



Lagos International Poetry Festival

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REGIONAL HUB:	Western Africa
CULTURAL SECTOR(S):	Publishing, literature, orality, tales, festivals
BENEFICIARY (IES):	Creative Africa Company
COUNTRIES COVERED BY THE ACTION:	Nigeria
PROJECT DURATION:	08/2022-07/2023 (12 months)
BUDGET:	EUR 82 215 – EU FUNDING: EUR 24 750 (30.10 %)
WEBSITE:	N/A

The **Lagos International Poetry Festival (LIPFest)** stands as one of the continent's major cultural highlights. Since 2015, it has been gathering leading writers, poets, thinkers, and artists from around the world in Lagos, Nigeria. The purpose of this project was to bring the 2022 edition to life, which took place from 26-30 October under the theme of Babel. It was presented as a hybrid experience, blending digital offerings with face-to-face events.

In pursuit of this goal, the festival has hosted workshops and training sessions for emerging poets and artists. Additionally, it has organized school visits to foster the development of the local talent pool. These efforts have led to the cultivation of new audiences, particularly within underserved communities in Lagos, as well as among students lacking access to mentoring and performance opportunities in the realms of literary and performing arts.

Furthermore, the festival has showcased a pan-African poetry slam, a slam/mentoring event tailored for secondary schools, and a film screening about Okigbo, the legendary Nigerian poet who perished during the Nigerian civil war. These initiatives have served to unearth and reward new local talent, celebrate luminaries of the spoken word, and promote artistic collaborations. Last but not least, this edition marked the launch of *Máròkò*, the festival's annual print and digital journal.



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