

WIKI INDABA

RETHINK + RESET : VISIONS OF THE FUTURE





Wikimedia and African Libraries: Envisioning Future Pathways

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Why Libraries/Librarians?

- Librarians are well aligned with our mission
- Librarians can help us unlock the academic world
- Librarians are good at finding quality/reliable sources.
- Librarians can add to our repository with manuscripts, rare books and photos
- Librarians have been our allies for a about a decade now

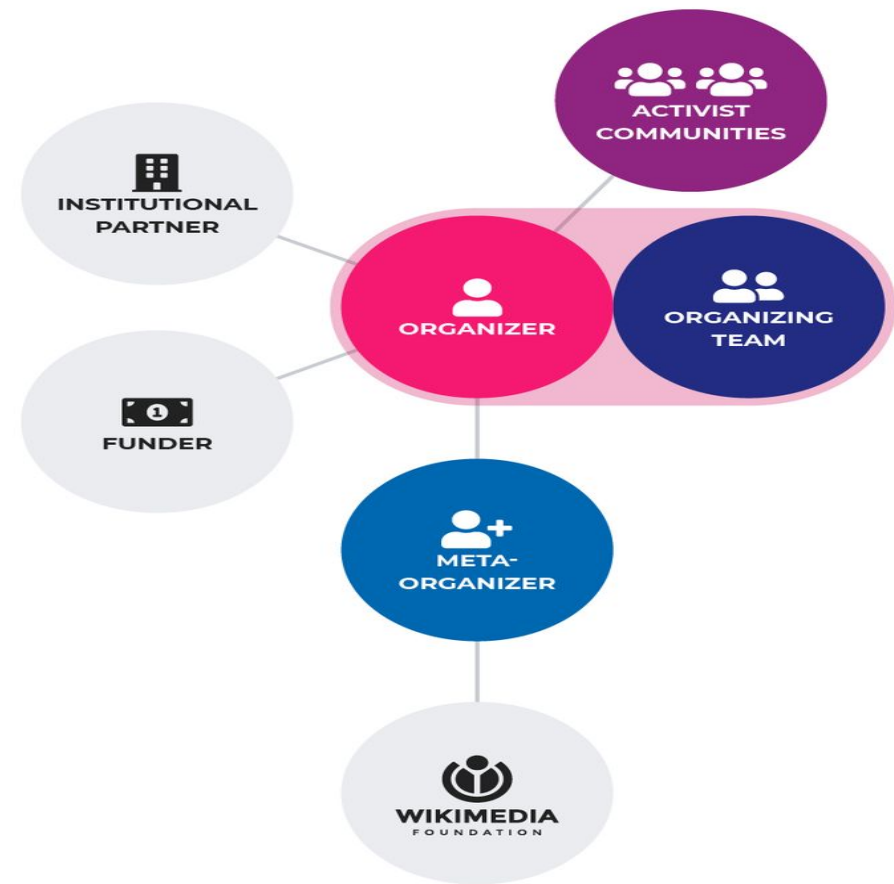


Investing Regionally?

Regional partnerships to enhance campaign reach and unlock new audiences

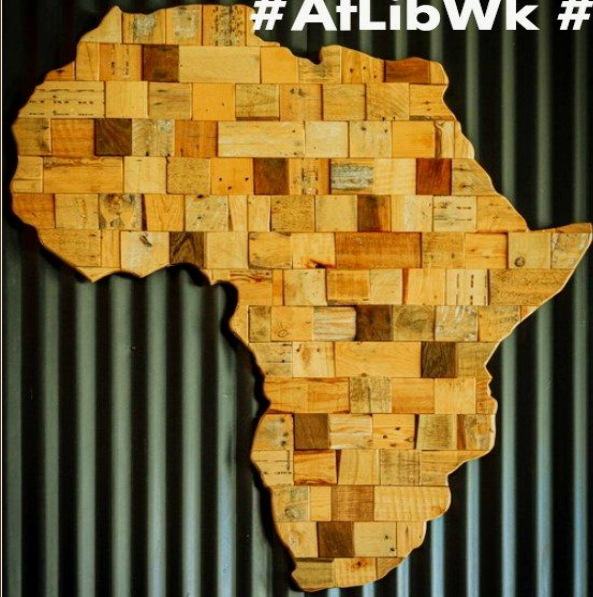
Adapting campaigns locally to match needs of local networks, communities or interests (regional focus)

Community Leaders as partners



What are we doing in Africa?

2nd African Librarians Week
#AfLibWk #1Lib1Ref



17th - 24th
May, 2021

Get ready!!!



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Course goals

Primarily

- Impart the **basics of engaging with Wikipedia** to African librarians and **mentor learners** through assignments leading to **useful real-world application**.
- **Train librarians** to teach their user communities to use and contribute to cultural context content on Wikipedia by taking them through the editorial processes and quality standards of the resource.
- **Nurture relationships** between Wikipedia communities in Africa with libraries.

in Library & Information Associations & Institutions

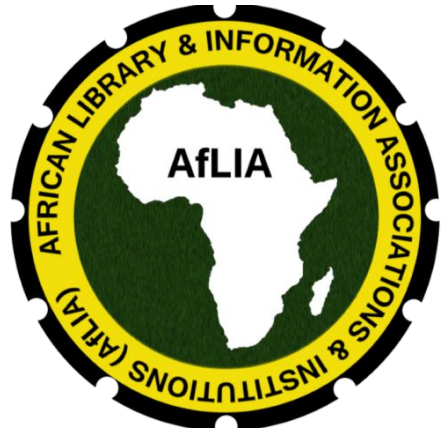
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OCLC

WIKIPEDIA
IN AFRICAN LIBRARIES



The work so far...



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**Regional Growth in
Africa**

- Capacity Building opportunity for librarians
- Introduction of a professional network -- new audience and surge in contributors
- Adapting campaign locally to align organisational interest with real life impact
- Participation from non-affiliate countries -- possibility of community creation



African librarians week

2020 - 2021, the African Librarians Week has been an integral part of the global #1lib1ref campaign saw;

- **1085 new African librarians** participated
- Made **45.9k edits** and added **1.54m words**
- Created **505 articles** and uploaded **793 images** to Commons.

African Librarians Week 3.0 in 2022 Loading...!!!



Wikipedia in African Libraries course impact

Our goal was to take **300 librarians** in at least **30 African countries** through an **adapted Wikipedia Course**

Guess what!! We trained:

- **469 librarians** in **32 African countries** who made **48.33k edits**, added **6.17k references**, created **483 articles**, and upload **2526 images** to Commons.

Join us on the next panel discussion in the next 90 mins to know more about this...

Wikipedia project for African Librarians: Liberating Knowledge #WikiAfLibs

web.afia.net | afianetwork | AfLIACon | AfLIA

Phephile N Tshabangu @sindiept
I am a librarian from Zimbabwe. I am a proud participant in the Wikipedia in African Libraries course Cohort 1, #WikiAfLibs. Follow me for updates. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon" 8:20 pm · 03 Feb 21 · Twitter for Android 7 Retweets 15 Likes

Mohamad Mohamed siad @Mmsiad
I am a professional librarian from Somalia. I am a proud participant in the Wikipedia in African Libraries course Cohort 1, #WikiAfLibs. Follow me for updates. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon" 9:47 pm · 03 Feb 21 · Twitter for Android 5 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 15 Likes

Stephen Dakyi @NanaYawBotar
I am Steve from Ghana. I am a proud participant in the Wikipedia in African Libraries course Cohort 1, #WikiAfLibs. Follow me for updates. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon @OFWAfrica 11:05 am · 03 Feb 21 · Twitter for Android 9 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 16 Likes

Joseph Sagbohan @jsagbohan
Je suis un bibliothécaire du Bénin, plus précisément de l'Université d'Abomey-Calavi. Je suis un fier participant au cours Wikipédia dans les bibliothèques africaines, Cohorte 1, #WikiAfLibs. Suivez-moi pour les mises à jour. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon" 10:20 am · 05 Feb 21 · Twitter Web App 4 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 10 Likes

Lynn @LynnLauratLibri
"I am a librarian from Botswana. I am a proud participant in the Wikipedia in African Libraries course Cohort 1, #WikiAfLibs. Follow me for updates. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon" 5:34 pm · 03 Feb 21 · Twitter for iPhone 5 Retweets 18 Likes

Ouled_Hacini Youcef @ouled_h_youcef
"Je suis un bibliothécaire de l'Algérie. Je suis un fier participant au cours Wikipédia dans les bibliothèques africaines, Cohorte 1, #WikiAfLibs. Suivez-moi pour les mises à jour. @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia @AfLIACon" 10:29 am · 05 Feb 21 · Twitter for Android 2 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 8 Likes

rachael andisi @rachaelandisi
I'm a librarian from Kenya. I am a proud participant in Wikipedia in African libraries course cohort 1 #WikiAfLibs. Follow me for updates @AfLIACon @Wikimedia @WikiLibrary @Wikipedia 4:34 am · 05 Feb 21 · Twitter for Android 8 Retweets 10 Likes



Future Pathway 1

Bridging The Structural Inequities In Accessing Knowledge



Structural inequities in accessing knowledge

Designing for *inclusivity* to ensure *equitable accessibility*

Liberation of not just the platform but also the *how* and the *what*?

Closing the *digital skills gap* as a systematic strategy for addressing *structural inequity*



Future Pathway 2

Developing Course Repositories To Empower The African Library Sector & Their User Communities



Loading and unpacking knowledge to Africa

Easy to access, open course modules on **Wikipedia** and **sister projects** specifically targeted to Africans in:

- Their languages (including English, French and Portuguese)
- Hybrid formats (self-paced but with a human element)
- Easily shareable and accessible formats (short, sharp tutorials)



Future Pathway 3

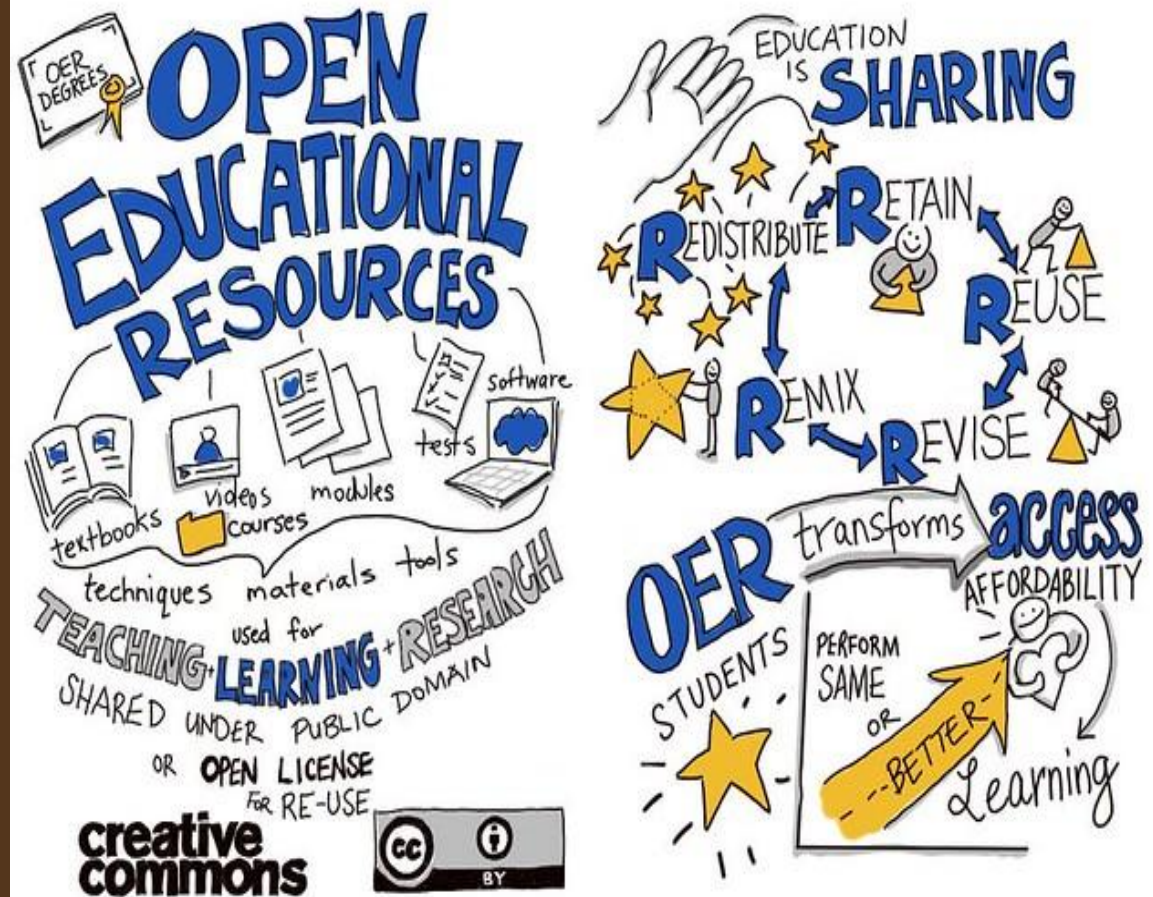
***Driving Open Education Practices In Africa: Closing The Gap
Between Academia & Wikipedia***



Advocating for Open Educational Practices in Africa

AfLIA is looking forward to leading African Librarians to create/curate Open Resources using Wikibooks and Wikiversity. These will be done by;

- Inculcating and driving (advocating) open education practices in tertiary institutions across Africa.
- Adopting, adapting, or creating free or low-cost alternatives to expensive textbooks, in order to support equitable, effective and innovative teaching and learning
- Developing simple, flexible, scalable templates for possible OER adoptions on Wikibooks and Wikiversity.



We Need Action!



Next steps...

The digital skills gap in Africa needs to be formally addressed as well as public access to digital infrastructure which will drive the acquisition of the skills

Wikimedia communities in Africa need to be strategic in attracting academics and experts into their fold in order to effectively open up knowledge not just for social, cultural and historical purposes but also for educational reasons so that Wikimedians will begin to play clear definable roles in driving quality education and lifelong learning in Africa.

African Wikimedia communities are called upon to recognize that library doors are open to them all over the continent for programs and collaborations



THANK YOU.

