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**Opportunities
in Germany &
Ghana**

03 OPPORTUNITIES IN GERMANY & GHANA

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#DEFYHATENOW | CHAPTER 3

OPPORTUNITIES IN GERMANY & GHANA

#PlanB4UPack

What are the opportunities for regular migration?

- Scholarships for studies
- Working for international NGOs or companies

What are the opportunities for a successful career in West Africa?

How do I explore, recognise, create or access opportunities in rural areas?

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN GERMANY

What sort of resources are useful, and where did you find them?

"Most Ghanaian students use the **DAAD** or **Uni-assist** websites. Mine was actually the website through the school. I checked the requirements and applied directly. Everything was online. A little phone call here and there. I got some information from the Embassy because you need to process your documents and validate them. While you do that you need to talk to people and get the information you need from them. I used the website from my school at Arden University campus in Berlin at the University of Applied Science of Europe in Potsdamer Platz."

Entervarsity

<https://entervarsity.com/>

A free university search engine, for students all over Africa looking for detailed and reliable information on universities and colleges. We collect information on tuition, programs, location, extracurricular activities, and everything else needed to ensure prospective students are fully prepared to apply and attend.

Online resources for prospective students

DAAD <https://www.daad.de/en/>

Uni-assist <https://www.uni-assist.de/>

Aachen university applied science <https://www.fh-aachen.de/en/>

Online resources for Graduates or Experts

CIM program - <https://www.cimonline.de/en/html/returning-experts.html>

Afrika Kommt - <https://www.afrika-kommt.de/>



MIGRANT PERSPECTIVES - GHANA TO GERMANY

Are there any existing Ghanaian community frameworks in Germany?

"Ghanaians are very social, we don't live in isolation. When I meet you here, we are already family. Back home we have a social system, we always want to recreate that."

How could the EU better support migrants from Ghana?

"The embassies need to liaise with the German Government. For example, to get a place to stay, to get a

good job, all these things need to be supported by the Ghanaian embassy. Creating a community where everyone feels at home.

Creating a community is not just online-based; like virtual contacts of people just sharing pictures. It has to do more with having physical contact, talking to them, getting advice and having a dialogue to know the current status and needs of their stay.

The Counselor (The Ghana Embassy), announced that they are trying to find a way so Ghanaians can send money back home securely. By doing that they are trying to open a bank here; which is going to help Ghanaians to transfer money back home."



RESOURCES & INFORMATION FOR MIGRANTS IN EUROPE

Make it in Germany: <https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/>

Arriving in Berlin: <https://arriving-in-berlin.de/>

Couchsurfing: <https://www.couchsurfing.com/>

Centre for Entrepreneurs: <https://centreforentrepreneurs.org/networks/>

Give Something Back to Berlin: <https://gsbtb.org/de/#!/>

Mentor Project: <http://www.mentorproject.eu/>

Migrant Women Network: <https://www.migrantwomennetwork.org/>

Migration Hub: <https://www.migrationhub.network/joinus>

Kiron University

<https://kiron.ngo/>

A free online portal for higher education entirely designated for refugees.

Refugees on Rails

<http://refugeesonrails.org/en/>

Teaches newcomers how to code, giving refugees tools to better integrate into society.



GHANA & REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

FACILITATORS: DISCUSS OPTIONS AT HOME

Introduce discussion for prospective migrants on the options at home:

- Realistic measures and things that they can do at home.
- Share success stories of people who have made it at home.
- Show the high cost and risky process of irregular migration, compared to what they could with the money to realize positive outcomes at home.
- Help them develop a plan of what else they could do with the money they spent years saving – a brief outline of what their money could be used for instead.
- Give examples of how people in Ghana can develop business/ NGO ideas which can pique the interest of Europeans and investors who will then be interested in what they are doing and can even fund them to come to Europe for a visit.



PLAY VIDEO [USB DRIVE]

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS - GHANA EPISODE 1

<https://youtu.be/Z5jN84SF79Q>

Zoom Africa TV, 2019

Ghanaian young entrepreneurs share their experiences.

Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa

<https://youtu.be/DJ5y8dsNwx4>

GPA Interactive, December 2018

From securing capital and scaling a business to gaining access to buyers, the program addresses challenges that women entrepreneurs often face. U.S. and Africa-based business women share best practices and success stories. The increased participation of women in the economy is a valuable source of expertise and leadership for businesses but also empowers and strengthens families and communities. Women also reinvest a large portion of their incomes locally, advancing economic growth and stability.

Rural Africa, Women Entrepreneurs: Sohua's story

<https://youtu.be/gh0aFtnZ8LA>

Campaign for Female Education, 2016



MIGRANT PERSPECTIVES - WHAT YOU CAN OFFER

If you put a framework for people who might say "either I take my chances or die," what would work as a structure for the person to follow through in Ghana?

Give them simple, visible, practical & tangible business ideas.

Creating a concrete thing, for example, in farming:

In Ghana, we have people working arts, artifacts and bags with local materials.

Getting people skills, they can use. For example, Batik tie and dye fabrics.

Many of these businesses have died out but it is very easy to train.

How would you help people making this decision having informed choices?

“

I tell people that you, first of all, need to know what you can offer, because wherever you are, I really believe there is a potential of you becoming whoever you want to become. So, I always encourage first of all, consider your skills. what can you offer?

”

And once you identify two-three things you can offer even if it is one, where does the opportunity exist? Who needs the skill? Who needs my offer? If it is Germany or it is any part of Europe, the USA or within Africa, then you find a way to let them know that you exist. If they know that you exist and they really need you, the going becomes very easy. You don't need to struggle and now there are so many opportunities to make our skill popular. Because almost everywhere we have access to social media platforms.

So, if you think that you have something to offer. If it is a skill in speaking, drawing or whatsoever is; make sure that people within your locality know that you have that skill, make sure that people within your country know that you have that skill, maybe the next village somebody is there and willing to pay a price

you would demand, but they never knew that you have the skill. For me, that is the only way to actually realize whether you even need to travel to a European country or the US. Once you discover this you might not even want to travel.



CASE STUDY: ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO FIGHT POVERTY

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Ghana will grow faster than any other economy in 2019, slowly leaving behind decades of economic crisis, a general impoverishment of the population and famine. However, in spite of a blossoming economy, Ghana's GDP per capita is roughly half that of developing and emerging economies.³⁸ Young people in Ghana between the ages of 15 and 35 make up about 33.5% of the population, and the youth enter the job market with limited to no work experience.³⁹ In 2018, unemployed youth made up 13.7% of the country's population.⁴⁰

The president of All Across Africa, Alicia Wallace, states that "entrepreneurship can be harnessed to fuel positive, sustainable global impact much faster than any other form of social good."⁴¹ In the Ghanaian context, a study from the Global Journal of Business Research argues that entrepreneurship in Ghana could be a solution for youth unemployment, underemployment and vulnerable employment. It stresses that given the fact that the majority of the African youth live in rural areas, entrepreneurship programs for the youth should also be primarily concentrated in rural regions.⁴²

Educating for entrepreneurship has the goal to enhance the development of real life skills and behaviours, and some authors say that the ultimate goal is to shift thinking and behavioural patterns.⁴³ Online learning platforms such as Coursera, edX, Futurelearn, Iversity, Udacity, Openlearning, Openlearn, Alison and Canvas Network offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) devoted to entrepreneurship, skill building and business start-ups.⁴⁴

Open Learning Guide by r0g_agency offers an introduction to open learning resources.

<https://openculture.agency/open-learning-guide/>

<https://openculture.agency/outcomes/open-hardware-guide/>

Class Central entrepreneurship courses:

<https://www.class-central.com/subject/entrepreneurship>

MOOC list provides more than 100 courses:

<https://www.mooc-list.com/tags/entrepreneurship?static=true>



GHANA JOB SEARCH RESOURCES

Student Jobs Ghana Online Platform

Online platform where students and graduates can find internships and job opportunities.

www.studentjobsgn.com

African Entrepreneurs Hub

My Business Friday, iHUB + Traction, My Business Circle. Inspiring young entrepreneurs to build sustainable businesses.

Dei Street Accra, Ghana

+233 30 290 1092

<http://www.aehub.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Aehub.org/>

HAPASPACE

Code4Girls, Thrive, Hatch, UWAT (Unlocking Women & Technology)
Collaborative hub which powers startup business with technology

<https://hapaspace.com/>

Tel : 0322000806 / 0200447661

Email: support@hapaspace.com

Post: P.O. Box KS 224, Kumasi, Ghana

HOPin ACADEMY

A non-profit educational organisation based in Tamale, Ghana designed for students to "hop in and hop out," rather than having strictly organised timetable structures. Offers training, web & social media, business incubator, mentorship, event space, entrepreneurial meet-ups and more!

Yaa Musah Storey Building, Waterworks Rd. Tamale

Tel: 0240466923

<http://www.hopinacademy.org/>

info@hopinacademy.org

MEST Incubator

MEST is a non-profit, Pan African training program, seed fund incubator and hub. Their mission is to create jobs and wealth in Africa by training, supporting and investing in the continent's most promising software entrepreneurs.

No. 20 Aluguntugui Street, Ambassadorial Enclave, East Legon, Accra, Ghana

accra@meltwater.org

<https://meltwater.org/>

Phone: +233 30 274 2921

Ghana Tech & BZ Hubs Network

Hubs in Ghana - innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem enablers across the country - who have come together to use shared ideas and resources to equip innovative individuals with the requisite skills, build capacity to grow local innovations & businesses, jobs creation and generate income.

205/6 2nd Emmause Ln, Labone, Accra

<http://tech-businesshubsgh.org/>

info@tech-businesshubsgh.org

ICODE

Meet. Learn. Build. IT training & mentorship, incubator for entrepreneurship and technology, co-working space and private offices with 24/7 4G internet.

3 Kumasi Rd, Takoradi, Ghana

+233 54 038 9600

<http://icodegh.com/>

TANOE

Hub of Hope for African Entrepreneurs. Offers business development, capacity building, digital marketing, Start-Up 101, financial management, leadership training and incubator for entrepreneurs.

+233 55 774 0130

+233 20 303 3733

+233-302-325844

info@tanoe.org

WORKSHED AFRICA

47 Nungua Link Baatsona

Spintex Road, Accra

+233 303 969 845

joinus@ourworkshed.com

www.ourworkshed.com

Start Finder

Find opportunities, advice and help on the following topics:

- Planning to return to your homeland?
- Searching for new opportunities in your country?
- Seeking advice in your native language?
- Looking for options for regular migration to Germany?

<https://www.startfinder.de/en/home>

Ghanaian-German Centre for Jobs, Migration and Reintegration (MIAC)

Gnat Heights Building, Ground Floor 30 Independence Avenue, Accra

migrationadvicecentreghana@giz.de

Tel:+233556758516

Tel:+233556758517



MIGRANT PERSPECTIVES: SKILLS & ENTERPRISES

What would be an ideal framework to help people who are migrating? For example, a person from a low skilled/ low education background?

It depends on the context. The person is coming here for economic reasons and to find jobs. Sometimes, it is difficult to go back and tell them, "Oh don't migrate through the back door, use the right route". Then "Okay, how do I get through, as all the right routes are taking me out and I can't".

“

The best alternative is to have a good alternative back home for them. The most important things will be: Skills development. Creating enterprises and business that uses these skills back home.

”

It is very important when you are telling them, "these routes are dangerous and these routes are not worth it", you need to give them an alternative.

But if you just give them empty messages, don't go to Libya... they will say if I stay here, I will die anyway, so why wouldn't I just take my chances? Even if Europe wants to reduce mass illegal migration, I think the way should be developing the people. There should be proper and consistent people-centered development.

In Ghana, toothpicks are imported. In Europe, they export everything back to Africa, what they have done is create a problem we have now. We have people who run to Europe because there are no jobs. We use toothpicks in every restaurant in Ghana, and this is something that can be done in Ghana, but they are imported. So, imagine if all the toothpicks used in the restaurant in Ghana, are produced in Ghana, that is a job. For a young man who dropped out of school, he will be making a decent living."



NEXT GEN GHANA: YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR'S GUIDE

Evans Ofori Gyebi has a positive view on the chances and momentum for Ghanaian youth to start a business. Resources available in Ghana include: seminars, workshops, meetings, hubs, accelerators, incubators, coworking spaces and funders. Evans says:

"As a student or young entrepreneur this is the best time in your life to try something new, whether to learn about the entrepreneurial journey or build a great brand. You're surrounded by the best resource you could ever have: peers as driven and brilliant as you are." The website includes success stories from people who made it in Ghana.

Next Gen Ghana Resources Guide

<https://www.ngsummit.com/chapter-resource-guides/ghanaguide>

Success Stories

<https://www.ngsummit.com/successstories>

Kumasi Hive



Kumasi Hive is an Innovation and Entrepreneurship hub which provides comprehensive support to local innovations and business/startups. The hub is a collaborative makerspace located in Kumasi, Ghana for entrepreneurs to prototype ideas, develop sustainable businesses and products that have market value. Offering Co-working space, Event space, Training Space, Maker-space and Hardware studios.

<https://www.facebook.com/kumasihive/>



BOOK 'HOW WE MADE IT IN AFRICA'

"How we made it in Africa", by Jaco Maritz, tells the stories of 25 Africans who have launched thriving businesses. The entrepreneur's stories are told honestly and don't hide the ups and downs that are linked to starting your own business, since founding an enterprise requires a lot of strength, patience, persistence and, of course, dealing with failure. These entrepreneurs share with the readers their success stories, but also the considerable challenges they had to face and hurdles they had to overcome.



<https://book.howwemadeitinafrica.com/>



MIGRANT PERSPECTIVES: RETURNING TO GHANA

"It is people who are migrating. It is how to develop people so they can contribute to society. One way of doing that is through education and building capacity. It opens the door for you. When you are done with your study program, even if it means you stay a couple of years more to gain work experience; you are better equipped to contribute to the knowledge transfer of know-how. You know we always talk about on migration 'brain drain', there is also 'brain-gain'! Your country is also going to benefit from the experiences you made. The time here should also benefit the career prospects.

As you are studying ask yourself: how do I gain this experience to better contribute when I go back, or if I stay here? After my master's studies, I didn't want to stay here (in Germany). When people's capacities are built, they will want to go home. You will never find a doctor who wants to come through a back door. "