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- Contact press@taragalte.org for onsite questions and interview requests
- Contact halim@taragalte.org for information on media partnerships



Peace caravan tours in Sahel and Sahara region

Music festivals from Morocco and Mali bring hope to a divided region

Three major music festivals from the Sahara region join their strengths to start a new initiative: The Cultural Caravan for Peace. Over a period of two months they will travel to refugee camps and festivals to play their music and share their culture. Countries visited are Morocco, Mauretania, Burkina Faso and Mali.

The first edition of the Cultural Caravan for Peace will be held during the Festival Taragalte in M'Hamid El Ghizlane (Morocco) from 15-17 November 2013.

The Caravan of Peace is initiated by Festival Taragalte (M'Hamid, Morocco), the Festival au Désert (Timbuktu, Mali) and the Festival sur le Niger (Segou, Mali) in order to support peace, solidarity and tolerance in the region.

The Caravan takes a serious stand against violence and Islamic radicalism, which are against music and non-Muslims. The extremist threat is a worldwide challenge and the Peace Caravan fights against this influence, communicating through artistic expression and culture, that 'this has nothing to do with our way of life!'

By re-establishing the tradition of the caravan and the historic practices of the desert lifestyle, we want to establish an opportunity to gather and discuss/describe current issues through culture and art.

Through music, workshops and art exhibitions the Caravan will give the people of the Sahara and Sahel a platform to meet, exchange ideas and keep their cultural heritage alive.

Mohamed Ansar (Festival au Désert) outlined, that *"Under this strong sign of the 'Cultural Caravan for Peace' we want to express our way of non-violent but effective resistance against intolerance but also to express solidarity with these people in need - refugees in Mali and neighbouring countries"*. And Mamou Daffé (Festival sur le Niger) added: *"We believe that art and culture bring people together and they get inspiration from each other to contribute to the balance of the society."* Ibrahim Sbai (taragalte Festival): *"The role played by the caravan in the old days was not only economical, but more significantly a cultural one. These caravans meant that different cultures were in contact and were able to connect with each other; exchanges passed through families, music, poetry art and lifestyles. These activities brought people closer to each other."*

During the festival in Morocco several workshops and artists' exchange programmes are initiated. The workshops are facilitated by Butterfly Works.

Weaving Art in the Moroccan Sahara

International artists and local Moroccan communities will co-create an inspiring art piece in the majestic backdrop of the M'hamid oasis bordering the Sahara. This exciting community art project will happen during the Taragalte Music Festival 2013, a three day World Music and Saharan Heritage event in the Moroccan desert.

The artwork will use plastic bags, palm leaves, plastic bottles, left over textiles and other found materials to tell the story of the Sahara and its makers. By weaving together recycled materials using traditional techniques handed down through many generations, an unusual colourful combination of patterns and structures will lead to the creation of a vibrant generation spanning installation: a carpet that will reflect the energy of the festival.

The piece will be made by artist Erik Hoogendorp - JiHaa (The Netherlands) with support from local *Carpet of Life* assistant Lea Liabastre and co-created by members from various communities around M'Hamid. The inspiration comes from the traditional Boucheroite carpets that are currently made by the women involved in 'Carpet of Life'.

'Carpet of Life' is a textile co-design project where clients have their old but still cherished clothes transformed into a unique carpet made by the women in the villages around M'hamid.

Erik Hoogendorp - JiHaa: *'I am very excited to be part of this experience and looking forward to interact with the local community. During the festival we will see the artwork grow. A carpet that will reflect the energy of the festival. Combining the local carpet specialist skills with my own will result in new structures, -familiar materials will show up in a new way.'*

The initiators of this community art project are to the organizers of the Taragalte Festival, Butterfly Works and Erik JiHaa.

Taragalte is a music festival that takes place from 15th to 17th November 2013. The Taragalte Festival is a key cultural destination in the South of Morocco and is based 7 kilometres outside of M'Hamid el Ghizlane.

Taragalte Festival 2013 more energetic than ever

Cultures, music and friends meet again in the Moroccan Sahara during the fifth edition of the Taragalte Festival. This year's edition will take place from 15 to 17 November 2013. After the success of the past four years, the Festival has become a key cultural destination in the South of Morocco. The festival is organised by the Zaila Association, and is based in M'Hamid el Ghizlane.

Among the artists that will perform during the Taragalte Festival are:

- Oum (Morocco)
- Sahel Blues (Mali)
- Mariam Kone (Mali)
- Said Tichiti (Morocco)
- Dimitri Grechi Esponzoza (Russia)
- Kiran Ahluwalia (India)
- Aziz Aflak (France / Morocco)
- Jan Wouter Oostenrijk (The Netherlands)
- Amanar (Mali)
- Khaira Arby (Mali)

The event will be presented by the great Moroccan artist Latifa Ahrar

This year the Festival's major theme will be "Caravan" in order to pay tribute to the great trans-Saharan caravan route that used to depart from M'Hamid and linked Morocco to Mali and other regions.

Ibrahim Sbai - Artistic Director of the Taragalte festival: *"The role played by the caravans was not only economical, but more significantly a cultural one. These caravans meant that different cultures were in contact and were able to connect with each other; exchanges passed through families, music, poetry, art and lifestyles. These activities brought people closer to each other, creating awareness of other cultures, cross cultural cooperation and a collective strength to address the environmental challenges. This is exactly the role of the caravan we want to foster, revive and revitalize!"*

During this year's edition of the festival, Taragalte will host the kick off of the wonderful 'Cultural Caravan of Peace', a collaborative initiative between the Taragalte Festival, Festival au Desert (Mali) and Festival du Niger (Mali). Over the coming months after the Taragalte Festival the caravan will travel to refugee camps and festivals to play music, share cultures and spread the message of peace, solidarity and tolerance!

This year's festival will also host the AZALAI-Nomadic Lab project which is collaboration between six cultural organizations in Italy, France, Belgium, Hungary, Holland and Serbia. During the 2013 festival several workshops and artists' exchange programmes are initiated. Some of the workshops are facilitated by Butterfly Works.

The Festival

"Caravan" as theme for the 5th edition of the Taragalte Festival

"The caravan" will be the central theme of this fifth edition of the Taragalte Festival. This theme was chosen to revitalize the historical role and importance of the trans-Saharan caravan and to rekindle the economic experiences, cultural exchanges and human connections that happen at M'Hamid El Ghizlane (Taragalte) – the crossroads for the caravans between Morocco and the Sahara regions.

This year, the festival welcomes for the first time two, one-off projects, the first is; the conclusion of the European AZALAI Project and the second, the launch of the 'Cultural Caravan for Peace'. This year the Taragalte Festival is also very proud to partner with Festicket, a UK based specialist in online Festival ticket and packages.



Cultural Caravan for Peace

The Cultural Caravan for Peace is a Sahélo-transaharian project initiated by the Festival au Désert (Timbuktu, Mali), the Festival sur le Niger (Segou, Mali) and the Taragalte Festival to support peace, solidarity and tolerance in the region.

Its vision is to encourage a dialog, cultural exchanges and enhance awareness on environmental issues of the Sahara and the Sahel region. Through music, workshops and art expositions, the Caravan aims to create a platform to meet and exchange ideas around the development and perpetuation of cultural heritage. The first Cultural Caravan for Peace will be held during the Taragalte Festival from 15th until 17th of November and will present different artists as ambassadors of the three festivals. In order to strengthen regional solidarity, the Caravan will continue its

journey visiting shelters for Malian refugees in Mauritania and Burkina Faso. The next stop on the caravan route is Festival au Désert in January 2014 with final site on the banks of the Niger River at the Festival sur le Niger, Ségou (Mali) in February 2014.

Azalai-Laboratoire Nomade Project (<http://azalai.wordpress.com/>)

The Nomad AZALAI-Lab project, is a recipient of support from the European Union, "Culture" 1.2.1, born from the collaboration between six cultural organisations in Italy, France, Belgium, Hungary, Holland, and Serbia. Its objective is to open up new networks for cultural cooperation between Europe and Africa. It offers a platform for dialogue, facilitating the expression of African identities beyond the continent and through a prism refracts new cultural relations with contemporary Europe. This particular project will work through musical creation in residence, training workshops, conferences, and cultural exchange. Having already worked in six European countries since July 2012, the project will culminate in a conference and music production in collaboration with the Taragalte Festival.

(See the appendix for a list of donors, partners and sponsors.)

The Programme 15th – 17th «The Caravan»

Festival Taragalte 5th edition Theme : "Caravan "

15 - 17 November 2013 M'Hamid El Ghizlane - South Morocco

GENERAL PROGRAM

Friday, November 15 - Official opening of the festival

16h – Festival Site* Official opening ceremony of the festival Taragalte, in the presence of the public, local authorities and all those who will participate in this fifth edition. We most welcome local and international delegations, partners, musicians and artists. For the first time , the Festival Taragalte has the honor of hosting two new projects :

“Cultural Caravan of Peace”: A trans-Saharan Sahel project initiated by the Taragalte Festival, the Festival in the Desert (Timbuktu, Mali) and the Festival on the Niger (Segou, Mali) to support peace, solidarity and tolerance in the region by encouraging dialogue, cultural exchange and awareness of environmental protection, including the Sahara and Sahel.

“The European Azalai Project – Nomad Laboratory” whose objective is to open up new networks for cultural cooperation between Africa and Europe, will conclude with lectures and a musical production with the Taragalte Festival.

* Inauguration of Exhibitions and Workshops on the themes of **Sustainable Development and Preservation of the Environment:**

The craft of women in the region ,

The various natural products of the Draa Valley ,

The traditional architecture of the Kasbah in the Oasis

The actions for the preservation of the environment and sustainable development (see the program "Green Desert")

* Presentation of the partners of the 5th edition of the festival

* Racing camels in memory of traditional festivals in the desert

* Introduction of various groups and artists of the festival

20h – Scene Taragalte, Festival Site* Screening of the film "Azalai the caravan of white gold, the last great caravan Sahara" Joel Calmettes

21h - Camp nomadic, Festival Site* Start of the "Evening TRADITIONS OF THE DESERT" with local groups and visiting artists (Dance, acoustic music, poetry and songs dedicated to the great ancient trans-Saharan caravan)

Late evening - Astrology Site Introduction to Astrology with nomads and astrologers around a campfire and desert tea.



Saturday, November 16 - Day Azalai

10h – Festival Site* Workshop Butterfly Works "Cultural Exchange Program"

10h30 – Festival Site* Workshop Novamont – Master BI "Practical use of biodegradable and compostable disposable tableware"* Training for students with FPO - Ouarzazate Solar - GMI "Using solar energy in the organization of events"

11h - 13h - Tent conferences, Residence artistic* Conference of the European

Project AZALAI "Morocco: a cultural crossroads. Experiences of encounters and of brewing in the Sahara and beyond "

14h - Scene Le Petit Prince * Jam Sessions with Artists in Residence of the Festival (participation of Oum, ambassadrice of the previous edition) – Use of solar energie "Impact Zero"

15h - Tent conferences, Residence artistic * Conference of European Project AZALAI "Festivals in the Sahara and Azalai . For a cultural nomadism between Africa and Europe"

17h - Scene Little Prince * **Azalai Acoustics** - Dimitri Grechi Espinoza (Saxo) and Said Tichiti (Guembri - Voice)

17h30 - 19h - Tent conferences, Residence artistic* Screening of the film " Woodstock in Timbuktu " of Desiree Von Th

Evening WORLD MUSIC "Blues Caravan " - Scene Taragalte , Festival Site

18h – 23hAziz Aflak (France / Morocco)

Kiran Ahluwalia (India)Kaira Arby (Timbuktu - Mali)

Mallal (Ouarzazate - Morocco)Lise Hannick (France)

Mariam Koné (Segou - Mali)

Sarky Blues (Netherlands)The Artists Azalai Tichiti Said (Morocco) and Dimitri Grechi Espinoza (Italy)Amanar (Kidal - Mali)

Late evening - Astrology SiteIntroduction to Astrology with nomads and astrologers around a campfire and desert tea.

Sunday, November 17 - Day " Cultural Caravan for Peace"

10h – Festival Site* Workshop Butterfly Works "Cultural Exchange Program"

11h - Tent conferences, Festival Site* Conference "Culture as a vector for development and reconciliation between peoples" Presentation of the project " Cultural Caravan for Peace"

13h - Tent conference, Festival Site* Moussem meal as traditional couscous prepared by local families participating in the festival accompanied by traditional songs and dances of the Sahara

14h - Tent conferences, Festival Site* **Tourism Conference** "Tourism development in areas of great natural and cultural fragility". Examples: Draa Valley and Oasis M'Hamid

15h30 – Residence artistic

* Tree planting with Sahara Roots

16h - Tent conferences, Nomadic camp* "Feminine voices" - Acoustic songs and dances performed by artists of the Festival and the local women, followed by a **Ceremony with graduation** for women project **Carpet of Life**

17h - Scene traditional, Nomadic camp* Jam Sessions with the visiting artists of the Festival

Evening RHYTHMS OF AFRICA " Sahara Blues " - Scene Taragalte , Festival site

18h – 23h Artists of the Residence

Oum (Morocco) avec Karim Ziad (Algérie)

Khaira Arby (Timbuktu - Mali)

Amanar (Kidal - Mali)

El Krab (M'Hamid - Morocco)

Mariam Koné (Segou - Mali)

Taragalte group (M'Hamid - Morocco)

Late evening - Astrology Site

* Last sceance of Astrology with nomads and astrologers around a campfire and desert tea

Monday, November 18

* Morning closing of the festival with all participating artists Planting of trees and songs in tribute to the fragile environment of the Sahara.

Each day , on the nomadic camp on the festival site, permanent animations: music, traditional dances and songs by local groups (Chamra , Ahidous , Rokba Ganga Gedra)



Program Green Desert 15th – 17th Nov

To help reduce the environmental impact of the Taragalte Festival as well as to help promote respect for the Desert environment, this year the festival will;

- Use disposable biodegradable tableware made from a compostable Mater-Bi[®],
- Organise regular waste collections
- Plant tree
- Run workshops on renewable energy and desert ecology workshops

Pre-Festival

- Recruitment of staff and volunteers.
- Environmental awareness raising for: the local population, school children and tourists.
- Acquisition and installation of garbage bins.
- Construction of organic composters for organic waste and Mater -Bi[®]

Friday, November 15 – « Official Opening of the Festival »

«16.00 »

Sahara Roots and Association Zaila

- Official presentation and demonstration by Sahara Roots and Association Zaila of the tree planting and other activities in the fight against desertification.
- Distribution of an educational booklet by Wanda Hebly, President of the Foundation SAHARA ROOTS (Netherlands) "Me and my Sahara".
- Presentation of the traditional architecture of the Kasbah in the Oasis.

«17.00 »

Novamont and Green Modelling Italy (GMI)

Information booth and presentation about the disposable biodegradable and compostable Mater-Bi[®] table ware.

Butterfly Works

As part of "Cultural Exchange Program" but link to waste collection

Creating a piece of art from the collection of waste and natural materials throughout the festival.

« 22.00 - 00.00 »

Collective cleaning of the festival site: two teams of 20 participants each, with waste separation trolleys will restore the environment back to its natural state.

Saturday, November 16 – « Ecological Programme - Day One »

« 08.00 - 10.00 »

Collective cleaning of the festival site: two teams of 20 participants each, with waste separation trolleys will restore the environment back to its natural state.

« 10.00 »

Association Zaila , Novamont and GMI

Information booth and presentation about the disposable biodegradable and compostable Mater -Bi[®] table ware

« 10.00 - 11.00 »

Butterfly Works in partnership with Erik Hoogendorp - JiHaa

Workshop linked to the "Cultural Exchange program" using waste collected from around the festival site.

« 11.00 »

Poly-disciplinary Faculty of Ouarzazate (FPO), Ouarzazate Solaire and GMI

Training: Green Energy at Cultural events

Presentations by: Hsaine Zgou Professor at the Poly-disciplinary Faculty of Ouarzazate.

« 14.15 – 15.00 »

GMI, FPO and Ouarzazate Solaire

Stage Zero Impact: A small concert stage in the bivouac "Le Petite Prince" powered with solar energy – 100% renewable.

« 22.00 - 00.00 »

Collective cleaning of the festival site: two teams of 20 participants each, with waste separation trolleys will restore the environment back to its natural state.

Sunday, November 17 – « Ecological Programme - Day Two »

« 08.00 - 10.00 »

Collective cleaning of the festival site: two teams of 20 participants each, with waste separation trolleys will restore the environment back to its natural state.

« 10.00 - 12.00 »

Butterfly Works in partnership with Erik Hoogendorp - JiHaa

Workshop linked to the "Cultural Exchange program" using waste collected from around the festival site.

« 15.00 - 16.00 »

Sahara Roots

Planting a green belt of indigenous arid resistant trees on the boundary between the oasis and the first sand dunes in the presence of and with the help of all partners, artists and festival directors (from various caravans), using the **Groasis Waterboxx and waterdrip system**.

« 17.00 - 18.00 »

Association Zaila, Novamont and GMI

Information booth around the disposable biodegradable and compostable Mater -Bi[®] table ware

« 22.00 - 00.00 »

***** FINAL ***** Collective cleaning of the festival site: two teams of 20 participants each, with waste separation trolleys will restore the environment back to its natural state.

Post Festival - 18 November

« CLOSING MORNING »

« 08.00 - 10.00 »

Sahara Roots

Tree planting before departure, accompanied by songs in tribute to a "**Green Desert**" with participation of festival-goers and artists.

Cleaning of Festival site, collection and disposal of waste, the collection will be accompanied by singing children

Our Story – ‘A Meeting Place in the Sahara’

The Taragalte Festival was created by a team of Moroccan with nomadic ancestry wishing to contribute, in collaboration with local, national and international actors to human development in their region of the Sahara. Based on the traditional, age old Moussem the festival happens in M’Hamid El Ghizlane (South Eastern Morocco) and celebrated the return of trade caravans after months spent travelling through the desert.

The current festival is based on the age-old concept of the traditional Moussem (annual Souk) – a festival held when the trade caravans of neighbouring communities entered the bountiful oasis of Taragalte (M’hamid) after traveling across the desert for many months. "Taragalte" means "meeting place" and although the name has changed, the spirit remains and around this socio-cultural festival, people will gather and share the essence of life in the Sahara. The festival will revive the tangible and intangible heritage of the desert by promoting exchanges between the diverse communities from the North African Sahara and the rest of the world. Through art, music, workshops, exhibitions and conferences, the festival provides a pragmatic platform for the sustainable development.

Launched in 2009, the Taragalte Festival this year celebrates its 5th anniversary. Every year since its birth, artists and festival goers from Morocco and around the world have met here, a place between the Atlas Mountains and the dunes of the Sahara. They’ve come to enjoy the local people’s great hospitality, rich culture and openness – an openness which breeds creativity and artistic expression.

Over the years, the festival has developed various activities to value the regions’ richness and diversity and promote tourism, which in turn directly benefits the economy and society all year around. These include the ‘Carpet of Life’ – women empowerment initiative and the Bivouac – Le Petit Prince, a sustainable tourism programme aimed at improving the socio-economic environment in the region.



(More images available on [Flickr](#) and [Pinterest](#))

[Message from the visionaries](#)

Ibrahim Sbai - Artistic Director of the Taragalte festival



“The role played by the caravans was not only economical, but more significantly a cultural one. These caravans meant that different cultures were in contact and were able to connect with each other; exchanges passed through families, music, poetry, art and lifestyles. These activities brought people closer to each other, creating awareness of other cultures, cross cultural cooperation and a collective strength to address the environmental challenges. This is exactly the role of the caravan we want to foster, revive and revitalize!”

Ibrahim Sbai (far left), alongside Fatimata Oumarr: lead singer of the internationally-acclaimed Tuareg band Tartit and other artists.

Halim Sbai – Director of the Taragalte festival



“The idea for the caravan started a couple of years ago, says Halim, during the first ever meetings with Ansar Many (Festival au Desert). We were both convinced that the indifference in the communities of our rich culture, history and heritage was a great concern. This meant that we were also losing the unity that once brought together the many tribes of the Sahara in south Eastern Morocco and those of the Great desert in Mali. And so we decided to do something about it and began to partner. A group of Saharan civil

society organizations, with the common goals of working to preserve our cultures, building sustainably and speaking in one voice - for peace, solidarity and tolerance across the whole Sahara and Sahel region!"

History

As a meeting place for the trans-Saharan trade caravans in the sixteenth century, Taragalte (former name of M'Hamid El Ghizlane) was one of the main cities of the province of Draa. According to the historian Jacques Meunié in his book "Sahara Morocco from origins until 1670" Taragalte was populated by more than twenty thousand people of whom 2000 were of Jewish faith. Taragalte was located on the banks of the Oued Draa, the largest river in the region that cuts through the Atlas Mountains near Ouarzazate and empties into the mighty Atlantic Ocean, after travelling over 2200 kilometres. The land was very fertile and used for agriculture and grazing allowing people to live very comfortably.

The trans-Saharan trade caravans continued to roam the Sahara until the middle of the twentieth century. M'hamid El Ghizlane is a magical place in the desert that helps and inspires a lot of national and international artists create.



The late King Mohamed V with Mohamed Chiekh Sbai and other members of the nomad tribes in M'hamid Elghizlane: Newspaper clipping

Visitors are inspired by this traditional and unique lifestyle attributed to the nomads in this part of Morocco and as a consequence visitors and local communities alike benefit from the platform of co-creation rooted in history and express this, through arts, exhibitions and indigenously inspired products and crafts.

Our Desert spirit

Vision, Mission and Objectives

Dream (Vision)

Taragalte envisages a network of global citizens and festivals contributing to the sustainable development of the Sahara and wider Sahel region through intercultural exchange, responsible practice and environmental conservation.

Goal (Mission)

Cultural regeneration: to contribute to the sustainable development of the Sahara by organising the festival and a trans-boundary 'Cultural Caravan for Peace', involving Festival au Desert (Mali) and Festival sur le Niger (Mali).

Environmental restoration: to contribute to the restoration and recovery of the desert ecosystem by raising awareness around the issue of desertification (main threat in this region) and in doing so connect academic research with local knowledge and manpower to co-create alternative solutions to an every-present threat.



Activities (Objectives)

- Reinforce the cultural exchanges between different Saharan communities and develop cooperation between different African and European events and festivals. E.g. Cultural Caravan of Peace and Nomad AZALAI-Lab project (*See Collaborators for more*).
- Enhance and promote the tangible and intangible heritage of the region around M'Hamid El Ghizlane.

- Raise awareness of the necessity to respect the fragile desert environment and allow its discovery, through; research, knowledge gathering and sharing and pragmatic integration.
- Make the festival an important vector for the local development, and a means of promoting sustainable tourism in Morocco.

M'Hamid – all year round the social and environmental impact linked to Taragalte

Bivouac - Le Petit Prince

[\(http://www.bivouaclepetitprince.com/en/environnement/\)](http://www.bivouaclepetitprince.com/en/environnement/)

Le Petit Prince is part of a wider Taragalte Concept; a tourism based sustainable development initiative. Through their shared vision the aim is to contribute to the preservation and evolution of their ancestral heritage in the M'hamid region. Through the right type of tourism that is ecologically sensitive and culturally aware and involving, the bivouac brings sustainable benefits. *“It is impossible to write what we aim to do in the region in a brochure or on a webpage, you need to come and experience it in order to understand the sense of place!”* Ibrahim Sbai

Carpet of Life (<http://carpetoflife.com/tagged/makers>)

Using authentic crafts handed down through generations, women from different villages in the oasis of M'hamid El Ghizlane transform people's beloved wardrobe into a vibrant Carpet of Life – an inspiring artwork they cherish forever.

The Carpet of Life concept is based on traditional Moroccan carpets called Boucherouite or Boucherwi, made by most families from nomadic background. This craft relies on instinct and experience rather than set design rules. Details are derived from nature, perfumes, sounds and tastes. Boucherouite carpets can be made from almost anything... second-hand clothing, tea towels, bed linen, even plastics! (Other materials include: recycled rag strips and yarns from 'found' textile remnants including wool, cotton, synthetic fibers, lurex and nylon).

Plant a Tree (<http://www.sahara-roots.org/EN/page/Plant%20a%20tree%21>)

Desertification has over the last decade become the single largest threat to the desert villages like M'hamid. One way to stave off desertification is planting trees that thrive in these arid conditions. The tamarisk is an example of one such a tree; a tree with a deep root structure, that traps both sand and moisture, making it possible to plant other species of trees in the immediate vicinity. Through donations it is possible to plant trees, and this is done by tourists in collaboration with the villagers as they will take care of the tree until it is mature enough to survive on its own.

For the Media

News agencies

[The North Africa Post - Moroccan Taragalte Festival Celebrates Timbuktu. \(14/11/2012\) \(ENG\)](#)

[Liberation Maroc – Ressusciter le lien unissant les tribus sahraouies à celles de Tombouctou – Halim Sbai. \(*Resurrecting the link between Sahara tribes to those of Timbuktu*\) \(02/11/2012\) \(Fr\)](#)

[Jeune Afrique – Maroc : le festival Taragalte rend hommage à Tombouctou \(*Morocco, Taragalte Festival expresses its sympathy for Timbuktu*\) \(13/11/2012\) \(Fr\)](#)

[Afrik.com - Festival Taragalte 2012, un mirage musical en plein désert \(*A musical mirage in the middle of the desert*\) \(12/11/2012\) \(Fr\)](#)

Television

[Aljazeera: Witness - Songs of Freedom and Exile \(25 mins\) \(25/06/2013\)](#)

[2M special program – Festival Taragalte \(40 mins\) \(19/11/2012\)](#)

Media and video

[Taraglate Festival - Vimeo video channel](#)

[Partenariat avec Hespres et couverture de toutes les activités du festival \(*Partnership with Hespres*\) \(10 mins\) 14/11/2012](#)

[Partnership with Sud Est Almaouja.com magazine \(*Partnership with Almaouja*\) \(21/11/2012\)](#)

[Partenariat avec Hit Radio \(*Partnership with Hit Radio*\) \(09/11/2012\)](#)

Contact Information

- Contact us for an invitation to the creative sessions at – ‘Residence Artistic’ in Bivouac Le Petit Prince
- Contact press@taragalte.org onsite questions and interview requests

- Contact halim@taragalte.org for information on media partnerships
- Accredited media passes and press pack can be picked up at the media registration office in M'hamid town

Appendix – donors, partners and sponsors

Official Festival partners

- Office National Marocain du Tourisme
- Conseil Provincial de Tourisme à Zagora
- Province de Zagora
- Royal Air Maroc

Foundations and Associations

Stichting DOEN (<http://www.doen.nl/>)

As a promoter of people and organisations that take the lead in the field of sustainable, cultural and social innovation, DOEN believes in a green, socially-inclusive and creative society. DOEN supports these innovators and brings them into contact with each other. The Taragalte Festival is honored to be supported by Stichting DOEN as part of its "International Culture and Media" program in which it helps the development of the creative sector by inter alia making local crafts, exhibiting those crafts, planning and executing cultural workshops in North Africa and other regions in the world.

Butterfly Works (www.butterflyworks.org)

Butterfly Works is a foundation based in Amsterdam, which was created in 2003. Butterfly Works assists organizations in developing their creativity by engaging educational projects with the primary mission of reducing global poverty and fighting against injustice. Their latest project with Taragalte called "Carpet of Life" (<http://carpetoflife.com/>) is a great success. The work of women in M'Hamid and the surrounding villages will be exhibited during the Festival Taragalte.

Sahara Roots (www.sahararoots.org) In M'Hamid, the Sahara Roots Foundation helps local people to become more aware of the importance of preserving the environment. In cooperation with various associations, it uses planting trees, clean-ups, and the distribution of educational books for young children (E.g. *Children are the future.*) to raise awareness "*Education is essential and forms the basis of the awareness of the world in which we live. With this book I hope to plant seeds in the minds of children living in the Moroccan southern Sahara, and open their eyes to the need to preserve their beautiful but fragile environment*" Wanda Hebly, Author of "Sahara and me."

Paléo Festival Nyon (www.paleo.ch) The Paléo Festival Nyon is the largest outdoor music festival in Switzerland and the second largest in Europe. It is held for six days each year at the end of July in Nyon. It hosts about 225,000 spectators and celebrates its 37th edition this year. Paléo helped in the organization and success of the first edition of the festival Taragalte.

Festival delle Culture SUQ (www.suggenova.it/)

The festival concept is born from 'Suq; which is a Mediterranean market; a symbol of exchange and encounters between cultures, traditions, languages and products. The Suq-Genoa is a bazaar, unique to Italy and brings together different personalities from the international scene. During the festival there are theatrical and musical performances, debates and workshops for children, cooking and dance classes; all close to the sea. The first edition was in 1999, and Suq has grown year after year and now welcomes 60,000 people over ten days.

Festival au Désert (<http://www.festival-au-desert.org/>)

Established in January 2001, the Festival au Desert is held annually in northern Mali, usually in Essakane, located two hours from Timbuktu. It is organized by the Association and AITMA EFES in collaboration with Production Essakane. This festival has its roots in the great traditional Touareg festivities, E.g. Takoubelt Temakannit Kidal and Timbuktu, which accounted for a long time a place of decision making and information exchange between different communities. Initially, there was Tuareg song and dance, pottery, camel races and games during the festival. Today, the festival is open to the outside world and welcomes artists from all over Mali, other African countries, and the rest of the world.

Festival sur le Niger (<http://www.festivalsegou.org/>)

The Festival sur le Niger (2014) will be held from February 6th – 9th on the banks of the Niger River. The festival is an initiative born through the support of the municipality and cultural authorities of Segou. Their intention was to create a unique event that highlights the attractions and potential of the city and the region; a festival that supports both the local economy and promotes the arts and culture of Mali. It is a festival in which contemporary culture rubs shoulders with ancient tradition and international stars alongside young talents.

Sierre Blues Festival (<http://www.sierreblues.ch>)

The Sierre Blues Festival was held for the first time in 2009 and sees the program of thirty national and international bands performing "in" and "off" stage with public institutions as partners. The Festival is also integrated into the global program published by the Blues Foundation based in Memphis / USA.

Festicket (www.festicket.com/festival/taragalte-festival/)

Festicket is an innovative website that packages together festival tickets with travel, accommodation and add-ons to create complete festival trips that can be booked in one click. They work with festivals as official partners so we can provide online booking support, general admission and a range of different tickets to some of the world's greatest festivals – including for the first time this year the Taragalte Festival.

Green Modelling Italia (GMI) (<http://www.gmicoop.it>)

GMI is a cooperative company with limited responsibilities, SPIN OFF of the University of Genoa. The business idea was born from a collaboration between young researchers with different expertise in chemistry, ecology and biotechnology fields, which they proposed to make available their cultural and academic knowledge to meet the needs of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in relation to the increasingly restrictive regulations on food, environmental and energy aspects.

Novamont (<http://www.novamont.com/default.asp?id=504>)

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