

Factors Contributing to a Career Choice Abroad Among Rwandan Students in Poland

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Abstract

Background: Increasing numbers of Rwandan students are pursuing higher education in Poland, drawn by the quality of academic programs. However, a significant proportion remain abroad or move to nearby countries after graduation. This study investigates the factors influencing career choices abroad among Rwandan students in Poland.

Methods: A cross-sectional, observational, survey-based study was conducted targeting the Rwandan community in Poland. Data were collected via an online survey over two months (July–September 2022), with 219 respondents completing the survey. Statistical analyses were performed using SPSS.

Results: The prevalence of migration intention among Rwandan students in Poland was 79.91%. Among socio-demographic factors, only religion showed a statistically significant association with the intention to remain abroad. Other factors-age, residence, education, and marital status were not significant. Key socio-economic factors influencing career choice included perceived connection to co-workers, organizational culture, and respect within the workplace. Income level did not significantly affect the decision.

Conclusion: A high proportion of Rwandan students expressed intentions to pursue careers abroad, motivated by professional opportunities and a welcoming cultural environment. Further research using in-depth interviews is recommended to explore these factors more comprehensively.

Keywords: It focused on career decision making