



#BeINSPIRED

Amplifying the voices of Inspiring Women from the Open Movement

Wiki Loves Women's *Inspiring Open* is a podcast series that celebrates the inspirational women whose careers and personal ethics intersect with the Open Movement. Each episode features a dynamic woman who has pushed the boundaries of what it means to build communities and succeed as a collective. As a podcast series, it is available at any time, anywhere, to amplify the motivational stories of each guest, as spoken in their own voice. Listen to their personal journeys in conversation with host Betty Kankam-Boadu.

Each Inspiring Open episode raises the global visibility and profiles of the women reclaiming Africa and redefining the Open sector.

Be inspired • Be challenged • Be bold!

Tags: African podcast, Audio, African Women, Women's Voices, Online Representation, Gender Gap, Gender Equity, Being Heard

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Prof. Jane-Frances Agbu
Nigeria

"I always look at it from moving from theory to practical, because that was when I was flooded with the real reality of open education. The beauty of open education, it was so beautiful."



Anie Akpe
Nigeria

"Given an opportunity, you have to take it and run with it and learn as much as you can. Because, remember, it's something that you're choosing. When you're choosing it, the more you learn, the more you are, the better you are."



Nana Ama Agyemang Asante
Ghana

"You go into newsrooms and you lose your voice because the people who own media, as a media owner told me, 'We are not here to do democracy or free press.' Can you imagine owning media and saying to a journalist that we're not here to do free press or democracy."



Maha Bali
Egypt

"I think a lot of people benefit from other people's openness without ever doing anything first. And that's okay, because a lot of open stuff is there for anyone to use without reciprocity. But if you reciprocate, and if you maintain relationships, and you invest in building them, you're going to get so much more out of it, because people will find you and get you things you didn't even know you needed."



Maryana Iskander
South Africa / Egypt

"For me, open is about shared purpose. That's what I take from it is that in the diversity we can find commonality. And that open allows for that, because we can share and we can learn from each other and from others, in a way that is building and not taking away."



Islam Elbeiti
Sudan

"I think our idea of change definitely changes over the years. It's either because we grow and have a better understanding of the social construct. Or we have a better understanding of who we are as human beings. But I think since the get go, one of the reasons I was always advocating for women and music was just simply because it's very powerful."



Mulenga Mpundu Kapwepwe
Zambia

"For me, a lot of my openness is about seeing opportunities, not for just myself, but for other people as well. To being open so that I receive the opportunities or I receive the information, I receive what I need for a particular time. Because if I'm not open, how will I get what I need?"



Angela Odour Lungati
Kenya

"You need to recognise that you can do hard things. Second thing, would be to do those things, even when you're afraid. Don't let your fear hold you back. Be open."



Emna Mizouni
Tunisia

"Our own existence as women in Africa or the Arab world is a way of resistance. You resist everything every day."



Dr. Nkem Osuigwe
Nigeria

"Looking at Wikipedia, that marvellous global entity. And we don't have a voice there? African librarians are not there? No! It's not possible. So that was really what made us push into that, to ensure that the librarians in Africa understand what free knowledge is all about, and the role they have to play in ensuring that that free knowledge that is out there is real, relevant, accurate."



Elizabeth Oyange
Kenya

"As soon as you see the licence is a Creative Commons licence, we don't have to worry about going now to the publisher to ask for permissions, and we don't have to worry about copyright infringement. We just upload the document as per the licencing conditions."



Esra'a Al Shafei
Bahrain

"[An ideal future] doesn't punish differences, whether it's differences of identity of opinion, of religion, of social status ... We do away with all of this type of repressive policies and abusive systems that punish people, again, simply for who they are. And one that embraces knowledge, one that makes knowledge accessible, equitable. Where diversity isn't something that is threatening. The ideal life is that the platforms that I'm building today would not be needed at all."



Hilda Twongyeirwe
Uganda

"The act of writing within itself, whether you intend it or not, whether you're deliberate about it or not, it is an act of activism. When our stories are sidelined, then our lives are sidelined. So it is important that we always find spaces for our stories, our voices."



Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah
Ghana

"Life can be really, really hard. And I feel like we need to be deliberate about inviting pleasure into our life. And then we can find pleasure in the everyday moments, and then the small moments. We actually just need to be conscious about it."



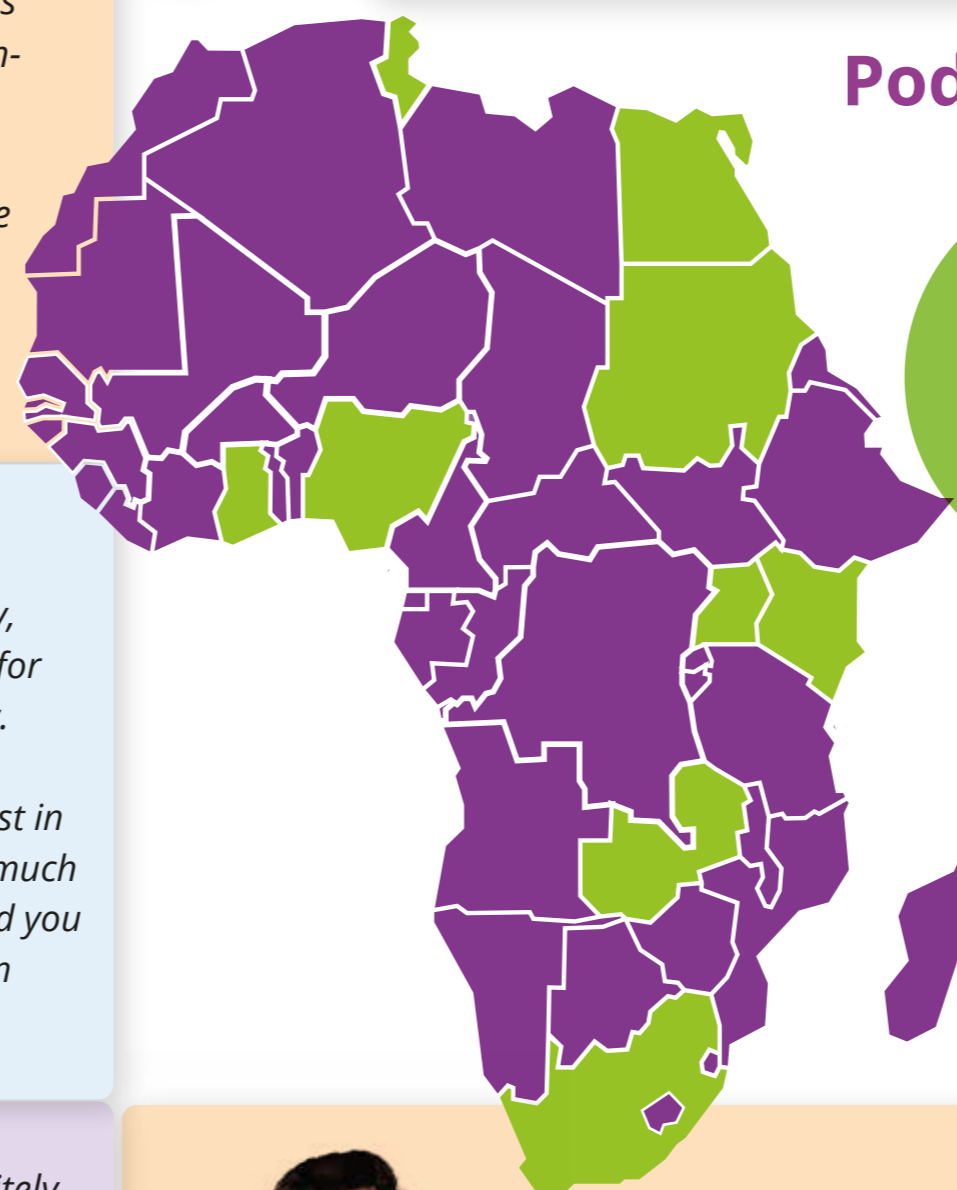
Lola Shoneyin
Nigeria

"I have obstacle blindness, a lot of the things that seem to stop other people from achieving their goals or going for the things they want, I don't see those things. When they're there, I strictly see them as things to work through. They are not to be an encumbrance. They are not to be an obstacle. If I can't get through it, I will get over it. But I will get to my goal."

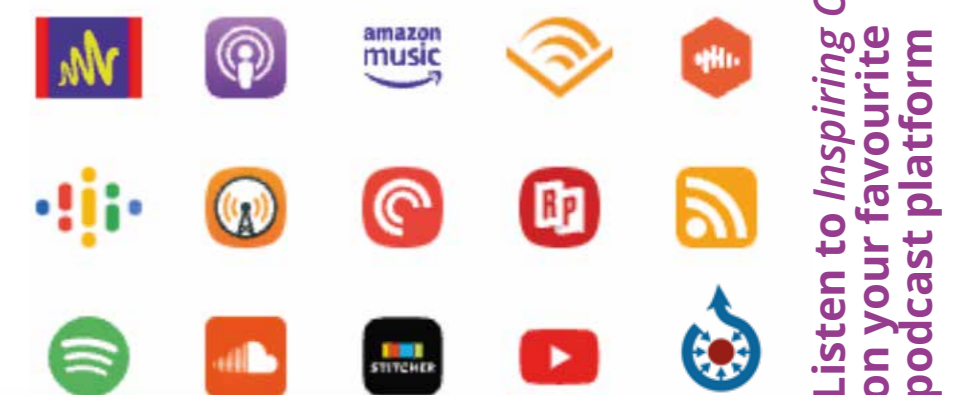


Helen Turvey
South Africa

"I was startled with how when you design incentives differently, people behave differently. The same people behave differently. And I think that's the key that we have not yet cracked with open. And we if we can design incentives for people to think broader than their own game, then they become different beasts, and we can all live in this wonderful, harmonious utopia."



Podcast Impact



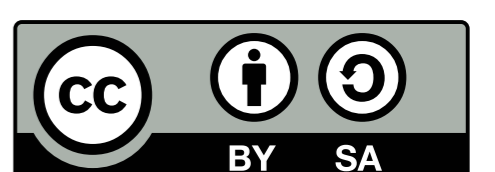
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Truly pan-African in its creation, Inspiring Open is conceptualised and managed by Wiki In Africa's Isla Haddow-Flood and Florence Devouard. It is hosted by Betty Kankam-Boadu, produced by Rachel Zadok, and sound engineered by Jay at Melody Hub Studio, Ghana. Portraits by Candace di Talamo, branding and design by Creative Flood, and website development by Terri-Mae Sosman. Podcast theme is High Funk by Crowander (www.crowander.com) under the CC-BY-SA-NC 4.0 license.

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Elevating Africa's Voices Globally
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