

Institute for Advanced Studies in Saint-Louis, Sengal Thinking of Excellence for Africa and the World

# PRESENTATION OF THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY IN SAINT-LOUIS, SENEGAL (IAE SAINT-LOUIS, SENEGAL)

# 1 – Our Initiative

- An initiative inspired by the experience of IAS Nantes, France whose creed emphasized to "think south" from the western perspective.
- An invitation for innovation and creativity to analyze development of Africa through theoretical approaches and contemporary concepts, adapted to the realities of African communities.

# 2 - Our Ambition : "Weave our mat"

• The vision of IAS Saint-Louis is driven by an enterprising invitation to the community of researchers, professionals, men and women of arts and letters to "weave the mat on which African intellectuals must 'sit down' to think of Africa and the world," as said by historian Joseph Ki Zerbo.

#### **3 - Our Creed : Africa at the center of the world**

- Cheikh Anta Diop : "Africa can once again become the center of scientific initiatives and decisions instead of believing that it is doomed to remain the accessory of developed countries, the economic expansion field for the western world.
- 4 A place of excellence to think about Africa and the World

# • TO POSITION AFRICA AT THE CENTER OF THE WORLD AND MAKE IT THE ESSENTIAL LINK OF GLOBAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

#### 5 – Three Objectives

- Reposition Africa's role in the world by mobilizing the scholar community and creating a fruitful and critical dialogue with other thinkers around the world.
- Bridging the gap between the African intelligentsia and policymakers to better reflect the results of African development research.
- Create a space for the exchange of experiences and knowledge between African researchers of different generations through the common creed of excellence and innovation.

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#### 6 – Three Steps

- Incubation phase: 2016 to December 15, 2017 (reception of the declaration of the IAS Association of Saint-Louis, Senegal).
- Launching phase: from the 3rd to the 14th of December 2018 with two major international conferences and an Institute for Graduate Students:
  - Globalization, National Languages and Development in Africa : A Tribute to Two pioneers of African Linguists, Arame FAL and Pathé Diagne (decmebr 3 to 5, 2018)
  - "Colonial Cities from a Global Perspective." (December 10 -12, 2018);
  - Institute for Graduate Students on "Global Studies: Methodological Approaches and Cases of Studies. (December 13-14, 2018)
- Promotional phase: 2019-2021 with a three-year program of conferences, symposia, seminars, summer doctorate programs, and a research and residency programs for fellows.
- Volkswagen Foundation Fellows' Academic Conference of the "Knowledge for Tomorrow" Program, from January 24<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- Academic Conference MAPINDUI Network Another Step for Change in Africa. This conference was held from the 11th to 14th of June, 2019 at the CRDS in Saint-Louis, Senegal. The conference focused on a central theme of "Youth Facing the Challenges of Manipulation and Radicalization: Opportunities and Prospects for Social Transformation in Africa." The MAPINDUZI Network is made up of the Zenu Network in Cameroon, the Pole Institute in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Malian Alliance for Rebuilding Governance in Africa (AGRA-MALI), and other civil society organizations throughout Africa.
- Celebration of the Bicentenary of the Treaty of Ndiao between the Waalo Kingdom and France (May 8, 1819). In commemoration of the anniversary there will be an international conference held from December 9<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> at Richard Toll, Senegal, focusing on: "The Ndiao Treaty of 1819 and Relations Between France and Senegal: A Critical Look at Agricultural Policies in Senegal from Agricultural Colonization to the Emerging Senegal Program (1819-2019)"
- Conference planned at the CRDS of Saint-Louis, Senegal on February 4, 2020 in tribute to the late writer Hamidou Dia, focusing on "Youth and Culture."
- Conference scheduled in December 2020 concerning "Water and Security in Africa."

- Conference planned on January 2021 in tribute to Professor Makhtar Diouf, a Senegalese brilliant and dissident economist

# 7 – Headquarters of IAS Saint-Louis, Senegal



#### 8 – Why Saint-Louis ?

- Saint-Louis, Senegal has a lively cultural setting surrounded by picturesque architecture and water fronts. The city is calm and conducive for writing and research retreats
- The writer Ousmane Socé Diop describes the distinctive mark of this three-hundredyear-old city of Saint Louis as "the center of Senegalese elegance and good taste."

#### 9 – Axes of the triennial program

- Research on various themes: youth employment, vocational training, sustainable development throughout West Africa: Ivory Coast, Mali and Senegal; the great African figures etc.
- Reception of researchers and writers in residency.
- Organization and hosting of conferences, workshops and seminars.
- Organization of Institutes for doctoral and master students for research capacity building.
- Hosting doctoral students and Post doctoral programs

# 10 – Partnership

- Framework Cooperation Agreement, signed on July 24, 2018 between the Saint-Louis IAS and the Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis, Senegal.
- Other collaborations are explored and encouraged.

# 11 - Continuing with IAS of Saint-Louis

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