

Activity report 2024 WELTFILME e.V.

1. LOOKING CLOSER (LC)

At the beginning of 2024 the financial accountability report for the project LOOKING CLOSER (LC) was submitted to bengo. Further information about LC and the project objectives can be found at <https://www.weltfilme.org/looking-closer/>. The films produced during the project and that have meanwhile been awarded several prizes can also be viewed there.

2. MOVING BEYOND (MB)

The project MOVING BEYOND (MB) started already in August 2023 and runs until April 2026. Within the framework of MB film trainings, film productions and screenings as well as network meetings are being carried out. The aim is that the partner NGOs YMCA Ghana, Sierra Leone Adult Education Association/SLADEA, National Adult Education Association of Liberia/NAEAL, School of Journalism and Digital Media/SJDM (Gambia) und Association Togolaise du Cinéma Numérique Ambulant/ATCNA will be better equipped in terms of personnel and technology, will be more closely networked locally/regionally and will establish stable structures so that after the project ends they can continue or expand their film programmes independently and sustainably.

In 2024 the following aspects and measures were in the foreground for MB:

- Better networking of the partners with local organisations, film associations and the local film industry;
- Creation of working groups to make cooperation among the five partners of the Film Network West Africa (FNWA) — also after MB — more efficient;
- Partners working on curricula to be certified and used for future film teaching;
- Training of new trainers in the various film departments;
- FNWA Project Development Lab in Togo: Two trainers per partner country were coached by West African experts in the development of their film ideas. Afterwards they pitched their ideas at the Emergence Film Festival in Lomé.
- Implementation of film trainings followed by film productions;
- Evaluation of the short films produced in 2023/2024 a) on mobile cinema tours: the partners in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Togo held 37 screenings and thus reached over 17,000 viewers. The screenings took place above all in rural areas where access to media/film is usually difficult. b) online: the films from Sierra Leone and Liberia alone reached over 550,000 viewers on Facebook. c) at festivals: the films were shown at several international festivals and have won some awards. ATCNA produced the feature documentary CENT DOUZE in 2023/2024, which has meanwhile been awarded multiple prizes.

Further information on MB and all short films produced so far can be found at <https://www.weltfilme.org/moving-beyond/>

The MB interim report was submitted to bengo in May 2024 (ANNEXES 1–2).

3. DIGITAL FILM SCHOOL AFRICA (DFSFA)

After phase 3 of the project DIGITAL FILM SCHOOL AFRICA (DFSAfrica) was successfully completed in autumn 2023, phase 4 (DF4) was started in summer 2024. DF4 runs until March 2026. DFSAfrica is a project of YMCA Ghana and African University of Communications and Business (AUCB/Ghana) in cooperation with WELTFILME e.V. and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

In DF4 the film training offering of DFSAfrica is being significantly expanded. The courses in "Cinematography", "Editing" and "Sound" are being further developed by experts in Ghana and Germany, new teaching videos are being produced. Afterwards the collected teaching content will be integrated in digitally programmed form on the atingi platform (<https://www.atingi.org>) for online learning. The courses will be provided with a detailed system of online examinations and grading that is applicable both in the second-chance education pathway (YMCA Ghana) and in official university operations (AUCB).

In addition, a course 'Train the e-Trainers' is being developed. This course forms the basis for training local film lecturers from the various specialist areas in the online teaching of the DFSFA courses, so that a specialist college for the implementation of the courses is sustainably available and can be expanded, both now and in the future. From autumn 2025, the existing six courses ('Screenwriting', 'Creative Producing', 'Documentary Film', 'Editing, Cinematography', 'Sound') will be taught at YMCA Ghana and AUCB. Afterward, participants will produce short films in order to directly put the theory learned into practice,

In the spirit of ownership, the Ghanaian partners are now responsible for managing their own budgets. DFSAfrica is now registered as a non-profit organization in Ghana and can thus build its own administrative and working structures independently of WELTFILME.

Further information can be found at <https://www.digitalfilmschool.africa> and <https://www.weltfilme.org/digital-film-school-africa/>

The final report for DFSAfrica Phase 3 (DF3) was submitted in autumn 2023. The financial settlement (interim reports/individual statements, etc.) was submitted to the GIZ in 2024. Due to the volume, the corresponding documents will not be sent to members via email but can be viewed at the annual general meeting. The application and budget for DF4 are attached as ANNEXES 3–4.

4. Staff list

We are grateful that we can work with a great team:

Fiona Klassen has been supporting our team since 2022. Since September 2024 she is Programme Director at WELTFILME.

Mariella Maracke manages WELTFILME's social media channels together with Fiona Klassen.

Rogier Hardeman worked as project manager, programme director and finally as managing director. In March 2024 Rogier withdrew from his activities at WELTFILME (see also Activity Report 2023).

Anna Schlemmer had been responsible for the financial accounting for our projects and the association since 2018. In spring 2024 Anna found a full-time position and therefore can no longer work for WELTFILME.

Evgeni Fedarovich has been Financial Operations Manager at WELTFILME since April 2024. He has taken over all of Anna's tasks and is furthermore treasurer of WELTFILME.

Christian Moris Müller is responsible for story development and post-production in the feature film area at MB. In addition, he supports the partners in preparing the curricula.

Jörg Heidemann still handles the association's tax return.

Jan Kunzmann volunteers to host WELTFILME's website and cloud. Jan is a great contact person for technical questions. Many thanks for the support!

Nico Hertel supervises post-production at MB and advises the partners on curriculum development. At DFSAfrica he supports the Ghanaian teams in the production of teaching films.

Nicolai Rissmann, freelance cameraman and editor, supervises the post-production of MB films and advises the partners on curriculum development.

Josefine Bingemer is responsible at MB for story development and post-production in the documentary field. She also advises the partners on the development of curricula.

Sven Kirschenbauer takes care of WELTFILME's website and YouTube channel.

When something needs designing, **Franz Ossig** is our graphic designer.

Many thanks to everyone for the wonderful cooperation!

5. Further activities

- all year: Participation in fome meetings. WELTFILME has been a member of fome since 2016 and part of the coordinating group of this network. Further information about fome at <https://fome.info>
- March 2024: Board member Tom Wlaschiha took part in the ARD game show Klein gegen Groß – Das unglaubliche Duell and won €30,000 for WELTFILME. WELTFILME received the prize money as a donation. Many thanks again for the fantastic effort, dear Tom!
- April 2024: Project MB – at a six-day seminar Nico and Nicolai trained 15 film trainers in Gambia.
- April 2024: The Sehsüchte film festival (ISFF) contacted WELTFILME at the beginning of 2024 with a request to submit films and/or to draw attention to our partners/trainers for the festival. ISFF ultimately selected the documentary SISTERS (produced 2022 in Sierra Leone; project LC) for the competition. WELTFILME decided that a member of the film team should be enabled to travel and that the association should cover the flight and visa costs. Aminata Bockarie, editor of the film, attended the festival, which took place at the end of April in Potsdam. The cooperation with ISFF continued: in 2025 Josefine attended the festival as a jury member for WELTFILME. Meanwhile WELTFILME was also contacted by Filmschoolfest Munich. Gloria Adotevi, director of the short fiction film XOÉSE (produced 2018 in Ghana; project ALL ON BOARD), who has meanwhile begun studying in Germany, will take part in the festival jury.
- May 2024: Presentation of Digital Film School Africa at a network meeting with BMZ and GIZ.
- November 2024: Meeting with Kwabena Nketia from YMCA Ghana, Christian Martyn Kamara from YMCA of Sierra Leone and Andrea Bolte from CVJM-Westbund e.V.
- November 2024: Film festival AfriKamera (Berlin): participation in the opening.
- December 2024: Black International Cinema Berlin film festival: screening of the films from MB.
- December 2024: Meeting with members and friends of WELTFILME at the Lucia Christmas market in the KulturBrauerei (Berlin).

6. Success

2024 was a very successful year for our project partners. A selection of successes and achievements is presented below:

YMCA Ghana began establishing the Media Hub Education Center (MHEC) in 2019 (ALL ON BOARD Project), which is used for film seminars, network meetings, and the finalization of film productions. In the meantime, the premises are also being rented out — primarily to production companies. This allows for regular income to be generated, which is reinvested in film education. YMCA Ghana is now planning to expand the MHEC. A film team from YMCA Ghana was selected to provide film coverage for a multi-day, international event of the World YMCA in Mombasa (Kenya).

SLADEA was honored at the North Entertainment Awards (FaNEA) for its merits as a film educator in Sierra Leone. Furthermore, the NGO was invited by the German Embassy in Freetown to give a lecture on the role of media in adult education and to film a beach cleanup organized by the Embassy.

ATCNA is in contact with the TV broadcaster Canal+, which plans to broadcast the following films in the coming years: Project MB: CENT DOUZE Project LC: LITTLE TINKERER and A TICKET FOR EUROPE Project FILM FOWARD: IT'S POSSIBLE and LET THERE BE LIGHT

SJDM hosted the 5th Cinekambiya Festival (project-independent). Films from Senegal, Ghana, Egypt, Liberia, Germany, Togo, France, and The Gambia were shown at the festival.

The films produced by NAEAL's trainers and trainees in 2023 and 2024 as part of MB have since been screened at numerous festivals and have received several awards.

The documentary film THE FOREST MAN OF INDIA by Ankur Didwania (India 2013, IDEEN.TRANSFAIR Project) was selected by the Inspired World organization for their curriculum. The film is now regularly shown in class and discussed afterward.

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Annexes (conditionally available upon request):

1. [MB Interim Report](#)
2. [MB Narrative Interim Report](#)
3. [DFS Africa Phase 4 Application](#)
4. [DFS Africa Phase 4 Budget](#)
5. [Association Accounting 2024](#)
6. [Financial Short Report 2024](#)