



PROPOSAL PAPER

Transnational Associations & Politics of Co-Development: Haitians in Metropolitan France

Originally from Haiti, a former tourism and healthcare professional, **Clara Rachel** brings an interdisciplinary approach into the research field of migration & local development, and the evolvment of transnational communities throughout the European Union. She holds a BA in International Politics, a MA in International Affairs & Conflict Sociology, and a MPA in strategic public policy with a concentration on migration studies from The American University of Paris.



ABSTRACT

As migration seen as an integral aspect of North-South relations proliferates, so too has the formation of *diaspora* or *transnational communities*, leading to great numbers of people with allegiance straddling their places of origin and their new homelands. My attempt is to engage in a recent empirical research on Haitians Abroad in metropolitan France while testing the current and future potentialities of a policy formulated as *co-development*. Against a complex theoretical background from transnational theory to *bounded solidarity* concept, the relevance of some central interrogations in this study is put forth: how do migrants' associations constitute themselves as transnational actors who in turn play a key role in the development of their regions of origin? How do transnational structures interact with governmental efforts to promote development initiatives? While the current literature shows near absence of a detailed documentation on border-crossing practices engaging Haitian migrants in France, my paper intends to fill this gap while demonstrating the necessity to bring about a *bottom up* approach in the formulation of migratory policy across EU countries.