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Call for applications for the 2013 ABORNE PhD Winter School

To be held in conjunction with Gaston Berger University in Saint-Louis, Senegal

9 – 12 January 2013

Background

The African Borderlands Research Network (ABORNE) is an interdisciplinary network of close to 250 academic researchers and institutions in Europe, Africa, North America and Asia. Its members are from all disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. They share a long-term interest in all aspects of international borders and trans-boundary phenomena in Africa. The emphasis is largely on borderlands as physical spaces and social spheres, but the network is also concerned with regional flows of people and goods as well as economic processes that may be located at some distance from the geographical border. Through its Research Networking Programme (RNP), the European Science Foundation (ESF) has funded ABORNE since April 2009, to convene thematic conferences, workshops and PhD-level training events on the topic of African borderlands. For a detailed introduction to ABORNE, visit the network website at www.aborne.org.

The Winter School

The event will be a 4-day seminar in which 28 PhD students from Europe and Africa will present draft papers (max. 8 000 words) based on their ongoing research to a panel of 14 senior scholars, who will provide detailed individual feedback and deliver keynote presentations. The seminar will include 3 days of presentations followed by a 1-day excursion to sites of interest along the Senegalese-Mauritanian border. The main working language will be English and all application documents must be submitted in that language. Participants may submit their draft papers in French but those unable to present in English will be required to deliver an English-translated abstract or power point presentation during the seminar session.

Funding

For successful applicants, all expenses for travel to and from Saint Louis, accommodation including breakfast, lunch and coffee/tea breaks, some of the dinners and the visa costs will be covered.

Who is eligible to apply?

PhD students in any of the social sciences and humanities who are based at a university anywhere in Africa or Europe, and whose research topic is **directly and explicitly** concerned with the research agenda of ABORNE. If in doubt, check the ABORNE website.

How to apply

Applicants need to submit the following documents:

- completed application form (see below)
- abstract of the paper they propose to present at the Winter School (max. 500 words)
- up-to-date CV
- free-form reference from their PhD supervisor

All documents should be combined, in the above order, into one pdf file and sent to wolfgang.zeller@ed.ac.uk

The deadline to submit applications is Friday 02 November 2012.

All applicants will be notified of the decision by the selection committee by 12th November 2012 and should be prepared to book and pay for their transport to and from Senegal shortly after that.

The deadline to submit full draft papers is December 28th. Submitting a full paper and original receipts is a condition for the refund of transport expenses after the Winter School.

Location

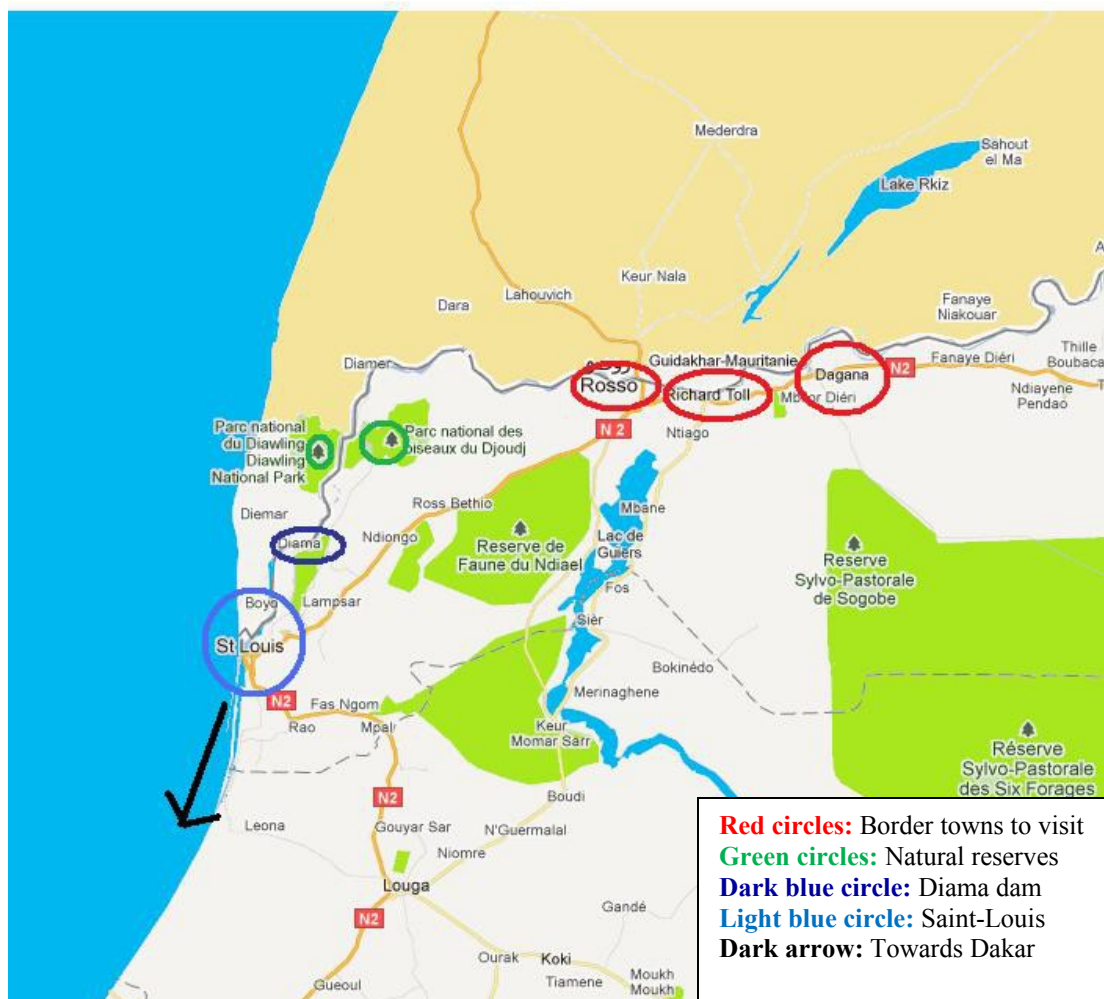
Saint-Louis was the first capital city of Senegal until 1959. It lies 274 km north of Dakar, on the border to Mauritania and enjoys a relatively mild climate on the Atlantic coast. A town accustomed to historical and cultural tourism, it is very well equipped with infrastructure and facilities for international events. The area around Saint-Louis has various historical sites, monuments and museums, national parks and

natural reserves. The closest border sites are the commercial border town Rosso, the industrial boom town of Richard-Toll (110 km from Saint-Louis) and the historical town of Dagana (129 km), all accessible within a 2-3 hours bus drive on roads that have been recently rebuilt.

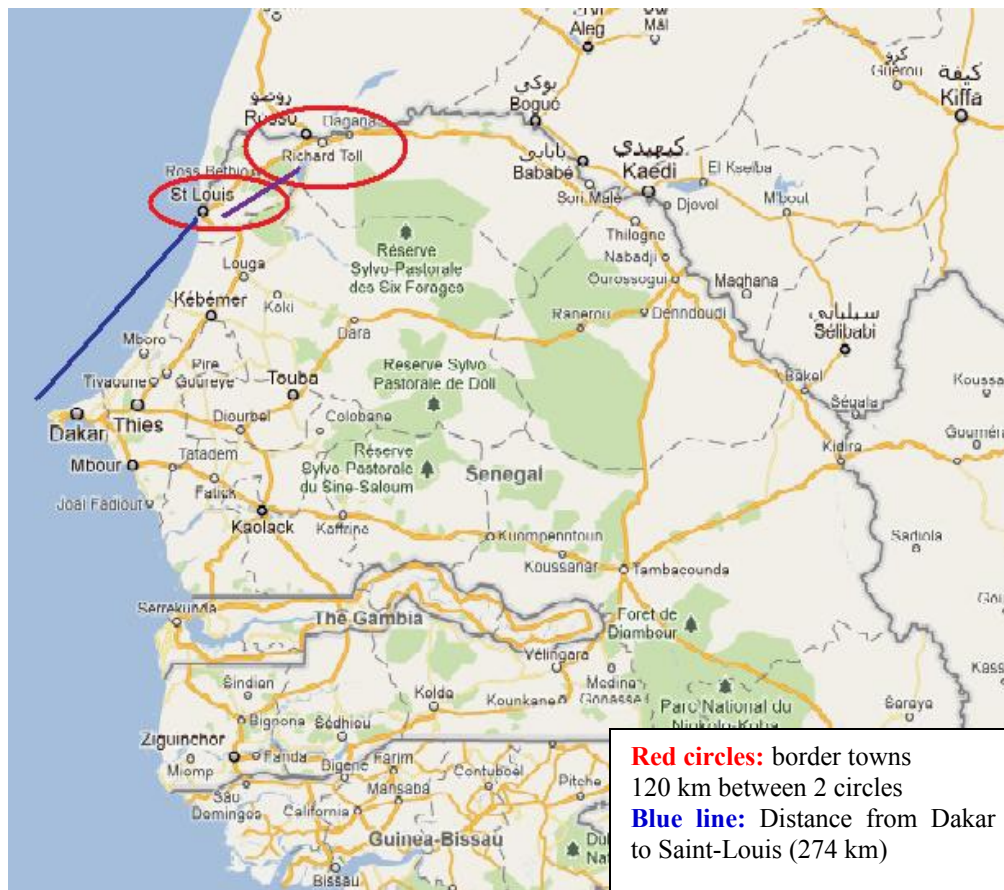
Early January is relatively cool in Saint-Louis and outside the rainy season.

Gaston Berger University

The host institution and local partner for this event is the Department of Political Science of the Faculty of Law and Political Science. Research on borders and borderland dynamics, such as migration and cross-border economies have been the concern of various research groups in Gaston Berger University. Most significant are the Groupe d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Migrations et Faits de Societes (GERM-FS) and the Groupe Interdisciplinaire de Recherche Agricole et Rurale dans la Vallee du Fleuve Senegal (GIRARDEL).



Border location Map of Saint-Louis



Map of Senegal

Transportation and accommodation

Participants from overseas should arrive via Leopold Sedar Senghor airport in Dakar. Group transport from Dakar to Saint Louis and back as well as hotel accommodation in Saint Louis will be coordinated closer to the event and the selected participants will receive further information with their acceptance letters.

Members of the Organizing Committee

Aboubakr Tandia, Gaston Berger University

Dr. Moussa Diaw, Department of Political Science, Gaston Berger University

Wolfgang Zeller, ABORNE Coordinator, Edinburgh University

Prof. Paul Nugent, ABORNE Chairman, Edinburgh University

ABORNE Winter School 2013
Application form

Full name year of birth e-mail address	
Nationality	
Provisional title of PhD thesis	
Title of proposed paper	
University, department, city, country	
Name(s) of PhD supervisor(s)	
Discipline(s) of study	
Starting year of PhD project	
Dates and place(s) of field work (past and planned)	
Language skills	English very good <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> weak <input type="checkbox"/> French very good <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> weak <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Other remarks you find relevant for the organizers to know	