

# CHAPTER 1 - Editorial

## The Diasporean I: The Southern African Perspectives

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The UN International Organisation on Migration regularly provides snapshots of global statistics on migration trends and finance outflows, especially to low- and middle-income countries, which often exceeds the official development assistance provided. These monies are contributed by migrants who have moved to the host countries on account of, among other factors, forcible displacement from their homes due to persecution, conflict, generalised violence, human rights violations, disasters, or other reasons such as education, job opportunities, natural and social disasters. Some migrants end up in the host countries as refugees, and others lose their lives during migration.

International migration, therefore, continues to pose great challenges but also generates opportunities for the migrants' home and host countries that may be attributed to many factors, including globalisation. The complexity and multidimensional nature of international migration call for robust policy and practical interventions to manage the Diaspora phenomenon humanely and profitably for the common global public good. There is also a need to develop pragmatic strategies to ensure that the global community of nations are strategically positioned to attract and retain productive human capital in different professional and technical fields. This publication of This publication of '*The Diasporean*<sup>1</sup>: *The Southern Africa Perspectives*', Volume 1, was conceived and written from inter-, multi-, trans and cross-disciplinary perspectives. This approach was followed because not all the complex problems on international

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'Diasporean' is not a commonly used word, but it can be used to describe individuals who have been impacted by diaspora and maintain a connection to their original culture and community.

mobility and migration are amenable to a single disciplinary perspective. This volume presents both theoretical and empirical chapters. The chapters published in this volume were each peer-reviewed by at least two experts in the relevant fields. The list of reviewers and their affiliations has been provided.

The idea to write a book centred on the Diaspora was conceived by the late Katie Musungu Mutula, who was pursuing a doctoral degree in international economics at the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. This book has been written to recognise her intellectual thought and input in this project – may her soul rest in eternal peace!

This volume contributes to co-creating knowledge on Diaspora while bridging the gap between research and practice. The book is aimed at scholars, the academe, students, international partners, business, civil society, government, industry and non-professionals who wish to understand or reference their personal experiences in the Diaspora.



Volume 1 of this publication, *The Diasporean I: The Southern African Perspectives*, is divided into five sections containing 11 chapters. Section I covers Financial Integration and has two chapters.

The first chapter, is ‘Regional Financial Integration and Financial Development in the Southern African Development Community: Implications on Diaspora Remittance Inflows’. It was authored by Nomusa Ndlovu and Forget Mingiri Kapingura, and Asrat Tsegaye. The second chapter is titled ‘Access to Credit from Formal Financial Institutions: A Case Study of Ethiopian Migrant Entrepreneurs in Durban, South Africa’, written by Perminus Moinogu.

Section II broadly covers the subject of Xenophobia and Afriphobia in Southern Africa. It presents three inextricably linked chapters. The first is ‘Migrants in the Face of Growing Nativism and Xenophobia: South African Experiences, authored by Sybert Mutereko’. The second chapter is titled ‘A Critical Analysis of Populism and Xenophobic Discourse on Social Media in South Africa: A Case of @Operation Dudula and PutSouthAfricansFirst Twitter Accounts’, written by Tigere Paidamoyo Muringa. The third chapter is titled ‘Family Language Policy in a Xenophobic Context: The Case of Kalanga Transnational Families in South Africa’. Busani Maseko and Dion Nkomo are the co-authors.

Section III considers Feminisation and Gendered Roles in Migration featured in three chapters. The first is ‘Reconstruction of Gender Roles and Relations among Somali Women within the Transnational Context of South Africa’, co-authored by Anthony Gathambiri Waiganjo and Janet Muthuki. The second is titled ‘Feminisation of Migration Impacting Family Life: Zimbabwean Female Migrant Cases in South Africa’, written by Mfazo Clifford Madondo. The third chapter, ‘Gendered Challenges Facing Somali Migrant Women within Transnational Contexts in South Africa’, was authored by Anthony Gathambiri Waiganjo.

Section IV presents two chapters about Technology and Skills Transfer. The first is titled ‘Relevance of Migrants’ Technical Skills for Sustainable Livelihood: A Case of Low-Skilled Zimbabwean Migrants in Botswana’s Southeast District’. Jerald Hondonga, Manto Sylvia Ramaligela, and Moses Makgato co-authored it. The second chapter, ‘Prospects and Challenges of Postgraduate Education in the Diaspora: A Case of Ugandan Returnee Students from South Africa’, was co-authored by Clement Nabutto Lutaaya and Gorrety Maria Juma.

Section V of this volume is on food security and presents one chapter titled ‘The Food Security Challenges of African Immigrants in South Africa: A Literature Review’, co-authored by Adetayo Olorunlana and Aloysius Odii.

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