should consider the considerable benefits of working together and pooling resources. Examples of networks they could join include the DVA, Bond and AfricaUK.
- Diaspora organisations could also form working groups to address different policy issues to achieve policy change (e.g. through Bond, CIVICUS) or work collectively with the DVA and VSO to ensure policies specific to Diaspora volunteering are kept high on the policy agenda.
- Diaspora organisations working in development regions such as Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean have significantly less access to resources in the UK, and should therefore work together in sub-groups to influence inclusion in international development programmes and funding streams (e.g. DFID and Comic Relief are focusing the Common Ground Initiative (CGI) on UK-based small and Diaspora organisations working only in Sub Saharan Africa).
- As 2011 is the European Year of Volunteering, this year is particularly significant for Diaspora organisations to engage with both UN and EU policy debates about volunteering, moving beyond the high level dialogue at national level (e.g. Bond, DFID, NALC, NCVO, UK Parliament International Development Committee, VSO UK) to place Diaspora volunteering firmly at the European and International levels.



Left to right: Lorna Wilkinson, Lynne Berry OBE, Bola Ojo, Sandra Kabir

1. Introduction

Purpose of the report

The purpose of this joint mapping exercise between the Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA) and VSO UK, with support from the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), is to identify strategic stakeholders at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local level in order for Diaspora organisations to influence their programmes, policies and resource allocations for the benefit of Diaspora volunteering and international development. This study comes at a critical time for both the DVA and VSO, as UK international development funds for the Diaspora Volunteering Programme (DVP) come to an end in June 2011.

In addition, this piece resonates with more recent reports and research interests on Diaspora volunteering, international development and advocacy. A comparative look at America for example, shows that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has in the past year supported two migration policy informing studies attempting to assess the impact of Diaspora volunteering and map out more formal volunteering opportunities that have specifically targeted or have attracted significant numbers from Diaspora communities (Terrazas, 2010) as well as the 'understudied sphere' of Diaspora advocacy (Newland, 2010). Closer to home, a Refugee Council meeting held in January 2011 and attended by representatives from the DVA and VSO revealed that UK-based refugee community organisations (RCOs), a distinct sub-section within Diaspora organisations, are also exploring the possibilities of engaging with the UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) on poverty reduction strategies given the added value that they can arguably bring to mainstream international development efforts. This paper is therefore a timely and relevant contribution to a dialogue, which started about half a decade ago between Diaspora organisations, DFID and VSO (AFFORD, AFP, 2005) and now has a far wider audience and range of potential stakeholders.

A brief history of the DVP

The DVP was set up in April 2008 following lobbying by Diaspora organisations and VSO to DFID, who had indicated in 2005 that it was looking for more meaningful engagement with Diaspora groups and communities to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). VSO and the Diaspora organisations with whom they worked in partnership, highlighted the value of Diaspora short-term volunteering and the largely undocumented and under-researched role that Diaspora communities in the UK already played in tackling poverty in their countries and continents of heritage, not just through investments and remittances but also through their skills, entrepreneurial activities and support for democratisation and human rights promotion (Ode, 2008).

This lobbying work built on the success of VSO's pilot Diaspora Volunteering Initiative (DVI), which involved working closely with three Diaspora organisations between 2005 and 2008 to send 176 Diaspora volunteers to Cameroon, India, Sierra Leone and Ghana. As a result, DFID committed £3 million over three years to scale up the DVP. The BIG Lottery Fund also committed £485,801 over five years to support the capacity building of Diaspora organisations interested or already implementing an international volunteering programme. The DVP is managed by VSO, which was identified by the members of the then emerging DVA as the preferred partner for managing the programme.

VSO is the world's leading independent international development organisation that works through volunteers to fight poverty in developing countries. VSO's high-impact approach involves bringing people together to share skills, build capabilities, promote international understanding and action and change lives to make the world a fairer place for all. A dedicated Diaspora Volunteering team was set up within VSO UK's London office, which supported 14 Diaspora organisations to send over 600 Diaspora volunteers to their country or continent of heritage over the three year period.

The DVA represents UK Diaspora organisations with a common interest in engaging and sending Diaspora volunteers to support projects in their countries and continents of origin. The DVA, formed in 2007 initially as a network of the DVP partners, has developed significantly and as of November 2010 has registered as a charity and as an umbrella organisation representing 41 Diaspora organisations. It aims to play a significant role in sharing resources and information among members and offering capacity building training and support to its members. The DVA has carried out relevant advocacy work on behalf of its members with DFID and other key stakeholders as this paper will highlight.

The case for Diaspora volunteering

The DVP has received the highest possible score for development impact from DFID, recognising the contribution that Diaspora volunteers make to international development (DFID, 2010). Furthermore an external mid-term review of the DVP carried out at the end of 2009, recommended that DFID should continue to support the programme and should consider increasing the availability and flexibility of funding (Social Development Direct, 2009). However, with a change in government in the UK from May 2010, the subsequent shift in international development priorities, the promotion of the 'Big Society' concept, which aims to empower communities and volunteers within the UK and within the context of increased public spending cuts, this recommendation currently looks as though it will not be realised and Diaspora organisations must continue to look for alternative sources of funding for their Diaspora volunteering programmes.

The external mid-term review, further recommended that VSO should concentrate the limited human and financial resources on maintaining the quality of the programme through its capacity building support and that the DVA should use the remainder of the programme to focus on how the role of the Alliance should develop and how the Alliance can better support a range of Diaspora organisations (Social Development Direct, 2009). A subsequent Capacity Building review of the VSO Diaspora Volunteering Programme used a focus group discussion with DVA members participating in the DVP to explore these pertinent questions about the DVA as an umbrella organisation. The participants' 'visions of success' for the DVA by 2013 focused on the DVA's own development, its capacity building role and its advocacy role, more specifically (Egan, 2010):

A. DVA's own development

- the DVA and Diaspora organisations are self-sustained financially;
- a well structured office with paid skilled staff (and if need be, committed volunteers);
- high profile;
- well-maintained information bank for members to access intranet or website for members.

B. DVA's capacity building role

- training priorities of the members;
- utilising the skills of the members;
- self-reliant and resourceful;
- developing members' capacities;
- strong network.

C. DVA's advocacy role

- DVA recognised as the main organisation representing Diaspora volunteering;
- close working relationship between DVA and DFID/ funders;
- strong presence among decision-making patrons;
- increased sponsorship money/ resources;
- increased take-up of volunteers from Diaspora.

It is in this spirit of continued collaborative partnership work that the DVA and VSO have decided to pursue this mapping exercise of strategic stakeholders to lobby in support of Diaspora volunteering and international development.

Background to the research and what this paper aims to achieve

The ideas behind this mapping exercise were initially outlined by VSO (2007) in the Business Plan for the Diaspora Volunteering Initiative to the BIG Lottery Fund Basis Programme, which stated that:

As a network, Diaspora organisations will complete a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify all the statutory, private and voluntary agencies they should be engaging with. Some of them have already been identified and discussed at the pilot review meeting and include the Department for International Development (DfID), the Home Office, London Councils, Greater London Authority, Africa Recruit, other Asian and African professionals associations, the Association of Charitable Foundations and other funders and voluntary sector organisations such as Volunteering England and Greater London Volunteering. At the local level, Councils may also be stakeholders. As the project develops, key stakeholders are likely to change and therefore mapping them will be crucial to inform an advocacy plan. (VSO, 2007: 28–29)

During the pilot DVI, VSO found that Diaspora organisations were often ‘excluded’ from international development dialogue with external stakeholders, for example mainstream international development organisations and subsequently development agenda setting and implementation processes in the UK. Furthermore, VSO found that cultural diversity was undervalued and that Diaspora groups could often feel ‘invisible’ to other groups. Dialogue with local councils was recommended to help Diaspora communities feel part of the wider community and not remain isolated in their own Diaspora communities.

While Diaspora communities were keen to engage more locally, VSO felt there was a sense that they did not have the skills to engage effectively with and influence these stakeholders. Furthermore, since Diaspora communities were often dispersed across different London boroughs, this hindered their ability to shape community development strategies and engage effectively with other community based voluntary organisations. As a result, two of the six key objectives of the DVI included:

- Objective 4:** To empower Diaspora organisations to establish a dialogue with relevant stakeholders and access channels to influence policy and plans.
- Objective 5:** To promote intra-Diaspora learning and sharing of knowledge, thus enabling Diaspora communities’ integration in a multicultural society.

Along with capacity building and financial support, the DVI would focus on advocacy (that is, acting as a network to lobby key national and regional stakeholders and reduce the isolation of Diaspora organisations from community debates) and sharing of knowledge (that is, Diaspora organisations will be encouraged to work in partnership and share learning and expertise) (VSO, 2007: 3).

As the DVI developed into the DVP and the DVA membership expanded over the past three years, both VSO and the DVA have found that there appears to be a varied and fluctuating relationship between Diaspora communities in the UK, mainstream international development organisations, local councils, other community based organisations, policy makers and related institutes, which leads to a disparity of access by Diaspora communities to resources, funding and the ability and opportunity to engage in policy dialogue and change. This joint paper seeks to examine to what extent these informal findings are grounded in reality, and if so, how it affects the ability of Diaspora organisations to engage effectively. This exercise will also look at ways and means of addressing this issue of engagement and aims to create a list of strategic stakeholders based on their programmes, policies and potential resource allocations, which Diaspora organisations and the DVA can forge dialogues with to the benefit of Diaspora volunteering and international development.



Library set up at Vidya Nikethan by Asian Foundation for Philanthropy (AFP) volunteer, India

2. Methodology

The research for this mapping exercise was conducted over 30 days between September and December 2010. It was led by BRAC UK, which is responsible for the DVA’s Advocacy and Networking strand, in consultation with the DVA and VSO’s DVP Team. The BRAC UK Diaspora Volunteering Programme Officer was the lead researcher. Two research interns were also recruited to assist with compiling the stakeholder mapping database. In addition to a review of relevant DVA and VSO DVP documentation and secondary literature, primary research as well as further desk research was carried out as outlined in the following.

2.1 Initial mapping survey

A simple, two-pronged question was posed to DVA members at a DVA Members Meeting on Monday 20th September, 2010, to gain an initial impression of the advocacy work that Diaspora organisations were already involved in at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local levels. The survey was subsequently emailed to DVA members and associates who were unable to attend and follow-up phone calls were made to elicit further responses.

2.2 Follow-up survey

A follow-up, multiple-choice questionnaire was devised to gauge from members who were involved in advocacy the factors they account for successful advocacy and some of the challenges they have faced. Members who were not involved in advocacy work were asked why they were not. Both members who were involved in advocacy work and those who were not were also asked what would enable them to carry out advocacy work in the future. The survey was developed using Kathleen Newland’s (2010) recent findings in *Voice After Exit: Diaspora Advocacy*, that in addition to unity, commitment and focus, effective advocacy depends on resources (financial as well as human resources, time and so forth), a strategy to deploy the resources for maximum impact, working in alliance with others and connections with influential people in both countries of origin and residency.

The questionnaire was emailed to DVA members and as with the initial survey, follow-up phone calls were made to gather further responses. Ten organisations (about a quarter of the DVA’s forty members) responded to either one or both surveys, making the findings indicative rather than representative of Diaspora organisations in the UK. This exercise confirmed that one of the major challenges in carrying out research with often small, under-staffed or voluntary-led organisations is that there is little time to respond to emails, even though the survey was intentionally kept brief.

2.3 Case studies

Using relevant secondary literature and responses from select DVA members to the above surveys, a couple of case studies were included in this study to illustrate (i) Diaspora organisations successfully engaging with a strategic stakeholder; and (ii) Diaspora organisations which feel they require more support with advocacy work.

2.4 Stakeholder mapping database

One of the major outputs for this exercise was to develop a stakeholder mapping database, which Diaspora organisations would find useful to identify key stakeholders when carrying out advocacy for Diaspora volunteering and related international development issues at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local levels.

At the start of the research period, the DVA and VSO agreed on an updated list of stakeholders and prioritised the most important stakeholders given research time and resource limitations. For example, it was decided that rather than exploring individual local councils in the database, DVA members who were interested in engaging at this level could potentially learn how to through intra-Diaspora sharing of knowledge facilitated by the DVA. The list is therefore by no means exhaustive.

Desk research was carried out to explore these potential key stakeholders in terms of the relevant programmes and policies they have pertaining to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues and also potential resource allocations they might have for Diaspora volunteering.

3. Role and some definitions of advocacy

According to a recent Bond publication, the primary purpose of advocacy can include one or more of the following:

- to influence public policy and practice;
- to influence corporate policy and practice;
- to influence public attitudes and behaviour;
- to influence decision making processes so that affected communities are involved;
- to empower affected communities to influence the decisions that affect them.

Advocacy goes beyond raising awareness about a problem and seeks to achieve some positive change (Chandler, 2010).

A VSO toolkit for staff, volunteers and partners defines advocacy as:

A process that tackles disadvantage by working with communities and key stakeholders to bring about changes in policy, practice and attitudes in order to ensure communities' rights are recognised and realised. The aim is to actively support disadvantaged people to influence the decisions that affect their rights and lives. (VSO, 2009)

While the Bond guide explains that advocacy and campaigning are used differently by different people and organisations, the VSO toolkit describes advocacy as an umbrella term encompassing campaigning and lobbying, which are also often used interchangeably with advocacy. Research and analysis and networking and alliances, also fall under VSO's definition of advocacy.

As an alliance, advocacy has been built into the core aims and objectives of the DVA alongside capacity building and fundraising. The DVA's most recent business plan outlines that Advocacy and Networking will allow the DVA to:

1. Play a critical role in engaging the Diaspora community in the UK to create stronger communities who can voice the needs demands and opinions of their respective communities.
2. Raise awareness and understanding of international development issues with UK based communities.
3. Enable its members to network, share skills and knowledge with other Diaspora organisations and communities, civil society, local and national government. (DVA, 2010: 11).

One of the key aims of the DVA is 'to advocate and campaign jointly on issues affecting migration, international development, volunteering and related activities as they affect UK Diaspora organisations and communities.' (DVA, 2010: 4).

For the purposes of this report, in particular within the follow-up survey sent to DVA members and associates, advocacy was 'loosely' defined as:

[...] campaigning or lobbying to make changes in policies or practices. This can be done at the international/ regional/ national/ UK regional/ or local level. It can be thematic, for example, influencing policy on health, disability, HIV and AIDS etc. It can be carried out by individual Diaspora organisations, or collectively (e.g. through the DVA), or in partnership with other organisations (e.g. DVA working with VSO to lobby donors for Diaspora volunteering funds).



Porishod volunteer visits BRAC legal aid centre, Bangladesh

4. Findings

4.1 Initial mapping survey

A snapshot of the advocacy work in which Diaspora organisations are already involved at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local level.

Twenty-five per cent of DVA members responded to the question 'What issues are you advocating for and at what level?' Of those:

- 80 % listed advocacy work at the international level;
- 30 % at the regional level;
- 60 % at the national level;
- 30 % at the UK regional level;
- 40 % at the local level.

See graph 1.

Diaspora organisations who responded to the initial mapping survey were engaged with/targeted their advocacy work at a total number of about 24 types of advocacy stakeholders across the geo-political levels. Overlapping stakeholders

included the United Nations at the international level, as well as the respective government of the country of heritage. A significant 60 per cent of respondents were already engaged with advocacy work with the UK Department for International Development (DFID) on various issues. At the local level, a smaller percentage of Diaspora organisations stated that they carried out advocacy work with local councils across London and also local communities in London. Outside of London, at the UK regional level, there was evidence of engagement with relevant stakeholders in Scotland. At the regional level, DVA members who responded to the survey gave examples of advocacy work with European, Asian and African regional bodies, demonstrating the range and breadth of existing advocacy work among even the relatively small sample of Diaspora organisations that responded to the initial mapping survey.

Graph 1

Geo-political level at which UK-based Diaspora organisations are involved in advocacy work



The Diaspora organisations which responded to the initial survey were involved in advocacy work around a whole range of issues including:

International	Regional	National	UK Regional	Local
Child protection (10 %)	Disability (10 %)	Development (10 %)	Disability (10 %)	Disability (10 %)
Development (10 %)	Various issues pertaining to development in the African region (10 %)	Diaspora volunteering and related issues (10 %)	Elderly (10 %)	Domestic Violence (10 %)
Disability (10 %)	Volunteering (10 %)	Disability (10 %)	Health (10 %)	Elderly (10 %)
Education (20 %)		Education (10 %)	Various issues around the Diaspora group and their interactions at the UK regional level (10 %)	Healthy eating (10 %)
Health legislation (10 %)		Inheritance rights for women (especially widows) (10 %)		Immigrants' Rights (10 %)
Healthy eating (10 %)		Poverty, including input into Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (20 %)		Social inclusion (10 %)
HIV and AIDS (10 %)		Various issues pertaining to developing countries they are working in/ UK policy on international development (40 %)		Various issues related to / identified by young people (20 %)
Inheritance rights for women (especially widows) (10 %)				
International relations (10 %)				
Mental health (10 %)				
Millennium Development Goals (10 %)				
Old age (10 %)				
Poverty (10 %)				
Safe drinking water (10 %)				
(Total 14+ issues)	(Total 3+ issues)	(Total 7+ issues)	(Total 4+ issues)	(Total 7+ issues)

Table 1

Range of advocacy issues covered by UK-based Diaspora organisations at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local levels

Of the Diaspora organisations who responded to the initial mapping survey, the key stakeholders with which they are engaging and/or targeting their advocacy work include the following:

International	Regional	National	UK Regional	Local
Multinational Partners	Partners within their countries of heritage			
United Nations (20 %)	British High Commission (10 %)	NEPAD (The New Partnership for Africa's Development) (10 %)	African Embassies (10 %)	London Health Commission (10 %)
World Bank Institute (10 %)	Government of country of heritage (20 %)	Pan Asia (United Nations) (10 %)	Bond (10 %)	Mayor's Office, London (10 %)
	Government Ministry of country of heritage (eg Ministry of Health and Population) (10 %)	Volunteer Europe (10 %)	Department of Health (10 %)	Scottish Regional representatives (10 %)
	Local councils (10 %)		Department of Work and Pensions (10 %)	
	Partner organisations (ie organisations where DVA members have sent volunteers) (10 %)		Diaspora organisations (10 %)	
	UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) (10 %)		UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) (60 %)	
	Wider public in country of heritage (10 %)		Various UK Parliamentary Committees (10 %)	
(Total 9 types of advocacy stakeholders)	(Total 3 types of advocacy stakeholders)	(Total 7 types of advocacy stakeholders)	(Total 3 types of advocacy stakeholders)	(Total 2 types of advocacy stakeholders)

Table 2

Key stakeholders at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local levels that UK-based Diaspora organisations were already engaging with on advocacy issues

4.2 Follow-up survey

Successes, challenges and enabling factors for effective advocacy

Twenty-five per cent of DVA members responded to the follow-up survey (of which, 30 per cent were new respondents from the initial mapping survey). Eighty per cent of these organisations responded ‘yes’ to the question about whether or not their organisation was involved in advocacy work. The following questions were multiple-choice. Although organisations were not asked to restrict their response to one answer, it was clear from the way that many of the organisations responded and any supplementary information they provided, that they would not have been able to choose one answer, seeing the factors identified and/or additional factors they identified, as interdependent. The following outlines the responses to questions around successes, challenges and enabling factors in descending order.

Factors accounting for successful advocacy:

1. 87.5 per cent responded (a) Resources (financial/human resources/time, etc).
2. 75 per cent responded (c) Worked in partnership with another organisation/ as part of an alliance and (d) Connections with influential people.
3. 50 per cent responded (b) Choice of advocacy method (eg Direct lobbying, media campaigns, electronic communications, etc).
4. 37.5 per cent responded (e) Other.

Of the 37.5 per cent of these organisations that ticked (e) Other, the additional factors that they identified with successful advocacy include the following:

- delivering essential service projects so no additional manpower to invest in consistent lobbying;
- working with local grassroots organisations in the UK and country of heritage;
- media strategy (how to use different modes of media for different target audiences).

Challenges faced when carrying out advocacy work:

1. 87.5 per cent responded (a) Lack of/limited resources (financial/human/time, etc).
2. 37.5 per cent responded (d) Limited/no connections with influential people.
3. 10 per cent responded (b) Lack of skills/knowledge/confidence to carry out advocacy work, 10 per cent responded (c) Limited opportunity to partner with other organisations/lack of networking and a further 10 per cent responded (e) Other (the organisation felt it was a combination of both (a) and (c)).

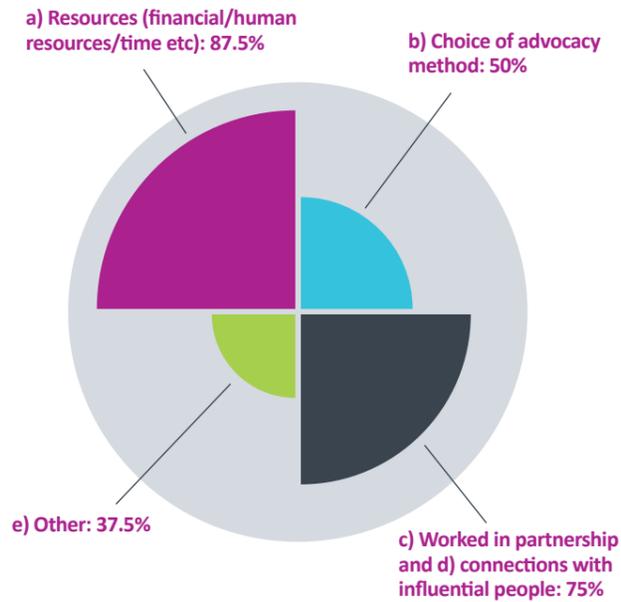


Chart 1 Factors accounting for successful advocacy

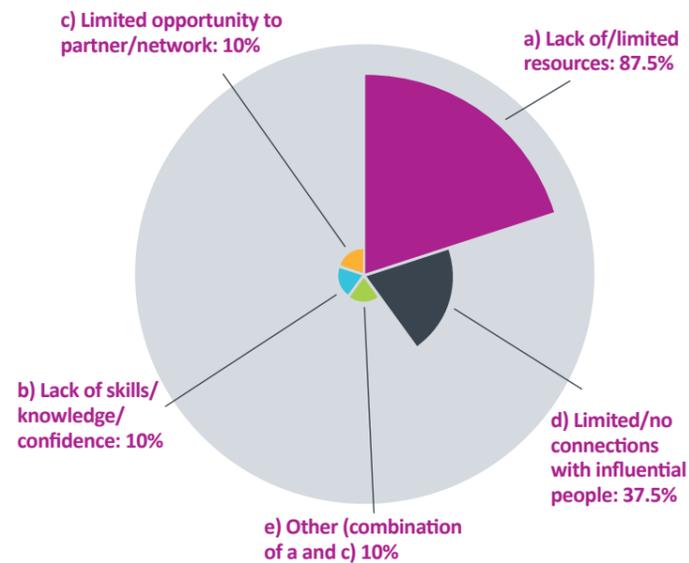


Chart 2 Challenges faced when carrying out advocacy work

Twenty per cent of the organisations which took part in the survey responded ‘No’ to the question about whether or not their organisation was involved in advocacy work. When followed with the question ‘Why not?’, 10 per cent of the organisation’s responded (b) Not sure how it [advocacy] applies to us; while the other 10 per cent responded (d) Other, explaining that it was a combination of limited resources and relevant skills. None of the organisations indicated that they were not involved due to (a) Tried but did not see any results and (c) Not relevant/necessary, indicating that the organisations who took part in the survey were not put off by advocacy work, or could see its value, even though they were not always sure how applicable it was to them, or they felt they lacked in resources or skills.

Both organisations that were involved in advocacy work and those that were not responded to the final question in the survey, ‘What will enable you to carry out advocacy work in the future?’

Factors that may enable future advocacy work:

1. 90 per cent responded (a) Resources (financial/human/time, etc).
2. 70 per cent responded (c) Networking opportunities with potential partners/alliances.
3. 60 per cent responded (d) Networking opportunities with influential people.
4. 50 per cent responded (b) Toolkit on ‘how to carry out advocacy work’ training on how to maximise toolkit.
5. 30 per cent responded (e) Other.

Factors outlined in (e) Others included:

- A combination of resources, networking opportunities with potential partners/alliances and influential people.
- Appropriate/bespoke training which organisations can easily share with volunteers.
- Meetings with media practitioners, broadcasters and columnists.

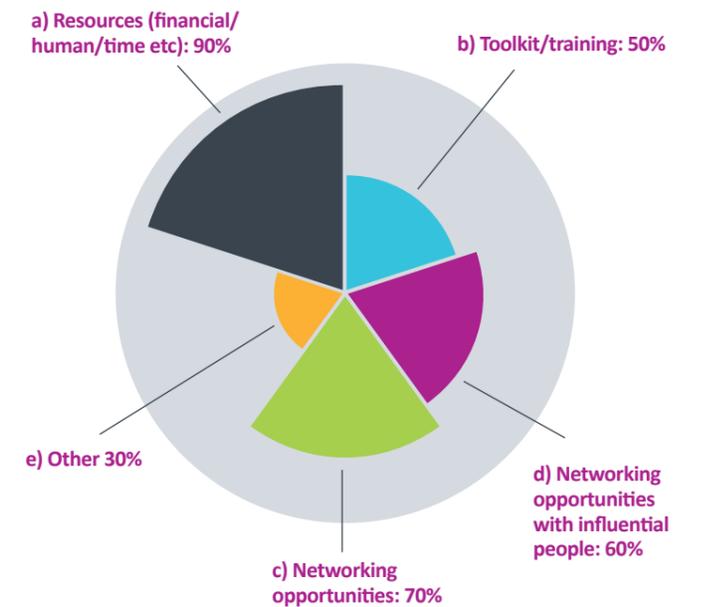


Chart 3 Factors that may enable future advocacy work

4.3 Case studies

(a) An example of successful Diaspora Advocacy

The lobbying work carried out by early Diaspora Volunteering Alliance (DVA) members in partnership with VSO UK to secure funding for the Diaspora Volunteering Programme (DVP) from the UK Department for International Development (DFID/UKaid) is an excellent example of Diaspora organisations successfully engaging with a strategic stakeholder. It demonstrates a pooling together of resources, human and time, for advocacy. As lone and often very small organisations, Diaspora members have found it difficult to lobby DFID for relatively small pockets of money for individual programmes. However, by working in partnership with one another and as part of an alliance, the early informal DVA network was able to influence DFID through meetings and consultations, which took place from around 2005 resulting in the DVP fund of £3million over three years being released in April 2008. Meetings still continue to this day with the DVA's Board of Trustees, consisting of Executive Directors of Diaspora organisations with extensive experience of accessing and engaging in high level dialogue both here in the UK and overseas, working closely alongside senior members of staff at VSO and within the DVP team to lobby DFID to continue supporting the programme. The DVA Trustees also continue to lobby VSO to ensure that Diaspora volunteering is mainstreamed into VSO's programmes, policies and funding allocations and the two partners are currently in the process of finalising a future model of work post DFID DVP funding in March 2011.

The early DVA lobbying work was based on research and analysis. One significant piece of research in particular was initiated by DFID who invited a study that would support operational staff within DFID to engage meaningfully with Diaspora groups and communities to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). At the time, DFID had recognised that they had undertaken limited work on the relationship between poverty reduction and internal, regional or international migration, including within this the dynamic role of the Diaspora. The study was carried out by the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) and the Asian Foundation for Philanthropy (AFP), two early members of the DVA, who developed a 'Framework for DFID-Diaspora Engagement' (August 2005).

In their report, AFFORD and AFP made recommendations for DFID under four managerial practice and social science research frameworks, including the structural frame, the human resource frame, the political frame and the symbolic frame:

Structural frame:

- use BME Code and Compact as basis for engagement;
- consolidate existing fragments into one coherent policy on engagement;
- incorporate engagement strategy into Directors' Delivery Plans;
- coordinate engagement efforts more closely with development partners;
- create virtual Diaspora engagement teams on permanent standby.

Human Resource frame:

- connect Diaspora engagement to DFID diversity agenda;
- work with BME DFID staff to effect Diaspora engagement;
- produce a "how-to" manual on engagement;
- assess skills needed for engagement and provide training and support.

Political frame:

- understand long-term implications for DFID;
- demonstrate strong political will.

Symbolic frame:

- use symbols to shift DFID's culture.

In addition, they recommended that DFID should sharpen communications targeting Diaspora groups and build confidence in Connect for Development (CfD), an organisation at the time funded by DFID as a facilitator of Diaspora groups' involvement in international development (AFFORD & AFP, 2005). These recommendations can be adapted by Diaspora organisations and/or the DVA for lobbying other strategic stakeholders, for example encouraging organisations to incorporate a Diaspora engagement strategy into delivery/programme plans, or develop policies which include Diaspora in development efforts, potentially leading to resource allocations which could benefit Diaspora volunteering and international development. At the same time organisations should bear in mind the benefits of working together, pooling resources, carrying out relevant research and analysis and the long time and often continuous effort it takes to lobby an agenda.

Further to lobbying VSO and DFID, the DVA has to date been active in Diaspora related advocacy work, for example, by contributing to consultations held by Netherlands based African Diaspora Policy Centre (to assess the capacity building of newly formed Diaspora Ministries in Africa and Europe), BUILD ('Diaspora stakeholder mapping' in the UK), DFID (response to the new Poverty Impact Fund), The Ramphal Centre (Diaspora Consultation on behalf of the Commonwealth Commission), University College London (public consultation on Diaspora engagement), along with other strategic Diaspora engagement and networking activities.

(b) Attempting to get on the 'escalator' of Diaspora Advocacy

Kashmir International Relief Fund (KIRF) is a London-based UK registered charity and also the largest NGO in Kashmir, which was devastated by earthquakes in 2005. KIRF worked with the Kashmiri, Pakistani and international communities globally to help rebuild and rehabilitate the disaster area and are committed to long-term development efforts in the region even when the world's attention turns elsewhere. For the past 18 years they have been delivering projects in health, education, vocational training (including women's development) and water supplies. In the past year, they have added the Diaspora Volunteering Programme into their portfolio of work and have recently completed a maternal health programme in Azad Kashmir.

KIRF sent skilled, enthusiastic and determined Diaspora doctors, nurses and hospital administrators to their community hospital in Jatlán to implement a maternal health programme. The hospital was built with an aim to serve the general population with a specific focus on women and child health. The volunteers worked hard to train local staff to ensure that women were

provided with antenatal and postnatal checks, particularly in cases where there were complications to ensure that their child has the best start to life. KIRF are actively seeking collaborations to extend their work so that they can reach thousands more women, who are in urgent need of interventions for conditions including gestational diabetes, pre-eclampsia, macrosomia, shoulder dystocia as well as provision of analgesia during partum.

In the follow-up survey to DVA members for this advocacy stakeholder mapping exercise, they responded 'No' to the question about whether or not their organisation was involved in advocacy work, although they recognised the value of advocacy work. They felt they were not doing advocacy work due to limited resources and relevant skills. As KIRF's Iffy Latif explains:

Here at KIRF, we are very keen to develop the advocacy strand of work but given limited resources (bodies, time and finances) and relevant skills, it does appear on the To Do list but in terms of the priorities, it is given a low compared to the other activities that we are trying to deliver. The frustrating thing is that we know that if we advocate for our cause well, it will make our work easier and that would give us even more time for advocacy but it's getting on that first rung of the ladder. That is also another issue, effort for advocacy has to be meaningful and sustainable, so the 'right time' for it to be a high priority for us will be when effectively we feel we would be stepping on an escalator, rather than a ladder, a ladder we can always easily step off if other priorities arrive but an escalator continues in its path regardless.

KIRF felt that in order to carry out advocacy work in the future, they would need resources (financial, human, time) and a toolkit on 'how to carry out advocacy work' along with training on how to maximise the toolkit.



Iffy Latif, Chief Operating Officer of Kashmir International Relief Fund (KIRF)

4.4 Stakeholder mapping database

Relevant programmes, policies and potential resources for Diaspora volunteering and related international development issues

The following potential stakeholders were identified by the DVA and VSO and researched for inclusion in the stakeholder mapping database:

International

CIVICUS, Commonwealth Secretariat, Global Call for Action Against Poverty (CGAP), Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), United Nations (UN), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank (WB) (eight potential stakeholders)

Regional

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID), African Union (AU), Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, CONCORD (European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development), Council of Europe, Diaspora Forum for Development (DFD), European Commission, European Council, The European Parliament (EP), EYV 2011 Alliance (European Year of Volunteering 2011 Alliance), The European Volunteer Centre (CEV), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) (13 potential stakeholders)

National

BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), Bond, Building Understanding through International Links for Development (BUILD), Comic Relief, Connections for Development (CfD), International Development Committee – UK Parliament, Refugee Council, The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), The Pressure Group, The Prince's Trust, The Ramphal Centre, UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid), VSO UK (13 potential stakeholders)

UK Regional

Greater London Volunteering (GLV), The London Assembly, The Scottish Parliament, Volunteering England, The Welsh Assembly (five potential stakeholders)

Local

The Daneford Trust, The National Association for Local Councils (NALC) (two potential stakeholders)

Of the approximately 40 potential stakeholders identified in the database, DVA members were already engaged with about a quarter of these including the United Nations (UN), World Bank (WB), UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid), NEPAD (The New Partnership for Africa's Development), Volunteer Europe, Bond, the UK Parliament International Development Committee, the London Assembly, the Scottish Parliament and local councils, though due to time and resource restrictions for this study the latter was not explored in depth but only through the National Association for Local Councils (NALC). This finding suggests an improvement from the somewhat bleak picture drawn by earlier assumptions that Diaspora organisations were excluded from mainstream international development dialogue and that Diaspora groups felt undervalued and invisible compared to other communities in the UK (VSO, 2007) the reasons for which could form the basis for further study. Nonetheless, the few organisations that responded to the survey and said they were not carrying out advocacy work as defined by the purposes of the study were relatively new to the VSO DVP and DVA and indicated a need for more support with resources, training and networking opportunities.

The desk research established whether the potential stakeholders had relevant programmes and policies pertaining to Diaspora volunteering and development and what potential resources they might have for Diaspora volunteering. The findings are outlined below and more details about each programme, policy and potential resource can be found in the stakeholder mapping database which includes links to each stakeholder's website.



AFP volunteer participating in a 'Young Minds, Big Ideas' event

4.4.1 Relevant Diaspora programmes

International

Six of the eight international stakeholders (75 per cent) listed had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: CIVICUS, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank (WB) (see appendix C).

Regional

Eight of the thirteen regional stakeholders (61.5 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID), the African Union (AU), the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, the Council of Europe and the European Commission, the European Volunteer Centre (CEV), the Diaspora Forum for Development (DFD) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) (see appendix C).

National

Nine of the thirteen national stakeholders (69 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), Bond, Comic Relief, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the Pressure Group, the Refugee Council, the Prince's Trust, the UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) and VSO UK (see appendix C).

UK Regional

All five of the UK regional stakeholders (100 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Greater London Volunteering (GLV), the London Assembly, the Scottish Parliament, Volunteering England and the Welsh Assembly (see appendix C).

Local

One of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues, which was the Daneford Trust (see appendix C).

Looking at programmes that might be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues, the above shows that there was a fairly promising scene across all geo-political levels (75 per cent of international stakeholders, 61.5 per cent of regional, 69 per cent of national, 100 per cent of UK regional and 50 per cent of local stakeholders researched for the database). Many of these potential stakeholders recognised the value of volunteering as a means to promote active citizenship (e.g. Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, CIVICUS, Council of Europe, European Commission) and working towards

achieving the MDGs (e.g. UNV, VSO UK) or relied on volunteers to contribute to or deliver their work (e.g. DFD, Refugee Council, The Prince's Trust).

The following stakeholders already incorporated some aspect of engaging with Diaspora at the programmatic level:

- International: Commonwealth Secretariat, IOM, UNV, WB
- Regional: ADAID, AU, CEV
- National: Comic Relief, DFID, VSO UK
- UK regional: London Assembly, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly

This represents 31.7 per cent of potential stakeholders listed in the database.

These stakeholders could be targeted as first priority for advocacy to consider including Diaspora volunteering as an element of their existing programmes, or when consulting on the design of new programmes. It is worth noting however that the focus for all of these potential partners is the African Diaspora, as the international development agenda in recent years has focused on sub-Saharan Africa where, as Comic Relief argued, it was felt that the continent had 'the highest levels of poverty and injustice in the world', although they did support a few projects in Asia and Latin America. This spotlight is encouraging for the majority of the DVA members and associates who work in the African continent. However, there is little scope for members working in other development regions such as Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and therefore more need for Diaspora organisations working in these regions to work together in sub-groups to influence inclusion in international development programmes.

While some of the international programmes focused on professional volunteers and skill sharing/knowledge transfer (e.g. AU, Commonwealth Secretariat, UNV, WB, VSO UK/DFID, Welsh Assembly), others concentrated on providing young people with opportunities to volunteer overseas and contribute towards development projects (e.g. Daneford Trust, DFID, SAARC, VSO UK). The UNV also ran an Online Volunteering service, which Diaspora organisations could explore further to connect in-country organisations with Diaspora volunteers who could provide remote services and advice, particularly following on-the-ground placements. This would be in keeping with the DVA's key aim for 2010–2011 to establish itself as a 'virtual' Centre for Excellence for Diaspora Volunteering (CEDV) (DVA, 2010).

There were plenty of programmes that Diaspora volunteers could tap into more locally to contribute to communities back in the UK, most interestingly opportunities around the Olympic games due to be held in London in 2012 (e.g. London Assembly). Also in the UK, organisations such as Greater London Volunteering and Volunteering England could provide Diaspora organisations with volunteer management support to improve their volunteering programmes. Bond, NCVO and The Pressure Group could provide training on advocacy and campaigning, in addition to more targeted training that the DVA and VSO can look into developing for Diaspora organisations based on the findings from this report.

4.4.2 Relevant Diaspora Policies

International

Four of the eight international stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: CIVICUS, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank (WB) (see appendix D).

Regional

Five of the thirteen regional stakeholders (38.5 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID), the African Union (AU), the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) (see appendix D).

National

Eight of the thirteen international stakeholders (61.5 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Bond, the International Development Committee within the UK Parliament, the Refugee Council, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, the Prince's Trust, the Ramphal Centre, the UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) and VSO UK (see appendix D).

UK Regional

Three of the five UK regional stakeholders (60 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Greater London Volunteering (GLV), the Scottish Parliament and Volunteering England (see appendix D).

Local

One of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the National Association for Local Councils (NALC) (see appendix D).

The desk research yielded some policies that may be relevant to Diaspora volunteering and related issues including 50 per cent at the international level, 38.5 per cent at the regional level, 61.5 per cent at the national level, 60 per cent at the UK regional level and 50 per cent at the local level. The slightly lower figures across the board compared to programmes may be due to limitations with the methodology or a greater need to lobby stakeholders to facilitate conditions for Diaspora communities to volunteer through inclusive policies, which are then reflected in relevant programmes and appropriate funding policies.

Policies ranged from standard volunteer policies covering the principles of volunteering and how it should be mutually beneficial for both volunteers and host organisations, valued and/or contribute to active citizenship, poverty alleviation and social inclusion (e.g. GLV, CEV, Council of Europe, Prince's Trust, Refugee Council) to Volunteer Day policies encouraging staff members to volunteer (e.g. WB).

A few stakeholders worked hard at most levels to keep volunteering high on the policy agenda (e.g. EYV 2011 Alliance, NCVO, UN, Volunteering England, VSO UK) the culmination of which were high profile recognition such as the UN International Volunteer Day held annually on 5th December and the UN International Year of Volunteering, which celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2011. The EYV 2011 Alliance have also successfully lobbied for 2011 to be recognised as the European Year of Volunteering, making this year particularly significant for Diaspora organisations to engage with both UN and EU policy debates about volunteering, moving beyond the high level dialogue at national level (e.g. Bond, DFID, NALC, NCVO, UK Parliament International Development Committee, VSO UK) to place Diaspora volunteering firmly at the European and International levels.

Some policy work and studies around Diaspora and Development had already taken place at various levels (e.g. ADAID, AU, IOM IDM, Ramphal Centre, Scottish Parliament). Diaspora organisations could also form working groups to work jointly on different policy issues to achieve policy change (e.g. through Bond, CIVICUS) or work collectively with the DVA and/or VSO to ensure policies specific to Diaspora volunteering are kept high on the policy agenda.



Charles Chingwalu, Programme Coordinator of MIND

4.4.3 Potential resource allocations for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities

International

Two of the eight international stakeholders (25 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations and/or the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme and the World Bank (WB) (see appendix E).

Regional

Two of the thirteen regional stakeholders (15.4 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the European Commission and the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) (see appendix E).

National

Four of the thirteen national stakeholders (30.8 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), Comic Relief, the Prince's Trust and the UK Department for International Development (DFID/UKaid) (see appendix E).

UK Regional

Three of the five UK regional stakeholders (60 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the Scottish Parliament, Volunteering England and the Welsh Assembly (see appendix E).

Local

One of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the Daneford Trust (see appendix E).

Potential resource allocations for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities appeared to be low with only 25 per cent of international stakeholders, 15.4 per cent of regional, 30.8 per cent of national, 60 per cent of UK regional and 50 per cent of local stakeholders listed in the database referring to relevant sources in their websites. Funds at the local level were at closer inspection insignificant (e.g. Daneford Trust), although a New Volunteering Fund was available in England for specific local and national volunteering opportunities.

At the regional level, the Scottish Parliament had expanded its international development budget in 2010/11 to focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), while the Welsh Assembly website had information on a few volunteer and MDG related funding schemes as well as other national and EU grants.

At the national level, aside from DFID's DVP funds, which were due to end in March 2011, the major international donors (e.g. BIG, Comic Relief and DFID) did not specifically focus on volunteering, preferring to give to UK based NGOs working on poverty alleviation programmes overseas. DFID and Comic Relief were however targeting their Common Ground Initiative (CGI) on UK based small and Diaspora organisations working in sub-Saharan Africa. In these uncertain funding times, NCVO has set up a Funding Commission, which Diaspora organisations may wish to look into as it aims by 2020 to create a funding environment that would maximise opportunities for independent voluntary action and enable civil society organisations (CSOs) to further their goals more effectively and with sustainability.

At the regional level, EU grants focused on volunteering opportunities within the region (e.g. CEV), although new openings for proposals were being created around EYV 2011 to promote active citizenship, which could potentially be tapped into. The SAARC Development Fund (SADF) used to support development projects in the South Asia region and with careful lobbying by relevant Diaspora groups could be a source worth reigniting if possible for organisations working in that region.

At the international level, the World Bank is working with the African Diaspora to set up a multi-donor African Diaspora Engagement and Facilitation Fund (ADEFF) specifically to support Diaspora-led initiatives to the African continent. Last but by no means least, the UNV's combined funds for volunteering exceeds \$17million annually and with the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteering, could be a prime opportunity for Diaspora organisations, armed with evidence of the benefits of Diaspora volunteering and working collectively, to lobby the UN for essential funds to run their Diaspora volunteering programmes.

5. Conclusions

This joint mapping exercise between the DVA and VSO UK sought to identify strategic stakeholders at the international, regional, national, UK regional and local level in order for Diaspora organisations to influence their programmes, policies and resource allocations to the benefit of Diaspora volunteering and international development. In addition, this paper intended to examine the varied and fluctuating relationship between Diaspora communities in the UK, mainstream international development organisations, local councils, other community based organisations, policy makers and related institutes and how Diaspora organisations can work more effectively with strategic stakeholders to access resources, funding and engagement in policy dialogue and change.

For the purposes of the study, advocacy was loosely defined as:

[...] campaigning or lobbying to make changes in policies or practices. This can be done at the international/regional/national/UK regional/ or local level. It can be thematic, for example, influencing policy on health, disability, HIV and AIDs etc. It can be carried out by individual Diaspora organisations, or collectively (eg through the DVA), or in partnership with other organisations (eg DVA working with VSO to lobby donors for Diaspora volunteering funds).

Through a combination of surveys, case studies and desk research, this paper found that of the quarter of the DVA membership who responded to the follow-up survey, 80 per cent responded 'yes' to the question about whether or not their organisation was involved in advocacy work. Furthermore, of the approximately 40 potential stakeholders identified in the database, DVA members were already engaged with about a quarter of these across all geo-political levels suggesting an improvement from the somewhat bleak picture drawn by earlier assumptions that Diaspora organisations were excluded from mainstream international development dialogue and that Diaspora groups felt undervalued and invisible compared to other communities in the UK (VSO, 2007)

DVA members who responded to the initial survey were advocating for a total of 25+ issues across all geo-political levels. Areas of overlap between members included advocacy work around education, poverty (including input into the poverty reduction strategy papers), various issues pertaining to developing countries they are working in/ UK policy on international development and various issues related to/ identified by young people.

Respondents targeted their advocacy work at approximately 24 types of stakeholders across the geo-political levels. Overlapping stakeholders included the United Nations at the international level, as well as the respective government of the country of heritage. A significant 60 per cent of respondents were already engaged with advocacy work with the UK Department for International Development (DFID) on various issues. At the local level, a smaller percentage of Diaspora organisations stated that they carried out advocacy work with local councils across London and also local communities in London. Outside of London, at the UK

regional level, there was evidence of engagement with relevant stakeholders in Scotland. At the regional level, DVA members who responded to the survey gave examples of advocacy work with European, Asian and African regional bodies, demonstrating the range and breadth of existing advocacy work among even the relatively small sample of Diaspora organisations that responded to the initial mapping survey.

The majority (87.5 per cent) of DVA members and associates who responded to the follow-up survey attributed resources (financial/human resources/time, etc) as one of the main factors accounting for successful advocacy. Correspondingly, the majority (87.5 per cent) of the Diaspora organisations who responded to the follow-up survey felt that a lack of/limited resources was one of the main challenges when carrying out advocacy work. 20 per cent of the organisations that took part in the follow-up survey were not involved in advocacy work, due to being uncertain as to how advocacy applied to them, or felt that it was a combination of limited resources and limited skills. Unsurprisingly, an overwhelming 90 per cent of the organisations that took part in the survey felt that resources would enable them to carry out advocacy work in the future. This was followed by networking opportunities with potential partners/alliances (70 per cent), which was seen as slightly more valuable than networking opportunities with influential people (60 per cent). Half the respondents (50 per cent) felt they needed a toolkit on 'how to carry out advocacy work'/ training on how to maximise the toolkit. Other factors that might enable future advocacy work as outlined by about 30 per cent of respondents, included a combination of resources, networking opportunities with potential partners/alliances and influential people; appropriate/ bespoke training which organisations can subsequently share with volunteers; and meetings with media practitioners, broadcasters and columnists.

The case study on Diaspora organisations successfully engaging with/lobbying a strategic stakeholder highlighted the benefits of Diaspora organisations working together and pooling human resources. In addition, it recommended that relevant research and analysis be carried out. Organisations should also be aware that advocacy requires long-term commitment and continuous effort to lobby an agenda and incorporate it into programme plans, policies and funding priorities. On the other hand, the case study on a Diaspora organisation that required more support with advocacy work showed that while the organisation recognised the value of advocacy work, they did not feel that they had the resources or skills to carry out advocacy work. Enabling factors for them included resources (financial, human, time) and a toolkit on 'how to carry out advocacy work' along with training on how to maximise the toolkit.

Desk research showed that 75 per cent of the international stakeholders listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues; 61.5 per cent at the regional level; 69 per cent at the national level; 100 per cent at the UK regional level; and 50 per cent at the local level. In terms of policies that may be relevant to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues, 50 per cent were found at the international level; 38.5 per cent at the regional level; 61.5 per cent at the national level; 60 per cent at the UK regional level; and 50 per cent at the local level. Finally, possible resource allocations for Diaspora volunteering and related development activities yielded the lowest number of potential stakeholders with 25 per cent at the international level; 15.4 per cent at the regional level; 30.8 per cent at the national level; 60 per cent at the UK regional level; and 50 per cent at the local level.



Jehenabad self help groups, India

Appendices

Appendix A: Initial mapping survey results

What issues are you advocating for and at what level?

International Level (eg UN)		
Issue	Key stakeholder/advocacy partner	DVA member/ DVA associates
Development; Education; Poverty; Inheritance rights for women, especially widows	Local councils in Tanga, Tanzania and six other African countries	African Child Trust (ACT)
Child Protection	British High Commission in Cameroon	Africa Foundation Stone (AFS)
Input into WHO Code of Conduct, Commonwealth (and presented to UN and World Bank Institute)	UN World Bank Institute	Africare Recruit
MDGs	Partner organisations in India (Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh) who focus on education, livelihoods and participation and governance	Asian Foundation for Philanthropy (AFP)
Disability	Consultative Status to Economic and Social Council of UN	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Disability	DFID in Sri Lanka	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Disability	Sri Lankan Government	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Mental health; Old age (lobbying to create a department within the ministry to look after mental health and old age)	Ministry of Health and Population in Nepal	Himalayan Development International (HDI)
Working with Malawian Government to give them an insight into the outside world, eg issues such as education and International Relations	Malawian Government	Malawian Initiative for National Development (MIND)
HIV and AIDS (telling people how to protect themselves); Healthy eating and how to drink clean water (eg boiling water)	N'sele/ Kinshasa region of Democratic Republic of Congo	The Living Word Church – Parole Vivante (but they are not yet established in the Congo due to lack of possibility and have no offices)

Regional Level (eg African Union)		
Issue	Key stakeholder/advocacy partner	DVA member/ DVA associates
	NEPAD	Africare Recruit
Disability	Pan Asia (UN)	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
(Volunteering)	Volunteer Europe	The Educational Alliance Africa (TEAA)

National Level (UK) (eg DFID)		
Issue	Key stakeholder/advocacy partner	DVA member/ DVA associates
Development; Education; Poverty; Inheritance Rights for Women, especially widows	Relevant African Embassies	African Child Trust (ACT)
Giving evidence, meetings and representation with key contacts	DFID	Africare Recruit
Disability	DFID	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Disability	Department of Health	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Disability	Department of Work and Pensions	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Responding to DFID consultancy papers and working with them on Indian strategy paper	DFID	Asian Foundation for Philanthropy (AFP)
Diaspora volunteering and related issues	DFID	BRAC UK, Lead organisation for DVA Advocacy and Networking strand
Various	Bond and others	BRAC UK (member of Bond and BRAC UK Executive Director is on the Board; BRAC UK carries out collective advocacy with Bond at the national level)
Various issues pertaining to the development of Bangladesh and Southern Sudan	Various UK Parliamentary Committees	BRAC UK (Executive Director has been invited to give evidence at various Parliamentary Committees)
Various international development issues	DFID Consultations	BRAC UK
Working with other Diaspora organisations to input and shape policy	Diaspora organisations	Malawian Initiative for National Development (MIND)

UK Regional Level (eg Greater London Volunteering)		
Issue	Key stakeholder/advocacy partner	DVA member/ DVA associates
Disability Elderly	Mayor's Office, London	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Scotland and Malawi have a special relationship so work to ensure that interests of Malawians are represented	Scotland	Malawian Initiative for African Development (MIND)
Health	London Health Commission	The Educational Alliance Africa (TEAA)

Local Level (eg Local Council)		
Issue	Key stakeholder/advocacy partner	DVA member/ DVA associates
Young People's issues	London Borough of Waltham Forest (LBWF)	African Foundation Stone (AFS)
Disability; Elderly	Local Councils (Across London)	Asian People's Disability Alliance (APDA)
Various issues identified by young people, for example, access to safe water in developing countries	Young people/ wider community in London Borough of Tower Hamlets (and DFID)	BRAC UK, part of a three year DFID Development Awareness Funded programme
Social inclusion; Eating Healthy; Immigrants' Rights; Domestic Violence	African French Speaking Community in Dagenham	The Living Word Church – Parole Vivante

Appendix B: Stakeholder mapping database framework

(the database will be available on the DVA website)

Geo-political level	Name of stakeholder	Website	Type of organisation (eg multi-lateral agency, bilateral agency etc)	Summary of work	Relevant programme (to Diaspora Volunteering or related issues)	Relevant policies (to Diaspora Volunteering or related issues)	Potential resource allocations (for Diaspora Volunteering)
International							
Regional							
National							
UK Regional							
Local							

Appendix C: Relevant Diaspora programmes

International

Six of the eight international stakeholders (75 per cent) listed had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: CIVICUS, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank (WB).

CIVICUS described volunteering as a ‘special project’ and recognised the importance of volunteerism for citizen participation and advancing development targets such as the MDGs. They had a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association for Volunteer Efforts (IAVE) and United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme to jointly promote a greater awareness of the value of volunteers and volunteer action to society.

The Commonwealth Secretariat had overseas assignments for high achievers and young professionals on a voluntary basis, in addition to sending about 350 professionals from the public and private sector each year to areas where expert skills were needed. They also organised an Africa Diaspora Healthcare event with the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) to address the global shortage of healthcare professionals, in particular the loss of skills by Africa where many countries on the continent were not able to address their healthcare needs.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) had a capacity building programme, called Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA), which aimed to assist in strengthening the institutional capacities of African governments to manage and realise their development goals through the transfer of relevant skills, financial and other resources of Africans in the Diaspora for use in development programmes in Africa.

The United Nations Volunteer (UNV) programme pursued global recognition of volunteers for peace and development, encouraged the integration of volunteerism into development programmes and promoted the mobilisation of increasing numbers and greater diversity of volunteers contributing to peace and development. The UNV directly mobilised 7,500 volunteers every year nationally and internationally, of which more than 75 per cent came from developing countries and more than 30 per cent volunteered within their own countries. The UNV also ran an Online Volunteering service, which connected development organisations with thousands of online volunteers who could provide services and advice over the internet.

Through the Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), for the past 35 years, have offered competitive funding opportunities and capacity building to US private voluntary organisations registered with them and local non governmental organisations to partner with USAID in the delivery of development and humanitarian services around the world.

The programme incorporated technical and organisational capacity building and aimed to strengthen the effectiveness of partner organisations as development actors.

The World Bank (WB) volunteering initiatives were geared towards their staff members and community outreach in the Washington DC area where the Bank is headquartered. They did, however, have an African Diaspora Programme, which had since September 2007 focused on strengthening policy, financial and human capital development in Africa through a portfolio of activities and in partnership with the African Union (AU), partner countries, donors, African Diaspora professional networks and hometown associations.

Regional

Eight of the thirteen regional stakeholders (61.5 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID), the African Union (AU), the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations, the Council of Europe and the European Commission, the European Volunteer Centre (CEV), the Diaspora Forum for Development (DFD) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation SAARC).

The approach of the African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID) was to encourage African Diaspora non-governmental organisations to plan and carry out development projects in cooperation with the in-country partner organisations in order to guarantee that they responded to the local demands and aims defined by the target beneficiary groups.

The African Union (AU) Commission initiated a ‘continental Volunteer Programme (AU-VP)’ in 2009, which aimed to focus on ways of ‘harnessing the enthusiasm of Africa’s available human resources for development purposes’ and addressed a number of objectives to link the contribution of all relevant human resources to African development at all levels.

Members of the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations carried out short term international volunteer projects on a national or regional basis within alliance member countries (mostly European countries including the UK) and always in partnership with local communities. Volunteer groups were engaged in a wide range of community development tasks including the environment, construction, renovation, social, cultural and archaeological work.

The Council of Europe and the European Commission were working in partnership for youth focused volunteering activities in 2011, which marks the European Year of Voluntary Activities Promoting Active Citizenship. In addition, the European Commission had a Youth in Action Programme for young

people aged 15–28 to inspire a sense of active citizenship, solidarity and tolerance among young Europeans and to involve them in the shaping of the Union’s future.

The European Volunteer Centre (CEV) had numerous volunteer projects including VIP, Volunteering in peace building and conflict resolution and INVOLVE, integration of migrants through volunteering.

The Diaspora Forum for Development (DFD) offered full-time or part-time internship/voluntary work with their member organisations to students and other interested individuals regardless of nationalities interested in migration and development.

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) ran a youth volunteer programme focusing on youth entrepreneurship, skill development and awareness raising through the SAARC platform.

National

Nine of the thirteen national stakeholders (69 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), Bond, Comic Relief, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the Pressure Group, the Refugee Council, the Prince’s Trust, the UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) and VSO UK.

Since 2010, the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG) had been running the International Communities programme to support UK based non-governmental organisations and other voluntary and community sector organisations that were working with local partners overseas to run a project, which tackled the causes of poverty and deprivation and brought about a long-term difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged people in the world.

The Comic Relief Common Ground Initiative (CGI) Programme aimed to support sustainable change to some of the most disadvantaged communities in Africa through UK based small and Diaspora organisations. The charity said it would also create opportunities to influence international development policy as well as commission a major study to understand more about the contribution of the UK Diaspora in international development.

The Refugee Council ran an internal volunteer programme whereby 300 volunteers worked across their six UK offices. They viewed volunteering as an opportunity to develop skills as well as learn new ones. Volunteers were supported in their role by a staff member and could also access training opportunities.

The Prince’s Trust had 7000 volunteers in the UK supporting their programmes and the young people they worked with who were not in education, employment or training.

In addition to supporting the Diaspora Volunteering Programme in partnership with VSO UK, the UK Department for International Development (DFID/UKaid) had supported Platform 2, a global volunteering scheme for 18–25 year olds who would not usually have the opportunity to travel to a developing country and get involved with issues of justice and poverty at the grassroots level. The funding for this programme was scheduled to end in January 2011.

VSO UK had long term and short term overseas volunteering opportunities for experienced professionals, a couple of youth volunteering opportunities abroad, as well as being responsible for the management of the Diaspora Volunteering Programme (DVP).

Bond, The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and The Pressure Group, all provided UK based international development organisations with training on advocacy and campaigning.

UK Regional

All five of the UK regional stakeholders (100 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Greater London Volunteering (GLV), the London Assembly, the Scottish Parliament, Volunteering England and the Welsh Assembly.

Greater London Volunteering (GLV) had a few on-going volunteering programmes, including Wave of Friendship programme, which supported the exchange of volunteers between London and Scotland; Personal Best programme, which organised 20 hours of volunteering to people who were out of work and did not have any formal qualifications to gain an entry-level qualification and helped them build their curriculum vitae and move towards employment; Experts in Volunteering was a London-wide service aimed at providing free capacity building support to volunteer involving organisations (VIO) so that their volunteer management systems were up-to-date, they were managing volunteer programmes well and providing Londoners with fulfilling volunteer experiences.

The London Assembly had various volunteer programmes and resources for individuals, businesses and organisations looking to recruit volunteers, as well as some volunteering opportunities around the Olympic 2012 games. They also organised African Diaspora conferences to improve their engagement with African and Afro-Caribbean Londoners, for example, ‘Time for Action’, ‘Equal Life Changes for All’ and ‘Health Inequalities Strategy’.

The Scottish Parliament had a volunteering and voluntary sector forum, bringing together voluntary sector groups and volunteer involving organisations (VIO) with Members of Scottish Parliament (MSPs) to develop an understanding of the social and economic role of the sector and to inform policy. In addition, they had formed an International Development Group, which aimed to ensure a liaison between MSPs and organisations working in Scotland on international aid and development issues, including engaging with minority residents in Scotland and involve them in the work.

The membership organisation, Volunteering England, had a host of activities to support volunteering in all its diversity including a volunteer management programme; youth volunteering around the 2012 games; activities to support the role of volunteers in the National Health Service (NHS); information on employer supported volunteering; volunteering and risk management; and was also the Secretariat for the England Volunteering Development Council, the high level representative and advocacy mechanism for volunteering.

The Welsh Assembly supported volunteering and hosted information on employee and youth volunteering on its website. In 2008, along with VSO, the Assembly’s Public Service Management department supported an African volunteer programme to provide opportunities for Welsh Public Service managers to enhance their skills while working on long-term development projects in Cameroon, Namibia and Zambia. Furthermore, various activities had been encouraged under the Assembly’s framework for international development, including Welsh Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) agencies coming together to establish DEC Cymru as part of DEC, a couple of linking projects between Wales and Lesotho for both young people and professionals and support for a Wales Fair Trade Forum.

Local

One of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had programmes that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues, which was the Daneford Trust.

Based in East London, the Daneford Trust had an overseas volunteer programme for Londoners and young people from overseas aged between 18–30 years to participate in volunteer projects in London, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. The Daneford Trust was keen to support people who would not normally have the opportunity to volunteer overseas.

Appendix D: Relevant Diaspora policies

International

Four of the eight international stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: CIVICUS, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank (WB).

CIVICUS had an Affinity Group Policy, which enabled its members to form Affinity Groups based on a particular region, area of interest, or around a linguistic or cultural identity. The groups could be for a short or long duration, depending on both the interest of members and the nature of the subject being considered and was a means to strengthen advocacy work.

The International Organisation for Migration’s (IOM) International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) was an opportunity for governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders to discuss migration policy issues of common interest and work together in addressing them. The IOM was looking to expand its dialogue and policies on Diaspora and development. They recognised the challenge for policy makers in developed and developing countries to create an environment that encouraged and supported contributions by migrant Diaspora groups to development.

The United Nations General Assembly established International Volunteer Day (IVD) through Resolution 40/212 in 1985. IVD was marked annually on 5th December and was an opportunity for organisations working with volunteers and individual volunteers, to promote their contributions to development at local, national and international levels. Since IVD was supported by the UN, it provided organisations working with volunteers with a unique opportunity to work with government agencies, non-profit organisations, community groups and the private sector. 2011 marks the tenth anniversary of the UN International Year of Volunteering (IYV+10) and also the European Year of Volunteering (EYV 2011), which has been designated by the European Union (EU) following an extensive lobbying process from the growing number of European networks active in volunteering that form the EYV 2011 Alliance. IYV+10 and EYV 2011 allowed for an invaluable opportunity for engagement with both the UN and the EU policy debates about volunteering and to celebrate and promote volunteering in all its forms through different governmental and non-governmental structures. It was also an opportune time for organisations working with volunteers to explore synergies and collective initiatives to promote and recognise volunteerism in 2011.

The World Bank had a Volunteer Day policy, which allowed and encouraged Bank staff to take one day off a year to volunteer and charge it as administrative leave.

Regional

Five of the thirteen regional stakeholders (38.5 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID), the African Union (AU), the Council of Europe, the European Commission and the European Volunteer Centre (CEV).

The African Diaspora Alliance for International Development (ADAID) carried out a whole range of activities to influence policies and achieve one of their key objectives, which was to promote the performance of international development policies, programmes and projects in achieving sustainable development and poverty alleviation in Africa.

The African Union (AU) stated in its Constitutive Act that it would invite and encourage the full participation of the African Diaspora as an important part of the Continent and the building of the African Union. The AU defined the African Diaspora as people of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who were willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union.

The Council of Europe had four different policy aims for volunteering including its relationship to active citizenship and solidarity; its relationship to employment and social inclusion; its relationship to the provision of social welfare; and promoting trans-national long-term voluntary service. The promotion of voluntary activities also played a crucial role in youth policy at the European level.

The European Commission planned to work closely with the EYV 2011 Alliance, an informal network of a growing number of European networks with a particular interest in volunteering who had committed to working together on the promotion, lobbying, organisation and implementation of the European Year of Volunteering 2011 (EYV 2011). The European Commission also planned to use the year to work towards four main objectives: to create an enabling and facilitating environment for volunteering in the EU; to empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering; to reward and recognise volunteering activities; and to raise awareness of the value and importance of volunteering.

As a central forum for the exchange of policy, practice and information on volunteering, the European Volunteer Centre (CEV) had a whole host of relevant policies and campaigns including Towards a European Year of Volunteering 2011; European Year 2010 for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion; CEV 2009–2014 European Parliament Manifesto; Economic Value of Volunteering; CEV Manifesto for Volunteering in Europe; CEV Policy Statements; EU Policy and UN and Council of European Policy all pertaining to volunteering.

National

Eight of the thirteen international stakeholders (61.5 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Bond, the International Development Committee within the UK Parliament, the Refugee Council, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, the Prince's Trust, the Ramphal Centre, the UK Department for International Development (DFID/ UKaid) and VSO UK.

Bond aimed to improve the policies that impact on the lives of people in poverty and to achieve long lasting and effective changes. The Bond Secretariat facilitated the development of collective action to influence public, private and political bodies in the UK, Europe and internationally. For example, Bond coordinated consultation processes with DFID and others and ensured that the voices of all the members were heard. In addition, Bond members had formed groups to work jointly on different issues to achieve policy change, of particular relevance these included, Advocacy Capacity Building Group, Policy and Lobbying Group, Small NGOs Group, Funding Working Group and Voluntary Income Fundraising Group, as well as those around particular issues such as disability, conflict and climate change.

The International Development Committee within the UK Parliament was appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of DFID and its associated public bodies. The Committee also took an interest in the policies and procedures of the multilateral agencies and non-governmental organisations to which DFID contributed.

The Refugee Council was an example of an organisation, which underwent a review of its volunteer policies and processes to be accredited with the Investing in Volunteers (iV), a UK Quality Standard for good practice in Volunteer Management.

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) represented the interests of the voluntary sector. They were currently seeking to develop an understanding of the 'Good Society' in order to inform and influence the policy commitments of the Coalition Government. The focus of their work was around the four key themes set out in their Civil Society agenda: well-being, social cohesion, climate change and financial security.

The Prince's Trust had a Volunteer Policy which identified and set out the principles by which The Trust worked with volunteers, the values and benefits it gained from its volunteers and the values and benefits that volunteers gained from working with The Trust. It provided for fair and equal treatment of its volunteers and a framework for implementation at national, country and regional level.

The Ramphal Centre was set up in 2008 to carry out high quality policy studies on societies, economies, environment and government for the Commonwealth and its 54 member states. Relevant to Diaspora volunteering and international development was their commission on Migration and Development, which aimed to explore, among other targets, maximising the development benefits of migration and seeing migration in a more positive context.

Under the new Coalition government, UK Department for International Development's (DFID/UKaid) emerging policy areas that required high quality policy and research included Climate and Environment, Malaria, Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health, Water and Sanitation, Wealth Creation and Private Sector and their Support to Civil Society. Under the latter, DFID worked with over 500 international and UK Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and had direct or indirect links with many more CSOs in developing countries. Of its five key objectives in working with CSOs, a couple of pertinent ones included enabling CSOs to influence, advocate and hold to account national, regional and international institutions and increase aid effectiveness and work in partnership with other UK Government departments to build support for development.

VSO UK supported disadvantaged communities by bringing their stories and experiences to the attention of the public and decision-makers worldwide. They undertook advocacy locally, nationally and internationally to bring about positive changes to policies and practices. Together with their supporters, they campaigned for global justice and helped raise awareness of important development issues.

UK Regional

Three of the five UK regional stakeholders (60 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: Greater London Volunteering (GLV), the Scottish Parliament and Volunteering England.

The Greater London Volunteering (GLV) had developed a compact code on the Principles of Volunteering, which had been endorsed by London based volunteer centres and organisations such as VSO. The GLV believed it was important to define volunteering, as set out in the compact code, to prevent exploitation of goodwill, to prevent the blurring of lines between individual benefit and mutual benefit and being able to challenge bad practice and justify volunteering roles and to manage expectations for the individual and the organisation.

The Scottish Parliament's International Framework set out the context and rationale for the Government's international activities and showed how international work contributed to the Government's purpose of increasing sustainable economic growth. Scotland had already developed a number of approaches to Diaspora engagement, such as the 2009 Year of Homecoming and the GlobalScot Network, which had been recognised internationally as examples of innovative practice when it came to Diaspora policy.

Volunteering England campaigned to remove barriers and ensured that volunteering was kept high on the policy agenda. Among their Policy and Campaign work included The Giving Green Paper, which looked at building a stronger culture of giving time and money; funding and infrastructure for volunteering and volunteering and visas.

Local

One of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database had policies that may be of relevance to Diaspora volunteering and related development issues: the National Association for Local Councils (NALC).

Although the National Association for Local Councils (NALC) did not have any policies directly on Diaspora volunteering and related issues, it did provide policy advice and guidance on all political developments relevant to local government and in turn, represented the interests of local councils to MPs, government departments and Ministers.

Appendix E: Potential resource allocations for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities

International

Two of the eight international stakeholders (25 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme and the World Bank (WB).

Part of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme resources came from country and regional funds provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Other significant sources included the regular programme budgets of UN agencies, contributions from host governments, special purpose grants by donor governments and the UNV Special Voluntary Fund. Contributions to UNV's Special Voluntary Fund and other funds exceeded \$17million annually. The World Volunteer Web, the global focus point for the International Volunteer Day (IVD) campaign, hosted a range of IVD related tools and resources.

The majority of the World Bank's (WB) financial resources for volunteering were invested in the Washington DC area, where the Bank was based, except for the annual giving campaign and any disaster relief efforts. The WB was also working with the African Diaspora to establish a multi-donor African Diaspora Engagement and Facilitation Fund (ADEFF) to provide grants and technical assistance support to Diaspora organisations, networks and communities for Diaspora-led projects to be implemented in African countries.

Regional

Two of the thirteen regional stakeholders (15.4 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the European Commission and the European Volunteer Centre (CEV).

The European Commission was creating new openings for proposals as part of its decision to pronounce 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering (EYV 2011) to promote active citizenship.

The European Volunteer Centre (CEV) had listed some EU programmes and grants for volunteer organisations and volunteer involving organisations including the Europe for Citizens programme, Youth in Action programme and Europe Aid 'Investing in People' 2007–2013 among others.

It is worth noting that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) previously had a South Asian Development Fund (SADF) yielding up to \$7million from SAARC member states in 2008, when the fund was closed, which funded industrial development, poverty alleviation, protection of environment, institutional/human resource development and promotion of social and infrastructure development projects in the SAARC region.

National

Four of the thirteen national stakeholders (30.8 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the BIG Lottery Fund (BIG), Comic Relief, the Prince's Trust and the UK Department for International Development (DFID/UKaid).

The BIG Lottery Fund's International Communities programme, which started in 2010 and was scheduled to run until 2015, was set to fund UK based non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other voluntary and community sector (CVS) organisations that work with local partners overseas to tackle the causes of poverty and deprivation and bring about a long-term difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged people in the world. The budget for 2010–2012 was said to be up to £25 million.

Most of Comic Relief's grant making was focused around its programmes. In the UK, these programmes focused on tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice, covering issues such as mental health, domestic and sexual abuse, sports for change and covered local communities including young people, older people, refugees and asylum seeking women. Internationally, Comic Relief focused on Africa, where it was felt that the continent had the highest levels of poverty and injustice in the world, although they did support work in a limited number of countries in Asia and Latin America. Programme areas covered included trade, people affected by HIV and AIDS, conflict, street and working children and young people and people living in urban slums, women and girls and climate change. The Charity also ran a Common Grounds Initiative (CGI), which together with DFID would make £20million available in the next three years to small and Diaspora organisations in the UK working in Sub Saharan Africa on issues such as health, education, enterprise and employment and organisational development.

The Prince's Trust had secured around £400k to run Opportunity 2012, a new government funded initiative, which aimed to inspire young people through the unique appeal of the 2012 Olympics. The UK wide programme was set to provide disadvantaged young people with new skills, volunteering opportunities, mentoring support and direct experience of the Olympics.

The UK Department for International Development (DFID/UKaid) supported civil society organisations through their country offices and centrally managed funds. The latter included the Partnership Programme Arrangements (PPAs), the Civil Society Challenge Fund (CSCF), the Governance and Transparency Fund (GTF) and the Development Awareness Fund (DAF). The total PPA funding amounted to around £90m a year, while the CSCF provided up to £500,000 for a maximum of five years for UK based, non-profit organisations, which aimed to improve the capacity of Southern civil society to engage in the local and national decision-making processes and improve national linkages through global advocacy. The Global Poverty Action Fund (GPAF) is a new fund, which was launched in October 2010. The GPAF is intended to be a demand-led fund supporting projects focused on service delivery in support of poverty reduction and the most off-track MDGs in poor countries. Projects are selected on the basis of demonstrable impact on poverty, clarity of outputs and outcomes and value for money.

It is worth noting that while the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) had no potential financial resources for Diaspora volunteering and related issues, it set up the Funding Commission in 2009 in response to the voluntary sector's concerns and uncertainty about funding in the next ten years and to set a new funding agenda. The Commission's vision was that by 2020 the funding environment would maximise opportunities for independent voluntary action and enable civil society organisations to further their goals more effectively and with sustainability.

UK Regional

Three of the five UK regional stakeholders (60 per cent) listed in the database had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development activities: the Scottish Parliament, Volunteering England and the Welsh Assembly.

The Scottish Parliament's International Development budget had increased from £6million in 2008/09 to £9million in 2010/11. The budget was intended to support the achievements of the MDGs and economic growth in developing countries.

The Volunteering England website shared its Grant Making and Funding Directorate along with information on other potential sources of volunteer-related funding, including the New Volunteering Fund, which provided a local grant scheme aimed at supporting volunteering in health and social care and a national portfolio scheme, which would allow national organisations to apply for more substantial awards to deliver more strategic or developmental volunteering programmes.

The Welsh Assembly had information on a few volunteer and MDG related funding schemes, including the Voluntary Sector Grants Guide, Millennium Volunteers Grant Scheme, National Voluntary Youth Organisations Grants Scheme, Volunteering in Wales Fund as well as links to EU structural funds.

Local

The Daneford Trust was the only one of the two local stakeholders (50 per cent) listed in the database which had resource allocations that Diaspora organisations/the DVA could potentially tap into for Diaspora volunteering and/or related development.

The Daneford Trust awarded small grants of £50–200 for its Community Link Programme in East London. Volunteers on the overseas programme were supported to raise their own project costs.

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Websites listed in advocacy stakeholder mapping database (see appendix E for the framework of the database, which will be available on the DVA website: <http://www.Diasporavolunteeringalliance.org/>)



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Published June 2011



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DVA Company Registration: 07219144

DVA Charity Registration: 1138736