

Highlights of Virtual Conversations – IWIPALE Project

Background

The “*Integrating Wikimedia Projects into African Libraries Ecosystem*” funded by the Wikimedia Foundation’s Knowledge Equity Fund has two main goals. First, it seeks to establish how library and information science institutions and professionals can play more impactful roles in the Wikimedia movement in Africa in view of the large holdings of information resources in different library types all across Africa. Second, in partnership with Wikimedia Deutschland, the project strategizes on how to integrate Wikimedia projects into the everyday operations of libraries by using Authority files of the National Library of Nigeria to create a Wikibase instance.

First steps

To achieve the first goal of the project, AfLIA sought and received buy-in from community leads within the Wikimedia movement in the five (5) regions of Africa and French speaking West Africa to serve as anchors for the virtual conversations between the African library sector and the Wikimedia movement in Africa and work with AfLIA in choosing panellists from their communities. AfLIA also contacted librarians who had joined their Wikimedia courses (*Wikipedia in African Libraries* and *Promoting Open Knowledge practices in African Libraries through WikiData*) to serve as panellists in the Conversations.

A **toolkit** was developed for the virtual conversations. The resource provides the background and the overarching principles of the project meant to engender understanding and ensure that the Conversations serve as fact-finding and networking sessions with the primary purpose of discovering how to build and sustain collaborative initiatives between the African library sector and the Wikimedia movement in Africa for enriching African content in Wikimedia projects and robust presence in the global Movement. The toolkit also has a question bank that moderators could liberally choose from in directing the discussions as well as the likely format or structure that they may follow to ensure some form of uniformity while giving room for individual preferences and styles.

Roles and responsibilities of the moderators as well as the technical team are also outlined in the toolkit. The resource provided pathways on how moderators could share their general impressions, major take-away from each Conversation and the way forward bearing in mind the diverse voices, experiences and backgrounds that may be heard in the sessions. A meeting

held with the moderators before the virtual conversations gave them the opportunity to make inputs into the Toolkit even as they were encouraged to promote the Conversations in their user groups.

The Project launch

The project was launched online on Friday 1st November to enable the African Library sector and Wikimedia communities in Africa see the big picture of what AfLIA was setting out to achieve. Representatives from Wikimedia Foundation, and Wikimedia Deutschland, shared their perceptions and expectations of the project.



The moderators for the virtual conversations were introduced at the launch namely: Georges Fodouop, President, WikiFranca who anchored the Conversation for Central Africa, Alice Kibombo, Wikibrarian, User Group Uganda (East Africa Conversation Lead), Afek Ben Chahed, General Secretary, WikiFranca and Community Facilitator for Wiki in Africa (North Africa Conversation moderator), Bobby Shabangu, President, Wikimedia South Africa (Southern African

conversation moderator), Olushola Olaniyan, President, Wikimedia Nigeria User Group (English Speaking West Africa conversation moderator) and Kangah Donatien Koffi, co-fondateur, Group d'utilisateurs Wikimedia Cote d'Ivoire moderated the virtual conversation for French speaking countries in West Africa.

A survey was also introduced at the launch to capture the opinions of library sector in Africa as well as the Wikimedia movement in Africa. The tool focused on how best sustainable collaborations can be birthed between the two sides, the Wikimedia skill set of librarians that would make such collaborations feasible, the perception of Wikimedians about collaborating with the library sector in the continent and how Wikimedia projects could be part integrated into library processes and services among other areas.

Themes of the Virtual Conversations

The virtual conversations took place in five instances within November, 2024. They were well attended but there were more librarians and archivists than wikimedians in the audiences. The conversations all overshot the 90 minutes allocated as the moderators allowed participants to have their say at different points. Four major themes were noticeable in the virtual conversations across the regions namely;

- Skill set of librarians
- Collaborations
- Attitudinal change
- Wikimedia user group for the African library sector

Nevertheless, all the sessions acknowledged the perceived knowledge gap about the continent in Wikipedia and sister projects. They also all recognised the fact that the Wikimedia movement and the library and allied institutions sector within the continent have a common goal of making knowledge accessible. The details of the panels, and when the conversations took place are available in Appendix 1.

1. Skill set of librarians

In all the sessions, there was an above average agreement that library and information science professionals possess digital preservation skills, understand the importance and how-to of digital literacy, can propagate the importance of evaluation of information through their knowledge of information literacy, have writing skills as they engage in abstracting and indexing of information resources and also possess information retrieval skills. The Conversations recognised that these competencies stand them in good stead to contribute meaningfully to Wikimedia projects. The East Africa conversation posited that beyond this, library and information science practitioners understand the philosophy behind the skills and can apply ethical principles of information dissemination, explain why differentiation between primary and secondary sources matters, have a culture of research, deal with copyright and intellectual property issues as part of their jobs and know the importance of data privacy. All these place them in a good place to contribute to Wikimedia projects. The session also recognised the need for these professionals to actively impart these skills to Wikimedia communities as a pathway for growing the Wikimedia movement within the continent.

The Southern Africa conversation had shared the results of a study conducted in 2014 by Wikimedia, South Africa to learn about Wikipedia editors and the type of content they edit, as well as the content distribution of the editors across the world. The same survey was repeated in 2018, which found that people of African origin consume knowledge more, rather than contribute actively towards knowledge online. The session went on to note that the library sector has helped Wikimedia projects to increase references and citations through the 1Lib1Ref campaign evident by the increase in reliable sources on Wikipedia for African content.

The North Africa conversation raised the possibility of libraries serving as orientation hubs for introduction to Wikipedia as a credible source of information. However, panellists and participants were of the view that Wikipedia's complex approach in terms of notability, credibility and neutrality, as well as internet connectivity, and lack of access to technological tools could prove to be challenging to many despite the skills of the librarians. The session also noted the role of AfLIA in building the capacity of African librarians in various areas including in understanding and using Wikimedia projects. That notwithstanding, it also pointed out the lack of competencies, comprehension and commitment of the community of African Librarians to providing adequate information resources for Wikimedia projects in their various communities.

In line with the above, the French West Africa session advocated for exchange of skills between librarians and Wikimedians in the areas of information literacy, fact-checking, information retrieval rather than just imagining that library professionals have all the needed proficiencies in those area. Furthermore, the Central Africa conversation threw up a question on the specific skills a librarian needs to develop to be an effective Wikimedian. This discussion strand had also cropped up in the West and East Africa conversations as many wondered how librarians can know the exact skills that they need to become embedded Wikimedians that can engage robustly with Wikimedia projects beyond editing Wikipedia or making entries on Wikidata.

Nevertheless, the North African Conversation highlighted various challenges existing within the library sector in the region, which include inadequate training that may lead to lack of requisite skills, digitalization, and licensing issues. The panel also mentioned that libraries in some North African countries, are administratively managed by the government and asking that they be trained in skills that would enable the incorporation of Wikimedia projects into

their daily workflow may be problematic without prior advocacy, building of understanding about the benefits of Wikimedia projects in libraries and policy changes where necessary.

2. Attitudinal change

According to participants in the East African conversation, the African library sector cannot seek solutions pertaining to its connections with the outside world without having an honest view of its challenges. The need for a change of attitude towards Wikipedia and sister projects by librarians was mentioned repeatedly in all the virtual conversations, how such bias affects the credibility of such platforms, and then hinders their acceptance as veritable platforms for information service delivery in African libraries of all types. Of particular note was the North African session where the participants were of the view that the jury is still out on whether librarians and users of libraries consider Wikipedia content a credible source of knowledge or not. The question of how Wikimedia projects can be integrated into libraries in Africa when a reasonable number of library and information science professionals were yet to be a part of the Wikimedia movement in the continent then became a knotty issue to untie. According to the session, it was this lack of acceptance that made the African library sector not to discover the non-existent of proper authority control linkages from libraries for African content in Wikipedia and Wikidata. Nevertheless, the East, South and West African conversations professed the belief that there is already a huge swathe of library and information science professionals who are embedded in the Wikimedia movement in Africa as functionaries and leaders in their various user groups and chapter who are already modelling Wikimedia projects as necessary tools for information service delivery in libraries.

The Southern African conversation tackled the issue of attitudinal change from another perspective. The moderator led the librarians in the panel and those in the audience who are wikimedians to recount how they gained the needed skills to work on Wikimedia projects, how they integrate what they learned into their daily workflows where possible by directing people to use Wikipedia and Wikidata for research, WikiCommons for openly licensed images and Wikibooks for free books that they could adapt to suit their purposes. This gives credence to the suggestion of the French West Africa session that if librarians position themselves in the forefront of promoting Wikipedia as a secondary source of knowledge with verifiable references and the best place to start any research, then the platform would gain more acceptance in Africa.

Note should be taken of the fact that all the sessions acknowledged that AfLIA's introduction of the African Librarians Week as an integral part of the global 1Lib1Ref campaign, the *Wikipedia in African libraries* and *Promoting Open Knowledge practices in African Libraries through WikiData* courses brought a number of librarians to their Wikimedia communities. They believed those initiatives changed a lot of mindsets about the place of African libraries within the Wikiverse in Africa as they were the beginning of open doors between libraries and Wikimedia communities in the continent.

3. Collaborations

All the sessions had agitated discussions on how collaborations can happen between the African library sector and the Wikimedia movement in Africa. The West African conversation had highlighted the fact that one of the major objectives of the entire conversation is to strategize on how the two systems could work together as one in a manner that would be advantageous to both entities. The region, after careful analysis of current realities, opined that such collaborations which could be infrastructural, institutional or personal **and** borne out of formal and informal working relationships must be targeted towards particular purposes. For example, both sides could reach an agreement to work toward towards the promotion of African scholarship, knowledge equity, visibility of literary works in indigenous languages etc.

Two instances of collaborations between the library sector and the Wikimedia movement in Africa were mentioned as models that could be studied. The Central Africa conversation spoke of the collaborations between Wikimedia Cameroon User Group and the Library of the Institut Français in Douala. The relationship which has been going on for two years helps the User Group to reduce the cost of renting training spaces, communication challenges, and location restrictions during their trainings, as they have a space at the Library with books and other resources made available for them whenever they have organise a training. Also, the collaboration has been instrumental to the creation of the Wikipedia Douala Club. Library users and other interested participants now join the club at the library and become part of the group's activities since their meetings are held in the library.

Also, the Southern Africa discussion spoke of Randburg Library in Johannesburg, South Africa, as a library where Wikimedia, South Africa Chapter has used to run trainings for Wikipedia and sister projects and where monthly interactions including discussions around Wikimedia take place to encourage the recruitment of new editors and volunteers' retention.

Citing the African Baraza, all the sessions agreed that there is a real potential for growing the Wikimedia movement in Africa through collaborations with African libraries as such projects would be beneficial to not only the librarians but also their wide networks of user communities, irrespective of the library type. The Central Africa panel had gone further to point out that only 2% of Wikimedia contributions come from Africa with less than 8,000 community members (active and inactive editors) from 28 countries in 2023 and about 30 in 2024. Difficulties which include low representation within the Wikimedia polity, lack of reinforcement of capacities and non-involvement of potential key partners such as libraries have bedevilled the African Wikimedia communities. The session therefore strongly advocated for more collaborations between Wikimedia communities in Central Africa and other stakeholders in the knowledge ecosystem in order to grow the number of editors within the continent.

The East African session specifically opined that such collaborations need to occur in order to allow the use of resources in libraries, museums and archives to open up more knowledge about the big-picture challenges of climate change, disinformation, and digital literacy skills within the continent. For the French speaking West African panellists, library spaces, their rich knowledge resources, computers, access to internet and the network of library users were advantages that Wikimedians could take advantage of.

The Central African session also suggested that for a concrete relationship to be established between Wikimedian communities, Wikimedians, librarians and libraries, there is need to have continuous sensitization and training to drive such potential collaborations as well as the determination of what is feasible between both sides as well as encouragement of participation of as many librarians as possible to understand the requirements of working on Wikimedia projects. The case of the Congo Wikimedia Community was mentioned as it has been difficult to contact librarians for planning and implementation of collaborative initiatives. A suggestion was made that going forward, AfLIA should outline the skills librarians need in order to work effectively with the Wikimedia community(ies) in their

countries, provide opportunities for building those competencies (working with Wikimedians) as well as serve as a non-formal connector, where it is needful, between librarians (as individuals or groups) and the Wikimedia movement in different countries.

Advocating for policies that promote Open knowledge in different sectors within the continent was identified as a low hanging fruit for collaborative actions by the Wikimedia movement and library sector in Africa. The East and West African sessions specifically mentioned the possibilities of Wikimedia communities running community engagement activities in libraries to create awareness about topics such as Why Openness matters, Open licences, Wikipedia and Sister projects as examples of Open knowledge platforms. This would create awareness about open knowledge as well as Wikimedia projects and the library as a hub that promotes openness. The South and West African sessions also suggested joint advocacy drives concerning copyright issues and books that could be digitized and published in some Wikimedia projects through libraries. For the North Africans, partnerships of the two sides can lead to partnerships that promote the collection of electronic resources to make accessibility of information resources easier for Wikimedians.

Barriers to collaborations between the two sides which need to be tackled to ensure maximum cooperation and impact as listed by the East Africa session include decision and policymaking within institutions, challenges preventing African Librarians from fully participating and contributing to knowledge such as internet connectivity, lack of digital infrastructure in some libraries and IP blockages. The French West Africa conversation also admitted the existence of administrative bottlenecks when engaging with library institutions especially those under the government while it is easier to deal with libraries affiliated with international organizations such as the Goethe Institut. The West African session pointed out that the inability to massively and readily access library resources online by Wikimedians is a challenge that could be a constraining factor for collaborations between the two sides. The Southern Africa session also suggested that Wikimedians can reach out to libraries rather than waiting to be invited.

The Central, East and West African sessions weighed in from another angle. The sessions pointed out that Wikimedians may also need an attitudinal change pertaining to organizations that they partner with as libraries have not just information resources but also spaces that could be used for meetings and trainings. The sessions went on further to advice

Wikimedians to expand their areas of collaboration to include heritage institutions such as libraries, museums and archives. However, the sessions were divided on whether such collaborations with libraries and allied institutions should occur with individual volunteers or communities within the Wikimedia movement as they considered what libraries and librarians can offer to individual volunteers and/or Wikimedia communities in Africa.

All the sessions also mulled over the possibility of joint research and documentation projects between both sides for the purposes of digitization of library materials, recording of cultural heritage, and gathering the local history of communities. Interestingly, the President of the National association of library, archival and documentation professionals was of Cote D'Ivoire was present in the audience at the West Africa (French speaking) session and he pledged to work towards making the partnership process with Wikimedia communities in his country easier.

4. Wikimedia user group for the African library sector

The East African conversation had framed a question, “Should the African Wikibrarian continue to play active roles in the global movement without a community of its own?” The question had come up as the panelists deliberated on how to effectively integrate Wikimedia projects into library processes. They had gone on to consider the possibility and necessity of having a Wikimedia user group for the library and allied institutions in Africa as an avenue for bringing in more professionals from that field into the movement, opening up libraries for Wikimedia projects and integrating such projects into library routines and services. This was advocated for rather than these professionals participating in campaigns within the Wikimedia communities in Africa as one-day, one week or even one month engagements. They likened Wikimedia projects and librarians to the relationship that exists between a fish and different bodies of water. e.g. when a fish is removed from one lake and thrown into another lake, it adapts to the new environment, survives and enjoys that environment. Thus, the session strongly believed that professionals in libraries and other allied institutions can fit in snugly into the Wikimedia movement.

This concern had also been raised in the West African conversation as the panelists debated the idea and possibility of the library sector having a user community or continuing to play roles in the already existing user groups in their respective countries. They had noted the fact that African Librarians play critical roles in transforming library clientele into user

communities within their localities and wondered if that could also be applicable if they decide to have a Wikimedia user group. In enumerating the challenges of integrating Wikimedia projects into African libraries and in forging sustainable working relationships between both sides, the North African conversation had broached the idea of whether a network of African librarians forming a new Wikimedia user group could be the needed panacea.

Conclusion

The Conversations provided avenues for both sides to gain insights about possibilities, challenges and pathways for greater collaborative initiatives that would enrich African content in Wikimedia projects and bring in more editors into the Wikimedia movement in Africa. The responses from the panellists and participants underscored the importance of the Conversations. Despite the extended meeting duration for some of the sessions, the commitment of the panellists and audience was evident, with many staying on long after the scheduled time. In some Wikimedia organised events, audiences remain only for reimbursements, but with the virtual conversations between the African library sector and Wikimedians, it was clear that genuine interest and dedication were at play—a testament to the significance of this project.

The diversity of the viewpoints of the panellists was also commendable as the Conversations featured librarians from different library types, academic staff members in tertiary institutions, Wikimedians from different professions including those with emerging experience in Wikimedia projects as well as seasoned Wikimedians, librarians who are deeply embedded in the Wikimedia movement and the curious. This mix of backgrounds and experiences provided opportunities for balancing of perspectives and gave the conversations a hue of reality that provided clear pictures of what exists currently, potentials of what could be achieved and signposts for collaborative initiatives between the two sides that could positively change the trajectory of Wikimedia movement in the continent.

Actionable points

1. The Central Africa conversation emphasized that there are specific competencies for effective contribution to Wikimedia projects. Wikimedia communities in different

African can take up the challenge of training librarians in this regard, while the library sector through AfLIA or in-country would be encouraged to take advantage of such opportunities to acquire more skills necessary for navigating adroitly within the Wikimedia ecosystem.

2. The North African session highlighted the need for AfLIA to work with Wikimedia communities in a non-formal manner and as a thematic organization that is not in Wikimedia network to institute clear structures for collaborative initiatives between Wikimedia community and the African library sector. This may include;
 - organising virtual and physical engagements between Wikimedians and library and information science professionals to interact, share ideas, understand themselves better and plot collaborations as they deem feasible
 - Brokering collaborations between the two sectors as a non-formal connector by serving as a ‘guarantor’ for libraries as they engage with Wikimedia communities. This is important as some libraries may not be allowed to enter into partnership agreements freely with outside organisations but may be allowed to do so under the umbrella of AfLIA as a continental library association
 - Updating the library sector with information about Wikimedia platforms, tools and upgrades as well as opportunities for training.
 - Exploring the possibility of setting up a committee for joint research projects to be undertaken by the Wikimedia movement in Africa and the library sector. Such a committee would have representatives from both sides, sit virtually and roll out guidelines as well as suggestions of what can be investigated, how the results of such could grow the Africa Wikimedia communities and knowledge about Africa in Wikimedia platforms.
 - Advocating for changes that would bring learning about Wikimedia projects, skills and tools into the curricula for library education and training departments in tertiary institutions across the continent. This would be targeted at positively influencing the inclusion of Wikimedia projects as practical platforms for digital literacy trainings, and open access workshops.

As suggested by the East, North and West African conversations, a network of African librarians and allied professionals need to work together to set up a user group that would bring in more librarians into the Wikimedia movement, open up libraries for

Wikimedia communities and be intentional about up-skilling librarians and integrating Wikimedia projects into the routines and services of African libraries of all types.

On the other hand, AfLIA and Library Associations at the national level need to create Wikimedia Sections or Interest/Working Groups to signal the acceptance of Wikimedia projects in the library sector as well as serve as a gathering point for these professionals to learn more about possibilities with Wikimedia projects. The suggested User Group and Section or Interest/Working Group will work together to establish and deepen the use of Wikimedia projects for backend processing of resources and frontend provision of information services by African cultural and documentary heritage institutions. This is expected to spiral into inclusion of Wikimedia projects in the Open Access policies of libraries in due course.

Appendix 1

Team leads, dates and advertorials for the virtual conversations

Panellists for the virtual conversations for the virtual conversations

| S/N | Region | Date of virtual conversation | Language | Moderator | Panellists |
|-----|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| 1 | West Africa | 7 th November, 2024 | English | Olushola Olaniyan, <i>President, Wikimedia User Group, Nigeria</i> | Nina Asheshi, Jeremiah Ugwulebo PhD, Sadik Shahadu |
| 2 | Central Africa | 14 th November, 2024 | English and French | Georges Fodouop <i>President, WikiFranca</i> | Minette Lontsi, Ferdinand Tchoutouo |
| 3 | North Africa | 19 th November, 2024 | French | Afek Ben Chahed <i>General Secretary, WikiFranca and Community Facilitator for Wiki in Africa</i> | Asima Shrive Bi Mohamed Bershunda Madame Zainab |
| 4 | East Africa | 26 th November, 2024 | English | Alice Kibombo <i>Wikibrarian, Uganda Wikimedia User Group</i> | Carol Mwaura, Michael Maua, Andrew Ojulong |
| 5 | West Africa (French) | 27 th November, 2024 | French | Koffi Kangah Donatien <i>co-fondateur, Groupe d'utilisateurs Wikimedia Cote d'Ivoire</i> | Adjovi Essenam FUMEY, Fatima Oury Sow Gue, Mermoze Adodo |
| 6 | Southern Africa | 28 th November, 2024 | English | Bobby Shabangu, <i>President, Wikimedia South Africa Chapter</i> | Ingrid Thomson, Matete Lesele, Jibril, Lynn |

Central Africa



Série De Conversations Virtuelles: Édition Afrique Centrale

Une Conversation Entre Bibliothécaires Africains Et Wikimédiens

Jeudi 14 Novembre 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.afia.net for more details

Moderateur: Georges Fodouop, Co-fondateur, Groupe d'utilisateurs Wikimedia Cameroun et Président, WikiFranca

East Africa



The banner for the East Africa Virtual Conversation Series features a light green background with a subtle pattern of African masks. On the left, there are three circular icons: the Aflia logo, a map of Africa, and the Wikimedia logo. The main title 'Virtual Conversation Series: East Africa Edition' is in large, bold, dark green font. Below it, the subtitle 'A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians' is in a smaller, dark green font. The date and time are listed as 'Tuesday, 26th November 2024' and '10:30 am UTC' with corresponding icons. A call to action 'Visit web.aflia.net for more details' is in a rounded rectangle. On the right, there is a portrait of Alice Kibombo, the moderator, with her name and title 'Moderator: Alice Kibombo, Senior Program Officer (Libraries), WMF' in a green box.

Virtual Conversation Series: East Africa Edition
A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians

Tuesday, 26th November 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.aflia.net for more details

Moderator: Alice Kibombo, Senior Program Officer (Libraries), WMF

North Africa



The banner for the North Africa Virtual Conversation Series features a light green background with a subtle pattern of African masks. On the left, there are three circular icons: the Aflia logo, a map of Africa, and the Wikimedia logo. The main title 'Virtual Conversation Series: North Africa Edition' is in large, bold, dark green font. Below it, the subtitle 'A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians' is in a smaller, dark green font. The date and time are listed as 'Tuesday, 19th November 2024' and '10:30 am UTC' with corresponding icons. A call to action 'Visit web.aflia.net for more details' is in a rounded rectangle. On the right, there is a portrait of Afek Ben Chahed, the moderator, with her name and title 'Moderator: Afek Ben Chahed, General Secretary, WikiFranca and Community Facilitator, Wiki in Africa' in a green box.

Virtual Conversation Series: North Africa Edition
A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians

Tuesday, 19th November 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.aflia.net for more details

Moderator: Afek Ben Chahed, General Secretary, WikiFranca and Community Facilitator, Wiki in Africa

Southern Africa



The banner for the Southern Africa Virtual Conversation Series features a light green background with a subtle pattern of African masks. On the left, there are three circular icons: the Aflia logo, a map of Africa, and the Wikimedia logo. The main title 'Virtual Conversation Series: Southern Africa Edition' is in large, bold, dark green font. Below it, the subtitle 'A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians' is in a smaller, dark green font. The date and time are listed as 'Thursday, 28th November 2024' and '10:30 am UTC' with corresponding icons. A call to action 'Visit web.aflia.net for more details' is in a rounded rectangle. On the right, there is a portrait of Bobby Shabangu, the moderator, with his name and title 'Moderator: Bobby Shabangu, President, Wikimedia South Africa Chapter' in a green box.

Virtual Conversation Series: Southern Africa Edition
A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians

Thursday, 28th November 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.aflia.net for more details

Moderator: Bobby Shabangu, President, Wikimedia South Africa Chapter

West Africa (English Speaking)



The banner features a light green background with a subtle pattern of African masks. On the left, there are three circular logos: the Aflia logo, a map of Africa, and the Wikimedia logo. The main title 'Virtual Conversation Series: West Africa (English) Edition' is in large, bold, dark green font. Below it, the subtitle 'A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians' is in a smaller, dark green font. The date and time are displayed in a green box: 'Thursday, 7th November 2024' and '10:30 am UTC'. A call to action button says 'Visit web.aflia.net for more details'. On the right, there is a portrait of the moderator, Olushola Olaniyan, wearing a blue Hollister polo shirt. A green banner at the bottom right identifies him as the Moderator.

Virtual Conversation Series: West Africa (English) Edition

A conversation between African Librarians & Wikimedians

Thursday, 7th November 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.aflia.net for more details

Moderator: Olushola Olaniyan, President, Wikimedia User Group, Nigeria

West Africa (French Speaking)



The banner features a light green background with a subtle pattern of African masks. On the left, there are three circular logos: the Aflia logo, a map of Africa, and the Wikimedia logo. The main title 'Série De Conversations Virtuelles: Édition Afrique de l'Ouest' is in large, bold, dark green font. Below it, the subtitle 'Une conversation entre bibliothécaires africains et wikimédiens' is in a smaller, dark green font. The date and time are displayed in a green box: 'mercredi 27 novembre 2024' and '10:30 am UTC'. A call to action button says 'Visit web.aflia.net for more details'. On the right, there is a portrait of the moderator, Kangah Donatien KOFFI, wearing a light blue shirt. A green banner at the bottom right identifies him as the Modérateur.

Série De Conversations Virtuelles: Édition Afrique de l'Ouest

Une conversation entre bibliothécaires africains et wikimédiens

mercredi 27 novembre 2024 | **10:30 am UTC**

Visit web.aflia.net for more details

Modérateur : Kangah Donatien KOFFI, Consultant en intégrité de l'information et Co-fondateur, Groupe d'utilisateurs Wikimedia Côte d'Ivoire