



TRAINING IN DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BIBLIOMINES PROJECT

The Bibliomines project is designed to make available on a website all existing French language documentation on action against antipersonnel mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). This responds to the needs expressed by those French-speaking countries affected by mines and ERW, particularly in Africa. The Bibliomines project facilitates access to documentation in French for mine action professionals. It also promotes the production and dissemination of new documents in French and creates opportunities for a cross-sectoral exchange of expertise among francophone actors. In addition, the project provides training in document research.



The two Beninese documents researchers surrounding the Director of research at the CAPDD, Gilles Canin, and Nathalie Kerbage in charge of the Bibliomines project

The Sept 2008 GICHD Close-up newsletter announced that the Bibliomines project was supported by three donor States: Switzerland, Canada and France. These have been joined by a fourth partner, the “Organisation internationale de la Francophonie” (OIF) which, through its “Fonds francophone des inforoutes”, also committed itself to supporting the project. This contribution made it possible to set up research units and to train new staff within the project’s three partner Centres working in Benin, Mauritania and Senegal.

These new staff members are mainly in charge of identifying documents in French on mine action and entering them into the Bibliomines database, each with a short description. They also contribute to improving the database, providing input about its structure and functioning. Another part of their role is to create a correspondents network to facilitate the collection of French documentation. Three positions were created in this framework within the GICHD’s partner Centres, the Senegalese National Mine Action Centre (CNAMS), the Humanitarian Demining Training Centre of Benin (CPADD) and the National Programme for Humanitarian Demining for Development of Mauritania (PNDHD).

The recruited document researchers received in-country training from the GICHD in December 2008 and January 2009. The main purpose of this training was to explain how the project works and to familiarise new staff with data entry into Bibliomines. Details on which documents to enter and their categorisation within the database were provided. The new partners will now be able to actively participate in Bibliomines’ evolution and improvement.



Data entry into Bibliomines is currently in progress; the website should be opened to the public in the course of 2009. The project is still evolving, and the promotion work surrounding it is in its early phases. Additional funds are being sought to support the further evolution and development of this important project.

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