Taking action for women’s empowerment

Janet de Melo
In training at the Women’s Digital Center in Rennes, France with “Initiatives au Féminin” NGO

Each workshop (refreshers in Excel, Word, PowerPoint, mock job interviews on Skype) has helped me develop and strengthen my digital skills. But that’s not all: it has also given me confidence in myself. I’ve had some great experiences with the Orange Foundation team who show their solidarity and are highly professional. In April 2016, I found a job at Cercle Paul Bert as a receptionist. One piece of advice I would like to give women: be confident and listen to advice.

Perspectives

Cyrille Christine Mfoula Atsama
In training at the Women’s Digital Center in Yaoundé, Cameroon

As a single mum with two children, I was one of the first women to receive training at the Digital Center in Yaoundé. I became more comfortable using computers. Before then, I had never touched one. I was what you’d call ‘computer illiterate’. Now I know how to use Word and Excel. It will really help me in my job in the restaurant trade.

200 Women’s Digital Centers in 2017 in 18 countries

Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, France, Guinea Conakry, India, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Poland, Roumania, Senegal, Spain and Tunisia.

11,000 women trained in Europe and Africa since 2015

Women receive trainings according to their needs from 6 months and up to a year in groups of 15 to 30.

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Why?
Because women’s empowerment depends on training and knowledge in digital technology and management skills, the Orange Foundation created the Women’s Digital Centers. In certain countries, they provide women with access to entrepreneurial activities, while in others they help women to look for jobs, return to work or change careers.

With who?
In Europe and Africa, The Orange Foundation helps underprivileged women by training them in partnership with NGO’s in the field of social inclusion. Orange employees can also contribute by sharing their knowledge and skills with the women.

How?
The Women’s Digital Centers offer long-term training of six months to a year. Some of the women have learned basic and vital skills such as writing, maths, and how to use a computer and tablet. Others have learned to use more advanced software and the internet.

Women’s Digital Centers
Giving (back) economic empowerment to unemployed women in Europe and Africa.

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