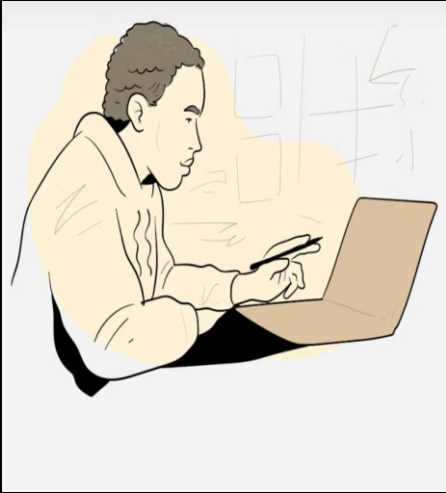


Entry



Who Wants Africans on Their Soil?



Editor's Note

The latest global migration policies are a paradox. While the Global North faces an existential demographic decline, its solution remains utilitarian: recruiting hands while rejecting people. In this issue, we trace South Korea's expansion of its E-9 non-professional visa quotas, specifically targeting required labour gaps in manufacturing,

and Kazakhstan's 2030 migration strategy to funnel foreign labour into high-strain sectors like construction and agriculture, raising questions of equity. This points to a school of thought portraying migrants as 'tools' used to build the future of a nation, yet often systematically excluded, where they may never be granted the right to belong.

Across Europe, governments are re-evaluating the safety of war zones in a desperate bid to initiate repatriations. This is evident in Germany's and Greece's moves, which each facilitate voluntary returns and establish return hubs in non-European countries.

While more young Africans are being pushed north to pursue education and greener pastures, recent policies impede their aspirations, rendering the promise of global mobility illusory. But Africa continues to struggle to devise a unified approach to migration diplomacy. If countries continue to treat refugees and foreign students and workers as temporary economic units, migration remains a revolving door, one that is designed for migrant workers to pick up the crumbs, while the bakery is strictly off-limits.

Migration Monitor

SOUTH KOREA:

To address labour shortages caused by the low birth rate, South Korea is expanding its E-9 non-professional employment visa quotas to record levels. This aims to prevent a demographic cliff that threatens the country's economic stability, despite the lack of amendments to migrant labour inequalities in the country.



GERMANY:

Policymakers in Germany are raising concerns about the severely war-torn infrastructure of Syria as refugees continue to voluntarily leave the country. In 2025, the government froze its UN refugee resettlement program, leaving hundreds of refugees, including those from South Sudan and the DRC, stranded in Kenyan camps after their flights were cancelled.



UK:

The British government has suspended the processing of student visa applications for nationals of Cameroon, Sudan, and other countries due to rising regional instability and security concerns. In an effort to tighten asylum rules, the Home Office has reduced the duration of refugee status reviews from 5 years to 30 months.



KAZAKHSTAN:

Kazakhstan has launched a comprehensive migration policy through 2030, including a point-based system for permanent residency and targeted recruitment within regions experiencing shortages, especially in construction and agriculture. While this effort might point to ensuring available jobs for migrants, it may also mean underutilising skills, particularly of the African diaspora in the country.



VANUATU:

Vanuatu has officially banned Sudanese citizens from participating in its Citizenship by Investment program to align with international security standards and maintain global visa-free access. The government has also increased the minimum investment threshold and introduced stricter vetting protocols to enhance the program's transparency and reputation.

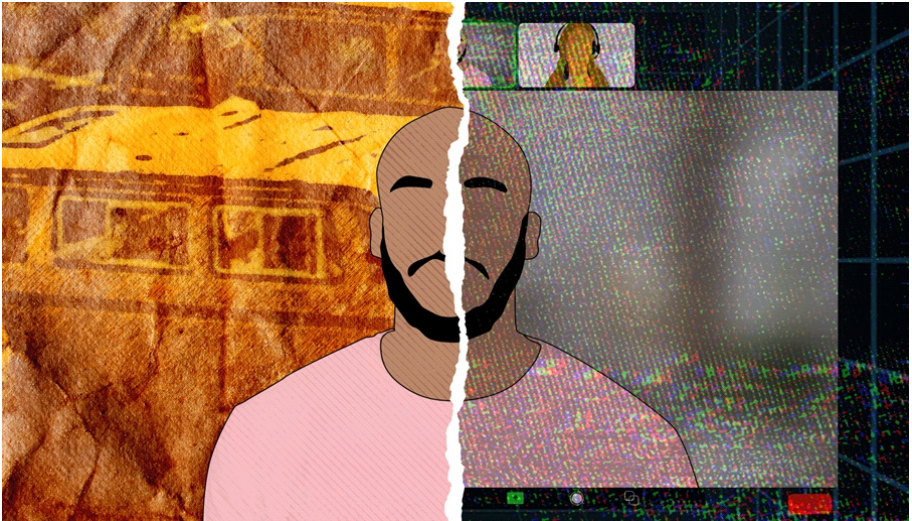


GREECE:

Alongside four other European countries, Greece plans to establish deportation hubs in developing countries, specifically in Africa. Without naming the countries, the Greek migration minister said the centres will host individuals whose protection bids have been rejected, to reduce the number of people arriving in the country illegally.



From our Writers

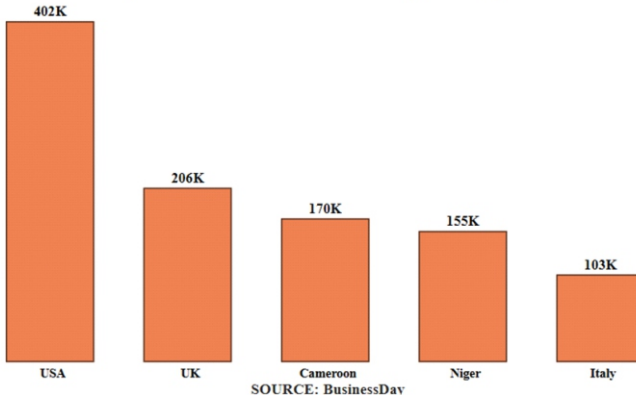


Living Here, Earning There: The Rise of Nigeria's Digital Migrants:

Victor Ejechi

The rise of Nigeria's digital migrants has far-reaching economic implications. By earning in stable foreign currencies such as the US dollar, remote workers help boost Nigeria's foreign exchange reserves, which can help stabilise the naira and reduce the country's reliance on volatile export revenue.

Top Countries of destination for Nigerian Migrants



SOURCE: BusinessDay

Individuals earning in foreign currency often have greater purchasing power within the local economy, increasing demand for goods and services and driving business growth. Many digital migrants also reinvest their earnings in Nigerian startups, real estate, and other businesses, thereby fostering domestic economic development and job creation.

Beyond financial contributions, this trend facilitates the transfer of skills and knowledge. Exposure to global best practices enables Nigerian professionals to improve workforce competency and introduce

new levels of innovation in the local job market.

This exchange of expertise strengthens Nigeria's human capital and improves its positioning in the global digital economy. Additionally, the success of digital migrants is inspiring a new generation of young Nigerians to acquire digital skills, further expanding the country's participation in the global gig economy.

<https://diasporaafrica.org/living-here-earning-there-the-rise-of-nigerias-digital-migrants/>

African Migration News
In Your Pocket
Biweekly

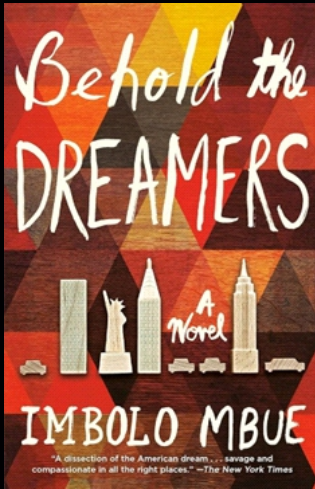
Compiled
By Migrants
For Migrants



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What to Read Now

Behold the Dreamers, by Imbolo Mbue



What does an African immigrant in America face, and how far away is the promise of the American dream? Cameroonian-American novelist Imbolo Mbue explores these questions in her novel *Behold the Dreamers*. The story follows Jende Jonga, a Cameroonian immigrant who gets a job as a chauffeur for a wealthy Wall Street executive in New York. Through Jende and his wife Neni, Mbue portrays the hopes that often accompany migration, that longing for stability, opportunities, and a better future for one's family.

However, as the collapse of Lehman Brothers shakes the financial world, the fragile foundation of their new life begins. The novel reveals the tensions between aspirations, facing the exact reality that is the outside world, showing how immigration status, class inequality, and economic instability shape the lives of African migrants



Behold the Dreamers ultimately asks us to reflect on the distance between what the American dream offers and the difficult realities many immigrants face.

Resources



For asylum seekers with the right to work in the UK, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) offers services to support refugees and asylum seekers get into employment in the UK. This includes one-to-one casework support and group training opportunities, access to a comprehensive job readiness course, which helps individuals find jobs, create excellent applications, build interview skills, and understand their legal rights in the workplace.

[International Rescue Committee UK](#)

In Numbers

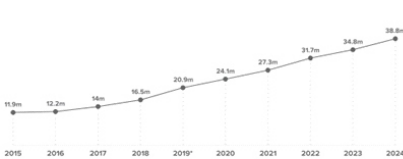
Internally displaced people (IDPs)

38.8m at the end of 2024
47% Share of the global total
33.1m IDPs by conflict and violence
5.7m IDPs by disasters

Countries with the most IDPs



Number of IDPs (2015-2024)

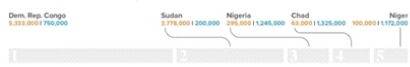


Total number of IDPs in millions
 *First year available data is available

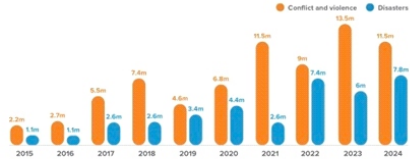
Internal displacements (movements)

19.3m during 2024
29% Share of the global total
11.5m Internal displacements by conflict and violence
7.8m Internal displacements by disasters

Countries with the most internal displacements



Internal displacements (2015-2024)



Internal displacements in millions

Numbers of IDPs are not total as of the end of 2024. Internal displacements are the total number for all of 2024. All data on these two pages is for Sub-Saharan Africa

Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

By the end of 2024, about 38.8 million people worldwide were living as internally displaced persons (IDPs), people forced to flee their homes but who remain within their own countries.

Unlike refugees, IDPs do not cross international borders. They are displaced by conflict, violence, and disasters, but must seek safety elsewhere inside their country. These numbers reflect ongoing conflicts, political instability, and humanitarian crises across parts of Africa.

The Mobility Gaze



Featured image: In May 1803, at Dunbar Creek on St. Simons Island in Georgia, 75 Igbo captives resisted slavery in the Americas by intentionally drowning. This event is popularly known in history as the Ibo Landing.

Illustration by Ayanfe Olarinde



When you JOIN THE COMMUNITY, you get free access to:

- The biweekly migration magazine
- Verified global migration updates
- Resources and opportunities
- Policy and data on migration explained simply
- Help decide what you want us to talk about in our next issue

How Can You Join?

Message us on WhatsApp to be a part of the conversation by sending "Hi" to [+44 7986 983956](https://www.whatsapp.com/business/profile/447986983956), and we will allow you into the room!

We are building a newsroom & community that counters misinformation and bias in global mainstream news about African migration. We are working with local and cross-border journalists to challenge biased global reporting frameworks that shape migration. We want to disrupt extractive storytelling practices & expand the range of perspectives represented in international media discourse surrounding migration.

The magazine is independently funded by the Diaspora Africa team. Many updates featured in this publication are sourced from our Migration Monitor database, which tracks migration trends affecting African migrants and diasporic communities globally.

monitor.diasporafrica.org

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