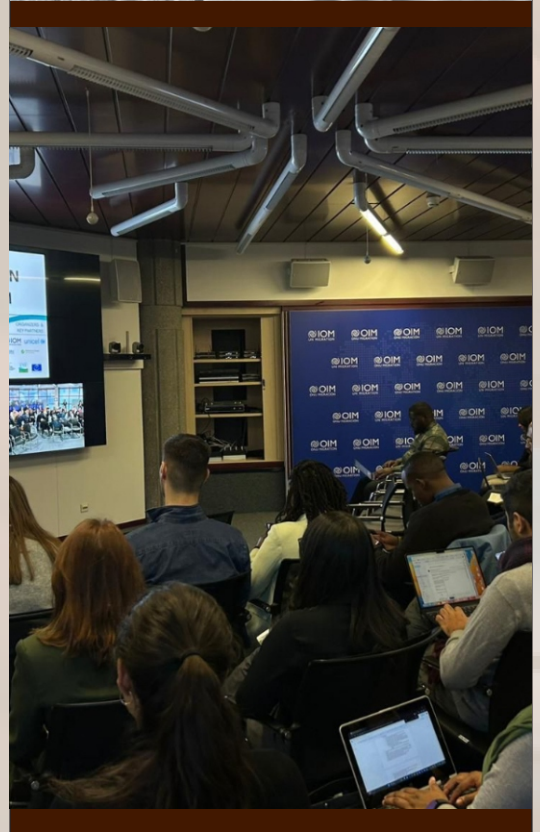




2024 ANNUAL REPORT

www.diasporaafrica.org





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OVERVIEW

The Problem

While migration issues constantly make news globally, a low percentage of homegrown platforms assume the burden of documenting African migration in a manner that is accessible and reachable to migrants themselves and Africans everywhere. This gap does a great disservice to how social setups, global policymakers, and relevant institutions receive, understand, and respond to harsh immigration laws.

The Solution

We are working with on-the-ground journalists and contributing writers within and outside the African continent to tell untold stories of migrant resistance and survival globally. Diaspora Africa works through storytelling and research to amplify the voices of migrants and advance migrant justice in the context of Africa. We are committed to building a space where African migrants themselves are empowered and able to lend their voice toward actualizing a migration idea that is safe and beneficial for all.

Strategic Axes

- The Storytelling Project
- The Migration Media Hub
- The Migration Monitor

LETTER FROM THE CO-FOUNDERS



Dear friends,

It is a thing of excitement that we get to reflect on the past year. To reflect is to take a pause and to recognize and acknowledge our efforts and the efforts of our stakeholders everywhere, including you. We sat with our priorities and redefined our strategies towards standing and fighting for African migrant justice through independent media, storytelling, research, and knowledge building. Our decision to launch Diaspora Africa in 2023 has been the most necessary ever. We have continued to find even stronger reasons to forge ahead.



In 2024, we extended our arms to storytelling and research. There was a need to reach out to more African journalists examining the patterns of visa inequality, the commingling of natural disasters and infrastructural neglect, and the current dilemmas of misinformation and disinformation.

We saw the consequences of misinformation, especially its political connections, as a disservice and harm to the broader African community. We engaged with experts and agencies to explore the financial dimensions of migration in the context of remittances and their role in promoting democracy and civic engagement in Africa. We also worked to establish a new pedagogical turn towards our knowledge-based programming. We analyzed the Safety Rwanda Bill, recommending safer migration decision-making that benefits all. Additionally, we utilized African migration data to confront human rights violations and contribute to the archival deficit of migration resources and data.

What we saw happen in 2024 was how community building, collaborations, and educational empowerment can transform perceptions and move ideas. It happened with our training for journalists in Lagos, with the launch of our migration monitor and database, and with our engagement at the 14th summit of the Global Forum on Migration & Development and the IOM in Geneva.

There is still more work to be done and more stories to be told. The road is never rosy, but each moment that we realize the urgency to push, each moment that we strive to mobilize ideas and actions, then we are emboldened to combat and resolve adversity.

Therefore, we have invited you to look through our road in 2024, with the hope that our summaries and flashpoints will give you a sense of your contributions to our work and the potentials that lie ahead.

Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Amaka Obioji'.

Amaka Obioji
Co-founder & Managing Editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chimee Adijoha'.

Chimee Adijoha
Co-founder & Editor



FLAGSHIPS

Diaspora Africa worked on major programs, including the Diaspora Africa Monitor and the Media Migration Hub. Both projects advanced knowledge of migration trends and reporting in Africa and solidified awareness of Diaspora Africa's presence and work.

Inaugural cohort



Reporting Climate Migration



www.diasporafrica.org | [@diasporafrica](https://twitter.com/diasporafrica)

Migration Media Hub

Diaspora Africa launched its annual Media Migration Hub in July 2024 to provide free courses and adequate toolkits on ethical migration reporting. The courses include research, storytelling for justice, data sourcing, ethical journalism, data interpretation, and solutions journalism.

20 Nigerian journalists (11 males and 9 females) aged 18 to 35 were selected to participate in the Media Migration Hub's first cohort, established in partnership with the International Organization for Migration on July 9 and 10, 2024, in Lagos State, Nigeria.

Six facilitators from different Nigerian newsrooms provided extensive resources on topics related to climate migration reporting in Africa.



The facilitators covered major topics such as:

Communication for Behavior Change and a Diverse Audience

The Migration Writing Clinic

Data Interpretation for Solutions Journalism

Ethical Journalism: Championing Change in the Media

Research, Data Sourcing & Mining

Unpacking Climate Change Event in Nigeria: Historical Happenings and Legal Frameworks across Environmental Issues

The training also featured a policy session tagged “Climate-Induced Migration in Africa: Policy, Social Implications & Interventions.”



Testimonials from the Hub:

“I learnt about the language and sensitivity needed in the reporting of climate migration, as well as the important use of data.”



Chiamaka Dike

“Engaging in discussions about respectfully and truthfully portraying the migration stories of communities was an enriching experience.”



Bethel Olujobi

“The training was enlightening. It showed migration as a reality, inspiring us to amplify human stories beyond numbers. We can do better.”



Yahuza Bawage

Diaspora Africa Migration Monitor

The Migration Monitor serves as a resource center for journalists, researchers, and policymakers to track migration patterns on the African continent, guide migration reporting, and inform stakeholders in decision-making. These insights are essential to exposing recurring events and looming issues and setting the groundwork for advocacy and activism in the right direction.

The Monitor, launched in September 2024, uses available migration-related data across African countries from 2016 until 2023. Its interactive interface highlights the top events each year, from the about 50 refugees who sank in a rubber boat in 2021 to hundreds of migrants in a similar incident in Greece in 2023.





PUBLICATIONS



The editorial team published 10 stories and reports from African journalists in different countries. The stories exposed themes ranging from visa challenges and academic scholarships to queer rights, internal displacement, and flooding, among others.

Read our 2024 stories:

- ✓ [Climate Violence and Mobility in Zimbabwe: Survival for Domboshava Community Residents](#)
- ✓ [Who Deserves to Emigrate? Mapping the Loopholes at the Africa-Italy Summit of 2024](#)
- ✓ [Forced Migration: Conflict is Disrupting the Future of Education in Sudan](#)
- ✓ [How Misinformation Fuelled Anti-Immigration Protests in the UK](#)
- ✓ [When VISA Inequality Hinders Cultural Mobility: “Art Knows No Bounds” Until It Reaches the Border](#)
- ✓ [How Infrastructural Neglect and Climate Change Heightened the Displacement Matrix in Northeastern Nigeria](#)
- ✓ [Rainy Days and Falling Roofs: The Plight of Odoiye’s Aging Buildings and Low-Income Residents](#)
- ✓ [Surviving Uganda’s Anti-Gay Law While Outed, Exiled, & Mourning](#)
- ✓ [Education Without Borders: African Students Abroad are Rethinking their Decisions Amidst Global Discrimination](#)
- ✓ [The Meeting Point between Gender-based Violence & Migration Patterns in Nigeria](#)



“Just being home, it was just like I can live life the way I want to live.”

Borders and People

The third episode of Diaspora Africa’s podcast, Borders and People, featuring voices of migrants and refugees, was aired on Spotify on January 7, 2024. In the episode, Chimee Adìḡha, Diaspora Africa’s co-founder and editor, spoke with Omo Pastor, a New York-bred Nigerian storyteller, about traveling home (to Nigeria) and her curiosity about her origins.



ADVANCING POLICY ENGAGEMENTS



“I do not believe sufficient evidence can be obtained to demonstrate that the policy will have a deterrent effect significant enough to make the policy value for money. This does not mean that the MEDP cannot have the appropriate deterrent effect; just that there is not sufficient evidence for me to conclude that it will.” (Mathew Rycroft 2022).

Diaspora Africa analyzed the controversial policy for allowing the removal or refoulement of refugees and asylum seekers from the UK to Rwanda. The policy, the Safety Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024, recognizes Rwanda as a “safe country” despite the gross evidence of human rights abuses in the country.

The policy analysis traced the timeline of the Safety Rwanda Bill from its introduction on the 6th of December 2023 to the parliament's approval and royal assent on the 22nd of April 2024. It also dissects the implications of this policy for other African migrants, especially those from the sub-Saharan region, who constitute a fifth of the entire illegal migrant population in Europe.



EVENTS

01 January 24, 2024

14th Summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

Diaspora Africa's co-founder and managing editor, Amaka Felly Obioji, was invited to speak at the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) 14th Summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. She discussed how Diaspora Africa has used digital solutions to address gendered vulnerabilities and advance positive narratives about migration.

“We understand that migration affects women differently and at Diaspora Africa, we use data to research how migration policy affects women. For example, we recently examined the UK’s new migration policy, which restricts

postgraduate students on non-research courses from bringing family members or dependents during their studies in the UK. We understand the importance of family for women because of their cultural backgrounds and beliefs. In light of this, it is essential that governments take a gender-responsive approach when adopting migration policies,” Obioji remarked.



02 December 18, 2024

International Migrants Day

On December 18, 2024, in honor of International Migrants Day, a live webinar was conducted in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, Nigeria, to assess how diaspora remittances contribute to the stabilization of democracies. The topic, “Remitting for Democracy: How Diaspora Remittances Can Shape Democratic & Civic Engagement,” was integral to portraying one of the positive aspects of migration.

DIASPORA AFRICA **IOM UN MIGRATION** **Live Webinar**

REMITTING FOR DEMOCRACY:
How Diaspora Remittances Can Shape Democratic & Civic Engagement

📅 18th December 2024
🕒 2PM WAT

<https://diasporafrica.org/remittordemocracy>



IN THE NEWS

In October, the International Journalists' Network (IJNet) featured Diaspora Africa showcasing Migration Monitor and the training of early and mid-career Nigerian journalists in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The report also emphasized the death of specialists in migration reporting and the difficulty independent newsrooms, including Diaspora Africa, face in obtaining resources.

OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

We are most grateful to our friends and supporters, whose support has held us and pushed us. The following names have contributed to Diaspora Africa's work through service or financial support.

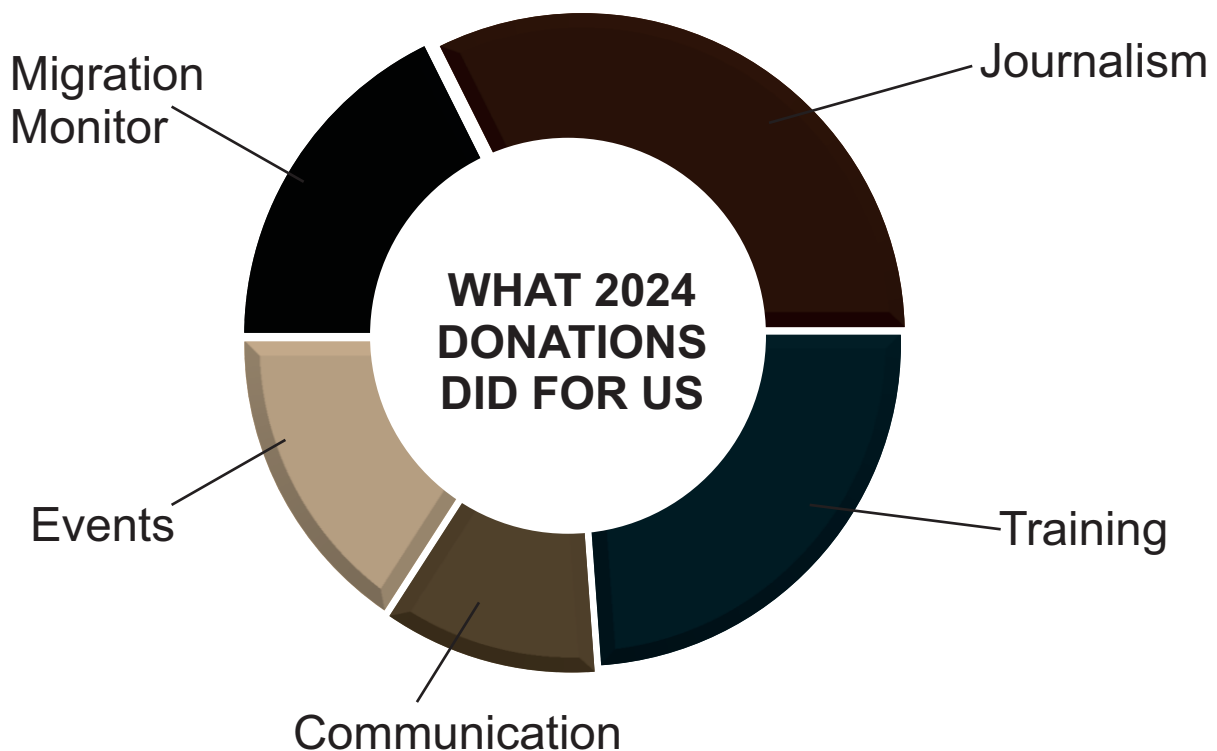
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kossisso Udodi | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morenike Oyeleke | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nusaiba Ibrahim |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iwatutu Joyce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moyosoro Adebiji | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promise Okezie |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jude Obidiagha | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Kenechukwu | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sefa Ikpa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emmanuel Ogunleye | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Olakunke Aro | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bravin Onditi |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Great Udochi | | |

NUMBERS IN SCOPE

Website Impressions

6,309
Visitors

11,457
Views



Donate



There is still more work to be done and more stories to be told. The road is never rosy, but each moment that we realize the urgency to push, each moment that we strive to mobilize ideas and actions, then we are emboldened to combat and resolve adversity.

Amaka Obioji & Chimee Adịọha