



Diasporas & Departments: From silos to "joined-up" approaches for common purpose?

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MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: POLICY AND
PRACTICE

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London

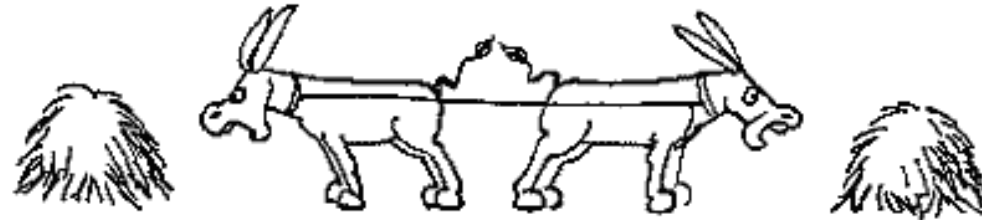
Aims

- Provide **a** diaspora perspective on migration & development nexus
- Explore (messy) policy space created by contemporary migration & transnationalism to test possibilities for “coherence”
- Peer a little into the future to see what might be next...

From silos to...



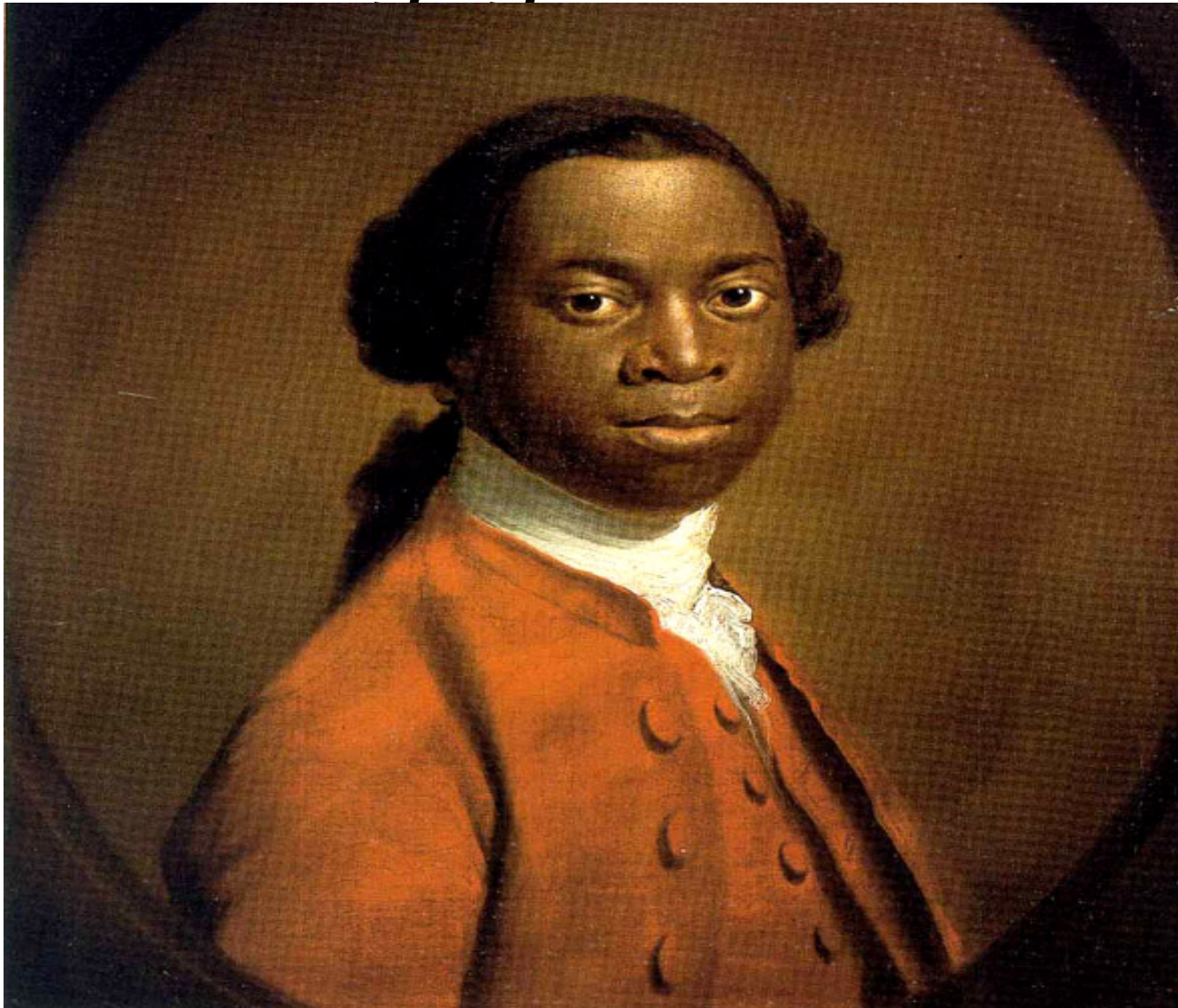
...win/win?



Overview

- Diaspora engagement in historical perspective
- Migration & development for win/win/win?
- Overview of diaspora engagement strategies
- A practical look at how: Case study – DFID toolkit
- Crossing borders – national & departmental?
- Future of engagement: which directions

How new is “diaspora engagement”?





Diaspora engagement -18th century - 1940s London

- Olaudah Equiano & Sons of Africa must have engaged with British government around
 - Abolition of Slave Trade
 - Fate of London’s “black poor”
- Outcomes
 - Abolition of Atlantic Slave Trade
 - First ship of freed slaves, ie black poor (& white prostitutes!!) bound for Sierra Leone
1787



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Diaspora engagement - 18th century - 1940s London

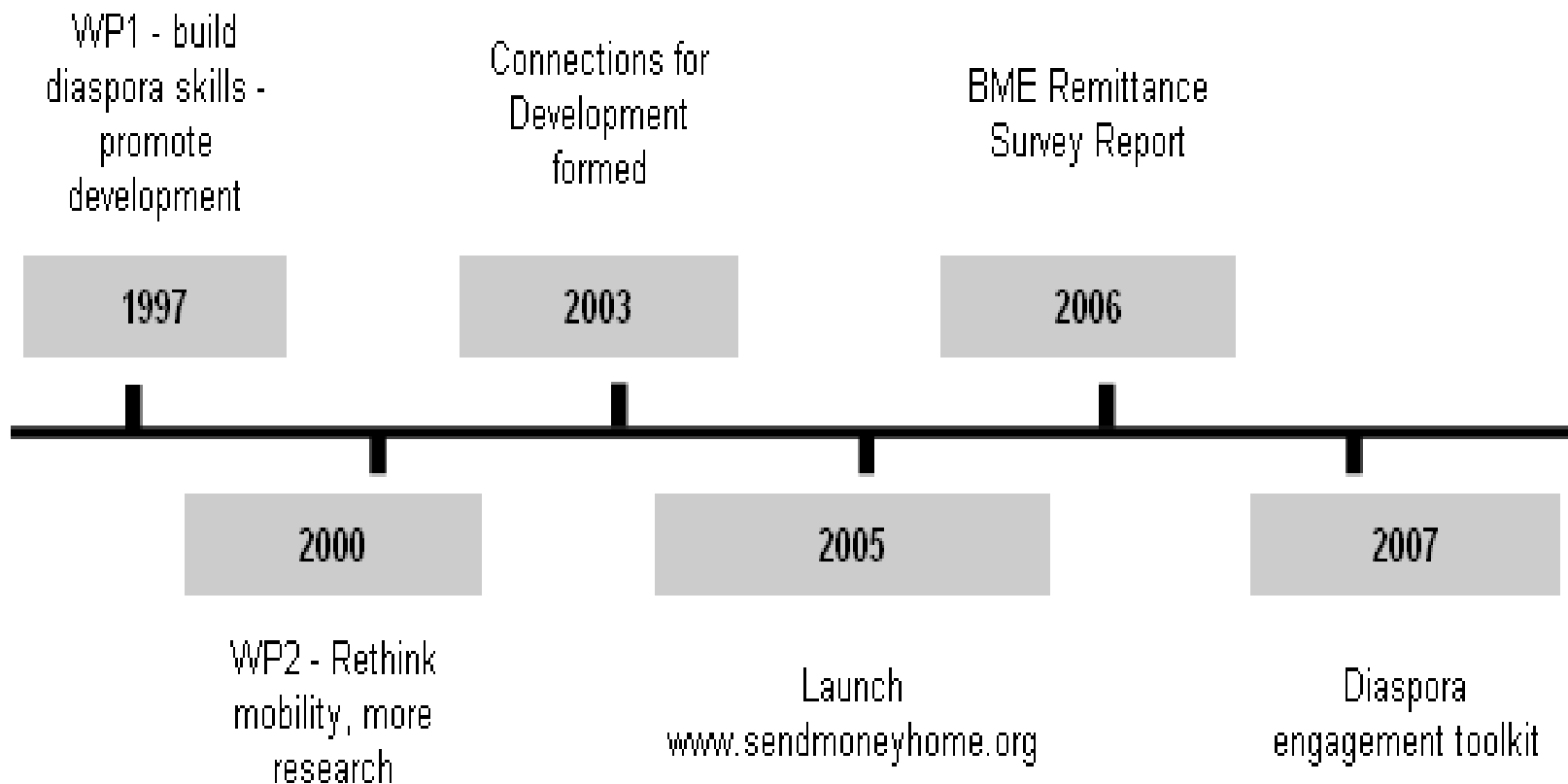
- West African Students' Union
 - Hostel for African students facing racism
 - Support for Gold Coast Farmers Union 1938
Gold Coast cocoa hold-up
 - Anti-colonialism – self-determination
- Colonial Office
 - African students' hostel minus radical politics
 - Self-determination for European nations only



Migration-development nexus today

- Harnessing the benefits of migration for receiving & sending countries & migrants (win/win/win)
- Global Commission on International Migration (2005)
- 3Cs
 - Coherence
 - Capacity
 - Cooperation

DFID & diaspora engagement





Phases of diaspora engagement

- Mid '80s – mid '90s: Pre-Discovery or Ostrich Phase
- 1997: Initial Moment of Discovery
- 1997 – 2003: “Ah, yes but” or Research Phase
- 2003: Second Moment of Discovery (Rediscovery)
- 2003 – 2007: “Let’s engage with diaspora for any reason” Phase
- 2007: Diaspora As Panacea or Silver

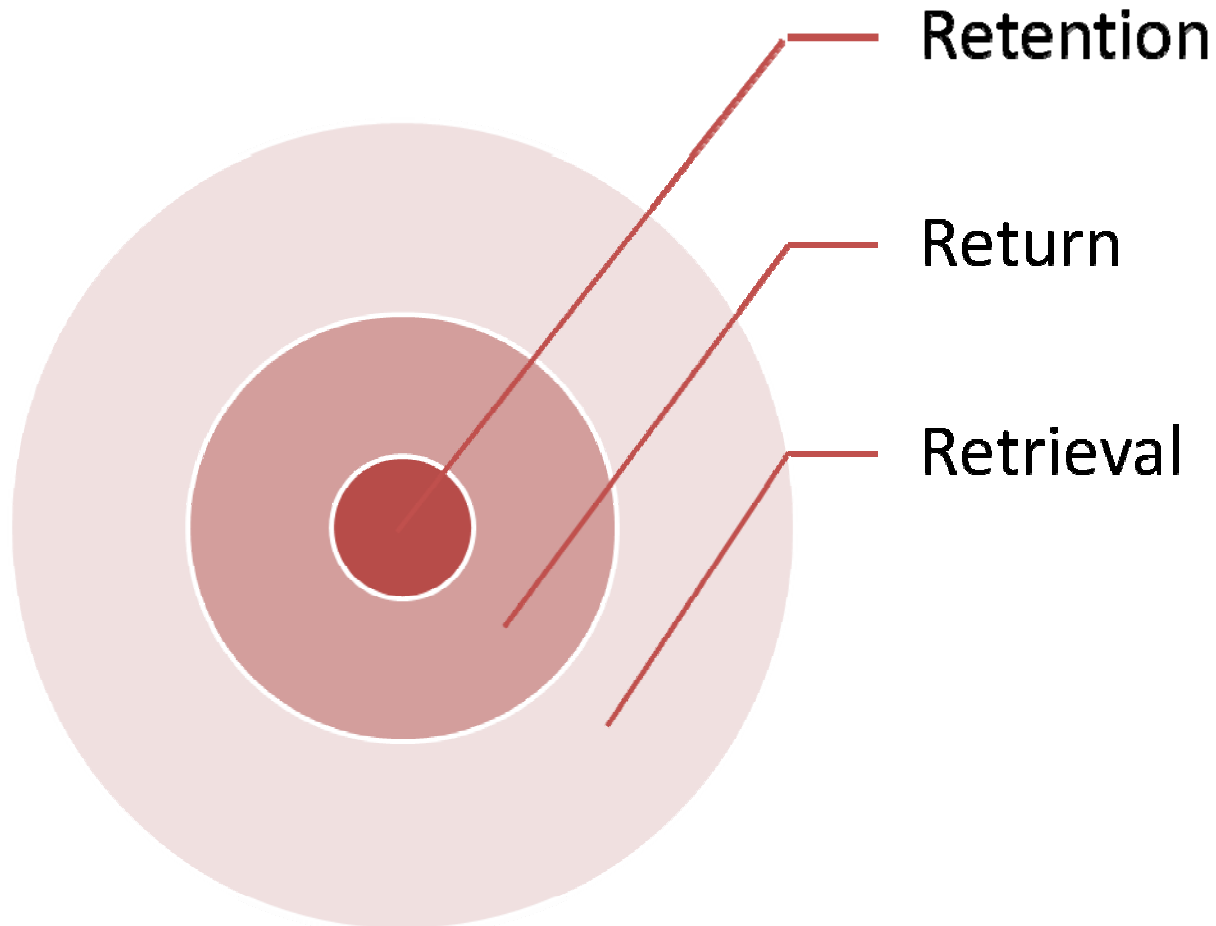
Lessons?

- Diasporas already mobilized for development – development actors mobilize themselves to engage with & learn from diasporas – two-way relationship
- Set realistic expectations – migration no panacea for development (neither are diasporas)
- Recognize diasporas' added value, make long-term commitment – policy voice & ..

Lessons?

- Avoid double agendas – using development policies to curb migration is unrealistic & will lead diasporas to shun development cooperation
- Subordinating development policy to a restrictive migration policy undermines diasporas' core added value – transnational engagement

3Rs approach to migration





Areas of diaspora

engagement for development

- Supporting diaspora networks, capacity building of diaspora organizations & creating durable alliances with established development actors
- Facilitating & reducing costs of remittances
- Supporting diaspora groups' development projects
- Supporting diasporas to set up enterprises in countries of origin & facilitating 'brain

What's in it for the UK?

- Remember 3Cs & win/win/win?
- What domestic agendas can be achieved in context of migration-development nexus?
- What does diaspora engagement that works for diasporas, sending countries, & UK look like?
- What outcomes could be achieved & how?

Analytical framework: Migration & development

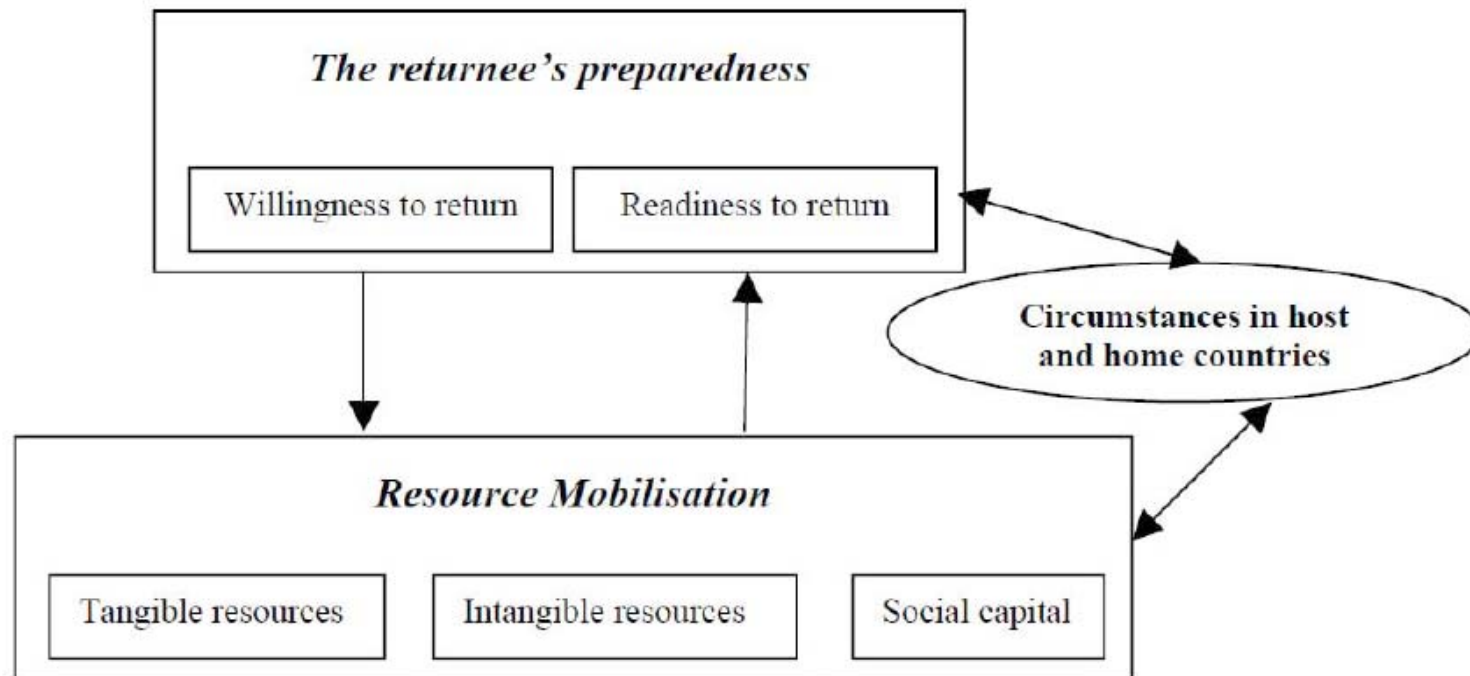
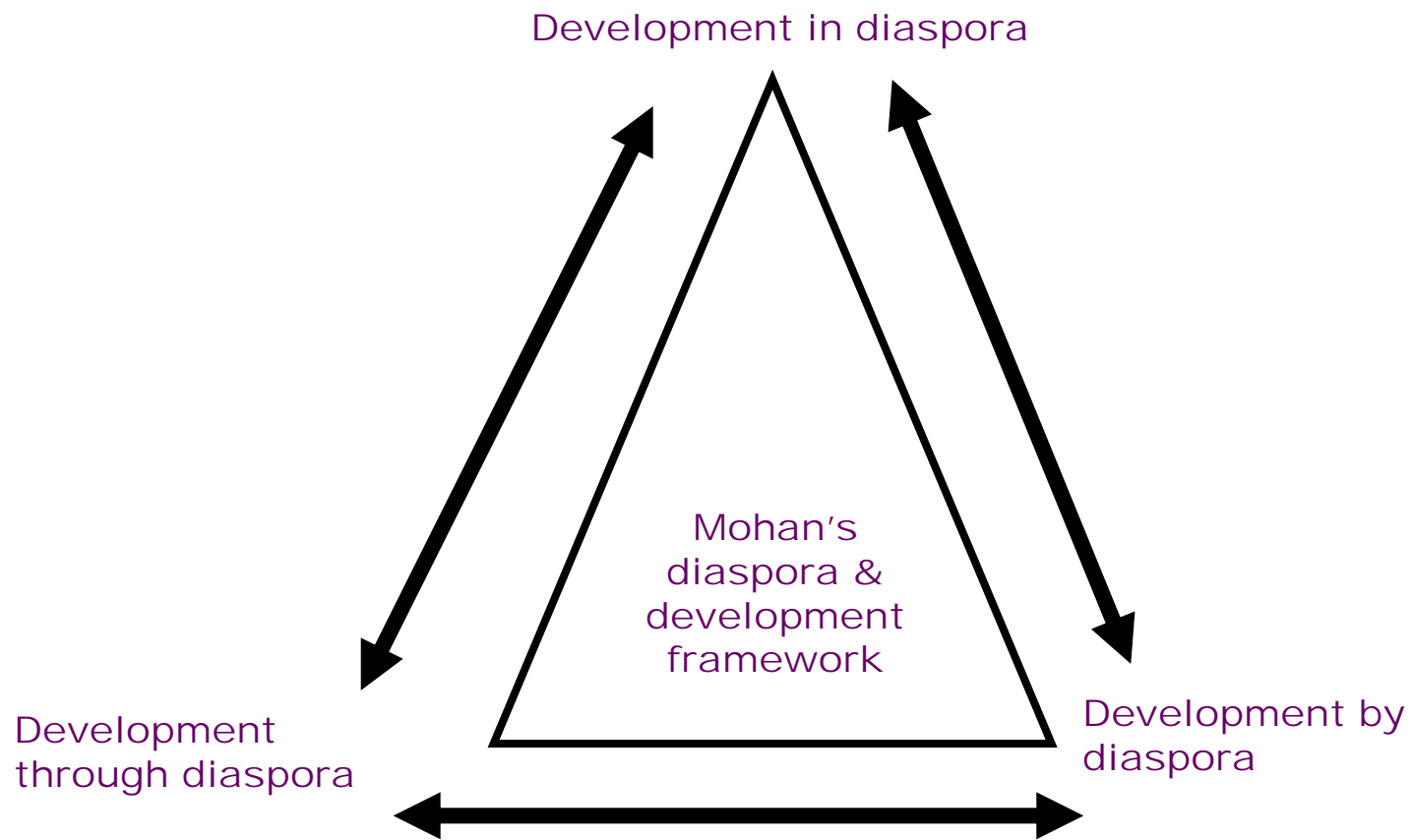


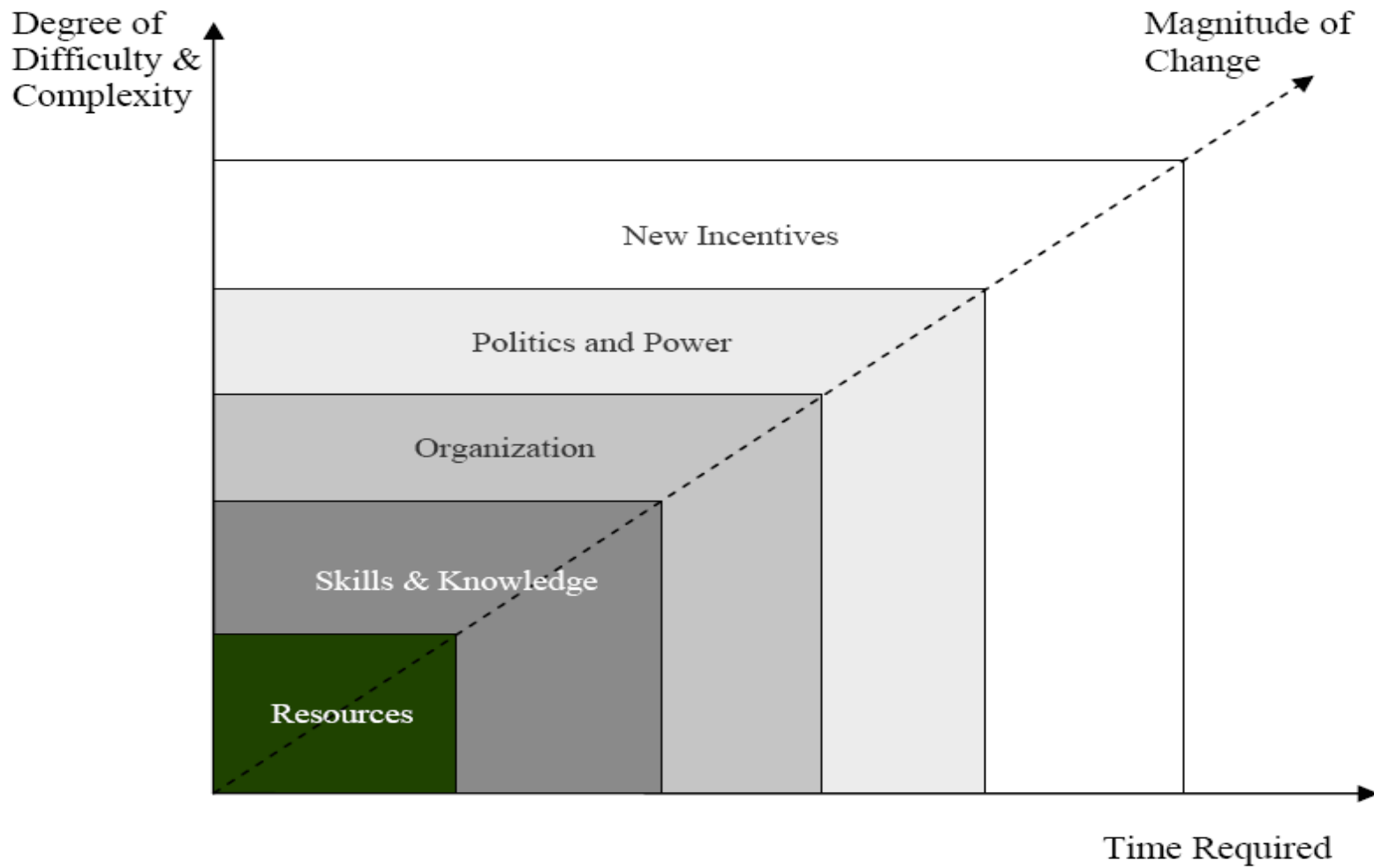
Figure 1: Conceptualising return migration

(From Cassarino 2004:271)

Transnational diaspora



Brinkerhoff's Capacity Development Model





New target for MDG1

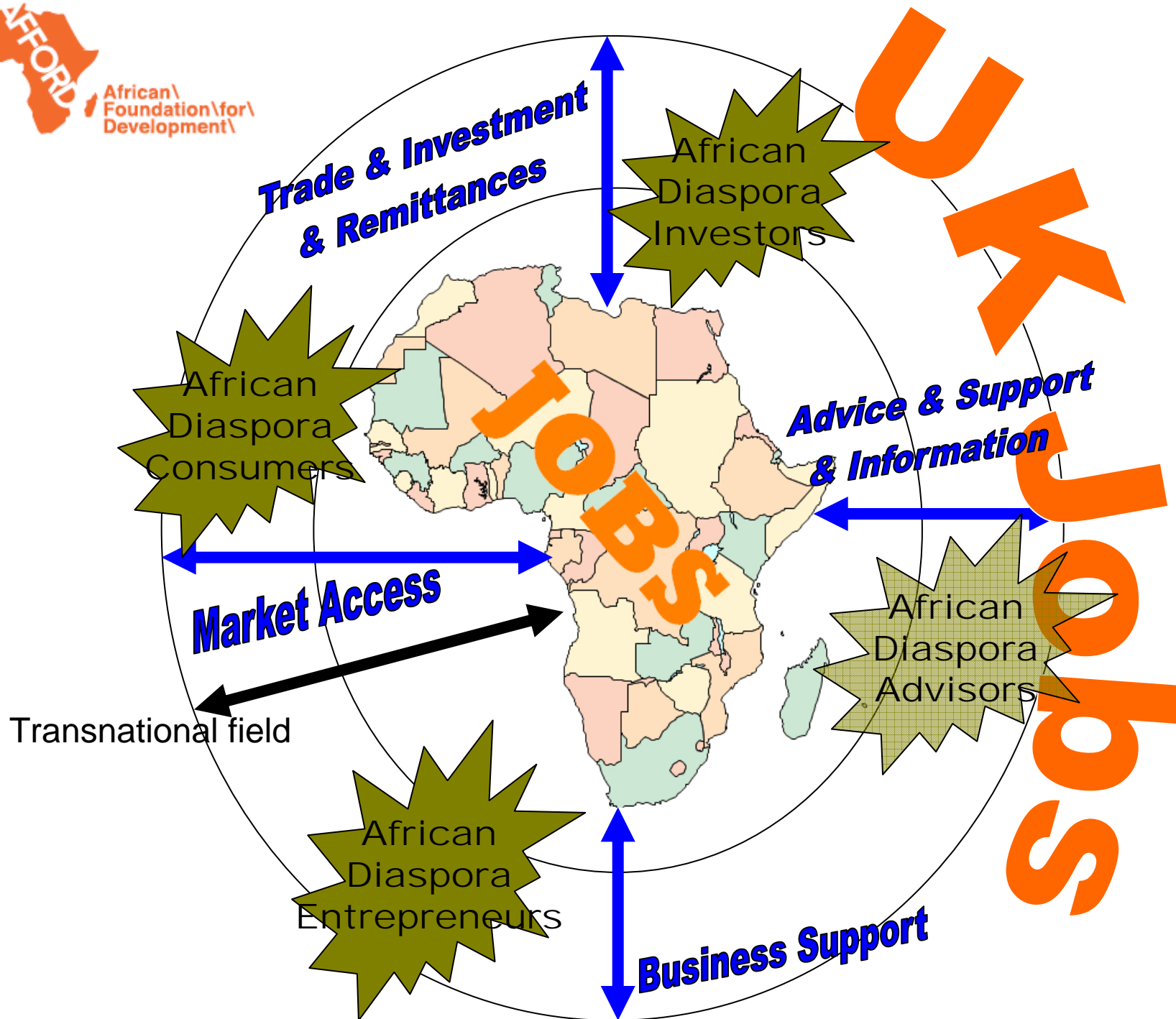
- In October the UN General Assembly accepted a new target for MDG 1:
- **'Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people'**



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"Tackling Poverty & Extending Opportunity"

- 1999 HM Treasury study...
- “shocking conclusions on the scale of poverty and inequality...”
- **“work and access to work... key driver in Britain... lack of work... primary cause of poverty.”**
- **“work is the best route out of poverty - 8 out of 10 people who moved into work moved out of the poorest fifth.”**





Jobs here & there?

- Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform/UK Trade & Investment, DFID, Business Links, One London, Business Extra, local authorities, etc dialogue & collaborate to support transnational entrepreneurs – create jobs here & there
- Win/win/win is possible!



Thank you!

Contact us for more information

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- AFFORD's mission is to expand & enhance the contribution that Africans in the diaspora make to Africa's development