



## **CAPTIVE Project**

SENIOR EXPERT NOTE n° 4

Purpose of this note : **Countries notice**

33 notices of some countries of origin of the migration have been done.

**What can we intend to expect from these notices?**

**Technical and objectives informations.**

**It is important that these notices leave no place in the subjective data to support prejudices. Elements have to light on the economic, legal, socio-demographic and political environment of the country of origin. Shining a light upon of the particular context to the professionals and association in Europe.**

The notices have heterogenous presentations.

We can find different parts :

- Map
- Picture of the flag
- Description and explanation of the flag
- Primary information : population, capital city, other cities, total area, languages, ethnic groups,
- religion/ beliefs
- Religion Today
- Currency
- Economic Situation
- Political background
- Cultural traditions
- Education
- Migrations
- Migration in a Deteriorating Context
- Gender roles and Statuses
- Gender based violence



## Remarks and propositions

- there is no homogeneity of the contexts elements between the country notices
- Some notices do not have any geopolitical information, no laws and rights context.
- There is no public health indication, no demographical indications (% by gender and by age)
- Integrate in all notices, at the end : „DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet is intended for informational purpose only. The information provided is not exhaustive and does not cover all political, social, religious or other aspects of the country in question. »
- for all the presented elements it is important to have the source of the information. It is not systematic.
- The presence of contents is great (like Afghanistan)
- It would be important to have some public health informations (in the WHO website : gender mortality rate, infantile mortality rate, mortality rate birth, poverty rate,...)
- It would also be important to have some geographical informations (a map with the area (desert, forest, ... and the work (agriculture, ...))
- It would be important to have some demographical information (% of female and male, the representation pro ages,...)
- Remove the cultural traditions part
- Be careful with the choice of expressions. In the different notices, they are many 'not neutrals' expressions

For exemple „*This means that when two Congolese people meet at random, it is extremely unlikely they will speak the same native language* »

What is the information here ? it is a foreign and oriented vision. What we need in this document is a neutral technical information. So the document needs to be cleaned of all this little expressions.

Or « *Older people are greeted and served first, admired and respected. The most common greeting is a handshake. Smiling is considered very important;* »

Or Republic of Albania : « *Lekë Dukagjini's kanun is an ethnological and cultural wealth of Albania. In a people whose history is marked by foreign administration, local customs spread over dozens or even hundreds of centuries are welcome to reinforce national identity.* »



What does it mean ? It is not possible to introduce it in one sentence without explanations and nuances.

*'In Somalia, if two people of the same gender are conversing, they can come close to each other, make eye contact and touch. When unmarried men and women are talking, they must address each other in a professional and detached manner, and touching is discouraged.*

*(...)Somali people are very outgoing and open people, who like to converse and interact. »*

## - Details with some notices

### Exemple 1 : 'The Democratic Republic of the Congo'

#### - Change : Religion/ Beliefs with **Religions**

They are many religions and the word „Beliefs” alone is inappropriate, because all religions have beliefs, but so do all humans. The religions are, most of them, syncretism, so the word 'Religions' is more adapted and doesn't go on the complex ground of beliefs, which needs many years, many discussions and details of explanations.

In this direction it would be good to remove expressions like this one: „Children are thought to have close ties to the spirit world, which can lead them to be accused of sorcery and to be cast out of families. »

The subject is too complex for being mentioned like that. The document must be professional and impeccable, but also must be readable to everyone. Expressions like that could give discredit the global work.

However, the mention « Many people also believe in 'evil spirits' and witchcraft. », needs to be accompanied by bibliographical references to have more informations.

I would prefer : « Beliefs in spirits and witchcraft are always omnipresent. »

## -The part : Cultural Traditions



I shall not keep this part. It is a very difficult and complex subject. All countries do have many ethnic groups, and each group does have many traditions...

Therefore it is impossible to be precise and accurate thus leading to possible prejudice.

What is the objective of this part ?

The reference <http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Democratic-Republic-of-the-Congo.html#ixzz55TenlFH7> « is not scientific.

**CAPTIVE must be a scientific and technical group, therefore I would delete this part in all notices.**

-Education part : perfect

-Gender roles and Statures

Ok but after the part « The relative status of women and men... I'm not sure that the général **informations** are adapted for the **purpose** of this work

With the mention : « Read more: <http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Democratic-Republic-of-the-Congo.html#ixzz55TcnlM8S> », I would give scientific bibliographic sources

- Gender based violence

It would be interesting to give some subtitle (post war situation, FGM, ...

This last part is very well written. Just mention the sources. It is very important.

- **Exemple 2 : Ivory Coast**

Title : « Belief » Maybe better : Religions?

The part : Cultural traditions. It s about the demographic and education/school



enrollment but in an indistinct way. Then the part about the houses, the clothes, the mask... are so general that it doesn't give a real vision of the country and can be wrong.... So I would not keep it.

I would also not keep this part :

*« The State has done a lot of efforts to eliminate discriminatory attitudes and traditional harmful practices but there is a persistence of adverse cultural stereotypes as well as patriarchal attitudes, for this reasons the country suffers from widespread gender inequality. Although marriage customs are changing and becoming more Westernized, a large majority engage in traditional native wedding rituals. Divorce, although not common, is socially acceptable among most ethnic groups*

*In rural areas men plow the land and take care of the crops while the women grow vegetables and other basic foods, collect water and fuel, tend to domestic needs and childrearing, spin, weave and produce pottery to sell. In general, men have the most important civic and governmental positions,*

*in addition to the role of the main tribe in the villages. Religious roles, from shamans to Catholic priests to Muslim imams, are dominated by men. Government policy encourages full participation by women in business, but generally there is a bias among employers to hiring women, whom they consider less dependable because of their potential pregnancy, so the woman remains marginalized and deprived of basic social service*

*Women are underrepresented in most professions and in the managerial sector as a whole. Some women also encounter difficulty in obtaining loans, as they cannot meet the lending criteria mandated by banks, including title to a house and production of profitable cash crops, specifically coffee and cocoa. However, women are paid on an equal scale with men in the formal business sector. Men continue to dominate managerial positions and enjoy the most career mobility, usually due to a higher level of education and connections with other businessmen. The general level of schooling in Côte d'Ivoire is very low, especially for girls: in the northern areas of the country, under the influence of tradition, the population remains reluctant to educate girls, who are often responsible for domestic tasks*

*The social organization of Akan is basically built around the "matriclan", the matriarchal clan, where their identity, inheritance, health and politics are determined. All founders are women, but men generally have positions of leadership within society, based on their relationship through their mothers and sisters . It is expected that man will not only keep his family but also his relatives.*

*Also Senufo people belong to their mother's family group, power and land are passed down through a mother's family line to her sister's sons. In the Baoule village, the women live with their husbands' families while among the Senufo, husbands and wives stay in different places with men living in rectangular houses and their wives occupying round ones. When girls get married and leave home, it is the responsibility of the sons to care for the elders*



*of the household. Mandè have a patrilineal kinship system and patriarchal society such as the Bété group, although monogamy is now widespread. Despite there a Law allowing women greater control of their property, in most traditional societies, as the Bete and Juula groups, inheritance is passed down to the through the father's line to the sons, women do not have the right to inherit land but only to use that of their husbands or families,*

*Among the Kru and other peoples of the south-western forest zone, dwellings are clustered around a central open area. Women do most of the daily work, both at home and in the fields, where they grow such crops as yams corn (maize), cassava (manioc), and peanuts (groundnuts). The men are responsible for hunting, gathering kola nuts and oil palm nuts, and fishing.* <sup>16</sup> «

It is very oriented, not precise, and finally subjective. So it would be better to remove it.

« Female genital mutilation remains quite widespread in Côte d'Ivoire, practiced in early childhood. »

where is this information coming from? I have found the exact opposite in ont part of Ivory Cast... So, just like in other countries of West Africa, there is no generality. The age varies between baby to young adult. Therefore I would not be so precise, because it gives discutable information. Furthermore there is no mention of the sources. It is Ok for the other mentions in the text, they are very good but not everything.

### **-Exemple 3 : Mali**

For the part Cultural tradition : just change it with Religions.

And the part « islam praticed is moderalte » is perfect, but it is important with the political situation to introduce that they are now victims of extremist movement. There is no mention of the terrible historical crisis which they are living at the moment. The family, women and men are victims from this intervention of extrimist group and it changes the country's history, adding more victims. So it is absolutely important to mention it.

Référence : <http://www.rfi.fr/hebdo/20180629-crise-malienne-vue-depuis-camps-civils-touareg-livre-essai>

<https://journals.openedition.org/echogeo/14192>



The geopolitical context must be presented.

### **Exemple 4 : Morocco**

Part Cultural Tradition : I'm sorry, but the contents are established with subjective elements which can be classified as « clichés ». So I shall remove this part.

It would be more interesting to have some legal information on the rights of women, on the intervention of NGO's (or lack of), on the % of schooling...

### **Exemple 5 : Sahraouis**

For the Sahraouis it could be interesting to include in the reference (internation researchers group- : <http://www.ouiso.eu>

### **Exemple 6 : Senegal :**

I would take it as base of exemple, just change Belief with Religions and add the element mentionned in the first part of this notice.

Also, do not keep the part about the cultural traditions

### **Exemple 7 : Afghanistan, Iran**

I would take this notice as an exemple. I would just change the name : Culture of afghanistan with : Some data of social context.

Remove some parts : Basic data, flag, géography, climate, governments, basic economy, population (including the part ethnicity), languages, religions, some data of social context (including the part food, culinary influence, dining etiquette, staple foods,celebration ans events, drink, dress, ), Gender roles and status (including behavior), refugees, GBV ?, references.

And for each part, when you give the name of the author, please give the indication of the





source in a footnote .

Nota : the details from this notice are not adapted for all the countries, so it could be a base for the others. (but many parts are not adapted for african countrnies for exemple)

## Exemple 8 : Central Africa

Part : Gender and Family relations : revise this part.

### For all the notices :

- revise the title : cultural traditions and gender and family relations and be attentive with the contents.
- Revise the order of presentation of the parts
- revise the global contents to have something more harmonised (with the limits of course of the information access which varies between countries)
- revise contents to filter out all the informations which are subjective or which include a judgment or prejudice.
- introduce systematicly the sources.

**Egypt, Irak** : the fast facts is an interesting proposition.

It could be interesting to have in this part public health indicators like in Nigeria (but add the percentage and numbers)





Sources : It would be interesting to have real references : historical, anthropologist, economist, WHO, better than internet basic references.

Scientific sources of references : Elsevier, openedition, or for grand public : academia, ...