

*Slide*  
PD-AAV-771

ISN 50385

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT:

*Sahelian*

A TRIP TO MALI, NIGER, UPPER VOLTA AND SENEGAL

July, 1976

Women in Development  
Agency for International Development  
Room 3243, New State  
Washington, D.C. 20523  
(202) 632-3992

Date of Acquisition 8/4/77  
Source NF

*NF*

Myra Dinnerstein  
Women's Studies Committee  
The University of Arizona

Table of Contents

|  | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Introduction . . . . .   | 1           |
| Purposes of the Trip . . . . .   | 1           |
| Overview of the Trip . . . . .   | 2           |
| Country-By-Country Summaries and Chronological<br>Interviews . . . . . | 6           |
| Mali . . . . .   | 6           |
| Niger . . . . .  | 13          |
| Upper Volta . . . . .  | 18          |
| Senegal . . . . .  | 24          |
| List of Persons Interviewed . . . . .                                  | 29          |
| List of Documents Obtained in Africa . . . . .                         | 33          |

## INTRODUCTION

In July, 1976 I travelled for almost four weeks on a 211-d grant to look at the impact of development on women in Mali, Niger, Upper Volta and Senegal. For three of those weeks I travelled with Kathleen Cloud from the College of Education.

Although this trip was undertaken with the haunting fear that too little could be seen in such a short time, it proved more successful than anticipated and provided some unexpected dividends. Foremost among these was the cooperation of African women, some met previously in this country, who graciously introduced us to others in their own and other countries. Help was also extended by Western women who welcomed allies and support in their efforts to convince numerous agencies to pay more attention to the needs of women. Without such assistance from these individuals and AID officials, who organized the schedule, it would have been impossible to meet so many people and get around so efficiently.

### Purposes of the Trip

The Women's Studies program at the University of Arizona has become increasingly involved as an advocate for women in development projects as the University of Arizona has extended its interest in African development through the Office of Arid Lands and through its membership in the Consortium for International Development (CID). The Women's Studies Program considers the trip to four West African countries as only a first step in its continuing involvement with women and development. One of the purposes of the journey was to make contacts and linkages for the University of Arizona with African women and institutions involved in development. In each country contact was

made with many of the women leaders and with the agencies, both governmental and private, involved in women's affairs. This is the beginning of what can be a continuing link between these people and agencies and the University. Another purpose of the visit was to identify areas of research that the University might undertake. Many such areas were identified including, among others, sex-role division of labor, the availability and suitability of intermediate technology, the role of extension agencies in dealing with women's concerns, and the governmental and societal receptivity, both here and in Africa, to the needs of women. One pressing need is for an inventory of research projects so that the results of such studies can be shared by all those involved in development. The third purpose of the trip was to increase my expertise as a recipient of a 211-d grant. This increased knowledge will make it possible to act as an advocate for women's concerns in projects undertaken by the University.

#### Overview of the Trip

One fact that became obvious on the trip was that women's economic activities varied from place to place and depended as well on the crop cultivated and the ethnic group to which they belonged. Although recently authors such as Ester Boserup have drawn attention to the overlooked contributions of African women to agriculture, such comments are not specific enough to help a developer who is attempting to design a project for a particular area or crop. This points to perhaps the biggest obstacle to including women in development plans--the lack of hard, specific data on woman's economic role. Although the literature abounds with this contention, not enough is being done to meet the problem head on. Large projects are being designed and are including impact statements referring to women, as is required by the Percy Amendment to the

Foreign Assistance Act, but as some officials admit, this is the Percy rhetoric with little real effort being made to deal with the matter in a meaningful way. Without some mechanism to assure that the Percy Amendment is really implemented, the integration of women into development will remain in the realm of rhetoric.

The lack of sufficient data has led to perceptions of women's needs that are both impressionistic and erroneous. Perhaps the best example of this is the question of how extension services can best serve women. Those African agencies of government, such as Promotion Rurale or its counterparts in different countries, and those persons involved in projects that bring them into contact with rural women are unanimous in agreeing that women ask for and need agricultural training and advice. Yet the contention of most officials, Americans and Africans, seems to be that women are not interested in that kind of knowledge or, if they are, the best approach is to teach it to the men who will then teach it to the women. Anything else, they insist, will upset the social and cultural fabric. Although projects must of course be sensitive to cultural differences, it would seem important to develop ways of operating within societal constraints to offer women what they want and need. At least part of the reluctance to offer this instruction is based on the belief that women don't need such information because their work is primarily domestic, a la Westernized women, a belief that will only be dispelled by hard facts.

The most encouraging sign was the number of persons, not large but dedicated, working to integrate women into development. Sometimes they were African women--often elite, urban women who were spearheading the drive in their country, and sometimes they were American women who worked at donor agencies. The presence in some places of men who were also committed to the concept was also heartening.

African women are sometimes aided by the presence in some countries of one or two Western women who have taken up the cause of women and have pursued it despite a not very supportive environment in their home agency. Some successes have occurred when African and Western women combine, such as the justly famous Brenda McSweeney/Scholastique Campaore team in Upper Volta.

Another recent development is the organization in each country of a council or union of African women called by various names such as the Union of Malian Women. These organizations are invariably composed of the most educated women in the country who also held professional positions. Although the Kenyan sociologist Achola Pala, among others, has warned that such organizations might be tied too closely to the priorities of the national government and not able to represent the needs of poor, rural women, such groups can also be the most effective advocate for rural women's concerns within their country. While in the short time of my visit it was difficult to make accurate evaluations, it was evident that all of the national councils were involved, in varying degrees, with rural women and their economic condition.

African women utilized International Women's Year far more effectively than did American women in our country. Through a series of programs and exhibitions they drew attention to the problems and accomplishments of women. Using International Women's Year as a focal point, African women drew their own government officials' attention to solutions for women's problems being tried elsewhere.

Although the very idea of integrating women into development is a recent one, such projects as the UNESCO project, Equal Access to Educational for Women and Girls in Upper Volta and the women's section of Operation Riz in Mali point the way to the future. For development to be successful, women

must be included, as many planners have discovered, sometimes too late for the success of their project.

What follows is a country-by-country survey (in the order of country visited) of those aspects of women and development that I was able to view and evaluate during my visit.

## MALI

### Summary

Activities designed both to include women in regional development plans or aimed specifically at women are just beginning in Mali. Madame Fatou Tall, President of the National Women's Council of Mali, one of those educated, dynamic women, on whose energy African activities for women depends, is beginning to organize some projects for rural women, specifically trying to obtain grinding mills, one of the most essential tools for lightening women's labor. The most ambitious and successful project undertaken so far is the one connected with Operation Riz at Segou where Madame Aminata Diawara has instituted a special women's program including an array of social and health services. The exciting thing about this project is that it offers a model, particularly for the AID-funded Operation Mills and other semi-autonomous rural integration projects. There is also a Dairy Cooperative of women, but, interestingly enough, no one told us about it until we were in Upper Volta and so I was not able to visit it. One proposed project for women, not yet started, is an AID-funded project by the Black Communities Women's Council to develop skills among women and to encourage and motivate them in the areas of health, literacy and child care.

The highlight of the visit was a trip into the northern countryside to visit Segou, Mopti and the Dogon country. This trip provided an opportunity to visit and talk with the heads of the three Operations in Mali, to observe agricultural practices and women's participation in them, and even, at the invitation of some women, to pound millet. This countryside tour was particularly educative because of the detailed explanations of the Bambara interpreter, M. Keita, who has spent most of his life in a farming community.

## Chronological Interviews

7/7/76 Awa Thiero (formerly Keita, ex-wife of the former Malian ambassador)  
Fanta Thiam

-Both directors of secondary schools

These two women who met me at the airport discussed the limitations of higher education for women in Mali. The picture that one gets from the literature certainly prevails here; as the education advances to each higher grade, women drop out so that at the highest levels they represent only a small percentage of the student body.

Jim Graham, Project Officer, AID

Briefed on USAID Mali projects that might concern women. Possible projects where women might be trained as low-level extension agents are the Mali livestock project and Operation Mils (Mopti), aimed at improving millet production.

Quincy Bembo, Agricultural Officer, USAID

Mr. Bembo served seven years in Ghana and seemed to have an awareness of the participation of women in agriculture. He said that he had only been in Mali since August, 1975 and could make only tentative observations about women. In the question of the division of labor, Bembo noted that there was a great variability from place to place, and that generalizations about women's work are virtually meaningless. In Mali, some women work in the afternoon on fields after bringing out lunch and before going to prepare dinner; in other areas men do primarily cash crops, and in some areas the wives of cattle herders are the principal producers of corn which they plant when the water recedes. The women there grow, process and sell the

corn. In other areas where women are generally believed not to be involved in animal traction, they do plowing. Trade in Mali, unlike in Ghana and Nigeria, is primarily the province of men.

7/8/76 Madame Fatou Tall, President, National Union of Malian Women

The National Union of Malian Women, founded in 1974, is primarily composed of educated, urban women interested in the improvement of women's status in both the rural and urban areas. Madame Tall explained that the Women's Union is not a part of the government but works with the government, whose approval is needed for projects because that is the source of funds for the Union.

Madame Tall is completely aware of the problems facing women, particularly rural women, and presented a detailed account of a typical day of a rural Malian woman, including the onerous work of water and wood gathering and pounding. The Union wants to organize cooperatives of women involved in small trading and handicraft work and wants to see that rural community development programs include women, in the way that Operation Riz does. In addition they are interested in establishing training centers for urban women and in programs for literacy.

Mr. Magai, Director for Social Affairs, Promotion Humaine

Mr. Magai's department is the agency primarily involved with Women's affairs.

Charles Humphreys, Stanford Food Research Institute  
J. Drick Stryker, Associate Professor of International Economic Relations, Fletcher School of Diplomacy, Tufts University

Both are involved in a rice development project, funded by AID, that will cover thirteen West African countries (except Guinea). They are

involved presently in studying interregional rice trading. Their project did not include any investigation into the possible economic roles of women in rice production.

7/11/76 Mr. Konate, Director of the Association des Aveugles Maliens (Association for Blind People)  
Madame Konate, a teacher in the School for the Blind and a member of the Union of Malian Women

Blindness affects 100,000 people in Mali and is caused by onchocerciasis, trachoma, poor sanitation and inadequate nutrition. It is viewed also as an economic problem and, for that reason also, Konate's agency was created in 1972-73. They run a boarding school for young blind students that will include 35 this year, established two centers for the adult blind to teach them manual labor and handicrafts, and in the rural areas, agricultural methods.

Mrs. Konate, a member of the Women's Union, explained that the Union is primarily composed of educated women who are sensitive to the lack of rural and lower socioeconomic women in their organization and are trying to enlist more.

7/12/76- Trip to Segou, Mopti and Sanga  
7/13/76

On the road the Bambara interpreter and the driver stopped frequently to point out agricultural practices, to offer tastes of a variety of wild fruit and to help us talk to women pounding millet and cooking.

Rita Escalin, Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology, University of North Carolina, doing a study on the Dogon

The plan was to meet Ms. Escalin at one of the Dogon villages but her car was headed towards Bamako as ours was headed toward Dogon country. The cars met and we stopped by the side of the road for an

hour's conversation. She provided a too-vivid description of sanitation and midwifery practices among the Dogon village women. She also had found difficulty in making generalizations about the scope and details of women's contribution to agriculture because it varied from village to village.

Aminata Diawara, Operation Riz, Chef du Services du Development  
Communitaire

Aminata Diawara, who has had specialized training in Holland, runs one of the most successful women's program visited. The project started with a family to family survey in the area to discover the needs and concerns of women. Health was determined to be the major concern of women. A volunteer group was trained in identifying children's diseases, training was given to matrones (midwives) to assist in birth and after birth care, and experiments were made to find a baby food that utilized local products and was easy to make. Literacy classes were started using books that pertain to concerns of women about health, child care and nutrition. Classes are also offered in cooking, market gardening and poultry breeding.

Konare Alassa, Director, Operation Peche, Mopti

Along with its economic activities of aiding in the selling of fish, Operation Peche is also interested in community development activities involving health and nutrition. In fishing it is the men who fish and the women who clean and dry or smoke it. Only men belong to the fish cooperative and therefore only they receive payment for the fish. A section on women's activities is planned although it will be related primarily to such areas as nutrition and health, and not to economic endeavors.

Lassa Soumare, Director, Operation Mills, Mopti

This is another semi-autonomous operation, funded by AID. It is devoted to improving millet production by new methods. There has been no time yet to establish social action plans but this is planned for the future. Plans for women include introduction of mills to make work less fatiguing, health education, sewing and cloth dyeing. Mills will be introduced by having demonstrations made of their efficiency. Then it is hoped that the chiefs and the village cooperatives, which are managed by men, will be induced to buy it for their villages. The director of Mills Mopti feels confident that the advantages to the entire village will be perceived and will lead to adoption by cooperatives and chiefs.

7/13/76 Trip to Sanga, the mountainous village of the Dogon people where we hiked down to see several villages huddled under the mountains

Leaving the villages, we walked up the incredibly steep and high path that village women must climb many times for water and wood. Talked with a woman who was on the way to the market (through two interpreters English to French to Bambara to Dogon and vice-versa) about our children.

Back to Bamako

7/14/76 Madame Mazerac, wife of the Ambassador of France, who had been recommended by Madame Andree Audibert, head of the Social Action Bureau in France

Barbara Scapa, Acting Director of Peace Corps, Mali

Scapa was one of the best informed sources on the activities of women in Mali. She has raw data on women's economic roles collected from female Peace Corps Volunteers and concludes from this that women are anxious to obtain a source of separate income. She

suggests that the colonial administration, by concentrating on the modernization of men's economic activities and on the introduction of cash crops, pushed women out of farming that was primarily their domain and eliminated their sources of income. Scapa was one of the few people in Mali who appeared to have a historical perspective on this problem.

7/14/76 Ronald Levin, Chief, USAID Mission

Mr. Levin reviewed briefly some proposed development plans for women including the mills requested by Madame Tall of the Malian Women's Union. He believes, he said, that it is artificial to raise questions on women's roles when developing projects. Rather, projects should be developed for the whole society without focusing on one element of the society.

## NIGER

### Summary

Niger, as much as any other country, points up the need for more information on women's economic roles before development projects can be undertaken. In Niger there is a lack of both general and specific information on women's roles because of the variability of women's economic tasks from group to group.

One of the earliest studies available, other than the work by Agnes Diarra on Djerma women, was done by the USAID office in Niger in 1974 under the aegis of Albert Baron, Regional Development Officer. There are three other promising areas that could yield information that could be utilized in development plans. The first, under the Niger Cereals Project, is a study by Jean Francois Fouchet that is agricultural, economic and sociological, tracing, among other things, the cash flow and division of labor between men and women. This can offer the specific information necessary to integrate women's roles into the Niger Project. The second is the Zinder project, currently underway under the auspices of a 211-d grant at the University of Arizona, which will include women in the Natural Resources Inventory. The third are various research projects which include data on women such as the Information System of the Niamey Productivity Project and the work of Wenona Giles of the Canadian organization, ISAID, who is studying women in the Filingue Region.

Niger offers a good potential for cooperative research. Two Nigerian Institutions that the University could cooperate with include IRSH and Promotion Humaine. IRSH, connected with the University of Niamey, indicates its willingness and capacity to do research on women. Promotion Humaine

employees are at the grass-roots level offering advice on agriculture, literacy and other matters, and could perhaps be utilized as data collectors. Promotion in Niger, as in the other countries visited, is characterized by development people as inefficient and ineffectual. It does, however, seem to be one of the few governmental agencies that recognizes the problems of women and their needs.

#### Chronological Interviews

7/13/76 Kathleen Heffron, Program Office, AID

Briefing on the proposed visit

Louis Siegel, Acting Project Manager for the Niger Cereals Project

Briefing on the Niger Cereal Project

Mr. Idressa, Director of Promotion Humaine, Ministry of Plan

In 1974 his agency came under the Minister of Plan which is involved in development planning. Promotion's job is to work at the grassroots level to try to get villagers to pinpoint their problems and then to try to teach them how to solve them. Types of projects with which they are involved are health education, production including agriculture, veterinary, handicrafts and small industry. They work through a network of "animators" or extension agents who live in the villages.

There is a great discrepancy in training between the animateurs (men) and animatrices (women). The men receive much more technical training in agriculture and animal breeding and then teach it to the women during short-courses and seminars. The Belgium government is currently supporting a two-year course for women agents

but this does not include agriculture and animal breeding. Other women have been trained in Bobo Dioulasso and Daker for two years.

Madame Louissette Alzouma, Niamey, Regional President of the Association des Femmes Nigeriennes who works at NDRAP (Institute National de Recherche et D'Animation Pedagogique)

The Association was started in February, 1975 and only the Niamey office is operative. They have focused their activity in the beginning on urban problems and have organized meetings with mothers to talk about children and their health problems. They hope to undertake a rural project that will provide mills for women. One of their principal objectives is to obtain a Secretariat of State for the Feminine Condition. Madame Alzouma feels that the current government is sympathetic to the concerns of women. As for birth control, although there is no government encouragement, there is some small effort made to give women in bad health an IUD after obtaining the permission of their husbands.

7/15/76 Madame Halimatou Ouisseini, Assistant to the Director of Assistance Sociale, Direcion de Affaires Sociales

Madame Ouisseini took us on a tour of the health facilities of one of the PMIs (Protection, Maternal and Infantil) which is essentially a health facility for pre- and post-natal services. Children are given inoculations, mothers are given lessons in preparing food for babies and, in case of illness, babies are cared for.

In addition to the urban PMIs there are, according to Madame Ouisseini, thirty-nine medical centers in the countryside and health agents from the center travel around the countryside to talk to women.

In small villages there are only dispensaries and matrones (traditional midwives). There is a program to give matrones ten days of medical and scientific training and to supply them with a medical kit which contains medicine and a few essential instruments.

Madame Ouisseini says that there has been a fifteen-year campaign to get women to use the facilities of the health centers and women now come willingly.

Dr. Dioulde Laya, Director, and Michael Keita, Assistant, Institute de Research Humaine, University of Niamey, Ministry of Education

Dr. Laya would like to see Agnes Diarra's study on Djerma women expanded to cover all Nigerian women and their transition from traditional to modern time. The possibility of joint research projects with them was discussed and, although they perhaps might prefer conducting research studies by their own staff, they were open to further discussions on possible joint programs.

Fred Weber, Development Consultant

Rode out into country with Fred Weber while he pointed out the characteristics of farm land. He believes that the biggest problem facing African countries is increased population which will outstrip any increased food production. The emphasis in each country he says should be on subsistence food crops and not on export ones.

7/16/76 Mariama Wani, Agent Technique d'Animation, Animation Rurale

Madame Wani painted a clear picture of the activities of her agency, which is perhaps the one government service in Niger (as in other countries) that offers direct aid to women beyond the usual nutritional, health and literacy programs. Animation, the agency

that is closest to grass roots village-level work, has offered agricultural training to women because, they contend, women are asking for it.

What Animation feels it needs is money for in-service training of animatrices so that more agricultural advice can be given to women. It also expressed a desire to have more input into government development plans as they are being developed, so that it could point out how the needs of women can be included in projects.

Peace Corps women who have been in Niger approximately two years

Most of these women expressed a bitterness about women's role in Niger and a pessimism about an improvement in the near future. They feel that most men, including those in the government, treat Nigerian women as inferiors, even those who are educated, elite women. They thought that the Islamic religion was perhaps one reason for this.

Marianna Keita, Radio Niger, Ministry of Public Work

Ms. Keita, a dynamic, articulate young woman, offers a radio program which includes special topics on health and other subjects that are particularly of interest to women.

7/17/76 Craig Buxton of AID, formerly of the United Nations Volunteers

He described the Niger Resources Project to us.

Al Barron, Regional Development Officer, Niger

Luncheon at his house

## UPPER VOLTA

### Summary

Upper Volta seems, of all the countries visited, with the possible exception of Senegal, to have paid the most attention to the concerns of women, even though this concern is fairly recent. Perhaps one of the reasons for this is one of those happy partnerships, referred to in the introduction, between educated and determined African women and women in Western agencies. Upper Voltaic women have benefited from the activities of Scholastique Campaore, Director of the UNESCO Project, Equal Access to Education for Women and Girls, and other members of the Federation of Voltaic Women, Brenda McSweeney of UNDP and, most recently, Laura McPherson of USAID. Their efforts, however, would have been impossible without the sympathetic support of the Voltaic Minister of Education and of John Hoskins, Country Development Officer of USAID, and Mrs. Hoskins. Mrs. Hoskins, who was out of the country at the time of our visit, was mentioned by both American African women as an articulate supporter of women's projects.

Madame Campaore's project is notable for setting a model for other women's projects both in Upper Volta and elsewhere. Her project's aim is to relieve women of wearying, long work hours by supplying them with labor-saving devices such as mills and carts. The women can then spend the time saved in furthering their education.

It was possible to meet with many women in a short period of time in Upper Volta because of the efforts and the interest in women's projects of the AID project assistant and former Peace Corps volunteer Reesa Beausoleil and the help of Scholastique Campaore, who had previously visited the University of Arizona.

Chronological Interviews

7/18/76 John Hoskins, Country Development Officer, USAID

Briefing on AID projects involving women

Debby Smith, Peace Corps, Teacher of English  
Cynthia More, Peace Corps, Health worker

Briefing on school and health system

7/19/76 Reesa Beausoleil, Former Peace Corps Volunteer, AID Project Assistant

Reesa worked for two years in the Eastern ORD developing rural extension services for women under the Community Development program. She was the coordinator of five Voltaic animatrices. Reesa was responsible for introducing many new vegetable crops to the women to use in their sauce, but the enriched sauce was usually eaten by the husbands. However the children did eat the raw vegetables while they were growing in the garden.

There were many problems with the animatrices. The men extension agents who received superior training were not anxious to train the women. The women were inevitably young and untrained and half were pregnant. Recruitment of these women was done in two of the central towns of the Eastern ORD and then the women were sent out to live in the isolated villages--a not very satisfactory method. Reesa suggested that training the wife of the village teacher or agent would eliminate many of the social problems of relying on young, unattached women.

Although Reesa feels that the ORD organization does not take the animatrices and their work seriously, there could be improvements in recruitment, training and organization of the animatrices that would make them more effective. The women in the villages are anxious

for agricultural advice, were delighted to be introduced to crops and agricultural methods that brought them income, and particularly liked working in communal women's fields with other women.

7/20/76 Archie Hogan, Co-Director of the Village Livestock Project, AID  
Salif Guigma, Voltaic Co-Director

Hogan briefed us on the Livestock Project which is aimed at increasing the quality of beef. There is no plan in the project for animatrices. He says that women would not be welcome on such a project (by the Voltaics) even as a rural sociologist. What might be useful, however, in terms of gathering information on women is a Resources Inventory that will be taken as part of the project. This will include questions on family structure, division of labor, and who controls the land.

Jeanne Zongo, Director of the Lycee, Mixte de Gounghin and President of the Federation of Voltaic Women  
Marie Chantal Guioglleme, Secretary, Federation of Voltaic Women  
Scholastique Campaore, Head of the UNESCO Project Equal Access to Education for Women and Girls and Vice-President of the Federation of Voltaic Women

The Union was established in 1974 and during the first two years has been engaged in information gathering and in contacting and meeting with rural women whom they are particularly interested in helping. They held a week-long conference with rural women, selected by their villages as representatives. The Union women and rural women met together to become acquainted and to discuss possible solutions together. It gave, for example, village midwives an opportunity to meet town midwives. Village women who went back to pass on information to the villagers felt more confident that there were solutions to their problems.

The Union has also worked hard to enlist the help of traditional chiefs. The Minister of the Moro Naba, the traditional leader, was persuaded not to talk on the radio about women as objects. Union leaders feel that men are willing to change if it doesn't bother women's way of life, and therefore theirs. They feel that men think it is important to keep their masculinity. Scholastique's husband Julian is one of the few men who takes his wife everywhere; he is known for it, was often teased, but now it is accepted.

One of the Union's most clever moves, which drew national attention, was to put on a play, written by Scholastique Campaore, to dramatize the needs of women and the indifference of public officials. In this way many illiterate women who could not otherwise be reached saw the play, and many dragged their husbands to see it.

7/21/76 Scholastique Campaore, UNESCO Project of Equal Access to Education for Women and Girls  
Reesa Beausoleil, USAID

Scholastique took us far out into the countryside to one of the villages, Po, in her three-village project. There we saw the schoolhouse, met the teachers and saw the books that are being used in the literacy class. We saw the mill which many women use to grind millet during the weekly market and then met the women who were working in the communal field, also organized by the UNESCO project, which brings them income which they spend on village needs, such as health care.

This was undoubtedly the most memorable day of the trip. We drank beer with the village chief, met Scholastique's sister, who

has nine children, and is the only one of the siblings without education, and met Scholastique's parents and had lunch in their village.

7/22/76 Joy Greenwich, Peace Corps volunteer for five years

She worked with Madame Konate in the Economics Famille Office of Rural Development. She is particularly concerned, as were so many people interviewed, with the lack of adequate training both for the animatrices and those who are the coordinators. She feels that you need constant "circuit-riding" into the villages to maintain close supervision of the agents there and that follow-up training is needed for the village-level and ORD level women agents.

Mr. Marricot, Outgoing Director, Division of Non-Governmental Organizations, CLISS

Maqoqi Gououza, Incoming Director, Division of Non-Governmental Organizations, CLISS

Briefing on CLISS and women's programs in Mali and Niger

7/23/76 Arlene Foole, Peace Corps Volunteer for five years, two of them in Liberia and three in Upper Volta

Arlene has worked for the last two years at the Arts and Crafts Center, which is technically under the Minister of Commerce but is actually self-sufficient. Arlene has taught the women to do tie-dyeing and the wax-stamp technique. Now the women that she has trained want to open their own shop to make and sell their crafts. This is one of a number of efforts observed where women skilled in handicrafts are seeking means to market their wares. The development of women's handicrafts is a potential, but almost entirely unexplored, area.

Josephine Guissou, Sociologist now working for the Volta Valley development

Ms. Guissou has been hired by the Voltaic Development Authority to try to correct the mistakes it made in its resettlement scheme of the Volta Valley when they ignored the needs of women. The resettlement scheme did not take into consideration the fact that women in traditional villages were very much involved in economic activities such as farming and marketing. As a result, the planners did not provide fields for the women to cultivate. In addition, the wells were not sufficient or close enough, so women had to travel far for water. Also, there were no dispensaries and women are responsible for children's health. As a result, women are urging their husbands to leave and other families are refusing to settle.

Ms. Guissou is studying the role of women in traditional villages and will advise the Volta Authority on solutions to their problems in the resettlement scheme.

## SENEGAL

### Summary

Women in Senegal face many of the same problems as women do in the other countries visited although the presence of a much larger number of educated women, particularly in Dakar, gives an impression that they have more opportunities. There also seems to be a great deal of interest in bringing women into the development process as evidenced, for example, by the seven women's projects proposed by the USAID office.

In Senegal there was also some of the most thorough briefing on projects encountered on the entire trip, particularly by Hap Wilder of the Bakel project--a project to be undertaken by the Consortium for International Development (CID) of which the University of Arizona is a member.

One of the highlights of the Senegal visit was the talk with Agnes Diarra, author of the classic work on Djerma women and organizer of the November, 1976 IDEP seminar on women and development.

Because of the number of qualified women already involved in government and research, Senegal offers an excellent opportunity for University linkages with research institutes and women's groups.

### Chronological Interviews

7/26/76 Hap Wilder, Project Director, Bakel Range Management Project

Wilder suggests that the Bakel project might benefit women if hand mills were distributed in the area along with an educational packet provided by Promotion Humaine with instructions on their use. Another possibility for women in Bakel is the initiation of a butter-cheese industry for women. As of now all such products

must be imported. Promotion Humaine had suggested such a project for another area but this had been rejected by USAID. However both Promotion Humaine and the assistant director of USAID thought this might be a feasible project for Bakel. Another facet of the Bakel project relevant to women is the sociological study planned by Promotion that will indicate needs of women.

Wilder says that although Promotion Humaine does not have a good reputation with some government agencies, he believes that their main problem is understaffing.

Gene Lerner, an American working with Promotion Humaine  
Nawa Awa Diagne, Director of Promotion Feminine  
Khady Gueye, Former Director of Promotion Feminine

Khady Gueye will be working for the next year on post harvest technology--how to store cereals and grain to protect it from deterioration as a result of insects or weather.

Nawa Awa Diagne, Director of Promotion Feminine, says there is a new direction in the programs affecting women. Formerly the emphasis was only on health, nutrition and children. Now there is an effort to supply women with the proper technology and the appropriate training and technical expertise. The general goals are to organize women to be more effective--in women's associations and cooperatives--and to get women integrated into the economic structure with roles of responsibility. One example she gave was of an association of 320 women who have been involved in chicken raising and want to extend their activities with cattle. Their activities will be aided by the Livestock Service. Madam Diagne also commented that there are not enough staff members in Promotion.

7/27/76 Charles Samake, Planning and Program Officer, UNICEF

UNICEF is involved with a number of projects dealing with health, training of midwives and nutrition. There are also family and youth centers in the villages where women and youth are taught practical skills for agriculture, care of small animals and vegetable growing. UNICEF aids women's cooperatives which then sell the produce of their vegetable gardens to purchase money for women's activities.

Mr. Attolou, Research Assistant to Madame Jacqueline Ky-Zerbo, Regional Director, UNESCO

Madame Ky-Zerbo's job is to collect and analyze information on problems of development, demography, and literacy programs. She then holds seminars with African states where their problems are discussed. Madame Ky-Zerbo believes that sex education, including family planning, is one of the most important matters facing Africa.

Madame Marie-Anne Sohai nee Sambou, Deputy in the National Assembly; head of the National Women's Union for the Casamance region

She gave a full picture of the education of women in Senegal. Some of the restraints on girls' education are the lack of space and traditional barriers such as the local marabout, who advises that girls not be sent to school. There are, however, a number of Senegalese girls who go abroad for advanced study to Israel, Russia and France.

There is a strong move in education towards Senegalized education and bilingual education. Lessons start in Wolof and Peul, and then French is added after the first two years.

Educational reform since independence has been aimed at preparing students for jobs. Women are being trained for business, for agriculture and for housekeeping. The new five-year development plan will have a section on women for the first time.

Agnes Diarra, Researcher at IDEP

Ms. Diarra is planning a three-week seminar on development to include both those who shape development plans, such as representatives of Ministries of Plan, and those who carry them out, such as the animators and technical people in the field. Representatives will be sent from eight countries in the Sahel--the CLISS countries plus the Congo and Rwanda. As a follow-up the conference teams will go into two or three villages in Niger, Mali and Upper Volta to show the villagers the advantages of improved production methods such as fertilizer. Other follow-up projects will focus on the improvement of livestock and fishing. Ms. Diarra is particularly interested in technology that is not imported but that uses traditional tools that have been improved.

Mr. McDill, Director of the Grain Storage Project

Mr. McDill described the need for developing both a market for excess cereal grains and storage methods so that cereals can be stored and then used in years of low production.

7/28/76 Norbert Clement, Program Director, Senegal Catholic Relief Services

He explained their drip irrigation projects. Both women and men are being persuaded and taught to use this method which is particularly useful because overirrigation leads to the erosion of top soil.

Lillian Baer, Associate Director, Peace Corps, Senegal

The Peace Corps in Senegal is involved with agriculture, carpentry and mechanics training. The Peace Corps also is involved with sending animatrices out to rural villages.

LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED

(In Order of Country Visited)

Mali

Quincy Bembo, Agricultural Officer, AID

Jim Bingen, Ph.D. Candidate and Evaluator of Agricultural Training Programs for USAID

Aminata Diawara, Chef du Service du Developpement Communautaire, Operation Riz

Rita Escalin, Ph.D. Candidate in Anthropology, University of North Carolina, working also for AID

Jim Graham, Project Officer, AID

Charles Humphreys, Stanford Food Research Institute

M. Keita, Bambara Interpreter and Secretary at AID

Alassa Konare, Director, Operation Peche, Mopti

Mr. Konate, Director of Association des Avengles Maliens

Mrs. Konate, Teacher in School for the Blind and member of the National Women's Council

M. Landry, Chief of the Economic and Social Mission of France

Ronald Levine, Country Development Officer, Mali

Mr. Magai, Director of Social Affairs, Promotion Humaines

Madame Mazerac, Wife of the French Ambassador

Barbara Scapa, Acting Director, Peace Corps

Lasse Soumare, Director, Operation Mils, Mopti

J. Drick Stryker, Associate Professor of International Economic Relations, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

Fatou Tall, President of National Union of Malian Women

Fanta Thiam, Director of Secondary School and ex-wife of Ambassador to the United States

Awa Thiero, Director of Secondary School

Upper Volta

Reesa Beausoleil, Staff Assistant, USAID

Scholastique Campaore, Director, UNESCO project, Equal Access to Education for Women and Girls, Vice-President, Federation of Voltaic Women

Amie Damiba, Directeur de la Planification de l'education

Joy Greenwich, Peace Corps Volunteer

Marie Chantal Guidgllemde, Secretary, Federation of Voltaic Women

Salif Guigma, Voltaic Director, Village Livestock Project

Josephine Guissou, Sociologist, S.A.E.D.

Archie Hogan, Project Manager, Village Livestock Program, USAID

John Hoskins, Country Development Officer, USAID

Brenda McSweeney, Assistant Resident Representative UNDP

Cynthia More, Peace Corps health worker

Cyrille Niameogo, Nutritionist, Department of Public Health

Evelyne Nignari, Monitrice, Project UNESCO, Po

Marie Tour N'gor, Nutritionist, UNICEF

Audrey Poole, Teacher at Craft Center and member of Peace Corps

Debby Smith, Peace Corps, Teacher of English

Moise Traore, Secretaire d'Etat aux affaires sociales

Michael Wiest, Director, Catholic Relief Services

Jeanne Zongo, President, Federation of Voltaic Women

CLISS:

Mr. Marricot, Outgoing Director, Division of Non-Governmental Organizations

Magogi Gourouza, Incoming Director, Division of Non-Governmental Organizations

Niger

Luisette Alzouma, Regional President, Association des Femmes Nigeriennes,  
Niamey

Murl Baker, Niger Range and Livestock Project, USAID

Albert Baron, Regional Development Officer, USAID, Niger

Gene Chiavaroli, Program Officer, USAID

Kathleen Heffron, Staff Assistant, USAID

Mr. Idrissa, Director of Human Resources, Ministry of Plan

Mariama Keita, has a radio program on women, Vox du Sahel

Michael Keita, Sociologist, IRSH (Institute de Recherches en Science Humaines)  
Niamey

Dioulde Laya, Director, IRSH (Institute de Recherches en Science Humaines)

Halimatou Ousseini, Assistant Sociale, Directions des Affaires Sociales

Susan Schayes, Food for Peace, USAID

Louis Siegel, Acting Assistant Project Manager, Niger Cereals Project, USAID

Nariama Wani, Agent technique d'animation, Director de l'animation au  
development

Fred Weber, Agriculture Consultant

Jennifer Yanca, Language Coordinator, Peace Corps

Maruja Yelez-Conway, American married to director of the Church World Service  
and medical student, at the University of Niger

Senegal

Samir Amin, Director, IDEP

Mr. Attoulou, Research Assistant to Josephine Ky-Zerbo, Conseiller regional en matiere de population, UNESCO

Lillian Baer, Assistant Director, Peace Corps, Senegal

Norbert Clement, Director, Catholic Relief Services, Senegal

Mme. Diagne, Responsable, Division Promotion Feminine

Agnes Diarra, Sociologist, IDEP

Arthur Fell, Deputy Regional Development Officer, USAID, Senegal

Khady Gueye, Promotion Feminine

Glen Knapp, Regional Agricultural Technician, Catholic Relief Services

Gene Lerner, Conseiller Technique, Promotion Humaine

Robert McDill, Cereals Production Project, USAID

James Procopuis, Deputy Program Officer, USAID

Charles Samake, Program Officer, UNICEF

Marie Arne Sohail, Deputy to the Assembly and head of the National Women's Union for the Casamance region

Clyde (Hap) Wilder, Director, Bakel Village Livestock Project

LIST OF DOCUMENTS OBTAINED IN AFRICA

(In Order of Country Visited)

MALI

Agency for International Development, "Briefing Paper", AID Activities, 1976.

A.M.P.S.A. (Organization for the Blind), Rapport Moral et d'Activities,  
Fevrier, 1976.

Maiga, Dr. A., Malick Sene and Nellie Van de Oever. Rapport de Mission  
dans la Zone Pastorale de Dilly Concernant les Possibilites et  
Modalites d'Integration des Activites Feminines aux Actions de  
Developpement Entreprises dans la Zone, Agency for International  
Development.

Operation Riz, Segou, Rapport d'Activities 1974-75 du Service de Developpement  
Communautaire, Juillet, 1975.

Union Nationale des Femmes du Mali, Cesiri (a newspaper), June, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Programme d'Activities de l'Annee", 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Reglement Interieur de l'Union Nationale des Femmes du Mali".

\_\_\_\_\_, Resolution Generale, Conference Nationale des Femmes du Mali,  
Fevrier, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Statuts de l'Union Nationale des Femmes".

\_\_\_\_\_, "Taches des Differentes Sous-Commission de l'UNFM".

NIGER

Association des Femmes du Niger, "Etude Faite par L'Association des Femmes du  
Niger sur le Project de Seminaire Ayant pour Theme 'L'Integration de  
la Femme dans les Actions de Developpement'".

Rupp, Marion. Report on the Effect of the Drought on the Nomads. My handwritten  
notes on the sections of the Report dealing with women.

UPPER VOLTA

Agency for International Development, "Income Producing Feasibility Studies",  
Project Agreement, June, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Studies of Energy Needs in Food System", Project Agreement, June, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Women in Sahel", Project Identification Document, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Women's Roles in Development", Project Review Paper, December 19, 1975.

McSweeney, Brenda. "Funding Request for Study of the Impact of Intermediate Technology as a Factor in the Integration of Women into the Development Process", 1976.

Toure, Aissata K. Le Travail Excessif des Femmes, UNICEF, 1972.

### SENEGAL

Agency for International Development, "Senegal Women's Development" (seven proposed projects for women), Project Identification Document, 1976.

\_\_\_\_\_, Notes on the Cereals Production Project, Handwritten by Robert McDill.

Promotion Humaine, Organizational Chart.