

---

# Voices of African migrants

---

IMS' regional Africa Programme (2017-2018) works out of four sub-regions in Southern (Zimbabwe), Eastern (Somalia), Western (Niger) and Northern Africa (Morocco). The programme seeks to ensure that media audiences are better informed on migration issues and the life and concerns of migrants.



Photo: Unsplash

---

## We focus on

- Support and build capacity for journalists to produce ethical, professional and in-depth reporting of migration issues integrating voices of migrants (men and women) into journalistic stories
- Strength networking among journalists across Africa covering migration issues
- Identify best practices for media coverage of migrant issues

## Impact

- More than 80 stories (radio, TV, written press, online media) produced and published across Africa which integrates migration issues and the life and concerns of migrants
- More than 50 journalists trained and with strengthened capacity to cover journalistic stories on migration where voices of migrants are included
- Networks built between journalists with special interest on migration which is used for exchange of story ideas, factual information on migration and journalistic tools
- Research has given news insights into how audiences in different countries and with different cultural backgrounds understand and interpret journalistic stories on migration
- Guidelines on best practice on how to cover migration developed for journalists in Africa

## Best practice for covering migration

- Be cautious on terminology for reporting about migration
- Do not think in dichotomies (especially 'positive' and 'negative' stories). Instead, work towards nuances when exploring stories.
- Ensure to include voices of migrants in journalistic stories, but do not ignore systemic and structural factors to migration
- Unpack the local context as much and as accurately as possible.

## Background

Very little is being done to ensure that issues related to migration are covered accurately in media in African countries or that voices of migrants and those affected by migration are being heard. This is compounded by a lack of knowledge on how media can be effectively used to address these issues.

The programme Voices of African migrants was developed as a pilot to address this gap by identifying and testing new approaches and tools for African journalists to cover migration.

The programme is managed by International Media Support (IMS) in cooperation with local partner organisations in Morocco, Niger, Kenya/Somalia and Zimbabwe. The programme is funded by Ford Foundation.

Stories produced in the programme can be found at [www.migrantvoices.org](http://www.migrantvoices.org)



paving the way for good journalism

IMS is a non-profit organisation working to support local media in countries affected by armed conflict, human insecurity and political transition. [www.mediasupport.org](http://www.mediasupport.org)

**CONTACT**  
[info@mediasupport.org](mailto:info@mediasupport.org)

**VISIT**  
[www.mediasupport.org](http://www.mediasupport.org)

**CONNECT**  
 [forfreemedia](https://twitter.com/forfreemedia)  [InternationalMediaSupport](https://www.facebook.com/InternationalMediaSupport)