

Bamako increased renewable energy penetration

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Bamako, Mali, 11 November 2023 -In a historic move, Sahelian Countries have adopted a landmark declaration at the inaugural Sahel Climate, Peace and Security Forum in Bamako, Mali, committing to bolstering climate security in the region.

Confronting the unique challenges posed by climate change in the Sahel, including land degradation, increased droughts, and the rise in conflict, the forum brought together over 150stakeholders, including the Prime Minister of Mali, the Executive Secretary of the Liptako-Gourma Authority, the Executive Secretary of the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region and ministers and representatives from 7 of the 10 UNISS Sahel Countries[1].

The landmark declaration will serve as a basis for advocacy, dialogue and negotiations led by Sahelian governments and organizationschampioning the crucial nexus of climate, peace, and security. It paves the way for action at all levels, incorporating national, regional, and international development and financial mechanisms.

"This forum is being held while we are getting ready to participate in COP28 and shows that climate security is a key challenge of our time and impacts the entire region," said His Excellency, Dr. Choguel Kokalia Maiga, Prime Minister of Mali. "This forum offers a platform to reflect with other Sahelian countries on the prevention of conflict, climate change adaptation, peace consolidation, social cohesion and harmonizing our joint responses," he added.

"Our partnership with UNDP will undoubtedly take on a new dimension, and it will be up to each of us to do everything possible to respect the commitments made through the Bamako declaration," said His Excellency, Mamadou Samake, Minister of Environment, Sanitation, and Sustainable Development of Mali. "I can already affirm that Mali will continue the strategic reflection on the mobilization of adequate and targeted resources for climate-related initiatives with the countries of the region, UNDP, and other partners who share our vision," he added.

"Whether it"s the impacts on vulnerable communities or the potential for conflict linked to diminishing resources, it"s clear that climate security is not just an environmental issue; it"s a matter of human security," saidNicole Kouassi, UNDP Resident Representative in Niger. "The recommendations outlined in the Bamako declaration remind us that we must carry with us a sense of responsibility. The solutions to climate security are within our reach, but they require a concerted effort," she added.

Held from 9-11 November 2023 in Bamako, Mali, and organized by the Republic of Mali in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Government of Sweden and the Government



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of Denmark, the Sahel Climate Peace Security Forum brought together policymakers, experts, and stakeholders to explore sustainable solutions for peace and stability in the Sahel. The event focused on the critical nexus between climate policy and security, aiming to catalyze impactful actions for a more resilient Sahel.

Following the declaration's adoption, participating countries and organizations will engage in a series of targeted initiatives and programs designed to operationalize the commitments outlined in the document, aiming for measurable impacts on the ground.

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Web: https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

