



≡ WFSJ PROJECTS UPDATE



≡ Training Journalists: Infectious Diseases

A four day Training of Trainers workshop on infectious diseases will be organized in Abidjan (Ivory Coast – 12-16 September). Two science-health journalists from France and Germany will train 9 journalists from Sub-Saharan Africa. All are either experts in science and health related issues or have closely covered the recent Ebola crisis in Western Africa. Their expertise as well as their knowledge of the region will be used to develop a course curriculum on infectious diseases.

The resulting course will in turn help train non-specialized local journalists at three workshops in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia. It will provide journalists with a health and science reporting toolbox tailored to reporting in outbreak situations. The workshops are slated to take place in October and November 2015. Two research associate students from universities in Canada and Ivory Coast will also be present in Abidjan to launch an applied research component. It will explore barriers and best conditions needed to enhance information uptake in health and science communication in the region. The journalists attending the workshops will also help collect some of the data.

The overall goal of this **training program** is to help local journalists better understand the nature, context and response actions in public health emergencies, disease outbreaks and potential pandemics.

≡ Training Journalists: Ebola & Pandemic Influenza

The Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops in French and English on Ebola & Pandemic Influenza will bring together 48 journalists from Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Senegal, and the Ivory Coast, Egypt, Jordan amongst other places.

The workshops aim to create a pool of local trainers by **focusing on the competency of journalists in public health emergencies reporting**. They in turn, become the primary knowledge sharers with their colleagues back home.



The first workshop is in French and will be held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast (9-10 September). It is followed by a workshop in English in Nairobi, Kenya (14-15 September). A third workshop will be organized later this year.

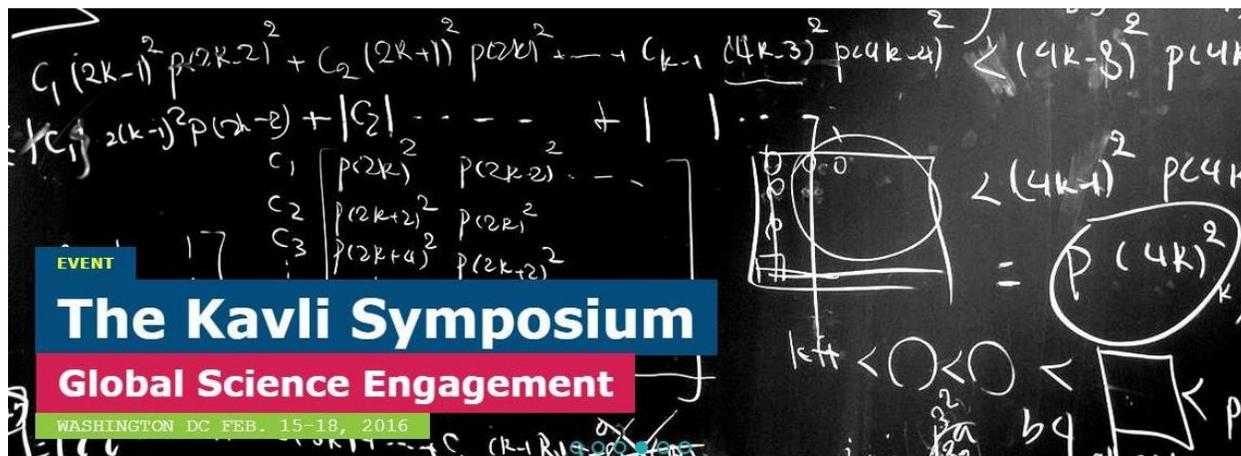
These workshops are organized in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) organized are part of the WFSJ's efforts to help build a professional network of local trainers in Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean region. WFSJ is planning to organize follow-up projects that will nurture this network of local trainers in the coming years.

≡ Hepatitis C: A toolbox for journalists

On World Hepatitis Day (28 July) the WFSJ announced a new initiative to help journalists report on the **staggering toll of Hepatitis C** (HCV) as well as the scientific and political barriers to treating the disease. The new website is a toolbox written by journalists for journalists to expose the complex issues preventing effective prevention and treatment of the disease as well as a database of HCV experts from around the world who can be interviewed on a range of issues. The resources on the website are organized by theme and are specifically designed to help journalists provide strong and accurate coverage of HCV. The modules also include video interviews with leading experts. You can access the HCV website [here](#).

≡ The 2nd Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism

The 2nd Kavli Symposium (San Jose, California, 16-18 February) focused primarily on **data mining and innovative data tools** that could benefit the international community of science journalists worldwide. The comprehensive Symposium report can be found [here](#).



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≡ WFSJ COMMUNICATION

≡ New website

We are pleased to announce the new WFSJ website is now online. It is a big step away from the previous model. The site is easier to handle, enabling us to upload posts and pages at a much faster pace. But the major improvement is in the accessibility through the clear and straightforward menu. Visitors to the site get immediate info on our current projects and access to the different science journalism resources that

are made available. The website is also responsive and thus accessible on mobile phones and tablets. The website URL has, of course, not changed: www.wfsj.org.

≡ The blog

The new website also features a blog that will be further developed in the coming months. The blog will be able to feature news coming from our member associations and individual science journalists. WFSJ member associations will be able to upload posts themselves with news and relevant information for the science journalism community. The blog's goal is to strengthen the communication between our members, but to keep it relevant and active we will definitely require your input. [Go to the blog...](#)

≡ The WFSJ Facebook page

A recent communication survey indicated a lot of our followers use Facebook to stay up-to-date on the Federations' projects and activities. To this day the WFSJ did not have its own Facebook page and was compelled to communicate through a non-branded group. As a consequence messages were posted not in the WFSJ's name but through that of an employee. The creation of [our own Facebook page](#) gives us full editorial control and allows us also to follow other pages that are relevant to the WFSJ's mission and projects. The WFSJ is also on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

≡ Sign-up for our newsletter

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