



DIASPORA NEWSLETTER

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Diaspora engagement at IOM Germany



Nigerian diaspora

IOM Germany meets with key leaders

On 23 September, IOM Germany met with representatives of leading Nigerian diaspora organizations in the format of a focus group discussion to learn more about the characteristics, community engagement and needs of the Nigerian community in Germany.

As an added value, the discussion provided an informal networking opportunity for the participants!



Flowers and Stones

Mental health and psycho-social support handbook for Syrian men in Germany

The **Self-Care Handbook for Syrian Men in Germany** is based on the experiences of Syrian men living in Germany, supplemented by the perspectives of sisters, mothers, wives and daughters.

It reflects the practical and emotional challenges they faced and serves as a guide for identifying the strengths and

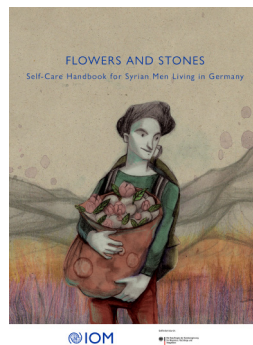
resources that an individual possesses, which they can use to overcome difficulties.



Watch the accompanying animated video

The handbook was developed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Germany with funding from the **German Federal Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration**.

[Download the handbook →](#)



Available in English, German, and Arabic

demic, IOM Germany has been partnering with **The African Network of Germany e.V. (TANG)** on virtual awareness raising events covering the status of Covid-19 in Germany, and the availability of vaccinations.

The events were held in partnership with **Dr. Cihan Çelik**, a pneumologist and doctor for internal medicine, and **Dr. med Terence Afube**, member of the Nigerian Medical Association.

The events targeted migrants from Africa living in Germany and focused on the importance of vaccinations in preventing the spread of COVID-19, and refuting myths and misconceptions surrounding the virus and vaccination. In total, 118 participants have attended.

Access to healthcare

Partnering with diaspora organizations to raise awareness

IOM Germany collaborated with the African women migrants association, **Maisha e.V.**, to hold a virtual event on access to healthcare for the African community in Germany.

Featuring contributions from Virginia Wangare Greiner, director of Maisha e.V., and Dr. Rev. Garnet Parris, the event was attended by a diverse audience.



COVID-19 awareness

Partnering with diaspora organizations to raise awareness

Since the start of the Covid-19 pan-

Innovative strategies on diaspora engagement across IOM missions



iDiaspora

A virtual tool to connect diasporas

iDiaspora is a global engagement and knowledge exchange hub created by IOM to bring together diaspora communities and international organizations, policymakers and global communities interested in development. **iDiaspora** provides comprehensive, regularly updated data and analysis related to diaspora, and showcases successful diaspora partnerships.



Watch the promotional video

By signing up, you can share your thoughts, get your questions answered by experts, participate in events, learn about funding opportunities and project management, read about best practices in other communities and connect globally.

Sign up →

Building Trust, Mobilizing Resources and Ensuring Sustainability

Insights and Reflections paper

The first two Virtual Global Diaspora Exchanges in 2020 and 2021 brought together nearly 300 stakeholders from the diaspora engagement ecosystem across the Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia, including diaspora leaders, academia, private sector, NGOs and policymakers.

This paper focuses on three key themes for diaspora and international actors engaging with them – building trust horizontally and vertically, mobilizing resources to strengthen the work of diaspora organizations and ensuring the sustainability of diaspora development initiatives.

Download the paper →



Insights and Reflections paper

The Future of Diasporas

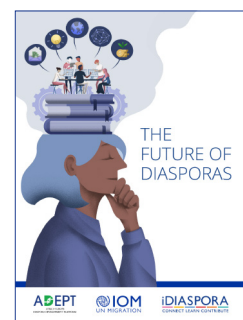
IOM report on diaspora engagement

The Future of Diasporas contains 12 refreshing, thought-provoking articles by diaspora experts. The collection of stories sheds light on the potential that diaspora communities around the world have for countries of residence and origin.



Examples of articles include “A world without diasporas”, “Africans in the diaspora: A force for good”, “Intergenerational diaspora engagement: Thinking in the long term”.

Download the report →



The Future of Diasporas report



Q&A with Diaspora Talk

Tanja and Rafael are the founders and hosts of the hit podcast Diaspora Talk: A podcast from global diaspora for global diaspora.

Who is behind the podcast?

“Tanja, we don’t know each other but what do you think about the idea of hosting a podcast for the diaspora together?” This question was the beginning of the “Diaspora Talk podcast” journey.

Tanja is a local of Hamburg, Germany and Accra, Ghana. She is one of the lead project coordinators of the NPO Future of Ghana Germany e.V.

Rafael is a local of Lima, Peru and Karlsruhe, Germany. He has lived half of his life in Peru and the other half in Germany. He is founder of the NPO Latinka e.V.

What is the podcast’s objective?

A podcast from the global diaspora for the global diaspora—this has not yet been done in Germany.

The voluntary work of diaspora organizations in the countries of origin is a treasure that needs a voice. The contribution of these organizations for a better world needs a voice to make the fascinating know-how of these people and organizations better known.

The podcast gives diaspora organiza-

tions the opportunity to become more known, to bring their ideas to the world and thereby expand their own network and the space of exchange opportunities.

What is the biggest challenge you face in running this podcast?

The podcast does not cover a mainstream topic and there are still many prejudices about migrants in Germany. We would like to start an overall social dialogue that opens new perspectives. Through our platform we offer different diaspora organizations a voice and thus show the diversity in society and want to empower the migrant organizations and show appreciation.

What makes a podcast different from other formats?

The power of voice and the power of listening to each other without the necessity of using the eyes for watching something on the screen has a magic power to transport people’s experiences.

Want to hear more from Diaspora Talk?

[Listen now →](#)



Other podcast recommendations



OSTALGIE

Podcast on the challenges, anecdotes, and stereotypes migrants from the former Soviet Union face in Germany, with Mark Filatov and Vitali Zestovskih.

[Listen now →](#)



KANACKISCHE WELLE

Podcast on post-migration and identity topics with Malcolm Ohanwe and Marcel Aburakia, in collaboration with funk from ARD/ZDF.

[Listen now →](#)



RICE AND SHINE

Two Vietnamese-German female journalists, Minh Thu Tran and Vanessa Vu, on societal and cultural topics based on personal experiences.

[Listen now →](#)

Check out the latest diaspora news from Germany



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GIZ Diaspora Forum 2021

This year's Diaspora Forum took place from 17-19 September. The annual networking forum for diaspora organizations and political actors on all matters diaspora and development in Germany is organized by the Programme Migration & Diaspora (PMD), implemented by the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH** on behalf of the **German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**.

This year's hybrid edition – “Diaspora in the New Normal” – brought together over 150 participants from different communities, associations, and umbrella organizations. Participants worked for three days in various formats, discussing the future of diaspora cooperation, the role of institutions in diaspora cooperation, and the future of implementing projects in a “physital” reality.

Learn more about the PMD and its events here: www.diaspora2030.de



Creating jobs and spreading health awareness in Africa!

In 2021, **Mapubi e.V.** devoted itself to two development projects in Africa:

One Million Jobs

Promoting job creation in Africa by educating young leaders, especially women, in entrepreneurship, digital jobs and marketing. Includes career counselling and mentoring in Nigeria on entrepreneurship, mentoring and a talent hub in Cameroon.

[Visit the website](#) ➔

One Million Lives

Educating community leaders and health care practitioners in preventive healthcare measures for their communities. Includes workshops to facilitate knowledge exchange and early diagnosis of diseases.

Overview of the Mapubi e.V. partnership with GIZ in [English](#) or [German](#)



An umbrella organization for the Syrian diaspora

Founded in 2013, **Verband Deutsch-Syrischer Hilfsvereine e.V.** is an

alliance of Syrian diaspora organizations pursuing peace, freedom and democracy for the Syrian people - in Germany as in Syria.

Click on the video to watch the latest content from the organization or:

[Visit the website](#) ➔

This Side of Africa | Süddeutsche Zeitung

“Anyone who calls Edith Otiende-Lawani has her on the phone immediately. The 35-year-old is always available. She has to be, because this Haar resident is on a mission. In 2017, she founded the association Giving Africa a New Face. The association advocates a paradigm shift in both development cooperation and integration.

Otiende-Lawani came to Haar as an au pair from Kenya— *Cont. on next page*

Continued from previous page

This Side of Africa | Süddeutsche Zeitung

Today, she is one of the most influential personalities and the most important contact person for the African diaspora community in the Munich district..."

Writes Leo Kilz from the Süddeutsche Zeitung

[Read the full article →](#)

Check out the *Diaspora Talk* podcast episode with Edith Otiende-Lawani from GAANF e.V.!

[Listen now →](#)



A German-African initiative

Le Chantier - Afrikawerkstatt e.V. is a joint initiative by African and German people from different academic and cultural disciplines engaged in development and intercultural education. Most development cooperation projects are implemented in Cameroon and Togo through a "synergy" between three women from three countries: Germany, Cameroon and Togo.

[Visit the website →](#)

Building bridges for development and integration

German-Africa Insight (GAI) e.V. focuses on integration, migration, intercultural and international cooperation. Its goal is to promote the socio-economic and political integration of African immigrants in Germany, and implement sustainable development



Translating everyday German for new Afghan arrivals

Afghanic e.V., an Afghan diaspora organization headed by Dr. Yahya Wardak, created the pocket handbook/dictionary "Deutsch für Afghanen" ("German for Afghans") to help with the arrival and integration of Afghans to Germany. The handbook is available in both Pashto and Dari!

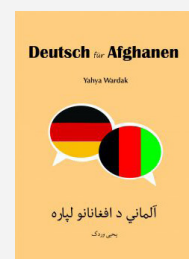
[Visit the website →](#)

It is a helpful tool for newly arriving migrants from Afghanistan, helping them translate and learn basic phrases that they need from

their first day in Germany. The handbook is a helpful tool and a great idea for how diaspora actors can support new arrivals!

[Download the handbook in Dari →](#)

[Download the handbook in Pashto →](#)



Available in Dari and Pashto

projects in Africa. **GAI** supports African youth, especially women, in their vocational training and career development.

A sanitary pad project Enugu, Nigeria

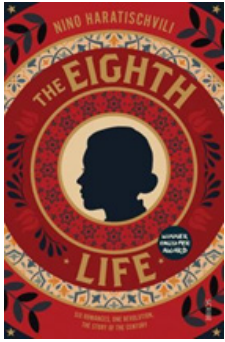
With the financial support of the **State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg** through the Stiftung Entwicklungs-Zusammenarbeit Baden-Württemberg (SEZ), **GAI** has provided over 6,000 schoolgirls in Nigeria with

reusable sanitary napkins that have a long usage period, reducing the number of discarded disposable sanitary napkins as non-recyclable and hazardous waste in the community.

[Visit the website →](#)

Cultural tips!

Book recommendations



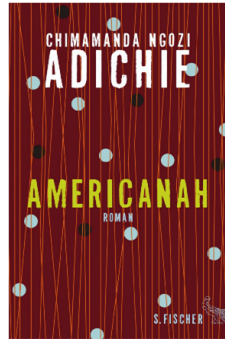
The Eighth Life

Nino Haratischvili, 2014

Long-listed for the Booker Award, Georgian-German Nino Haratischvili's latest book spans six generations between 1900 and the present day, telling the history of the Soviet Union through storylines in Georgia, Moscow, London and Berlin.

Available in English and German.

[Read more →](#)



Americanah

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2013

A story that begins in Nigeria and leads the protagonists along independent journeys in different countries. A must-read for all interested in the interplay of migration, identity, and personal growth.

Available in English, German, Spanish, Italian, and others.

[Read more →](#)

Film recommendations



The Man Who Sold His Skin

2020

In a tale on the interplay of art and the search for love and freedom, a young Syrian man agrees to have his body turned into a work of art in exchange for permission to travel to Europe. The film will premiere in February 2022 in Berlin, Hamburg and Munich.

[Read more →](#)

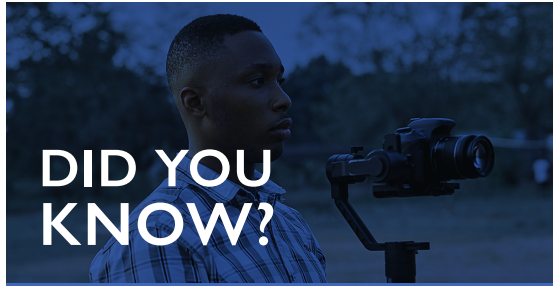


Futur Drei

2020

A coming-of-age film about a German-Iranian group of friends that touches on the themes of migration, belonging and integration in Germany from an LGBTQ+ perspective. Winner of the "Teddy Award" at Berlin Film Festival in 2020.

[Read more →](#)



Check out: Nollywood!

Currently the third most valuable film industry in the world, Nigerian cinema dates back to the start of filmmaking itself! After the production of the first feature film *Palaver* in 1926, cinemas became a common feature of Nigerian social life throughout the early 1930s-40s.

Accompanying Nigeria's independence in 1960, the film business rapidly grew, launching the Golden age of Nigerian cinema. In the late 2000s, Nollywood even surpassed the United States in terms of the number of annually produced films, placing it directly behind India.

Today, high-quality movies as *The Figurine*, *Half of a Yellow Sun* and *The Wedding Party* are popular not only across the African continent but also amongst pan-African diaspora communities in Europe and the United Kingdom.



Almanya: Welcome to Germany

2011

A German classic—This film is a tragic comedy about a multi-generational German-Turkish family raising questions of belonging and identity.

[Read more →](#)