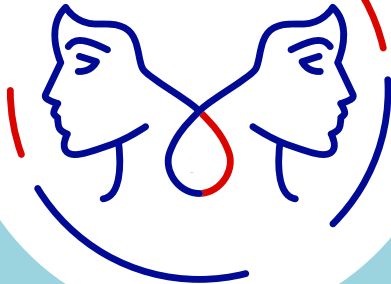


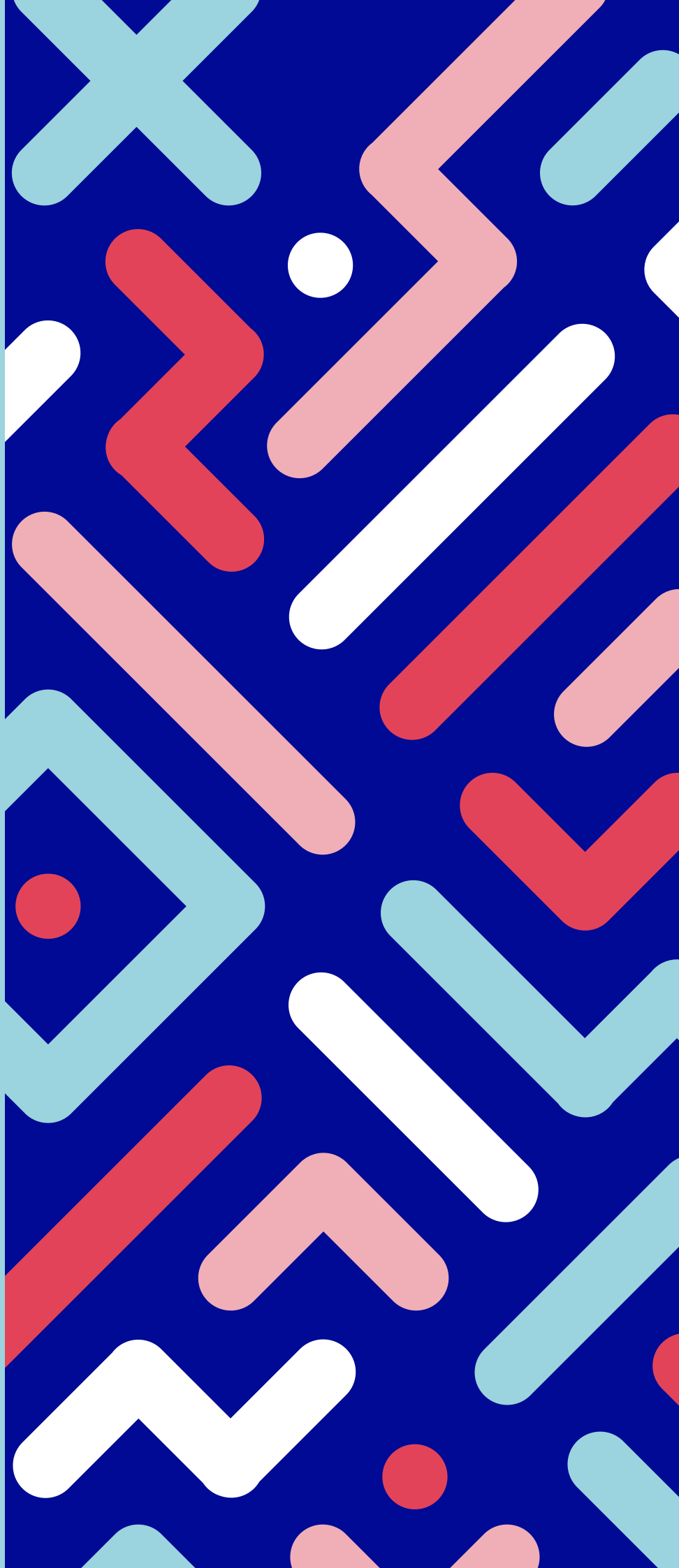
METIS

ARTS & DÉVELOPPEMENT



# ACTIVITY REPORT 2021-2023

What did we do and who did we reach?



# Metis: sharing emotions, creating transformations

## Our mission

Environment, health, education, employment, peace, gender equality, food security, energy... The Metis Fund – Arts & Development works toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our uniqueness: in addition to essential yet insufficient technical solutions, we leverage the arts as an emotional catalyst for individual and collective transformation.

## Our impact

The arts enable every human being to connect with his or her sensitive side. They nourish our minds, our hearts, our knowledge and our actions.

The arts connect, liberate, heal, emancipate, educate, initiate debate, shift the gaze and perceptions.

By using the arts to address our most sensitive aspects, Metis strengthens the willingness and ability of its partners to learn, to take ownership of the sustainable development issues that concern them, and to take action in response.

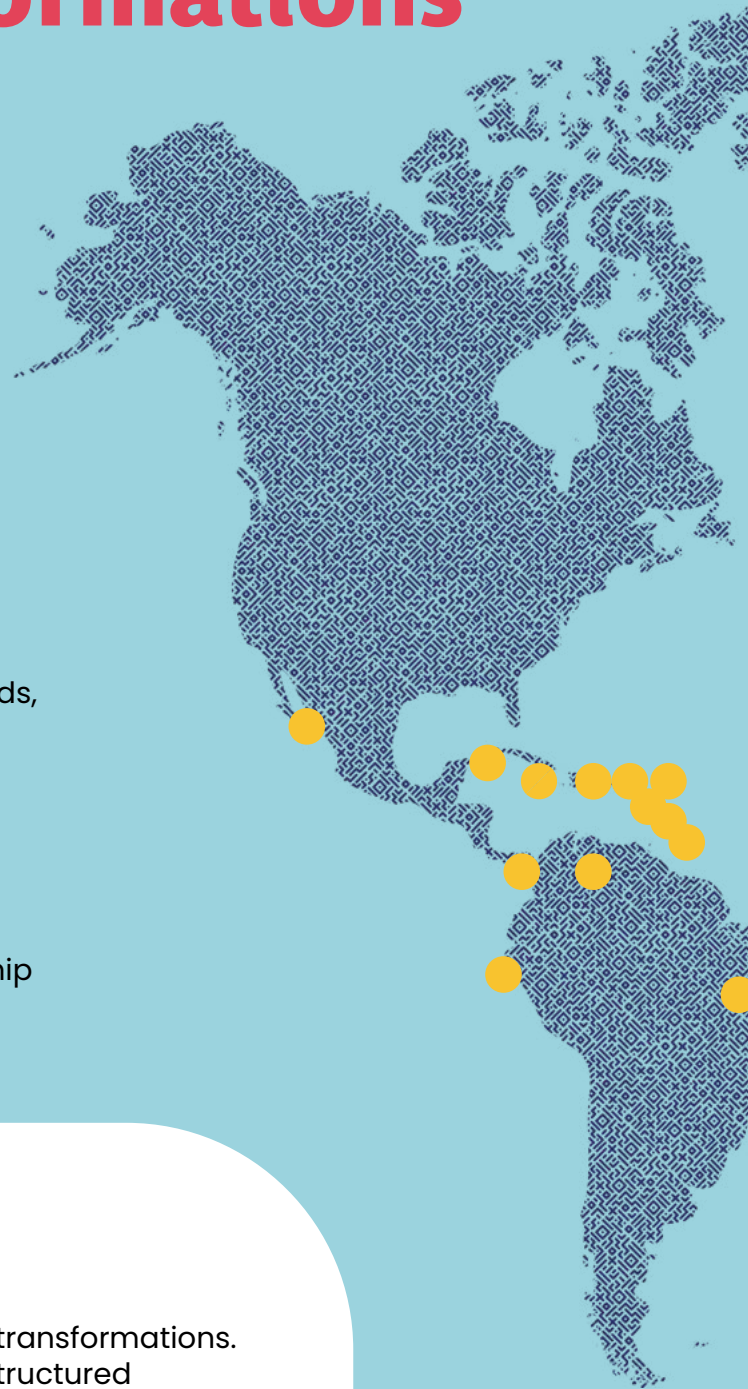
## Editorial

“Metis aims to convey emotions and bring about transformations. The quest for impact is written into our DNA. The structured engineering we implement, the visual documentation of projects and the systematic, qualitative surveys we carry out post-project support learning and capitalization.

Metis stands at the frontier between research and action. An asserted and assumed position.

Understanding the role of emotions, the arts, creativity and the social transformations they induce is a long-term, reflexive project that we are proud to share.”

**TIPHAINE DE MOMBYNES**  
**DIRECTOR OF THE METIS FUND**



**“The arts are our weapon  
of mass construction.”**

**IRENE TASSEMBEDO**  
**BURKINABE CHOREOGRAPHER**

**Metis 2021 > 2023**

**30**

ARTISTIC PROJECTS  
FOR DEVELOPMENT

**35**

COUNTRIES REACHED

**€ 700,000**

INVESTED BY AFD

FOR EVERY EURO  
INVESTED, THE METIS FUND  
ACTIVATES A PARTNERSHIP  
LEVERAGE EFFECT

**X4**





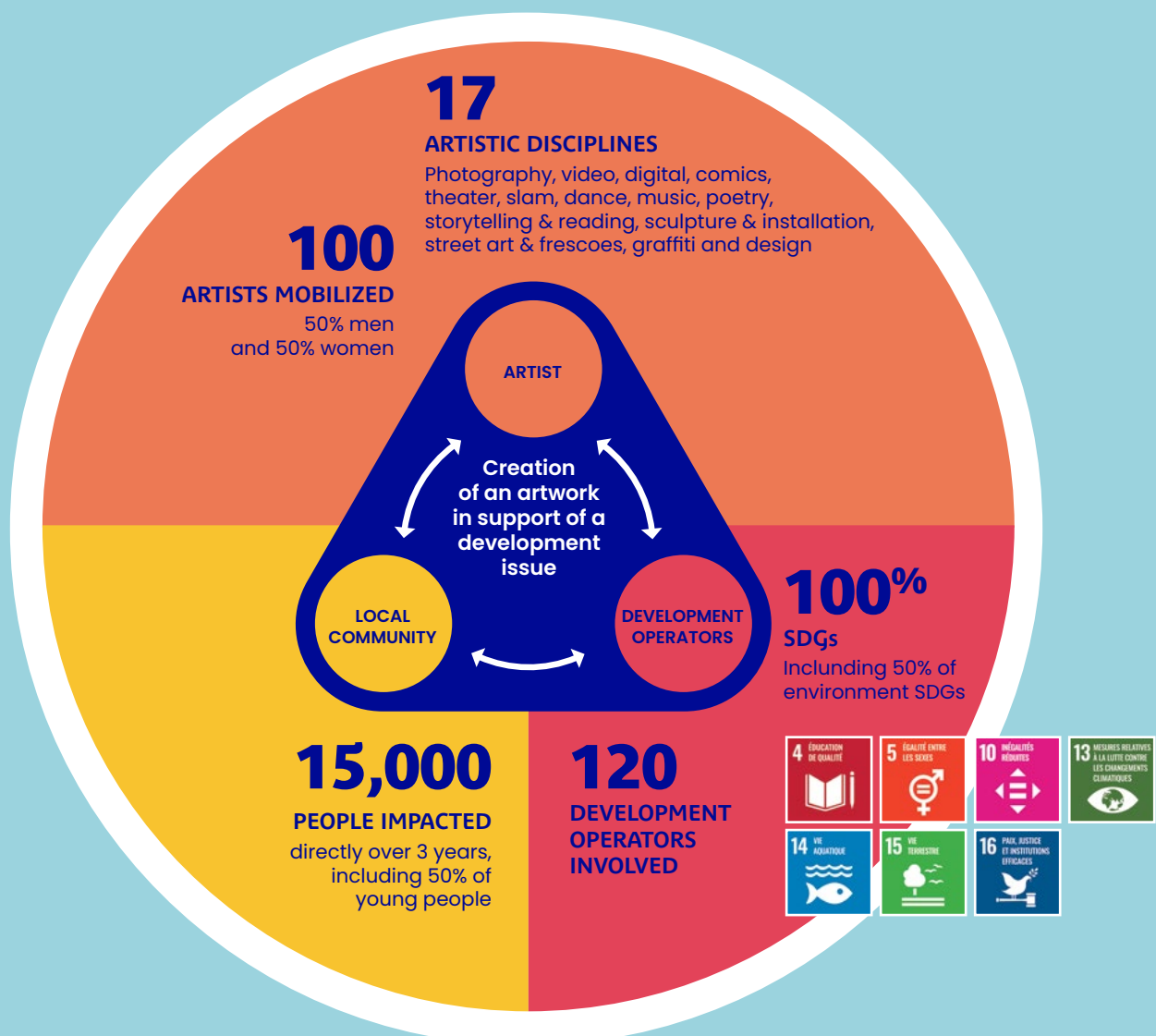
# Acting in the territories

Attentive to local issues, Metis finances socio-artistic projects that are as close as possible to the regions and their inhabitants. All are based on Metis engineering designed to facilitate spaces for creativity, expression and emotion. These projects transform all their stakeholders. Their knowledge, will and capacity for action are multiplied tenfold.

## Metis: sharing emotions

An artist, a development operator, and a local community come together in a specific region. United by a challenge they collectively acknowledge and that directly affects them, they commit to the process and co-create an ambitious artistic work.

This participatory process leads all participants to (re)connect to their sensitive part, to live a singular emotional experience.





## CARTE BLANCHE MOZAMBIQUE 2023

### The *Madala* elephant for biodiversity!

Carried out in the heart of the Niassa nature reserve in northern Mozambique, this initiative tackled the complex subject of poaching, human-wildlife conflicts and (re)connecting the local population to the challenges of conserving biodiversity through an emotional vector.

3 artists and over 50 local people have built a life-size elephant from old materials left over from poaching. 30 women trained in crochet made the skin. They named it "Madela Vaku Niassa".

The President of the Republic, impressed by this work of art, encouraged his country to continue its efforts to protect biodiversity.

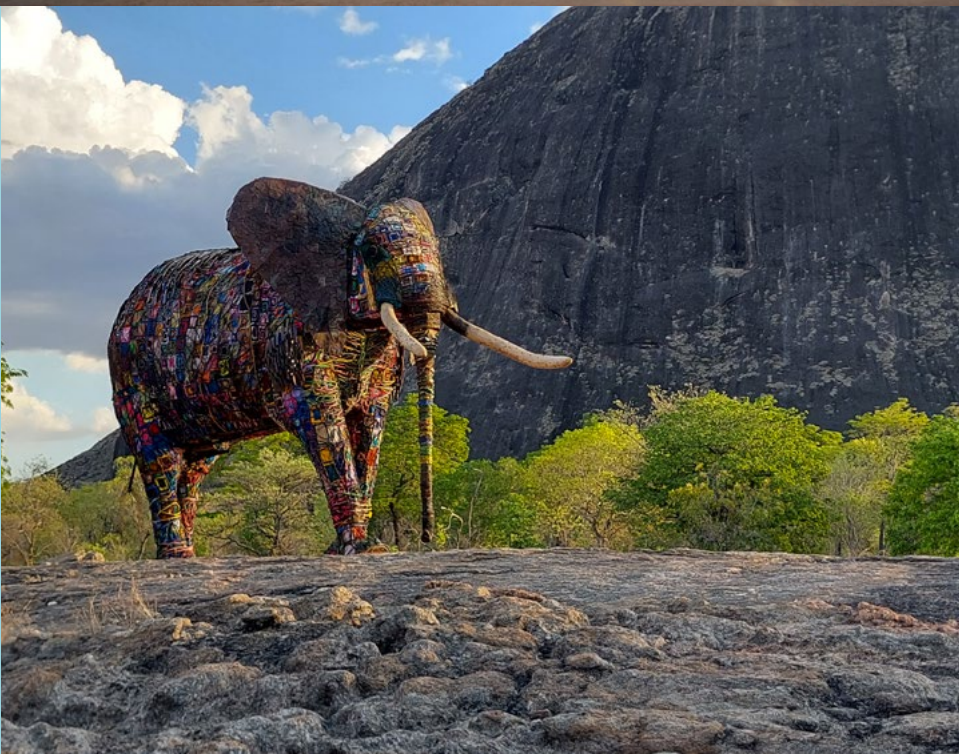
The work is now on display in a museum in Maputo, where more than 5,000 children have already come to see it. It will keep on going...



BETWEEN 2013 AND 2018, THE  
ELEPHANT POPULATION FELL FROM

**12,000 TO 3,500**  
INDIVIDUALS

+ MORE THAN **5,000**  
PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY ADMIRERD  
THIS SCULPTURE THROUGHOUT  
THE COUNTRY



**"For the past three months, I've been training Josina, Matola, Norte, Cecilia and Roques to work with steel. This is their first formal job. I'd be lying if I told you it was easy. I've lost count of the moments of anger and joy. This story of elephant is above all a meeting. And what an encounter!"**

**JULES PENNEL**  
ARTIST





## CARTE BLANCHE TUNISIA 2022

### ***The Little Prince:* dreaming to take care of your environment and your neighborhood**

The initiative mobilized a collective of Tunisian artists to restore hope to the young people of a vulnerable neighborhood in the city of Jendouba, a victim of the exodus of its population to more attractive urban centers.

The universal power of Saint-Exupéry's novel *The Little Prince* resonated in the neighborhood's cultural center for 3 months: the collective ran a series of educational and creative workshops with and for young people around the notions of dreams, travel and tolerance.

60 children took part and created their own works. Artists inspired by local reality also produced works. Together they presented their final productions to over 200 people. On the strength of this experience, the artists in turn produced new works and returned to to present them to local residents.

Pride, wonder, peace, joy, freedom to act and create, self-confidence... these are the words reported by the participants.

# 1

VERY VULNERABLE NEIGHBORHOOD

# 3

MONTHS OF PEDAGOGICAL  
WORKSHOPS

# 200

NEIGHBORHOOD HABITANTS  
VISITED THE EXHIBITION

**"It's a project that has created social links between the residents of the neighborhood, between the children, between the artists, and between all its participants.**

**It was a goal we hadn't even considered at the outset. It's a project that has exceeded our expectations"**

**YAZID SAFIR  
DIRECTOR OF AFD TUNISIA**





## CARTE BLANCHE BRAZIL 2022

### Proud producers of açaí, these women and their entourage share their challenges via photography

The economic role of women is often not very visible in Brazil. The initiative by women ribeirinhas producers of açaí in the state of Pará have highlighted their work and their place in Paraense society, thanks to the support of the Institute for Environmental Research of Amazonia (IPAM), photographer Ana Mendès and the Fotoativa collective.

The initiative, co-constructed with all these players, consisted of:

- The production of a photo report reporting the daily lives, identities and responsibilities of these women.
- Fotoativa led several days of creative workshops with local communities, including children, around the issues of their identity and social status at within Paraense society.
- The organization of local and national exhibitions to share these participative experiences.

Over 120 people were involved – including more than 60 women and 30 children.

The people around them contributed to and benefited from the project.

THE STATE OF PARÁ,

# 1st

WORLD AÇAÍ PRODUCER

# 60

WOMEN AÇAÍ PRODUCERS  
AND THEIR FAMILIES INVOLVED

**"I'm speaking today for all the ribeirinhas who don't have the courage to assert themselves any more. We have strength. We have a voice and I will not be silent. I do my job and I'm worth as much as a man."**

**TESTIMONIAL FROM A WOMAN  
RIBEIRINHA PARTICIPANT**

# Amplify

In addition to its project-based approach, the Fonds Metis aims to create the conditions to disseminate and amplify the power of the Arts & Développement encounter, so that other players can make it their own and apply it in turn. A necessary step towards greater impact.

## “Take action”

Strengthen the skills Arts & Développement of cultural and/or development actors to multiply impact.

### METIS MOBILITY

The “Metis Mobility” program is unique: it promotes the sharing of South-South experiences between artists who have participated in a Metis initiative.

In 2023, 3 grants were awarded. They enabled 6 artists to meet: Nigeria and Mexico, Tunisia and Peru, India and Togo.

These encounters are a source of mutual learning. They strengthen the artists' commitments, their networks and their skills.

### DESIGN AND HOST 2 TRAINING COURSES

- > for professionals (with la FERDI and Campus AFD).
- > for students (with the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris).

## “Make visible”

Show in order to share the essence of Arts & Development initiatives and multiply impact.

### LAUNCH OF SOCIAL NETWORKS

Instagram, LinkedIn and Youtube allow to share the power of our projects.

### FILM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Production of a documentary with a youtuber, awarded at the Green Awards Festival in Deauville – 18,000 views.

### CATALOGUE OF ENGAGED ARTISTS

Publication of a catalog featuring Metis artists to showcase their work and facilitate the sale of their works.

### PRESENCE OF METIS AT TWO “FINANCE EN COMMUN” SUMMITS – FICS (2022 AND 2023)

Every year, the FICS network of over 500 public development banks meets at a summit to share their visions, challenges and strengthen synergies. Metis is there to demonstrate the power of the Arts & Development alliance.







## MOBILITY

**TOGO / INDIA 2023**

### **Fight against plastic pollution: two Metis artists share and reinforce their societal commitment**

In 2023, Indian artist Manveer Gautam – Plasticvilla (Carte blanche 2021) traveled to meet Togolese artist Tesprit (Carte blanche 2022) in his native country.

Through their committed and collaborative art, both are fighting against plastic pollution in their respective countries.

Together with the inhabitants of a neighborhood in Lomé, they have co-created artworks made from locally collected waste. These astonishing and original works were exhibited in the garden of the Lomé Town Hall.

A sensitive intercultural experience to reinforce company's commitment against plastic pollution.



**"I was honored to have been selected during the Metis project among so many other talented artists, this opportunity allowed me to meet not only a great artist, but also a true friend in the person of Manveer.**

**The challenges encountered during this exchange opened me up to new ways of living, thinking and eating. I discovered that the other is a valuable source of learning and not an obstacle to be overcome."**

**FOLI KOSSI**

**GÉRARD TETE ALIAS TESPRIT**



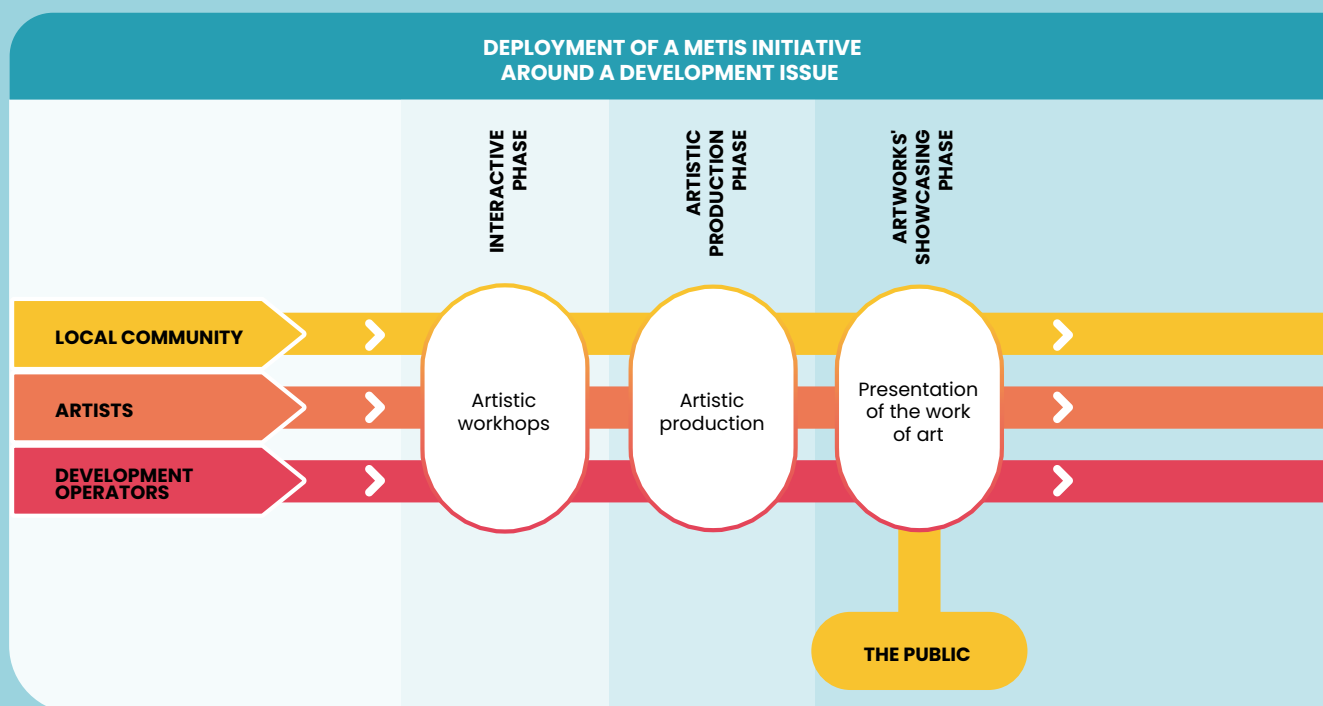
# The Metis Lab

The place of emotions in our society, their role, and the power of the arts to connect us and nourish our emotions are just some of the reflective projects currently ongoing. The Metis Lab is developing a dynamic of reflection, capitalization and debate. Its ambition is to lead an ecosystem of actors to think, question and promote the Arts & Development link.

## Metis, driving transformations

### DEFINING AN INSIGHTFUL THEORY OF CHANGE

Metis has developed a specific project engineering approach designed to enable impact. This engineering was the subject of in-depth reflection carried out with a consultancy specializing in evaluation. This work led to the definition of our theory of change. It is implemented in the local areas by the local people involved. It is adapted to the challenges and contexts they face.



**“People will forget what you said, they will forget what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel.”**

**MAYA ANGELOU**  
**AFRICAN AMERICAN POET AND ACTIVIST**



## EXPERIMENTATION IMPACT MEASUREMENT

Methodological reflection and testing have been carried out with experts in impact assessment to better understand the impacts of our projects.

Metis also provides visual and audio documentation of all projects financed. Qualitative surveys are conducted annually with each of our partners.

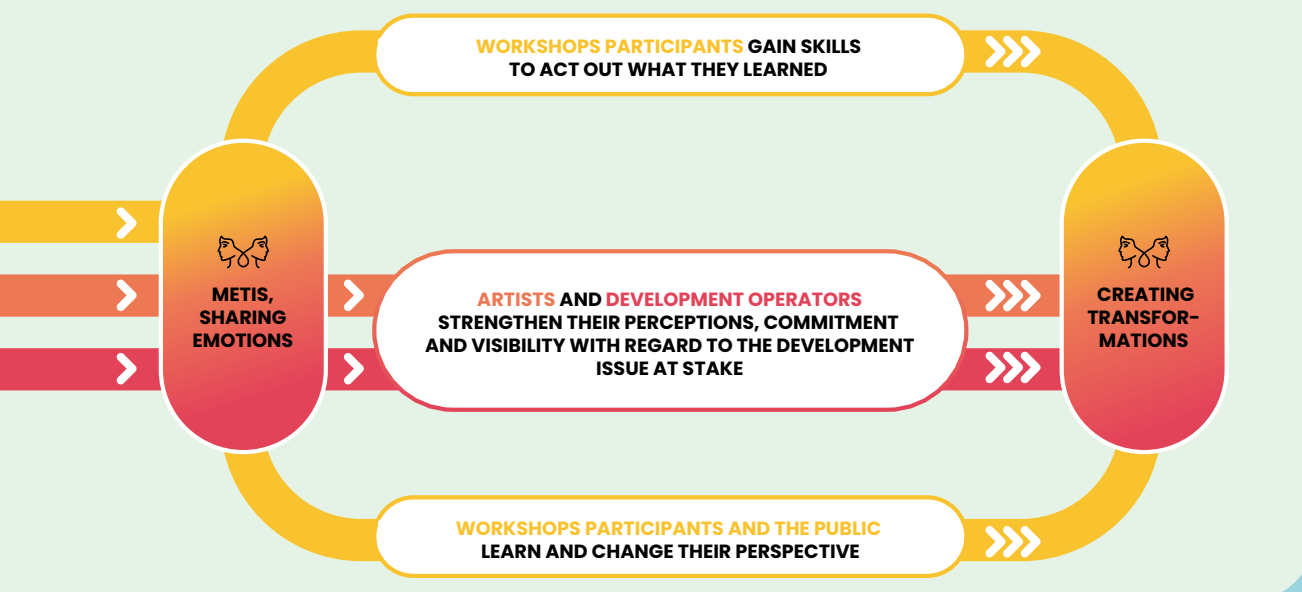
## CREATION OF A COALITION OF BANKS "CULTURE, ARTS & DEVELOPMENT"

Thanks to its network, Metis has initiated the creation of an Arts & Development coalition between 7 public development banks. The coalition aims to reinforce knowledge of the potential of culture and the arts in relation to development issues and to promote dedicated operations.

## LAUNCH OF 1st STUDY ARTS & DEVELOPMENT

A concise inventory of actions implemented by a dozen development banks in connection with arts and culture topics has been initiated. The study shows the diversity and richness of existing approaches while underlining the importance of deepening this knowledge by widening the number of players analyzed.

### TRANSFORMATIONS BROUGHT BY THE METIS INITIATIVE



EMOTIONS  
ACTION  
CREATIVITY  
HOPE  
LEARNING  
APPROPRIATION  
PRIDE  
EMPOWERMENT  
SURPRISE  
COHESION  
DEBATE  
FREEDOM

## **METIS, THE GREEK GODDESS OF WISDOM**

Nestled within Zeus, who swallowed her, Metis subtly contributes to his unparalleled power. As the mother of Athena, goddess of wisdom, and a faithful advisor to Ulysses (or "the discreet source of Ulysses' successes"), she is a goddess with many faces. For us, Metis represents the potential power of the intersection between art and development.

"The intelligent capacity that Metis denotes operates on very diverse levels, but always with a focus on practical effectiveness and the pursuit of success in a field of action."

**M. Detienne and J.P. Vernant,  
*The masks of intelligence –  
The Metis of the greeks* (1976)**

