



PRESS RELEASE  
PARIS, JUNE 11th, 2020

## 2nd edition JFD Africa Educate, Finance and Inspire for an inclusive digital world.

Join the digital edition on July 2nd at 6pm (GMT)  
Discover the agenda and subscribe on [www.joinjfd.com](http://www.joinjfd.com)

*The health crisis has not been the end of the second edition of JFD Africa, which will take place on July 2nd at 6pm (GMT), simultaneously broadcasted on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and joinjfd.com, to celebrate African women who are changing the world thanks to digital technology.*

*With Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary General of La Francophonie, as its godmother, JFD Africa 2020 will focus on the crucial role of digital in addressing major global issues and the importance of greater inclusion of women in STEM.*



Left to right: Afua Osei (She Leads Africa), Yacine Barro-Bourgault (Microsoft Africa), Marjorie Paillon (France 24) in Dakar during the 1st edition of JFD Africa.



## Women & Digital, the solution for a fairer and more inclusive world.

During this health crisis, digital technology has come to the forefront as an essential tool for our ecosystems. It has allowed us to stay informed, to maintain social contact, to work from home...

All over the world, concrete technological solutions to deal with the crisis have emerged. Africa in particular, has once again demonstrated its capacity for innovation and the creativity of its youth: hackathons have sprung up all over the continent to develop MedTech, GreenTech, e-learning solutions... made in Africa.

World champions in women's entrepreneurship<sup>1</sup>, true backbones of the African economy and formidable levers of acceleration for the inclusive growth of the continent, women must be trusted to overcome the coming economic crisis because they are the bearers of solutions for a fairer and more inclusive world.

For 8 years JFD has been leading initiatives for an inclusive digital world where women's voices will count. Through testimonials and exchanges on the continent's challenges, the digital edition of JFD Africa 2020 wants to promote African women who are working to change the lines, to encourage vocations among the youngest, while challenging preconceived ideas.

*"JFD's ambition is to go beyond generations, genders, borders, beyond awareness to reach parity well before 2120<sup>2</sup>. We are delighted to count on the support of Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary General of La Francophonie, godmother of the event, for whom inclusion is a priority."*, says **Delphine Remy-Boutang, CEO the Bureau & JFD, President of GEN France.**

The agenda for July 2nd will be based on 3 main topics:

- *Women and Science: education, the first lever of development*, with **Isabelle Bébéar**, Head of International & European Affairs Bpifrance, **Virginie Dias-Tagnon**, Talent Director for L'Oréal, in charge of talents for the African countries, **Jacqueline Mukarukundo**, co-founder of Wastezon, Margaret Entrepreneur Africa 2020, **Afua Osei**, co-founder of She Leads Africa, Margaret of Honor 2020 and **Fatimata Wane**, journalist France 24.

<sup>1</sup>21.8% of women in Africa are entrepreneurs - source Gem Women entrepreneurship 2018-2019.

<sup>2</sup> 2120 is the date by which the Gender Gap Report (2020) estimates that parity will be achieved in the world.



- *Women and Tech: the keys to sustainable and equitable economic growth*, with **Boutheina Guermazi**, Director of digital development for World Bank, **Sinatou Saka**, journalist and editorial project manager RFI & France 24, etc.
- *Diving in the heart of the Rwandan tech ecosystem*, with **Clarisse Iribagiza**, CEO DMMHehe, **Nathalie Munyampenda**, General Manager Next Einstein Forum and **Dounia Ben Mohammed**, Editor-in-chief, Africa News Agency.

*"Women, with their capacity for innovation and adaptation, have this ability to play the role of transformers. When everyone is allowed to participate in change, that change is possible. Today, despite the growing opportunities offered by the digital sector, gender inequalities remain, preventing women from taking full advantage of its opportunities and contributing to its development. I am very proud to be the godmother of this edition of JFD, an event that works towards greater parity in a sector whose essential role for the future is well established",* confirms JFD Africa 2020's godmother, **Louise Mushikiwabo, Secretary General of la Francophonie**

*"As a woman in the tech sector, it is very difficult for me to imagine a digital world where women do not play a major role not only as users but also as creators of the technologies of the future. A forum like JFD is an opportunity to remind us loud and clear that the future of digital technology lies with women. Bridging the digital divide that deprives more than 300 million women in low- and middle-income countries of access to the Internet is fundamental. Broadening access to digital jobs by investing in the training of young girls is equally important.",* says **Boutheina Guermazi, Director of digital development for World Bank.**

The edition will close with a musical performance by the Cameroonian singer Patricia Essong.

**MEDIA KIT :** <https://bit.ly/MediaKit-JFDAfrica2020>  
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**About JFD**

Created by the Bureau since 2013, JFD (Digital Women’s Day) has been honoring and connecting women who are working to revolutionize the world through digital technology. JFD aims to inspire and encourage women to reveal themselves and to innovate. JFD is also a club founded in 2016. Active in Paris and since 2019 also in Libreville, Gabon, the club consists of a network of 400 influential women who meet throughout the year to share and develop their connections during exclusive conferences and events. In 2018, the Margaret Foundation was launched to support women’s projects, including offering scholarships and training for young women wanting to pursue careers in the innovation sector and raise awareness of entrepreneurship from high school onward. In 2019 JFD published the "JFD Manifesto for an Inclusive Digital World" signed by major groups that have set annual targets favoring gender diversity and feminization of digital professions. [www.joinjfd.com](http://www.joinjfd.com)  
 Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Youtube : @joinjfd

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# JFD AFRICA 2020

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July 2nd, 6pm GMT

[joinjfd.com](http://joinjfd.com)

**JFD** Journée de la Femme Digitale

**DWD** Digital Women's Day

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