



**Mali  
Development Group**

# Mali Development Group Annual Report 2008

Faces of Volunteers



Mali Development Group gratefully acknowledges the support of Gifford in producing this report  
Charity number 1088140



## Welcome

to the 2007/8 MDG Annual Report. The theme of this year's report is volunteering, and you can read about some of the volunteers in the UK, and Mali, who have contributed their time and effort to MDG and our partners, Jeunesse et Développement.

Everyone involved with MDG is a volunteer, and making the best use we can of the skills and interests offered by members is one of our most fundamental commitments. You will see from this report the wide range of talent and experience we have called on. In the coming year we want to broaden the number of people regularly involved. One of the main ways will be an increase in the number of people running their own fundraising events for MDG, and we will be putting out an information pack to members about that soon.

Being a Malian volunteer in Mali raises other issues, and Sue Upton describes those in her section of the report. During the year both the young men of Mafelé, with their work on the Barrage, and the Peer Educators in Bamako have shown impressive commitment to the improvement of their communities and a better future. You can read their views, too, in the following pages.

We have been able to support a great deal of work in Mali during 2007/8. As well as the Barrage, and the third full year of the Reproductive Health Programme we have sustained our help to a group of women suffering from fistula in Bamako, through our Women for Hope project; enabled Kader Keita to continue his work with groups of Street Children, and maintained our support to rural communities in Manankoro.

Some of the rural projects are small-scale, like providing medications for a clinic, or the funds to help sustain a market garden. These projects may be small but they make a real difference to local people, and always back-up the longer-term development work of J&D in the villages concerned. In the coming year we also plan to fund projects in Yanifolila - another rural area, where J&D now works with funding from Methodist Relief Development Fund to improve child care and health. Fraser Horn, who visited as a volunteer recently, gives you his impressions later in the report.

Smaller projects are often achievable because individual members take a special interest in them. This does give people a very direct involvement in J&D's work. MDG regards feedback to members about all the projects as a really important priority, both through our web site [www.malidg.org.uk](http://www.malidg.org.uk) and through our quarterly newsletter. Our Link Worker, Tanty Samake is a member of the J&D team and keep us regularly informed through progress reports and regular emails. This means that we can respond effectively to questions from members, and anyone interested in Mali.

Our links with other groups in the UK have also strengthened in the last year and Andy Benson has continued to coordinate the Mali Interest Group (MIG), which enables groups working with Malian partners to share information and work collaboratively. We have been especially pleased to work more closely with British-based Malians through the

Malian Community Council over the last year. The focus for this has been the joint planning of a London Conference, 'Mali Now, Mali, the Vision'- which will take place on November 27th at the Princess Diana Memorial Fund HQ in central London.

As Secretary to MDG I am backed up by a great team of Committee members - as well as Andy Benson's work with MIG, we have Linda King who has coordinated our fundraising activity from the beginning. Ken King provides our IT support and runs our web site; David and Janice Hedge work hard as Treasurer and Membership Secretary respectively. Ray Fishbourne has been involved in the planning and delivery of a number of our projects, and of course Andrea Hewes gives us a design capacity that we could never achieve otherwise.

Laurence Lalanne-Devlin, Chair of MDG from our foundation as a charity, resigned during 2007/8. She deserves great credit for her energy, commitment and expertise over the years, and the good news is that, although she will now concentrate more on the Friends of Bonou organisation, she will remain involved in MDG as a member. I visited Benin in January this year and saw some of the excellent work, which Friends of Bonou is supporting. FOB and MDG share many values in common, and I am sure that the two organisations will continue to be mutually supportive in the years ahead.

2008 saw MDG pass the £250,000 milestone, and 2009 will be our 10th year of work, so we will plan to celebrate that in style with more activities and more projects achieved. We hope you will be there to help us with that and many thanks for your help with the journey so far.

**John Hedge.**  
**Secretary to Mali Development Group**

## **Financial Report for the Year ended 31st March 2008**

### **Income in the financial year to 31st March 2008**

Income increased by about £12,000 compared with the prior year to over £49,400. Significant credit items included the following:

- Contributions related to the 2007 Truckfest festival, to assist the Reproductive Health project.
- Organisational and Trust donations rose from £9,370 to £26,437 and included contributions from the Didcot Rotary Trust Fund (£5,000) for the Reproductive Health project, and a number of grants towards the Barrage project, notably the Triodos Foundation (£3,000), Allan & Nesta Ferguson Trust (£7,150) and the Gifford company (£5,000)
- Gift Aid refunds to the amount of £3,009.
- Alternative Gift Voucher sales of about £575, and Christmas Draw income of £1,456.
- We received well over £2,500 from sponsorship of Zoe Sinclair's 2007 London Marathon run, taking the amount raised by this event to almost £4,000, with further money due to come from Gift Aid.

The number of members increased, and subscription income rose accordingly, as well as giving from member donations.

During the year, MDG passed the £250,000 level of income raised since inception for a voluntary based charity - a really important landmark for the charity.

### **Expenditure**

MDG's expenditure is determined by shared priorities with our partners J&D, and these are based on an agreed 3-year work plan.

Payments are made to J&D on a quarterly basis normally to coincide with the Malian Financial year,

starting on the 1st January. MDG receives regular reports from J&D on progress and priorities can be adjusted on the basis of feedback and new issues.

Outgoings amounted to £57,481 in the year 2007/8. Transfers to J & D amounted to £55,450 compared to £28,000 in 2006/07 and this is primarily accounted for by the completion of the Barrage project. The range of funded projects is described elsewhere in this report, and includes work in both Bamako and Manankoro.

Other running costs amounted to only 3.5% of MDG's expenditure, and this proportion also included expenditure on the professional visit of Mamadou Kone, J&D's Director in Summer 2007. International Service, one of J&D's main UK partners helped support this visit, and we were very grateful for their help. MDG therefore has very small overheads, in line with the charity's commitment to volunteer service, the theme of this year's annual report. We employ no-one and rely entirely on the skills of our members. Overheads included such items as secretarial expenses, public liability insurance and printing costs.

A deficit of £8,436 represented outgoings being in excess of annual income compared with a £5,220 surplus in the prior year. This is accounted for by the difference between the UK and Malian financial years.

### **The Current Financial Year**

Since April 2008 income is generally in line with last year and the committee is planning ahead to meet the commitments involved in the new Work Plan. Our plan to involve more members in running their own events, will be an important priority for 2009. Success with this will be a helpful way of celebrating our 10th year.

**David Hedge,**  
**Treasurer, Mali Development Group**



**Becky and Mark both work for Gifford, our main partners in the barrage project. They were selected by Gifford to travel to Mali and work on the project.**

### **Mark Richardson**

For me volunteering creates hope, for example, helping with the construction of a barrage in Mafèlè, provides hope that useable water will be more abundant. I believe hope is a crucial concept across today's changing world and creating islands of hope is good way to influence positive change, a type of subtle activism I suppose. In conjunction with this, the communication which surrounds any volunteering activities creates opportunity to learn and spread knowledge. Personally I find this extremely rewarding, to be given the chance to learn about and live amongst different societies.

It's hard to say 'what I took home' or 'how my experience changed me', my time in Mali was far too gentle to create a dramatic personal adjustment. My experiences and feelings were real and will stay with me. In this way, I guess, I have changed.

Apart from the work on the barrage, a highlight of my time in Mali was the music. On occasion the people from the village would gather around with drums, calabash seeds and Griots (praise singers). The music would last into the night with dancing,

laughing and even the occasional forest spirit. These traditional, informal celebrations captured the essence of Mali for me.

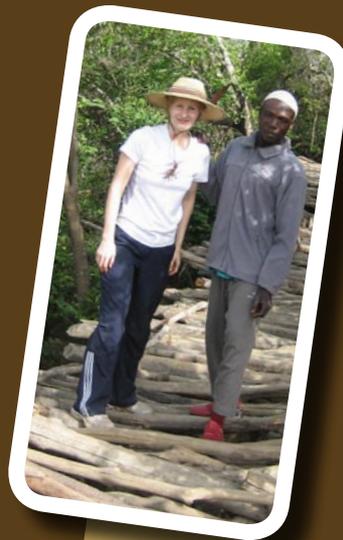
## Becky Mulley

I wanted to go to Mali and work on the barrage project because I have travelled in the past and have seen poverty and hardship first hand, but never had the opportunity to do anything practical to help. The barrage project seemed a brilliant project that would enable more people in the area to be self-sufficient and reduce their over-reliance on cash crops. I wanted to give up my time and get involved in a worthwhile project, and at the same time challenge myself to manage in a strange environment without the home comforts I am used to.

Mali was an amazing country with beautiful scenery and colourful, friendly people. J&D looked after us really well, and the villagers were both welcoming and accommodating. The villagers accepted us into their community and were all very friendly, despite the fact that I couldn't speak their language. There were times when I felt isolated, was struggling in the heat, was frustrated by the language barriers and was missing my family and friends. But the overall experience was so worthwhile and it was wonderful to be working on the construction site and have a common purpose and feel the same sense of achievement as the local people.

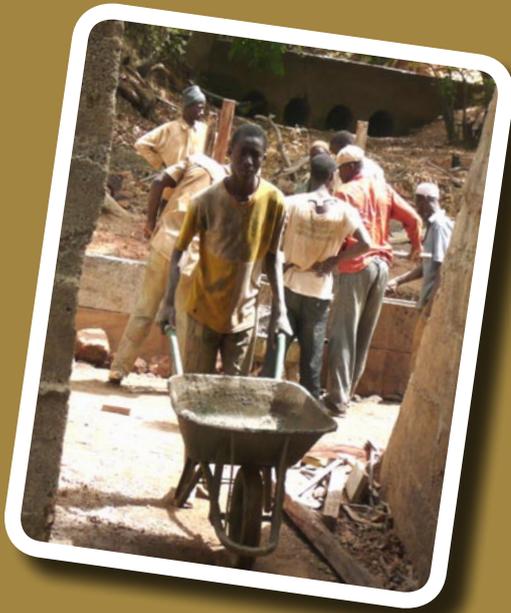
The barrage project seemed to be a resounding success. The structure was well-built and strong, and was even completed a few days ahead of time. The villagers were enthusiastic and excited by the project and it will be great to hear the difference it will make to their lives over the next few years.

I have been lucky enough to make some new friends and learn about a completely new culture from the one I am used to living in. My experience in Mali is one that I know I will never forget.



*"It was wonderful to be working on the construction site and have a common purpose and feel the same sense of achievement as the local people."*

*Becky*



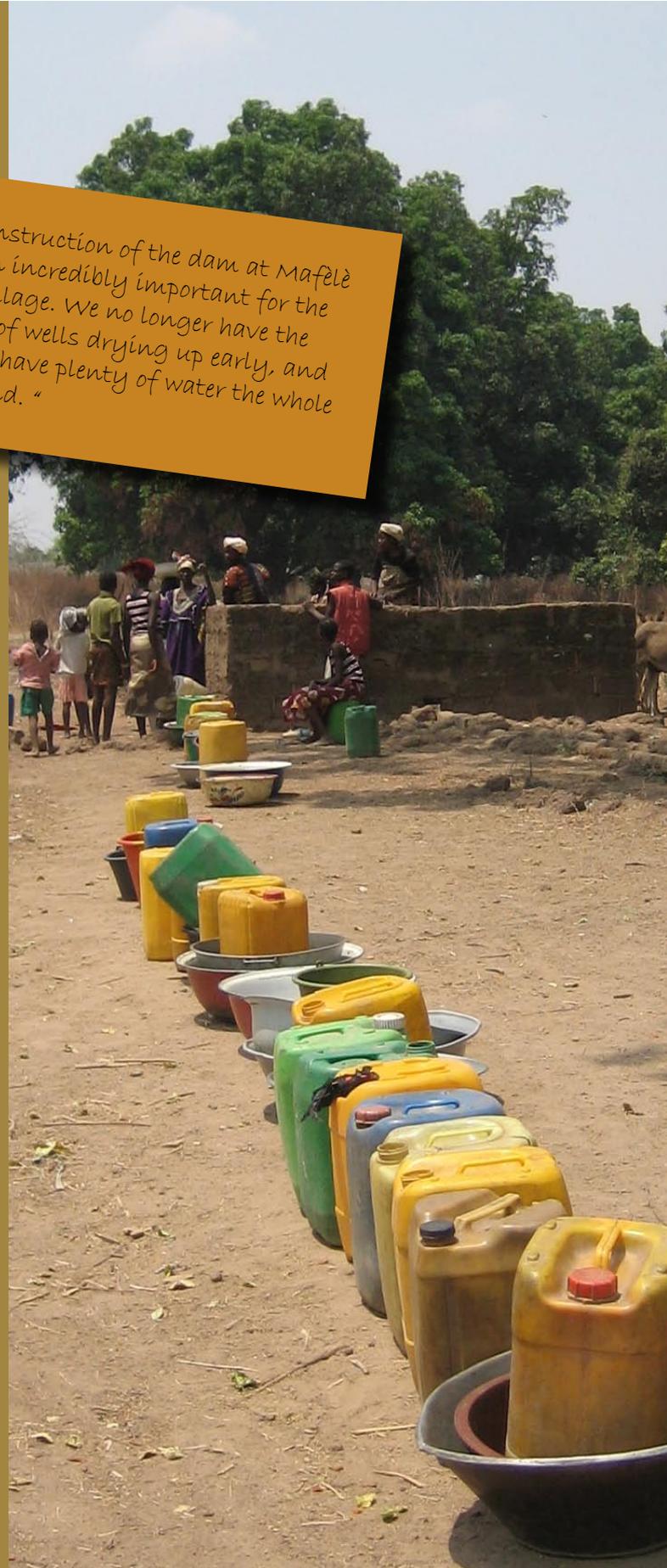
*"The construction of the dam at Mafèlè has been incredibly important for the whole village. We no longer have the problem of wells drying up early, and animals have plenty of water the whole year round."*

**Sory Sidibé**  
**President of the Young People's organisation**  
**in Mafèlè**

The construction of the dam at Mafèlè has been incredibly important for the whole village. We no longer have the problem of wells drying up early, and animals have plenty of water the whole year round. Our diet in the village has improved and it's possible now to look forward to better fishing and more market gardening.

The participation of the two English volunteers was eagerly awaited. The villagers were astonished to see how hard they worked on site alongside the local volunteers. They calmed down the young local construction volunteers, who had been arguing a lot. During their stay they created a very good image, and also made courtesy visits to meet local people and to the Market garden run by local women.

We were very sorry when they left because they had such a big impact on site, and helped everyone to get involved and work well together.



**Peer Educators - J&D's Reproductive Health Programme, funded by MDG trains young people to help other young people, both in and out of school, in Bamako, Mali's capital.**

**Yissat Diakité**  
**Non-school Peer Educator**  
**Age : 16 years**

Good reproductive health knowledge is really important for young people. Before I got involved I just took it all for granted, and I have a confession to make - I had three sexual partners and didn't use any protection. I had an infection which lasted 6 months and I tried to treat it myself. It was only when I had the training that I realised you have to be very careful with an illness like that. We all learnt about sexuality in informal groups - you have to understand that there was no way of getting reliable information until the Peer Educator programme began in our area. Thanks to the training on the Peer Education programme I learnt to control my sexuality. I learnt about the problems of unwanted pregnancies and the risk of getting HIV. I have had my HIV test and am clear, and this has reinforced my commitment. I have also been able to pass my knowledge on to lots of other young people. J&D and the Reproductive Health Programme are great!



**Aminata Bah**  
**School based Peer Educator**  
**Age : 16 years**

As far as I am concerned, the Programme is one of the best things J & D does, for the simple reason that it helps young people have a healthy and responsible sex life. The training made all sorts of things much clearer for me - my knowledge had been hazy before.

For example, the idea passed on between girls that you are especially at risk during your periods, or the idea that to avoid getting pregnant you need to drink coca cola or tonic after having sex ! Those



are the kind of mistakes and ideas that you heard about daily. Thanks to the J&D programme I've understood sexual issues much more clearly .

I can tell you that in our district many girls were getting pregnant, but with the programme, and the Peer Educators, working in both schools and the community, this has been reducing.

Today I am very proud to be a Peer Educator - it's a really good cause. I hope very much that it will continue.

**SUE UPTON** - whose idea to establish a UK based support group for J&D was the inspiration behind MDG. She lives in Bamako and is now the Treasurer of J&D.



## **Faces of volunteering at J&D by Sue Upton**

It's not always easy for J&D to find seven management committee members with the necessary skills and knowledge as well as the time to do the work. We see it as important that members are volunteers and they contribute in a variety of ways: attending meetings, reviewing policy documents, supporting the executive team and reporting back to the wider membership. One of their most valuable functions is networking through different contacts and connections. As treasurer my aim is to ensure that we have transparent and effective financial management systems and comply with audit recommendations and reporting requirements. I also do other bits of voluntary work for J&D such as web site development and some translation and fund raising from time to time. However, in the Malian environment where many people don't earn a living, the concept of volunteering has its limits. Local project volunteers fulfil functions such as literacy teaching or community health education and are often the only people working on a project who are not paid, in addition to being among the poorest. While they may benefit from training opportunities and increased status in their communities, their work is central to many development initiatives and J&D (among others) is increasingly advocating for it to be recognised and paid for by government and other development funders. We no longer find it acceptable that they should be expected to work for nothing "because it's for their community" when this means less time for farming or other occupations and others receive increasingly substantial salaries as they move up the project hierarchy. Another face of volunteering at J&D is revealed through the young men and women who come to work on a regular basis for months at a time to learn about what is going on and do whatever needs to be done in the hope that a post will become available - and at least 6 of our current team started out like this. So volunteering is certainly important within J&D and, at the same time, work needs to be acknowledged and valued, and development needs to be sustainable - which provides quite a conundrum at times!

## Pat Goodwin

Although I've spent most of my professional life in the statutory sector working as a probation officer and then as a school counsellor, it's my experience as a volunteer, and working with volunteers, that has taught me how much more can be achieved when the public and voluntary sectors work together. From my early days as a member of a North London youth club, through my probation career which included managing a hostel and a day centre, to my involvement with a pioneering GP clinic in Oxford which provides services to homeless people, I've learned the value of harnessing the experience, energies and creativity of volunteers, and of contributing as a volunteer myself.

My work with the MDG has concentrated mainly on fund-raising, especially to pay for medications. But my commitment to the project runs much deeper than the term 'fund-raising' might suggest. By visiting Mali myself, I've experienced at first hand the remarkable contribution that local people are making to the well-being of their own communities, for example in their work as peer educators; and I've seen with my own eyes the benefits of the MDG supporting and enhancing the work of the locally based NGO, Jeunesse et Développement, rather than trying to go it alone. The collaboration of the two groups means that the MDG's contribution is based in local experience, and has a focus that it might otherwise lack.

I've also been struck by the parallels between the development of the medical facilities in Mali and the early days of the Luther Street medical centre in Oxford. Two different continents, and thousands of miles apart – but there's an awful lot that the one can learn from the other. And maybe it's volunteers like me who are best placed to straddle two such apparently different worlds, see what they have in common, and apply the knowledge and experience gained in one for the benefit of the other.



*"...maybe it's volunteers like me who are best placed to straddle two such apparently different worlds, see what they have in common, and apply the knowledge and experience gained in one for the benefit of the other."*





## Andrea Hewes

I am an artist, graphic designer and aspiring potter. After visiting Mali in 2001, shortly after MDG was set up, I produced a series of paintings and photographs of the region. It gave me a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the people we had met during the visit, and along with Gill Hedge, who made some pots inspired by the colours of Mali, we had an exhibition at the Playhouse, Oxford, raising some money for MDG. Since then, I have been doing the graphics for MDG and, as such, have the enjoyable task of putting words and pictures together in an informative and visually appealing way.

My visit to Mali has given me an insight to the work being done there, and images of the people and their land are constantly rearranging themselves in my mind's eye. They are continually 'topped up' by the photos brought back by other volunteers and help me to 'paint a picture' of Mali each time I design a leaflet or exhibition board.

Gill and I share a wonderful picture of the ladies of Lemouroutoumou where MDG financed one of the first projects in Mali – a grain mill for the villagers. Like all villages there is a central area where meetings and dances are held under the shade of an enormous mango tree. On one particular day, the women were gathered in a circle.

I had written in my diary: "Being surrounded by so many brightly dressed women gave the impression of a warm and colourful building – the people became the walls."

For me, being a volunteer for MDG enables me to connect in a small way with the people of Mali whom I have a great deal of respect for in the way they live, often with very few resources. Their communities however, have a lot to teach us about working together, helping, and respecting one another. It also gives me an opportunity to use my talents for a charity I believe is extremely worthwhile.



mile walks (which is good for a 16 year old), putting my mum's books to good use at the book sales, selling raffle tickets with Alanna, and last but not least, the yummy food served at the MDG events.

I have felt being part of the MDG has opened my eyes to the world around me and has helped me to be more grateful for my easy lifestyle, opportunities and possessions, although I do not always act grateful.

I am now 19 and I am currently studying for a nursing degree. So as you can imagine the majority of my time is spent working in a hospital, having my head in a laptop doing essays, and as every teenager does, going out and socialising. But I still enjoy going to the MDG events and learning about people's experiences of Mali. What I have gained from being part of MDG is more than I have given. But I guess what has been said a million times before is that EVERY PENNY COUNTS.

## Chrissie Tasnier

I first came to learn of the MDG when I was 13. It was Christmas day and Linda with persuasive ways encouraged us to sign up with MDG as a family. I instantly became interested in learning about Mali's culture, lifestyle and the issues surrounding the poverty in Mali, and this work MDG is involved in. The first few events I remember going to were a sponsored walk and one of the Christmas parties at Linda and Ken's house.

Although I first joined MDG as a school girl whose source of income was her pocket money and paper round job, I have always been encouraged by Linda, Ken and John, that every individual's contribution, be it small or large, counts, as when it all gets put together it makes a big amount.

Over the years I have gone to many MDG events, and I have enjoyed meeting people of all different ages, with different careers and unusual hobbies that are passionate and put 100% into MDG's cause.

I have also got a lot of fun memories to look back on such as sleeping in a teepee for the weekend singing around a campfire, playing silly games at the Christmas parties (usually made up by Linda), going on 6



Far right Linda King, who got Chrissie involved with MDG. Laurence Lalanne-Devlin is seated behind Linda, and to the left is Tanty Samake, our Link Worker in the J&D team, and Cheryl Boorman, MDG member.

## Fraser Horn

I went to Mali at the end of April, travelling from Heathrow, via Charles de Gaulle to land in Bamako. Prior to leaving, I had a large number of vaccinations - this is vital to anyone intending to stay for any length of time there. You also need to take anti-malarial tablets and have a way of sterilising water, such as iodine tablets.

My arrival in Bamako was a larger culture shock than I had expected - it was far removed from anything I had experienced. I was met at the airport by Mamadou Kone, Director of J&D and my entry and visa needs were all facilitated by him and the J&D office there. I spent the first two days in Bamako, at the J&D office before taking the bus (about five hours journey time) to Yanifolila where I was based for my stay. The village is in the Sikasso region, and district of Wasaluballe. The villages I visited were all within a circle from Yanifolila and travel to them was by pillion on the back of a motorbike, pretty much always on unmade roads, or just straight across country. I visited nine villages in all, and revisited some several times. I lived at the J&D offices with the local workers in Yanifolila, but ate each day with Mamadou Diarra, the J&D co-ordinator there.

My role was to act as observer of the local workers, assisting where I could, as they carried out their daily tasks.

Their work included organising meetings for the mothers of each village, where the women all contributed what they could to the central kitty/pot. Discussion would then take place about how best to spend the money to benefit the children and the village. During these meetings the

female J&D worker would advise individual women about breast feeding and childbirth spacing. These intimate discussions were held out of earshot of any male workers or husbands, as it is not culturally polite to discuss in public.

The babies and toddlers are fed a diet rich in nuts, which are mashed and softened for them to eat, in addition to breast milk. Breast feeding well into toddlerhood is encouraged, as it is safe for the infants and helps to contribute towards spacing of children.

Other meetings were to explain with the aid of pictures, that Mali is democratic and that all Malians can vote now. It was very touching to see how happy this made the ladies of the villages, especially as all I had done was fill in a form in England and got my vote automatically.



The J&D Yanifolila Team, Fraser Horn bottom right

At the end of these meetings the women would often dance and sing and clap for us, to celebrate.

I visited the school in Yanifolila, and saw a classroom with about 60 children in it, of all ages, all of them eager to learn. They were delighted when I was able to leave crayons and pencils and colouring books with them.

I also visited the hospital, where the medical director showed me round very proudly. I had travelled out with some small supplies of medical kit and antibiotics, which I left. The word hospital does not equate to what we in the developed world would perceive as a hospital. It is basic indeed.

In one village, called Tantou, I was given the honour of presenting a prize to the children after the village had held a bicycle race.

On another occasion, the chief of a village gave me a live chicken as a gift. This made for great fun..... Holding on pillion to the J&D worker, holding the clucking chicken by its feet, and travelling approximately 30 kilometres, off road, back to Yanfolila!!

I gave the chicken to Mamadou Diarra's wife when I got back, Diarra said she would know what to do with it.... We ate very well that evening; roast chicken and bananas.

Food is based almost entirely on rice with each meal and a spicy sauce to go with it. There are plenty of mangoes and some nuts too.

I spent about ten and a half weeks in Mali and got to know the people quite well, particularly

some of the younger J&D workers. In most of the villages I was the first European they had seen, and the children would at first be shy, then gradually relax, especially when I showed them their pictures on my camera, which they thought was very funny indeed.

I was given a number of names while I was in Yanifolila, which included touabou, and touabouni, which mean white man, and little white man. Although the business language in Mali is French, most people speak the Bambara language, of which I have mastered quite a few words and can understand quite a lot more.

For anyone thinking of going out to Mali, I would thoroughly recommend it, indeed I would like to go back again, subject to my chosen career in the Navy. I would stress that the people were warm, friendly and welcoming. They have so little and yet are willing to share so much. The traveller does need to appreciate the very basic conditions there and the effect of the relentless heat.



**A letter from Violet Diallo MBE, Patron of Mali Development Group, former British Consul in Bamako, and now a Development Consultant in Mali.**

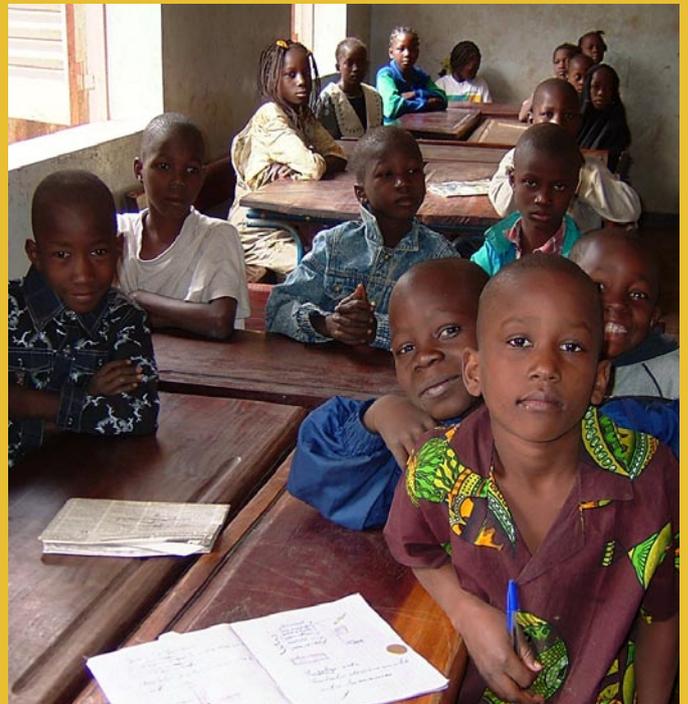
Dear MDG members,

So much depends on rain in Mali that it is a great pleasure to be in the middle of a really good rainy season, enjoying a day you would normally associate with a Test Match or Wimbledon: raining constantly, everything leafy and gently soggy. Providing the locusts, rats, or millet eating sparrows don't turn up to snatch half the harvest, life should be reasonably secure for Mali, covering the basic need for cereals throughout the country, and controlling food prices, that are on the rise as everywhere else. With our really basic need being met, social services are attracting attention again, and it is here that organisations like MDG and their Malian partners especially come into their own. Two Jeunesse & Développement examples spring to mind.

First, everyone, especially if they work in education, complains about the public education system. A countrywide public consultation has just started and it has been worked out that less than a quarter of the system's income actually reaches schools. Raising parents' awareness of the key issues is the most obvious way of helping them claim accountability from the "system". Many parents are not literate, though, so J&D's pre-schooling work, which parents find completely unthreatening, together with adult literacy, enables the most excluded education consumers to understand what questions need to be asked for their children. Incidentally, Mali now has a "Vérificateur Général de la République", a public audit official, who has begun to review things like the mystery of schools spending. His reports are thorough and comprehensible, - an important step towards the accountability that guarantees citizens' rights. I wonder what he would have to say about SATs in the UK?



*Malick Sidibé the photographer, subject of Cosima Spender's film Doce Vita Africana that was shown by BBC4 this year with Violet Diallo*



The second example is from public health. The latest international Demographic and Health Survey for Mali shows an alarming situation. Public health in Mali is based on an admirable system of Health Centres, run by Community Health Associations. However, they are seriously under-used. The research showed that, on average, a Malian uses a Centre for only 0.2 consultations per year. Contribution costs may be one factor, but crucial also is the serious lack of information about what is on offer. In Yanifolila, J&D is providing the kind of basic information and education needed to help rural people understand what modern health care can do. In the same way there is a great need for information on HIV prevention for young people, and the MDG funded programme in Bamako has helped many to know what is available, where to go and what to expect.

So, please continue supporting MDG, and rest assured that the programmes it supports are needed and are based on rational choices. And please continue to enjoy your contacts with Mali – perhaps a visit or attendance at the Conference MDG is hosting with Malian UK residents in November.

Very good wishes to all,

**Violet Diallo**



MDG and Haut Conseil du Mali members meet to discuss the joint London Conference. The Haut Conseil is the organisation representing Malians living in the UK.

## **A message from Wilfred Willey, leader of the Malian community organisation Haut Conseil du Mali.**

Our collaboration with MDG dates as far back as 2000, well before the Haut Conseil time. We were known then as MAWA (Mali Welfare Association). Ever since, MDG has always been present at our events, from the Brockley Park exhibition of Malian artefacts to our now famous Independence Day parties.

We have developed our collaboration from just exchanging information and data to working fully on concrete issues, such as the joint attempt at tackling problems over visas, and more recently work on our joint Mali Vision conference, which takes place in London in November.

Both our organisations have contributed to the very successful, in my opinion, twinning of Hay-on-Wye and Timbuktu.

To this date, MDG are the only external organisation that we cooperate with on a regular basis. This is due to our common belief in Mali and our shared vision of how Mali should be helped to help itself.

**GIVE A GIFT TO MALI**  
**BUY A VOUCHER FOR YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY**

Mali  
Development Group



items available are:

Mali Development Group works in partnership with the Malian agency Jeunesse et Développement to support their development work in Mali, West Africa. Funds raised from the sale of vouchers will be used on the projects described on the back of the inserts and regular reports about those projects, and the results of the voucher scheme will be posted on the MDG web site, so that you can see the overall impact of these gifts.

You can buy these vouchers from:  
50 Friar St  
Sudbury  
Suffolk  
CO10 2AG  
or  
the website:

[www.malidg.org.uk](http://www.malidg.org.uk)

**SCHOOL DESKS**

For schools in the Manankoro area  
Cost: £40 each

**BLACKBOARDS WITH EASELS**

for Reflect circles teaching adult literacy and for primary schools in the Manankoro area  
Cost: £25 each

**SCHOOL STARTER PACKS**

Cost: £20 each (deluxe pack with text books)  
£10 each (basic stationary pack)

**FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT**

for schools and village teams  
Cost: £25 each

**IMPREGNATED MOSQUITO NETS**

Cost £5 each

**CONDOMS**

for the Reproductive Health Programme in Bamako and the Manankoro health initiative.  
Cost: £3 for 150, £6 for 300, £20 for 1000

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

for clinics in Manankoro and Yanifolila  
Items would include:  
Scales (£15), Blood pressure monitors (£40),  
Equipment for listening to the heart of a baby's foetus (£10).  
Vouchers £5, £10 and £20

**WOMEN'S GARDENING INITIATIVES**

in the Manankoro area  
Vouchers of £5, £10, £15, £20 will buy seeds and equipment for the gardens

Produced by Mali Development Group  
Charity No. 1088140