

# Activities

## Chad Centre of ITI (Africa)

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Caravane 2016



### Activities 2014-2016

The Chadian ITI Centre for the 2014-2015 period conducted a variety of activities with arts institutions and theatre artists in Chad. These activities have focused on training workshops, professional gatherings, festivals and the World Days of Theatre and Dance. The activities have been carried out thanks to the goodwill of theatre professionals and a few rare partners. Here we describe the activities followed by a concluding round-up of our challenges and recommendations.

### Training Workshops

Within the scope of training, two acting workshops led by theatre professionals were set up by the Chadian Centre for Young Artists in order to help young performers. These workshops, which are held once a year, saw a total of 38 participants and lasted for two-weeks. The aim here is to ensure that the workshops are sustainable and become permanent training sessions in a country where there currently exists no theatre school that can teach practical techniques to those aspiring to the theatre. At present, everything we do is done virtually without resources, and yet the will exists to succeed in ensuring that such training is sustainable. It is our hope that one day we shall have partners who will help us to build a theatre school in Chad.

### Professional Gatherings

We organised professional gatherings with theatre practitioners in order to discuss agendas and important issues relating to our industry. During the

past two years we have also created two gatherings along the following themes: the creation and diffusion of theatre and the status of theatre artists. These meetings have given theatre practitioners the chance to address issues and to offer solutions in the form of recommendations to Chad's cultural authorities. This was also an opportunity for the theatre community not only to have a framework within which they can discuss their profession but also to meet up, get to know each other and initiate a synergy for solidarity.

### Festivals

Along with the Théâtre Maoundôh-Culture, the Chadian Centre jointly organised the Festival International des Arts Dramatiques et Plastiques pour l'Union et la Paix (International Theatre Festival of Dramatic Arts and Plastics for Unity and Peace – FIADPUP), the 8th edition of which took place in N'Djamena from 3 to 10 November 2014. We welcome the fact that this biennial festival brought together so many theatre companies and artists. This latest edition also was part of the 25th anniversary celebration of the Théâtre Maoundôh-Culture.

The next edition of FIADPUP will take place in November 2016.

### World Days

For some years now, in Chad we have been annually celebrating World Theatre Day and International Dance Day. For World Theatre Day we celebrated it as we always do with the participation of the entire Chadian theatre community. The content was supported by the Minister of Culture and in the media, conferences,

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Event of the Chad Centre

debates, readings of the Messages, artistic parades and shows in the city, and these activities were also carried out for International Dance Day. These days are opportunities for us to talk about our profession and, especially, to create a lobbying platform for our art with partners and the community.

We would like to conclude by saying that, no matter the situation, the Chadian ITI Centre is committed to pursuing its activities with whatever resources it has to hand, despite the lack of partners, particularly theatre partners. We remain convinced that the evidence of our current activities in Chad's cultural environment will bear fruit for the benefit of our cultural and artistic development.

We also remain convinced that in order to see the theatre regain its credentials as it had at the end of the previous century, it is imperative to create a strong synergy on a national, subregional and international level. Projects involving cooperation and exchanges of skills and especially advocacy work with the authorities and partners will allow us to develop the sector and to attract young people to the arts.