## AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT SWITZERLAND (NGO) Fondation Africaine pour les Migrations et le Développement en Suisse Afrika Stiftung für Migration und Entwicklung in der Schweiz

## "Engaging the Diaspora for sustainable development"

## MISSION STATEMENT

The African Foundation for Migration and Development is a coalition of African Diaspora, people of African descent, Swiss and other professionals, experts and resource persons, willing to make a difference in the society. This is realized by harnessing the human and material resources in Europe, Africa and other parts of the globe to promote policies and best practices in international development cooperation for the sustainable development of Africa. AFMD works in collaboration with the private sector, the civil society groups, the academia and the media, as well as with policymakers in the public sector.

The African Foundation is an international platform for the elaboration and implementation of Diaspora and African development policies. AFMD is committed to the development benefits of migration and the positive nexus between migration, diaspora and sustainable development as well as international cooperation. It is a not-for-profit NGO with Headquarters in Bern, the capital of Switzerland. A think tank that is devoted to the implementation of international, regional and national development policies with a dual strategy: firstly by engaging mainstream policymakers and other development stakeholders and influence them to recognize and support the extensive development work of the African Diaspora; secondly engages in research works and trainings, supports et enhances, with technical expertise, the impact of the contributions of Diaspora groups, institutions and organizations that engage in migration and development. Furthermore, it facilitates networking, partnerships, collaborations and joint ventures.

The African Foundation pursues thus the following mission:

- Building bridges and maintaining regular contacts, triangular dialogue and exchanges between the Diaspora communities and the governments and institutions of the countries of origin or heritage as well as the host countries pursuant to sustainable and win-win migration and development policies,
- Advocates for support and the establishment of a Diaspora Development Fund DDF, available for development projects, programs and activities initiated by members, organizations and institutions of the Diaspora communities in areas such as
  - a) post migration and return trauma management
  - b) education and research, science and technology,
  - c) health care, social well-being, environmental protection and climate change prevention,
  - d) food security, agriculture and water resources;

- e) private and social enterprises, micro, small and medium enterprises, investment and finance, infrastructure development,
- f) women leadership, children and youth empowerment, peace building and conflict prevention, sports, cultural and creative enterprises and other positive development investments
- Builds and maintains a database and network of African Diaspora professionals, experts as well as Diaspora organizations for development synergies.

We equally understand the language, fears and hurdles that Western businesses face in gaining access to the African market. We support and provide them with the necessary rudiments to understand and navigate through some local dynamics militating against a smooth access to African markets. We offer similar assistance to African businesses that wish to expand and penetrate Western markets.

As part of its program and activities, the African Foundation advocates for fair trade, organizes African trade fair and investment forum that bring together the African Diaspora professionals, experts and resource persons, African trade policymakers, business moguls and tycoons as well as captains of industries with their counterparts in the advanced economies, for trade and investment exchanges, in order to promote investment, wealth and job creation, know-how and technology transfer to Africa.

**Our vision** then is to act as a catalyst that sets Africa on the path of sustainable development in cooperation with other valuable stakeholders. In this regard, the African Foundation is open to sponsorships and mutual partnerships towards the realization of its goals.

African Foundation Switzerland team