



Wiki Loves Africa 2019

## Wikipedia Celebrates People at Play! in the Wiki Loves Africa competition

[insert city, country] [insert day, month and year of release] – The [Wiki Loves Africa](#) photographic and media competition is back for its fifth year. This year, [local organiser's name] and global organisers [Wiki In Africa](#) are pleased to announce that Wiki Loves Africa celebrates PLAY! as the central theme for the annual visual celebration of Africa's cultural diversity on Wikipedia.

The competition runs from the **1st February - 1st March 2019** and entries are welcome from anywhere on the continent and beyond.

The theme Play! encourages the submission of visual representations depicting scenes from across the African continent of joyful and serious games, sport, and recreation in the form of board or mental games, physical fun or contests, playful interactions, theatrical and musical performances, etc. It is intentionally broad and open to interpretation to fully encompass the wide range of voluntary, culturally-defined activities in the pursuit of recreational pleasure and enjoyment across the multiple countries and peoples on the African continent. Quality images and media that cover people, objects, animals and environments in the act of play or dedicated to play on the African continent will be accepted. In addition, there are two specific prize categories that call for images or media depicting *Women in Sport* and *Culturally specific or traditional formal forms of play, recreation or events*.

Every year, Wiki Loves Africa challenges the relentless negative depiction of "Africa", by encouraging Africa's amateur and professional creatives and cultural practitioners to celebrate this continent by

submitting photographs and media to the world's largest and most widely accessed knowledge resource, Wikipedia. Over the last four years, the Wiki Loves Africa contest has encouraged the donation of over 40,000 photographs from 5,000 contributors to Wikimedia Commons for potential use in Wikipedia articles and other Wikimedia projects. Images submitted through Wiki Loves Africa are viewed over 13 million times on Wikipedia, every single month.

While the photographs or media should visually depict something that has happened on the continent of Africa, anyone can contribute relevant photos from anywhere on the globe. A series of fun, participatory events are planned by local volunteer teams across Africa. Events vary from introductory workshops and photographic excursions to upload sessions. They are aimed at encouraging an ongoing pride in local heritage and cultural practice, as well as to foster a culture of contribution to the internet to shake up the single story of Africa<sup>[1]</sup>.

[optional paragraph]

In [insert country], [number of events] events are happening in [city/towns where events are taking place] during the course of the competition. Planned events include [insert sentences with description of each event - include what you will be doing, date and venue - bulleted lists also work - and don't forget to mention partnering organizations].

[optional paragraph ends]

Currently there are 14 local teams taking part in this focused way. The hosts of these interventions range from established communities in Algeria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda to brand new country teams in Benin, Botswana, Guinea and Senegal.

Wiki Loves Africa is activated by the Wikimedia community that created Wikipedia in support of WikiAfrica movement. The competition was conceptualised and is managed by Florence Devouard and Isla Haddow-Flood of Wiki In Africa as a fun and engaging way to rebalance the lack of visual representations and relevant content that exists about Africa on Wikipedia. The competition is supported by Yinternet.org. Its activities are funded by the Wikimedia Foundation and supported in-kind by a host of local partners in individual countries. The images donated are available for use on the internet and beyond, under the Creative Commons license CC BY SA 4.0.

How do people enter? What else can be won? What events are happening where? These can be found on the website – [bit.ly/WikiLovesAfricaPlay](http://bit.ly/WikiLovesAfricaPlay) – or on the Facebook page.

[1] Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's Danger of a Single Story TED talk:  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda\\_adichie\\_the\\_danger\\_of\\_a\\_single\\_story](https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story)  
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## USEFUL INFORMATION:

### Key Links:

- [www.wikilovesafrica.net](http://www.wikilovesafrica.net)
- [www.wikiinafrica.org](http://www.wikiinafrica.org)
- Competition page:  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki\\_Loves\\_Africa\\_2019](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Africa_2019) or  
<http://bit.ly/WLAPlay>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WikiLovesAfrica>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/WikiLovesAfrica>
- Theme page for inspiration:  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki\\_Loves\\_Africa\\_2019/Theme](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Africa_2019/Theme)
- Local Events:  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki\\_Loves\\_Africa\\_2019/Local\\_events](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Loves_Africa_2019/Local_events)

## Media release by Wiki In Africa

For [insert country] media queries contact:

[insert name, cellphone , email address of local press liaison for Wiki Loves Africa]

For international media queries contact:

**English:** Isla Haddow-Flood

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**French:** Florence Devouard

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## NOTES FOR THE EDITOR:

### LOCAL ORGANISING TEAMS

To see what's going locally and to contact the teams, [please click here](#).

### PRIZES:

- To be announced

## HOW TO CONTRIBUTE: IN 5 EASY STEPS

### *1. Take some photos ...*

This is the fun part! You can enter media (photos, video clips or audio files) that shows people working, making things, and doing their jobs across Africa. Think rare and unusual perspectives of both ordinary and extraordinary jobs.

### *2. Select the best!*

Your media could go onto Wikipedia to illustrate an article. Choose photos and media where the subject matter is clear and in focus.

### *3. Register on Commons*

You **have** to be registered on Wikimedia Commons to enter the competition. Make sure your email is enabled so that we can contact you if you win! [www.commons.wikimedia.org](http://www.commons.wikimedia.org)

### *4. Enter your photos!*

Use the **Upload Wizard** to enter your photographs. Scan the QR code below to go directly to the upload page. Remember to describe the photo and add relevant categories to the image.

### *5. What now ?*

Now you are registered on Wikipedia, the fun doesn't stop here!! There are many things you can still do:

1. Take more amazing photos and enter them!
2. Add your photos to the relevant article on the Wikipedia in your language.
3. If an article doesn't exist, then you might want to consider writing an article about that subject.

## RULES OF THE COMPETITION

- Media can only self-uploaded or uploaded during a registered mass upload session by the person who took that image.
- Media can only be entered from the 00h01 on the 1st February until 24h00 on the 1st March 2019. The media can have been created at any time; e.g. historic photographs can be entered as long as you own the copyright.
- All entries will have to have the following licence: Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 4.0 (CC-BY-SA 4.0).
- All eligible pictures must be categorised under Wiki Loves Africa 2019. This is assigned during the upload process.
- Any entries with watermarks or signatures embedded on the image or file will be disqualified.
- Participants must register on Wikimedia Commons **and** have e-mail enabled to be eligible for prizes.

## ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN THE COMPETITION

About [insert organising details]

[describe your organisation]

### **About Wiki In Africa**

Wiki In Africa is a non-profit organisation that is based in South Africa. It is the financial and legal structure that operates global initiatives in support of the WikiAfrica movement. The organisation is currently lead by Iolanda Pensa, Florence Devouard and Isla Haddow-Flood.

During 2019 it is working on [WikiFundj](#), [WikiChallenge African Schools](#), [WikiAfrica Schools](#), [Wiki Loves Africa](#) and [Wiki Loves Women](#).

[www.wikiinafrica.org](http://www.wikiinafrica.org)

### **About WikiAfrica**

WikiAfrica is an international movement that takes place on the African continent and beyond. It encourages individuals, interested groups and organisations to create, expand and enhance online content about Africa. This involves motivating for the representation of the continent's contemporary realities and history, its peoples and its innovations on the world's most used encyclopaedia, Wikipedia. WikiAfrica is not owned by one organisation and it belongs to all people and organisations contributing to its scope.

In its various guises and hosted at several institutions (including Lettera27, Africa Centre, Yinternet.org, Short Story Day Africa, Wikimedia CH and Wiki In Africa), the WikiAfrica movement has consistently instigated and led multi-faceted innovative projects. These projects have activated communities and driven content onto Wikipedia. Examples include Share Your Knowledge, #OpenAfrica training Courses and Toolkits, Kumusha Bus (in Ethiopia and Ghana), WikiEntrepreneur (in Ethiopia and Malawi), Kumusha Takes Wiki (Cote d'Ivoire and Uganda), Wikipedia Primary (funded by SUPSI), Wikipack Africa, WikiAfrica Schools, WikiFundj, WikiChallenge, Wiki Loves Women and Wiki Loves Africa.

[www.wikiafrica.org](http://www.wikiafrica.org)

### **About Yinternet.org**

Yinternet.org Foundation was created in 1998 on the invitation of Swiss Confederation to facilitate, identify and promote new learning culture within digital environments. In 2006 it changed its status from association to foundation, as an independent body within civil society. Based in the university campus of Battelle (Geneva, Switzerland), it is serving public interest in multilateral projects and private-public partnership. 60-80 contributors each year, including experts, social entrepreneurs and volunteers, are contributing to Yinternet.org mission of promoting responsible behaviours in digital environment. Yinternet.org has been successfully audited for its activities (2013 - 2015), at European level, both as coordinator and partner on two separate EU projects.

[www.yinternet.org](http://www.yinternet.org)

### **About the Wikimedia Foundation**

The Wikimedia Foundation, 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.

[www.wikimediafoundation.org](http://www.wikimediafoundation.org)