Committed, since 2012, to opening up broader citizen access to digital technology, on the occasion of the Paris 2016 OGP (Open Government Partnership) CFI mentored fifty journalists and SCO leaders from French-speaking Africa, the Arab world and south-East Asia in their introduction to the use of open data, via the Open Data Media Project.

Open Data Media 2, which is a continuation of that programme, is based on close collaboration between those in the field. By offering tools for making the most of open data which are adapted to local technical constraints affecting participants, this project is helping to set up a network of local players with good digital skills, integrated into the open data global ecosystem.

AIM

To get civil society more involved in debates on public policies by better harnessing open data and spreading its use amongst the key players in civil society.

FOR WHOM?

20 journalists and leading Civil Society Organisation (CSO) figures from 12 African countries.
WHEN?

From July 2017 to December 2018

HOW?

- **Enhancement of the participants’ technical skills**: an introduction to new tools making it possible to bring data projects to fruition more autonomously and to start working together on platforms for cataloguing open data.

- **Technical and organisational independence** on data and dissemination (website, communication, interface, etc.).

- **Organisation of two ‘Data Activist Academy’ sessions**: the first session will involve meeting leading figures in the open data universe. The second session will make it possible to finalise the setting-up of the network of African ‘data activists’ during an event connected with digital innovation.

- **Closing session**: appraisal and feedback session.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- **18 months**
  - Development of advanced technical skills in the field of open data with a view to organising data-gathering, -dissemination and -promotion.

- **€600,000**
  - Establishment of a structured network of open data “champions” in French-speaking Africa who have a high profile in institutional and public terms and who are capable of autonomously initiating national or transnational projects in this field.

- **12 countries**
  - Identification of participants by donors, operators and organisations with an interest in open data in projects affecting French-speaking Africa as competent, relevant and reliable players.

  - Monitoring by participants of the involvement of their countries in open data conventions and conferences and assistance to the media and national CSOs in integrating this new paradigm.

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**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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**Contact**

Emilie BERGOUIGNAN / Project manager
Tel: +33 (0)1 40 62 32 87 / ebn@cfi.fr