

1 **Supplementary File**

2 Interview Guide (Students)

3 **Prospective and Returned Ghanaian Migrant Students in the Euro-Afro Migration Experience Project**

4 This research is interested in understanding the motivations that influence students to migrate outside their
5 countries to pursue undergraduate and/or postgraduate studies. The study further investigates the
6 aspirations, fears and perplexities of prospective student migrants. You are kindly invited to contribute to this
7 research. The research is audio recorded and the information is strictly anonymous and protected as it will not
8 be shared with anyone except for scientific analysis and presentations. Your privacy is fundamental and you
9 can quit at any point in the course of the interview.

10 Bio Data

11 1. How old are you?

12 2. Sex: Male/ female

13 3. What is your occupation? Are you still a student or working? If student in which year, type of
14 programme (department & college). If work what kind of job, ranking

15 4. How many siblings do you have? How are their levels of education?

16 5. What are the education levels of your parents?

17 6. Your religious affiliation?

18 Personal Motivation

19 7. Can you please inform me of the first time you aspired to travel abroad for studies?

20 8. Please recount how come you would want to travel abroad to further your studies?

21 9. Are the programmes you want to study not present in Ghana? If yes how different are the formation
22 you expect from there?

23 10. Please how are you personally convinced of the decision to study abroad?

24 11. What are some of the push factors that challenge you to study abroad?

- 25 12. What are some of the pull factors that attract you to study abroad?
- 26 13. How do you intend to acquire your travelling documents? (passport, visa etc)
- 27 14. Which countries are you targeting to study in and what are the motivations? (easy access, strict entry
28 requirement, fees, visa problems etc)
- 29 Education
- 30 15. Can you please briefly describe your educational background? (CWA [class:1st,2nd, 3rd or pass], highest
31 level of education, programme of study)
- 32 16. Please narrate some of the challenges and joys as a university student
- 33 17. How motivated are you or were you as a student?
- 34 18. What are some of your educational aspirations? (job, further education)
- 35 Network/Family
- 36 19. Do you have any relatives abroad?
- 37 20. How close are these family members to you? (parents, siblings or close family members)
- 38 21. How have they influenced in one way or the other your decision to travel abroad for studies? (financial,
39 encouragement or discouragement, facilitation in searching for schools)
- 40 22. Are you aware of anyone who has travelled abroad to study? Have they completed their studies and
41 if yes, did they return to Ghana? If not what are some of the reasons in case you are aware of that.
- 42 Psychological
- 43 23. What are some of your greatest fears, worries and anxieties when the thought of travelling abroad for
44 studies come to mind?
- 45 24. How informed are you about student life abroad as a migrant?
- 46 25. Please tell me some of the stories of student migrants abroad you have read or listened to? How do
47 these stories motivate or discourage your travel plans?
- 48 26. How does language influence the choice of prospective host country?

49 Financial

50 27. How do you intend to finance your studies abroad? (personal, family, friends etc)

51 28. Are there any departmental or college support financially that motivate you to study abroad?

52 29. If you have financial support in the form of scholarship, who are the funding agencies?

53 Staying Abroad

54 30. What are your aspirations once you manage to get abroad and finish your studies? (job search abroad,
55 staying behind abroad, return to Ghana).

56 31. Are you really going to study or it will be a means to getting abroad and abandoning the studies?

57 32. Any other aspirations once abroad?

58 33. What are some of the motivations to return to Ghana in case you finish schooling? (Friends, family,
59 economic activities etc).

60 Religious Motivation

61 34. Is your religious group providing any assistance to your travel plans to study abroad?

62 35. Have you visited any pastors, mallams or fetish priest or priestess to seek for spiritual help in achieving
63 your intention to study abroad?

64 36. Are there any spiritual or religious avenues adopted in achieving your desired aspiration of travelling
65 abroad to study?