



© Hausa International Books and Arts Festival

Of Being and Becoming

REGIONAL HUB:	Western Africa
CULTURAL SECTOR(S):	Publishing / Literature, Digital / Visual Arts, Exhibition
BENEFICIARY (IES):	Open Arts Development Foundation
COUNTRIES COVERED BY THE ACTION:	Nigeria
PROJECT DURATION:	08/2022- 07/2023 (12 months)
BUDGET:	EUR 88 676 – EU FUNDING: EUR 24 836 (28.01 %)
WEBSITE:	N/A

The project **'Of Being and Becoming: Exploring language and identity in the African Cultural Space Using Virtual Reality'** aims to organize the second edition of the Hausa International Book and Arts Festival (HIBAF), a cross-festival of arts and languages.

To achieve this goal, HIBAF has been archived and digitized as a post-festival VR experience, providing digital engagement for an international audience and continuing to explore the entire ecology of literary production.

As a result, the local digital skills of artists have been developed: 20 young writers were trained in the annals of creative writing in the Hausa language. Emphasis was also placed on women, with the aim of catalyzing and multiplying their impact in the cultural value chain.

In addition, a feature-length documentary tracing the origin, identity, and the most remote language of the Hausa peoples, as well as a photo essay documenting the vibrant existence of an unrestrained literary tradition among women writers who compose in the Hausa language in northern Nigeria, were produced.

Finally, the results of this project, which was to democratize artistic and cultural initiatives, have been published in academic journals and media publications.



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