Participant name: Delaure Nesmon

Participant organization: NDI local coordinator

**Notes**

Journalist disinformation, fact checker, education media. NDI funded program to educate disinformation. Anti-election. Disinformation is new when it comes to foreign actors. Social media, especially on tiktok about Cote D’Ivoire. Cyber activists distill germs of disinformation.

Images of che geberra and Vladimir Poutine side by side. Based on colonial history. Reactions over leaders. Disinformation via opposition and discredit them to the public.

L’union nationale des journalists de cote d’ivoire has an official relationship with Chinese embassy, since 2018 or 2019. Prizes to be won on best production on China. Opera news, funded by China, to begin a program to produce content, which will help their careers. But minimal review over the content. Only for journalists, not really and ambiguous of influencers. In Mali there is the same program. The program is from mouth to ear.

Journalists are also having trouble pay their lives. Collective convention gives an official status to all journalists, but in private press it is a bit better. Pay is often per diem. For print press it is getting even worse, online press is soaring and has influencers that are becoming more attractive. Fact checking is not a plus, only passion.

The US sponsored a program for leadership, but lack of visibility over opportunities offered by the embassy. Sometimes USAID sponsors media literacy. Terrorism and Disinformation.

Life as a journalist is changing in CI. Financial status and audience. TV is still popular but phones are becoming more important, especially via internet. Maybe an asset to financing there is an NGO, but online content is hard to put a paywall on.

Rec: Big media group public and independent. Not state media. With a good contribution from taxes. We can’t prevent emergence influencers.

There is some hacktivist. Offense to the president is against the law here. Social questions conversion happen often. In 2020 there has been a lot of controversy and intimidation. Stony (influencer) is now doing sport instead now he moved to CI. Private life was always under threat, 2014 protection has begun helping, then 2017 law on online press, 2020 on social media. 2022 everything is codified: even influencers are regulated. Now all the influencers are very scared. Covid really made tiktok explode. It is the first platform for politicial discussions. People are very scared to be in prison, but the most vocal one are abroad. Police monitors. Freedom of speech is under question.

USA: encourage local initiative, because AFD has sponsored something and received a lot of hate. Develop diplomacy and democracy. Develop media literacy and knowing the limits of the law. Some sentences can get you are in trouble, especially attacking the president. Democracy here is still very young.

Influencers: Edith Prou “good influencers”. Influencers have a negative connotation. Bloggers association of Cote D’Ivoire. LGBT are even more targeted, diversity, sexual threats. Disinformation can have a character of gender hate. Women really suffered a lot from private life exposed, and nudity on Facebook, and defamation, especially on women politician.