



**Peacekeeping School
Ecole de Maintien
de la Paix**
Alioune Blondin BEYE
de Bamako
EMP-NEWS
September 2023



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N°0923
www.empbamako.org

International Day of Peace JIP2023 at EMP-ABB

Digital Technology, Disinformation and Peace: The Role of African Youth

On Thursday 21 September 2023, the Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping School (EMP-ABB) in Bamako was the scene of a memorable commemorative day dedicated to the International Day of Peace (IDP2023).

Funded by the Republic of Mali, the central theme of the event was "Digital Technology, Disinformation and Peace: The Role of African Youth".

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Digital Technology, Disinformation and Peace: The Role of African Youth

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Since it was established by the **United Nations in 1981**, IPD has aimed to promote a culture of peace by devoting 24 hours to non-violence and ceasefire. This commitment also translates into a recognition of our individual and collective responsibility to work for peace, while targeting the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

he EMP-ABB, recognized as an ECOWAS and AU Centre of Excellence, has taken this opportunity to focus on the complex interaction between **digital technology, disinformation and peace**. This is a major topical issue, given the explosion in communication tools accessible to all and the rapid spread of disinformation, particularly via social networks.

Africa, with its highly connected youth, is directly affected by these issues. The proliferation of communications since the 1970s, and in particular through social networks since the early 2000s, poses real challenges for peace and social stability, especially when you consider the potentially devastating consequences of misinformation.

The figures speak for themselves: **in 2021, there were more than 4.55 billion social network users, representing 57% of the world's population.**



Digital Technology, Disinformation and Peace: The Role of African Youth

The objectives of the day were ambitious and focused: **to understand the impact of digital technology on peace, to examine the role of social networks, to assess the involvement of African youth, and to define the role of African countries in this dynamic.**

The programme included conference-debates, cultural activities and speeches by key figures including Mr Abdel Kader KI, National Director of the Digital Economy, Mr Abdoulaye GUINDO, President of the Malian Bloggers Association, and Mr Modibo FOFANA, President of the Malian Association of Online Press Professionals.

The inauguration saw eloquent speeches from the Director General of EMP-ABB, the Minister for Youth, Sports and Civic Construction, the Minister for Communication and the Digital Economy, and finally the Minister for Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion.

In conclusion, this day promised and offered a better understanding of the contemporary challenges linked to digital peace in Africa. By bringing together experts, researchers, delegates and other players committed to peace in Africa, the EMP-ABB has laid the foundations for an Africa that is more aware of the issues at stake and better armed in the face of disinformation in the digital age.





Exploring the Confluence between Climate Security and Peace in the Sahel : An Overview of the International Seminar at EMP-ABB

In a world where climate crises are exacerbating conflicts, the Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin BEYE (EMP-ABB) in Bamako is positioning itself as a beacon of sustainable solutions.

From 12 to 14 September, the EMP-ABB was the scene of a convergence of ideas and strategies, bringing together a range of key players in the field of climate and environmental security in the Sahel.

Context: A Sahel under Climatic and Security Pressure

The Sahel, a vast territory covering three (03) million square kilometres, is in the spotlight not only for its cultural richness but also for the acute challenges it faces, particularly in terms of climate and security. Local populations, particularly women and young people, are subjected to increasingly hostile climatic conditions, exacerbating regional tensions.

Justification: an urgent call to action

The urgency to act is palpable: the current situation, marked by rampant crime and persistent terrorist activity, is amplified by the realities of a changing climate. The repercussions extend far beyond environmental borders, hitting peace and security in the Sahel region hard.



Objectives and targets of the seminar

From 12 to 14 September, EMP-ABB hosted an international seminar focusing on the analysis, assessment and proposal of viable solutions to the impact of climate change on regional stability. This event, an essential part of the global dialogue on peace, was aimed at government institutions, academics, NGOs and international bodies, among others.

Development of the Seminar: Exchange and Elaboration

Panels of experts, bringing together enlightened and innovative minds from the sector, engaged in discussions and debates to promote an inclusive sharing of knowledge, experience and, above all, solutions adapted to the realities on the ground.



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Sub-themes covered :

- Legal and political framework : Examining and strengthening existing structures in the face of climate change.
- River Basins: Anticipating and managing future conflicts and resources.
- Migration, Security and Climate: Analysing the links and proposing adaptive strategies.
- Gender and Climate: Strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable populations.
- Adaptation actions: Focusing on proactive interventions to anticipate future challenges.

In addition to the days of exchanges, the seminar resulted in the creation of strategic documents, including a summary of the presentations, a policy brief and a full report, which will be invaluable tools for guiding future actions and policies.

The initiative was made possible thanks to funding from the **Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) in Mali**, affirming a **shared commitment to the search for peace and stability in the Sahel**.



Launch of Training Sessions in the Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts (PGCC) at EMP-ABB

Faced with the security challenges in Mali, particularly in the central and southern regions, the Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping School (EMP-ABB) in Bamako opened its training sessions on "**Community Conflict Prevention and Management**" (PGCC) on **Monday 04 September 2023**.

Launch of Training Sessions in the Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts (PGCC) at EMP-ABB

his training programme, designed in collaboration with ESEN, received financial support from the Kingdom of Norway. Its aim was to respond to growing inter-community tensions by equipping local players with crucial skills for managing and preventing these conflicts.

The workshop focused on a number of key objectives and aimed to build the skills of local elected representatives, members of civil society organisations, signatory movements to the peace agreement, and the defence and security forces. The participants trained were able to understand and define conflict dynamics, use appropriate analysis tools and apply effective conflict prevention, resolution and transformation techniques. The sessions will cover topics such as understanding conflict, different attitudes to conflict, and the mechanisms, tools and processes of community mediation.

The workshop was aimed at a diverse audience: elected municipal officials, women from the CSA, signatory movements of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, female personnel from the Defence and Security Forces, and other key players. The ultimate aim was to ensure that, by the end of the training, participants would be able to integrate the Conflict Prevention-Management approach into their day-to-day work, thereby demonstrating an improved ability to manage and prevent community tensions.



Launch of Training Sessions in the Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts (PGCC) at EMP-ABB

The teaching method chosen for this training was resolutely participative and interactive, in line with adult learning principles. The sessions included lively discussions, sharing of experiences, group work, not forgetting a final simulation to consolidate what had been learned.

The sessions took place according to the following schedule :

- From 14 to 25 August 2023 in Timbuktu, Kayes, Ségou and Mopti;
- From 04 to 15 September 2023 in Sikasso, Gao and Bamako;
- From 09 to 20 October 2023 in Koulikoro.

An additional session was also held from 11 to 22 September 2023 in Sikasso.

The establishment of these workshops by the EMP-ABB bears witness to the ongoing commitment of Malian institutions and their partners to work for peace and stability in the region.





APE

Support for the Electoral Process
(APE)

Dates and Location

September 04 – 15, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

The Federal Republic of Germany - RFA

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
25 trainees
including 07 women

Objective

Acquiring the knowledge and skills
required for transparent and
professional of electoral processes.



DH

Humanitarian Law
(DH)

Dates and Location

September 04 – 15, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

The Federal Republic of Germany - RFA

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
26 trainees
including 09 women

Objective

Providing in-depth training
on human rights for civilian and uniformed personnel
currently deployed or planning to be deployed
in United Nations peace support operations.

EMP-ABB Training Courses of the Month



UN-CIMIC

United Nations Civil-Military Coordination
(UN-CIMIC)

Dates and Location

September 18 – 29, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Japan

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
26 women trainees

Objective

Souligner l'importance de la coordination Civilo-militaire et acquérir les connaissances et compétences nécessaires à la planification et la conduite des activités, ainsi qu'à la préparation des rapports d'activité UNCIMIC.



UNSOC

United Nations Staff Officer Training
(UNSOC)

Dates and Location

September 11 – 29, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Morocco

Beneficiaries

27 military trainees
including 02 women

Objective

Acquiring the knowledge and know-how essential for staff officers in a UN Force or sector headquarters.

EMP-ABB Training Courses of the Month



PGCC - Bamako

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 04 – 08, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
45 trainees
including 17 men

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.



PGCC - Bamako

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 11 – 15, 2023
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
48 trainees
including 16 men

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.

EMP-ABB Training Courses of the Month



PGCC - Sikasso

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 11 – 15, 2023
Centre Jean Bosco – (Sikasso, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
32 stagiaires
including 17 women

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.



PGCC - Sikasso

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 18 – 22, 2023
Centre Jean Bosco – (Sikasso, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
34 stagiaires
including 21 women

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.

EMP-ABB Training Courses of the Month



PGCC - Gao

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 04 – 08, 2023
Pied-à-terre – (Gao, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
33 stagiaires
including 14 women

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.



PGCC - Gao

Prevention and Management
of Community Conflicts
(PGCC)

Dates and Location

September 18 – 22, 2023
Pied-à-terre – (Gao, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Norway

Beneficiaries

Integrated course (Civilian-Military-Police)
35 stagiaires
including 18 women

Objective

Training elected representatives and members of various organisations in the prevention and management of community conflicts. Participants will acquire skills in conflict analysis and resolution techniques, covering topics such as attitudes to conflict and mediation methods.

Visits and Partnership Meetings of the Month at EMP-ABB

EMP-ABB NEWS
Septembre 2023
N°0923

11/09/23 – **SWITZERLAND** - Courtesy visit to EMP-ABB by Mr Patrick ETIENNE, Head of Swiss Cooperation, and Ms Margaux THARIN, new Human Security Advisor ;

13/10/23 – **UNDP** - Courtesy visit by Mr Tomoki MATSUURA, Programme Specialist, to EMP-ABB ;

19/10/23 – **Folke Bernadotte Academy** – Virtual discussion on possible partnerships with EMP-ABB ;

29/10/23 – **Institute for Security Studies (ISS)** – EMP-ABB and ISS sign agreement in Dakar, Senegal.



17th Edition : **Mali, the socio-political obstacles to decentralisation (1991 – 2021) : Overview of an ambitious reform**

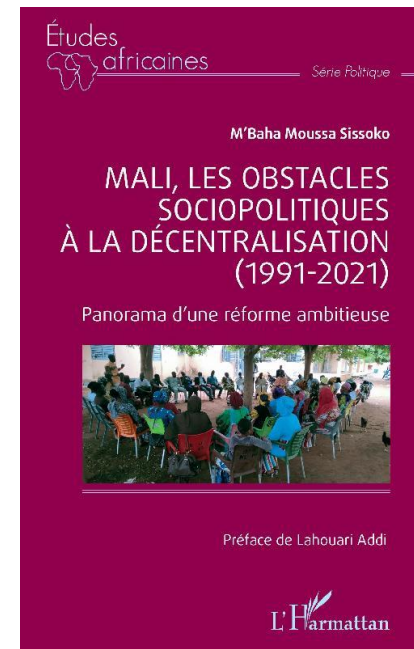


On Wednesday 20 September 2023, the Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping Training School (EMP-ABB) in Bamako, through its Sahel-Saharan Space Analysis and Research Center (CARESS), organized the 17th edition of its Book Club.

The work featured during this session was **"Mali, the socio-political obstacles to decentralization (1991 - 2021): Panorama of an ambitious reform"**. Its author, Dr M'Baha Moussa Sissoko, is recognized as an eminent doctor in political science, is a lecturer at the Institute of Political Studies of Lyon (Sciences Po) and also has a degree in History and Archaeology. In this book, Dr. Sissoko explores the **socio-political challenges of decentralization in Mali**, describing the evolution and dynamics of an ambitious reform that has spanned three decades.

The Book Club brought together a diverse range of audiences, from CARESS members and students from various academic institutions to history and politics enthusiasts. The presence of the Club's loyal members, mainly researchers, doctoral students and auditors from the CARESS Masters programme at EMP-ABB, undoubtedly enriched the debates.

The Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping Training School highlighted the richness of the exchanges and the discovery of a major work on a central theme for contemporary Mali.



The monthly sessions of the CARESS Book Club bring together authors, journalists, researchers, students, and book enthusiasts to discuss themes of peace, security, and development. Their objective is to promote a culture of peace and facilitate exchanges on various ideas and related works.



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Support for the Electoral Process - APE
EMP-ABB

September 04 – 15, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Humanitarian law - DH
EMP-ABB

September 04 – 15, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



United Nations Civil-Military Coordination - CIMIC
EMP-ABB

September 18 – 29, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



United Nations Staff Officer Training - UNSOC

EMP-ABB

September 11 – 29, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
EMP-ABB

September 04 – 08, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
EMP-ABB

September 11 – 15, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
GAO

September 04 – 08, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
GAO

September 11 – 15, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB



Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
SIKASSO

September 11 – 15, 2023



Promotions September 2023

EMP-ABB

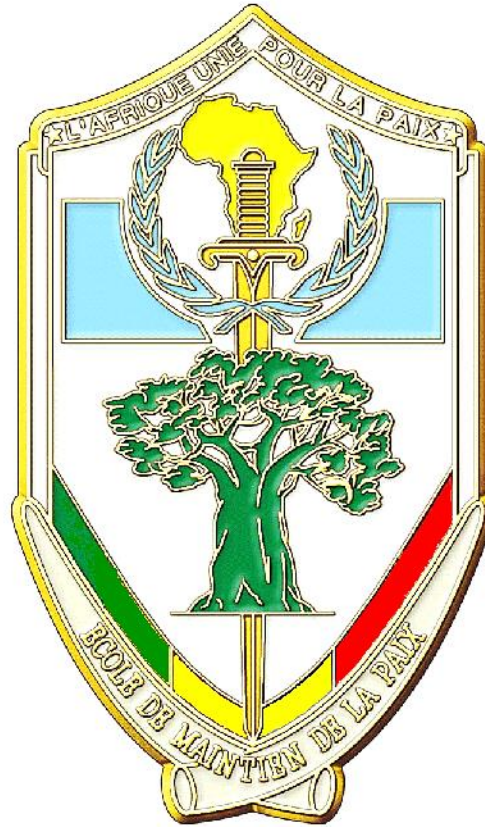


Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts - PGCC
SIKASSO

September 18 – 22, 2023

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EMP-NEWS
SEPTEMBRE 2023



EMP-ABB NEWS
N°0923