

## FINDING CREATIVE ENCOUNTERS

- Invite migrant women in existing women's groups to a storytelling round on a specific subject.
- Invite ecumenical women's group to language course group.
- Foreign language group and local resident group meet for a "storytelling round with coffee"
- Confirmation candidates ask classmates about the others' faiths
- School teachers invite children's grandparents with and without migration background to talk about their country of origin.
- Schoolchildren paint letters from their home country
- Young people meet for intercultural Bible reading.

Partnership groups and counselling centres for migrants are also invited to make international contacts regarding the EMS Project of the Year.



*Sarah from Eritrea and Annika from Germany practice writing their names*

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Other free materials are obtainable from: [Soldner@ems-online.org](mailto:Soldner@ems-online.org)

- Colour poster DIN A 1
- Workbook 13 pages for groups and congregations
- OUR VOICES with background reports (from 3/2008), 24 pages

# WOMEN LIVING IN A STRANGE LAND

**JOIN-IN CAMPAIGN  
EMS PROJECT OF THE YEAR 2008**

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Association of Churches and Missions  
in South Western Germany

## WOMEN LIVING IN A STRANGE LAND

With the Project of the Year 2008 members of the world-wide EMS fellowship are casting their eyes towards East Asia where many church projects are making the lives of women living in a foreign country easier. **The join-in campaign** presented here will now invite you to build a bridge in your home country – to take conscious notice of people with a migrant background in your midst.



*People share stories from their life journeys*

## JOIN-IN CAMPAIGN

People with or without a migration background are heartily welcome to **the join-in campaign**, to make contacts and find a visible expression of those contacts.

People learn about each other when they listen carefully, talk to each other or show photos. This can happen in existing groups, in dialogues between two people or in school classes. For example you may write texts based on a story, or an interview or impressions from notes in a diary. You may also come up with totally different ideas... paintings, photos, CDs, videos... What is important is that your contributions creatively express encounters between people of different origins.

**PLEASE SEND THE VISIBLE RESULTS OF SUCH ENCOUNTERS TO THE EMS SECRETARIAT BY 31 OCTOBER 2008:**

EMS Women and Gender Desk  
Vogelsangstrasse 62  
D-70197 Stuttgart, Germany

**A JURY WILL LOOK THROUGH THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND – IF NECESSARY – WILL MAKE A SELECTION. THEY WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC AT THE BEGINNING OF 2009. THE PEOPLE INVOLVED WILL BE INFORMED.**

## IDEAS FOR YOUR REFLECTION

What can you bring up in the conversation? For example you can talk about the meaning of your name as a native person and as a migrant, or about “travel stories” – experiences on the journey, or about life situations such as birth, child friendships, relationships between parents and children, living conditions, the way to school, religious rituals, weddings, career opportunities, etc. After listening and exchanging experiences, perhaps you can start a conversation on the subject: What causes foreignness? How can it become familiarity?

Where do/did people experience foreignness – where do you experience this – as a native person? What is the opposite of foreignness?



*Migrants in a counselling centre*