

Smart Migration Guide



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Smart Migration Guide

The Gambia

The Gambia Migration Profile

INTRODUCTION TO THE GAMBIA

The Gambia, a small country in West Africa, is home to about 2.2 million people. The western edge borders the Atlantic Ocean and the rest of the country is bordered by Senegal. 96% of the population identify as Sunni Muslims, although the constitution allows the practice of any religion. The Gambia gained independence in 1965 and today is a democratic republic, although women and members of the LGBTQ+ community still face discrimination and lack equal rights.

Source: https://freedomhouse.org/country/gambia/freedom-world/2021

In recent decades, the population has grown rapidly due to high birth rates. The average woman today gives birth to 4 children. Because of this, almost 60% of people are under the age of 25. This trend of a very young population with many children is expected to continue.

Having so many young people represents both a challenge and an opportunity for the country in terms of resources and employment. Unemployment among the youth poses a significant problem and is often cited as a reason for migration.

The overall literacy rate is around 55% and is significantly lower for women than for men.

Source: https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/gambia-the/

The Gambia's economy is based on agriculture and tourism. 56% of the land is used for agriculture. Climate change and weather thus have a large impact on the economy, since they affect crops and harvests. Failed crops can lead to food shortages, increased poverty, and malnutrition.

Source: https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/gambia-the/

MIGRATION IN THE GAMBIA

Migration is a big topic in The Gambia and takes many forms. There is domestic migration, in which people from the more rural areas migrate to urban centers in search of employment. And there is migration abroad, in which individuals leave The Gambia on both regular and irregular routes. Emigrants are often skilled workers. The countries that receive most Gambians are the US, the UK, Spain, Nigeria, and Senegal. About 118,000 Gambians live abroad.

Sources: https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/gambia-the/and https://gambia.iom.int

The Gambia is also a destination country for migrants from surrounding countries, especially those marked by violence and conflicts. The largest group of refugees have arrived from Senegal in the context of the Casamance conflict.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE GAMBIA

Human Trafficking is a huge problem in The Gambia. Sexual tourism and child trafficking are common in the country. Besides being a destination country for trafficking, the Gambia is also a source country, as women and children from The Gambia are trafficked into other countries.

Source: https://borgenproject.org/human-trafficking-in-the-gambia/ and https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/gambia



Smart Migration

The #MMN Smart Migration Guide offers information, discussion topics, and resources to be used by trainers and potential migrants to learn about the impact and consequences of migration. The guide is designed to support individuals in clarifying their goals and in making informed, safer migration decisions.

The Migrant Media Network project supports informed decision making regarding migration by:

- engaging members of the diaspora and having them engage in conversations and facilitate trainings in communities in their home countries.
- providing offline tools to help disseminate information in remote regions where the internet is unstable or hard to access.
- creating a network of trainers in remote regions to help inform those who might otherwise have a harder time accessing accurate information.
- mitigating propaganda, hate speech, and misinformation about migration and human smuggling on social media.
- highlighting positive alternatives to migration.





This guide contains information that can be used to facilitate trainings and provides discussion questions on topics related to migration.

Topics covered include reasons to migrate or not, the dangers and tactics used by human traffickers and smugglers, and how to set SMART goals.

The guide also provides resources on how to access reliable information, connect with others, and find opportunities for employment and study, both at home and abroad.

ONLINE MANIPULATION

While smartphones, the internet, and social media are key tools used by migrants during their journeys, these online platforms have also become a tool for smugglers both to contact potential migrants and to spread false information and lies about migration and Europe.

Online, potential migrants are shown pictures and videos of others living the good life in Europe. But these images have been heavily edited and do not

reflect reality. Additionally, smugglers will offer ways to get to Europe that do not exist - and thereby scam people out of their savings and endanger their lives.

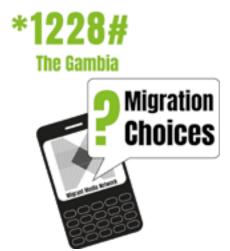
Gaining awareness of the way smugglers operate and being aware of online manipulation can improve people's chances of staying safe and avoiding traps.

#SMARTMIGRATION PATHS

#MMN_USSD SYSTEM: INFORMATION ABOUT MIGRATION CHOICES

The Migrant Media Network uses the USSD system to provide information to people in The Gambia who are thinking about migration. The system is free of charge, works on regular phones without internet, and is well known throughout the country.

For more information about #smartmigration, dialing *1228# will lead to prompts that allow the user to select a topic and receive accurate information.



#MMNAPP: MIGRATION INFORMATION OFFLINE

The Migration Media Network also offers an app, the **#MMNapp**, that works offline and allows users to access migration-related content and accurate information without the need to be connected to the internet (after installing it). The app can be downloaded free of charge and works on all android phones. It can be downloaded from the Google Play store.



CONTENTS

- 01 PLAN BEFORE YOU PACK
- 02 MIGRATION DECISIONS GROUP DISCUSSION
- **03 SPOTTING FALSE INFORMATION GROUP DISCUSSION**
- 04 HUMAN TRAFFICKING &
 IRREGULAR MIGRATION GROUP DISCUSSION
- 05 WOMEN IN MIGRATION GROUP DISCUSSION
- 06 VISA APPLICATION PROCESS group discussion
- 07 STUDIES & SCHOLARSHIPS GROUP DISCUSSION
- 08 POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES

 TO MIGRATION GROUP DISCUSSION
- 09 LIVELIHOOD IDEAS GROUP DISCUSSION
- 10 USEFUL APPS, WEBSITES & PODCASTS



Planning the Journey

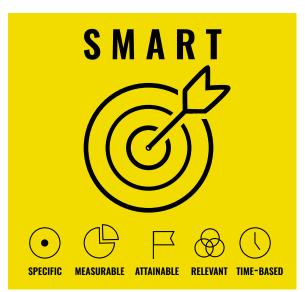
#SMARTMIGRATION: SMART Goals for Migration

If you are thinking about migrating, take time to think about it carefully. Before making any decision, it is helpful to name what outcome or result you are hoping for.

Is it financial security? Is it a chance to further your education? Is it the desire to take care of your family? Does being close to your family matter?

We first have to know what matters to us. Only then can we start thinking through options, formulating goals, and deciding on whether migration is the best option.

One tool that can be helpful is learning to set SMART goals.



SMART stands for:

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Based.

DEVELOPING SMART GOALS

S is for Specific

The first step in thinking about your future and migration involves asking yourself a lot of questions and considering many different possibilities.

The goal of **Specific** is to be as clear as possible about what you want to achieve.

How do you get specific? By taking the time to think about and answer each question below. This will help you gain a clear idea of what goal best fits your life and needs.

A specific goal will answer the five "W" questions:

Who:

Who is impacted by any decision you make? Is it just you? You and your family? Who could help you think about options? Who might be able to offer help deciding on what to do or finding a good job?

What:

What are the things that matter to you? A job? Your family? Your town? What is motivating you to migrate or not migrate? What are you hoping the future will look like? What resources (like time, money, health, legal papers, etc.) do you have or would you need? What are the realistic job prospects at home or abroad? What are the educational prospects? What are the pros and cons of migrating and not migrating? Think through both the good and the bad.

When:

When did you first start considering migration? Thinking about that might help you understand your motivation better. And when do you have to decide about migrating? By when would you need to apply for a visa or other documents? By when would you need to apply to study, if you choose to stay home?

Where:

If you are thinking about migrating, where do you want to go? Do you know the place? The language? The culture? If you are thinking about staying home, where could you perhaps move that would be more advantageous for finding a good job or gaining an education? Where could you look to apply for jobs?

Why:

Why do you want to migrate? Be sure to have a very clear reason. Is this the best thing for all people involved? Are there other options at home that could also lead to a good life?

M is for Measurable

Once you set a goal, you need a way of measuring progress. How you measure progress depends on what goal you have set. For example, if your goal is to find a new job, you could measure your progress by counting how many people you have contacted about work each week. By seeing these numbers, you can see that you are making progress. If a goal is not measurable, it is hard to know if you are making progress. Measuring doesn't have to be complicated.

A measurable goal will answer these questions:

- How will I track my progress?
- Will I track my progress by day, week, or month?
- What are some mini-goals I can set along the way?

A is for Attainable

It is important to set goals that are realistic and attainable. Attainable means that with a lot of effort and work, the goal is possible.

Very often, we start with unrealistic goals. Goals are not attainable for different reasons. Sometimes goals are not attainable because the goal and our skill sets do not match. For example, if I have no background in math or science, a goal of being hired as a professor of engineering is not unattainable. Other times, goals are not attainable because we do not have control over many aspects needed for a goal. For example, if I set a goal of working only for the UN, it might not be attainable because they might not be hiring and I do not have control or information on whether they will or will not have an open position in the next few months.

If the goal is not attainable, we are setting ourselves up to fail. That is why it is so important to learn to set attainable goals. That way, we can more quickly achieve success. And over time, we can build up successes that might allow the original goal to become attainable. But start with something that is possible! This mindset might also help you notice previously overlooked opportunities (like vocational college or local employment options) exist close by and can also be a path to reaching your goals.

An attainable goal will answer these questions:

- Is this goal realistic at the moment?
- Is it in my power to achieve it?
- Can the goal be reached within a reasonable timeframe (1-2 years)? How?
- Are there other paths to reaching my goal? What are they?

R is for Relevant

A relevant goal is a goal that fit into your overall life plan. Why does this matter? Because there are many goals that might meet the above criteria of being attainable, but just because you can reach a goal, does not mean it is something worth working towards. Think about it this way: there are so many goals you could reach, so you need to have a way of asking yourself whether the goal you choose fits.

In order to determine whether a goal fits, you have to reflect on what sort of life you are hoping to have, including which people matter most. In other words, relevance asks you to think about your life as a whole, including employment, family, belonging, and happiness.

A relevant goal will answer these questions:

- Does this goal fit with my other dreams for life?
- Does it help me build the sort of life I want to have?

T is for Time-Based

It is important to map out how long it should take to reach your goal. Set deadlines to stay on track. It helps to break down a goal into minigoals. Setting mini-goals at the start also helps you see if your goal is truly attainable. You might realize you currently do not have the time or resources needed to reach the mini-goals or the larger goal.

In that case, go back to the first question and work through those questions again.

A time-based goal will usually answer these questions:

- How long will it take me to reach my goal?
- What can I do in the next week to work towards my goal?
- In the next month? Six months from now?
- Are there any fixed deadlines (for applications, for example) that I cannot miss?

Discussion Questions:

- Which part about setting SMART goals makes the most sense to you?
- Which part about setting SMART goals will be most challenging to you?
- Do you like talking with others about your possible goals?Why or why not?
- Which person could be a good resource for talking through your goals and helping you develop SMART goals?
- What is one small goal you could set for this week?









Very often, when we imagine migrating, we imagine an easy, rich life in the new country. But this does not reflect reality.

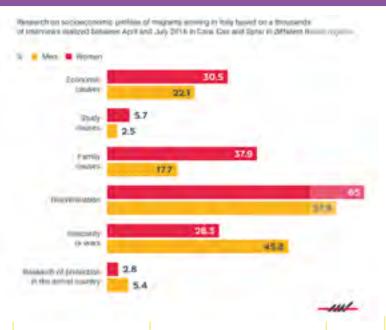
Migrating is hard. It is hard to leave behind your family and culture and go to a place where you will feel like an outsider.

The benefits of migration are often talked about. The darker side of migration is not often discussed.

So our goal is to consider both sides of migration - the good and the bad. And we also want to discuss the good and the bad of staying at home.

Discussion Questions:

- What are your reasons for wanting to migrate to another country?
- How do you imagine life would be there? Where did you get this image from?
- Do you feel pressured by other migrants, returnees, friends, or family to migrate?
- What are some ways of gaining recognition and respect from your community that does not include migration?
- Can you find ways to have a happy and successful life here?
- What are some other options for improving your life here?
- Who could you ask for help in improving your life here?
- What would a good life look like at home?
- Is the information you have about migration and Europe coming from reliable sources?
- Are you aware of possible dangers during the journey? What are some steps you could take to stay as safe as possible?













How to Spot False Information Online

Online, it is very easy to share content. This ease of posting can be a good thing, but it also has negative consequences: a lot of false information is posted and shared.

This is especially true when it comes to information about migration and migration offers made through social media. Smugglers and human traffickers use social media to spread false information and lure in their victims.

Others, such as those who have migrated, share false information about wealth and the ease of life abroad, in order to make themselves seem more successful than they are. These false images are often shared online, because they feel people back home expect them to have a lot of money once they migrate and they don't want to admit that life abroad is not easy.

This means that we have to **question everything** we see online and assume that a lot of what we see online might be fake, even if the information comes from people we know and trust.

Below are a few steps to take to spot mis- and disinformation online.

Research the source:

Who is sharing this information?

If it is online, does the website sound familiar?

Does it have political affiliations?

If it is a person sharing, is this individual a frequent exaggerator?

Do they have a job, education, or experience that gives them special insight?

Do they seem trustworthy?

What do you know about them?

Question the motivation:

If you had to guess, why do you think this person is sharing this content? What is their motivation? Is the story balanced and fair? Who gains from you reading the post and acting on it?

Check the date:

People often share information that was published years ago and no longer applies. Along with the date, check the location and other facts to see if it is actually relevant to your situation.

Cross-check:

If someone is sharing "news," check if other reliable news sources are reporting the same information. If not, it's unlikely to be true.

Also, keep in mind that there are more and less reliable sources. When it comes to news, websites such as Al Jazeera, AllAfrica, and the BBC are very trustworthy.

If you are looking for facts, a good site is Wikipedia. Wikipedia is a website that collects information on many topics and is peer-reviewed, meaning that many people work on the information and have agreed that it is correct.

Read past the headline:

People create headlines that sound more intense and scandalous than the story really is. Read past the headline and see what the entire article says.

When reading, see if the article is listing its sources and verify that those sources are accurate.

If there is a story and no information on the source, there is a good chance the story is not true.

Question emotionally charged content:

Does the post contain emotionally manipulative language designed to get you upset or excited? That's a red flag.

Reliable sources let the facts fuel your response, not emotional language.

Distrust absolute narratives:

If you come across a post or story claiming something is only good or bad, be careful.

If the content sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

If the content sounds only bad, it probably is not accurate either.

Look for a balanced representation of reality.

Discussion Questions:

- When you see a post online, is your first reaction to question whether it is true?
- Which of the steps above feels easiest to apply? Which requires the most work?
- What sort of fake posts about migration do you think are most common? What are the fake offers or images they are showing?
- What are some red flags that tell you an offer or story might be fake?
- How could you encourage others to verify content more closely?

IMAGE VERIFICATION

Images are difficult to deal with, because visuals can be manipulated and changed using computer programs, so what you see in a photo may or may not be real. But there are still some good guidelines to follow to verify images.

Regardless of whether you are looking at a photo from a close friend or a stranger, the questions to ask are the same. These questions are similar to the questions we discussed above regarding content and have the same motto of **question everything.**

Provenance:

Are you looking at the original photo, taken by the person posting it? Or has it been reposted many times and the original photographer is no longer known?

Source:

Who is posting the photo now? How did they get the photo? Do they personally know the person featured in the photo? Do you know the person?

Date:

When was the photo taken?

Do you have any way of knowing this, based on the photo?

Location:

Where was the photo taken? Look at it closely and see if it looks like the location it is pretending to be.

For example, do the streets and houses look like they should? Are the cars driving on the correct side of the road for this particular place (right or left side of the road)? What do the trees and plants look like? How are the people dressed? Look for clues to see if it fits what it says it shows.

Motivation:

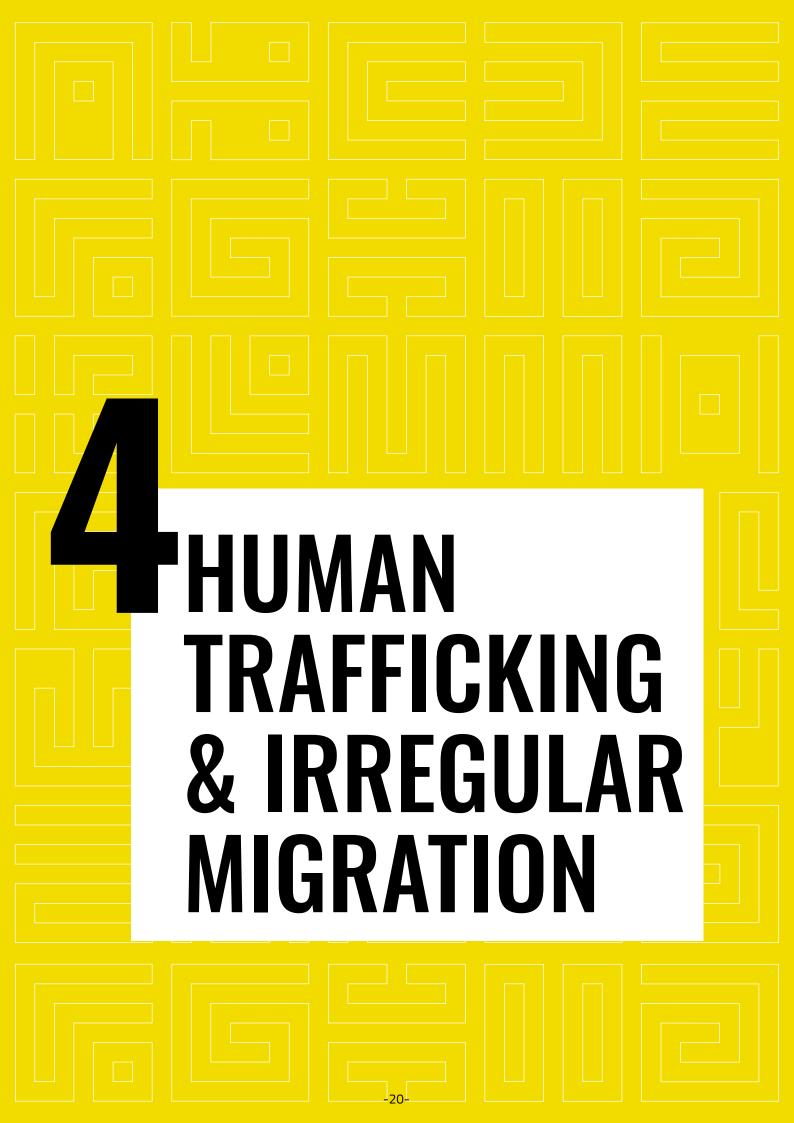
Why is the person posting this photo?

What is their motivation? Take a guess about how they are trying to make you feel and what reaction they are trying to get out of you by posting this photo.

Another way to verify images is to use Google Chrome image search. Just as you can use Google to check for facts and names, you can also use it to see whether an image has been previously published online. How? Right-click on any image, hit "search google for image," and see if a picture has appeared online before.

Discussion Ouestions:

- Do you have any experience with fake images?
- When you see an image online, is your first reaction to assume it is showing reality or something fake or staged?
- How is migration and the decision to migrate influenced by images you see posted online?
- Do you trust what you see online?
- What are some red flags that tell you a photo might be fake or taken out of context? Maybe if it shows too much of a good thing, such as too much wealth, too much happiness?



The Dangers of Human Trafficking

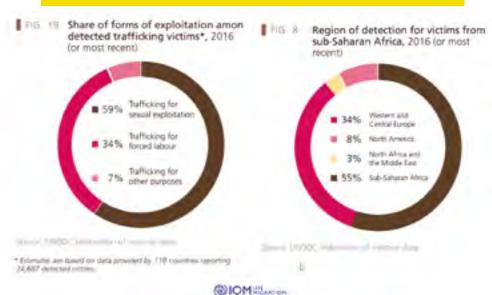


Human traffickers and smugglers provide false information about migration in order to make money for themselves. They do not care about the people they are smuggling. Working with traffickers and smugglers is very dangerous.

Traffickers and smugglers often target unemployed youth. They advertise their business in schools, religious centers, and neighborhoods.

Things to know:

- Smugglers use social media and chat groups to spread disinformation.
- Human traffickers are criminal groups and are very dangerous.
- They lie about promising to escort migrants during the journey, having connections along the route, and being able to get fake travel documents (passports, I.D. cards, visas, and stamps).
- Human traffickers and smugglers intentionally circulate disinformation, half-truths, and avoid discussing unpleasant possibilities, danger, or risks. They share fake photos and videos that pretend to show migrants happily living in Europe. These are edited and not real!
- Often, economic migrants send misinformation home to influence others' decisions to migrate. They send images of success and do not talk honestly about how dangerous or difficult life is, because they want to appear successful.
- Anything that sounds too good to be true, is too good to be true. Promises of getting you to Europe without going through official routes, or promising a well-paying job - these are all false promises.



Discussion Questions:

- Can you explain, in your own words, what human trafficking is?
- What strategies are used by traffickers to attract their victims?
- What role does social media play in luring people into human trafficking?
- Have you ever been approached and offered a "deal" by someone who is probably trying to traffic you?
- What do you think you could try to do to escape, if you are trapped by a human trafficker?
- What could you teach others about trafficking so that they don't fall prey to the offers?

What is irregular or "backdoor" migration?

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), irregular migration - also often referred to as backdoor migration - has taken place when one or more of the following circumstances apply:

- Irregular Entry: The country was entered using false documents or without crossing an official border point.
- Irregular Residency: The migrant overstays their visa or residence permit time limit, thereby violating the laws surrounding their right to be in the country.
- Irregular Employment: The migrant engages in employment despite not having the right to work (although they might have the right to residence).

Discussion Questions:

- What are the risks of irregular migration? What can go wrong?
- Having learned about the dangers related to irregular migration, would you still consider irregular migration an option? Can you explain the reasons for your choice?
- Did you think you have a realistic idea of what irregular migration can involve?
- Do you think your expectations are too optimistic?
- Do you think regular migration (through work or a study visa) could be a possible option?
- Would learning about how to apply for a study or work visa increase the chance that you try to go that route?

Success in The Gambia

Often, migration feels like the only option because we don't see any options for success at home. But there are many things that can be done at home to better your life.

Let's discuss those:

- What are the ways we could increase our level of education while at home? (Refer to Chapter 7 on Studies & Scholarships.)
- What are some organizations that could help us become entrepreneurs or gain a skill? (Refer to Chapter 8 on Positive Alternatives to Migration and Chapter 9 on Livelihood Ideas.)
- Can you share any success stories of people who have created a nice life for themselves at home?
- Listen to the #MMN podcasts on success stories and discuss. These podcasts can be found online or downloaded from the USB stick.

In episode #7 of the **#MMN_Voices podcast**, Nyima Camara talks to Sheriff Junior about migrating to Germany regularly, her educational achievements, and the challenges she faced. Nyima stayed in Germany for 10 years before returning to The Gambia, where she now works and lives.

In episode #6 of the **#MMN_Voices podcast**, Sheriff Junior talks to Prince Bubacarr Aminata Sankanu, a Gambian filmmaker, about his life, his experience in Germany, and his immense contribution to Gambia's film industry.

- Aside from the emotional and physical costs of migration, including being separated from family and risking violence, it takes a lot of money to migrate. What could you do with that money to help create a better life for yourself in The Gambia instead? Let's collect ideas!
- Are there people you could ask for help (coaching, advice, etc.) in building a good life here?



Almost half of international migrants are women, generally traveling as either migrant workers or refugees. Refugee women face greater challenges, including discrimination, sexual violence, a greater risks being trafficked, and limited access to healthcare. Their mental and physical health are often affected as a result.

Many women and girls experience sexual violence. Women in general, and women refugees and internally displaced women in particular, are the targets of sexual assault, physical violence, marginalization, and unwanted pregnancies and marriages. Women and girls are also often kidnapped or trafficked.





REASON WHY WOMEN MIGRATE

Women and girls choose to migrate for many different reasons. Some are:

- To provide income for their family at home
- To break free from the limitations placed on them at home
- To potentially create a better life
- To further their education
- To reunite with their family, who might have already migrated
- To escape inadequate employment and educational opportunities in their home country
- To avoid early and/or forced marriages
- To get away from female genital mutilation
- To go somewhere where they can have ownership of resources and full legal rights

Like men, women and girls also fall for the lies of human traffickers, who offer false promises of money and safety abroad. Yet additionally, women are more vulnerable to abuse and sexual violence at the hand of their traffickers.

Discussion Questions:

- From the list above, are there reasons that feel more or less pressing to you?
- Which of these reasons seems most relevant for women and girls in your community?
- Are there things that could change in your community, in order to make it a more welcoming space for women and thereby perhaps lessen the need to migrate?
- Are there ways to increase equality and access to education at home for women and girls?

MIGRATION TRAPS

Very often, migration is pushed by organizations that pretend to recruit for employment or cultural events. Human traffickers and smugglers often disguise themselves as employers. This is why it is important to try to fact-check everything before accepting any offer. Chances are good that any easy offer of employment abroad is a trap.

Very often relatives and friends also push migration and promise women and girls good employment abroad. Even though you know these people, they cannot always be trusted. It is important to know exactly where and how the people trying to recruit you live and what they do for a living before accepting any invitation. Their words or photos alone are not proof. Ask for more information and try to verify everything with many sources.

A good rule to follow is that there cannot be a job offer if you do not have a visa - and only you can apply for a visa. So if someone is offering you a job and either says they already have a visa or you don't need one - be careful! This cannot be true for any country in Europe.

Discussion Questions:

- Are there people in your community that have been encouraging you to migrate? Why do you think they are doing that?
- Have you ever been offered a job abroad that seemed too easy to get or too good to be true?
- How could you go about trying to verify jobs offered?
- Do you know how to apply for a visa or where to find this information?

MIGRATION DECISION-MAKING: WHAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER

Before you pack

Access to correct information can help save lives by providing women with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions about migration. Here are some questions to ask yourself before migrating and to help you figure out what information you need to find answers to.

- What do you know about the country you want to migrate to, in terms of:
 - Politics?
 - Treatment of women in front of the law?
 - Language?
 - Culture?
 - Weather and climate?
 - Likelihood of your facing discrimination?
 - Level of education of the population?
- What is the nature of work for women in the country you intend to travel to?
- What rights do women have to legally work in the country you plan to travel to?
- How will migration affect your reproductive chances, if you want children?
- Are there possibilities to return home to your family, if migration fails?
- If you decide to migrate, can your family visit you? Will you be able to afford to visit home?
- Would your family find jobs there, if they decided to migrate as well?
- Do you know how to apply for visas and travel documents?
- Do you have enough information on the journey?
- Where did you get your information from?

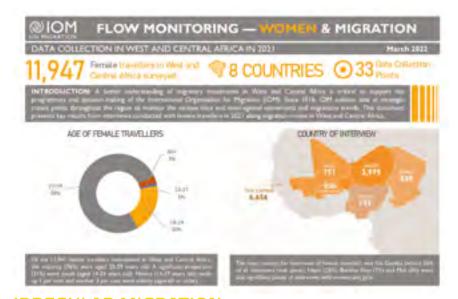
Life on and after arrival

If you have migrated and arrived in a new country, reflect on the following questions:

- What risks do I face if I overstay my visa or do not document my stay properly?
- Will overstaying my visa ban me from any future legal work?
- Where can I find more information about opportunities for education, work, and cultural integration for women in my new society?
- Are there any organizations, groups, or experts that support and advise migrants from my country of origin?

Discussion Questions:

- Who can you discuss your migration decisions with?
- What are the benefits, if you migrate? What are the benefits, if you stay home?
- What are the risk factors in migrating? What are the risk factors in staying home?
- Are there chances to return to visit family if you migrate?
- Will you be okay potentially being permanently separated from your family, if you migrate irregularly?



IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Some of the other dangers of irregular migration:

- Greater risk of exploitation, abuse, and sexual violence
- More likely to be trafficked
- Higher levels of harassment and assaults
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Inadequate access to health services
- Homelessness

For more information, go to:

https://interactive.unwomen.org/multimedia/explainer/migration/en/index.html



Discussion Ouestions:

- Looking over the list of dangers, does migration, especially irregularly, feel like a safe option?
- What are other options that could be pursued instead, both in terms of regular migration and if you were to stay home but wanted to better your situation?
- Listen to this MMN podcast and discuss. It can be found online at https://migrantmedia.network/podcast-thegambia/ or downloaded from the #MMN USB stick.

Regular Migration Circular Flow

Migration can be a circular flow: you migrate the regular way, work in the new country, and can come home to visit your family. But this cycle of migration and visits ONLY works if you migrant regularly, with valid documents.

Resources

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING WOMEN AT HOME

SheTrades in the Gambia aims to facilitate the integration of Gambian women-owned businesses in the economy and increase their participation in trade.

https://www.shetrades.com/en/projects/shetrades-gambia

Small-scale financing for projects in The Gambia is offered through a joint venture of the International Trade Centre's (ITC) Gambia Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) and the Social Development Fund (SDF).

https://www.intracen.org/ITC-SDF-launch-Mini-Loans-Scheme-for-young-Gambian-entrepreneurs/

Quartz Africa is a forum for showcasing African women who are successful in business and who could serve as role models for other women

https://qz.com/africa/2062305/meet-the-female-entrepreneurs-leading-innovation-in-africa/

The **European Union** supports local development efforts in The Gambia. Select the link 'I am looking for funding'.

https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/stories/ empowering-women-boost-their-business-gambia_en

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING MIGRANT WOMEN IN EUROPE

The **European Network of Migrant Women** is a migrant-women-led feminist non-partisan platform that advocates for the rights, freedoms, and dignity of migrant, refugee, and ethnic minority women and girls in Europe.

https://www.migrantwomennetwork.org/

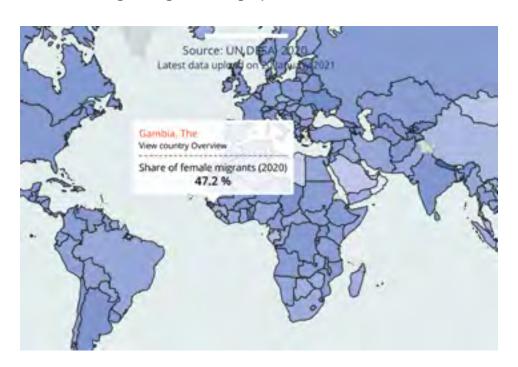
International Women*Space is a feminist, anti-racist political group in Berlin that brings together migrant, refugee, and non-migrant women. https://iwspace.de/

Eurocities lists organizations in cities around Europe that are working to help migrate women integrate into their new communities. https://eurocities.eu/latest/10-ways-to-make-integration-gender-sensitive/

PODCAST

This #MMN podcast, also available on the attached USB drive, talks about the advantages of migrating regularly as a woman.

https://migrantmedia.network/mmn_voices-gambia-diaspora-talks-series-7-achievements-regular-migration-can-get-you/









In order to migrate regularly, you will need a visa, regardless of whether you are going abroad to work, study, or join family.

What is a visa?



- A visa is an official document that allows you to legally enter a foreign country.
- The visa is usually stamped or glued into your passport.
- There are different types of visas that give you different rights of what you are allowed to do in the host country.

More information: https://www.passportindex.org/visa.php#

Why do I need a visa to travel?



- You need a visa, because most countries require a visa to legally enter the country. You have to apply for the visa at the other country's embassy located in your country. Embassies are usually located in the capital city.
- Most of the time, you need to have a visa before they will allow you to get on a plane.
- A few countries offer visas upon arrival, but no European country offers this option.

How do I apply for a visa?

To apply for a visa, you need to visit the embassy of the country you want to visit.

For this, you will need to:



- Make an appointment at the embassy of the country of your destination. It can sometimes take weeks to get an appointment, so plan ahead.
- Download and fill out the visa application form.
- Collect all the required documents.
- Email scanned copies of all the documents to the embassy prior to your interview.
- Bring all your original documents to your interview.

IMPORTANT: You have to bring original documents (no photocopies or scans) to your interview.

German Embassy The Gambia (located in Dakar, Senegal)

There is no German embassy in The Gambia. Applicants need to email their documents to the Embassy in Dakar, Senegal and will have to travel, to Dakar for the interview. Passport pick up might be possible in Banjul at the German liaison office, but this can change.

https://dakar.diplo.de/sn-en

German Embassy Dakar

20, Avenue Pasteur Dakar/ Senegal Tel: +221 33 889 48 84 banjul@daka.diplo.de rkinfo@daka.diplo.de



More information:

https://dakar.diplo.de/sn-en/service/visa-einreise

Visa requirements

Each country has its own visa application requirements. Make sure to check with your destination country's government website to find out more details or contact the embassy.

Documents often required to apply for a visa:



- A visa application form (downloaded from their website or picked up at embassy)
- Your passport
- An extra passport photograph
- A flight itinerary
- A hotel booking
- A letter of invitation
- Proof of purpose for traveling
- Proof of income
- Proof of financial support during the trip
- Covid -19 form
- Proof of vaccination
- Payment for visa application fees
- Travel insurance

IMPORTANT: Specific requirements (such as which vaccines are needed) and forms will vary. Follow embassy guidelines.

Invitation letter for visas

Some countries require you to have a letter of invitation.



- A letter of invitation is a formal letter from the person you intend to visit stating that they are inviting you to visit them.
- Invitation letters give travel authorities proof that the reason for your visit is temporary and has a valid reason.
- The letter must list the reason for your visit and why it is necessary.
- The letter must list the time period of your stay.
- The letter must contain contact information for the person writing the letter.

Visa interview

There is an interview process in order to get a visa. Common questions asked are:

- Why do you want to travel to X country?
- Why do you want to visit at this specific time?
- Do you have a criminal record?
- Are you traveling with someone else?
- Who will you be visiting?
- How long will you stay?
- Where will you stay?
- Have you booked airline tickets?
- Do you have health insurance for this trip?
- If you are employed, can you provide a letter attesting that you have received a leave of absence from your work for the duration of the trip?
- Will you return to your home country after your visit?

Visa services at the embassy

- Consulates and embassies often offer visa application services and assistance.
- They have up-to-date information regarding visa and travel requirements.
- For appointments, you have to schedule these online. You cannot make an appointment in person.
- The embassy is also where you will pick up your visa, once it is approved and ready.

IMPORTANT: You can only get a visa if your passport is valid for at least another three months from the date the visa is issued.

TYPES OF VISAS

Travel/tourist visa

A tourist visa allows you to enter a foreign country as a tourist for leisure purposes.



- You can only stay for a set amount of time.
- You are not allowed to work or engage in any business activities in the host country.

Work visa

A work visa is needed if you want to work in the host country or engage in business activities. There are different categories of work visas as well.



- Blue Card EU: This is a work visa for people who have a recognized university degree AND already have an official job offer.
- Work with Contract: This is a work visa for people who have a recognized university degree or vocational qualification AND already have an official job offer.
- Work with qualifications that are partially recognized: If your vocational qualifications are not fully recognized, you can get a visa to complete extra qualifications in Germany.





- Work as an IT-specialist with work experience: You can get a
 work visa to work in the IT sector in Germany, even if you do
 not have a recognized degree. But you need to have IT work
 experience.
- Job Seeker: If you have a recognized university degree or two-year vocational training degree that is recognized by Germany, you can get a visa to stay for up to six months in order to find a job corresponding to your qualifications.

Business visa

A business visa allows you to enter the host country and engage in business activities without joining that country's labor market.



- You are entitled to enter as a business professional, but all of your business affiliations, income, and place of residence have to be based in your home country.
- Individuals may require a business visa if they are traveling (on behalf of a company based in their home country) to another country, to do business with the other company.
- You will need a business visa to attend a business conference.
- On a business visa, you must show that you are not receiving income from anyone based in the host country.

Student visa

A student visa allows you to enroll at a postsecondary educational institution.



- If you have already been accepted at a foreign university, you can apply for a study visa, but you must prove that you have enough money to support yourself in the host country for the length of your studies. This is true at all levels of education (bachelor, master, PhD programs).
- You can get a student visa to complete a language course or internship, but you must prove that you have enough money to support yourself in the host country for the length of the class or internship.

Vocational training visa

A vocational training visa allows you to complete vocational training in a host country.



- For Germany, you can get a vocational training visa if you already have an official offer from a German company offering you an apprenticeship AND you speak German at the B1 level.
 - B1 is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The levels go from A1 (beginner) to C2 (uses language perfectly). B1 falls in the middle. It is defined as being able to understand the main points when hearing language spoken, being able to talk about work, school, leisure, and family, and being able to express yourself clearly and report on experiences, events, hopes, and goals. You have to be able to use the past tense, present tense, and future tense accurately.

For Germany, you can also get a vocational training visa that allows you to enter Germany to seek an apprenticeship, IF you are younger than 25 AND speak German at the B2 level.



B2 is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The levels go from A1 (beginner) to C2 (uses language perfectly). B2 is defined as understanding complex texts on concrete and abstract topics, as well as technical discussions in your area of specialization, being able to communicate spontaneously and fluently with locals without needing great effort to express yourself or be understood, and being able to express your opinion and position on current events and political issues in a clear and detailed manner.

Visa for the self-employed

If your goal is to be self-employed in the fields of science, art, or education, you can get a visa IF you have enough money to fund your project AND to cover your living expenses AND if you have the permission and the correct qualifications to exercise that profession in the host country.



 You can also get a self-employed visa to start a business in Germany, if there is commercial interest or regional demand for your products and services, your business activity is creating jobs, and you have secured financing for your business.

Research visa

For Germany, you can get a visa to do research if you have a cooperation agreement with a university or research institute in Germany. If you also qualify for a Blue Card EU work visa, you can choose which visa you prefer.

Spousal visa

A spousal visa is for anyone wanting to join their partner in the host country. There are different categories of spousal visas.



- Marriage to a German national: If you want to marry a German national, you have to register the wedding at a registry office in Germany. Both you and your partner have to be at least 18 years old. You need to prove that you have enough money to support yourself in Germany. You also need to have a basic knowledge of German (A1-level). You need the visa to enter the country, in order to marry. After the wedding, you need to apply for a residence permit.
- Marriage to a foreign national living in Germany: In order to qualify for this visa, the wedding must be registered at a registry office in Germany. The person you are marrying must have a valid residence permit, a Blue Card EU, an Intra-Corporate Transfer (ICT) card, a permanent settlement permit, or a permit for permanent stay in the European Union. You need to prove that you have enough money to support yourself in Germany.

- Joining your German spouse: This visa is for people already married to a German national. Both partners must be at least 18 years old. And you must have at least a basic knowledge of German (A1-level).
- Joining your spouse, who is an EU/EEA national: This visa is for people married to a citizen of an EU country, the United Kingdom, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway, or Switzerland. You have to prove that you have the financial means to fully support yourself in Germany. You do not need to speak German.
- Joining your spouse, who is a foreign national: This visa is for people married to a foreign national who holds either a residence permit, a Blue Card EU, an ICT Card, a permanent settlement permit, or a permit for permanent stay in the European Union. You and your spouse must both be at least 18 years old.
- There is also a visa application if you want to join your child or your parents, who are legally residing in the host country.

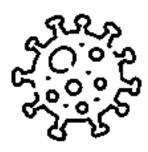
(https://visa.diplo.de/en/index.html#/vib/kurzinfo)

Visa Covid -19 regulations

Covid -19 regulations are constantly changing. Every country has different entrance requirements and these get updated frequently. Check with the embassy or on official government websites for more information. Some countries in Europe require you to be fully vaccinated and boostered in order to enter, others have different requirements.

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever applied for a visa? What was your experience?
- Which of the visas listed above would be the best fit for you?
- Have you heard any rumors about visas, and if so, which ones?







Information on Studying and Possible Scholarships

EDUCATION

Whether or not you plan to migrate, education is always beneficial. The more education you have, the easier it becomes to get a visa and scholarships.

Some benefits of education:

- Helps you become qualified for jobs that offer more financial security
- Creates new opportunities through what you learn and the people you meet
- Prepares you for the future
- Exposes you to many socially relevant issues
- Equips you with knowledge and skills
- Helps you navigate life more easily

There are many options on how to expand your education, ranging from studying at a vocational school or university to learning a new specific skill that can help you find good employment. This could include learning how to repair items, such as electronics or bicycles, in order to create a business out of this or learning how to do things online, such as coding or website design.

There are many free learning platforms, where all you need is access to the internet and you can learn something that can help better your situation.

One of the best options is the Khan Academy, a non-profit educational organization that offers classes including math for all ages, science, and computer programming.

https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-programming

VOCATIONAL SKILLS

One option to expand your career possibilities is to pursue vocational skills and learn a trade.

Studying a trade or vocation that is in demand (such as IT) can significantly increase your chances of being able to create a good life for yourself at home or obtaining a work visa abroad.

UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Another option is attending university, where there are many different paths of study. If you know anyone who has been to university, talk to them about what they studied, why, and what other fields they would recommend. You can also always go to an Education Service Office in your district or directly to the university and talk to the admissions office. They are there to help you find the path that best suits you.

University programs are usually divided into different groups:

- The Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics)
- The Applied Sciences (all types of Engineering, Agriculture, Computer Science)
- The Social Sciences (Accounting, Economics, Anthropology, Sociology, Geography, Political Science, Urban Planning, Psychology, Communication Studies, etc.)
- The Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Languages, Religions, Art History, The Arts, etc.)
- Business (Finance, Management, Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, Tourism, etc.)
- Healthcare (Medicine, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Public Health, Dentistry, etc.)
- Education (Teacher Training, Adult Education, Counseling, etc.)
- Law

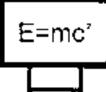
Where can you study?

There are different places where you can study after secondary school.

- V
- Universities offer the most options in terms of courses of study and are also the place to go if your interests are in the humanities, law, the sciences, or medicine.
 - **Polytechnic** or **Technical Universities** focus and excel in science and science-related fields.
 - **Colleges of Education** grant degrees in education and equip you to teach.

How to apply?

- **>**
- Secondary school certificates and results slips are necessary to apply to any tertiary institutions.
- There are different processes and grades required for each institution. Contact them directly for more information.
- Always go to the institution you are interested in, visit their website, or call them to learn more about the requirements.
- Good grades are vital to gaining admission to tertiary institutions.



What is a Scholarship?

If you cannot afford to study at home or abroad, you can apply for scholarships or financial aid.



- Scholarship money does not have to be paid back. It is not a loan. It is a gift to help those deemed worthy to complete their studies.
- Scholarships are often awarded based on academic merit (how well you have done academically so far) and your financial needs.
- Some institutions also offer other financial aid, which can help you pursue your education. But note that most financial aid has to be repaid; it is a loan.

Universities in The Gambia



- The Gambia has the University of the Gambia (UTG), a small university that offers many courses of study. Their focus is on sciences and education, but you can also receive a degree in some fields of the humanities and law. If you choose to study in The Gambia, UTG offers the biggest selection of courses. https://www.utg.edu.gm/admissions/
 - http://www.aiu.edu.gm/
- There is also the American International University West Africa (AIUWA), which offers courses of study in medicine, dentistry, and nursing. http://www.aiu.edu.gm/

OTHER EDUCATIONAL LINKS

SCHOLARSHIPS_GOVERMENT_GAMBIA

https://www.moherst.gov.gm/taxonomy/term/20

HOLLAND FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

https://www.utg.edu.gm/2021-mrc-holland-foundation-scholarship/

Discussion Ouestions:

- Of all of the options listed, what educational path might be a good fit for you?
- Do you know anyone who is or has studied at university?
- Do you know anyone who has completed a vocation program? In what field?
- What are some areas of life (cooking, sewing, gardening, etc.) or fields of study (accounting, biology, nursing, etc.) you would like to learn more about?

Information on Studying Abroad

STUDYING IN GERMANY

There are many countries abroad that offer excellent opportunities to study. Here are some that make Germany a good option:



- Germany offers internationally recognized programs at a relatively cheap cost. Some programs offer free tuition, others do not. (Keep in mind however that the cost of living is high.)
- There are many scholarship options.
- Germany has many top-rated European universities.
- Germany also has technical universities and also offers vocational training opportunities for health care professions, such as nursing and physical therapy, as well as many IT opportunities.

Studying in Germany can be a great experience, but it is not easy to gain admission to universities. You need to have excellent grades, submit all the required paperwork, and show a commitment to your studies. But if you get accepted, you can then apply for scholarships to help support you during your studies.

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

All scholarships will have different requirements, but you can easily find that information online. It can often take many months (at least three) to know if you will receive the scholarship.



- Scholarships all have different due dates.
- Many scholarships are aimed at current university students.
- When applying, be honest. Don't exaggerate your grades, skills, or qualifications.
- Apply for the scholarships that best match your interests and skills.
- Don't delay. Missing a due date means you will have to wait a year before you can apply for that scholarship again.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR GERMANY

Below are some of the scholarships available in Germany:



- Germany Scholarship Program (Deutschlandstipendium) https://www.deutschlandstipendium.de/ deutschlandstipendium/de/home/home_node.html
- DAAD scholarships https://www.daad.de/en/
- Erasmus scholarships https://www.erasmusprogramme.com/post/scholarships
- Heinrich Boll Foundation scholarships https://www.boell.de/en/scholarships
- Friedrich Naumann Foundation scholarships https://www.freiheit.org/ scholarships-friedrich-naumann-foundation-freedom
- Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung scholarships https://www.kas.de/en/web/begabtenfoerderung-und-kultur/
- Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung scholarships (must speak German at a B2-level or higher)
 https://www.rosalux.de/en/foundation/studienwerk

Additional Resources

Entervarsity

https://www.entervarsity.com

A university search engine for students in Africa looking for detailed and reliable information on universities and colleges.

After School Africa Scholarships

German scholarships for international students from Africa and developing countries.

https://www.afterschoolafrica.com/scholarship/by-country/scholarship-in-germany/

Discussion Questions:

- What do you think are the benefits of studying abroad?
- What do you think the challenges would be?
- Do you have any plans to study abroad, or experiences in doing so?
- Are there any doubts that come to mind, when thinking about going abroad to study?





Information on Work, Entrepreneurship, and Training Options in The Gambia

As we mentioned in Chapter 7 on Studies, regardless of whether you are planning on migrating or not, it is always good to first increase your skills. The Gambia offers many opportunities for becoming an entrepreneur or entering an established training program in order to become an expert in a certain field. Below is a list of some contacts that might be able to help you get started on a path to career fulfillment.

AFRIKA KOMMT!

Afrika kommt! brings together young leaders from African and German companies to learn about German corporations, share knowledge, gain skills, and build up a network of contacts. The goal is to empower young people to become agents of positive change.

https://www.afrika-kommt.de/

The Gambia National Youth Council

The Gambian Nation Youth Council (NYC) invest in the youth in order to foster economic growth, resilience, and inclusion. The NYC supports programs such as the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP).

https://nyc.gm/

Phone: +220 9962763 or +220 9966627 or +220 9966630

Gambia Youth Chamber of Commerce

Gambia Youth Chamber of Commerce (GYCC) is an organization that supports young entrepreneurs in The Gambia through training and coaching programs.

https://www.gycc.gm

Phone: +220 7866640 or +220 3906640 or +220 3047400

Startup Incubator Gambia (SIG)

Startup Incubator Gambia is a non-profit organization that aims to empower young Gambian entrepreneurs to succeed in their careers and businesses.

https://www.startupincubator.gm

Phone: +220 4382050

National Enterprise Development Initiative (NEDI)

National Enterprise Development Initiative (NEDI) was established to empower Gambian youth and women through the provision of training in entrepreneurship and investment, as well as offering grants and loans to help them get started.

https://www.nedi.gm

Phone: +220 8906849 or +220 8906850

GAMBIA INVESTMENT AND EXPORT PROMOTION AGENCY (GIEPA)

The Gambia Investment and Promotion Agency (GIEPA) provides guidance and information on investment and business development opportunities across all sectors in The Gambia.

http://www.giepa.gm

Phone: +220 4377377 or +220 4377378

CHAMEN TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRE

Chamen Technical Training Center offers electrical skills training, including satellite installation and other technical training. Out-of-school youth, including uneducated youths, are allowed to enroll to enhance their skills. https://www.facebook.com/people Chamen-Technical-Training-center/100064086303275/

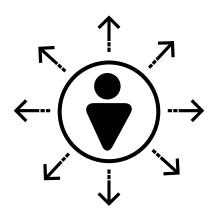
GAMBIA TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY INSTITUTIONS (GTHI)

The Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute was established by the Gambian government to provide training to provide tourism and hospitality-related disciplines. Admission is on a rolling basis and open to everyone. The programs have fees, but scholarships are sometimes available to students who could not otherwise afford it.

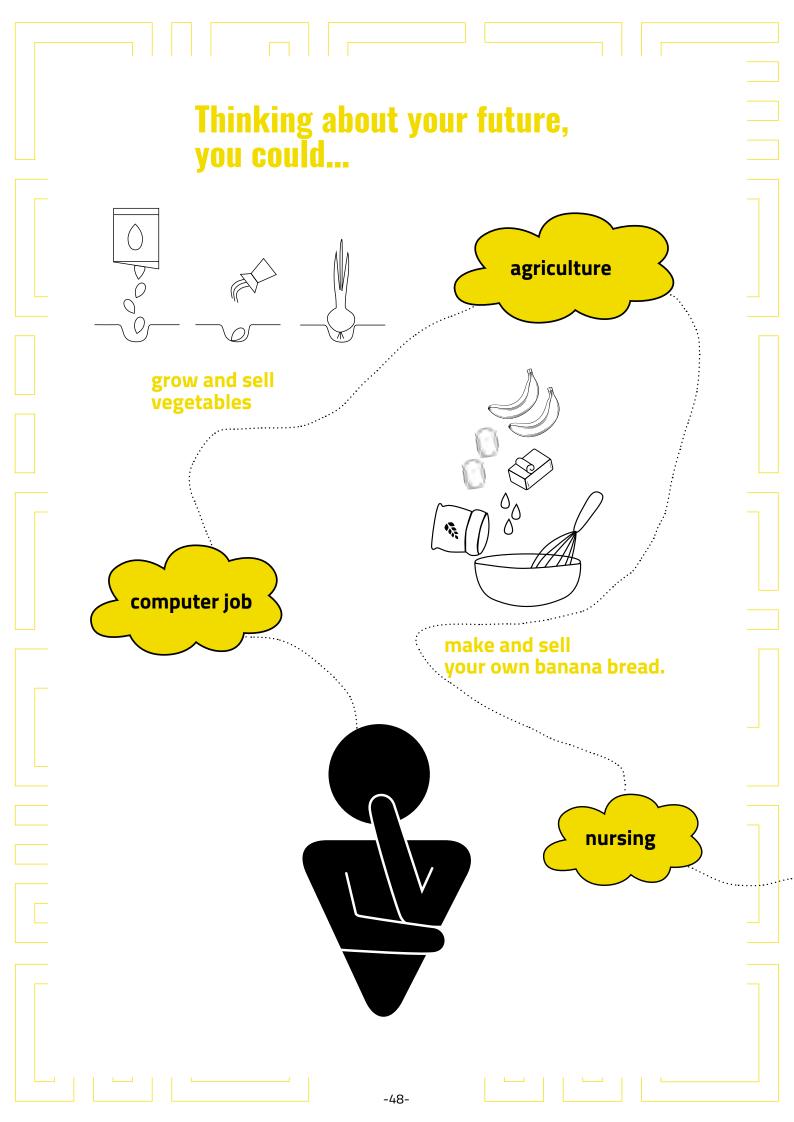
https://www.gthi.gm info@gambiathi.com

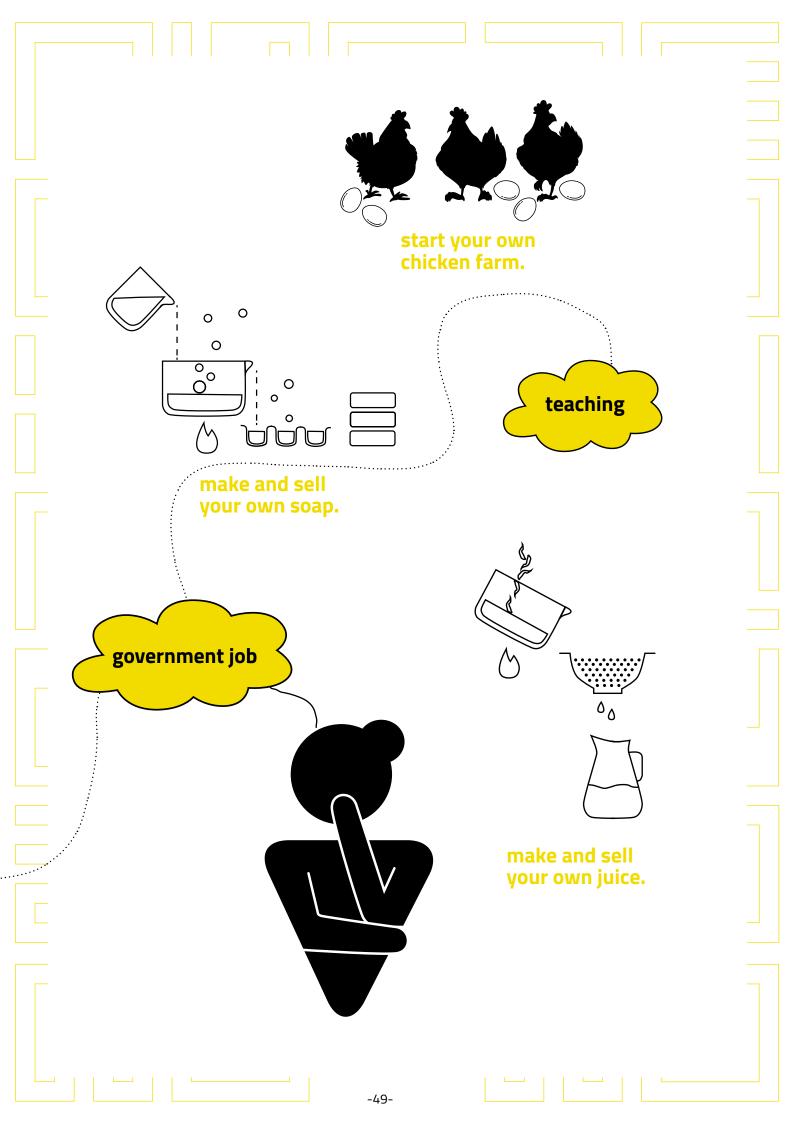
Discussion Questions:

- Have you looked into alternatives at home? If so, which ones?
- Would you prefer to pursue life in Gambia or rather move abroad? What do you see as the benefits and downsides of both options?
- Which of the organizations listed above sound interesting to you?
- What other paths are there to creating a good life in The Gambia?









Practical Livelihoods as Positive Alternatives to Migration

Quite often we start believing that things would be better abroad and forget that there are so many options of how to make a good living and thrive at home.

Be positive about opportunities. Migration is not the only answer to living well. There are numerous positive alternatives, such as those shown on the previous page.

THINKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

When we start thinking about positive alternatives to migration, we realize that there are more options available to us.

There are many options of how to make a living, learn a skill, or further our education.

So how do you know which option might be a good one for you? Below are some questions to help you think through what your future could look like.

Step 1: Brainstorm



- What are my dreams for life regarding family and employment and how do I imagine a good life could look?
- Are these dreams actually mine or are they dreams other people tell me to have?
- What makes me happy?
- What gives me energy?

Discuss these questions with people you know, like friends, family, or with people from Stammtisch.

Step 2: About me



- What are my skills and talents? What am I good at?
- Do I have the skills and talents needed to follow my dream? If not, are these skills I can gain?
- Do I need the help of other people to reach my goals?
- Are there skills or talents I could develop that would get me closer to my dream?
- Who are the people who inspire me? What can I learn from them?

Make a list of all talents and skills you have. Also make a list of skills you could develop.

Step 3: Make it happen



- Once you know what your dream really is, start making a list with the steps you have to take to reach that dream.
- Here are some questions to ask yourself:
 - Do I have the right diploma needed for my dream? If not, where can I go to study?
 - Which school or university could I go to? How do I apply to study there? Is there a deadline to apply?
 - Is there the possibility to apply for an internship in the field I am interested in working in?

Work on creating a network to help you reach your dreams. Start by enlisting the people around you. Talk to them about your goal and ask them if they know people who might be able to help you. Perhaps there are organizations or resources they can point you towards.

Step 4: Where to go



- Where is the best place for me to be?
- Can I fulfill my dream in Africa? Or do I need to migrate?
- Am I aware of the consequences of migration and how hard it is to be in a new country and culture?
- Am I prepared to learn a new language? Am I ready to have to change my behaviors to fit into a different culture?

Questions to Discuss:

- What are my dreams?
- Do I need the help of other people to reach my goals?
- Where is the best place for me to be?
- What is something I could do this week to better my situation?



Migration Resources

USEFUL APPS TO HAVE ON YOUR PHONE

#MMNapp - Safe Migration Information

The **#MMNapp** gives you access to reliable migration information. You will need to connect to the internet to download the app, but once installed, the app works offline as well. You can access the information on your phone at any time.













The app can be downloaded from the Google Play store or downloaded from the USB drive included in this **#MMN** packet.

https://migrantmedia.network/mmn-offline-app/



https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.hyracapps.mmnapp

The app provides:



- Trustworthy information on migration, even offline.
- Information on:
 - migration options
 - different types of visas
 - women in migration
 - education and scholarships
 - alternatives to migration
 - the #MMN_USSD system
 - covid-19 information
 - social media tips
 - web links (when online)

MigApp

MigApp is an app designed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). https://www.iom.int/migapp

The app provides:



- Trustworthy information on migration
- A secure space to communicate with others
- Information on:
 - migration safety
 - visa regulations
 - government policies
 - health guidelines

ANKOMMEN app

An app to help you during your first weeks in Germany. https://ankommenapp.de/APP/DE/Startseite/startseite-node.html







USEFUL WEBSITES

International Organization for Migration

Based in Switzerland, IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration.

www.iom.int

IOM The Gambia: https://gambia.iom.int/



InfoMigrants

News and information written for migrants, to counter misinformation at all stages of the journey: before migrating, along the route, and in the destination countries. Available in Arabic, French, and English.

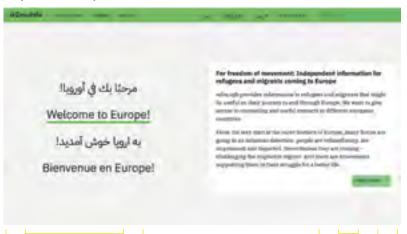
https://www.infomigrants.net/en/



W2eu.info

Independent information for refugees and migrants coming to Europe. Information on rights, laws, and the border situation of almost every European country (in English, French, Arab, and Farsi).

https://w2eu.info/



Alarmphone

Hotline for boat people in distress. Offers support and organizes rescues.

The Alarmphone is NOT a rescue number, but is there to pressure others to help.

Alarmphone cannot rescue anyone: they are not in the area and do not have boats or helicopters. But if you are in distress at sea, follow these steps:

- 1. Call the coast guard and tell them about your situation of distress.
- 2. Call Alarmphone. They will try to make sure that your distress call is acted upon.
- 3. If you are not promptly rescued by the coast guard, call Alarmphone again. They will inform humanitarian organizations and public media to put pressure on rescue services.



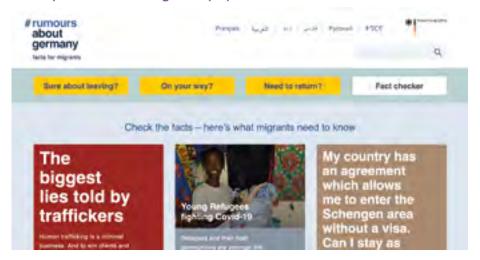
In case of emergency call +334 86 51 71 61

https://alarmphone.org/en/about/

RUMOURS ABOUT GERMANY

The German Federal Foreign Office offers migrants reliable information to counter inaccurate information and rumors spread by smugglers and traffickers.

https://rumoursaboutgermany.info



Waka Well Project

The Waka Well Project provides Gambians with information about the visas needed to go abroad and how to apply for them. Information is offered for multiple destination countries.

https://wakawell.info/en/gambia/germany/



PODCASTS ABOUT MIGRATION EXPERIENCES

#MMN podcast stories

In our podcast series, we talk about the different migration experiences of migrants, returnees, the diaspora, people in business, and students. Available at https://migrantmedia.network/podcast-the-gambia/or on the USB stick.



InfoMigrants Personal Stories

Personal stories from migrants about their experiences. https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/36087/ infomigrants-launches-podcast-tales-from-the-border



RESOURCES FOR MIGRANTS IN EUROPE

Couchsurfing is a website that connects you with someone who can offer you a place to sleep for a night or two.

https://www.couchsurfing.com/

Give Something to Berlin is an association that connects migrants, refugees, and locals to engage in building an open and inclusive society. https://gsbtb.org/de/#!/

Refugees on Rails is an organization that teaches refugees how to program and code, free of charge.

http://refugeesonrails.org/en/

Kiron University is an online learning platform that offers free courses for migrants to expand their skill sets.

https://kiron.ngo/

The European Network of Migrant Women is a migrant-women-led feminist, secular, non-partisan platform that advocates for the rights, freedoms and dignity of migrant, refugee, and ethnic minority women and girls in Europe.

https://www.migrantwomennetwork.org/

MEnt is a program that gives migrants and refugees the chance to be supported in the first steps of launching entrepreneurial projects. http://www.mentproject.eu/

Migration Hub offers training programs and networking for migrants. https://www.migrationhub.network/joinus

