

Migration Moments with May Free Mentorship Program Report

The Migration Moments with May Free Mentorship Program is a pivotal initiative designed to empower youth by equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and capacity necessary to actively participate in migration governance. This program aims to create an informed generation of young leaders who can contribute to shaping migration policies, promote awareness on migration issues, and advocate for safe and orderly migration practices.

The mentorship program was launched in 2023 to address the gap in participation and engagement of youths in the migration governance space in Nigeria. It offers a platform where young individuals can learn from experts, share experiences, and gain hands-on insights into the complex world of migration.

Key Objectives

- **Capacity Building:** Equip mentees with practical knowledge on migration-related topics such as international migration law, global regional and national migration policies, and human rights.
- **Leadership Development:** Inspire and nurture future leaders in migration governance by providing mentorship in advocacy, public speaking, policy analysis, and more.
- **Awareness Creation:** Foster a deeper understanding of migration issues through discussions and workshops.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect mentees with professionals, organizations, and fellow youth interested in migration issues to create a network of like-minded individuals.

Activities

The Migration Moments with May Free Mentorship Program consists of various activities aimed at enriching the knowledge and skills of the participants:

- **Mentorship Sessions:** One-on-one and group mentorship sessions focused on specific migration topics, advocacy skills, and real-world migration challenges.
- **Workshops:** Interactive workshops and seminars with migration experts, policy makers, and activists discussing key migration topics such as migration and development, human trafficking, refugee rights, irregular migration and migration governance frameworks.
- **Social Media Awareness Campaigns:** Participants contribute to and lead online campaigns aimed at spreading awareness of migration issues, dispelling myths, and promoting positive narratives about migration.

Program Impact

Since its launch, the Free Mentorship Program has made significant strides in impacting the lives of youth participants:

Number of Participants: 6 young people were mentored in the first year of the program (Cohort 1) and 10 Mentees currently in Cohort 2. Mentees have gained a deeper understanding of migration policies, leading to increased engagement in migration-related advocacy and projects.

Challenges

While the program has seen substantial success, there have been some challenges:

- **Access to Technology:** Some mentees face barriers in accessing technology for online mentorship sessions and workshops.
- **Geographical Limitations:** Reaching participants in remote areas remains a challenge, particularly for in-person workshops and forums.

Future Plans

To build on the success of the Free Mentorship Program, Migration Moments with May is planning the following initiatives:

- **Expansion:** Increase the program's reach to more regions, particularly rural areas, through online mentorship and virtual workshops.
- **Partnerships:** Forge new partnerships with organizations, educational institutions, and international agencies to enhance program delivery and sustainability.
- **Resource Development:** Create and distribute comprehensive and easy to understand learning materials, toolkits, and guides on migration governance to further empower mentees.

Conclusion

The Migration Moments with May Free Mentorship Program is an important step toward fostering youth engagement in migration governance. By nurturing a new generation of informed, empowered advocates, we aim to create lasting change in the way migration is perceived, managed, and governed. The program continues to grow, and with continued support, we aspire to reach more youth, provide deeper mentorship, and make a stronger impact on migration policy and governance.