

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Africa's Food Celebrated in Continent-wide Photographic Competition

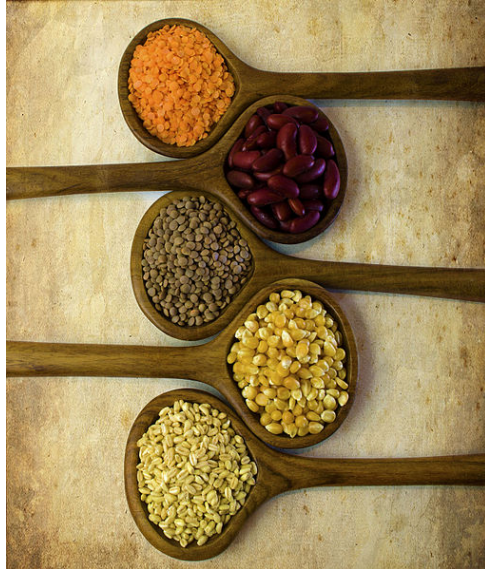
Cape Town, 17th February 2015 – During October and November 2014, as part of the continent-wide [Wiki Loves Africa](#) Competition, people from across the African continent took photographs that related to food production, sales and consumption in their country and submitted them to [Wikipedia](#)'s media repository [Wikimedia Commons](#).

The competition became an unprecedented visual celebration of the universality of food and the diversity of traditional and contemporary cultural practices across Africa. [WikiAfrica](#) at the [Africa Centre](#) is proud to announce the winners of the Wiki Loves Africa Competition that were selected by an international group of Wikipedians, photographers and food professionals.

First prize has been awarded to [Terrence Coombes](#) from Tanzania who submitted the photo *Nutmeg Ready*.



Second prize went to [Dina Said](#) Eid's photograph *Egyptian Grains* submitted from Egypt.



Third prize winner [Natnael Tadele](#) from Ethiopia submitted the photograph of *Girls Cleaning Coffee*.



The Community Prize is yet to be decided. The selection process asks for the Wikimedia community to judge their favourite photograph and will take place over the next 7 days. Community members from Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons and social media related to Wikimedia projects will choose their favourite image from the top 20 images (link: <http://bit.ly/19o9o9E>). Community members can vote on the page, [on the Facebook post](#) or by tweeting the following: #communityvote <http://bit.ly/19o9o9E> #wikilovesafrica #[the letter of choice].

The chance to vote on the Community Prize ends at 24h00 (UTC+1) on Wednesday the 25th February 2015.

By the close of the competition, 6,116 images were entered by 873 unique contributors from 49 countries. Countries with the largest number of contributions were Ivory Coast, Ghana, Tunisia, Uganda, Egypt, Morocco and South Africa. There were local teams on the ground in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Malawi, South Africa, Tunisia, Algeria and Uganda. These country teams, made of volunteer groups, hosted twenty seven on-the-ground events that related to the contest. We were also pleased to see enthusiastic response and high participation levels from countries such as Nigeria, Kenya, and Tanzania that did not have local events in those countries.

The Wiki Loves Africa entries were judged by a panel of experts from across the continent and beyond. The panel included Africa Melane, Carianne Wilkinson, Habib M'henni, Paul Sika, Pierre Beaudoin, Pierre-Selim Huard, and Mike Peel.

The prizes for the winners are:

- **1st Prize:** Samsung Galaxy Note 4 + Star Fish: Top 10 Sustainable Fish by Daisy Jones and Lazy Days by Phillipa Cheifitz (a book donated and published by Quivertree) + a Wiki Loves Africa t-shirt + the print of the winning picture
- **2nd Prize:** Sony Xperia Z3 Compact + The Karoo Kitchen: Heritage recipes and true stories from the heart of South Africa, by Sydda Essop and The Bo-Kaap Kitchen (a book donated and published by Quivertree) + Wiki Loves Africa t-shirt + print of the 2nd prize picture
- **3rd Prize:** US\$200 Amazon gift voucher + *The Bo-Kaap Kitchen* and *Lazy Days* by Phillipa Cheifitz (a book donated and published by Quivertree) + Wiki Loves Africa t-shirt + print of the 3rd prize picture
- **The Community Prize:** US\$200 Amazon gift voucher + Wiki Loves Africa t-shirt + print of the Community Prize

The Wiki Loves Africa Competition invited entries from across the African continent of media - photographs, video or audio - that illustrated a particular theme. All entries were donated to Wikimedia Commons with the intention of being used to illustrate relevant existing articles or

as a basis to begin new articles on Wikipedia and other project websites of the Wikimedia Foundation. The images donated are also available for use on the internet and beyond, under the Creative Commons license CC BY SA 4.0.

Under the Cuisine theme, the 2014 contest called for photos, videos or audio of the diverse types of cuisines from across Africa. The theme accepted photos that encompassed the "foods", "dishes", "crops", "husbandry", "culinary art", "cooking methods", "utensils", "food markets", "festivals", "culinary events", "famine food" and any other issues that are related to cuisine on the African continent.

The international Wiki Loves Africa competition is organised by the Wikimedia community that created Wikipedia, the free online encyclopaedia, and built the free media archive Wikimedia Commons. Wiki Loves Africa is supported by WikiAfrica at the Africa Centre and is funded by the Wikimedia Foundation and [Fondation Orange](#).

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Useful links:

Prize winning photos:

1st prize: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nutmeg_ready.jpg

2nd prize: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Egyptian_Grains.jpg

3rd prize: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Girls_cleaning_coffee.JPG

Community Vote link: <http://bit.ly/19o9o9E>

Websites:

www.wikilovesafrica.org

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Africa_2014

Facebook: www.facebook.com/WikiLovesAfrica

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/wikilovesafrica>

Media release by the Africa Centre

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NOTES FOR THE EDITOR:

The Competition Rules were:

- All photos must be taken by the person submitting them. They can be either self-uploaded or uploaded during a registered mass upload session.
- Upload is done in October and November 2014 only. But you can enter media that was taken at any time, even historical photographs, as long as you own the copyright on these photographs.
- All entries will have the following licence: Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 (CC-BY-SA 3.0) or 4.0 (CC-BY-SA 4.0). Read more about the Creative Commons licences [here](#).
- All eligible pictures will be categorised under Wiki Loves Africa 2014, this will be automatically assigned during the upload process.
- Participants should enable e-mail on Wikimedia Commons to be eligible for prizes.

Local Organising Teams in the Focus Countries

To contact the focus country local teams, [please click here](#).

The Competition Jury

Pierre Beaudoin

Pierre Yves Beaudouin has been a wikipediaian for over 5 years and is the former president of Wikimedia France. Based in Paris, his work is mainly about sports photography and the funerary art of the Pere Lachaise Cemetery. Contact: pierre.beaudouin@wikimedia.fr

Habib M'henni

Long time Wikipediaian and Wikimedian, amateur photographer, and contributor to Wikimedia Commons. Habib is very actively involved in Wikimedia Tunisia User Group. Contact: <http://about.me/habibmhenni>

Mike Peel

Mike is a postdoctoral Researcher at Jodrell Bank as well as an astronomer and a wikipediaian. He co-funded Wikimedia UK. Contact: www.mikepeel.net

Pierre-Selim Huard

Long time Wikipediaian and Wikimedian, an engineer in green aviation development but also a dedicated amateur photographer. Pierre-Selim contributes high quality pictures to Wikimedia Commons in topics such as sports, museum items and cultural heritage monuments. He was also a jury member on the Wiki Loves Monument contest.

Contact: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:PierreSelim>

Africa Melane

Africa Melane's wide-ranging interests and relentless curiosity comes to the fore on his Weekend Breakfast on 702 and CapeTalk (independent South African Radio Broadcasters), a show that ranges from international headlines to must-visit events around the corner. An accountant by training, Africa has spent a decade in broadcasting, both on and off-air. Africa is a self-confessed thespian, foodie enthusiast and a Fleur Du Cap judge. On twitter: @AfricaMelane.

Paul Sika

Paul Sika is an autodidact artist and a trained software engineer born in Ivory Coast. Exposed to animation and video games while a child, Paul Sika discovers in high school a passion for computer programming through scientific calculators. The most beautiful projects will be the adaptations on calculator of flagship games of the time such as Pokémon and Zelda. After a Bachelor degree in Software Engineering at the University of Westminster, London, UK as well as the study of techniques of Cinema, he develops a photographic technique called Photomaking, a fusion of photography and filmmaking, described in 2007 as "a new form of art" by Olympus User Magazine UK. Paul Sika's work is available at www.PaulSika.com

Carianne Wilkinson

Carianne Wilkinson is the Vice-President of Silwood School of Cookery in Cape Town, South Africa. Founded by Lesley Faull in 1964, Silwood is South Africa's oldest cookery school. It has, over the past 50 years, earned itself a world-class reputation and graduates can be found in top kitchens around the world. Carianne is an accredited South African Chefs Association judge, and has also been a San Pellegrino World's 50 Best Restaurants judge. Find more at <http://www.silwood.co.za/>

About WikiAfrica

The WikiAfrica project is an international collaboration that redresses the imbalance of factual heritage and cultural knowledge about Africa on Wikipedia by promoting a new approach to knowledge that is fully-inclusive, mainstream and intercultural. Its mission is to assist and support the growth of Wikipedia as a free and open encyclopaedia that provides greater access to Africa's wealth of contemporary and historical realities.

www.wikiafrica.net

About the Wikimedia Foundation

The [Wikimedia Foundation](http://www.wikimedia.org/), Inc. is the [nonprofit](#) charitable organisation that is [dedicated](#) to encouraging the growth, development and distribution of [free](#), multilingual, educational content, and to providing the full content of these [wiki](#)-based projects to the public free of

charge. The Wikimedia Foundation operates some of the [largest collaboratively edited reference projects](#) in the world, including [Wikipedia](#), a top-ten internet property.
<https://wikimediafoundation.org>

About the Orange Foundation

The Orange Foundation's mission is to create links between individuals, and in particular to make communication easier for those who are excluded for several reasons; health, handicap or because of their economical situation. By fighting against sensory isolation, by promoting a better autonomy in the everyday life and in the professional life and by encouraging social and cultural development, the Orange Foundation is mobilised to make the world more accessible.
<http://www.fondationorange.com>

About the Africa Centre

The Africa Centre is both a physical entity and ongoing philosophical journey that explores how Pan-African cultural practice can be a catalyst for social change.

The Africa Centre operates in the belief that creativity and innovation are powerful tools that: manifest what otherwise would only sit in our imaginations; release new ideas and make them freely accessible; and ensure that people living on this soil can define for themselves what is possible and what their reality looks like.

These beliefs are brought to life through a range of programmes in various countries as well as online. Current programmes include the [Artists in Residency](#), [Badilisha Poetry X-Change](#), [Everyday African Urbanism](#), [Infecting The City](#), [Talking Heads](#), and [WikiAfrica](#). All of the projects celebrate and explore what it means to be in Africa today and what is conceivable for 21st-century Africans.

<http://www.africacentre.net>