PRESS RELEASE

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Shabab up! – Marseilles to play host to new generation of Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian media representatives on 11–12 June

At the conclusion of two years of support provided to seven radio stations and two higher education institutes in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, the Shabab* up! project – financed by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI) and run by CFI – will bring together around 60 participants for a final session on 11–12 June 2015 at the Villa Méditerranée conference centre in Marseilles.

Four years on from the Arab Spring revolutions, young North Africans have used the media to add their voice to the public debate. With a constant presence on the internet and social media, they are also starting to express themselves more freely through a number of radio stations. This new educated, engaged, militant generation is still finding it difficult to discuss its hopes for democracy, however.

Financed by the MAEDI as part of a broader programme in support of young North Africans, the Shabab up! project is designed to encourage young Algerians, Moroccans and Tunisians to take a more active role in their country’s public life through the media, and to provide young radio station staff and journalism students with professional experience.

The aim of this concluding seminar is to draw lessons from the two years of guidance provided by CFI through the perspective of the four central Shabab up! themes:

• Radio and local news
• Radio and interactivity
• Radio and marketing
• Learning about digital journalism at journalism college

The participants will also talk about the future: how can we work towards ensuring that young people have a better grasp of the media landscape in these three countries?

Around 60 stakeholders who took part in the Shabab up! venture will be present at the Villa Méditerranée:

• managers, journalists and presenters from the seven radio stations: Hit Radio (Rabat), IFM (Tunis), Jawhara (Sousse), Jil F (Alger), Nefzawa (Kébili / Tunisia), Radio Plus (Agadir), Sawt El Manajem (Gafsa / Tunisia);
• leaders, teachers and students from the two journalism schools: IPSI (Tunis) and ISIC (Rabat);
• the main Shabab up! trainers and the CFI staff in charge of the project.

The seminar will be opened by Michel Vauzelle, President of the Regional Council of Provence–Alpes Côte d’Azur, and Etienne Fiatte, Managing Director of CFI.

* ‘Youth’ in Arabic

A project by In partnership with
About CFI
CFI is the media cooperation agency of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, and is responsible for coordinating and implementing French aid policy for promoting and enhancing the media in developing countries. CFI works alongside players operating in the media industry (TV, radio, written press, social media), whether state-owned or privately owned, in order to strengthen the modernisation and democratisation procedures that France so avidly supports. CFI is currently involved in around thirty projects that fall within four major programmes: media and pluralism, media and enterprise, media and development, and media and human resources. www.cfi.fr

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