

MSAS

**Malian Society of Applied Sciences
Société Malienne des Sciences Appliquées**



9th Mali Symposium on Applied Sciences (MSAS 2016)
9^e Symposium malien sur les sciences appliquées

Dates : July 31 – August 5, 2016

Location: Centre International de Conférence de Bamako

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Program on line : www.msas2016.ml

MSAS 2016 was made possible through the financial support of the Malian government (Presidency of the Republic, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research), the rectors of universities in Bamako and Segou, the University Agency Francophonie, the SOMAGEP, among other partners.

Origin and development of MSAS

MSAS is an initiative of Malian researchers from academia and industry living abroad. In April 1999, the Malian researchers living in Europe and North America contacted the Faculty of Science and Technology (FAST) of the University of Mali (renamed "University of Bamako") and Mali Mathematical Society (SMM) to encourage the residents and expatriate researchers and to involve researchers from other countries in a symposium on applied science, scheduled from 7 to 11 August 2000. A working group was then set up with the charge of preparing the first meeting "MSAS 2000".

MaliWatch Initiative was established in November 1997 in Washington, D.C., as civic organization without partisan allegiance, with a collegial coordination of commissions devoted to areas of intervention selected by the group. The Science and Technology Committee of MaliWatch served the MSAS Home platform in the early years of the symposium; MSAS and MaliWatch, two entities, have learned to work in synergy. In 2016 MaliWatch invested in MSAS with funds, soliciting international sponsors and mobilizing North American expertise in the field of science and technology, and public health.

Locally, a MSAS organizing committee was created in Bamako based in the FAST Dept, University of Mali.

MSAS later changed to include social sciences, and its program has constantly expanded and deepened. The following editions, held at regular intervals (2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014), saw the number of participants increase, with more interest from local students and researchers, more participation of researchers from other countries (Africa, Europe, America and Asia) and much more involvement of Malian authorities. Malian Society of Applied Sciences is based in Bamako since 2010 to sustain the gains of MSAS, cover the area of scientific research and production and to provide wider distribution of those gains.

Goals of MSAS

The fundamental mission of MSAS is to contribute to building national capacities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in Mali. The main objectives of MSAS are: (i) develop interdisciplinary research collaborations across scientific meetings; (ii) establish research teams; (iii) give students the opportunity to follow intensive courses and presentations by high-level teachers.

Activities of MSAS

The symposium focuses on applied sciences in the broadest sense (mathematics, physics, chemistry, information technology and communication, engineering sciences, energy sciences and the environment, agriculture, rural development and livestock management, mechanical and civil engineering, engineering and applications, medicine, life sciences and public health, economy and finance, social sciences, education, languages and technologies of languages, arts and culture).

The symposium is divided among five types of activities: (i) the plenary sessions for a wide audience and led by top researchers; (ii) the mini-symposia organized by scientific disciplines in a more traditional presentation framework, with adequate time for questions and general discussion; (iii) the special workshop sessions that aim to stimulate interactive exchanges and open discussion in successive presentations; (iv) site visits and visits to laboratories in Mali, and (v) intensive demonstrations during sessions for students.

Results of MSAS

During sixteen (16) years of existence, the MAS has brought results that are enumerated below.

1. Exchanges between researchers and presentation of research results

The MSAS events has brought tens of renowned researchers such as Prof. Sylvester James Gates, Jr. of the University of Maryland, Scientific Advisor to the US President Barack Obama and hundreds of talented students from various scientific disciplines to share their findings and make professional contacts. Also, the MSAS has developed cooperation between researchers at national, regional and international levels.

2. Workshops for students

With MAS conferences, registered students, master candidates or doctoral candidates are taking lessons from eminent professors in disciplines relevant to their training.

3. Publication of the Acts

The MSAS submissions go through a peer review. From each symposium, selected articles are published in the Symposium Proceedings. This has encouraged many Malian researchers to publish and use their publications to advance the ability of lists of CAM and is a national answer for the Committee.

4. Supplement to TOKTEN

The TOKTEN concerns the transfer of knowledge through expatriate nationals. MSAS contributes researchers from many other nationalities, besides the Malian and African diaspora and local experts. Also, contributing are members of the MSAS, doctoral candidate students and ongoing research projects in the faculties and colleges: USTTB, IPR, ENI, etc.

5. International Project Development

Under the MSAS and its collaborations, international and regional projects have been developed. Examples include the African Membrane Society (<http://www.sam-ptf.com/>), headquartered in ENI-ABT and the research group on software translation into local languages of Mali, based in Switzerland. Several Malian students were able, within the framework of these projects, to receive grants to work in specialized laboratories in Europe and America.

6. Participation in projects of the Government of Mali

Between 2007 and 2008, members of MSAS launched a mobilization that led to the National Education Forum in October 2008, whose resolutions have become a frame of reference. They also were instrumental in the design, organization and monitoring of that forum.

Members of MSAS also played an active role in organizing the Intellectual Diaspora Forum for Science and Technology, organized in 2010.

They also participated, in 2015, in the workshop for the development of a national science, technology and innovations policy, later participating in The Research Days in 2016, organized by the Ministry of Scientific Research of Mali.

7. Scientific xchange forum

MSAS has developed a platform for online exchanges between researchers. This facilitates the research and sharing of scientific information, the initiation of young researchers to the professional presentation folders under international calls for applications (scholarships and research, professional conferences, and specialization courses postdoctoral positions), and maintains continuous contact between Malian researchers worldwide.

8. Partners of MSAS

The Malian government, through the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and other departments, helps financially and logistically for organization of different editions of MSAS.

The symposium also received financial support and / or logistics from national and international organizations: MaliWatch Initiative, TOKTEN Program, African Society of membranes (Membrane Society African-AMS), World Bank; Norwegian Education Trust Fund (Norwegian Education Fund); Orange Mali; Sotelma-Malitel; Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF); Academy of Sciences of the Third World (TWAS); United States Agency for International Development (United States Agency for International Development - USAID); California Institute of Technology (Caltech); ICRISAT-CGIAR; University of Science, Techniques and Technologies Bamako (USTTB); National Engineering School Abderhamane Baba Toure (ENI-ABT); Rural Economy Institute (IER); Faculty of Science and Technology of USTTB; National Centre for University works (CENOU); National Committee for Agricultural Research (CNRA); Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAHS); Malian society for the management of drinking water (SOMAGEP); Sakho business CCIR and Khepera Association through its president Cheikh Mbacke Diop.

The main technical and financial reports of the various symposia were all published. The statutes, rules and other documentation can be found online MSAS: www.msas2016.ml/.

Organizational Chart of CA de MSAS

The officers and executive forming the board of MSAS

Membres élus du bureau (2014-2018)

#	First name(s) Family name(s)	Post
1	Mohomodou Houssouba	Président
2	Bakary Sakho	1 ^{er} Vice-Président
3	Mamadou Lamine Doumbia	2 ^{ème} Vice-Président
4	Amadou Koné	Secrétaire
5	Mamadou Koné	Trésorier
6	Fatoumata Camara	Trésorière Adjointe
7	Mahamane Seydou	Editeur des Publications

Elected members of the Executive Board (2014-2016)

#	Prénom(s) Nom(s)	Directeur / Directrice
1	Mamadou Dakouo	Levée de Fonds
2	Mme Soumaré Alima Diawara	Communication
3	Aly Bonkano	Division Etudiants
4	Ibrahima Baber	Scientifique
5	Jean Paul Mbelek	Recherche Industrielle
6	Harouna Maïga	Conférences MSAS

Honorary Members are :

- Pr Diola Bagayoko (USA)
- Pr Adama Traoré (Mali)