

NRW ZUSAMMEN

3rd Relief Package

Find out how the German Government tries to help citizens and companies navigate through the energy crisis

4. Edition

Alle 2 oder 3 Monate
Every 2 or 3 months

4. Auflage

2000 x
€1000

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your event in NRW

Afrikanische
Migranten
in Europa

Was afrikaner dazu bringt, nach europa
auszuwandern

MSO
Funding
in NRW

Discover what and how
to get funding

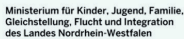


A magazine for people of African origin in the state of North Rhine Westphalia
Ein Magazin für Menschen afrikanischer Herkunft im Nordrhein Westfalen



An African Impulse e.V. Magazine

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Migrant Self-Organizations for
two more years with 4.4 million euros

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Afrikanische Migranten in Europa

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Funding program
2,000 x 1,000 Euro for your commitment*

2.000 x 1.000 Euro für das
Engagement in NRW

Förderprogramm »2.000 x 1.000 Euro für das
Engagement«

09 2000 x 1000 € for your commitment

The funding program "2,000 x 1,000 euros for commitment" is a result of the commitment strategy for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. According to the ministry, since 2021, 2,000 projects to strengthen civic engagement on an annually changing priority topic have been funded with 1,000 euros each year. We have a summary of what is funded and how you can get funding



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The 3rd Energy Relief Package

The war in Ukraine and sanctions against Russia have created an energy crisis which has not been seen before. Inflation has skyrocketed, living costs have become extremely expensing in Germany, the citizens are hurting. The German Government has approved a 3rd relief package to ease the pain on citizens. Find out what is in it for you.

Your article

This is your magazine. Do you have a compelling story to tell? Do you have information of relevance to the African community, especially in the target areas of our project? Do you want to advertise your event or business? That information could be in our next edition(s). Get in touch through media@nrw-zusammen.de



Welcome to NRW Zusammen

This project aims, amongst others, to provide relevant information to Africans in the state of NRW on how to get support, including state funding.

The state of North Rhein Westphalia (Nordrhein Westfalen), with its over 17.9 million inhabitants, is the most populous state of Germany. It is very multicultural and has the largest number of Africans in Germany. These Africans are very dynamic and mostly operate within associations centred around their countries of origins or are increasingly taking up measures aimed at integrating with other people in the community.

In 2020 and 2021, the world faced a very tough health pandemic with the Covid 19 which sent countries into lockdowns. The African community way of life here in the state of NRW took a blow as movement and contact was limited. Now we are out of this, and what do we see? We are confronted with another major crisis - an energy crisis which has led to high inflation, a sharp rise in the cost of living and seen the intervention of the state to protect its citizens. Our aim in this edition is to make sure that people of our community have access to state support actions and also for african associations to discover new funding sources for their endeavours.

With six issues of the NRW Magazine planned, we hope to engage the African community in NRW and provide them with targeted information which will help improve their quality of life here.

We would like to thank the Federal Ministry of children, family, refugees and integration of the state of Nordrhein Westfalen for funding this project. Enjoy this issue!

Dipl. Ing. Clement Nkamanyi
President, African Impulse e.V.



Start of a new funding phase

The state government of NRW supports

Migrant Self-Organizations for

two more years with 4.4 million euros

What you should know in order to get the funding

The Ministry for Children, Youth, Family, Equality, Flight and Integration of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (MKJF-GFI) has opened the new phase of funding for migrant organizations (MSO) for the 2023-2024 period. This funding is based on three pillars geared to the respective needs of the MSO. The funding targets specifically projects which deal with topics related to the fight against discrimination and racism, the promotion of democracy and multilingualism. Target goals of associations can be funded too. An innovation this year is the introduction of the possibility of making applications online. The application process and the deadlines for applications shall be published on the website of the Arnsberg district government (Bezirksregierung Arnsberg) at <https://www.bra.nrw.de/integration-migration>. To this end, the Arnsberg district government as well as the specialist centres advising migrant self-organizations as well as the NRW parent network (Elternnetzwerk) are conducting regional and digital information events on explaining how to apply for the funding phase in cooperation with the ministry. Here is what you need to know in order to get funding:

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

Three different types of funding are available based on the experience of the applying association. It should be noted that only one application can be submitted per funding area. These areas are:

- **Startup funding (Anschubförderung)** – This supports newly founded associations in their further development with up to €6000 per year for two years.
- **Individual project funding** – Supports MSOs in carrying out projects to improve the participation of people with an immigrant background in a wide variety of areas of society. The funding is part-financed up to a maximum of EUR 15,000 per financial year.
- **Partner project funding** – This is for experienced MSOs to support, qualify and network inexperienced initiatives and associations of migrants. Projects that show a particularly significant state interest can be funded with a sum of up to 50,000 euros (individual project funding) or 100,000 euros (partner project funding) per budget year

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the funding, you must first of all be a MSOs. But what does MSO mean?

MSOs are associations in which at least half of the members, board members or actively responsible people have a migration background. A person has a migration background if they are not German per Article 116 Paragraph 1 of the Basic Law or if they or at least one of their parents was born outside of what is now the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany and has immigrated to Germany since January 1, 1950.

Other eligibility conditions are:

- The applicant must be a legally recognized registered which works independently of national and international government structures and political parties.
- The goals of the association must be compatible with the goals of the TIntG.
- The activities of the project must be primarily aimed at the situation of people with a migration background in Germany and not at the circumstances in the countries of application.

Migrant activity Funding

Funding for Migrant Associations 2023/2024

- The purpose of the association should not be exclusively dedicated to maintaining the culture of origin or practicing of the religion of its members.
- Only activities that are carried out within the state of North Rhine-Westphalia are eligible for funding.
- In order to receive start-up funding (Anschubförderung), the MSO must have been a legally registered association for at least five years before submitting the application.
- To get funding in the areas of individual or partner projects, the association must prove experience in the implementation of projects.
- In particular, for partner projects, the association must show that it works in regional or national network structures and is willing to engage in intercultural cooperation with organizations from different backgrounds.

>> When can you apply for funding?

For the 2023/24 funding phase, MSOs can submit their applications until October 28, 2022.

Applications received after the regulatory deadline of October 28, 2022 will be reviewed with priority and can only be approved if sufficient budgetary funds are still available and there is a corresponding state interest.

>> How does the funding procedure work?

The approval is preceded by an objectified ranking procedure, which is carried out in coordination with the Ministry for Children, Youth, Family, Equality, Flight and Integration of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia. After your application has been approved, you will receive a grant notification from the district government. Only then can you start implementing the measure.

To pay out the funds, you would have to do so through a request document which you will find in the downloads section of the website.

During the implementation of your project, you have to keep a list of receipts for all income and expenses. After the end of the project, you must submit a proof of use of the funds within the deadline specified in the grant notification. If your activities span 2 years, you must also submit an interim statement for the first year by a certain deadline.

You can find detailed information on how to apply, how to carry out the project you have applied for and proof of the use of funds in the guide "State funding made easy" found at https://www.bra.nrw.de/system/files/media/document/file/MSO-Broschuere-final_Digitalversion_0.pdf.

>> How do I submit an application

It is recommended to applicants use online access. The online application can be submitted through the link <https://www.integration.web.nrw.de/onlineantrag/programm/2>

After registration, you will find the self-explanatory application documents in the website.

After the digital transmission, the printout must be signed and sent to the district government by post, fax or e-mail (scan in PDF format) to the following address:

Bezirksregierung Arnsberg
Dezernat 36 - Kompetenzzentrum für Integration -
Seibertzstr.1
59821 Arnsberg
Fax: 02931 82 46023
Email: foerderungmso@bra.nrw.de

>> How do I submit an application

The Arnsberg district government as well as the specialist advice centers for migrant self-organizations and the NRW parent network have been conducting regional and digital information events on the new funding phase in cooperation with the ministry. You can find out all you need to know through this link: <https://www.bra.nrw.de/integration-migration/kompetenzzentrum-fuer-integration/migrantinnenselbstorganisationen/foerderung-von-migrantinnenselbstorganisationen-mso-foerderung>



The 3rd Energy Relief Package Larger in scope than the first two combined

Third Energy Relief Package



"Germany stands together in this difficult time"

its on the electricity market.

"The third relief package we have now put together is larger in scope than the first two combined," Chancellor Olaf Scholz emphasized at the press conference on the results of the coalition committee on Sunday. Together, the three relief packages add up to a total volume of 95 billion euros. "That's a lot to move. It is necessary, and it should help ensure that citizens can walk through this situation with us," Scholz said.

"It took some time, but I think the result is convincing," the German Finance Minister Christian Lindner is quoted of saying about the planned package. "The third relief package is an important response to the crisis. It is based on a decisive principle: those who earn less will be relieved absolutely more," said Federal Minister of Economics Robert Habeck.

THE 3rd RELIEF PACKAGE IN DETAIL

Relief in Electricity Prices:

An electricity price brake is intended to provide noticeable relief for citizens - and also for small and medium-sized enterprises with utility tariffs. They should be able to use a basic supply at cheaper prices. The incentive to save energy will be retained. The electricity price brake is intended to help bring down electricity prices overall.

We are in very difficult times.

Germany and the rest of the world are just coming out of a major health crisis caused by the COVID 19 Virus. One would obviously be breathing a sigh of relief, but no, now we are into another crisis – an energy crisis. Russia declared war on Ukraine. Europe and some other countries of the world are supporting Ukraine to defend itself from Russian aggression using different military means and sanctions and at the same time trying to prevent a NATO confrontation with Russia which could lead to a nuclear war. Part

of the support is through sanctioning Russia and preventing the use of Russian gas which has been a major source of energy for Europe and Germany in particular. With these sanctions, there has been a major cut of energy supplies to Germany. With this crisis, Germany is seeing a soaring in the price of some important commodities citizens need in their daily lives, a high rise in inflation and also the energy costs for citizens are skyrocketing daily. The German government recognizes the difficulty citizens are facing and has been drafting strategies to support them in these difficult times - partly through energy relief packages.

Today we are at the 3rd relief package. But what is in this 3rd relief package for you?

According to the German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, the third relief package will reduce the burden on citizens by 65 billion euros. The chancellor said this after the coalition committee agreed on the package stating that the aim is to guide the country well through this period - through short-term aid, structural changes to curb the rise in energy prices, and the skimming of windfall prof-

Together, the three relief packages add up to a total volume of 95 billion euros. "That's a lot to move. It is necessary, and it should help ensure that citizens can walk through this situation with us," German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said

In addition, the increase in network charges in the German electricity network is to be curbed. Grid charges are part of electricity prices and are therefore borne by electricity customers.

High random profits of electricity producers will be skimmed off:

In order to finance the electricity price brake, windfall profits of electricity producers are to be at least partially skimmed off. Energy companies that, for example, produce renewable, coal-fired or nuclear power at consistently low production costs are currently making very high windfall profits on the European electricity market. The whole of Europe is massively affected by the sharp rise in electricity prices. The German government is therefore working hard in the European Union to ensure that such windfall profits no longer occur or can be skimmed off. The EU energy ministers will hold a special meeting on September 9 to discuss the skimming of windfall profits and the planned electricity price brake.

Increase in CO2 price is postponed:

In order not to place an additional burden on citizens and companies in terms of energy costs, the increase in the CO2 price due at the beginning of 2023 is to be postponed by one year. The CO2 price for fossil fuels such as gasoline, diesel, heating oil and natural gas would regularly rise by five euros per metric ton on January 1, 2023.

Crisis-proof energy supply:

In the medium and long term, the situation on the energy markets will ease when more secure alternatives to Russian gas are available. The German government has been working on this since taking office at the beginning of December 2021, with gas storage facilities already more than 85 percent full a month earlier. The first liquefied natural gas terminals will come on stream early next year.

Saving energy remains important. This is how we as a country are getting through this difficult time together. And it helps for each and every one of us to limit price increases.

Support for families:

Child benefits will be increased to provide special support for families. The increase will take place as early as January 1, 2023, by 18 euros per month for the first and second child. This will apply for the years 2023 and 2024.

For a family with two children, this means 432 euros more per year for the next two years. In view of the rising cost of living, this is particularly important for families with low household incomes.

Following the coalition's decision, it was also decided that the increase in child benefits would also apply to the third child. "The child benefit for the third child will be equalized, i.e. increased to the same level as the child benefit for the first two children," said Federal Family Minister Lisa Paus in response. "That means there will be 237 euros a month for each of the first, second and third children."

Families with low incomes will also be supported by a further

increase in the child supplement (Kinderzuschlags). The maximum amount of the child supplement has already been increased to 229 euros per month per child as of July 1, 2022.

To alleviate the additional burden on these families due to inflation, the maximum amount of the child supplement will be increased again from January 1, 2023, it will be increased again to 250 euros per month. This will apply until the introduction of the basic child benefit (Kindergrundsicherung).

One-time payment for students:

Students and technical students are also affected by rising energy costs. Following the heating allowance for Bafög recipients, all students and technical students are now to receive a one-off payment of 200 euros. The federal government will bear the costs. It will consult with the states on how the payment can be made quickly and unbureaucratically at the local level.

Higher housing allowance for more eligible persons:

From January 1, 2023, the biggest housing benefit reform in Germany's history is to take place. In the future, significantly more low-income earners will receive a higher housing allowance. The number of people entitled to housing benefit is to be increased to two million. In the future, the housing allowance will permanently include a climate and heating cost component.

Short-term second heating allowance:

For the heating period from September to December 2022, there is to be a one-off second heating cost allowance for housing benefit recipients: 415 euros are planned for one person, 540 euros for two persons, and an additional 100 euros for each additional person.

One-time payment for pensioners:

Pensioners are to receive a one-off energy price lump sum of 300 euros from the pension insurance fund on December 1. Because it is taxable, the lump sum has a greater effect on lower pensions.

Midi job: raising the limit to 2,000 euros:

For employees with low monthly incomes, relief on social security contributions (health, unemployment and pension insurance) is particularly helpful. It is already regulated by law that on October 1, 2022, the maximum limit for employment in the transitional sector (midi-job) will be raised from 1,300 euros to 1,600 euros. This maximum limit is now to be raised to 2,000 euros a month from January 1, 2023. This will relieve the burden on employees in this wage range by around 1.3 billion euros a year, as they will pay significantly lower contributions for their social insurance.

Extension of short-time allowance:

The special arrangements for short-time allowances (Kurzarbeitsgeld) will be extended beyond Sept. 30 2022.



The 3rd Energy Relief Package Larger in scope than the first two combined

Third Energy Relief Package

This will provide security for companies and employees.

Introduction of a citizen's income:

Unemployment benefit II and social benefit will be replaced by the modern citizen's income (**Bürgergeld**) on January 1, 2023. The adjustment period for the annual increase in the citizen's income will be changed in such a way that the inflation to be expected in the year of adjustment will be taken into account. In this way, inflation will be taken into account better and faster in the future. This will begin on January 1, 2023, at the start of the citizen's income and will lead to an increase of around 500 euros.

Reduction of cold progression:

The rate benchmarks in the income tax scale will be adjusted. This will benefit around 48 million taxpayers - employees, pensioners, the self-employed and entrepreneurs - from January 1, 2023. These values will be adjusted in the fall when the progression and subsistence minimum report is available.

Nationwide public transport ticket:

The temporary 9-euro ticket for the months of June to August was a great success. A nationwide local transport ticket is therefore to be introduced. The transport ministers of the federal and state governments are working on a joint concept for a nationwide, digitally bookable subscription ticket. The aim is a ticket costing around 49 to 69 euros per month.

Value added tax in gastronomy:

The reduction of the sales tax for food in the catering industry to seven percent will be extended. This is intended to ease the burden on the catering industry and prevent further inflation.

National minimum taxation:

The German government will already begin implementing the internationally agreed global minimum taxation at national level. This will lead to billions in additional revenue in the long term.

Further measures for financial relief:

Abolition of so-called double taxation (pension): Taxpayers are to be able to fully deduct their pension contributions as early as January 1, 2023. This will thus happen two years earlier than originally planned. In future, pensions will be taxed in the payout phase in old age.

Reduction of sales tax for gas to seven percent: Temporarily limited until the end of March 2024, the reduced tax rate of seven percent will apply to gas consumption instead of the normal tax rate of 19 percent. When the reduction takes effect on October 1, 2022, this measure is expected to have a direct anti-inflationary impact. Deferral and improvement

of the home office flat rate: The home office flat rate, which has already been extended until the end of 2022, will be deferrable and improved. This will allow an income tax deduction of 5 euros per home office day, up to a maximum of 600 euros per year. Families with smaller apartments that do not have a separate study will also be relieved.

Aids for companies:

In particular, energy-intensive companies that are unable to pass on the increase in their energy costs will receive even greater support under a program. In addition, the existing measures will be extended until the end of the year and their content will also be expanded.

The KfW program, which includes credit assistance of one hundred billion euros, will also be able to help those who have run into difficulties as a result of high energy costs. Companies will continue to receive support for investments in making their energy supply more efficient and converting it. For energy-intensive companies, there are also plans to extend the so-called peak compensation. This is a tax concession for energy and electricity tax.

The electricity price brake will also apply to small and medium-sized companies with a utility tariff.

Measures still in force:

Increase in the employee lump-sum allowance: The employee lump-sum allowance for income tax purposes has been increased by 200 euros to 1,200 euros. Employees can therefore claim their income-related expenses as a lump sum of 1,200 euros on their income tax return without having to provide supporting documents.

Increase in the commuter allowance: The commuter allowance for long-distance commuters (from the 21st kilometer) has been increased from 35 to 38 cents for a limited period until 2026. The mobility bonus also transfers the relief to low-income earners.

The resolutions of the coalition committee before coming into force are carried to the cabinet and pass through the Bundestag and the Bundesrat.

Resolution dated: Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Source: <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/drittes-entlastungspaket-2082584>

This article was translated from the website of the German Federal Government and provided to you by Ignatius Kofete.

Funding program 2,000 x 1,000 Euro for your commitment"

What is funded?

Funding is provided for measures that are based on the annual focus topic of the state and which are characterized by a civic commitment. In line with this year's main theme »Shaping community – living a committed neighborhood«.



2.000 x 1.000 Euro für das
Engagement in **NRW**

Förderprogramm »2.000 x 1.000 Euro für das Engagement«

Last year, the NRW state government started last with the first measures to implement its engagement strategy. It launched the »2,000 x 1,000 euros for commitment«, funding program which it continues this year. The main theme this year is

»Shape the community – live in a committed neighborhood«.

The funding program "2,000 x 1,000 Euros for commitment" is a result of the commitment strategy for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. According to the state government, over, 2,000 projects to strengthen civic engagement on an annually changing priority topic have been funded with 1,000 euros each year since 2021.

What is funded:

Funding is provided for measures that are based on the annual focus topic of the state and which are characterized by a civic commitment. In line with this year's main theme »Shaping community – living a committed neighborhood«, projects such as

- the construction of a community garden,
- a neighborhood summer festival for the sports club or
- an Advent afternoon for young and old are conceivable.

The war in Ukraine and the plight of the people are deeply shocking. In line with the priority topic, projects can therefore also be funded that strengthen the community and togetherness on site and make it easier for refugees to settle into their new neighborhood.

Who can apply for funding:

To get funding, you must be a natural or legal person registered in the state of North Rhine Westphalia (NRW). It should be noted that The state of North Rhine-Westphalia transfers the two million euros in funding to the 54 districts, urban districts and the urban region of Aachen, which, as

the approval authorities, are responsible for processing the applications for funding. Access to the funding is only possible for your association or your initiative until the funding from the approval authority responsible for you has been exhausted. The responsibility of the approval authorities results from the registered office of your association or the location of your initiative. Each funded project receives a fixed amount of 1,000 euros, regardless of the total costs of the project, which does not have to be repaid. A measure whose total eligible expenditure is less than 1,000 euros cannot be funded.

Application deadline, process etc..

The application period started on April 1st and will end on November 1st. Applications are submitted via the funding portal <https://www.engagementfoerderung.nrw/onlineantrag>.

Eligible applications are approved in the order in which they are received by the approval authority. As soon as the funding from an independent city or district has been exhausted, the possibility of submitting an application to this approval authority on Engagement-foerderung.nrw is closed.

You do not have to request the funding separately. They will be paid out in an amount with the validity of the grant notification, but no later than two months before the end of the respective approval period. You will then receive specific information on this with the notification of grant.



Those in relatively better off positions in terms of education and employment are at the fore among those ready to take the risks to travel irregularly to Europe in search of something better."

Afrikanische Migranten in Europa Community, eine Ressource für Stabilität

Menschen afrikanischer Herkunft sehen sich in Deutschland vielfältigen Schwierigkeiten gegenüber, durch die sie ihr volles Potential oft nicht entfalten können. In diesem Artikel versuche ich, zunächst einige Informationen und Zahlen über die Situation von Afrikanern in Deutschland zusammenzustellen, um eine Faktenbasis für zukünftige Diskussionen und Maßnahmen zu etablieren.

Afrikanische Immigranten und Immigrantinnen kommen in den meisten Fällen auf einem von zwei Wegen nach Deutschland. Zum einen gibt es Akademiker, die als Studenten nach Deutschland kommen und danach bezüglich Arbeit und Aufenthaltsstatus meist nur vergleichsweise geringe Probleme haben. Zahlen hierzu finden sich in (Graf, 2019). Demnach ist unter den afrikanischen Staaten, aus denen Personen auf diesem Wege nach Deutschland kamen, Kamerun führend. 2019 erhielten 4038 Kameruner eine Aufenthaltserlaubnis zum Zweck der Ausbildung. (S. 16). Andere afrikanische Herkunftsländer sind dort nicht einzeln aufgeführt. Nach Studienabschluss können solche Personen eine Aufenthaltserlaubnis bekommen, um in Deutschland eine Arbeit zu suchen und anzutreten.

Dieser Personenkreis steigt in die deutsche Gesellschaft legal und oft in einem der „höheren“ Milieus ein und hat auf Grund ihrer höheren Bildung vergleichsweise geringe Probleme, sich zu integrieren, auch wenn diese Gruppe wie andere Afrikaner auch von rassistischer Diskriminierung betroffen sein kann. Zum anderen gibt es Personen, die als Flüchtlinge, Asylbewerber oder „irreguläre“ Einwanderer nach Deutschland kommen, teilweise auf gefährlichen Migrationswegen durch Afrika und über das Mittelmeer. Diese Personen stammen in ihren Herkunftsgesellschaften aus unterschiedlichen Milieus.

Über die genaue Anzahl solcher Einwanderer aus afrikanischen Ländern nach Deutschland sind Angaben schwer zu bekommen. Es gibt Zahlen, die sich auf die gesamte EU beziehen (EU, 2019). Dort findet sich ein Wert für illegale Grenzübertritte in die EU insgesamt. Als einzigen afrikanischen Ländern sind dort Marokko,

Algerien und Somalia angegeben. Die übrigen afrikanischen Länder sind in der Restgruppe „Other“ zu finden, die 29,4% von insgesamt 141.700 bekannten illegalen Grenzüberschreitungen ausmacht. Genaue Rückschlüsse für Deutschland lassen sich hier nicht gewinnen. Bei den irregulären Einwanderern handelt es sich offensichtlich um Personen mit starker Eigeninitiative, die einen gefährlichen und für ihr weiteres Leben umwälzenden Schritt gewagt haben. Diese Personen sind bei ihrer Ankunft in Deutschland in vielen Fällen weitgehend mittellos. Sie sind aufgrund des gefährlichen Migrationsweges unter Umständen auch traumatisiert. Die Situation solcher Einwanderer wurde in der vom UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) herausgegebenen Studie „Scaling Fences“ (UNDP, 2019)

Afrikanische Migranten in Europa

Die Community, eine Ressource für Stabilität

untersucht. Die Studie basiert auf Interviews mit 3069 afrikanischen Einwanderern aus 43 afrikanischen Ländern in 13 Ländern Europas (zum Zeitpunkt des Interviews über 18 Jahre alt), die alle auf „irreguläre Weise“ („through irregular means“) nach Europa gekommen waren (S. 16). Aus dieser Gruppe wurden 1099 Personen nicht weiter betrachtet, die nach eigenen Angaben ihre Heimat verlassen hatten, weil sie vor Krieg, Gewalt oder Verfolgung geflohen waren. Solche Personen sind in der UNDP-Studie nicht berücksichtigt.

Bezüglich Flüchtlingen und Asylbewerbern gibt es Zahlen vom BAMF (BAMF, ohne Jahr). Nur ein Bruchteil der Antragssteller (Größenordnung 10%) werden anerkannt. Die anerkannten Personen erhalten einen Aufenthaltstitel und einen Integrationskurs. Bei den Übrigen ist ein ähnlicher Hintergrund wie bei den irregulären Migranten anzunehmen. Die Flüchtlinge und Asylsuchenden sind in einer anderen Situation als die anderen irregulären Einwanderer. Sie sind in der Regel offiziell bekannt, in entsprechenden Einrichtungen untergebracht und haben im Fall einer Anerkennung eine Perspektive auf einen legalen Aufenthalt. Die Anerkennungsverfahren dauern aber oft sehr lange, was zu Stress und Unsicherheit über einen langen Zeitraum führt. Außerdem sind sie oft durch die Flucht und durch vorausgehende Verfolgungs- und Gewalterfahrungen traumatisiert, so dass hier ein Bedarf an Beratung und auch Therapie vorhanden ist, der oft nicht ausreichend befriedigt wird.

Die Studie „Scaling Fences“ behandelt diese Gruppe aber nicht weiter. Es ist möglich, dass es unter den Personen, die angaben, dass sie aus Gründen von Gewalt geflohen sind, tatsächlich einige gibt, bei denen dies nicht wirklich der Fall ist. Solche Fälle wären in der Studie auch nicht betrachtet worden.

Die Studie gibt aber interessante Aufschlüsse über die aus anderen Gründen migrierten Personen. Als Stichprobe für diese Gruppe verbleiben 1970 irregulären Einwanderer aus 39 afrikanischen Ländern. Die meisten dieser Personen sind jung (14 % waren zum Zeitpunkt der Reise unter 18 Jahren alt, 58% waren 20 – 29 Jahre alt, 94% unter 35 Jahre alt). 77% waren Männer, wobei versucht wurde, hinsichtlich des Geschlechts eine repräsentative Stichprobe zu erhalten. 71% waren Singles, 27% waren verheiratet oder in einer Beziehung. 60% hatten keine Kinder, die übrigen ein oder mehrere Kinder (S. 21). 91% der Personen waren auf dem Seeweg nach Europa gekommen. Mehrheitlich hatten die Migranten einen urbanen Hintergrund.

Nur 16% haben keinen Grundschulabschluss, 24% haben nur eine Grundschule besucht, 43%, also der größte Anteil hat eine weiterführende Schule besucht, 6% hat eine Berufsausbildung und 8% eine Hochschulausbildung. Hier ist zu beachten, dass es für Personen mit Hochschulabschluss andere Möglichkeiten gibt, nach Europa zu kommen, etwa durch Bewerbung auf ein Masterstudium in Europa. Die Teilnehmer der Studie hatten im Durchschnitt eine höhere Bildung (gemessen in Schul- und Ausbildungsjahren) als der Durchschnitt in ihren Heimatländern (S. 32). Ein großer Teil der Befragten hatte vor der Auswanderung Arbeit oder ging zur Schule:

“Forty-nine percent of Scaling Fences’ respondents were ‘earning money’, 9 percent were ‘in school’, and the remaining 42 percent were doing neither (Figure 23). Those who were not earning gave a range of reasons for why they were not earning, of which ‘lack of jobs’ was the most significant at 50 percent. Thirty-four percent of those not earning (including those in school) — equivalent to 17 percent of all respondents — also said they would not have stayed at home even if they had been. Earning, or the prospect of earning at home, was not a factor that constrained the decision to migrate for two thirds (66 percent) of respondents.” (S. 33). Die Befragten hatten im Durchschnitt in ihren Heimatländern für dortige Verhältnisse überdurchschnittliche Einkommen:

„Comparison with available country data on salaries suggests that respondents were earning competitively against country norms in most cases — 63 percent more on average“ (S. 34). Die Studie stellt fest:

„It emerges that those in relatively better off positions in terms of education and employment are at the fore among those ready to take the risks to travel irregularly to Europe in search of something better.“ (S. 36).

Im Gegensatz zu armen autochthonen Deutschen kommen die afrikanischen Migranten also wahrscheinlich nicht vor allem aus den „unteren“ Milieus, sondern aus jeweils allen Milieus ihrer Herkunftsländer, mit einem Schwerpunkt auf den dortigen höheren Milieus. Ein Grund hierfür ist, dass die Migration nach Europa teuer ist. Sie kostet je nach Herkunftsland zwischen 6 und 20 Monatseinkommen. Teilweise gaben die Studienteilnehmer an, dass hier Geld von Verwandten und Freunden bereitgestellt wurde und dass Familien eine Person schicken. In der Studie ist ein Zitat eines Teilnehmers wiedergegeben:

„It is a communal investment. You are selling gold or animals to make one person migrate. Only a small percentage can go. The person migrating has a great responsibility to provide back home.“ (S. 44)

Hier liegt möglicherweise auch der Grund, dass die Herkunftsfamilien der Einwanderer im Durchschnitt größer sind als der jeweilige Landesdurchschnitt (vgl. S. 31). Möglicherweise kann eine größere Familie mehr Geld aufbringen, um ein Familienmitglied reisen zu lassen, hat andererseits aber auch einen größeren Bedarf für nach Hause geschicktes Geld.

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Ein Hauptmotiv der Einwanderung, dass von allen befragten genannt wurde, war es, Geld zu verdienen und einen Teil davon nach Hause zu schicken. Auf den Einwanderern lastet diesbezüglich ein starker Druck. Daneben wurden aber auch andere Motive für die Migration genannt. Die Motive werden so zusammengefasst: "economic motivation, closely tied to self-actualization and a sense that aspiration can only be fulfilled through departure from Africa were fundamental motivations shared by respondents – who at the same time predominantly pointed to multiple reasons informing their decision to leave" (S. 5). Unter den befragten verdienten nur 38% Geld und nur 36% von diesen taten dies legal (S. 56). Die Aufschlüsselung nach der Ankunftszeit ergibt, dass der Prozentsatz derjenigen, die sich in irgendeiner Form etablieren können, zwar steigt, aber ein Teil der Immigranten bleibt dauerhaft ohne legalen Aufenthalt, ohne festes Einkommen und zum Teil auch obdachlos. Anders als bei den autochthonen Deutschen mit einer Armut-sproblematik, die oft aus einem prekären Milieu stammen, ist es hier nicht so sehr eine Frage des Milieus, s. (SINUS, 2018) und (SINUS, 2020).

Für diejenigen, die Arbeit haben enthält der Report eine Aufschlüsselung nach Berufsgruppen, ebenso eine Aufschlüsselung nach Berufsgruppen im Herkunftsland. Dies zeigt, dass viele Personen weit unter ihrer Qualifikation arbeiten. Zum Beispiel arbeiten 17% der Personen als Gebäudereiniger („Cleaning“) gegenüber nur einem Prozent in den Herkunftsländern (S. 59). Die Beschäftigung ist oft unsicher. Ein großer Teil der Personen hat Situationen erlebt, in denen sie nicht genug zu essen hatten, sich in der Unterkunft nicht sicher fühlten, notwendige medizinische Versorgung nicht erhalten konnten oder kein Geld verdienten. Die Wohnsituation vieler befragter (S. 65) ist schlecht. 11% waren obdachlos, 36% lebten in Lagern oder ähnlichen Unterkünften („Camp/Reception Center/Shelter“), 12% bei Familie oder Freunden, 11% in „GOVT/SOCIAL HOUSING“, 2% bei einer Gastfamilie. Nur 28% in privaten Mietwohnungen (wobei über die Qualität dieser Wohnungen keine Angaben gemacht werden). Insgesamt ist somit die Wohnsituation eines großen Teils der irregulären afrikanischen Einwanderer schlecht oder prekär. Viele Personen konnten ihren Status im Laufe der Zeit verbessern, bei den vor 2005 gekommenen lag der Prozentsatz mit eigener Wohnung bei 55%, der Anteil der obdachlosen aber immer noch bei 8%. Bei den vor 2005 angekommenen liegt der Anteil derjenigen, die legal arbeiten dürfen, bei 72% (S. 57). Ein Teil der Personen schafft es also offenbar, sich zu etablieren und Arbeit, Wohnung und auch einen gesicherten Aufenthaltstitel und eine Arbeitserlaubnis zu erhalten, also von der äußeren zumindest in die mittlere Zone vorzudringen, während ein anderer Teil scheitert. Personen mit besserer Bildung oder Berufserfahrung im Herkunftsland gelingt dies häufiger als Personen mit niedrigerer Bildung.

13% der befragten (12% der Männer und 17% der Frauen) gaben an, in den letzten 6 Monaten Opfer von Verbrechen geworden zu sein. Von diesen Verbrechen waren mehr als die Hälfte (55% der Männer, 53% der Frauen) verbale Angriffe (S. 66), was einen rassistischen Hintergrund annehmen lässt. Auf Seite 66 heißt es dazu: „This can perhaps be inferred to reflect hostility towards migrants among host communities as identified widely in other research.“ Tätliche Angriffe erlebten 28% der Männer und 29% der Frauen, auch hier dürfte in vielen Fällen ein rassistischer Hintergrund vorhanden sein. 27% der Frauen berichteten von sexuellen Übergriffen.

Die Mehrheit der befragten gab an, dass es ihnen finanziell und bezüglich der persönlichen Sicherheit besser ging als im Herkunftsland, in sozialer Hinsicht sagten dies aber nur 49% und in emotionaler Hinsicht nur 43%. Gefühle von Einsamkeit und Vermissen der heimatlichen Umgebung sind weit verbreitet: „a large majority reported feeling lonely and missing home ‘always or sometimes’ — at over three quarters each“.

Allerdings waren über drei Viertel auch optimistisch bezüglich ihrer Zukunft im Aufenthaltsland. 93% berichten von gefährlichen Situationen während der Reise. Es ist daher davon auszugehen, dass hier auch häufig Traumatisierung vorliegt.

Die Situation von Frauen scheint insgesamt besser zu sein als die von Männern. Die Daten über ausgeübte Tätigkeiten zeigen zusätzliche Beschäftigungsmöglichkeiten, die überwiegend von Frauen wahrgenommen werden, etwa im Gesundheits- und Pflegesektor. Bezüglich des Einkommens ist die Situation der Frauen im Durchschnitt besser als die der Männer:

„Gender differences were pronounced in relation to work opportunities in Europe. However, the gender-wage gap between men and women in Africa resoundingly reverses in Europe, with women earning 11 percent more in Europe, contrasting with previously earning 26 percent less in Africa. Women reported lower levels of deprivation, were more successful in accessing a range of services, and were in more settled accommodation than men among respondents. Higher proportions were sending money home, including among those not earning.“ (S. 70).

Auf die Frage, ob sie dauerhaft in Europa bleiben wollten, antworteten 70% mit „ja“, weitere 15% mit „it depends“. Unter denen, die nicht dauerhaft in Europa bleiben wollen, sind viele, die sich in Europa etablieren konnten:

„Higher proportions of those who did not want to live per-

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manently in Europe had a legal right to work and were sending money home, compared to those who wanted to. Having 'made it' in these terms for this group appears to yield higher confidence and readiness to state a willingness to return home, with 'mission accomplished'." (S. 78).

Nicht allen Migranten gelingt es, in Europa Fuß zu fassen. Ein Teil von ihnen scheitert letztlich:

"In other cases, the data reveals that, for a significant minority, the vulnerabilities associated with the nature of their journey only deepened on arrival in Europe. The challenges faced in building a stable life seem to have become, for these respondents, insurmountable. Adrift in some of the richest countries in the world, this group are left facing long-term homelessness, hunger and other forms of deprivation." (S. 69).

Die Teilnehmer wurden befragt, welchen Institutionen in Europa sie am meisten vertrauen. Am besten schnitten hier religiöse Institutionen ab, gefolgt von „NGOs/charities“. Hier ist ein Ansatzpunkt für die EFL, auch in Vernetzung mit anderen Organisationen zu sehen.

Zusammenfassend lässt sich folgendes sagen: bei den afrikanischen Migranten handelt es sich um eine Gruppe, die gekennzeichnet ist durch Probleme in den Bereichen Aufenthaltsstatus, Arbeitsmöglichkeiten, legaler Zugang zu Diensten, Wohnung, Einkommen, Gesundheit. Sie sind als Angehörige der äußeren Zone, nicht unbedingt eines prekären Milieus, oft in einer Armutssituation, oft ohne Zugang zu Sozialleistungen und anderen Hilfsangeboten und dadurch auch in der Gefahr, ausgebeutet zu werden, solange sie noch keinen legalen Status haben. Sie sind erheblichen emotionalen Belastungen ausgesetzt und durch die Umstände der Reise eventuell traumatisiert. Bei Flüchtlingen, die in der Studie nicht betrachtet wurden, tritt eventuell noch eine Traumatisierung durch Krieg oder Verfolgung hinzu sowie die Belastung durch die unsichere Situation während Anerkennungsverfahren. Die Migranten, die Arbeit haben, arbeiten oft unterhalb ihrer Qualifikation. Es handelt sich um Personen aus eher urbaneren und gebildeteren, im Durchschnitt also eher moderneren Zusammenhängen in ihren Heimatländern. Es handelt sich um Personen, die zumindest ursprünglich hohe Initiative und Motivation gezeigt haben, die notwendig sind, um den Schritt in die Emigration, noch dazu auf meist sehr gefährlichen Wegen, zu wagen.

Dies bedeutet, dass die afrikanischen Einwanderer in Deutschland mit verschiedenen Ressourcen

gekommen sind, die vielfach noch nicht ausgeschöpft sind auf Grund der Schwierigkeiten, die sie durch Migration und Rassismus erleben. Eine Vernetzung ist daher notwendig, um eine Brücke zu bauen zwischen den Afrikanern, die in prekäre Situation leben und denen, die mehr Chancen haben. Dies kann dazu beitragen, die Integration von Menschen afrikanischer Herkunft in Deutschland zu erleichtern. Es findet schon eine Vernetzung durch Community Treffen und Meetings statt, aber die meisten diese Treffen beschränken sich auf Feiern und Feste. Ein Konzept muss entwickelt werden, wie die Menschen aus afrikanischen Ländern ihr Potential für eigenes Wachstum, das Wachstum der Community sowie einen besseren Beitrag für die deutsche Gesellschaft besser entwickeln können.

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The name resonates the aims and objectives of the Association.

- Quick job applications creation for those who are jobless.
- Family celebrations, e.g. birthdays, marriages, »fourty days« ceremonies (after the death of a relative) etc. is supported.
- Weekly coffee and games activities were encouraged now not actually because of factors we can't control. On the 3rd of October 2010, PANHECS was renamed "Sierra Leone Community North Rhein Westphalia eV •

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