Leveraging Diasporas for Doing Business in Africa

Moderator: Liesl Riddle, PhD
- Associate Professor of International Business & International Affairs
- Co-founder of GW Diaspora Research Program
- GW-CIBER Faculty Advisor for Diaspora Investment & Entrepreneurship
- Director of the GW Diaspora Capital Investment Project

Migration by the Numbers

- Number of international migrants more than doubled 1975-2000
- ~200 million migrants worldwide; ~ population of Brazil (5th most populous country)
- 2000-2013 the # of black African immigrants living in the U.S. rose 137%, from 574,000 to 1.4 million
The 21st Century Migration Process

- **Return**
  - **Physical**
    - Permanent
    - Temporary
  - **Virtual**

- **Origin**
- **Destination**
  - Transportation Advances
  - Communication Innovations
  - Global Media
  - Decrease in Trade & Investment Barriers
  - Rise of Non-Governmental Organizations

**Migrants as % of Total USA Population**

- 1960: 5.8%
- 1990: Growth since 1990
- 2015: 14.3%
Diasporas

The word, DIASPORA, is from the Greek (διασπορά), meaning "a scattering or sowing of seeds".

1990 AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY ADDITION

Di·as·po·ra (dī-ăs-pər-ə):
n. 1. The dispersion of Jews outside of Israel from the sixth century BC, when they were exiled to Babylonia, until the present time.
2. often Diaspora The body of Jews or Jewish communities outside Palestine or modern Israel.
3. diaspora. A dispersion of a people from their original homeland.
   b. The community formed by such a people: "the glutinous dish known throughout the [West African] diaspora as ... fufu" (Jonell Nash).
4. diaspora A dispersion of an originally homogeneous entity, such as a language or culture: "the diaspora of English into several mutually incomprehensible languages" (Randolph Quirk).

Leveraging the In-Between
Leveraging the In-Between

- **Ndaga Mwakabuta**, Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America
- **Crispin Semakula**, Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America
- **Eric Guichard**, Homestrings
- **Semhar Aria**, Diaspora African Women’s Network