

ASF FRANCE NEWSLETTER

Your quarterly newsletter with Avocats Sans Frontières France

FOCUS ON...

THE LAUNCH OF THE LIBRE PROJECT IN GUINEA

The situation of women and girls in Guinea is alarming, with limited access to social services and productive resources, limited participation in decision-making processes at all levels and little recognition of their rights. Faced with this situation, ASF France wishes to make its expertise in the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) available through the launch of the **“Fight against impunity for perpetrators of gender-based violence in order to strengthen gender equality in Guinea” (LIBRE)** project. Funded by the **European Union** for a period of 3 years, this project is the fruit of the joint determination of ASF France, the **Club des Jeunes Filles Leaders de Guinée (CJFLG)** and the **Centre Guinéen de Promotion et de Protection des Droits de l'Homme (CPDH)**, to combat the impunity of perpetrators of GBV by promoting access to justice for victims and encouraging a change in the behaviour of the Guinean authorities and population. The opening ceremony of the project took place on **19 April**, to general satisfaction and enthusiasm.



Guinean civil society was heavily involved. Institutional players such as the EU and the Spanish and British embassies also participated. The State, represented by the National Transition Council, and the Ministries for the Advancement of Women, Children and Vulnerable Persons, Justice, and Youth and Sport, expressed their support.

The OPROGEM (Office de Protection du Genre, de l'Enfance et des Mœurs) was also represented, and expressed its desire to work with the LIBRE consortium on gender issues in order to change attitudes together. On several occasions, the authorities also expressed their desire to become directly involved in implementing the project. The first activities began in June, with the consortium organising a consultation framework for key players in the fight against GBV in Guinea. This initiative strengthened coordination and synergy between the various stakeholders. The development of a database to collect, centralise and analyse data on GBV, in close collaboration with the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and other civil society players, is also underway.



AMINATA MILLIMONO
LIBRE PROJECT OFFICER

"My commitment to the fight against gender-based violence is motivated by a deep conviction of the importance of promoting gender equality and putting an end to impunity for perpetrators of GBV in Guinea. Through the LIBRE project, I am determined to continue supporting this essential cause and to work actively to create an environment where every individual, regardless of gender, can live in safety and with dignity."



THE FLOOR TO...



KETTLY JULIEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUT MOBILE D'ÉDUCATION DÉMOCRATIQUE (IMED) IN HAITI

I have always set myself the goal of managing all IMED projects with a satisfaction threshold of 80%. Thanks to the IMPLIC project, [...] I feel that the results exceed my expectations in many respects. [...] This project really opens the way to a second chance for the beneficiaries.

IMPACT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The project's distinguishing feature is that it provides financial assistance to prisoners when they are released, enabling them to cover the cost of transport home. This simple but crucial intervention gives beneficiaries a chance to regain their dignity as soon as they leave prison. Leaving prison with a minimum of financial resources not only prevents them from re-offending out of necessity, but also enables them to rebuild their lives with a semblance of stability. This assistance is not limited to a one-off impact; it sows the seeds of renewed hope and a more humane reintegration.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING: A PATH TO LONG-TERM RECONSTRUCTION

At the same time, the IMPLIC project is investing in vocational training for former prisoners. This strategic component aims to break the cycle of recidivism by giving beneficiaries the skills they need to build a stable and productive future. Particularly for those from disadvantaged backgrounds with a low level of education, this training represents a chance to redirect themselves towards viable professional prospects.

This not only strengthens their ability to enter the job market, but also helps to restore their confidence in themselves and their future.

REFLECTION ON RESULTS

The results of the IMPLIC project exceed initial expectations, with a tangible impact on the lives of beneficiaries. Observing the gestures of gratitude and compassion from ex-prisoners, it is clear that this initiative fills a crucial gap in the post-prison rehabilitation system.

TESTIMONY OF A FORMER PRISONER

Jameson PIERRE, originally from Gonaïves, grew up in foster families. At the age of 20, he moved to Ouanaminthe to work, selling "Kokiyòl" and smuggling contraband. In 2023, he was arrested for stealing photovoltaic panels and imprisoned in Fort-Liberté. Abandoned by his family, his health deteriorated rapidly. Thanks to the lawyer Amazan Simpson CHARLES, Jameson PIERRE was released after a court hearing. After 6 months in prison, he was disfigured. **"For me, it was divine intervention as I was preparing to die"**, he said after his release. With the help of a psychologist and social assistance, he resumed his business and started a tiling course in Ouanaminthe, seeing this as a chance to rebuild his life. With medical help, he regained his physiognomy. **"With the intervention of IMED, I was able to be reborn again. This is a good opportunity for me to rebuild my life completely"**, he says.



OUR PARTNERS BY OUR SIDE !

We would like to thank the partners who launched or renewed their support in the second quarter, giving us the means to take action this year:

- Aon, Electro Dépôt, Kerialis, Lexis Nexis France and MMA ;
- ATHENAVOCATS;
- the Conseil National des Barreaux (CNB), the Conférence des Bâtonniers and 49 Bar Associations.



KERIALIS



Would you also like to get your company, law firm, association or bar association involved?

Contact Matthias COUGNAUD
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QUARTERLY NEWS

- GUINEA & IVORY COAST** • [Closure of the IMPACT project.](#)
- GUINEA** • [Launch of the LIBRE project.](#)
- NIGERIA** • [E-RIGHTS: World Press Freedom Day.](#)
- HAÏTI** • [IMPLIC: Rehabilitation and social reintegration programme for 15 prisoners.](#)
- GREECE** • [Joint statement : ASF FRANCE denounces the suspension of interpreting services in reception centres and asylum services.](#)
- ASF FRANCE** • [ASF France takes part in the AGM of the International Observatory for Lawyers in Danger](#)
• [La Gazette du Palais: spotlight on Permanences Solidaires.](#)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUARTER

Training of Trainers

From 24 to 26 April, 10 members took part in the basic training for trainers, led by our volunteers Françoise BASTIEN-RABNER and Pauline TUBIANA, at the Maison du Barreau in Paris.



ASF France supports Tunisian lawyers

On 16 and 17 May, ASF France representatives took part in demonstrations in Toulouse and Paris in support of Tunisian lawyers, in particular to demand the release of colleagues Sonia DAHMANI and Mehdi ZAGROUBA.

A friendly reception for IDF members

On 23 May, ASF France members living in the Paris region met at the CNB headquarters in a warm and friendly atmosphere to exchange ideas and strengthen their ties over a friendly drink.



Meeting with the winners of the Marianne initiative

ASF France met the winners of the Marianne initiative on 17 June. The initiative, launched in 2021, aims to support human rights defenders in France and abroad by welcoming them, offering them support and networking them.



ON THE MOVE AT ASF FRANCE !

We would like to thank **Priscille DUFLOS** and **Ahmed SÉKOU TOURÉ** who were respectively project manager in Greece and project manager in Guinea.

We would like to welcome :

- **Charles-Edouard OTELE**, administrative and financial assistant at head office ;
- **Jean KOWE**, Project Manager in Cameroon (PAGOC);
- **Aristide MOUAKOUA**, monitoring and evaluation officer in Cameroon (PAGOC);
- **Florence NDONGMO JIODIO**, administrative and financial manager in Cameroon (PAGOC) ;
- **Lucile MACÉ**, project manager in Greece.

JOIN US !



By becoming a member, you are showing your commitment to defending fundamental rights and taking concrete action to defend human rights !
The membership runs for the calendar year 2024.

I JOIN ASF FRANCE