

# 'Beneficiaries' and 'cash machines'?

DIASPORAS AS EQUITABLE PARTNERS IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

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## WHY IS DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT BENEFICIAL FOR EVERYONE?

**Agility And Speed:** *provide assistance in a timely manner.*

**Trust:** *diaspora have the access, knowledge and networks where assistance is needed.*

**Cost Effective:** *Reduced overhead costs as often diaspora are volunteers and have networks that can provide support.*

**Encourage Localisation:** *diaspora work more closely with local civil society.*

**Humanitarian-development Nexus:** *Diaspora intervene before, during, and after crises.*

## HOW DO DIASPORA RESPOND IN A CRISIS?

*Prof. Gibril Faal notes "diaspora capital" gives perspective on the diversity of engagements:*

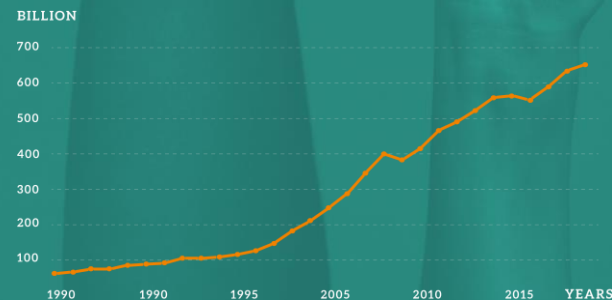
**Financial** (*remittances, philanthropy*)

**Political** (*advocacy, lobbying*)

**Social** (*ideas, practices, skills, identities*)

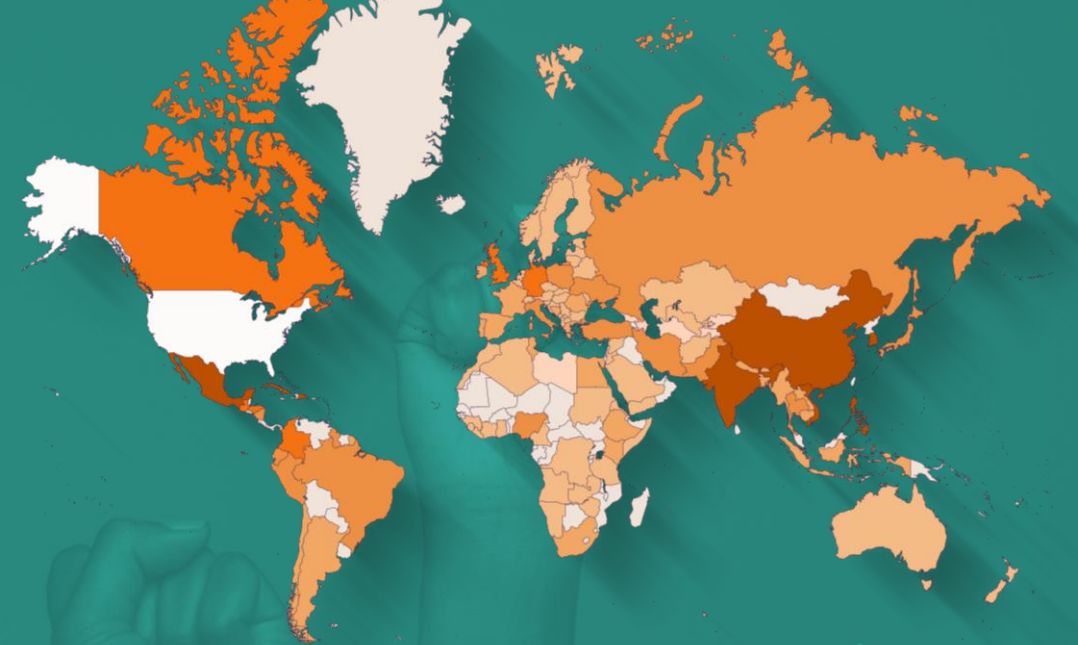
**Intellectual** (*knowledge circulation*)

**Time** (*volunteering - online and offline*)



Personal remittances, received (current US\$)

Source: World Bank (1990-2019)



In 2017, 49,780,000 people living in United States were born in other countries.

Source: Pew Research Centre, *Origins and Destinations of the World's Migrants, 1990-2017*.

## HOW DO WE BUILD EQUITABLE PARTNERSHIPS WITH DIASPORA COMMUNITIES?

- **Treat** diasporas as equal partners.
- **Diasporas are diverse** whether based on gender, age, income, education, generation, and origin countries.
- **Protect** vulnerable migrant and diaspora communities
- **Embrace** evidence-based engagement as diasporas are not static.