



Rockefeller-Aspen Diaspora Program

Creating Tangible Connections for Impact

The Rockefeller-Aspen Diaspora Program (RAD) is a collaborative effort between the Rockefeller Foundation and the Aspen Institute that will design a targeted and coordinated approach to facilitate the strategic investment of financial and human capital from diasporas to their home countries. RAD's primary goal is to more effectively channel investments from diaspora communities into their countries of origin. Housed at the Aspen Institute, RAD will build upon lessons learned to effectively engage diaspora members.

Diaspora communities wield a significant amount of financial and human capital, as well as considerable interest in investing in their home countries to address economic and social challenges. RAD will play a critical role in understanding the barriers that currently inhibit diaspora members from making strategic investments in development projects and in developing an effective approach to overcome those barriers.



Photo Credit: Jean Michael

Beyond Remittances: The Need for Diaspora Investment

- Global remittances dwarf foreign assistance by a factor of three and total \$414 billion
- Remittances are generally individual to individual
- No intermediaries to facilitate diaspora investment

Vision

Create a clear pathway for diaspora members to invest human and/or financial capital in their home communities in ways that are beneficial for development

Initial Activity Pathways

- 1.) High-touch personal experiences that introduce high net worth individual diaspora members directly to in-country partners and investment opportunities
- 2.) Democratized approach that consists of an online platform where diaspora members of various income levels can find multiple ways to invest

Aspen Institute Collaboration

RAD works with other policy programs within the Aspen Institute including:

- Global Health and Development
- Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs
- Middle East Programs
- Global Alliances Program