



The Security Sector Africa Team of EPES Mandala

Dr Robin-Edward Poulton – a leader of West African civil society deeply involved in peace processes, micro-disarmament and sustainable development. He is a gifted trainer, manager and evaluator, with long experience of teaching and research and a prolific author about African peace and development. He is familiar with West, East, Central and North Africa and has worked most recently in Liberia and Sierra Leone, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Senegal and The Gambia.

Finn Tore Rose – former UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Mali, Algeria, and Rwanda, has wide African planning and development coordination experience at the level of the African Union and regional organizations as well as at national and local level. He is a gifted negotiator, an experienced diplomat, evaluator, manager and trainer.

Dennis Brennan – former USAID Director in Mali and former US Representative at the OECD/DAC, is a lawyer and diplomat specialized in development strategies and programme management. He is an excellent trainer and project evaluator, a world expert on peace building and legal matters concerning small arms.

General Henny van der Graaf - the world's most famous micro-disarmament expert - was the official UN Supervisor of the Flame of Peace in Timbuktu, Mali. He has been a member of several UN teams studying the problems of small arms in West Africa, and a member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters.

Colonel Michel Sallé, is a former UN Senior Military advisor in Guinea Bissau, and former Minister of Interior and of Foreign Affairs in various governments in the central African Republic. He has wide experience of conflict and post-conflict areas of Africa, including the complex issues surrounding disarmament, small arms management, and cross-border negotiations involving displaced populations, refugees, and armed rebel groups.

Lieutenant Colonel Clement Dayo Olukoju, Deputy Chief Communication Officer of UNMIL Liberia. A leading Nigerian peacekeeper with experience of Sierra Leone and Liberia, Dayo is a graduate of the European Peace University and is about to launch himself into a PhD programme at the Centre for Peace Studies at Bradford University in UK.

Ibrahim ag Youssouf was one of the chief peace negotiators and creator of Mali's Flame of Peace, and co-author of *A Peace of Timbuktu: democratic governance, development and African peacemaking* (UN, Geneva, March 1998) with a Preface by Kofi Annan, and



La paix de Tombouctou: gestion démocratique, développement et construction africaine de la paix (UN, Geneva, June 1999 – 2nd edition updated, of the original English text)

Matilda Dayo Oluyemi-Kusa is one of Nigeria's leading conflict prevention experts, and head of External Conflict Prevention at the Institute for Peace and Conflict Prevention in Abuja. She is a creative source of conflict analysis, and excellent communicator and civil society leader.

Binta Barry Mansaray of Sierra Leone is one of the architects of peace through her leadership of rural women's organizations and her work with Zainab Bangura in the *Campaign for Good Governance*. She has recently been chief of outreach for the Special Court trying people accused of committing atrocities during the conflict, where her work has been widely praised for creating understanding and healing among the victims of war.

Dr Boubacar N'Diaye of Mauritania is a teacher and researcher in peace, and Professor of Political Science in USA. Boubacar works in peace building, conflict analysis and security sector reform. He is currently editing a book of papers on *The Challenges Of Security Sector Governance In West Africa* for the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

Chimène Mandakovic, a Chilean national resident in France, is specialized in disarmament and demobilization of child soldiers in particular. She has long experience with MSF in Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Angola, Haiti, and the UN DDR in Congo, Rwanda, now in Nepal.

Catherine Mariano, Somali national former UNDP Financial Administrator, with Canadian nationality Member of the EPES team in Somalia & Nairobi negotiating peace and organizing the 2007 National Reconciliation Congress in conditions of great danger.

Andria Wisler is a professor of political science in USA and a graduate of the European Peace University. She has worked extensively in Central Europe and Africa on democracy and peace building, and issues surrounding peace education and conflict transformation.

EPES Mandala was created in 2004 to pursue the success of this team in the field. As a consulting company we have carried out fieldwork in Afghanistan and Liberia, and provided advice to the UN, UNDP, USAID and the African Union on various peace building and disarmament issues. In addition to our world-renowned specialists in post-disaster reconstruction and weapon collection programmes, **EPES Mandala's** work is supported by the expertise of a multi-qualified international groups of experts.

It is **EPES Mandala** to create multi-national teams of men and women who understand the culture of war where we work and the culture of peace that we are setting out to create. We have



access to a wide range specialist skills and we choose our consultants to fit the cultural needs and the political economy of each assignment. We work closely with skilled non-governmental teams that have appropriate skills, cultural roots and deep local knowledge.

EPES Mandala also emphasizes the importance of communications as a part of peace building. We have several team members who are fulltime or part time peace journalists and film makers whose work contributes to understanding the issues affecting war torn societies inside the country, and also to donors and well wishers overseas. **Sander Franken**, a well known documentary film maker in Netherlands, worked with us in Cambodia while **Adam Ouloguem** and **Macky Tall** are Malian journalists focused on peace journalism. They provide materials for the peace educators and writers **Andria Wisler** at Columbia, **Lois Nicolai** in New England, **Robin Poulton** in Virginia, **Zeki Ergas** and **Djely Samoura** in Switzerland.

The Governance & Development Africa Team of EPES Mandala

Dr Michelle Elcoat Poulton, formerly West African Director for Save the Children, is a development anthropologist who moved on to become Vice-President of CCF running child development and protection programmes across most of the African continent. She has worked with war refugee women in Chad and Angola, and with victims of rape in Uganda and South Africa, with food and health problems in Zambia and Mozambique, with NGOs in Senegal, The Gambia, Tunisia and Mali and Burkina Faso. Above all, Michelle's interests have focused on the development of children. She had been responsible for ground-breaking work on child poverty, and early childhood development, non-formal education and the development of civil society organizations (and women's development).

Dr Mary Daley is a medical practitioner based in Angola where she is deeply involved in the welfare and development of children and of their mothers. The years of conflict in Angola have brought Mary into intimate contact with the devastating effects of war – the physical effects in one of the world's most heavily mines countries, and the traumatic effects of a generation of conflict. Dr Daley has been working with Michelle in CCF for the past five years, traveling across the continent bringing her expertise to many countires in East and Southern Africa.

Djely Karifa Samoura, is a wonderful communicator, journalist and broadcaster. He is a civil society analyst, and a leader of civil society in Guinea and Europe and Africa-wide. He is Secretary General of the NGO *Commission Africaine des Promoteurs de la Santé et des Droits de l'Homme* (CAPSDH), President of the *Académie Africaine pour la Paix* (ACAP) in Algiers since 2001, and President of of the *Coordination des ONG africaines des droits de l'homme* (CONGAF) in Geneva.



Salem Mehzoud, of Algeria and UK, has worked as a mediator with the UN High Commission for Human Rights and is a specialist in the Great Lakes region of Africa and all the countries bordering the Nile River. He has a special interest and expertise in North Africa (being a fluent speaker of Arabic and Kabyl), and he has spent a great deal of time recently working in Sudan.

Martha Lunyolo is a Ugandan expert in community development specialised in the rehabilitation of women and children victims of violence. She worked previously in CCF's Uganda programme under Michelle's guidance, before leaving to take up a specialization in conflict transformation from the European Peace University where she met and studied with Catherine Leila.

Catherine Leila Poulton is a founder of EPES Mandala and a specialist in gender-based violence in African war zones. Raised in West Africa, she has worked with women victims of violence in Chad and Darfur (as well as in Guatemala and Afghanistan) and is currently on assignment with the International Rescue Committee in Central Africa.

Rev Kare Lode is a Norwegian peace mediator and pastor who has spent much of his life in West and Central Africa. He has become an expert in African cultures and languages, and peace negotiator and development manager in Central and West Africa. He has been involved in making peace in Mali, Somalia and in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Dr Clare Oxby UN and African Union consultant: expert in conflict mitigation, religion and terrorism, human rights issues and women

Dr Edith Mukakayumba Canadian and Rwandan geographer with a Malian-Canadian son, she is specialized in reintegration and rehabilitation of post-conflict youth and women. She also has a strong interest in reconciliation in the Great lakes region of Africa.

Mariam Diakite is a Malian lawyer with wide experience of consultancy with organizations like World Bank, USAID and specialized in institutional reform and governance issues at the national level and in terms of international negotiations between neighbour countries.

Kawther Elmi is a Somali woman who works on conflict resolution through civil society leadership in Africa, and also through teaching and art in USA. She is involved not only in African conflict resolution but also in inter-racial understanding in USA.

Aart van der Heide is a food scientist and nutritionist trained at Wageningen University in the Netherlands (1973). He specializes in food security, nutrition and livelihood problems in (post)-conflict areas or disaster and drought areas. He has worked thirty years in Africa since he began as a school nutritionist in the Cape Verdean Islands.



Aart has a detailed knowledge of Angola where he worked as a university teacher in Huambo agriculture faculty in 1982-82 during the war. He has spent a lot of time in Angola as a consultant in humanitarian aid, food security, nutrition and problems related with LRRD but also involved in war trauma situations.

In Mali Aart has worked extensively for UNICEF and OXFAM-UK in the Joint Nutrition Support programme, and developing civil society. He is a sharp analyst of NGO development and their strong and weak points. During the Tuareg rebellion 1991 - 1996 he had charge of several programmes working with local CSOs in partnership with European and American NGOs. He coordinated the first northern Mali emergency programme carried out through national NGOs, mainly funded by USAID. He is the author of several baseline studies in Mali on food and nutrition security and livelihoods.

Since 2000, Aart has carried out many evaluations for the EU, ECHO, USAID, French government etc. in Angola, Mozambique, Kenya, Sudan, Eritrea, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, Chad, Cape Verd, Haiti, Afghanistan, Serbia, Iran, Tanzania, Malawi on refugee and IDP programmes, food aid and food and nutrition security. In 2002 he evaluated the nutrition part of ECHO food aid support to WFP in Serbia, Afghanistan, Tanzania and Eritrea. In 2003 he was team leader for the ECHO IDP evaluation in Angola, and in 2004 he led the Europaid evaluation in Mozambique and Burkina Faso for the food security budget line of the EU. In 2006 he was evaluation team leader in Sudan of the EC funded Humanitarian Plus programme. In 2008 he evaluated the EC funded Surveillance System on food and nutrition security in Malawi and did the revision of that programme in 2009.

Dr Zeki Ergas is a multilingual peace researcher from Turkey and Switzerland, specialized in the African and Mediterranean cultures. Author of reports on Kenya and books on South Africa and Turkey, he has focused recently on research around the historical origins of conflict.