

# ACTING FOR A CITIZEN-CENTRIC WORLD



# **ENCOURAGING DEMOCRACY AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT**

**Freedom of expression via an independent media is a crucial part of politics and society of both states and regions, with the media providing a much-needed service to the people. The media help citizens make an informed opinion, and encourage society to foster ties more easily among communities, social groups and generations. CFI staff are convinced that media outlets play a crucial role in promoting citizenship and human rights. They thus implement projects that promote democratic values, mainly in Africa and the Arab world, but also in the Balkans and Southeast Asia.**

# OUR PROGRAMMES



- 1** Steering workshops on core citizenship concepts.
- 2** Supporting journalists during elections.
- 3** Organising public debates between citizens, the media and authorities.
- 4** Supporting the production of programmes with audience participation.
- 5** Supporting independent initiatives targeting young people and the development of civic tech projects.

# OUR PROJECTS



## CITIZEN CONNECTIONS 2

### French-speaking Africa

Citizen Connections 2 leverages Information and Communication Technology to encourage citizen participation, help citizens monitor public initiatives and bridge the gendered digital divide. This project, funded by the French development agency (AFD), supports young people in French-speaking Africa as they develop citizen-centric, digital initiatives. This project also helps to foster knowledge of civic tech, online citizen initiatives, and the emergence of the civic tech community.



## D-JIL

Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan

Creating innovative, original digital programmes that explore issues of interest to young people is a current priority for media outlets in the Arab world. D-JIL (a contraction of Digital-Jil\*) is boosting the news offer for young citizens in Arab world, reinforcing their media culture and encouraging greater participation in public debate. This project supports players developing digital programmes that young people, especially women, can identify with, to boost their business, enhance their content and launch new technical solutions.

\* *Jil*: means "generation" in Arabic.

## OUR PROJECTS



### CITIZENS' DIALOGUES

**Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea and Madagascar**

In many African countries, civilians have expressed a desire to take an active part in public life. Citizens' Dialogues supports these aspirations via specific help for media outlets, in order to better involve them in the dialogue between civil society and authorities. This project also fosters a "virtual" collaboration between media outlets, civil society organisations and elected officials, inviting these various players to sit round the same table to discuss general-interest issues, thus contributing to more active citizenship and greater civilian participation.



### QARIB

**Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine**

Funded by the French development agency (AFD), the regional project Qarib\* boosts the media and the production of news in four Middle Eastern countries, in order to promote public debate and foster social cohesion and inclusivity, especially for women. In 2022, Qarib provided support for some 20 media outlets as they covered local and parliamentary elections — in Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine — thus helping to foster robust public debate and media diversity.

\* *Qarib* means "close" in Arabic.

→ Find all our projects on [cfi.fr](https://cfi.fr)

**Canal France International works to foster media development all over the world, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, the Arab world and the European Union's neighbourhood. Our key priorities: pushing back on disinformation, promoting gender equality, protecting the environment and promoting democracy and citizen engagement. CFI operates under the umbrella of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and is a subsidiary of the group France Médias Monde.**

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