This project aims to encourage citizens, civil society organisations (CSOs), media outlets and local authorities to work together in strengthening democracy, ensuring good governance and instilling an accountability culture in Benin. It is aimed primarily at eight community radio stations in the Littoral, Borgou and Alibori regions, along with a private television station, print and online media outlets, and bloggers.

AIMS

- To enable the various actors of civil society and local authorities to take ownership of the notions of citizenship and accountability.
- To encourage CSOs and the media to work together, and enable citizens to express their needs clearly in the public sphere and to achieve effective dialogue and communication with local authorities.
- To provide lasting support for the management and control of radio stations.

FOR WHOM?

Print, radio and television journalists, and bloggers.
WHEN?
From November 2016 to December 2018

COMMENT?

- **Launch seminar**: five-day seminar in Cotonou with 50 media representatives.

- **Media awareness seminars on citizenship**: series of training sessions on the key concepts of citizenship and accountability, primarily for the media outlets that are project beneficiaries but open to all media outlets in Benin.

- **Production of short radio programmes on citizenship**: complementing the awareness programmes, these will introduce the theme of citizenship in the form of “theatre-style radio”.

- **Radio training in the production of awareness programmes**.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

- 25 months

- **€640,000**

- Civil society stakeholders (CSOs, media outlets and citizens) and local authorities (political and traditional) taking the concepts of citizenship and accountability on board and gaining a better understanding of everyone’s roles, rights and duties.

- Citizens’ needs being clearly identified, and the establishment of an effective dialogue with the local authorities, through initiatives conducted jointly by the media and CSOs.

- The media contributing to greater accountability and transparency in the management of local and national affairs.

- Stronger management for the eight radio stations.

**CFI, the French media development agency**

CFI provides support to media organisations as development actors across several continents. A subsidiary of France Médias Monde and an operator of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the agency is currently working on around 30 projects that fall under three major programmes: Media and Governance, Media and Business, Media and Development.

The “Media and Development” programme helps media organisations to take ownership of development issues (education, health, gender) by strengthening the relationship of trust between journalists and civil society.

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