



26-28 FEB 2019

**BEATING FAMINE
CONFERENCE
THE SAHEL**



Register today

**The Sahel knows
how to beat
famine**

**Come and
discover how and
why the Sahel is
re-greening**

Enquiries:

info@evergreening.org

beatingfamine.com

Participant Information Note

BAMAKO

Bamako is the capital and administrative centre of Mali, with a population of 2,009,109. It is the largest city in the country and one of the largest in West Africa, estimated to be the fastest-growing city in Africa and sixth-fastest in the world. Bamako is located on the banks of the Niger River, near the rapids that divide the upper and middle Niger valleys in the southwestern part of the country. The name Bamako comes from the word “Bambara” meaning “river of crocodiles”.

VENUE



Baobab Grand Ballroom
Sheraton Bamako Hotel
Hamdallaye ACI 2000, En face de la Cité
Administrative, Bamako BP E 2566 Mali
Email: Assitan.Kante@sheratonhotels.com
Tel: +223 63 11 83 10/+223 20 70 52 52

Sheraton Bamako Hotel is strategically located in close proximity to Bamako's Modibo Keita International Airport and is situated in one of the city's most prominent neighborhoods, ACI 2000.

AIRPORT

Modibo Keita International Airport is Mali's main airport located approximately 15 kilometers south of downtown Bamako. It is the country's only international airport approximately 15km from the city center.

TRAVEL

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and are encouraged to purchase return flight tickets and make local transport arrangements (Mali residents outside Bamako) early enough to avoid high last-minute booking costs.

Participants will enjoy great discounts of up to 15% on business class and 12% on economy class tickets, offered by the official airline carriers of the Beating Famine Conference, Ethiopian Airlines and Kenya Airways and on all routes operated by the carriers. Booking on discounted rates is available on both carrier websites as follows:

Ethiopian Airlines

The Beating Famine Conference discount code is BFS19

Booking mode: online and ET ticket office

Visit www.ethiopianairlines.com/AA/EN/event/?key=Beating-Famine-Sahel-Conference

Valid: January 31st, 2019 to February 28th, 2019

For questions on how to complete a booking with your discount codes, please contact Hermela Gizaw on Hermelag@ethiopianairlines.com or +251115178711

Kenya Airways

To make bookings on KQ at the discounted rates, please contact Mrs Kadiatou Sangaré on Kadiatou.Sangare@kenya-airways.com

Valid: January 31st, 2019 to March 3rd, 2019

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A Yellow Fever vaccination certificate- valid 10 days after vaccination, is required on arrival from all travellers 1 year of age and older, hence a yellow fever certificate is an official travel document required at the port of entry. Kindly ensure your passport is valid for at least 6 months with at least one blank passport page available for Mali visa stamp, prior to travelling. Amendment pages in the back of the passport are not suitable for Mali visas.

ARRIVAL IN BAMAKO

All international participants are advised to arrive at least a day prior to the start of the Beating Famine Conference, that is, Monday, 25th February 2019 and settle in their hotels of choice as listed below. This will be an opportunity for those with exhibition/display spaces, sessions and posters to prepare and set up accordingly.

VISA

Citizens of the ECOWAS member states (list below) are exempted from obtaining visas for Mali.

Benin	Guinea Bissau
Burkina Faso	Liberia
Cabo Verde	Niger
Côte D' Ivoire	Nigeria
The Gambia	Senegal
Ghana	Sierra Leone
Guinea	Togo

All foreign citizens wishing to travel to Mali (with the exception of ECOWAS countries) will be required to apply for a visa prior to the intended arrival date in Bamako.

Option 1

As a special gesture by the government of Mali, all Beating Famine conference participants are eligible to obtain a Mali visa at no cost through the conference organisers. In order to qualify for this service, please send the requirements below to Nia Lansiry on **icraf-mali@cgiar.org** in one email, at least 5 business days before your expected travel date.

Information and documentation to send:

- Passport scan
 - Clearly visible full colour scan
 - 6-month validity from the date of entry to Mali
 - One blank page for Mali visa stamp
- Departing city
- Expected arrival date to Mali
- Expected departure date from Mali
- Duly filled application form. [Download](#)

Upon approval, we will provide applicants with a *note verbale* that can then be presented to the authorities at the airport in Bamako, Mali to obtain a joint free Visa for this conference.

PLEASE NOTE: incomplete applications will NOT be processed. Participants are urged to reconfirm all documents and requirements before submitting for processing.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, February 15, 2019 (5pm Bamako time)

Option 2

Participants are also able to apply through their Malian consular representations in their respective or neighboring countries and obtain visas on arrival.

Basic requirements:

1. Passport valid for 6 months from the date of entry to Mali with one blank page available for Mali visa stamp
2. Recent passport size photograph - dependent on duration of stay and country of application
3. Scanned copy of passport - for applications in neighbouring countries
4. Duly filled application form
5. Invitation letter/ hotel reservation (where applicable)
6. Air ticket (where applicable)
7. A copy of the yellow fever certificate (where applicable)
8. Visa application fee – dependent on country of application

Visa processing time: 10 working days or as specified by your respective consular representation. To avoid inconveniences, paying high expedite fees or missing out on attaining visas, we encourage participants to apply as soon as possible.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION WITHIN BAMAKO

Airport transfers:

Airport transport will be provided as a complimentary service to guests, by your hotel of choice, as follows:

- Airport – Hotel
- Hotel – Airport

Please look out for the hotel shuttle outside the international arrivals gate at the airport. In case of any problems locating your driver, kindly get in touch with your hotel contact person or enlist the services of taxi companies listed at the end of this document.

Though not necessary, it is advisable to confirm your return flight, with the hotel. Buses will be provided to transport participants to and from the Sheraton Hotel for the 3 days of the conference. Schedule to be shared in due course.

SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Mali continues to face significant political and security challenges, but Bamako remains relatively calm and safe for travel by foreigners.

Travelers should avoid areas in the northern parts of the country because of continuing insecurity and ongoing military operations. The situation in central Mali - in the Segou and Mopti Regions - is increasingly unstable due to intercommunal conflict and localized political violence, as well as an increasing number of armed attacks.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advise against all travel to:

- The regions of Tombouctou, Kidal and Gao
- Parts of the regions of Kayes and Koulikoro

Participants should expect a robust security presence including police patrols and possible police security checks on restaurants and hotels. In addition:

- Avoid places with lots of people, crowd gatherings (demonstrations, accident)
- Do not be out of your hotel or guest house beyond 2200 hours
- Never open your room for someone you don't know or was not expecting, even if the person shows signs of knowing you
- Don't take a taxi or urban means of transportation if you don't know exactly the direction or road to where you are going, unless those recommended in this document.
- Never accept a gift from someone you don't know even if they try to be friendly with you. This could be a poisoned gift.
- Night-time checkpoints operate in Bamako at various locations from approximately 9pm until dawn. Keep vehicle and personal identification documents with you at all times while travelling by road. Avoid military camps.
- Do not follow directly, military convoys in case of displacement- always leave a distance in between, in case of attacks.

LANGUAGE

French is the official language of Mali whereas Bambara is the most widely spoken, with very few English-speakers in general.

REGISTRATION

Early bird online registrations are ongoing....

A registration desk will be available at the international arrivals lobby throughout on February 25th whereby participants will be issued with conference badges and material. Participants are advised to look out for a table with a 'Beating Famine' placard where this process will be carried out.

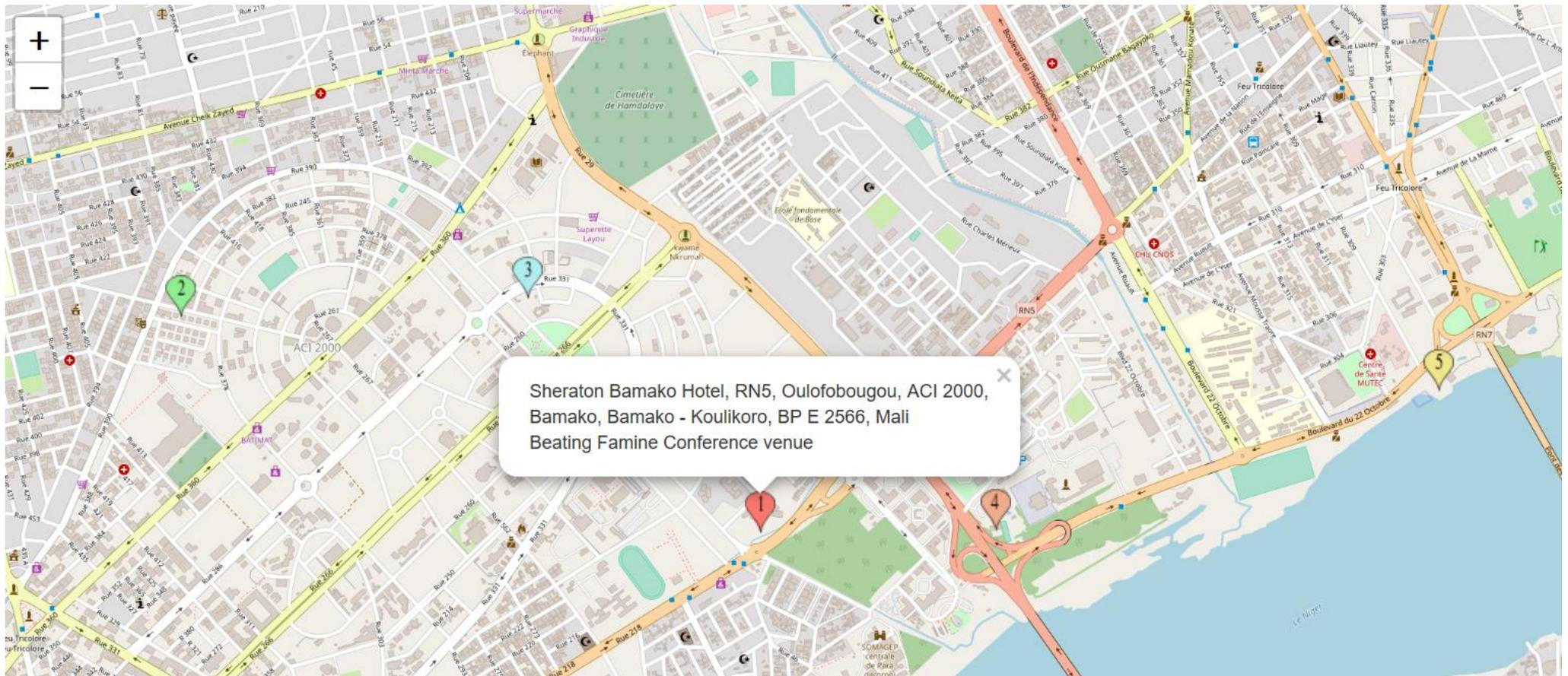
On-site registration will be carried out on Monday, February 25, 2019 at the Sheraton Hotel conference venue. Participants who will have arrived in Bamako are strongly encouraged to avail themselves for this exercise from 12pm to 8pm for access to conference badges and at-the-door payments. Registrations will continue on the morning of Tuesday, February 26, 2019, between 7:30 am and 9:00 am.

All are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities for early registration on February 25, 2019, as much as possible.

ACCOMMODATION

A list of recommended hotels has been established to welcome participants. Preferential rates have been negotiated and indicated in the table for this purpose. Participants have the option of making reservations themselves by contacting the hotel directly or by asking the local committee to book their room at the hotel of choice through the contact address provided below

To make the reservation, please email the selected hotel clearly referencing **“BEATING FAMINE CONFERENCE RESERVATIONS”** and indicate the arrival and departure times to enable the hotel to arrange for airport pick up as well.



Click the Name of the hotel to access its website

#	Hotels	Rooms categories	Room rate (Breakfast included)		Contact details
			CFA	US\$	
1	<p><u>Sheraton Bamako Hotel</u> *****</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-speed internet • Air-conditioning • Safe deposit box • Satellite television • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Chambre King size bed Single	110,000	192	<p>Assitan Kante Assitan.Kante@sheratonhotels.com Mob : +223 63 11 83 10 Tel : +223 20 70 52 52 Hamdallaye ACI 2000 BP E 2566</p>
		Chambre Club	120,000	209	
		Suite Junior	260,000	453	
2	<p><u>Radisson Blu Hotel, Bamako</u> ***** (2.2 km from Sheraton Hotel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-speed Wi-Fi • Individual climate control • Satellite television • Refrigerator • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Standard room	95,000	166	<p>Maimouna SIDIBE salesmanagers.bamako@radissonblu.com/ reservation.bamako@radissonblu.com Tel : +223 71 96 81 34/+223 44 29 00 00 ACI 2000 Hamdallaye BP E. 2566, Bamako Mali</p>
		Executive room	150,000	261	
3	<p><u>Hotel Massaley</u> *** (2.1 km from Sheraton Hotel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning • Wi-Fi • Flat screen TV • Refrigerator • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Standard	45,000	78	<p>Service de réservation Tel : 20.29.46.58 Mob : +223 72.71.48.40 ACI 2000 BP E3245</p>
4	<p><u>Azalai Hôtel Bamako (ex Salam)</u> *****</p> <p>(1.0km from Sheraton Hotel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning 	Standard room	83,500	145	<p>Aminata TRAORE SIDIBE aminata.sidibe@azalaihoteles.com reservationahs@azalaihoteles.com</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wi-Fi • Flat screen TV • Safe • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Executive room	93,500	163	Tel : +223 76403092 BP : 1060, Bamako Mali Quartier du fleuve/Bamako
5	Laïco Hôtel El Farouk (ex Kempinski) *** (2.7 km from Sheraton Hotel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning • Wi-Fi • Flat screen TV • Safe • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Standard room	55,500	97	Hamidou SANGARE front.office@laico-elfarouk.com Tel : +22366756624 Boulevard Du 22 Octobre 1946, Bamako, Mali, B.P. : E 1560
		Executive room	84,500	147	
6	Hôtel Colibris *** (7.3 km from Sheraton Hotel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning • Flat screen TV • Wireless • Refrigerator • Complimentary airport shuttle Breakfast buffet	Standard room	50,000	87	Monsieur KANE Mamadou contact@hotelcolobris.com Tel : +223 66793764/+223 20226637 Avenue de l'OUA, carrefour de Daoudabougou Bamako B.P. 7078 - Mali
		Executive room	75,000	131	
7	Laïco Hôtel de l'Amitié **** (3.0 km from Sheraton Hotel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning • Wi-Fi • Flat screen TV • Safe • Complimentary airport shuttle • Breakfast buffet 	Standard room	65,500	114	Mr Amadou CISSE amadou.cisse@hotel-lamitie.com Tel: +223 66 66 36 66 WhatsApp : +223 77 56 56 56 Avenue De La Marne, Bamako, Mali
		Executive room	87,500	152	
8	Millenium Hôtel *** (2.1 km from Sheraton Hotel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wi-Fi • Satellite TV • Safe • Breakfast buffet 	Standard room	50,500	88	Awa DEMBELE reservation@millenniumkamissahotel.com Tel : +223 66 18 46 98/+223 20 29 30 30 Hamdallaye ACI 2000, face à la DME Bamako
		Executive room	70,500	123	

TRANSLATION

The conference will be conducted in both French and English. Simultaneous translation/interpretation will be provided during the conference in all scheduled sessions.

POSTER SESSIONS

Session presenters and conference participants interested in displaying their posters to showcase information about their work in relation to the conference themes, announcing training opportunities, program initiatives and the results of action research are required to register their posters by February 1st, 2019. Participants will be required to have their posters mounted by 9:00 am on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

EXHIBITION/DISPLAY SPACE

Areas for display of materials will be available in the form of exhibition booths, tables and foyers where organisations can showcase their work in the various sectors for sharing and learning purposes. Details on registration and display space specifications will be provided soon. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your good work to hundreds of practitioners, experts and decision makers!

BEATING FAMINE AWARDS

The inaugural Beating Famine Awards will recognize achievements of individuals, communities, organisations and governments in land restoration in the Sahel region. These awards are designed to recognize not only success in restoration and greening, but also where the awardee has gone the extra mile to share this success with others, in order to support its spread and scaling up. These achievements could be through training, mentoring, innovations to better meet community needs, exceptional project design and implementation, or policy reforms that have contributed to greening practices, scaling for the region, and beyond.

Award winners will be announced at the conference Gala dinner event on the 27th of February 2019.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Time zone

Mali lies within the West Africa Time Zone +00- Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Weather

The weather in Bamako is forecasted to be mostly sunny and hot in February during the day with warmer temperatures at night. The average maximum daytime temperature in Bamako in February is 44°C. The average night-time temperature is 26°C. It would be advisable to carry appropriate clothing for the duration.

Data roaming and local phone cards

There are 3 mobile phone companies in Mali

- Orange Mali
- Malitel
- Telecel Mali

SIM cards are sold through authorized agencies and mobile retailers. These cards are available at the airport car park at a cost of 1500 FCFA or 3\$.

Currency

The unit of currency for Mali is the West African CFA franc (XOF).

The exchange rate is subject to market fluctuations but is currently 500 FCFA = 1USD.

Banking and currency exchange services are available at the airport, in forex bureaus in town, hotels and banks within Bamako.

Money/credit cards

Mali largely uses cash for transactions and banking facilities, including card payments and ATMs are very limited outside major cities. Credit cards are not commonly used and are mostly acceptable in a few banks, large hotels and restaurants, with the Visa card being the mostly accepted card and occasionally, MasterCard or American Express.

Electricity

The standard voltage in Mali is 220 volts and the frequency is 50 Hz. Power outlets in Mali generally accept one type of plug pictured. For other types, you may be required to carry a universal adapter.



Travel/Medical Insurance

It is the responsibility of the participant to secure travel health insurance during this period for any medical attention, emergency and other travel related risks. In addition, having easily accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment required, is recommended, for any uncertainties.

Health

Cholera, malaria and other tropical diseases are common to Mali. Participants may need to take prescription medicine before, during, and after the trip for malaria prevention, in consultation with your doctor to determine the correct medicine and steps to be taken in preventing malaria. Outbreaks of meningitis also occur, usually from the end of February to mid-April; necessary precaution is recommended.

*Pasteur Medical Centre and Polyclinique Pasteur are the closest facilities to Sheraton Bamako Hotel and can easily be accessed when the need arises.

Water

Tap water is not safe for drinking. Bottled drinking water will be provided during the conference, at meals, and in your hotel room.

Dressing

Clothing among Malians is predominantly African in style with more Western styles worn during the work week.

It is advisable for both men and women to dress appropriately and when wearing shorts, it is best to cover up, down to the knees. Women are not required to cover their hair, shoulders or arms, but should cover their legs down to the knees, and avoid any tight-fitting clothing. Modesty should be exercised in outfit selection.

Cotton and other natural fabrics are more comfortable in this climate thus participants should carry light clothing for the hot season of November to February.

Religious communes

The Great Mosque of Bamako

1.9 miles from hotel

Yacouba Guindo Mosque

1.7 miles from hotel

The Sacred Heart Cathedral

Avenue Modibo Keita, Door 1034

3.1 miles from hotel

Local attractions

National Zoo of Mali

Avenue Modibo Keita, Bamako, Mali

3.1 miles from hotel

Bamako National Park

Avenue de la Liberte Bamako, Mali

3.1 miles from hotel

National Museum of Mali

Avenue de la Liberte Bamako, Mali

3.1 miles from hotel

Orca Shopping Center

ACI 2000, Avenue Cheikh Zayed,

Bamako, Mali

1.9 miles from hotel

The Big Market of Bamako

Downtown, Bamako, Mali

3.1 miles from hotel

Parc national du Mali, Bamako

3.4 miles from hotel

Bamako Artisan Market

2.4 miles from hotel

Monument of Independence

1.2 miles from hotel

Taxi service

Yellow Taxi

Amadou KY Tel - +223 72 11 72 88

Mamadou - +223 62 29 67 77/74 68 95 36

Sekouba - +223 76 33 23 00

Approx. rates from airport to Sheraton Hotel - 5000 FCFA/\$10 & 2000 FCFA per trip.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Police station Point E - 80 00 11 15

Center of aid - 80 00 11 11

Gendarmerie - 80 00 11 14

Fire fighters - 80 00 12 01

National guard - 80 00 11 25

World Vision Mali

Saidou Kabre

Tel: +223 20 22 38 22

Security manager

Tel: +223 65 00 31 44

ICRAF Mali

Nia Lansiry

Tel: +223 2070 9220/4490 1807

Mob: +223 66 98 48 20/ 76 90 48 90

Arc-en-ciel & AIKE Partners

Mrs Aïssata Sidibe Diop

Tel: +223 75 08 03 13/66 75 81 83

Email: aisidibe@aikepartners.com

For more enquiries about the conference and your stay in Bamako, Mali please contact the persons indicated below through the email info@evergreening.org, making reference to the specific person and topic of interest.

Workshop material and information

Dennis Garrity

Conference Sponsorship

Dennis Garrity

Saidou Kabre

Djalal Arinloye

Participant sponsorship

Saidou Kabre

Online registrations

Liz Rinaudo

Logistics

Saidou Kabre
Winnie Achieng'
Liz Rinaudo

Visa and accommodation

Saidou Kabre
Marie Camara
Nia Lansiry

Exhibitions

Saidou Kabre

Communications and publicity

Patrick Worms
Samuel Baafi
May Muthuri

Poster display

Robert Winterbottom

We look forward to meeting and welcoming you to the 3rd Beating Famine Conference. We hope this information will help you prepare optimally for your travel and stay in Bamako. Safe Travels!