



WikiAfrica

51st African Studies Association Annual Meeting
Chicago, November 13-16, 2008

WikiAfrica is a collaborative and international project designed to Africanize Wikipedia through networks, research, projects, publications, and events. WikiAfrica contributes to Wikimedia projects online and offline with texts, quotes, images, audio and video.

www.wikiafrica.org

Wikipedia is a reference, a new literary genre, a tool for collaborative work and a powerful system to produce, distribute and negotiate knowledge. It is an easy access to information in all languages and an open space to give visibility to first sources and in-depth research.

www.wikipedia.org

This booklet is a collaborative project between WikiAfrica and the Chicago Local Arrangements Committee to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the African Studies Association

**WikiAfrica
invites you
to Africanize
Wikipedia.**

**→ Please join this
investigation
with your
questions,
experiences
and proposals.**

During ASA Annual Meeting 2008
for further information please contact:
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→ How to Africanize Wikipedia?

Please send your proposals and questions to lettera27,
viale Stelvio 66, 20159 Milano, Italy or by e-mail to info@lettera27.org



→ Can Wikipedia overcome Eurocentric perspectives?

Please send your proposals and questions to lettera27,
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WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

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Project:WikiAfrica



WikiAfrica/Palabre is a collaborative and international research, projects, publications, and events quotes, images, audio and video.

WikiAfrica supports access to information and projects as an extended, international forum, because in the afterlife there is none." So says socialization, and mediation. It is in this spirit that available about Africa online.

WikiAfrica creates networks, involves users, facilitates the participatory exploratory tools and instruments, generating new content and invest resources in the territories covered by the initiative.

Contribute to WikiAfrica

Create new African articles for Wikipedia! [Sign in](#)

At the moment WikiAfrica is mainly focussing on biographies, literature, art, magazines and African routes of migrants.

- [WikiAfrica Literature](#) activates writers, critics, editors and cultural institutions to bring African literature on Wikipedia.
- [WikiAfrica Art](#) activates artists, critics, curators and art institutions to bring African art on Wikipedia.
- [Chimurenga Library](#) brings cultural and political African magazines on Wikipedia.
- [Borders](#) brings African routes of migrants, maps and locations on Wikipedia.
- [Ars & Urbis International Workshop 2007](#) organised by [Doual'art](#) in March 2007 created new contents for Wikipedia on the cultural institutions and the artists working in and on Douala and it edited the book *Douala in Translation*. A view of the city and its creative transformative potentials, Episode Publishers, Rotterdam, 2007.

Wikipedia in African Languages

- af: - Afrikaans (South Africa, Namibia) (110786)
- sw: - Swahili (Tanzania, Kenya, Ouganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Congo republic) (7573)
- yo: - Yoruba (Nigeria, Benin, Togo) (6144)
- am: - Amharic (Ethiopia) (3237)
- wo: - Wolof (Senegal) (798)
- ig: - Igbo (Nigeria) (558)
- kg: - Kikongo (Angola, Congo republic) (512)
- kab: - Kabyle (Algeria) (475)
- so: - Somali (Somalia) (440)
- bm: - Bambara (Mali) (226)
- ee: - Ewe (Ghana, Togo) (203)
- om: - Oromo (Ethiopia) (202)
- ti: - Tigrinya (Erythrea) (171)

ive and international project designed to Africanize **Wikipedia** through networks, and events. WikiAfrica contributes to Wikimedia projects online and offline with texts,

ation and the sharing and conservation of knowledge. WikiAfrica considers Wikimedia a forum, capable of giving Africa a larger voice and greater visibility. "La Palabre is precious, like the word." So says a proverb from Mali, emphasizing the importance of dialogue, verbal exchange, and the spirit that WikiAfrica wishes to operate, helping to expand and improve information

participation and access to Wikimedia projects, as well as providing analytical and research and investigations, gathering funds for scholarships, and supporting present and active

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institutions
magazines

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m, 2007.

Events

Upcoming events

- **The African Film Festival in Verona** participates at WikiAfrica, from 14th to 22th November.
- **The 2008 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association**, Knowledge of Africa: The Next Fifty Years, will be held in Chicago, 13-16 November.
- **WikiAfrica Art at Detour Berlin**, Museum der Dinge (Museum der Dinge), from October 30th until November 16th.

Past events

- **WikiAfrica Events at the Festaletteratura in Mantua**, September 6th-7th 2008 with Gaston Kaboré, Sami Tchak, Nuruddin Farah, Abdourahman A. Waberi, Cristina Ali Farah, Igiaba Scego, Paola Splendore, Alessandro Triulzi, Alessandra di Maio, Federica Sossi, Gabriele Del Grande, Marco Carsetti, Dagmawi Yimer and Iolanda Pensa.
- **WikiAfrica Literature and Chimurenga Library at the Cape Town Book Fair**, 14th-17th June 2008.
- **WikiAfrica Art at Detour Paris**, from 24th April to 19th May, at the Centre Pompidou in Paris.
- **WikiAfrica Art has been launched in Dakar**, at Kër Thioussane, Villa pour l'Art et le Multimédia in the context of AfroPixel, the first African Digital Art Festival, 1th -18th May 2008.
- **WikiAfrica Workshop Pisa**, March 18th 2008
- **LitCam**, Frankfurt Book Fair, October 8th 2007.
- **WikiAfrica Workshop at Festaletteratura in Mantua**, September 7th-9th 2007. With also Marco Aime, Cristina Ali Farah, Livia Apa, Bili Bidjocka, Frieda Brioschi, Gabriele Del Grande, Alessandra Di Maio, Sylviane Diop, Elio Grazioli, Tahar Lamri, Simon Njami, Igiaba Scego, Paola Splendore, Alessandro Triulzi, Itala Vivan.
- **CSCL-Computer Supported Collaborative Learning**, State University of New Jersey, July 16th-21st 2007.
- **Detour**, New York, June 1st 2007.
- **ACASA-14th Triennial Symposium on African Art**, University of Florida, March 28th-April 1st 2007.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiAfrica>



Related Projects and Links

→ **Many say
Wikipedia
is not a reliable
reference,
how could we
improve it?**

Please send your proposals and questions to lettera27,
viale Stelvio 66, 20159 Milano, Italy or by e-mail to info@lettera27.org



→ **Can Wikipedia
facilitate a
dialogue
with authors
in Africa?**



Please send your proposals and questions to lettera27,
viale Stelvio 66, 20159 Milano, Italy or by e-mail to info@lettera27.org

→ **Will you ask
your students
to contribute
Wikipedia
articles about
Africa?**

Please send your proposals and questions to lettera27,
viale Stelvio 66, 20159 Milano, Italy or by e-mail to info@lettera27.org



WikiAfrica is a project by *lettera27* and Wikimedia.it. *lettera27* is a non profit foundation born in July 2006. Its mission is to support the right to literacy, to education, and the access to knowledge and information, all over the world and especially in the most deprived areas. *lettera27* is the 27th letter, the missing letter, the letter that is not yet, the hybrid letter, the empty box, the connection to the future, the intersection of analog and digital, the link between oral and written words.

www.lettera27.org

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