

Connecting Africa's Music World Online

Music in Africa

Pictures: Emeka Ogboh, Lagos



The Siemens Stiftung and the Goethe-Institut in Sub-Saharan Africa in partnership with locally based professionals have initiated the multi-year project Music in Africa. The intent of this project is to establish an Internet-based platform for music information in Africa.

The Knowledge required to shape the future is based on information, which in turn provides the foundation for all dialogue. That is precisely where this project comes in, aiming to make information on the music and music sector of Africa accessible to all those who are interested. The oft-deplored lack of intra-African communication also affects areas crucial to the development of civil-societal processes including music as a key building block of cross-cultural encounter and exchange.

Guide through the African Music Landscape

The future online platform musicinafrica.net will serve as a guide offering information on institutions and associations, training and further education, archives, media and music portals, funding, cultural policies and legal issues as well as current events and hence enable access to information for those involved in creating music on the continent. Particular emphasis is to be placed on opportunities for training and continuing education for musicians and music agents. The focus will be on current trends in contemporary Sub-Saharan African music while placing clear emphasis on the various region-specific aspects.



Pictures: Seta Ramaroson, Madagascar (left), Pol Guillén, Berlin/Barcelona (right)

Planned to cover a span of five years, this project is a reaction to the need for reliable information as well as for interaction and networking in a region with a particularly diverse range of cultural scenes and infrastructures. In addition, the project will contribute to improving artistic collaboration on an international level as well as toward the global public perception of the African music scene.

Communication across Countries and Genres

A strong tie connects the Goethe-Institut and the Siemens Stiftung thanks to their numerous years of partnership in realizing complex cultural projects on both the national and international level. They are jointly supporting the creation and construction of the portal, closely collaborating with local experts. The long-term goal for the platform is to be carried out under a pan-African network that enables sustainable communication transcending all genres and countries. Information on the current status of the project can be found at www.themusicinafricaproject.net.

Official partner

Goethe-Institut in Sub-Saharan Africa, with headquarters in South Africa

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