



Goethe-Institut Nairobi P.O.Box: 49468 . 00100 GPO Nairobi

Call for proposals for library talks

To what extent does orality play a role in daily life on the African continent, how does it manifest itself? Is oral communication in danger? Are there developments that threaten the oral tradition?

Is orality more pronounced in the countryside and in villages than in the city? Are there differences, and if so, which ones? Are there situations in which oral and written communication are in conflict?

Why are there fewer libraries on the African continent than on other continents? How do these libraries function and what are their tasks? Is there an African library concept? Are there already formats in libraries that build a bridge between oral and written communication? What role can griots and storytellers play in libraries?

In 2019, experts met in Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Ghana, Cameroon and South Africa to discuss these questions. In the process, the library in Africa was questioned as a Western and colonial concept of knowledge transfer and knowledge preservation. Moreover, alternative forms of conservation and knowledge transfer were addressed. Particular attention was paid to the orality and the role of digitisation in the transmission of information and the transfer of knowledge.

This year, 2020, we are organising a competition where libraries from various African countries can participate with projects in this context.

The maximum budget per project is 3000 Euros.

Who can submit an application?

Any Kenyan library.

The project is subject to the following for approval

- the quality and innovation of the project
- the consideration of the context (see the description of the topic above)
- appropriate budget planning
- the implementation of the projects must be completed by the end of 2021 at the latest.

Which documents must be submitted?

- a description of the project (max. two pages) in the respective national language

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- a calculation of the costs

Who decides?

- a jury composed of independent experts makes the decision about a grant.

How to apply

- please send the documents listed above electronically to elizabeth.mairura@goethe.de

Application deadline is the 31 August, 2020

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