



## **AFRICAN CULTURE FUND (ACF)**

### ***Professionalizing creative sector in Africa***

Magnambougou – Bamako (MALI)

Phone number: (+223) 20 20 43 45

Email of the Communication Manager (Mrs Youma Djigué): [y.djigue@gmail.com](mailto:y.djigue@gmail.com)

Website: [www.africanculturefund.net](http://www.africanculturefund.net)

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**BAMAHO – October 14, 2021**

### **Results of ACF ACADEMY program's 1st call for applications**

#### **BOOT CAMP #1: “Cultural management” | West Africa**

ACF ACADEMY is a pan-African program for the professionalization and strengthening of crafts in Africa. This is a program of incubation and support for young visual artists and cultural managers set up by the African Culture Fund (ACF), and which aims to stimulate and strengthen the competitiveness of African arts professionals through the organization of artistic training camps (arts trainings), artistic creation residencies and capacity building in cultural management around five (05) centers of artistic and cultural excellence in all regions from Africa: North Africa (Tunisia), Central Africa (Kinshasa), West Africa (Mali), Southern Africa (Johannesburg), East Africa (Seychelles and Kenya). The first batch of the program concerns artistic and cultural hubs in West Africa (Mali) and North Africa (Tunisia). This call concerns the first BOOT CAMP dedicated to young cultural managers from West Africa.

It is in this context that the ACF launched on August 12, ACF ACADEMY's 1st call for applications, for the BOOT CAMP #1 intended for West Africa, in partnership with the Kôre Institute of Arts and crafts (IKAM) and with the support of the Swiss Cooperation in Mali, aiming to selecting 18 young cultural managers from West Africa (09 women and 09 men), to take part in this BOOT CAMP planned in Ségou starting from November 2021 and whose support and monitoring will extend over 18 months. At the end, which took place on September 12, 78 APPLICATIONS from 9 West African countries (Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Togo, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Niger, Mauritania) have been registered.

The selection process was undertaken in three stages: the registration and examination of the applications leading to a clean registration file, the preselection and evaluation, and the final selection by an autonomous selection panel.

The selection panel, made up of a representative of IKAM, two independent experts and two representatives of the ACF administration, met virtually on October 05, 2021, to proceed to the final selection.

At the end of the deliberation, 18 candidates were selected from 8 West African countries (09 women and 09 men).



- Click on the following link to view the list of successful candidates: <https://bit.ly/3G3aRCI>

The African Culture Fund would like to renew its thanks to the Swiss Cooperation in Mali for the confidence and the support as well as to the Kôrè Institute of Arts and Crafts for the technical support.

## **ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION**

*The African Culture Fund (ACF) is a pan-African organization born in February 2018 in Bamako and registered in the Republic of Mali with which a headquarters agreement was established, with the dual function, not only of helping to professionalize the sector, but also that of being an agitator and instigator for the creation of local African philanthropy by stimulating private sector investment from the continent in the field of culture.*

*The originality of this Fund is that it is an initiative that emanates from artists and cultural actors of the continent who are the main contributors, and who are committed to the professionalization and development of the creative sector, a first experience in terms of taking hand of the development of the African creative sector by the artists and cultural actors of the continent.*