

KAMALA HARRIS
HOW SHE REACHED
HER GOAL

THESE WOMEN
THAT CAN INSPIRE

MAMA AFRICA INNOVATION
ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

KMABEL

A BRAND TO SERVE A HUMANITARIAN CAUSE

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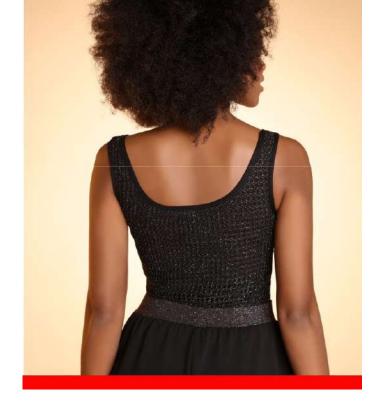
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WELCOME

I would like to welcome you all to the first issue of Powerful Africa magazine. This magazine will serve as a medium, a guide to what Africans are doing on all five continents.

All articles have been written exclusively for the magazine.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Anyway, we hope you enjoy this one.

ÉDITO



We are entering a new era. The one we have been waiting for so long, because we reveal ourselves more and more, we want to and we do, no barriers, almost no more fear of failing, we just go for it. Powerful Africa is blossoming by highlighting the strength of Africa and Africans around the world. Let's learn to value ourselves, to be proud of what we do, let's participate in everyone's success ...

1ST FEMALE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Ambitious woman: "There will be people who will tell you, You're out of the line," Harris said at the 2020 Black Girls Lead conference. "They are overwhelmed by the ability to see what has always been instead of what can be. But don't let that weigh on you. »

"I'm a career prosecutor," Harris told The New York Times. "I was trained, and my experience over decades is to make decisions after an examination of the evidence and facts. And don't jump in with grand gestures before you do so. Some might interpret that as being prudent. I would say it's just being responsible.

PERSON OF THE YEAR 2020 TIME Magazine

"Our spirits will be fine when people know they can feed their children," Harris said in her interview with 2020 TIME Person of the Year. "When they know they can have a job that not only allows them to pay the bills by the end of the month but also gives them a sense of dignity, knowing that they are subsidizing their families and creating a path for future possibilities".

Kamala Harris

HOW SHE REACHED HER GOAL

BY MAÏSHA STEVENS

She is a fighting woman, courageous and determined. We could mention all these political prowess, her struggles. Where she was first appointed as the first woman, black woman, or Asian-American. Today the world knows her because she has to take her place, the place she deserves. Whether in the Senate and now in the presidency of the world superpower.

She used to say:
"I hope by being the 'first',

I inspire young people to pursue their dreams," Harris told Harper's Bazaar. "The number of times I've heard the word 'no' or that something can't be done - in my lifetime is too many to count. I am honoured to be considered a 'first', but I always think of the people who came before and paved the way for me to get to where I am today. From Rosa Parks to Shirley Chisholm to Congressman John Lewis, I stand on the shoulders of so many great men and women before me.





THE PERFECT BENCHMARK

BY MAÏSHA STEVENS

It is more than a source of pride for women and for the black community around the world.

After having had Barack OBAMA black man being elected president of the first world power, we understand that things are now changing.

A new era is upon us and gives hope to these brilliant women who are making a difference with their talent and determination.

Will she have the chance to be the first female in the upcomming 2024 United States election.

Do we really need to always prove or wait for someone to value us?

"When I first applied, that was one of the things I struggled with, that you have to define yourself in such a way so that you fit into the compartment that other people have created," she told The Washington Post last year. "I am who I am... You may have to understand that, but I'm fine with it. She doesn't worry about her identity - she simply calls herself a "proud American".

Already a pragmatic woman at the age of 13, she was mobilizing local children to protest against the rules that prevent them from playing on lawns in front of buildings.

And it was a success.

She continues at her prom where she is part of a group of people who make appointments so that others don't feel excluded

A brave, brilliant woman who thinks about these actions as if her destiny was already mapped out. "At every stage of the process, I have been guided by the words I spoke the first time I walked into a courtroom: Kamala Harris, for the people," she said in her acceptance speech to the vice presidency DNC."

We often look for a model of success, a leader for our causes as there were so many in our time.

Those who defended our rights, our independence.

"Whoever claims to be a leader must speak as a leader. That means speaking with integrity and truth. "(c.f. statement on an instagram publication)

We have in every era people who since their youth struggle to defend to learn, to understand, in the field, or on the benches of the school.

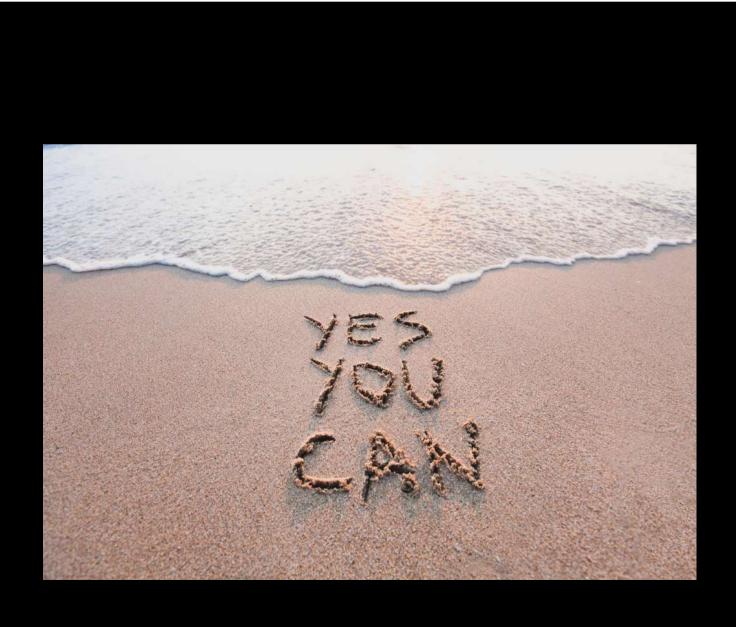
We have found the one of our time, we are waiting for her success, we must also be very indulgent because she has a very important place and will have important choices to make.

Let's take our place! Let's learn to know ourselves, to find the job, the place that really matters to us.

When we master our field of expertise, we no longer work, we simply accomplish our mission.

"Optimism is the driving force behind every fight I've ever been in."

PORTRAITS OF INSPIRING WOMEN





NGOZI OKOONJO-IWEALA

BY MAISHA STEVENS

A woman in the spotlight at the WTO being the first African representative

She is the first woman representative of the African continent at the head of the WTO (World Trade Organization). Her name: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. After serving twice as Minister of Finance and a career at the World Bank, this Nigerian woman was appointed Director-General of the WTO on February 15, 2021. Tenacious and convinced, she intends to reform the management of the global economy, which has been undermined by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since her candidacy to the WTO in 2020, former US President Donald Trump has opposed to her nomination. But it was only temporarily postponed for Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala: while the U.S. veto slowed her down, Joe Biden's nomination and support has thrown consensus among the 164 member states. She was appointed Director-General of the WTO without, like her predecessors, having any experience within the organization. For her, it is an asset: "Trade is part of development, and I have worked on development all my life. (...) I'm not new to the WTO, but that's a good thing. We need someone who knows about trade but who brings a fresh perspective. »

A CONVINCED VETERAN ON NEGOTIATION

And she has already proven many times that she is more than capable. She left Nigeria at 19 to study in the United States. Harvard graduate, she had a career at the World Bank before being called back to Nigeria, where she served twice as finance minister. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is competent, but also very determined: she managed to negotiate the cancellation of Nigeria public debt and launched a fight against corruption. Despite attempts to pressure her into resigning, the minister does not allow herself to be intimidated: "After a while, someone has to stand up (against oppression)".

"Business as usual is no longer an option. You don't make a change by replacing it with the same thing" Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

She is, however, aware of the work ahead of her. In her view, the crisis that is shaking the WTO is due to the lack of trust and cohesion within the organization: she is taking charge of a troubled organization. As the first woman, but also the first African representative at the head of the WTO, the eyes of the world are on her, and she knows it: "Women have all the necessary qualifications and experience, but they remain a rare species within the circles of power (...). They are on a tightrope: they are only given orders when things are going excessively wrong. »



LAHOU KEITA

BY MAISHA STEVENS

1) WHO ARE YOU? PRESENTATION

My name is Lahou Keita, I am 52 years old, and I'm French of Guinean origin.

I am an aircraft inspector (pre-purchase inspections). I am a polyglot. I speak 5 languages, including Finnish. I started my aeronautical career at Paris Airports, Roissy Charles de Gaulle, in the aircraft centering department. I continued my training in customer support for maintenance management at Dassault Falcon Service (a subsidiary of Dassault Aviation) at Le Bourget airport. I continued my career in Switzerland (in Geneva) at maintenance centers such as Ruag Aviation (owned by the Swiss Confederation) and Jet Aviation. I then co-founded Keitas Systems in 2011 with my sister Fatou Keita, a medical doctor and HEC graduate in corporate finance.

I am an extremely hardworking, conscientious, and fast person in my work. I am very disciplined and demanding. I practice humor, which allows me to distance myself from events.

I have the honor of being the patron of Mama Africa Innovation since 2020, and I am also part of the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP) to inspire the younger generation to move into the scientific fields (STEM).

2) WHAT INSPIRED YOU?

Aeronautics is a very complicated sector for women, especially when they are of African origin, where they have to make their place and be respected. Women have a much safer approach, which can generate conflicts with our male counterparts. I decided to create Keitas Systems because I didn't want to be dependent on men's decisions, which I didn't always feel were fair, because I approach aircraft maintenance management differently.

3) HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DEVELOPING YOUR BUSINESS?

Keitas Systems France was set up in Nantes in 2011. Keitas Systems Canada was established in Quebec City in 2019.

The first 4 years were difficult to build our reputation. Our sector of activity is closed because it only works by cooptation. In an elitist, male-dominated field, being a woman of color, developing innovative concepts, in the aerospace industry is already a challenge in itself, and it's not easy. But I never let myself be discouraged. I have always believed in the exceptional nature of my innovations, and I have never let anyone make me believe otherwise.

I would add that the military is very inspiring when it comes to dealing with difficult situations in the workplace!

Demonstrating that Tempeus®, our remote aircraft maintenance, and safety management portal, increases productivity by 40% and improves aircraft safety was a very important challenge.

In order to prove my statistics, I measured all these parameters and compiled data to demonstrate my statistics.

Numbers take the arbitrariness out of the equation. I also looked for studies that showed the same statistics as mine.

LAHOU KEITA

BY MAISHA STEVENS

4) DO YOU HAVE MENTORS OR ROLE MODELS, HOW HAVE THEY IMPACTED YOUR LIFE OR PROJECTS?

I admire my parents who showed me the way to professional success and moral values. My mother, first of all, Diénabou Diallo-Keita, Midwife, and my father, Dr. Abdoulaye Keita, Surgeon. Together they have saved many lives, and have helped many people materially.

My other models are: Simone Veil, Nelson Mandela and Winston Churchill have inspired me a lot. Their books and quotes have accompanied me through the stormy days of my life, helping me through them. My current mentor at Boeing, is a former pilot, and Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force (USAF), who is working to make Keitas Systems the first company in the Boeing and Government of Canada launch pad cohort to partner with Boeing.

5) WHAT BOOKS HAVE YOU ENJOYED OR BEEN INSPIRED BY ?

Simone Veil's "A Life", Nietzsche's "Ainsi parle Zarathoustra", John Carlin's "Le Sourire de Mandela". "The 4 Toltec chords" by Don Miguel Ruiz.

6) A FILM THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE AND WATCH AGAIN?

"The Figures of the Shadow" by Theodore Melfi.

This film narrates the extraordinary destiny, in the early 1960s, of the three African-American scientists who enabled the United States to take the lead in the conquest of space, thanks to the placing in orbit of astronaut John Glenn.

7) AN AFRICAN DISH YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF ?

Chicken yassa!

8) AN AFRICAN CITY THAT YOU RECOMMEND SEEING AT LEAST ONCE AND WHY?

The city of Kribi in Cameroon which has beautiful beaches and a magnificent panorama! The city of Kribi is associated with happy memories of my childhood.









ELISABETH MORENO

BYMAISHA STEVENS

Politician & Entrepreneur

On July 6, 2020, Elisabeth Moreno was appointed Minister Delegate for Equality between Women and Men, Diversity, and Equal Opportunities. She became the first black woman to hold this position in France.

Elisabeth Moreno was born on September 20th, 1970 in Tarrafal, Cape Verde, on the island of Santiago. At the age of 6, her family emigrated to France, to Athis-Mons, in order to find appropriate care for one of Elisabeth's younger sisters who was seriously burned. Coming from a working-class background, she managed to obtain a literary baccalaureate and began studying business law.

In 1990, at the age of 20, she participated, with her exhusband, in the co-founding of a company specialized in thermal rehabilitation. With her remarkable leadership skills, she gradually climbed the ladder and made a place for herself in the world of international technological innovations, a world that was not very feminine at the time. In 2000, she joined the Dell Group and eventually became the Sales Director of Strategic Accounts for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. There, she led a multicultural sales team operating in 12 countries in the EMEA region (Europe, Middle East and Africa). In 2013, she was appointed President of Lenovo France, establishing herself as a key businesswoman.

ELISABETH MORENO

BYMAISHA STEVENS



Elisabeth Moreno is also above all a woman committed to diversity, education, and the combat against racial discrimination, a cause that is close to her heart, a cause that she knows and masters, and moreover, she will be able to objectively bring her support and a new vision so that things can evolve. On February 12th, 2021, she announced the opening of an anti-discrimination hotline: (33)3928. Whether it is through her career or her associative commitments, she remains very focused on her Cape Verdean origins. In 2005, she participated in the foundation with other Cape Verdeans of the "Cabo Verde business club" and, from 2008 to 2011, the "Casa Cabo Verde" whose objective was to promote the economy and entrepreneurship between Cape Verde and France. Also, it gave a special place to the promotion of Africa in its different missions. By becoming president of the HP Africa group on January 19th, she participates in the growth of software business, from computers to printing, throughout the African continent.

SIMONE BILES

BY SAYURI

Simone Biles, an American success story.

Simone Biles was born on March 14th, 1997, in Ohio. Placed in foster care and then raised by her grandparents in Texas, she represents the very incarnation of the American dream with her memorable performances at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Despite a rocky start in life, she worked her way to international success in gymnastics.

She started gymnastics at age 6. Her mother having addiction problems, she was placed with her grandparents along with her two sisters and brother where she lived a happy childhood and was introduced to gymnastics. She excelled and from the height of 4 ft 8 she became the most decorated and recognized gymnast of all time with 19 world titles and 4 Olympic titles, for a total of 30 medals in international events (25 in world championships, and 5 in the Olympics).

In an interview for Vogue, she states: "Growing up, I didn't see many black gymnasts," "Every time I saw them, I felt really inspired and wanted to be as good as them. I remember seeing Gabby Douglas win the 2012 Olympics, and I thought, if she can do it, I can do it."

Despite a difficult childhood and teenage years, Simone Biles used her determination and strength to sweep everything on her course. After a well-deserved year off, she returned to training under the quidance of French coaches Laurent Landi and Cécile Canqueteau. "It's an incredible experience to coach a girl who has tremendous physical qualities. We have projects on details that she has not necessarily done in competition but that we think she is largely capable of doing" summarizes Cécile Canqueteau. She is the only known victim of Larry Nassar to pursue highperformance gymnastics. All her injuries have shaped her and accompanied her to the top, she is today the idol of many young girls who practice highperformance sport in the field of gymnastics.

It is without a doubt that Simone Biles is today the best gymnast of all time. From age 13, she was home-schooled, which allowed her to go from 20 hours to 32 hours of training per week. Training 32 hours a week does not come without sacrifice. She is willing to put in the hours and effort instead of the more common teenage activities like spending time with friends or shopping.

She doesn't wallow in her fate and gives herself the means to succeed through hard work and determination. She is also admired by her peers and the international community for her unassuming humility.

Simone Biles still has many goals and wants to get better on the uneven bars which she lacks, improve balance beam performance and maintain her level on the floor and vault.

She wants to do her best and represent her country successfully at the next Olympic Games in Tokyo.

At 24 years old, Simone Biles is an athlete to be admired but also a voice to be listened to, especially because of her combat against violence and inequality.





KARINE JEAN-PIERRE

BY SAYURI

An example of determination and success

According to Karine Jean-Pierre, there are two ways to analyze her story: "You can look at me and say: Wow! I can't believe congressman Sanders hired her when she has no experience. Or, you can look at me and say: she has all the experience and instincts she needs to run a campaign, she just needed a chance."

Born in Fort de France on August 13, 1977, Karine Jean-Pierre arrived in Queens, New York at the age of 5. She holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the prestigious Columbia University in New York. In 2005, when New York City Councilor James Sanders asked her to lead a political campaign for the first time, Karine Jean-Pierre was thrilled but very anxious because she had never done it before. She felt that she wouldn't know what to do and realized in hindsight that she was suffering from the impostor syndrome at the time. A syndrome that prevents victims from realizing their abilities and accomplishments. In an interview, she says that this syndrome is more likely to affect people of color, especially women, since they are often made to feel like that they don't belong. He insisted and told her that he would teach her and that is what he will do. He is then elected.

She is a woman who doubted herself and her abilities but who managed to assert herself and overcome her fears, by dint of courage and by following the example of her parents whom she admires a lot.

She describes her parents as the most determined and demanding people she knows. They fled the Duvalier dictatorship in Haiti with few means and determination to give their three children the means to succeed. By instilling in them values such as: "Everything in life is possible if you work hard enough to achieve your goals. It is by following this motto that Karine Jean-Pierre managed to find her way and to impose herself legitimately in the American political sphere. The determination, strength and courage of her parents often guided her life choices and the stages of her career.

Her career took off in 2008, when Karine Jean-Pierre became the Regional Director for the Southeast for President-elect Barack Obama. She is now Regional Director for the White House Office of Political Affairs. In 2012, she launches into Barack Obama's second campaign, following this new success, she then pursues other projects. She then returned to Columbia in 2014, but this time to teach, lecturing in public and international affairs. In parallel with the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States, she became spokesperson for the organization Moveon.Org. She also acts as a policy analyst for the television channels NBC News and MSNBC. She describes herself as everything Donald Trump hates: an immigrant daughter, black and lesbian.

Finally, last May, Karine Jean-Pierre was appointed campaign manager for Kamala Harris and became the first black woman and the first gay person in the history of a vice-presidential candidate's chief of staff. Following Camp Biden's victory, she became deputy spokesperson on the White House communications team. This brilliant career path made her parents and Karine herself very proud. She has faced difficulties and has been able to rise to each of them. She was able to fight her uncertainties and rise to her rightful place. Karine Jean-Pierre is married to CNN journalist Suzanne Malveaux and they have a little girl named Soleil.



VERA SONGWE

BYMAISHA STEVENS

Dr. Vera Songwe: Figure of the new generation of African economists

Vera Songwe has been one of Africa's most influential women for the last decade. Brilliant Cameroonian economist, she holds a doctorate in mathematical economics and graduates degrees in law, economics, and political sciences. In 1998, she joined the World Bank where she worked for nearly 20 years. In 2007, she was appointed director of operations for Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Senegal and in 2016, she became director of the regional office for West and Central Africa in the International Finance Corporation (an organization of the World Bank that deals with the private sector). Since 2017, she has been the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations. She is the first woman to hold this post and she defines her policy with clear priorities: agriculture, energy, and economic governance. Her experience within the International Finance Corporation is a real asset to resolve disputes between the public and private sector. She is also asserting herself as a staunch anti-corruption fighter in Africa. In a speech during the African Union summit in 2018, she said corruption was a "cancer" and costs Africa 25% of its GDP each year.

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COLLECTION "MILADY"











AfCFTA, you have certainly come across this strange word on the feeds of your favorite newspapers or social networks in recent days. Especially since January 1st, 2021, when the African Continental Free Trade Area, or AfCFTA, became operational.

AfCFTA_ZLECAF KEZACO ?

Contrary to what its name might suggest, the AfCFTA is not a brand of Russian liquor but the new pan-African space initiated in 2012 under the aegis of the African Union (AU), to facilitate economic and trade between the 55 member countries of its regional economic communities.

The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), The East African Community (EAC), The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), The Southern African Development Community (SADC), The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), The Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)

It was in 2018, during the 25th AU Summit, that the project took shape, with the accession of the first 44 signatories of the AfCFTA's constitutive agreement. They will be gradually followed by other states, bringing the total to 54 countries in December 2020.

The AfCFTA, which finally entered into force on May 30, 2019, after several rounds of negotiations, has generated a majority of favorable momentum from African governments. However, the challenge of its full integration into national laws still remains, because to date, out of all the signatories only 34 countries have ratified the agreement.

As a reminder, signing an international agreement in principle expresses a country's adherence, but does not bind it legally until it has ratified it; this limiting the impact of the treaty on national laws and regulations.

Based in Accra, Ghana, since August 2020, the AfCFTA secretary is led by South African Wamkele Keabetswe Mene, who was elected six months earlier. Mene and his administration will be responsible for translating the directions of the AfCFTA's top decision-making bodies into concrete action and coordinating the cooperation of the various African regional economic areas.



Harmonization and Integration: The holy grail of AfCFTA's success

If there were only one word to remember to understand this major African project, it would be Integration, the word by which the African Union aims to unite the economies of the continent's countries, thus creating a potential market of 1.2 billion people for each of its members. In order to achieve this, the governance of the AfCFTA has given itself 15 years to eliminate 90% of customs duties on goods and services, as well as non-tariff barriers, such as sanitary and phytosanitary limitations or quantitative restrictions.

This integration brings encouraging prospects, but also major challenges, such as harmonizing the rules of each of the major African economic organizations around a common goal. This is a momentous effort.

Enhancing Africa's economic potential

The main effect of the African Free Trade Area will be to stimulate intra-African trade, whose potential is still too underestimated, and which is suffering from the strong extraversion of Africa's economic exchanges with countries on other continents.

According to AU projections, the virtuous effects of the free trade area would allow reaching, by 2022, a level of trade, between African countries, of nearly 60% versus the current 16%.

As the Senegalese writer and economist Felwine Sarr reminds us the contemporary story of the African economy is essentially marked by historical shocks, such as triangular trade, colonization, structural adjustment policies, etc., which had the effect of dividing African economic forces and then diverting them from their place of generation to benefit powers outside the continent. In this context, can we hope that the AfCFTA will heal the wounds of this bruised trade history and mark the end of these successive cycles of disassociation of African markets? It is still a little early to say, especially since before it can achieve these highly symbolic objectives, the new economic space is for the time being, and for some time to come, occupied with much more concrete tasks such as the realization of its administrative architecture, the coordination of the various economic policies of its member states, or advocacy with the 20 countries that have not yet ratified the AfCFTA constitutive agreement.

In Felwine SARR, Afrotopia; 2016, Editions Philippe REY

WALLYSCAR IRIS WALLYS



When technological innovation meets medicine

By Leena Lecointre



Arthur Zang

As a young Cameroonian engineer, Arthur Zang envisages a new medical approach illustrated by the design of his "Cardiopad": remote-medicine.

It could really revolutionize the medical world in Cameroon. At the young age of 34, Arthur Zang is a technical engineer, CEO of Himore Medical Equipment and creator of "Cardiopad". It was this invention that made him famous, during a video filmed to call for its funding and noticed by the Cameroonian President Paul Biya. Since then, it has been commercialized and allows remote processing of medical data from patients to doctors. But the engineer does not intend to stop there.

Arthur Zang realizes the magnitude of this problem in the medical field in Cameroon during his meeting with a cardiologist. Explaining the difficulties related to the inaccessibility of more remote areas, the engineer considers the contribution that technology could have on the world of medicine. This is how the Cardiopad was born: this digital tablet makes it possible to remotely transmit cardiac data from patients directly to cardiologists, enabling faster diagnosis and potential treatment. With only 50 cardiologists for 23.44 million inhabitants in Cameroon, technological solutions are a major solution.

With the foundation of Himore Medical Equipment, Arthur Zang's objective is to design and commercialize technological equipment to facilitate medical care at a lower cost. A true revolution, he speaks of "remotemedicine" or distance medicine: in this digital age, Arthur Zang shows that it is possible to put technological innovation at the service of medicine.



Promoting access to the job market through skill sharing

By Bastien TALLARITA



Stéphane Mbiandzi

Biomedical engineer and entrepreneur, Stéphane Mbiandzi did most of his studies in Cameroon and then in France where he joined in 2011 the ISIFC (Higher Institute of Engineers of Franche-Comté) and graduated in 2014. Stéphane Mbiandzi cofounded Easyrepet in 2017, a non-profit association that trains young people in new technologies. According to the International Labour Organization, 60% of young sub-Saharan Africans of working age lack the skills employers require. He is aware of this problem which he encounters on several occasions when he was in Yaoundé. He realizes that many young Africans do indeed want to find a job without having the necessary practical skills, and the employer cannot take the risk of hiring and training new people. That's why he founded Yoolearn, a platform on which "Helpers" share their skills free or paying to individuals or professionals. The purpose of this platform is to encourage skills sharing, to make the transmission of knowledge and know-how easier.

This platform is based on feedback from African expatriates for the benefit of residents of their native country. The application is free and targets especially the African continent, relying on the support of its diasporas. It is an exchange of knowledge and skills: an individual who wishes to refine his resume and make it attractive can meet a professional near his home to support him and a professional who wishes to supplement his salary can sell training that many people would benefit from. The platform is growing with more than 800 users including qualified experts, companies, associations wishing to consolidate their knowledge and more than a hundred training courses. Yoolearn users can train in many areas but the three most sought-after skills are: e-commerce (community management, digital marketing), English because the platform is primarily aimed at users from Frenchspeaking African countries and design, photography. Access to training courses can be done via live video, face-to-face or with pre-recorded videos. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Stéphane Mbiandzi observed a sharp increase in online training.



In addition, remote working has become an essential tool during this crisis and will probably become widespread in companies after the pandemic. However, this remote working system often requires computer knowledge and skills that online training can consolidate. The specificity of this application compared to other online training platforms is the focus on the African continent and its diasporas. Stéphane Mbiandzi wishes to provide aid and facilitate access to the labor market for young Africans and as he puts it "to restore the image of the black man in our society". He is a very inspiring and humble man in both his interviews and his statements. He attaches great importance to people and to meetings, each of which can turn into an opportunity, it is this vision that is reflected in his work and projects.



PERFEK

INTERVIEW BY SAYURI

Sandra Cardoso, a self-made woman launches PERFEK.

Sandra makes custom-made outfits, mainly in wax.



• Can you introduce yourself in a general way?

Nice to meet you, my name is Sandra and I live in Cannes since 2011. I am 26 years old and I am the mother of a little girl who is 4 years old. I was born in Cape Verde, I arrived in Portugal in 2003, I was 9 years old. I work in an EHPAD in Cannes as a caregiver for 2 years.

• How did the idea of PERFEK start? Who motivated you?

I think my love for Wax is too big to stay away from it.

This year I said to myself, I have to go for it. I took my project that didn't have a name yet. I rewrote it, ordered my sewing machine, and PERFEK was born. I had a lot of support, people who pushed me to start and to continue like my big sister who offered me my first machine 7 years ago, the same one who boosts me today too, my little sister also motivates me, all my family and my friends too.

• Where does the name PERFEK come from ?

PERFEK means "perfect" in Afrikaans. I recently changed the name of the brand because the previous name was too long.

• Where does your inspiration come from ?

To tell you the truth, I had the idea to make clothes on a piece of paper for about 7 years. I think we are what we are since forever, I was more likely to stay at home doing cross-stitch and crochet as a child. And sewing came naturally with time, with a needle, all by myself, I started to make some creations by hand.

• Do you make everything yourself?

For the moment I do everything by myself. Later, I will see if I can train or hire someone because sometimes I am overwhelmed by the orders.

• What are your goals?

I hope to be able to enlarge the choice in my gallery. At the moment I am in Paris, I am doing my first training course in custom clothing design.

• How long does it take to make a garment?

I take between 2 and 7 days to make a custom piece. It really depends on the model though.

PERFEK

BY SAYURI



• Do you think you are committed to the development of Africa ? Where do you want to get involved ?

I think I am committed in the sense that I make the wax known to more people, both within my Cape Verdean community and to my colleagues at work or my patients. I also want to be more involved in humanitarian work.

• Do you have any mentors or role models who inspire you ?

The person who inspires me the most is a designer from Guinea, Binta Sagale. She creates unique pieces. I have been following her on social media for a long time. I also admire her because she is committed to the development of Africa and she shows it.

How has she impacted your life or projects?

She showed me and told me a lot about her beginnings, she also motivated me to start my own project.

• Books you have read? Or inspired?

The book that inspired me is Becoming (2018) by Michelle Obama.

• A movie that you can watch again and again ?

My favorite movies are Titanic and Nelson Mandela.

• An African dish you can't live without?

I like fish a lot, otherwise, I would say that the dish I can't live without is Attiéké.

An African city that you recommend to visit at least once and why?

The African city I dream of visiting is São Tomé, the capital of São Tomé-and-Príncipe because my father was born there. I would like to meet my father's family there and see where he comes from.





KMABEL

by Carmen, a brand to serve a humanitarian cause.

BY SAYURI





Carmen, a young visionary woman with a big heart.

Founder of the accessories brand K-Mabel, Carmen reinvests her profits to finance hearing aids for hearing for deaf children in Senegal and Mozambique. Combining her full-time job as a computer scientist, this energetic 26-year-old designer gives her heart and soul to this project that is close to her heart.

As early as she can remember, Carmen knew that she wanted to help people in need when asked what she wanted to do with her life.

Her father is from Mozambique, her mother from Brazil and Mozambique. Carmen was born in Lisbon and came to England at the age of 16.

She first decided to learn languages in order to one day work for the United Nations or another international humanitarian organization.
"I wanted to learn a lot of languages to help people." She is fluent in English, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Combining her love for fashion and her humanitarian project: KMABEL was born

In order to invest in humanitarian work, the young Londoner will create the brand K-MABEL and use the funds raised to buy hearing aids for deaf and hearing deficit children in Dakar and Inhambane. "To help these children I need money. I should create a product that people would love and that would fund my project." This is Carmen's new goal. Unlike other brands that sometimes offer to donate to a cause with a purchase. Carmen already had the project, and the brand was born to complement and further that. The first item she put online was a pair of earrings to symbolize somewhat, the hearing aid. Every woman who wears a pair of KMABEL earrings and feels beautiful and confident, also allows a child to gain confidence and self-esteem. This is the symbolism that Carmen wants to emphasize. This is how the brand KMABEL was launched. The name KMABEL means "infinite kindness" and "OK I can do it" (K-IAm Able). Besides her desire to help, Carmen is aware that she must also think about business. What gives her the strength to continue, to design, advertise, and even package the product of each order by herself, is the thought of the children she talks to on a daily occasion. They give her a lot of hope and she can never forget their personalities and faces.

KMABEL

by Carmen, a brand to serve a humanitarian cause.

BY SAYURI



For Carmen, it is a gift from God to have found a way to do humanitarian work, which she has always wanted to do, alongside her professional and private life.

Her job as a computer scientist for a company that develops space management software is not a passion, but it allows her to simply finance other projects that are close to her heart while waiting to be able to fully invest in her vocation.

KMABEL products are made in Lisbon, her home town, by a family of craft workers. She had the opportunity to do it in China, but she refused, thinking that the hearing aids are for children, she can't take the risk that the bags or earrings are made by children. Even though it costs more to manufacture in Portugal, it's faster and more ethical, which is fine by her. While the earrings were the first product because it is the closest to hearing, she soon realizes that she needs an item that makes more money.

She then incorporated bags, inspired by the fact that she herself wanted a practical and pretty bag that would allow her to put everything when she travels for example. To choose the colors, she asked the children to help her and they chose together. She then added a men's collection because many of her male friends asked her to make items for men, so they could support the project. The bags are all made from vegan leather. She also decided to launch a dress collection. But she will not pursue it for logistical reasons.

Future projects

This year, Carmen would like to hire someone to help her when she has more means. She hopes that the brand will grow, have more support and customers and generate more revenue to keep the project going.

KMABEL

by Carmen, a brand to serve a humanitarian cause.

BY SAYURI



In the next 5 to 10 years, she would like to see KMABEL become more of an institution than a brand, and for its educational program to be developed in more and more schools in Africa and for the results to be seen on disabled children. The project is in development and she has met with the Minister of Education in Senegal, with whom she agrees that "the education of children is paramount because they are the future of our continent." We need to stop leaving out children with disabilities in Africa. For Carmen, what is missing in Africa is to make sure that despite their disability, children can develop another power. So that those children can say to themselves, "Okay, I can't hear, but I can write, I can count, I can use the Internet and a computer."

Besides the clothing brand, it is also an educational project that Carmen is developing in order to assist and train the teaching staff so that they can guide and accompany disabled children in the best way possible. She is inspired by western methods to allow an educational system that does not neglect disabled children as it is sometimes the case in Africa. Carmen thinks that one day, someone will take over the brand and will be able to bring more ideas to grow the brand and obviously the project, so that more schools can put it into practice outside Ouakam and Inhambane.

To know more about Carmen and the humanitarian project itself, see the next issue.





KMABEL.COM







Interview by Sayuri

From the capital of the Seventh Art to the African coasts, the journey of a photographer and producer.

Mathias Monet was born and raised in Cannes, after his studies and first experiences in Paris, it is in Africa that he decided to make his art come alive.

Could you please introduce yourself in a few words?

My name is Mathias Monet. I am a photographer and documentary filmmaker. I live in Paris and I have been working since 2017 in West and Central Africa.

What is your background (education, studies and first professional experiences)?

I stopped my studies very quickly. I started a Bachelor's degree in Musicology, which I interrupted after 2 years. I then worked for a year at Gedeon Programme, where I learned the job of editor in documentary film. In 2013, I did a training course in the film industry at the Fonderie de l'image. At the same time, I started making my first animated films. I start working as a director in advertising in 2014. In 2017, I make my debut as a photographer for associations and NGOs. In 2018, I direct my first documentary "Tales of Kokoro".

And in 2019, I set up my audiovisual production company "Metronome" which produces both advertising content and fiction.

How long have you been developing your activity and how did the project emerge?

In 2017, I got involved with a French association as a photographer to carry out a joint project with Talibé children in the suburbs of Dakar, Senegal. I lived there for 8 months. It was a trigger for my interest in the different African populations and cultures.



Interview by Sayuri

From the capital of the Seventh Art to the African coasts, the journey of a photographer/producer.

What is the name of the French association to which you are committed in 2017?

The association is called ADTP Elemen'terre. It is an Angevine association that operates at the local level in the underprivileged suburbs of Dakar. It welcomes more than 200 talibé children from 3 to 20 years old,

Do you think you are committed to the development of Africa?

When we do photo reportage or documentary, we are necessarily committed.

From the outset, my role is above all to transcribe stories and sensations through my films or photos, but also to convey messages, especially those of people in need. For the Fulani, for example, it started in 2017 in Senegal, with the meeting of sedentary groups for several generations.

Then there was Guinea, in 2018 I met for the first time Fulani victims of oppression in Benin, on the border with Nigeria. And it was in 2019, in Chad, that I decided to really get involved with them with the "Refugee Photographers" project.

Where and at what level would you like to get more involved?

To be able to tell stories, to transmit emotions through films and photos is something great. But when you do this in a context where we are talking about displaced and suffering populations, it is essential that you (as a photographer) can tell the reality on the ground as accurately as possible. This is what we tried to do with the Fulani refugees of CAR by letting them tell their own story through photography.

I would like to be even more involved, to be more in the field, to collect more testimonies, to solicit more from government agencies and NGOs that are not always informed of the reality of what is happening in certain regions. When I take a picture of someone, I always hope to be able to take it again the following year, or years later, and see that things have improved for them.

Can you tell me more about the Refugee Photographers project?

Refugee Photographers is a philanthropic project where refugees tell their stories through the lens of their cameras.

In 2019, the project was born after an interview between Hassan Abdoulaye, founder and president of the Chadian association Guéra Touristique, and Mathias Monet, photographer and documentary filmmaker.

The goal? To create an artistic and cultural project in order to find financial means to improve the daily life of 286 Central African Peul refugees settled in the village of Niergui in Chad. Between July and September 2019, the Fulani took more than 150 pictures of their daily life in the camp. A documentary film was made for the occasion.



Interview by Sayuri

From the capital of the Seventh Art to the African coasts, the journey of a photographer/producer.

Do you have mentors or role models?

I would like to think of Salgado, Claire Denis, Capa or McCurry of course. But I think it's mainly thanks to personalities like Raymond Depardon and Jean-Dominique Burton that I do photography and documentaries in this form.

I must also make a special mention of the work of Malick Sidibé and Seydou Keïta.

How have they had an impact on your life or your projects?

It all came rather late in the end. Usually you get passionate about this kind of thing in your teens and then you develop it over time. I didn't discover photography until I was 25, but I didn't really get interested in it until then. Notably by discovering the stories and photos of photoreporters like Depardon or Salgado. A little before all this, I saw Herzog's "Les Bergers du Soleil", shot in 89, where he filmed a camp in Wodaabe preparing for an annual men's beauty contest, where women choose for a night or a wedding, the man of their choice. It was a landmark film for me, I was discovering the Fulani for the first time, and I was fascinated by it. That's when I wanted to meet the Wodaabe. Today I work with them through artistic projects.

Books that you liked? Or inspired?

Tristessa, the first Kerouac I read, which introduced me to American literature.

A film that you will be able to see and watch again?

The captive of the desert, just for the landscapes and Sandrine Bonnaire.

An African dish you can't get tired of?

It's not very original but I would say Yassa.

An African city that you advise to see at least once and why?

There is an atmosphere that I love, and that you can find in many capitals of West and Central Africa. But I have a certain attachment to the city of Saint-Louis in Senegal. I had the chance to attend the St Iouis Jazz Festival, first as a spectator, then as a photographer, and it's always a pleasure to return there.



Interview by Sayuri

From the capital of the Seventh Art to the African coasts, the journey of a photographer/producer.

Thursday, December 3rd, at the opening of the exhibition Refugee Photographers in the presence of Bertrand Cochery, Ambassador of France to Chad, and Vincent Bailassem Bayo, Representative of the Ministry of Tourism Development, Culture and Crafts.

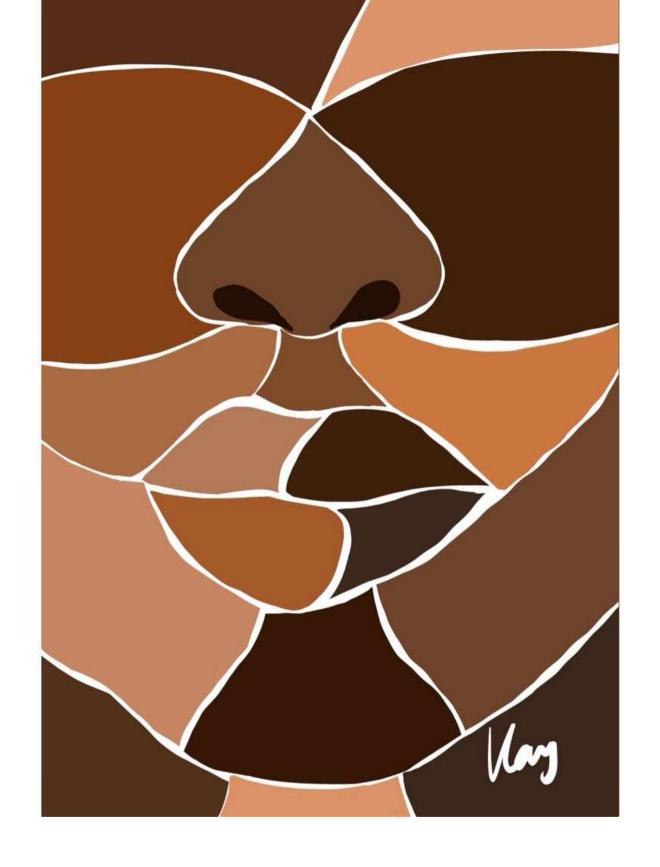
The exhibition presented was on December 2020 at the French Institute of Chad, and is the result of the Refugee Photographers project. The sale of the photos will be used to build classrooms for the children of the Peul community of Niergui. To know more about the project

https://td.ambafrance.org/Vernissage-de-I-exposition-Refugies-Photographes-a-I-IFT



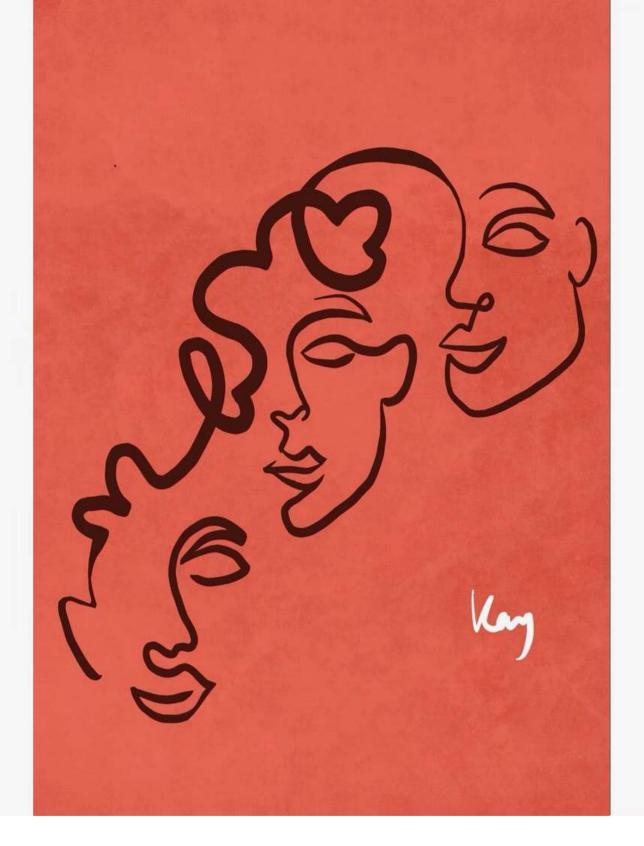






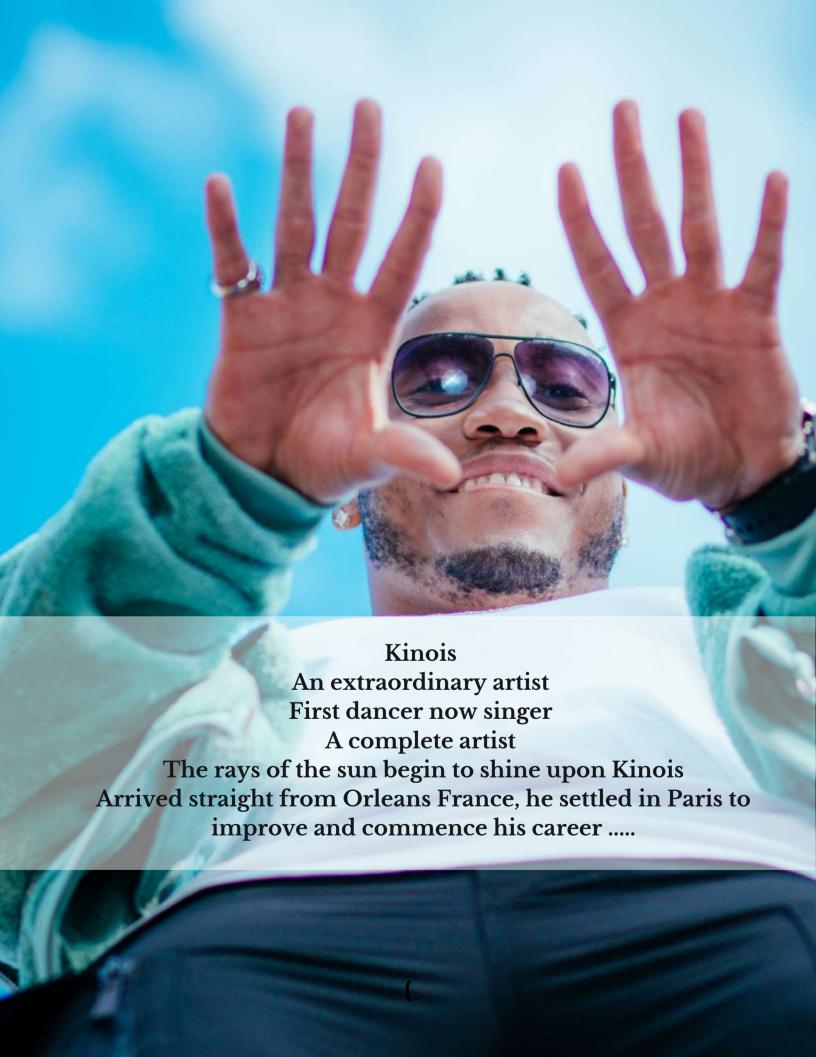
"So the **COLOR** illustration is my representation of the Black community: **Colorful and inseparable**."

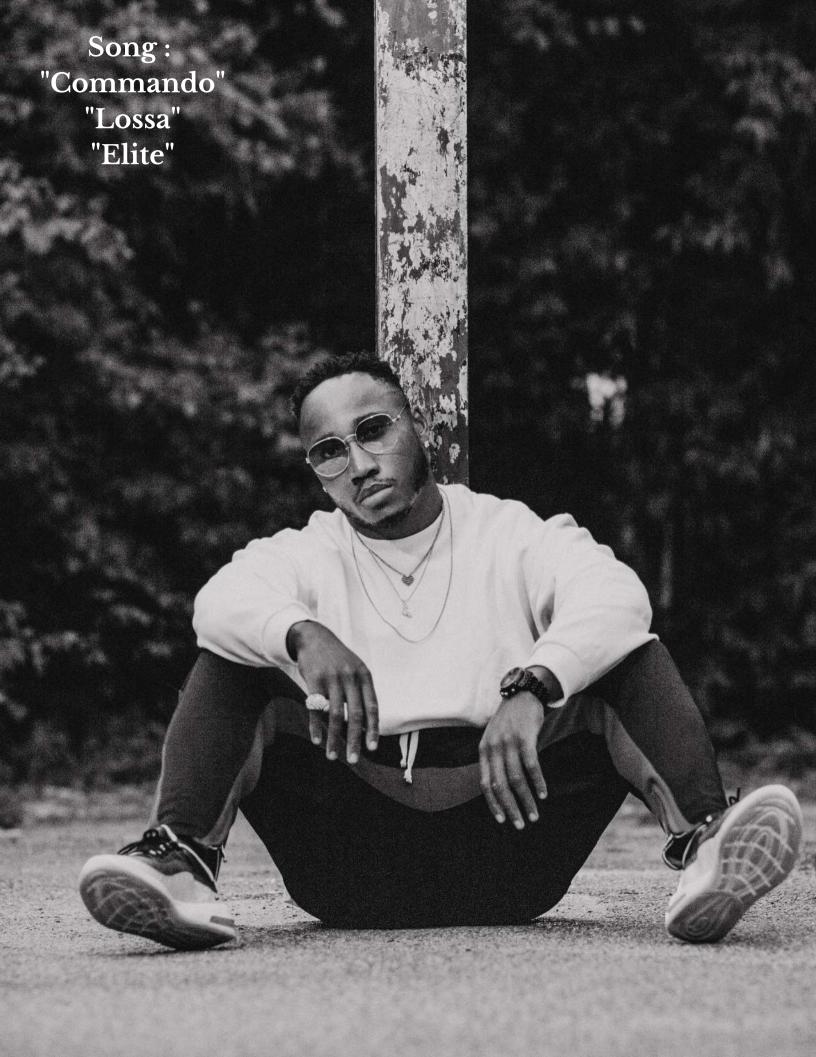




"THE UNBREAKABLE BOND I CULTIVATED WITH MY SISTERS IS REPRESENTED WITH THE ILLUSTRATION **3MOUN**, WHICH MEANS THREE PEOPLE IN CREOLE WEST INDIES. THREE DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES UNITED BY BLOOD AND A STRONG BELONGING".

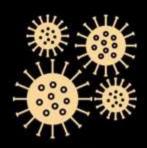






Miel Addict

BIENFAITS MIEL DE JUJUBIER



Maladies infectieuses



Antiseptique



Anti oxydants



+ Système immunitaire



Cicatrisant



Digestive









Assa Taoré

BY MAISHA STEVENS

She has been here for 4 years in her fight "Justice for Adama". She never imagined that one day she would gather more than 20,000 people in Paris.

The same determination as some fighters

The same motivation as some leaders

The same courage, the same thirst for truth.

How did her life change?

That famous night when the feeling of emptiness under her feet imposed itself on her.

No one has asked what she gave up to dedicate herself to this fight, the combat of a lifetime, to obtain justice.

Two books in which she tells her story "Letter to Adama" and "Le combat d'Adama".



ONCO-TV: PROVIDING SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR CANCER PATIENTS

According to the ARC (Association pour la Recherche sur le Cancer), a cancer research association, the cure rate (when no signs of relapse have occurred during the 5 years after treatment) has increased in recent years. Social and medical assistance, as well as the support of relatives, facilitate the combat against cancer. ONCO-tv is a non-profit organization, it's a web-tv that acts in favor of cancer patients from a social perspective. It was founded in 2020 by Mahamadou Coulibaly, a former boxer and now actor and businessman from Champigny-sur-Marne and other founders such as Frédéric Descrozaille and Boro Doucouré. Mahamadou Coulibaly used his fame to create this project and to help cancer patients.

Most of the founders and sponsors are very knowledgeable about the illness because they themselves have been affected or have loved ones who have been affected by it. Sally Sanogo, a model and one of the many sponsors of ONCO-tv, tells how the discovery of her cancer made her feel fragile and that the world was crumbling around her. She recalls the difficulties during chemotherapy and the fears she had of her mother and brother. But above all, she shows how she was able to pull herself together thanks to her admirable strength of character, her will to heal, and the support of those close to her that helped her overcome this ordeal. When we think of cancer, we immediately have the idea of death and not of healing, figures show us the number of deaths but not the number of patients in remission or cured.



ONCO-tv and launched "ONCONSULT" in July 2020: a system of online consultations using remote medical consultations booths. The founders of ONCO-ty realized that it. was difficult to find a doctor because they were not always able to accept new patients and, above all, because of the increasing medical abandonment in neighborhoods such as Bois-l'Abbé in Champigny-sur-Marne, where Mahamadou Coulibaly is from. The absence of doctors is far greater during the Covid-19 pandemic. These booths allow patients (not only cancer patients) to take their blood pressure, do tests and then print out their results to send them to a doctor. They are installed in public places (cybercafés, printing stores, etc...) and physical assistance is provided with the help of nurses. The initiative is welcomed and supported by the elected officials of the founder's cities. Today, ONCO-tv has 700 partner doctors and is becoming an increasingly important medium for cancer information. In December of 2020, members of the organization even met with the president of the National Assembly's cancer research group, who praised the initiative.

The objective of this organization is to de-stigmatize, to no longer consider cancer as a scourge but more as a disease to live with and do everything to combat it. It is also to show the youth that this disease can occur at any age. In order to be informed about this disease, the channel wishes to give a voice to patients and former patients who tend to be so what invisible in society, through interviews but also to hospital staff and doctors who are in direct contact with the disease. In addition to the informative purpose, the platform has webinars so that children can talk to a psychologist, resume physical activities, and sets up original cultural projects to change the ideas of patients and put a smile on their faces. The collaboration between ONCO-tv and Paris Avengers allows hospitalized children to meet their favorite superhero at a location of their choice, as patients are often lonely and this initiative allows them to escape for just a while.

AFrica XYZ

Facilitating trade in the age of E-commerce : the revolution : on Africa XYZ

By Leena Lecointre

Between monetary exchanges and job creation, this 6th pan-African company from Rwanda raises the challenge of a large-scale technological transition.

In a world where dematerialized monetary transactions are increasingly 42 out of 54 African countries still do not have access to the technology needed for these widespread modes of transport of exchanges. In order to overcome this problem, the technology company Africa XYZ has commercialized in 2020 an E-merchant card, facilitating offshore payments in several African countries. Initially specializing in the development of corporate websites, this pan-African company, present in particular in Rwanda and Malawi, has identified a problem of global connections. To remedy this, it provides for no less than a real revolution technology.

To help companies in Africa develop their internet presence, Anderson Anonzo has founded the company Africa XYZ. Ambitious, it envisages in the short term to enable the creation of 2,000 jobs in the global African community between 2020 and 2022. His project stands out in the technological sector by the objectives it sets itself, but also by its very vision of the world, of business, and its professional ethics. He sums up his approach: "I am fighting to create a company at the service of our people".

Africa XYZ was therefore led to launch a call for investment, which enabled him to put in place his E-merchant card project available in 14 African countries as soon as it's commercialized. For Anderson Anonzo, being able to insert Africa into a hyper-connected world is, for Anderson Anonzo, unavoidable: you have to adapt to the advent of technology to succeed as a company. The objective of Africa XYZ is to develop a trade network in Africa that is in line with the growing e-commerce market. Revolution not only in terms of the products sold, but also in the very new way of working that it would allow: "the work is not a task to be done, but a place to be" summarizing the ethics of the company.

Facilitating trade and monetary transactions, creating jobs worldwide in the African community... A possible revolution through technological means supported by Africa XYZ, to facilitate connections between employees and their employers, and companies to their customers.

Africa XYZ



1970 fiasco

Cars did not become widely available until the early 20th century. One of the first cars that was accessible to the masses was the 1908 Model T, an American car manufactured by the Ford Motor Company. Cars were rapidly adopted in the United States of America, where they replaced animal-drawn carriages and carts, but took much longer to be accepted in Western Europe.

Cars are equipped with controls used for driving, parking, passenger comfort and safety, and controlling a variety of lights.

"These types of cars are incredibly popular right now among collectors and are still exclusive."

ARE YOU MADE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP?



A trend for some as a well constructed project for others.

We are driven on both sides by the desire for entrepreneurship.
Why do we do it? What pushes us towards this way of life which, sometimes is risky, but which can pay off

And there are all kinds: those who are full of ideas, those who have the means to invest without ideas, those who are mentally ready to take the plunge.

But who are these new people who want more than the stability of a permanent job?

Many have tried and returned to work.

And others who still persist and remain determined.

This new way of life attracts more than one because entrepreneurship is synonymous with financial independence, a more substantial salary that can increase or decrease depending on the month.

It is a risk that many take because everything is subjected to support entrepreneurs. There is aid granted, so we can hope to dream without fear of losing our stability.

To undertake entrepreneurship is to spend time on the project, on the phone, on the internet, to meet people to build a network, to think about the project every day, because we do not allow ourselves the right to fail.

But are we really made for entrepreneurship? Do we have strong shoulders, the necessary moral support of our soundings... Because when the product works we are quickly surrounded until the product is in decline. And then there is the choice of renewing or remaining faithful to the product and end up having fewer customers.

To be ready is to be prepared for all possible situations

Let's be the actors of our lives, but being prepared, because a storm can come fast.

GORÉE ISLAND







PANAFRICANS MEDIA Média Panafricains













PANAFRICANS MEDIA Média Panafricains











WORD UNSCRAMBLE

REOBTIAPMOTIVATIONCM EREPPOLEVEDFITISOPEX UYGMCURHCRVXLMJLQGOI SHBYEOTNNBQVPROJETTO SCSLHIQCGLLBHFGTTDYH IQGDCZAVYMÇNVHSDÇZGC TBNSEPWFBBZOVXUFFCGW EZDKATIIHYORECNAVAUS TQXCINEVURQIKCBCHDZU TTIHRBCRIVMDAXMHFWZN ATAINMSRMNBGVETREBIL EJYROMGMRIWLCFCUUUZC YUXPKBSJEKNWABMYUZJA ZSANVUNQLAAAPDDIDUCC JZSKAMNBEEDITYKFTZZC K K Y R E G U Q V Z P Q R I I T G L D K OXCCKFIHEANFEYOEYPVZ TNYKYALBRQLYVPKNIWDO IGFIILLKMUSSZZTSJFOK MIXJÇÇQHALEHNSNHRUMG

- DETERMINATION
- CHOIX
- LIBERTE
- DEVELOPPER
- IDEE
- PROJET
- MOTIVATION
- CAPACITE
- REUSSITE
- ECHEC
- POSITIF
- RELEVER
- AVANCER



Mama Africa Innovation is a voluntary organization.

Its goal is to develop a truly entrepreneurial culture among young people from all regions of the world so that "living together better" has a meaning in everyday life.

The International Network Mama Africa Innovation wishes to federate African, European, and international social entrepreneurs to work together and develop collective intelligence.

It aims to:

• DETECT

Companies, startups, project leaders, and associations have an impact on the African continent and the world with a potential for growth on the market.

ACCOMPANY

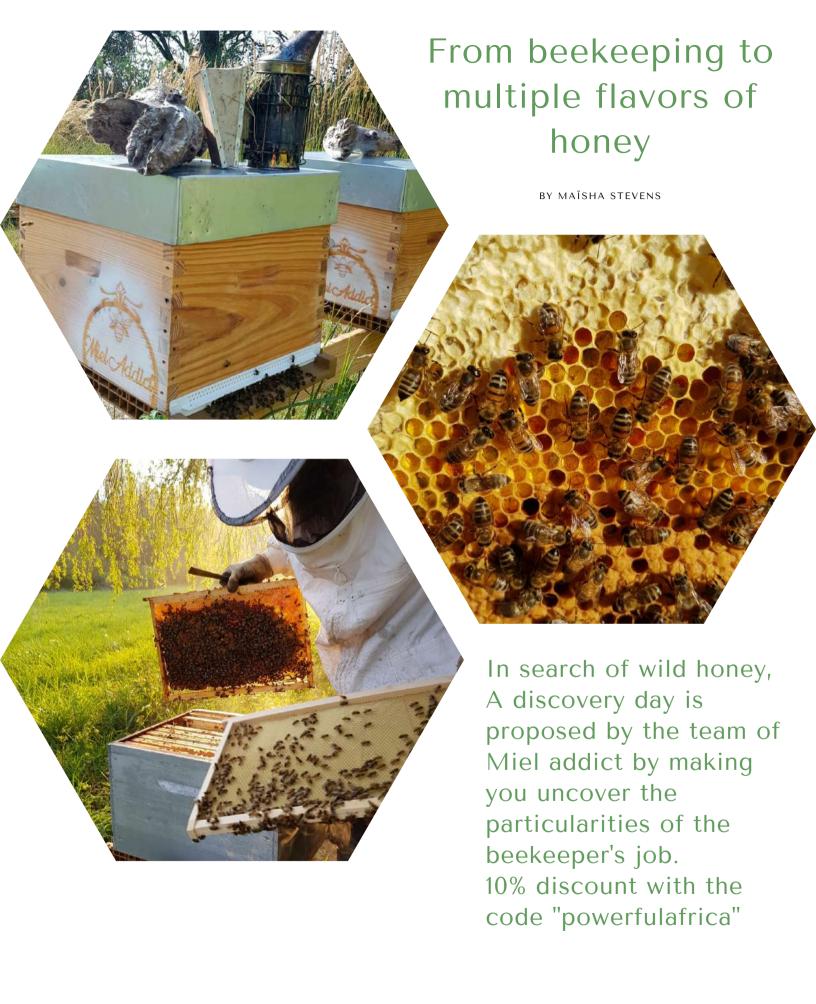
The development of companies and associations through its network of experts, mentors, and financial partners

CONNECT

The various stakeholders, experts, key accounts, entrepreneurs, institutions to bring out new models of cooperation Mama Africa innovation carries the voice of social entrepreneurs to public policies, philanthropy to move the lines and improve their working conditions

AWARENESS

The general public is encouraged to promote entrepreneurial initiatives and to encourage young people and women to start up.



POWERFUL AFRICA