



LA FRANCOPHONIE PASSPORT

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ENGLISH  FRENCH

ORGANISATION
INTERNATIONALE DE
la francophonie



LA FRANCOPHONIE



ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

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La Francophonie aims to create a space for solidarity that embraces the values of humanism, democracy and cultural and linguistic diversity.

Solidarity between countries and peoples who share French as their common language, but can be separated by history, geography and above all economic development, is a key value for La Francophonie.

By listening attentively to its governments, La Francophonie can adapt its cooperation activities to realities on the ground and to the needs of populations. By providing specialists with know-how, it supports the development efforts of political leaders and social actors.

Through consultation, an approach favoured within both the French-speaking and international communities, La Francophonie ensures that its political and cooperation activities are complementary with those of other international and regional organisations.

The collaboration between the International Organisation of La Francophonie (IOF), the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie and the specialized operators—the Academic Agency of La Francophonie, TV5MONDE, The Senghor University of Alexandria and the International Association of Francophone Mayors—enhances the actions of La Francophonie.

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LA FRANCOPHONIE

Creation of IOF on
March 20th 1970
in Niger

57 MEMBER
STATES AND
GOVERNMENTS



This organisation represents the countries that share the French language. It has 77 member states and governments (57 members and 20 observers) on five continents. It represents a unique group for whom the sharing of a common language is a starting point for political, economic and cultural cooperation between its members.

IOF promotes the French language and cultural diversity and supports the various different cultures within the French-speaking space.

IOF acts for peace and democracy and helps strengthen the institutions of the rule of law and reinforce respect for Human Rights in cooperation with the international community.

IOF supports good quality basic education and also encourages the insertion of young people through professional and technical training.

IOF is involved in sustainable development cooperation activities and supports underprivileged French-speaking countries' efforts to boost their economic growth and manage their natural resources.

In all its activities, IOF devotes particular attention to young people and women as well as to access to digital technologies. It encourages democratic governance of the Internet that accounts for the interests of French-speaking countries and contributes to increasing the digital skills of professionals and decision-makers.



220 million
French-speakers
worldwide

The official
language
in 32 IOF
member
States and
governments

French
is the second mother
tongue and second
foreign language
in the European Union

10,000
civil servants and
diplomats trained
every year, 65%
of whom are women

+ MORE FRENCH

So that French is spoken more widely, better and understood all over the world, IOF implements promotion measures adapted to the various different target audiences and designed with respect for multilingualism.

French language training courses are organized for the civil servants and diplomats responsible for the multilateral dossiers of IOF member countries and observers where French is not the official language. Targeted training courses are also provided for the civil servants and staff of regional African organisations.

On the Internet, efforts have been made to increase the visibility and quality of website pages in French. Every year, the Fonds Francophone des Inforoutes provides funding for about ten new innovative and collaborative projects.

Cooperation with the other linguistic zones (Portuguese, Spanish and Arabic-speaking zones, etc.) fosters cultural dialogue.

To obtain reliable statistics on the position and use of French in the world, the Observatory of the French Language collects and analyses data on the French language situation per country, industry and international organisation. Every four years, it publishes a report on the French language around the world.

1,400
audio-visual
works
supported
since 1988

90 French-speaking
festivals and artist
tours sponsored
every year

16 writers
awarded the Prix
des Cinq Continents
de la Francophonie
since 2001

The International Francophone
Games combine sport and culture
and promote new talent
every four years

295 Centres
for Reading
and Cultural
Activities
(CLACs) in
21 countries

+ MORE CULTURE

The firm belief that enrichment comes from diversity is the bedrock of La Francophonie's commitment to cultural and linguistic diversity. It achieved international recognition for its role in the adoption by UNESCO of the Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expression.

IOF implements support programs for writers, film makers, musicians, visual artists and digital artists, which improve the dissemination of their work around the world and provide them with access to international audiences and markets.

IOF also supports the cultural policies and cultural industries of French-speaking countries, with a particular focus on exploiting the opportunities opened up by digital technology.

IOF promotes reading for all as a vital means of achieving knowledge through its flagship program of Centres for Reading and Cultural Activities (CLACs) in rural and peri-urban areas.



15 NETWORKS
SPECIALISED IN LAW
AND REGULATION

31 international
organisations and regional
partners, including the UNO,
the European Union
and the African Union

67 INGOs/CSOs
accredited
by IOF

A francophone
press freedom
prize
for journalists
from Southern
countries

+ MORE DEMOCRACY

Peace, democracy, and Human Rights are the pillars of La Francophonie's political activities. Encouraging crisis exit, accompanying electoral processes, reinforcing the institutions of the rule of law and guaranteeing respect for rights and liberties, are the main objectives that guide these activities.

By implementing mediation initiatives and actions in support of political dialogue, by mobilizing French-speaking expertise on the ground for elections, legal and security system reforms, or media regulation, IOF is permanently committed to building and consolidating democracy.

To widen the scope of this commitment, IOF is supported by the institutional French-speaking networks present throughout the French-speaking area it represents as well as by partnerships with international organisations, NGOS and civil society actors.

Two reference texts

- + The Bamako Declaration (2000) on democracy, rights and freedoms.
- + The Saint-Boniface Declaration (2006) on conflict prevention and human safety.

An infographic with a world map background, primarily showing Africa and Europe. It features several callout boxes with statistics and program information. The boxes are styled with different borders: solid, dashed, and wavy. The text is in various colors (white, black, and blue) to stand out against the yellow and orange background.

60%

of the French-speaking population is under 30 years old

4 Maisons des Savoirs (Houses of Knowledge) opened since 2009 in Ouagadougou, Hue, Chisinau and Kinshasa

900,000 French teachers worldwide

Two regional training centres in Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam) and Sofia (Bulgaria)

10,000 teachers receive on-going training from IFADEM in Benin, Burundi, Haiti, Madagascar and the Democratic Republic of Congo

Initiative ELAN-Afrique implemented in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Niger, Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, and in Creole and Arabic-speaking areas

+ MORE EDUCATION

Education for all, one of the primary Millennium Development Goals, is an international commitment that La Francophonie also subscribes to, since access to compulsory primary education of good quality is clearly a springboard to development and employment.

To improve the quality of basic education, IOF helps increase the skills of teachers and education managers. Through a host of programs, it provides teacher training, with remote training courses using new technologies (IFADEM) and courses provided directly by instructors (Initiative ELAN-Afrique). It also produces educational tools adapted to suit the varying cultural and linguistic contexts of countries in African, Creole and Arabic speaking areas.

Learning a profession requires the acquisition of a basic education at school and of vocational skills. IOF fosters dialogue between States and companies for the development of vocational training schemes in job-creating sectors.



MÉDIATERRE,
the first
news portal
in French on
sustainable
development

20 %
of world
commodity
trade

WWW.MEDIATERRE.ORG
5,000
visitors/
day

Women
make up
70%
of those living
below the poverty
threshold

50 French-speaking
volunteers aged 21
to 34 in the field

30,000
managers from the
African Caribbean
Pacific Group of
Countries received
training in trade
negotiation

+ MORE DEVELOPMENT

As La Francophonie's founding principle, solidarity guides its approach to sustainable development cooperation activities. It proactively encourages the equal participation of women and men in the development of Southern societies.

In the fight against poverty, IOF prefers to work in close proximity with local players—administrations, local authorities, village communities and organizations that support small and medium-size enterprises. The local populations are given support with the creation of income and employment generation projects.

The goals actively pursued for the poorest French-speaking countries are their integration in regional economies and their insertion in international trade.

The Francophone Institute for Sustainable Development supports the efforts of IOF member countries to manage their natural resources and energy.

To enable young people to understand key development issues and take action, IOF has setup an international volunteer program as well as the Francophonie summer schools.

10F around the world

