

## **The EAWE "Stories of DEI in Wind Energy" community**

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**What happened?** *I moved to Europe for PhD studies.*

**Who did it happen to?** *Me.*

**What was the context?** *Daily life in a new country.*

**How did you or the affected person react?** *It was a long-term matter over years, difficulties with integration in a new country where some people are welcoming of the foreigners, especially those from non-white countries with a specific born religion. As an affected person trying to understand the right way of communication with local people. It was unfortunately more reactive until I had found myself and increased my self-confidence to be more powerful.*

**Looking back on in, how could you or the affected person have reacted differently?** *Rather than remaining reactive in the new environment, I should have had my confidence and the matters weakening it revisited. The main point is that the stereotyping that happened in the new country, either generalising me with other immigrant who were not behaving appropriately or associating me with my home country government is not a trivial issue that I could have resolve immediately. Hence, it took me some time to find myself properly again.*

**What would you like to discuss with the community related to this mini-story?** *I was able to cope with the difficulties over time and my higher education in one of the best universities of that country and a relatively good middle-class income and to some extent learning the new language helped me a lot to feel the confidence and comfort so that my life was made very easy after some years. I am currently enjoying a prestigious career, feel more relaxed about the mentioned issues and even have the power of spreading DEI values. However, even in this working community the broader group of colleagues from the host country or western world are statistically more successful. I am not quite sure, but this still may be indicating some unfairness. Apart from this, my greater concern is about those either from a lower education, work at income class, those with severe difficulties with new language/culture or having careers with a harsher (cultural not necessarily labour-wise) working environment. I overcame those challenges, but the question is whether the other people in the new country can do either. Therefore, I would like to have a contribution to promoting DEI values, so the modern societies further appreciate these values and treat people based on their contribution to the society rather than things that those people had no control over like the birth country, skin colour, etc.*