

# Wiki In Africa/Focus

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Wiki In Africa's activities supports the aims of the Wikimedia movement across Africa. We support free expression, a free and open Internet, and the use of open licenses and the protection of the public domain.

Its beneficiaries are Readers, Students and existing and potential Wikipedians. Its target groups or audiences are the individuals and collective knowledge in Civil Society partners (content and network and educational), Wikimedia and Open aligned volunteer groups and education organisations.

## Objectives

Empower and engage citizens of Africa and its diaspora to collect, develop and contribute content [and perspectives] relating to the theme of Africa under a free license and engage in global knowledge systems by encouraging access to, awareness of, and support for open knowledge, the open movement and the Wikimedia projects, working in collaboration with like-minded organisations.

Wiki In Africa exists as part of an international movement of organizations and volunteers that aims to increase the world's knowledge. This work takes place in four parts:

1. Establishing, through research, the gaps in knowledge that exists on Wikipedia about each country and community in Africa and find innovative and unexpected ways of drawing this information onto Wikipedia;
2. Activate, train and support a self-sustaining new generation of dedicated and proactive Wikipedian editors from across the continent that are able to generate new articles and subjects relevant to contemporary Africa by changing online behaviour and offline attitudes to knowledge,
3. Activate, train and support the growth of new User Groups and Wikimedia Chapters across Africa to effectively organise, deploy and reward these new editors through national and continental activities, and
4. Assist and support the upload and expansion of content that already resides in heritage, culture, news-gathering and academic institutions across Africa.

## Strategic priorities

### Developing and supporting the growth of emerging communities

Wiki in Africa envisions that fledgling and emerging communities are given as much encouragement, mentorship, support, and access to resources that are needed to become fully-fledged, contributing, and

involved communities that support the Wikimedia vision within their own environment. It is determined to obliterate the term Emerging Communities by 2030 ;)

*Approach used: research, community activation, and building, education, empowerment*

### **Actively addressing knowledge gaps and biases**

Through the work of Wiki In Africa, the Wikimedia movement will have identified, collected, and its projects will reflect the knowledge and perspectives that encapsulate the full range of human and biological experience across the geographic and theoretical idea of Africa by embodying an open culture that celebrates, values, and actively incorporates diversity.

*Approach used: research, partnerships, education, access*

### **Active focus on diversity, inclusion, and empowerment**

Within the theoretical and geographical framework of Africa, Wiki in Africa will assist the Wikimedia movement to become a proactive agent of change towards the subversion of systems of knowledge inequality, by embracing the values of diversity and inclusivity that empowers individuals and groups to contribute to global knowledge systems.

*Approach used: innovation, individual empowerment, education, access*

### **Increasing visibility**

Drawing attention to the challenge, repercussions, and danger of the Single Story of Africa ([https://www.te.d.com/talks/chimamanda\\_ngozi\\_adichie\\_the\\_danger\\_of\\_a\\_single\\_story?language=en](https://www.te.d.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?language=en)). To partner with organisations across Africa, and within the Diaspora to ensure that contributors seize their own agency to decolonize knowledge and the information that is accessible online.

*Approach used: encouraging micro and macro contributions through exciting, fun and engagement-driven participatory events, drives and contests*

### **Lowering barriers to contribution**

Providing solutions and actions that are easy, fun, and engaging to participate in and contribute content through.

*Approach used: encouraging micro contributions through creating exciting and fun events, drives and contests, with level-appropriate pathways, learning materials, and tools.*

### **Leveraging the mutual benefit of partnerships**

Encouraging, via various pathways, the contribution, and transfer of existing content from established knowledge custodians, cultural and memory organisations, creators, activists, individuals, and networks. In a similar way, within the Wikimedia movement, work synergistically with Wikimedia-focused projects, usergroups and chapters to collaborate, leverage and assist each other to further the mission of the movement across Africa and it's diaspora.

*Approach used: inviting partners to be active collaborators and co-leads on participatory events, drives and contests*

### **Strategic subject focus'**

Focus	Programmes/Projects	Means	Tactics used	Strategic priority
<p><b>Gender</b></p> <p>UN's SDG 5 (<a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals</a>): Gender Equity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Wiki Loves Women</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WIRs in 6 countries for local activism</li> <li>▪ Focus Group</li> <li>▪ Global drives               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="http://isa.toolforge.org/campaigns/94">ISA campaign Tell Us About Her (http://isa.toolforge.org/campaigns/94)</a> (2021)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#SheSaid</a> campaign (2020)</li> <li>▪ <a href="https://tols.wmflabs.org/isa/campaigns/53">Tell Us About Her campaign (https://tols.wmflabs.org/isa/campaigns/53)</a> (2020)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#19Women in Sport</a> (2019)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#18Women Occupation Drive</a> (2018)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#17African feminists</a> (2017)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#16WikiWomen Translation Drive</a> (2016)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#15Challenge Concours d'écriture</a> (2015)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Innovation, Training and education, Community activation and building, Partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Knowledge gaps and biases</li> <li>▪ Diversity, inclusion and empowerment</li> <li>▪ Partnerships</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education</b></p> <p>UN's SDGs 4 (<a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals</a>): Quality Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">WikiChallenge African Schools</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">WikiAfrica Schools</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Wikipedia Open Education Resources</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Wikipedia Primary Schools</a></li> </ul>	<p>Direct interventions and training with schools, Foundation Orange and educational organisations.</p> <p>Creation and curation of Open Education Resources</p> <p>Research project into usefulness and usability of Wikipedia in Africa's schools.</p>	<p>Innovation, Training and education, Individual empowerment, Partnerships</p> <p>Research, individual empowerment, partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emerging communities</li> <li>▪ Diversity, inclusion and empowerment</li> <li>▪ Digital skills</li> <li>▪ Partnerships</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cultural heritage / GLAM</b></p> <p>UN's SDG 10 (<a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals</a>): Reducing Inequalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Wiki Loves Africa</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Nos Jardins</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <a href="#">WikiAfrica Heritage</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Kumusha Takes Wiki</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Share your Knowledge</a></li> </ul>	<p>International annual photography contest</p> <p>WIRs</p> <p>GLAM partnerships</p>	<p>Training and education, Individual empowerment, Partnerships</p> <p>Cultural partnerships, Community activation and building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing visibility of Africa</li> <li>▪ Knowledge gaps and biases</li> <li>▪ Diversity, inclusion and empowerment</li> <li>▪ Partnerships</li> </ul>
<p><b>Volunteer and community support</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">WikiAfrica Hour</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">ISA tool</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">WikiFundi</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Nos Jardins</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Wikipack Africa</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Kumusha Bus</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">#OpenAfrica</a></li> </ul>	<p>Information exchange and sharing</p> <p>Technical: development of tools</p> <p>Resource support</p>	<p>Provide monthly platform for information sharing</p> <p>Community activation and building, Facilitate training and education of volunteer groups beyond initial activation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emerging communities</li> <li>▪ Diversity, inclusion and empowerment</li> <li>▪ Lowering barriers to contribution</li> <li>▪ Individual empowerment</li> </ul>

		<p>Movement specific training and skill transfer</p> <p>Movement specific outreach</p> <p>Participation and support to other group initiatives, such as #AfricaDestubathon, WPWP campaign, AfroCine or WikiGap</p>	<p>Skills transfer for groups to activate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnerships</li> </ul>
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