

Celebrating the International Day of Family Remittances



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The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR), celebrated annually on June 16, recognizes the significant financial contributions of migrants to their families and communities back home. Over the past decade, migrants have sent over US\$ 5 trillion in remittances to low- and middle-income countries. These remittances play a key role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reducing poverty, improving livelihoods, and fostering economic development.

As part of its ongoing efforts, in collaboration with the African diaspora in currently 10 European countries, WIDU.africa is launching a dedicated campaign to honor the role of diaspora donors. The campaign highlights how WIDU transforms remittance flows into impactful investments that create jobs and strengthen local entrepreneurship in Africa. This special edition of the WIDU newsletter will guide you through the key highlights of the campaign.

Did You Know?

- Around 200 million migrants worldwide send small monthly remittances to support their families back home? These contributions reach over 800 million people and total more than three times the amount of official development assistance. It's a powerful reminder of how individual efforts drive global change.

Source: www.ifad.org

- In 2024, Kenya ranked fourth among African countries in remittance inflows? In 2024, the country received over 4.8 billion USD. It was closely followed by Ghana, with 4.6 billion USD. At the top of the list was Egypt, leading by a wide margin with 22.7 billion USD.

Source: www.africa.businessinsider.com

- In early 2024, the European Union committed €129 million through the EU-IFAD "PRIME Africa" initiative to upgrade remittance infrastructure in Southern Africa—aiming to lower costs and speed up payments from Europe?

Source: www.blogs.worldbank.org



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Fridah Kibuko Gaceri, Head of Component at WIDU Kenya shared her views about the importance of paying tribute to the diaspora engagement during the International Day of Family Remittances.

Watch The Video

Key Facts About WIDU



6,000

businesses supported by the diaspora



15,370

jobs were created and maintained



52%

businesses owned by women



€5,27M

have been mobilized by the African diaspora



€1,419

invested by the average diaspora donor

Voices of Diaspora Donors



Fitsame

"I feel like we owe it to the younger generation to share what we've learned or what we've achieved in supporting financially."

[Read Fitsame's story](#)



Ameyo

"WIDU has really relieved me and I think it can bring relief to other people in the diaspora too."

[Read Ameyo's story](#)



Zied

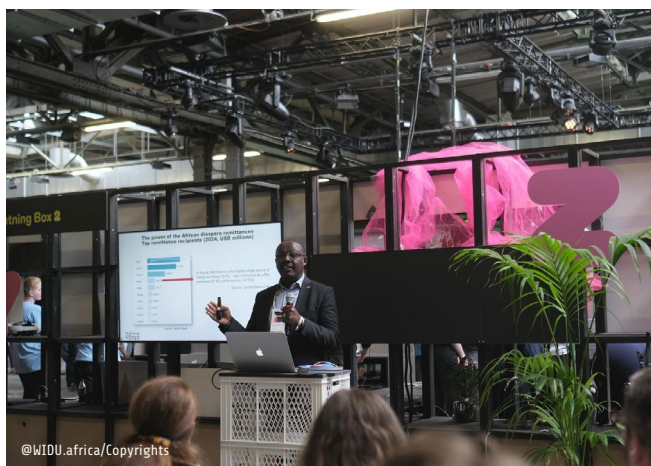
"This type of aid is always good, for investors as well as for the home country."

[Read Zied's story](#)

On the Ground

MBOA Symposium in Berlin

From the 6th to the 9th of June 2025, MBOA Group e.V. organized the MBOA Symposium in Berlin – a dynamic diaspora event that brought together sports, culture, and community engagement. As part of the event, the WIDU.africa team was present to inform attendees about the project's mission and activities. The symposium provided a great platform to connect with the community, raise awareness about the potential of diaspora-driven development, and strengthen partnerships for sustainable impact.



WIDU at the re:publica in Berlin

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Seronei Chelulei Cheison, a member of the Kenyan diaspora living in Germany and a multiple-time donor through WIDU, had the opportunity to share his views at re:publica, Germany's

largest digital conference, held from 26–28 May. During his talk, "From 'Black Tax' to 'Business Capital' – Transforming African Diaspora Remittances," he highlighted the power of diaspora remittances to drive sustainable economic growth, promote entrepreneurship, and foster innovation in Africa through the support of WIDU.africa's digital platform.



Business Forum in Ghana

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In May, WIDU.africa participated at the Ghana EU Business Forum held at the Kempinski Hotel in Accra. Alongside interventions and panels from business leaders and investors in Ghana, our team showcased how WIDU.africa is empowering individuals and transforming the lives of entrepreneurs in the informal sector. The event was attended by President John Mahama. As part of the rollout of the EU support to WIDU in West Africa, this event also marked an important beginning to the next phase of WIDU.



Digital Innovation Festival in Cameroon

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Beginning of June, WIDU.africa in Cameroon participated in the 4th edition of the Digital Innovation Festival (DIF) held in Douala at the Akwa Palace Hotel. The project team presented WIDU during a panel discussion on the theme "How to access financing tailored to micro-enterprises." This talk attracted particular attention from the audience, including entrepreneurs, students, and business leaders, who were eager to interact and request more detailed information about the WIDU program.

Diaspora Investment Strategy Validation Workshop

WIDU.africa has been part of the Diaspora Investment Strategy Validation Workshop hosted by the State Department for Diaspora Affairs – Savings, Investments and Remittances Division on 9–10 April 2025 in Naivasha, Kenya. Together with

partners, they are working to strengthen the role of the Kenyan diaspora in national development through entrepreneurship, investment, and skills transfer.



WIDU Networking Sessions – 2nd Edition in central regions of Tunisia

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The second edition of the WIDU Networking Session brought together over 80 entrepreneurs, partners, and ecosystem stakeholders in Sidi Bouzid and Kairouan to exchange ideas, access funding opportunities, and establish lasting connections. This event is part of WIDU's broader approach to improving access to resources and promoting financial inclusion for entrepreneurs in Tunisia's interior regions.

More updates here: [News and Updates | WIDU](#)

About WIDU.africa

At WIDU.africa, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, we transform diaspora remittances into sustainable investments in local entrepreneurship. Our digital platform supports micro and small enterprises in six African countries, in close collaboration with African diaspora donors in Europe.

Want to hear more about WIDU and its impactful achievements to support sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystems in African communities? Visit our website www.widu.africa or reach out to our experts via diaspora@widu.africa.

Follow us on all our social media platforms for the latest updates, stories, and more www.facebook.com/WIDU.africa or www.linkedin.com/company/widu-africa and discover our special campaign to promote social remittances in Africa, and more portraits of diaspora donors.