

Research Findings on Non-Australian Expatriate Initiatives, Advocacy Groups, & Diaspora Issues As at 18 February 2004

Disclaimer:

Internet-only search conducted in English - this is not meant to be a comprehensive information source. Websites that were judged to be limited to: discussion forums; solely social, political, or cultural in nature; message boards; or purely/mostly marketing/business/financial in character were omitted. Only websites updated in the past year were searched.

The intent of this research is purely to support the SCG's upcoming submission to the Australian Senate's diaspora inquiry in February 2004.

Direct questions to Michelle Kelleher michelle@southern-cross-group.org

<u>State</u>	<u>1st Reference</u>	<u>2nd Reference</u>	<u>3rd Reference</u>
Afghanistan	1) Website run by Afghani expats based in France http://www.afgha.com/ Most of the focus is on internal Afghani issues, mostly political, trying to present balanced reporting to expatriates & others outside of the country.		
Albania	1) 2003 article with mention of President Alfred Moisiu promoting improvement of Albania's image abroad, including the call for the establishment of a ministry of emigration that would serve the needs of Albanian expatriates, noting that 25 per cent of all Albanians live abroad http://www.balkantimes.com/html2/english/030828-WMI-11.htm		f
Algeria	Nothing of use.		
Andorra	Nothing of use.		
Angola	Nothing of use.		
Anguilla	Nothing of use.		
Antigua & Barbuda	Nothing of use.		
Argentina	Nothing of use.		

<u>State</u>	<u>1st Reference</u>	<u>2nd Reference</u>	<u>3rd Reference</u>
Armenia	<p>1) 2002 article on organisational challenges of the Armenian diaspora - expatriate Armenians outnumber residents by 2.5 to 1. Trouble coordinating stems mostly from diversity of their diaspora - how long they've been gone (1905-2004), political affiliations, cultures/countries they live in, languages they speak, religion - makes for an un-unified voice. http://www.eurasianet.org/departments/recaps/articles/eav061802.shtml</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p> <p>1) 2003 Changes in government funding of mandatory radio broadcasting of Austrian news to international audiences - been around since 1955. http://roi.orf.at/english/en_wirueberuns.html</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p> <p>1) Article on problems with expats voting in 2001 election - Bangladeshi expatriates have voting rights, but are being denied them due to a lack of resources (no facilities at diplomatic missions). http://www.gulfnews.com/Articles/news.asp?ArticleID=26700</p> <p>2) 2003 Article by Bangladeshi expat in USA on "How Expatriate Bangladeshis can help Bangladesh?" http://www.e-mela.com/Bangladesh/Expatriate_BanglaDeshis_Sohana20031113.html</p> <p>2) 2003 Article by Bangladeshi expat in USA on "How Expatriate Bangladeshis can help Bangladesh?" http://www.e-mela.com/Bangladesh/Expatriate_BanglaDeshis_Sohana20031113.html</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p> <p>Nothing of use.</p>	<p>2) Official website of the Armenian diaspora, created by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs http://www.armeniadiaspora.com/News several types of mailing lists, database of professionals, directory of repatriation, job listings, events (diaspora conference, sports, cultural, social), etc. Mention of 2 diaspora conferences (1999, 2002) with a webpage dedicated to conference follow-up http://www.armeniadiaspora.com/followup/index.htm</p> <p>They formed 5 commissions & 7 projects as priorities to work on for the diaspora.</p>	
Aruba			
Austria			
Azerbaijan			
The Bahamas			
Bahrain			
Bangladesh	<p>1) A 1999 website created for Bangladeshi expats detailing "A Proposal for Building a Strategic Alliance of Bangladeshi Expatriates." Out of date but relevant information. http://www.eb2000.org/proposal.htm</p> <p>3) 2003 Article mentioning that Bangladesh has a Minister for Expatriates Welfare & Overseas Employment. http://nation.ittefaq.com/artman/exec/view.cgi/4/2554</p>		<p>5) A 1999 website created for Bangladeshi expats detailing "A Proposal for Building a Strategic Alliance of Bangladeshi Expatriates." Out of date but relevant information. http://www.eb2000.org/proposal.htm</p>
Bangladesh (ctd)			
Barbados			
Belarus			

State

Belgium

1st Reference

- 1) <http://www.belgexpat.net/>
Homepage for Webring of Belgian expat websites, family-oriented & in several languages.
- 2) <http://www.viw.be/home.html> | Vlamingen in de Wereld (VIW) - Flemings in the World is a foundation directed at Flemings already living abroad and for Flemings thinking about moving abroad on a temporary basis or for emigration. The aim is to strengthen ties between these Flemings abroad and Flanders on a economic, cultural and social level. Networking is the key factor. The international office in works in close collaboration with the VIW representatives abroad and with the official representation of the Flemish government. VIW is a non-political organisation.

2nd Reference

- 3) US-Belgian Dual Citizenship Project (Belgian Club of Northern California) http://www.bcncc.com/dual_citizen.htm
An excerpt: "Washington, DC, October 10, 2002 The US-BELGIAN CITIZENRY PROJECT aims to facilitate and to encourage Belgian expatriates established in the US to contact the political parties and politicians in Belgium that best match their individual political affiliation. This in order to request a change of the Belgian law on citizenship. Contacts established in other foreign countries in order to join forces with them. Regardless of your political affiliation and of your linguistic heritage in Belgium, your involvement is necessary. Please help the US-BELGIAN CITIZENRY PROJECT to grow by passing on this message to other Belgians. Encourage them to join the US-BELGIAN CITIZENRY PROJECT by sending their e-mail address to: dheiremans@aol.com. The concerns of 500,000 Belgian expatriates out of a total population of 11 million people simply cannot be ignored ! Didier J. Heiremans, US-BELGIAN CITIZENRY PROJECT, 1443 S Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009, Phone/fax: (202) 332-1658 "

3rd Reference

- 5) The BCNC (Belgian Club of Northern California) also has a webpage dedicated to Belgian links for expats, including police, immigration, government, embassies, historical sites, even libraries.
<http://www.bcncc.com/blink.htm>

- 4) Article: "On June 13, 1999 --for the first time in history-- Belgian expatriates will be allowed to vote by proxy in federal elections in Belgium." <http://www.bcncc.com/vote.htm>
Problems identified in article: 1) Cumbersome voting procedure established by this new law; 2) Belgium didn't follow lead of other countries to introduce voting via the Internet, by mail, or at the Embassy/Consulate; 3) Upcoming vote is 1st opportunity for expats to express political opinion in Belgium's affairs & to bring to the attention of Belgian legislators many important issues that directly affect them; 4) Current Belgian legislation that -- unlike other European countries-- does not allow citizens to voluntarily acquire a second nationality without losing -- automatically and immediately-- Belgian citizenship and passport; 5) Encourages expats to stay informed on the opinions of various politicians (at the federal level) that they could help vote in or out of office, thereby participating actively --as citizens-- in the governing of Belgium.

Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.

Belize
Benin
Bermuda

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Bhutan
Bolivia

Nothing of use.

1) www.bolivia.com - web portal for Bolivians living abroad - no expat issues activity apparent, but a good idea (albeit over-advertised) for putting all the Bolivia-specific information in one place (news, government, sports, merchandise, etc).

Bosnia-Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil

Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.

1) 2002 article mentioning censuses of Brazilians living overseas, the second was in 1997
http://www.diversitycoalition.org/page/45136.cat_id=172
 Excerpt: "1997 Second Census of Brazilians Overseas compiled by Brazil's Foreign Ministry (based on not-very-reliable information from 29 Brazilian foreign consulates) there are 1,560,162 Brazilian expatriates in the world. "

2) 2001 article speaking about the author's wife's, a Brazilian expat, & her experience attempting to vote in Brazilian elections in Europe..... An excerpt: "When that election took place I was living in Berne in Switzerland with my Brazilian wife. She and the other Brazilian expatriates could not cast a postal vote and to vote they had to go to the Brazilian consulate in Paris. Not only did this involve expense and time but at that period Brazilians visiting France needed a visa so they had to go to the French consulate and experience French bureaucracy at first hand. As my wife and most of her friends could not go to Paris they had technically broken the law. They were subsequently contacted by a bureaucrat at the Brazilian consulate in Geneva who came to Berne and officially registered that their reasons for not voting were genuine and they were not fined. All of this a tangled web making a mockery of democracy and freedom of choice."
<http://www.brazzil.com/p29nov01.htm>

British Virgin Islands
Brunei
Bulgaria

Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.

1) Bulgarian Grand National Assembly Election Act 1990 Art. 11. (1) Bulgarian expatriates shall be entered in registers only at their express personal request at least one week prior to each election day. The act of voting shall be noted in their overseas passports.
 (2) Bulgarian citizens that have been abroad for more than two months and have failed to return by election day shall be deleted from electoral register drawn up inside the country. http://www2.essex.ac.uk/elect/electip/bg_e190.htm

Burkina Faso
Burma (Myanmar)
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon

Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.
 Nothing of use.

Appendix K - Southern Cross Group submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Reference Committee Inquiry into the Australian Diaspora

<u>State</u>	<u>1st Reference</u>	<u>2nd Reference</u>	<u>3rd Reference</u>
Canada	<p>1) Overseas voter registration materials are available online, along with service for submission via fax. http://www.elections.ca/content.asp?section=ins&document=i-j&dir=ire&lang=e&textonly=false</p>	<p>2) Official website with comprehensive links to parties, candidates, & other resources to assist overseas Canadian voters. http://www.elections.ca/content.asp?section=gen&document=ec90540&dir=bkg&lang=e&textonly=false</p>	<p>3) Commercial website with very useful information & links for repatriating Canadians http://relocatecanada.com/expatriate.html</p>
Cape Verde	Nothing of use.		
Cayman Islands	Nothing of use.		
Central African Republic	Nothing of use.		
Chad	Nothing of use.		
Chile	<p>1) 1999 article on expat voting, not then a reality, " GOVT BACKS VOTING RIGHTS FOR CHILEAN EXPATS." Excerpts of issues: The government was studying plans to speed up the passage of legislation to allow Chilean expats to vote in presidential elections in Chile. Unofficial figures estimate the number of Chilean expatriates eligible to vote at approx. 700,000, 12 % of votes current 6 million voters in Chile. A bill which would permit Chilean nationals living abroad to vote in presidential elections had been in the works since 1991. It was passed in 1994 by the Chamber of Deputies but had not been approved by the Senate. Political surveys carried out by the Association of Chilean Residents in Argentina show that the stiffest opposition to the scheme came from right-wing senators, arguing that most of the Chileans residing abroad are of a leftist political persuasion, having fled from Chile under the regime of former military leader Augusto Pinochet, and therefore that their parties would have the most to lose. http://ssdc.ucsd.edu/news/chip/h99/chip.19990330.html</p>		
China	Nothing of use.		(Surprising- maybe just not in my search, considering Ireland, China, & Israel are the poster children for reaching out to expats & repatriating citizens)

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Colombia

1) 2002 article on Colombian's going to the polls to elect congressional seat reserved for expats <http://www.rose-hulman.edu/~delacova/colombia/expatriates.htm> "The special seat was created in Colombia's 1991 Constitution to give citizens abroad a representative in the House who would work for their interests, but the details about how it would work came into place only last year. Zapata said. Each candidate campaigns in his or her country of residence, but all of the 106,500 Colombians registered abroad will vote. The winner will return to Colombia to represent citizens abroad for the next four years." Colombia is 1st South American country to have such a seat for expats.

Comoros

Nothing of use.

Congo-Brazzaville

Nothing of use.

Congo-Kinshasa

Nothing of use.

Costa Rica

Nothing of use.

Côte d'Ivoire

Nothing of use.

Croatia

1) 1997 Presidential address on the state of the nation, with numerous mention of foreign policy initiatives targeted at expats <http://www.croatiaemb.org/politics/1998/cd1.htm>

Cuba

1) Cuban American National Foundation (CANF). Targetted to expats, very political. site is in Spanish, not sure if any information relevant to our purposes exists. <http://www.canf.org/2004/principal.htm>

Cyprus

Nothing of use.

Czech Republic

1) 2002 article on poor voter registration amongst Czech expats in election: "SOME 3,000 CZECH EXPATRIATES REGISTER FOR JUNE ELECTIONS. The Foreign Ministry said on 16 May that 2,960 Czech citizens living abroad have registered to vote in the parliamentary elections scheduled for June, Czech radio reported. Original estimates suggested that some 70,000 would do so. Some Czechs living abroad criticized the registration system as limiting, especially in large countries such as Canada or Australia, where there are few consulates at a reasonable distance from where prospective Czech voters live. Those intending to vote were required to register at consulates by 5 May, and many said they were not notified of the change in the law that allows residents abroad to vote."

<http://www.rferl.org/newsline/2002/05/3-CEE/cee-170502.asp>

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Denmark, Greenland and the

Faroe Islands

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican Republic

East Timor

Ecuador (Galapagos Islands)

1) Paper mentioning Ecuadorian expatriates' 1967 petition for voting rights abroad, plus other expat & dual citizenship issues - many other countries are covered. " Under Two Flags: Dual Nationality in Latin America & it's Consequences for the United States" by Michael Jones-Correa http://drclas.fas.harvard.edu/publications/PDFs/jones_correa.pdf

Egypt

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

1) Eritrean Ministry of Education: "Eritrea seeks to recruit Eritreans in the Diaspora!" (2004) <http://www.biddho.de/portal/article4193.html>

Vacancy announcement for educators, with salary table & qualifications, at http://www.biddho.de/portal/news_pics/editorial/20040131/moe-announcement.pdf

Estonia

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

State

Ethiopia

1st Reference

1) Ethiopian Expatriate Affairs (EEA) within Ministry of Foreign Affairs est. 2002 - dedicated webpage with newsletter subscription available. Lists a progressive vision, mission, & achievements to date.
http://www.mfa.gov.et/Ethiopians_Origin_Abroad/Ethiopia_Origin.php

Aims:

Build a warm & constructive relationship b/n Ethiopians in Diaspora & their country.

Objectives & activities:

- 1) Liaison b/n different Ministries & expats;
- 2) Encourages active involvement of the expats in socio-economic activities of the country;
- 3) Safeguards the rights & privileges of Ethiopian expatriates;
- 4) Mobilizes Ethiopian community abroad for a sustained & organized image building;
- 5) Disseminating accurate information to the Ethiopian community abroad through various media outlets;
- 6) Conducting research to identify problems faced by expats to improve legislation that is instrumental for their increased participation in nation building;
- 7) Ensuring the well being, safety & security as well as the rights & privileges of Ethiopians abroad; &
- 8) Keeping the Diaspora informed on relevant issues.

Ctd next column

Ethiopia (ctd)

- 2) 2003 academic paper on "Reconfiguring the Ethiopian nation in a global era"
http://ethiomedia.com/press/reconfiguring_ethiopia.html
 Includes nationhood, virtual nations & neighbourhoods, diaspora connections,

Fiji

Nothing of use.

2nd Reference

Ethiopian Expatriate Affairs (EEA) within Ministry of Foreign Affairs (cont):

Achievements:

Since its establishment, the EEA has been strongly committed to strengthen its services to Ethiopian expatriates & improving the legal status of foreign nationals of Ethiopian origin back home. In this regard, the tax and customs free rights given for returnees, the issuance of urban land for the construction of residential buildings for those organized in housing cooperatives free of charge and with lease payments, and the Proclamation No. 270/2002, which allows Foreign Nationals of Ethiopian origin a wide range of rights & benefits are important steps towards creating a favourable condition for mutually beneficial relationships. For the smooth running of its activities, the EEA has established links with Federal Ministries & Regional Governments through out the country. In order to further facilitate the contact between the Diaspora and their country, each Ethiopian Embassy has assigned a diplomat who is solely responsible for handling community issues.

Ctd next column

3rd Reference

Ethiopian Expatriate Affairs (EEA) within Ministry of Foreign Affairs (cont).

Our Vision:

- 1) To organize an "Ethiopian Diaspora Day" on a yearly basis, in Addis Ababa and abroad as conditions permit, to allow Ethiopian authorities and Ethiopians residing abroad to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest;
- 2) To use the website of the Ministry to create a communicative link with the Diaspora, & additionally to disseminate current information;
- 3) To establish a database of Ethiopians in the Diaspora, which will help to facilitate the services provided to them as well as improve pertinent policies; &
- 4) To institute our current plan to effect visits and conduct seminars and workshops in order to further acquaint Ethiopians in the Diaspora with the country's current policies.

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

Finland

1) Group active on expat-issues, calling itself the Finnish Expatriate Parliament.
<http://www.usp.fy/leis/esittely/esiteuk.htm>
 Excerpt: "It is important for Finland that Finnish expatriates maintain their ties to the country. To secure this, the everyday needs of expatriates should be considered in the formulation of public policy in Finland." The purpose of the Finnish Expatriate Parliament is to channel the needs and desires of expatriate Finns to the Finnish State. This includes all expatriate Finns, whether or not they carry a Finnish passport. The Parliament supports the interests of expatriates by working together with the Finnish State in a spirit of good cooperation. On the issue of Improving Expatriates' Voting Opportunities - Expatriates' voter turnout has continued to remain under 10 %. The main reason to the low turnout has been insufficient voting conditions. There have been some improvements lately and, for example, the number of the voting stations abroad has been increased. FEP works for the opportunity to vote by mail and the internet.

France

1) French expats represented in electoral college
<http://www.senat.fr/english/role/colleg.htm>

2) Submission to the Australian Joint Committee on the 2001 election, by an Australian living in France, with lots of information on the rights of French expats
http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/em/elect01/subs/su_b85.pdf.

French Guiana

Nothing of use.

French Polynesia (Tahiti)

Nothing of use.

French West Indies

Nothing of use.

Gabon

Nothing of use.

The Gambia

Nothing of use.

Georgia

Nothing of use.

Germany

Nothing of use.

Ghana

Nothing of use.

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Greece

1) 2003 Greece's Minister for Foreign Affairs speaks favourably on dual citizenship <http://www.papandreou.gr/papandreou/content/articlepage.aspx?articleid=1693&language=0> (Papandreou, the Minister, was also involved in setting up the European diasporas organisation, to track movement of expats from all EU nations. Seems he's been an expat himself before, & has held dual citizenship at times in his life).

Greenland

See Denmark

Grenada

Nothing of use.

Guadeloupe

Nothing of use.

Guatemala

Nothing of use.

Guinea

Nothing of use.

Guinea-Bissau

Nothing of use.

Guyana

Nothing of use.

Haiti

Nothing of use.

Honduras

1) 1999 article after Hurricane Mitch, whereby expats were returning to Honduras to take advantage of the "law of the absent Honduran". This law permits the duty free introduction of non-luxury items by any Honduran citizen who has been at least one year outside of the country and is effective only from November 15th through January 15th. <http://www.honduras.com/thisweek/archive/99-01-01.html> Maybe we can have the law of the absent Tim Tam?

Hong Kong SAR (China)

Hungary

Nothing of use.
1) Article promoting a homecoming forum in Washington DC "The New Generation Hungarian Professionals and Scholars in the United States - How to Utilize their Expertise for Hungary's Benefit" Mentions bilateral benefits for country & expats <http://www.hungarianamerica.com/homecoming/>

Iceland

Nothing of use.

Appendix K - Southern Cross Group submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Reference Committee Inquiry into the Australian Diaspora

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

India

1) 2001 article "Expatriates urged to organise themselves" mentions high-level committee on the Indian diaspora - head urges Indian expats to get organised & voice their needs more strongly
<http://www.rediff.com/news/2001/jun/05us1.htm>

2) 2004 Group in UAE organised the collection of 100,000 expat signatures to set up a no-frills airline to deliver service b/n India & UAE. Petition was presented to India's President in Jan 04.
<http://b4.boards2go.com/boards/board.cgi?action=read&id=1074662401&user=nrcommunity>

3) Educational program on Indian culture & history set up for children of expats
<http://www.newsindia-times.com/2002/02/15/campus-foot3.htm>

Indonesia

Iran

Nothing of use.

1) 2002 article mentioning Foreign Ministry's Center for Expatriate Affairs.
<http://www.payvand.com/news/02/mar/1045.html> . In the article the head of the centre offers interesting viewpoints on repatriation/return to Iran: 1) Iranians face psychological & executive barriers to returning to Iran; 2) lack of a system of regulations for exit of those eligible for military service; 3) lack of organized information for dissemination of information for academicians and researchers; 4) unclear customs regulations for import and export of appropriate training manuals and equipment. "Many of these expatriates, upon their return, will be rendered useless as opposed to residing abroad where they can act as cultural or scientific ambassador for the nation," he said.

2) 2000 article REJECTING AMNESTY, IRANIAN DIASPORA SUGGESTS RECONCILIATION
http://www.iran-press-service.com/articles_2000/sep_2000/amnesty_bill_5900.htm

Heavily political article on the rejection of amnesty offered by the Iranian government to expats who left Iran under certain conditions or for certain political reasons, but it does cite a prominent reason why expats left & an attempt by the government to address this reason.

Iraq

Ireland

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

(Surprising- maybe just not in my search, considering Ireland, China, & Israel are the poster children for reaching out to expats & repatriating citizens.)

Israel, the West Bank and

Gaza

Pretty self-explanatory - long history of outreach to expats/diaspora, although they (the expats) don't have voting rights.

Italy

1) Broadcasting company has a specific program for Italian expats, Qui Roma, mostly news.
<http://www.international.rai.it/eng/tv/productions/index.shtml>

2) Dec 2003 article stating that Italian expats can now vote their own representative in, which is making broadcasting access to these expats a top priority for politicians
http://www.friends.ca/News/Friends_News/archives/articles12230301.asp

Jamaica

Nothing of use.

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<u>State</u>	<u>1st Reference</u>	<u>2nd Reference</u>	<u>3rd Reference</u>
Japan	1) 2000 article on "Underutilised Resources: Japanese Residents in Europe" http://reorient.com/JapaneseResidentsEurope.htm	2) CNN election watch (2003) mentioning on average, less than 4% of all eligible Japanese expatriates cast their votes in the last two parliamentary elections. No reasons given why. http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/election_watch/asiapcf/japan4.htm	
Jordan	Nothing of use.		
Kazakhstan	Nothing of use.		
Kenya	Nothing of use.		
Kiribati	Nothing of use.		
Kuwait	Nothing of use.		
Kyrgyz Republic	Nothing of use.		
Laos	Nothing of use.		
Latvia	Nothing of use.		
Lebanon	Nothing of use.		
Lesotho	Nothing of use.		
Liberia	Nothing of use.		
Libya	Nothing of use.		
Liechtenstein	Nothing of use.		
Lithuania	Nothing of use.		
Luxembourg	1) http://www.blicjakarta.netfirms.com/ B.L.I.C Belgian Luxembourg Indonesia Club - "organizes social events on a regular basis, e.g. meetings / activities in order to keep in touch and exchange information and tips on "Life in Indonesia". We have monthly lunches to keep in touch. We enjoy each other's company in all kinds of social and/or cultural activities. We participate in several charity organizations.... In short, we do our best to sustain the good image of our homecountry here in Indonesia upholding the parole "Eendracht maakt macht, l'union fait la force"."		
Macau SAR (China)	Nothing of use.		

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

Macedonia (Former Yugoslav Republic of)

1) Article 49 of the Macedonian Constitution states that "the republic cares for the status and rights of those persons belonging to the Macedonian people in neighboring countries, as well as Macedonian expatriates. 1999. <http://www.law.nyu.edu/eecr/vol8hum1-2/constitutionwatch/bulgaria.html>

Madagascar

Nothing of use.

Malawi

Nothing of use.

Malaysia

Nothing of use.

Maldives

Nothing of use.

Mali

Nothing of use.

Malta

Nothing of use.

Marshall Islands

Nothing of use.

Martinique

Nothing of use.

Mauritania

1) 2003 article "Mauritanian expatriates not allowed voting in presidential election" - issue is about the "disallowing" of Mauritanian expats from voting in Nov 2003 elections because no provisions in the law <http://www.arabicnews.com/ansub/Daily/Day/031009/2003100922.html>

Mauritius

1) MERN - Mauritius Expat Resources Network. Group actively building a catalogue of Mauritian expats, although not clear what for (there is a mention of professionals possibly being called upon to work on projects in Mauritius or home country). <http://www.mern-mauritius.com/body.htm>

Mexico

1) 2003 "The Movement to Enfranchise Mexican Expatriates." Very extensive, literate article on multiple issues facing the Mexican diaspora, most of them the same as what we're working on, & includes details on several other nations. http://humanrights.uchicago.edu/workshoppapers/XochitlBad_a.pdf

2) 1999 Article on voting rights, hope to be in place by 2006 federal election "Election aims to extend voting rights in U.S.:" <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/1999/0930.html>

3) 2003 article on overseas voting with progress & developments. Excerpt: "MEXICO Odds better for absentee voting in U.S. For the first time, no political party in Mexico opposes a proposal to allow Mexicans living in the United States to cast ballots in the nation's elections." Miami Herald [Monday, November 3, 2003 http://list-socrates.berkeley.edu/~border/list_articles/1103-miamiherald-mexicanabsenteevotinginUS.htm

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<u>State</u>	<u>1st Reference</u>	<u>2nd Reference</u>	<u>3rd Reference</u>
Micronesia, Federated States of	Nothing of use.		
Moldova	Nothing of use.		
Mongolia	Nothing of use.		
Montserrat	Nothing of use.		
Morocco	<p>1) 2001 article claiming Moroccan government worried at hardships facing Moroccan expatriates http://www.arabicnews.com/ansub/Daily/Day/010222/200102224.html</p>	<p>2) 2002 Article "Towards the creation of Moroccan expatriates observatory" mentioning a Moroccan Immigrants Body signing partnership convention with the International Organization for Migrations (IOM) leading to the creation of an observatory of Moroccan expatriates. http://www.arabicnews.com/ansub/Daily/Day/020426/2002042622.html</p>	<p>3) 2003 article "Supreme Court Adjourns Ruling in Request to Grant Expats Voting Right" http://www.observateur.ma/eng/Society.asp Excerpt: "Morocco's supreme court on Thursday adjourned for further consultation its ruling on a request by associations of Moroccan expatriates to grant Moroccans living abroad the right to vote and to run for Moroccan elections. The decision on the request tabled by a group of four associations of Moroccans living abroad was announced at a public session. The lawyer called for giving the Moroccan expatriates the right to vote and to run for elections in Morocco saying that some 10% of Moroccan population is excluded. The public prosecutor argued that the Moroccan electoral law only grants to immigrants the right to vote during referendum ballots and that only nationals living in Morocco have the right to vote in other elections."</p>

Mozambique	Nothing of use.		
Namibia	<p>1) 1999 Article on low overseas voter turnout for elections & reasons why http://www.namibian.com.na/Focus/Elections/very.html Primary reasons: 1) Many Namibian expatriates were either not registered or did not have their voting cards with them; 2) Others were not able to travel long distances to the embassies; 3) Only one day on which Namibians outside the country could vote; and 4) Government claims there are very few Nigerians living abroad.</p>		
Nauru	Nothing of use.		
Nepal	Nothing of use.		
Netherlands	<p>1) Website/magazine for Dutch expats, all in Dutch so I can't establish if advocacy for expat issues are a priority or not... http://www.expatplus.nl/</p>		

Netherlands Antilles	Nothing of use.		
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State

New Caledonia

New Zealand

Nicaragua

1st Reference

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

1) 1995 article mentioning new law/changes to the constitution that allows Nicaraguan expats to vote in federal elections. Interestingly, there is mention that the changes to the constitution do not permit campaign contributions from Nicaraguans abroad.
<http://ssdc.ucsd.edu/news/notisur/h95/notisur.19951215.html#a3>

2nd Reference

2) 2003 article mentioning President's new initiative to reach out to Nicaraguan expats in USA with "mobile consulates"
http://www.americatel.net/inforp/prensa_10-07-2003_i.htm

3rd Reference

Niger

Nigeria

1) 2003 Article with details on programs to attract Nigerian expats (most of whom are health care professionals) back to assist in Nigeria's healthcare system
http://www.globalknowledge.org/gkps_portal/index.cfm?menu_id=184&parentid=78

One program is run by Fantsuam Foundation fantsuamfoundation@fantsuam.com - "to engage Nigerian expatriates in the improvement of health conditions in their native country." The Foundation conducted a preliminary investigation indicating that some of those expatriates would like to contribute their skills to the Nigerian health service as long as their jobs in the West were not at risk, came up with Voluntary Services at Home, Nigeria (VSHN). VSHN will identify successful Nigerians living abroad and will match them with specific health projects and health training institutions in Nigeria. The project will begin with professionals in the health and education sectors and will expand to other professions whose members could benefit Nigerian development. Within the first five years, VSHN hopes to transfer skills, knowledge and technology to 1,000 health training institutions, hospital and rural health centres in Nigeria.

Nigeria (ctd)

4) Assoc. of Nigerians Abroad <http://www.ananet.org/>
 ANA, a body of Nigerians and friends of Nigeria was formed out of NaijaNet to work towards improving the technological, educational, economic, and democratic goals of Nigerians. The body itself is a political but has served in the recent past as a medium of expressing the opinions of Nigerians abroad to the Nigerian government. One of their objectives is: Serving as a channel of communication with the people and government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with respect to the opinions, wishes, and aspirations of Nigerians in diaspora.

2) 2001 article where Nigerian president specifically calls on expats to return to Nigeria to help rebuild it "Nigeria calls expatriate sons and daughters home"
<http://search.csmonitor.com/durable/2001/02/26/fp7s1-csm.shtml>

3) 1998 article reporting on 2nd international conference on Nigeria in Washington DC, attended primarily by Nigerian expats & hosted by the Assn of Nigerians Abroad.
<http://home.rica.net/alphae/419coal/news1998.htm>

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

North Korea
Norway

Nothing of use.

1) Norwegian Embassy in Washington DC runs a Norwegian Christmas cultural festival event at Union Station, for/staffed by expats - 2003 was the 7th year.
<http://www.norway.org/xmas03/events3.cfm>

2) Royal Norwegian Embassy in USA has a website very hooked up to issues relevant/of interest to expats
<http://www.norway.org>
Regular newsletter with news from Norway, & links to Norwegian media & USA media on Norway. In particular, I liked their focus on historical & cultural themes (e.g. history of immigration of Norwegians to USA, Norwegian education) as well as easily-accessible government information on topics such as the federal budget, research & technology, etc. Overall, a good model for an expat portal. They've even asked for expats to answer a short survey - these are the 3 questions & some answers posted. 1: Is there a need for a clear conception of Norway's image abroad? 2: Name three things that you associate with Norway; 3: The Public Diplomacy Report suggests four ideas for promoting Norway abroad. Which one do you prefer? Do you have any other suggestions?

Oman

Nothing of use.

Pakistan

1) Website specifically outreaching to expats to participate in development & culture of Pakistan.
<http://www.pakistanpost.com/us.htm>

No expat issues specifically mentioned, but definitely targeted to expats to build relationships & keep in touch with motherland.

Palau

Nothing of use.

Panama

Nothing of use.

Papua New Guinea

Nothing of use.

Paraguay

Nothing of use.

Peru

Nothing of use.

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

Philippines

1) 2004 Article in the Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA) "Filipinos gain rights" Posted January 25 2004. Excerpts of issues: 1) New law in the Philippines, the Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act of 2003, will allow Filipino expats to hold dual citizenship & vote in Philippine elections; 2) The law will also allow people who lost their Philippines citizenship by becoming U.S. citizens to reapply for citizenship while continuing to maintain their status in the US; 3) Can apply for dual status by taking an oath of allegiance (must provide proof that they are a natural born citizen of the Philippines). 4) Filipino residents in South Florida (about 14,300 according to the 2000 census); 5) Benefits of applying for dual citizenship status - the right to vote and hold public office, assume the obligations of being a citizen of the Philippines (e.g. doctors and nurses must be Philippine citizens to practice there), the ownership of land by non-citizens is restricted in the Philippines, and citizens will be better able to obtain property.

3) Congressional information on loss of citizenship <http://www.congress.gov.ph/download/billtext/hb02531.pdf>

2) 2003 article mentioning dual-citizenship as well as the recently signed Absentee Voting Act that allows 7 milliono Filipino expats to vote http://www.manilatimes.net/national/2003/may/30/top_story/s/20030530top10.html

Philippinrs (ctd)

4) The Manila Times publishes a Filipino language newspaper in Hong Kong specifically for expats. <http://www.manilatimes.net/national/2003/aug/09/opinion/20030809opif1.html>

Poland

Portugal

Nothing of use.

1) Website of Portuguese foreign ministry "The site is also a source of practical information for foreign nationals resident in Portugal and Portuguese expatriates, such as, in particular, the contact addresses of Portuguese embassies and consulates throughout the world, and of foreign diplomatic missions in Portugal. A special site designed for Portuguese communities abroad supplements these services." The rest is in Portuguese. <http://www.min-nestrangeiros.pt/mnel/>

Qatar

Romania

Nothing of use.

1) Found a website in Romanian that I believe is called "Romanians United" & has the word "diaspora" in it. http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/6685/romania/rom_diaspora.html

2) This website is for the Romanian diaspora with a lot of links, again in Romanian so it's unclear is any expat issues are addressed. http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/6685/romania/rom_diaspora.html

Russia

Nothing of use.

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Rwanda

Samoa

Sao Tome and Principe

**Saudi Arabia
Senegal**

Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.

1) Article (in English) announced that a group of Senegalese expats met up in NY, USA in 2000 where discussions focused on how to create an effective mechanism that will coordinate direct efforts and participation of the Senegalese Diaspora in developing their country. Three themes emerged from discussions: 1) How to re-organize and strengthen the current Senegalese expatriate movement; 2) The need to redefine the relationship between Senegalese expatriates and their country so that actions and participation to modernize the country can be more direct and coordinated; and 3) How to mobilize the support of friends and partners of Senegal around activities that can help rebuild the country, such as the creation of a strong lobby for Senegal in the United States.
<http://www.africaaction.org/docs00/sen0009.htm>
There is mention of a group, in French, in the article CORISEN (Comité d'Organisation de la Rencontre Internationale des Sénégalais de l'Extérieur à New York), that may provide links to French websites that may perhaps have information as to what has happened since.

**Serbia and Montenegro
(Former Yugoslavia, Federal
Republic of)**

1) A group in the Project Management profession for Serbia & Montenegro promoting international collaboration, embodiment of standards in government, networking, etc. Stipulation of several expats on the board & seems to be run by expats, <http://www.pmi-yu.org/index.htm>
Expatriate issues not specifically mentioned.

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Singapore

Nothing of use.
Nothing of use.

1) Found a website with the right idea, just seems long on words & short on action... The Singapore International Foundation (SIF) is a non-profit organisation founded in 1991. Its mission is "to enable Singaporeans everywhere to think globally, feel Singaporean, be responsible world citizens and foster friendships for Singapore." SIF is funded by contributions from both the public & private sectors of Singapore. <http://www.sif.org.sg/>
Expatriate issues aren't specifically mentioned.

2) UNILCO, Union of Local Initiatives for Co-Development, UNILCO's main goal is to help the Senegalese living abroad as well as in Senegal to participate in the developing process of their homeland and to raise the living standards of their relatives.
<http://perso.club-internet.fr/unilco/summary.htm>
There is much more info in French - this is only from the English summary. Mentions the Senegalese Expatriates Higher Committee.

3rd Reference

2nd Reference

1st Reference

State

Slovak Republic

Nothing of use.

Slovenia

Nothing of use.

Solomon Islands

Nothing of use.

Somalia

South Africa

1) Website for the study, analysis and research of South African emigration" - statistics, mention of a survey conducted on expats, why they leave, etc. Built around a book on the survey. Expat issues not specifically addressed. <http://southafricanmigration.com/SAEmigration.htm>

South Korea

Nothing of use.

Spain and Andorra

Nothing of use.

Sri Lanka

Nothing of use.

St. Kitts & Nevis

Nothing of use.

St. Lucia

Nothing of use.

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Sudan

1) Sudanese Ministry of Science & Technology website which acknowledges expats under Intellectual property and know-how - mentions the compilation of a database of Sudanese expatriates & implementation of programmes to benefit from the experience of the Sudanese expatriates <http://www.sudan-most.net/sectors/irtsector.htm>

Suriname

Nothing of use.

Swaziland

Nothing of use.

Sweden

1) Swedish federal govt (Foreign Ministry) partnered with others in 2000 to set up website offering services to "make life easier" for Swedish expats. Website is www.karloskar.com - their slogan is "Bringing Sweden to your doorstep". The website is all in Swedish so I can't ascertain content but it looks professional. 2000 (English) article announcement of the website launch at http://www.findarticles.com/cf_dis/m0BNG/2000_June_8/62596467/p1/article.html

2) Website for Swedish expats/foreign born Swedes. News & forums, but most of the site is in Swedish so I can't see if expat issues are mentioned. <http://www.internationalswede.com/>

State

Switzerland & Liechtenstein

1st Reference

1) Council of the Swiss Abroad represents the interests of Swiss expatriates before the Swiss authorities and public opinion. <http://www.aso.ch/english/500e.htm>
Appears to be a watering hole for 750+ Swiss expat groups worldwide, comprehensive, addresses expat issues/services abroad & for those returning home.

2nd Reference

2) Swiss Brains website for highly skilled Swiss expats planning on returning home. Mentions a collection of expat stories & the number of expats at 600,000.
<http://www.swissbrains.ch/>

3rd Reference

3) Press release for the collection of expat stories (in German)
<http://www.swissbrains.ch/facts/news/Presstextdreyer.pdf>

Switzerland & Liechtenstein (ctd)

4) 2003 Article on Swiss expat issues, includes voting with limitations & rights. Mentions an online survey of Swiss abroad voting behavior, results soon to be released.
<http://www.nzz.ch/2003/08/30/english/page-synd4172139.html>

Syria

1) 2003 article on visit of Syria's expat minister visiting the USA
<http://www.arabicnews.com/ansub/Daily/Day/031212/2003121207.html>

2) 2000 article citing Syrian expats voting abroad
http://www.guardian.co.uk/Archive/Article/0,4273,4038983,0_0.html

Found some other articles on this minister, but mostly because she often voices opinion on Israeli issues more often than she does on expat issues.

Taiwan

1) 2003 article highlighting Taiwanese expats, cites approx 1 million expats = 4% of population
http://www.pfb.org/Content/ContentGroups/Articles/03/Emerging_Epidemics_in_China.htm

Tajikistan

Nothing of use.

Tanzania (Zanzibar)

Nothing of use.

Thailand

1) Article on 2000 Thai election, first one allowing Thai expats to vote. Also references the constitutional segment allowing them to do so. http://www.thaimain.org/cgi-bin/newsdesk_perspect.cgi?a=5&t=index_2.html

2) Report on expat voter turnout for the same election (>23%). <http://www.ect.go.th/english/national/senate/nait4-2.html>

3) Another article on expat voter turnout for that election, citing 42000 Thai expats registering to vote at Thai consulates/embassies. http://www.thaimain.org/cgi-bin/newsdesk_perspect.cgi?a=226&t=index_2.html

Togo

Nothing of use.

Tonga

Nothing of use.

Trinidad & Tobago

Nothing of use.

State

1st Reference

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

Tunisia

- 1) Appears to be a government website targeting Tunisian expats, but in French so I am not sure. Looks like it mentions social security, housing, investments, returning to Tunisia, education/scholarships, & other administrative issues. <http://www.tunisiens.tn/francais/index.html>
- 2) Website aiming to consolidate expats in the USA, nothing much else mentioned. <http://www.tunisiancommunity.org/>
- 3) 2002 Referendum where President specifically mentions value of Tunisian expats <http://www.referendum-tunisie.org/english/referendum/speeches/270202eng.pdf>

Turkey

- 1) Turkish expats in the UK - website has scant English subtitles, but I couldn't figure out the gist of their mission. Has the usual message boards & news. No expat issues as far as I can see. <http://www.ukturks.org.uk/index.php>

Turkmenistan

Nothing of use.

Turks and Caicos

Nothing of use.

Tuvalu

Nothing of use.

Uganda

Nothing of use.

Ukraine

Nothing of use.

United Arab Emirates

Nothing of use.

United Kingdom and

- 1) "Frozen pensions in the media" - <http://www.britishepensions.bc.ca/Media.html> . Apparently, British pensioner expats are experiencing problems with pensions that were frozen by the UK government (worldwide), for not being pro-rated or adjusted for inflation, or rules of payment make them targets for heavy tax/poor exchange rates, etc, or discriminated against b/c they live in formerly Commonwealth countries. Trying to organise themselves to focus political attention on the situation. All articles are recent, w/in last 6 months - House of Lords to hear appeals in March 2004.

Gibraltar (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland)

- 2) Loads of websites, none dealing specifically with advocacy or expat-homecountry relations/policy.

United States of America

- 1) Website targeting American democrats living abroad - "Keeping Americans abroad informed of their rights and helping them to participate in the U.S. political process, even though they are far from home." Lots of information for overseas voters, especially with current democratic primaries/caucuses going on in USA. Recognised as a "state" committee by the DNC (Democratic National Party) with 8 members representing the expat community. <http://www.democratsabroad.org/>

- 2) Same thing for Republicans abroad <http://www.republicansabroad.org/whoweare.htm>

- 3) 2002 Article detailing repatriation of Americans - reasons why usually unsuccessful. Expatriates: Problems on Returning <http://www.transcomm.ox.ac.uk/traces/iss10pg2.htm>

State

1st Reference

4) Feb 2004 article "Pentagon halts Internet voting system"
<http://www.cnn.com/2004/ALLPOLITICS/02/05/elec04.prez.internet.voting/>

Excerpts: Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment (SERVE) could not guarantee voting records would be kept secure, thereby calling into question the integrity of the process. SERVE was designed to replace "snail mail" absentee ballots with an Internet-based system. A military member would have been able to use a Windows-based computer and an Internet browser to vote without having to wait for a paper absentee ballot. It was expected to be particularly valuable for personnel in remote locations such as rural Iraq or Afghanistan. Voters also would be able to register to vote, check the status of their registration or ballot availability, request a ballot and see their vote counted.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

Nothing of use.

1) A group of Venezuelans in Miami, FL, USA, collecting petition signatures to oust President Chavez - Venezuelan government won't recognise signatures from Venezuelans abroad so they're going to the OAS & UN to appeal.

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/7400996.htm>

Consulate says only 7000 in Florida are registered to vote overseas in Venezuelan elections, & they come out in droves to do so.

1) Interesting article on "Vietnamese expats & Vietnam: Challenges & Opportunities". No date, but written within the past 2 years.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/about/pdfs/vietnam.pdf>

Specifically mentions the government's recognition of the value of its expats & outreach (if you can call it that) efforts so far. Expat issues not mentioned.

2nd Reference

3rd Reference

Uruguay

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Venezuela

Vietnam

2) Article on "Back for Tet, Vietnamese expatriates see changed nation" with interesting observations
<http://mail.saigon.com/pipermail/vnforum/2003-February/000822.html>. Seems the Vietnamese government is officially trying to make it easier for expats to return home. Mentions a Ho Chi Minh City Committee on Overseas Vietnamese.

3) No expatriate-advocacy groups found, but concerns about culture & language abound, mentions of using expats to improve Viet Nam's human rights image, & luring their 2.5 million expats into investing more money in Viet Nam.

State

Yemen

1st Reference

1) Website talking about expats in Saudi Arabia & how to utilise them for Yemen's benefit. <http://www.ain-al-yadeen.com/issues/20030103/index.htm> . Expat issues not specifically mentioned.

2nd Reference

2) An article mentioning the 2nd Yemeni Expatriates conference in Saudi, with mention of a list of proposed topics inc. a comprehensive field survey of Yemeni expats, an executive bill on expatriate care, social securities, employment preferences for Yemeni expat family members at embassies, education preferences for Yemeni expat family members for scholarships targeted at Yemenis, an expat bank, & an expat ministry. Even mentions advertising using expat grapevines, & producing cultural TV shows for satellite transmission on official TV channel specifically targeting Yemeni expat communities abroad.<http://www.yementimes.com/02/iss39/b&e.htm>
No OEIG mentioned.

3rd Reference

Zambia

1) A website called the Great North Road for expats from Northern Rhodesia <http://www.greatnorthroad.org> - they do call themselves a diaspora, although admittedly a small one. Apparently they conducted a survey in 2002 but no results are posted yet.
<http://www.greatnorthroad.org/survey/0209.php> .

2) Another website at <http://www.rhodesia.com/> linking up resources for Rhodesian diaspora.

Zimbabwe

1) Found a bunch of stories on Zimbabweans expats (mostly exiles) running under the name of Concerned Zimbabweans Abroad, focussed on political issues within Zimbabwe & not on expat issues.

2) Also, a mention of expats bringing/sending other currencies home that contribute to the economy at - <http://m1.mny.co.za/mnbsbx.nsf/0/C2256B190030A01742256CCA00450883?OpenDocument>

Other useful sites:

- 1) Digital Diaspora Network - Africa <http://www.ddn-africa.org/> The Digital Diaspora Network - Africa is a collaborative effort between the United Nations ICT Task Force, the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Digital Partners, and Gruppo CERFE seeking to promote development in Africa and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through mobilizing the technological, entrepreneurial and professional expertise and resources of the African Diaspora. The objective is to build a network of entrepreneurs from Africa living in North America and Europe who will contribute to promoting digital opportunities in Africa. Also, an article on the characteristics of the African Diaspora at <http://www.dawn.com/2003/09/04/int16.htm>
- 2) 1999 UNESCO paper on Scientific Diasporas - talks about issues & lists official projects to combat brain drain <http://www.unesco.org/most/meyer.htm>
- 3) International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) - has actively conducted citizen surveys regarding several country's electoral practices/realities & reports in standardised form. Watch dog for elections worldwide. I did a quick search of some of the reports, but expatriates were not mentioned. A new category for their surveys? http://www.ifes.org/new_initiatives/surveys.htm

- 4) European Diasporas Org <http://www.europeandiasporas.org/index.stm> Watering hole for expats/diasporas for EU countries
- 5) "Under Two Flags: Dual Nationality in Latin America & It's Consequences for the United States" by Michael Jones-Correa. Paper mentioning Ecuadorian expatriates' 1967 petition for voting rights abroad, plus other expat & dual citizenship issues - many other countries are covered.
http://drci.las.fas.harvard.edu/publications/PDFs/jones_correa.pdf

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