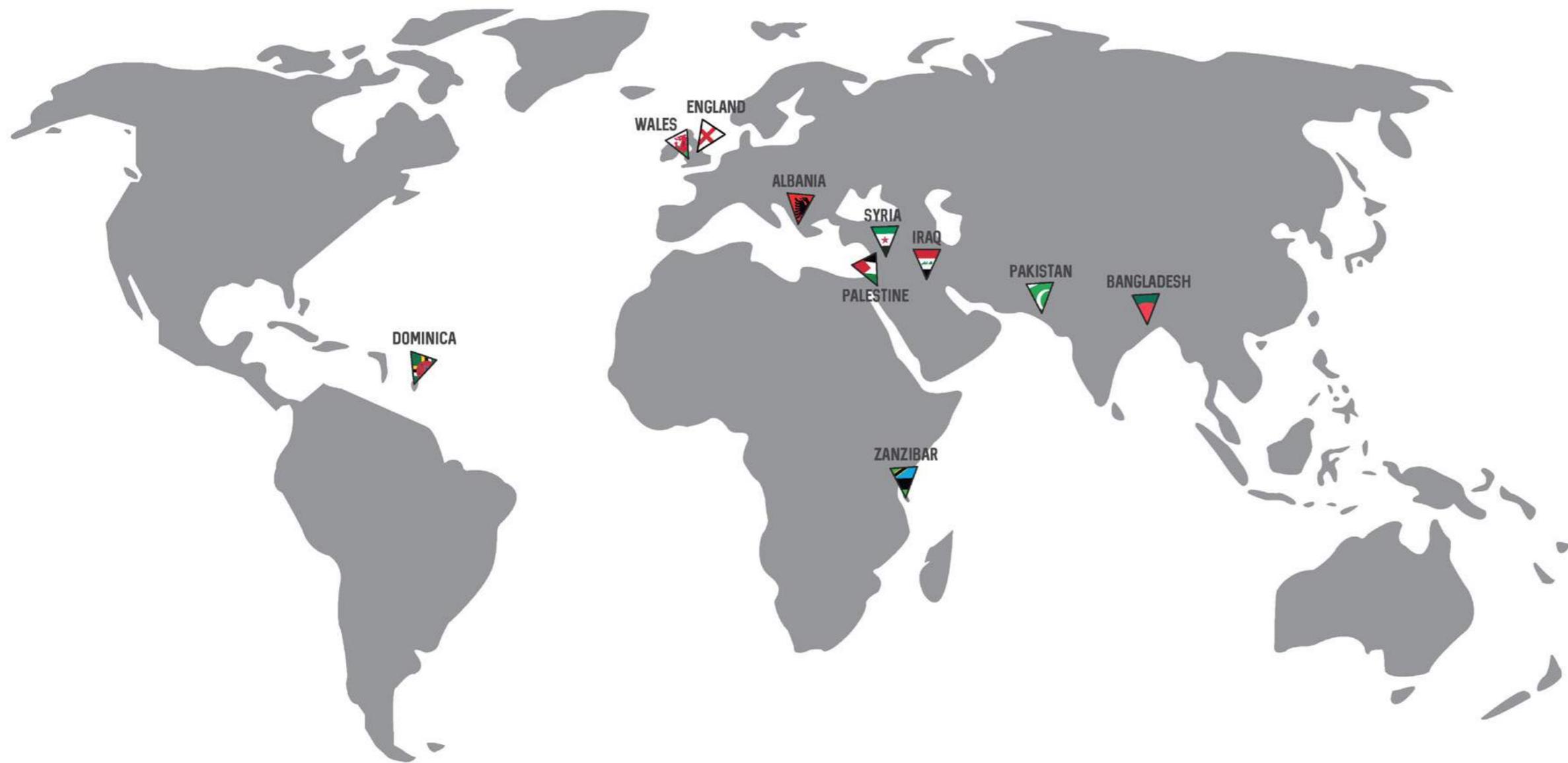


YOUNG
EYST
MIGRANT
& *Welsh*



HI. SHWMAE. SALAM. MERHABA.
PËRSHËNDETJE. JAMBO.

We are a group of young people from diverse backgrounds who have been volunteering on an exciting project called Young, Migrant & Welsh.

The project captured individual experiences of young people growing up in Wales.

This book is a collection of stories, reflections and photos that express our identity and question how this is affected by changes in the world today.



**I WAS BORN IN
ALEPPO IN
SYRIA.**

When I came to Wales, in that moment I didn't like this place.



I was feeling like oh my God why am I here and I was scared a little bit. Sometimes I was thinking to go back to my country because there are new people here and a new language to learn.

But after one year and three months it's like I don't think I want to go back. I want to stay here because I'm feeling not completely but kinda like I want to belong here, in Wales.

NOW, I SEE MYSELF SEARCHING ...



THE MIXTURE OF COLOURS REPRESENTS ME. THE COLOURS REPRESENT MY FOUR FLAGS; ZANZIBARIAN, BRITISH, WELSH AND DOMINICAN FLAGS.

My mum was born in East Africa in a little island called Zanzibar and my father was born in the Carribean in Dominica. I was born in London. Sometimes people will look at me a bit weirdly because of the colour of my skin and my religion, just because I'm wearing a headscarf and I'm black.

Young people will show who they are and what they like to do on social media. I think that life looks different on social media. People think that you are having the best time of your life and that life's going great. But in reality, life, it's not like that. The me on social media is very different to the me in real life.



At the beginning of the project we were not very open to other people and we didn't feel confident enough to share our ideas. As time went on and we got to know each other we realised something. This project is about people's life stories and what makes them who they are.

IN EACH PERSON'S STORY I FOUND A
PIECE OF MYSELF.



I came from Iraq to Swansea in 2015 when I was 13 years old. One of the most difficult things to do in Wales is my own religion. People always ask me What is Islam? What do you do in Islam? What's special in Islam?

People get confused about Islam because we fast eighteen hours a day during Ramadan. Some of my friends say that they couldn't go without water for two hours!

ONE OF MY DREAMS IS TO BE A RUGBY PLAYER FOR WALES AND I HOPE THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN IN MY FUTURE.



WE ARE FROM ALBANIA
AND WE ARE PROUD TO
SHARE OUR IDENTITY WITH
THE WELSH PEOPLE.

INDETITET

We show our nationality with the symbol of the two-headed eagle as it is on our national flag.

KULTURË

Our culture is very important to us and one of the parts of this is our hair; as we say in Albania, hair is half the beauty for a woman. We will try to avoid cutting our hair in the Autumn; as the leaves fall, so will the hair.

VULLNETARIZIM

We love volunteering as we meet new people, feel more included and we can improve our English language.



This photo was taken in Iraq when I was four years old. I loved this time with all of my family. I miss those days.

My parents were born in Bangladesh and they came to Swansea when they were young with my grandparents who found work in the docks.

As a Muslim you are taught to treat others as you want to be treated. It's not just about Islam, you just generally want to treat people nicely even if they aren't very nice to you. You can still show that you don't want to hurt them and you want to live in peace with them.

I like to weightlift as it makes me proud to be involved in such a male dominated sport.

**WOMEN WHO WEIGHTLIFT
INSPIRE ME.**



If only people could see Earth from those borders, see it without any would have a completely different it from this angle you cannot think All you see is **One Earth**.

up here, they would see it without differences in race or religion. They perspective. Because when you see of your home or your country.





I WEAR HIJAB FOR MY PEACE. IT
IS MY IDENTITY. WHEREVER I AM
I WILL BE KNOWN AS A MUSLIM
GIRL, I AM PROUD OF THAT.



When I don't understand something I try to ask questions. Sometimes I think that this is all we really need to not see someone that doesn't look or speak like us as something scary.

Recently I visited London. London seems like somewhere that is so diverse that diversity is its identity.

It seems like it has no real national identity. It isn't like Swansea at all. As I walked around it made me think ... if there was a place this diverse in my home country would I feel out of place? **Would I feel like I didn't belong in the place where I was born?**

Times like these it makes me understand why some people can get angry if they hear you speaking your native language or when they see people who don't look 'typically British' in the city they grew up in. It must feel like a threat to a part of their identity.

This is human nature.



WE HAVE SHOWN YOU WHO WE ARE AND WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO US - SO, WHAT ABOUT YOU?

LIFE IS A JOURNEY WE ARE ALL MIGRANTS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE YOUNG, MIGRANT & WELSH PROJECT

BUTHAINA ALIA HUDA HAFSA HASSAN FATJONA RUDINA SHKURTE
HUMAIRAA TAHIRAH NAWAL OMAR SABA DOUAA SAIF ALI NADIN
RIMAS FATIMA FAHIMA ANIKA JUMANA TAHSIN

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We hope that you enjoyed finding out a bit more about us and how we feel about growing up in Wales today!

If you want to find out a little bit more visit our website to watch our videos, look at some more photos or to access the teaching resources from our project aimed at 11-14 year old young people.

GOODBYE FOR NOW.

HWYL FAWR. ALLAH HAFIZ.

MAA ASALAMAA.

MIRUPAFSHIM. KWAHERI.

 ymw.eyst.org.uk



YOUNG EYST MIGRANT & Welsh



Ethnic Minorities
& Youth Support
Team Wales

Tim Cymorth
Lleiafrifoedd Ethnig
& Ieuenctid Cymru



ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED

Amgueddfa
Genedlaethol
y Glannau

STORI DIWYDIANT A
BLAENGAREDD CYMRU

National
Waterfront
Museum

WALES' STORY OF
INDUSTRY & INNOVATION

