



## BEYOND AFRIPÉDIA : MALI EXPERIENCE

INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS



AGENCE  
UNIVERSITAIRE  
DE LA FRANCOPHONIE



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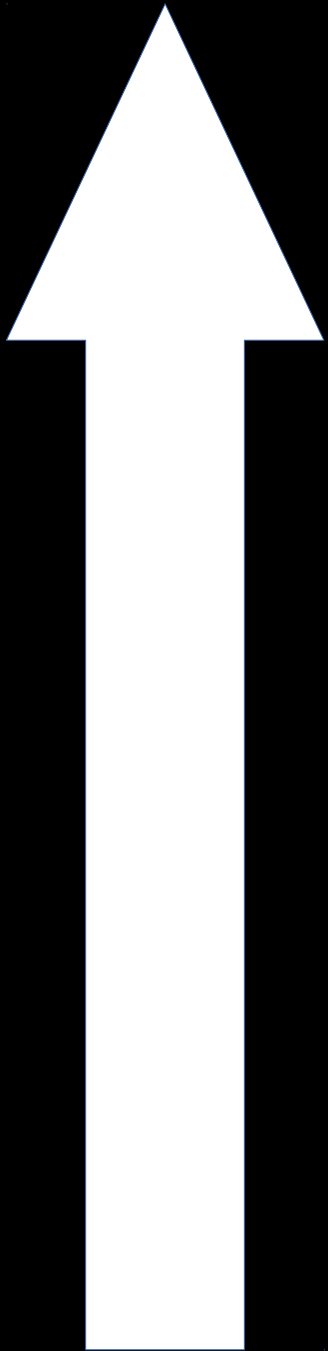
## Afripédia main objectives :

- Provide **offline access** to Wikipedia and Wikimedia projects
- Train african trainers to **contribute** on Wikimedia projects
- Help to create and sustain **local communities**

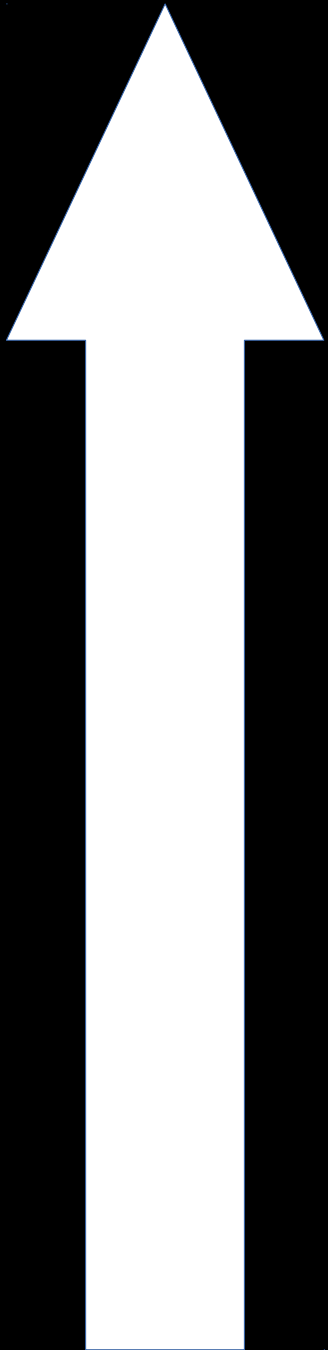


## 4 partners :

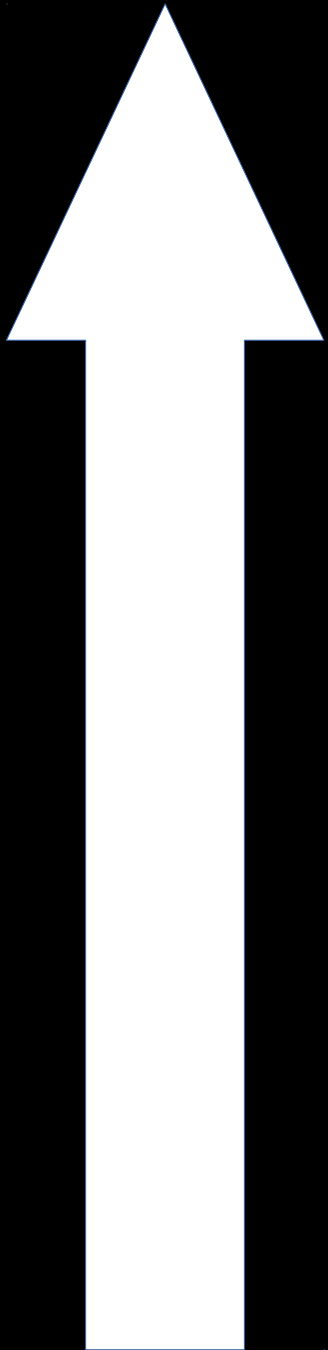
- **Kiwix** : offline solutions
- **Wikimédia France** : organization, training, sustain of local communities, Wikimedia experience
- **Institut Français** : network of french cultural centers in the world, diplomacy, facilities
- **Agence universitaire de la francophonie** : french-speaking cooperation, trainers and digital campus in french-speaking Africa



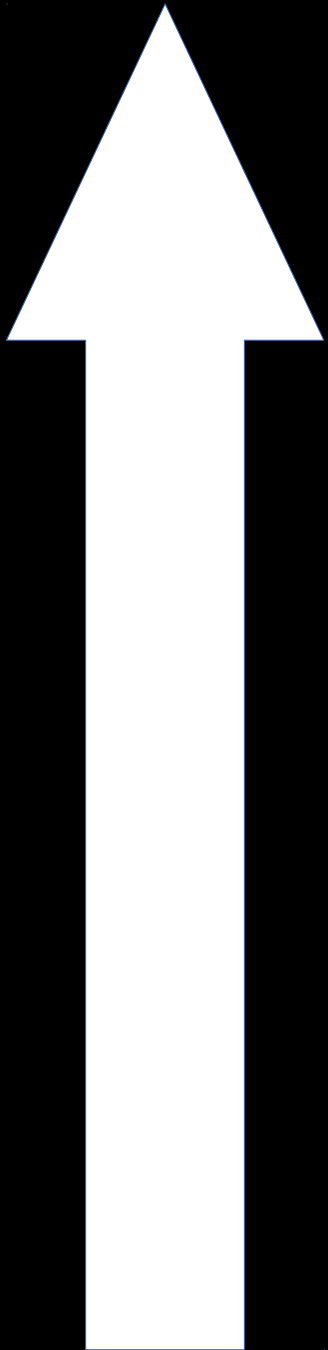
– **Wikimania 2011** : imagine the potential project. Discussions between Kiwix and WMFr



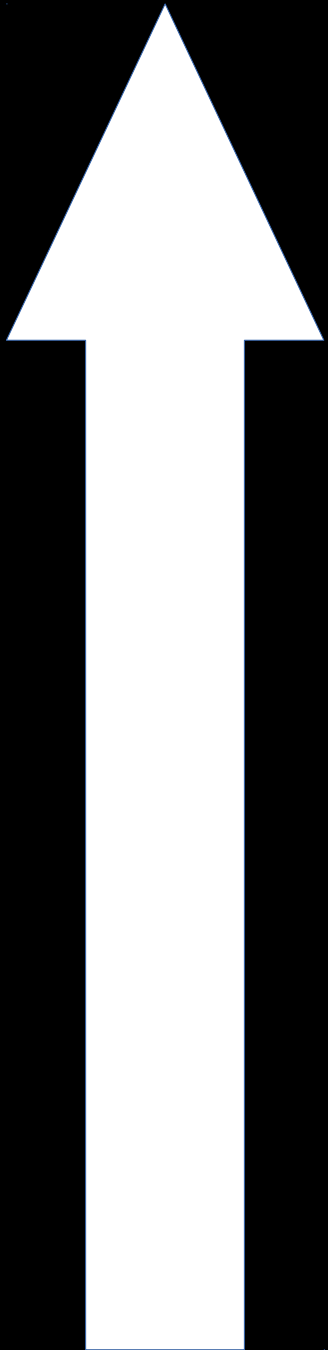
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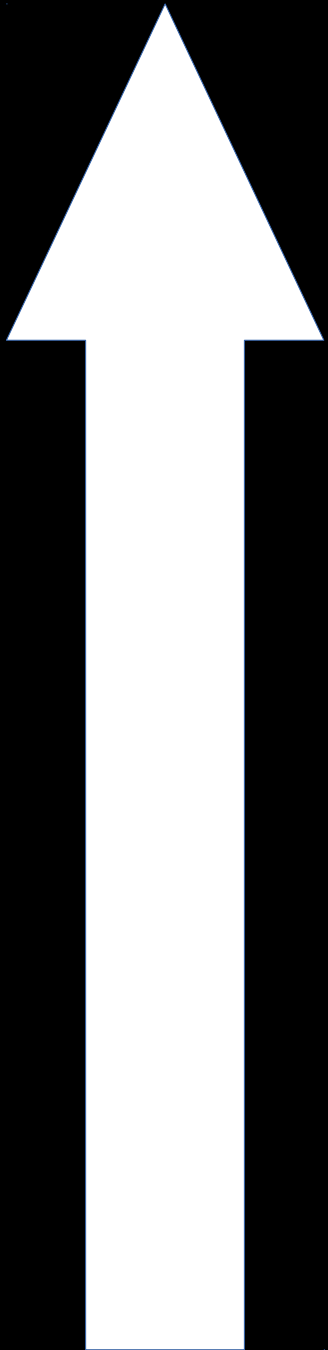
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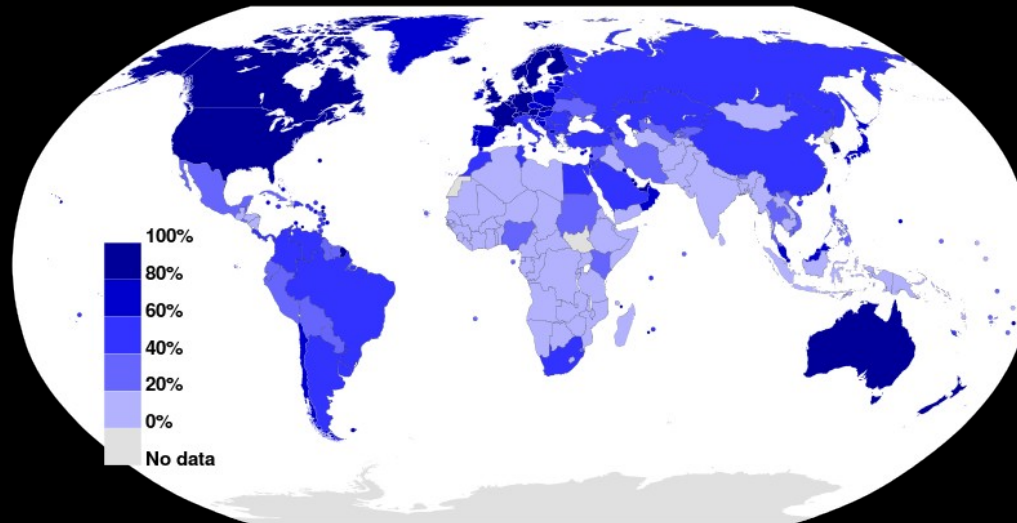
- **2014 (planned)** : *enforcement of the project :*
  - *autonomization of trainers*
  - *development of communities*
  - *Afripedia website and online documentation*
- **Autumn 2013 (planned)** : *training session in Douala (Cameroon)*
- **Summer 2013** : *brainstorming about the future of the project*
- **June 2013** : *2d training session in Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo)*
- **November 2012** : *1st training session in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)*
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# Provide offline access to Wikimedia projects

## Why ?

- Internet access is very expensive in Africa
- Internet access is poor quality (very slow)
- People don't have internet access at home
- Library and documentation are not so rich as in other countries



*Internet penetration worldmap : Africa is under 20 % in its largest area*

*(Jeff Ogden (W163), CC-BY-SA, based on ITU datas)*

# Provide offline access to Wikimedia projects

## How ?

- Using Kiwix software and ZIM files of Wikimedia projects
- Open offline wifi networks with plug computers in public areas (universities etc)
- Install Wikimedia projects offline files on intranet, on computers





# Bienvenue sur Atripédia

Accédez **gratuitement** et **librement** à tout les **contenus** de **Wikipédia** et **Wikisource** sans connexion internet.



**CLIQUEZ !**



**CLIQUEZ !**

[Tout télécharger pour une consultation ultérieure](#)

[Nous contacter - A propos d'Atripédia](#)

Atripédia est un **programme de diffusion hors-ligne** de l'encyclopédie libre Wikipédia, par l'Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, l'Institut Français, Wikimedia France et Kiwix.

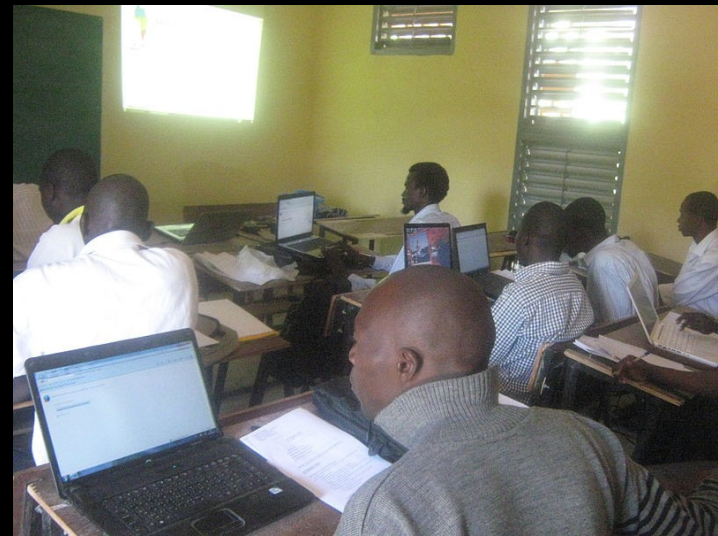


Suivez-nous sur [Twitter](#)

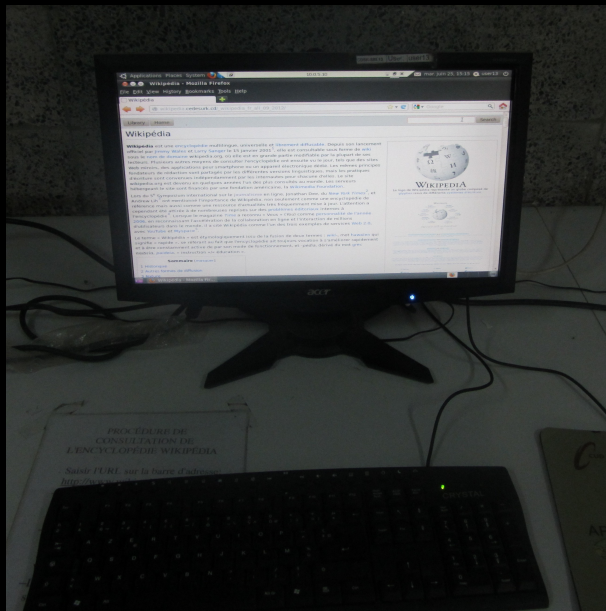
Contact [Atripédia](#): [afripedia@lists.wikimedia.fr](mailto:afripedia@lists.wikimedia.fr)



Afripédia on school computer (Mali)



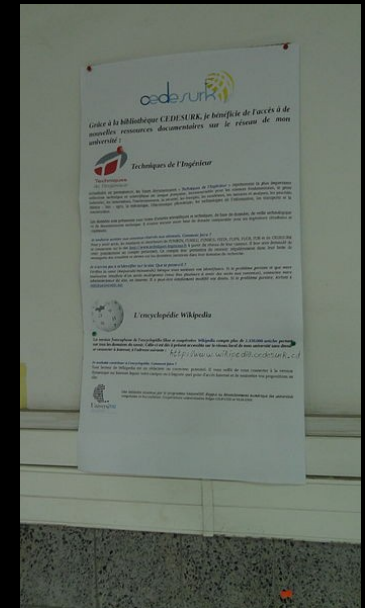
Afripédia by wifi (Tchad)



Afripédia by intranet access  
(Kinshasa, Democratic Republic  
of the Congo)

← Computer with Wikipedia on  
the library

Poster for information about  
Wikipédia access →



# Training african trainers to contribute on Wikipedia

## Why ?

- Less than 3 % of wikimedians are from Africa
- « Francophonie » (french-speaking area) : 250 millions people in Europe, America, Africa, Asia. The largest part of french-speaking people is in Africa (West and Central)
- To help to reduce the North / South gap

## How ?

- Provide help for new contributors
- Train trainers in Africa
- Develop wikimedia workshops in academic world in Africa
- Help and sustain new communities



People trained are from:

- Senegal
- Central African Rep.
- Mali
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Togo
- Benin
- Republic of Congo (Brazzaville)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo (Kinshasa)
- Burundi
- Niger
- Tchad
- Burkina Faso
- Mauritania

# Training sessions

## People invited :

- Trainers of francophone digital campus (technical and software trainers, multimedia trainers)
- Librarians from universities
- Trainers of educational centers
- Teachers and professors

## Sessions program (4 days) :

- Learn to install and provide offline access by different ways (wifi, intranet, desktop)
- Learn to contribute on Wikimedia projects :
  - Wikipedia
  - Wikimedia Commons
  - Wiktionary
- Learn to train new contributors and explain Wikimedia projects (for dissemination)
- Free licenses, free content
- Work together, discussions about Wikipedia, about african cultures, oral cultures etc

## First results

- 36 trainers trained (18 + 18)
- training sessions organized by people trained in Abidjan and Kinshasa
- 118 new editors
- 1113 edits
- 141 new articles
- 440 000 bytes added
- around 250 pictures on Commons
- around 25 edits on Wiktionary
- Wikipedia offline available in > 15 universities in Africa (servers and Wifi-plugs)
- Dissemination on computers (Mali, Democratic Republic of the Congo)
- Sensibilization and contacts for GLAM future projects





# Success and challenges

## What runs

- enthusiasm of people
- alignment with local issues (bad internet access, no Wikimedia community)
- alignment with Wikimedia objectives : access to Wikimedia content, improve the community, reduce the North / South gap
- external communication : a lot of very good press attention in France and Africa
- Work with partners : AUF, IF and Orange Fondation (provide funds to the IF)
- weekly training sessions in Mali, training sessions in Bénin, Niger, Tchad, Congo etc.

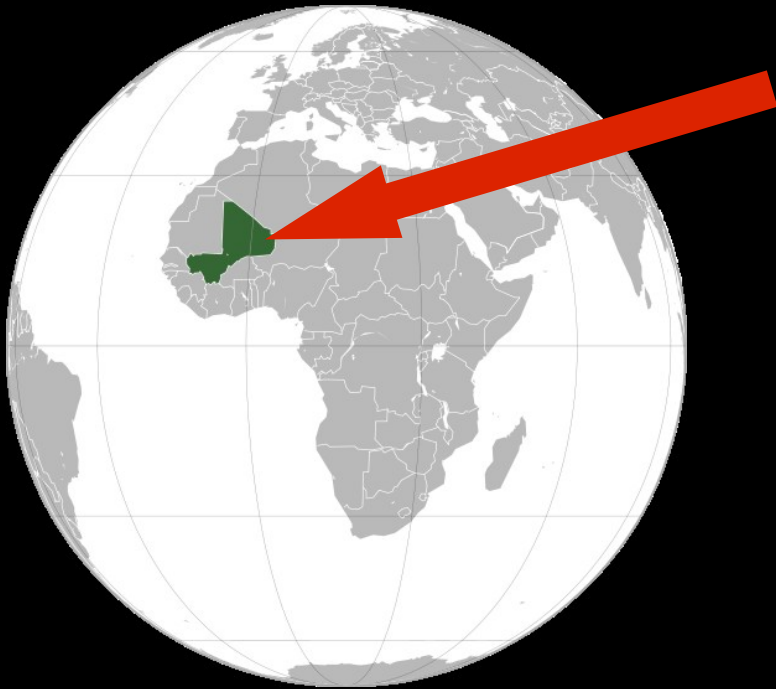
## What is difficult

- Give more attention to people trained to keep their involvement sustain constantly their actions
- Work with partners : difficulties to have the same calendar
- Personal involvement of part of the trainers : they don't continue their own contributions

## What we want to change / experiment

- Develop a platform to provide better support and help
- Better selection of the trainees / trainers (pre-selection)
- Why not a certification ?
- Be more efficient without spending too much money (financial partners)

# Focus on Mali experience : what is (probably) the good direction ?



## **Mali**

- 15 millions people
- One of the most poor country in the world
- War and political instability since 2012
- Bad quality of internet access in all the country (including Bamako, the capital)
- Internet access very expensive (40\$ / month)



**Good conjunction**

Kiwix developper

+

Trainer trained in Abidjan  
very personnaly involved

+

Active blogger



**Good results**



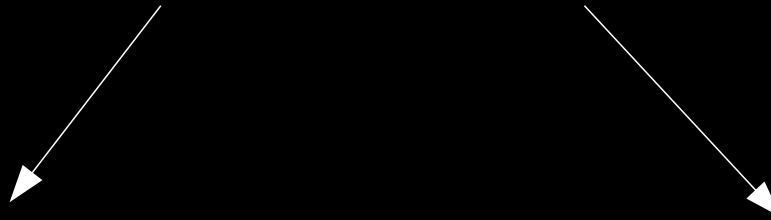
**Michel Namar**, in charge of the French-speaking digital campus in Bamako (university of Bamako)

*Never edit Wikipedia before November 2012...*

- Trainee at the 1st Afripedia training session in Abidjan
- Install offline access to Wikipedia in 8 faculties (including 2 outside Bamako)
- Trains 81 new users on WPFR / Identified interested persons: 51 (10 girls)
- Kiwix install parties: every tuesday and thursday afternoon
- Afripedia pres/training: Every friday afternoon
- People trained on Fridays: 180+
- Club Afripedia created mid-july: 6 members.

# Dissemination

**Michel trained**



**Ibrahim Sory Camara**

Librarian and documentalist  
University of **Ségou**

- Install offline Wikipedia on computers: 136 (university and internet cafés in Ségou)
- Trainings: 36 people, including teachers.

With the support of Afripedia project trainers : especially Renaud, living in Bamako and Kiwix developer

**Boukary Konaté**

Blogger and teacher  
Bamako

- Install offline Wikipedia in schools: 13
- Install offline Wikipedia in non-school orgs: 6
- Trainings: 3 sessions, ~ 30 people
- Install offline Wikipedia on computers: 50+
- +200 photos on Wikimedia Commons (with support of WMCH)

## Is there a new community eclosing in Mali ?



- People very involved
- Meeting them frequently
- Autonomous on the Wikimedia projects
- Creativity around Afripedia project
- Connected with universities and IT community

=> Focusing a future training session in Mali ?

=> Spend more attention to help them to ensure the project and the community

=> Encourage them to continue and expand the Project

=> Provide micro-supports for projects (photo material, Documentation, leaflets)

=> Help for communication (wifi access to offline Wikipedia on the campus, training sessions etc)

**Thank you ! :-)**



And follow @Afripedia