



ECOWAS COMMISSION
COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO
COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO



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FMM West Africa
PARTNER TO THE FIGHTERS OF REGIONAL MOBILITY IN WEST AFRICA



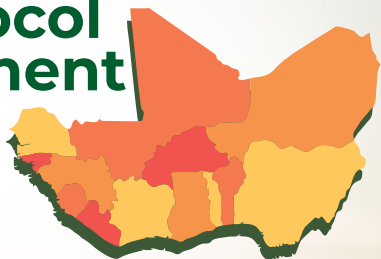
Know Your Rights and Responsibilities as an ECOWAS Citizen

ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons



CLEEN
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Justice Sector Reform

ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons





The ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment allows citizens of ECOWAS countries to **travel, live, and work** across West Africa without unnecessary barriers.

This guide explains what you are entitled to and what is expected of you.

Who is? Covered



You are covered if you are a citizen of any ECOWAS Member State.

This includes citizens of **Nigeria, Ghana, Benin, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire**, and all other ECOWAS countries.

Benin



Cabo Verde



Côte d'Ivoire



The Gambia



Ghana



Guinea



Guinea-Bissau



Liberia



Nigeria



Senegal



Sierra Leone



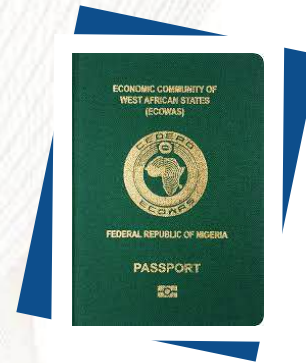
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Your 3 Key Rights ⚡

1 Right to ENTER

Border officials should not ask for a visa from ECOWAS citizens.



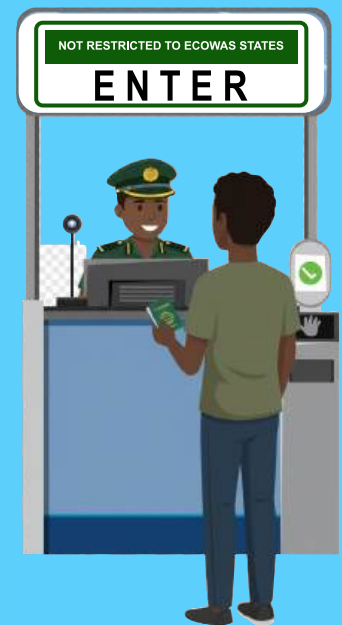
You can enter another ECOWAS country without a visa



You may stay for up to **90 days**



Entry must be peaceful and lawful



Your 3 Key Rights ⚡

2 Right to Reside

Registration with relevant authorities may be required if you stay beyond **90 days**

You can live in another ECOWAS country for:



Work

Study



Family



Business



NOT RESTRICTED TO ECOWAS STATES

ENTER



Your 3 Key Rights ⚡

3 Right to Establish

·You must be treated fairly and without discrimination

You have the right to:

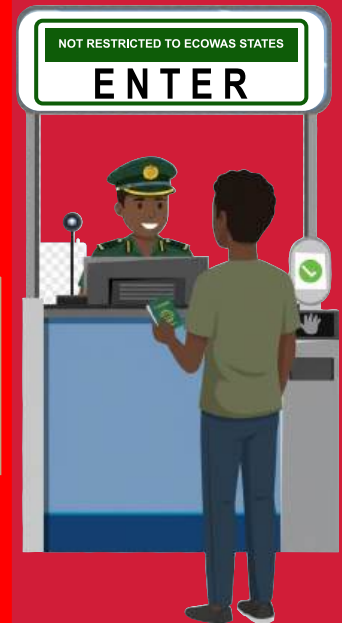
Work Legally



Start a Business



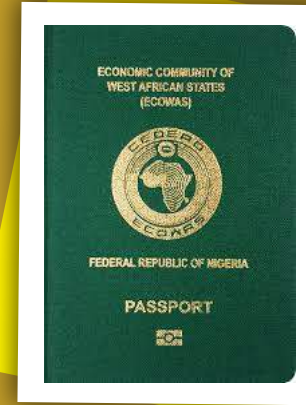
Practice a trade or profession



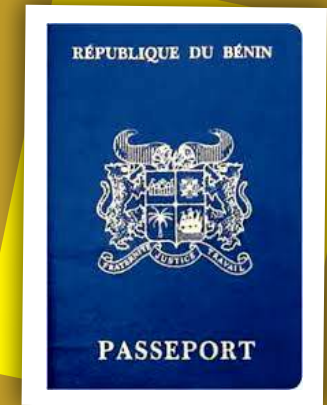
Carry one valid document:

What Documents Do You Need?

A visa is not required for ECOWAS citizens.



ECOWAS Passport



National Passport



Recognized ECOWAS Travel Certificate



Your Responsibilities

Free movement comes with responsibilities.



Obey the laws of the host country



Maintain public order



Register if staying beyond the allowed period
(90 Days)



Avoid criminal activities



Free movement does not protect illegal acts.





National
Security



Public
Order



Public
Health

**Any
Restriction
Must:**

- Follow due process
- Respect human dignity
- Be clearly explained



**When Can
Entry Be
Restricted?**



Protection Against Abuse

Harassment, extortion,
or arbitrary detention
is not allowed

You have the right to:

Be treated with dignity

Know why you are stopped
or questioned

Protect your personal
property

Contact your embassy or
consulate if needed

Vehicles & Goods

Harassment, extortion,
or arbitrary detention
is not allowed

Private and commercial
vehicles may cross
borders temporarily.

Valid vehicle and customs
documents are required.

Informal or illegal
payments are not
permitted.



If You Have a Problem You can report to:

1 Nigeria Immigration Service
09121477092
OR a Senior immigration
or border officials

2

Your embassy or
consulate



3

Recognized civil
society or ECOWAS-
supported help
desks

Why Free Movement Matters!

Free movement supports:

Jobs and
livelihoods

Trade and
Markets

Family
Unity

Regional
Peace
and
Cooperation

If you suspect trafficking, please contact

NAPTIP

Toll FREE LINE

627

infolagos@naptip.gov.ng

NIS

09121477092



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Safe, lawful
movement
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everyone in
West Africa.



International
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