

## **African Creative Economy launches website**

Arterial Network have officially launched the African Creative Economy website, <a href="www.africancreativeeconomy.org">www.africancreativeeconomy.org</a>, in the run up to the opening of the 2012 African Creative Economy (ACE) Conference by Hon. Youssou N'Dour in Dakar, Senegal.



The website will provide general information about the 2012 ACE conference, taking place from 14-16 November 2012 at Hotel Ngor, Diarama in Dakar, as well as practical information about Senegal and real time updates of the event proceedings.

Commenting on the launch of the website, communications and marketing manager of Arterial Network, Nancy Onyango said, "We are extremely excited about the launch of the ACE conference website which I hope will give artists, cultural entrepreneurs, researchers, arts practitioners, journalists and conference delegates the opportunity to follow us every step of the way by either getting program and logistics updates during the preparation of the event or real time updates of the conference proceedings.

We have made the provision of interactivity on the website and relaying live updates via Twitter <u>#ace2012dakar</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. Finally, launching of the website would not be possible without the incredible support of Nelam Services based in Senegal. We look forward to a successful event."

## What is the African Creative Economy Conference?

The conference creates a platform, unprecedented for the coming together of upcoming, established and pioneering arts practitioners, intellectuals, policy makers and patrons in powerful debate and energetic collaboration.

The first conference on the African Creative Economy (ACE) was held at AACC Conference Centre in Nairobi, Kenya in December 2011. Over 120 delegates from 35 Africa countries and internationally attended the forum in East Africa. The 2011 conference assessed and shared some of the research done on the African creative economy. It also developed advocacy strategies in support of the African creative sector with a view to rigorously interrogate the available research and the relationship between the African creative economy and development, cultural diversity and other contemporary cultural themes.

The African Creative Economy Conference is the second to be hosted by Arterial Network, a network of individuals, organisations, donors, companies and institutions engaged in the African cultural sector. The pan-African Network, currently active in 40 African countries was formed in 2007 to support the effectiveness and growth of the African arts and culture civil society and to enhance the sustainability of creative industries in Africa.

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