RADIO PRODUCTION GUIDE

What does it mean to be a migrant?:

Understanding why people leave their home countries
**What is human migration?**

- **Human migration** is the movement of individuals, family units or large groups from one place to another with the intentions of settling temporarily or permanently in a new location. The movement is often over long distances and from one country to another.

- **Did you know:** Internal migration (movement from one province to another) is also possible; and is the dominant form of migration globally.

**Why do people migrate?**

- Economic migration: moving to find work or to follow a particular career path
- Social migration: moving somewhere for a better quality of life or to be closer to family or friends
- Political migration: moving to escape political instability, persecution or war
- Environmental migration: moving due to natural disasters such as flooding, droughts, and the effects of climate change

Some people choose to migrate, for example social or economic migration – when someone moves to another country to enhance their career opportunities. Some people are forced to migrate, this would be due to political or environmental migration, when people do not have a choice. For example someone who moves due to war, genocide or famine.

**Migration around the world: Did you know...**

- Early human migrations are thought to have begun when **Homo Erectus**, the first humans first migrated out of Africa to Eurasia around 1.8 million years ago.
- There are currently 59.5 million people worldwide who have been forced to migrate.
- More than 247 million people, or 3.4% of the world population, live outside their countries of birth.
- The top migrant destination country is the United States, followed by Saudi Arabia, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, France, Canada, Spain, and Australia.
- About 86% of refugees, including the West Bank and Gaza, are hosted by developing countries. Turkey, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, Chad, and Uganda are the largest host countries. The Syrian Arab Republic was the top source country of refugees in 2014. In Lebanon, refugees made up 35 percent of the population.

**Difference between migrant, asylum seeker and a refugee:**

- **Migrant**: a general term used to describe a person who moves from one place to another (locally or internationally) with the intentions of settling temporarily or permanently in the new location.
- **Emigrant**: (with an E) a person who leaves one’s residence or home country to live in a different country.
- **Immigrant**: (with an I) a person who lives in a country which they are not from or where they are not citizens.
- **Asylum Seeker**: a person who has fled their home country and seeks legal and physical protection (asylum) in another country. Asylum seekers usually try to reach a country which has signed the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951), South Africa signed this agreement in 1996.
- **Refugee**: a person who has fled his or her home country, who lives in another country and cannot return because of fear of mistreatment, killing, or torture due to their race, religion, nationality or being identified with a particular social group, eg. LGBTI people.
Migration Myths

Myth 1: South Africa has over five million “foreigners”
This figure has been widely published both by domestic and international media but it cannot be backed up by the best available research. This figure is incorrect! Statistics South Africa estimates 500,000 to 1 million undocumented migrants live in South Africa. The Forced Migration Studies Programme at Wits University has estimated 1.6-2 million immigrants, both registered and unregistered, making up between 3-4% of South Africa’s total population.

Myth 2: South Africa has the biggest influx of migrants outside the European Union
This is not true. According to 2013 data from the Migration Policy Institute, South Africa is the 23rd most popular destination globally for migrants to settle. Cote d’Ivoire is the most popular African destination.

Myth 3: Migrants commit most crime
In 2014, the National Institute for Crime Prevention (NICRO) found that just 4% of South Africa’s total sentenced population in prisons were foreign nationals. The popular sentiment is that because of the nature of illegal immigration, emboldened foreign nationals commit crime and cannot be traced because they just do not have a return address.

Myth 4: South Africans are generally not xenophobic
The independent World Values Survey has consistently shown that South Africans are the least welcoming globally to migrants coming from other countries to engage in economic activity, and that they believe the vast majority are in the country illegally. An earlier study by the Southern African Migration Programme (SAMP), following the 2008 attacks, found that “South Africa exhibits levels of intolerance and hostility to outsiders unlike virtually anything seen in other parts of the world”. Some of the findings included close to two-thirds support for deportation of migrants who test HIV positive or have AIDS, and migrants who come alone without their families, and for electrification of the country’s borders.

Have you ever asked yourself or tried to understand why someone leaves their home?

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“Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses
yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of
your teeming shore. Send
these, the homeless,
tempest-tossed, to me: I
lift my lamp beside the
golden door.”

Emma Lazarus’ poem,
inscribed on the Statue of
Liberty

Different ways to think about ‘What does it mean to be a migrant?’

Why do people come to South Africa from other countries? Uncovering the different reasons migrants are here.

What is it like to be new somewhere? Exploring experiences of migrants.

What is the global story of migration? Sharing how/why migration is taking place globally.

Different ways to talk about ‘Why do people come to South Africa from other countries?’:

Defining migration, in South Africa and universally

Exploring the different kinds of migrants (economic, refugee, asylum seeker) and their reasons for leaving their homes

Exposing myths about migrants and migration in and to South Africa

Click on the links below to research different ways to think about why people migrate:

- Migration - BBC Bitesize
- Migration and Remittances (Factbook) 2016 - World Bank
- Figures at a glance (refugees) - The UN Refugee Agency
- Why people migrate - Global Citizen
- I am a migrant - International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Migrants - Racism No Way
- Seven of the biggest myths about South Africa and xenophobia - and how they drive attacks - M&G
- South Africa’s xenophobia problem: dispelling the myths - IRN

“Human beings can be beautiful and more beautiful... they can be right or wrong, but illegal? How can a human being be illegal?”

Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor and 1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner
Vox Pop
Vox Pop aim: To get many opinions on one topic
Who do you talk to: Anyone in the community.

Question: What do you think of when you hear the word migrant?

Audio commentary
Audio commentary aim: To get people’s opinion about a topic that they care deeply about.
Who do you talk to: A young South African, who moved from one province to another on their opinion of people migrating to South Africa.

Audio profile
Audio profile aim: To get a first person account of someone’s experience, passion and journey. Audio profiles often aim to inspire.

Who do you talk to: A young African migrant who migrated to South Africa.

Questions to ask to get the person thinking before they record their profile:

⭐ Why did you come to South Africa?
⭐ What was your experience like journeying here?
⭐ What has it been like integrating into South Africa?
⭐ How do you experience your new community?

PSA
The aim of a PSA: to create a public awareness message

Sound effects: Sound of Voice 1 paging through the newspaper.

Voice 1: Did you hear about the new immigration bill the government wants to pass? It says things like migrants must register for refugee status within 5 days… Imagine, after escaping a war!
Voice 2: Eh? Why must I be worried about that! I’m South African.
Voice 1: But aren’t you worried about how our government plans to treat our neighbours?
Voice 2: These Africans that come here are taking over our country! They’re not my neighbour.
[Pause]
Narrator: FACT: Only 3-4% of South Africa’s total population is made up of migrants.
FACT: South Africa is only the 23rd most popular destination for migrants globally.

Tagline: Know your facts. Bust the myths. Stop the spread of Xenophobia.
Use your produced radio features, your research, and the suggested script and questions to write your own script.

**Suggested questions for your interview with a community member or organisation who works with migrants:**

- What motivates you to work with people who have come to South Africa?
- What are the most common myths that our community believes about migrants?
- What happens when we don’t question these myths and believe them? How do we overcome this as a community?
- What would you say to someone who truly believes migrants are the cause of a lot of the problems?

[INTRO:]
Host 1: Yep, it’s just gone [TIME], and it’s your lucky day! You’re just in time for the [NAME OF SHOW] on [RADIO STATION]. My name is [NAME]...
Host 2: And it’s your girl [NAME] taking you through the next hour! On today’s show we’d really like to chat to you and get your thoughts on migration… You know people moving from one place to another. Like, why do people migrate from their home countries?...
Host 1: When you put it like that it really changes the way I think about what migration means, like why would you leave your home?
Host 2: Well, there could be so many reasons, and we’ll be talking about them in today’s show, but first let’s find out what people in the community think about migration.

[PLAY VOX POPS]
[PRESENT WHO IS BEING INTERVIEWED]
[PLAY THE INTERVIEW]

[Outro:]
Host 1: Migration, this one word that means so much, and holds so many experiences and stories...
Host 2: Ja, this show has really got me to think beyond what I hear around the community, to really think twice when I meet someone who has travelled here. I mean it’s crazy how we always think people just up and leave their place because they think South Africa is nicer. HA!
Host 1: Hopefully we’ve given you something to think about too, you can go to our Facebook page [NAME OF PAGE] and share what you think and feel about what migration means to you.
Host 2: And next week on [DAY] at [TIME] we’ll be talking all about [NEXT WEEK’S SHOW TOPIC]. Until then, it’s bye from us!
Show outline

General intro
Intro vox pop
Vox pop
Outro vox pop
Music transition
Intro audio profile
Audio profile
Outro profile
Music transition
PSA
Jingle
Intro interview (and or Intro audio commentary)
Interview (and or Audio Commentary)
Outro interview (and or outro audio commentary)
Music transition & Jingle
Read a poem related to the topic (written by a youth reporter)
General outro
Music end

Ethics and consent
This is a sensitive topic, so make sure you inform your interviewees properly and get their full consent.

You must always introduce your show and radio features. Then once you’ve played your features, have a concluding statement for each one. Don’t forget a final conclusion for the very end of the show.

Use links (facts, tips, did you knows, music) to glue it all together.

Now write your radio script