

Brief Biography of Sidiki Traore

Sidiki Traore is currently the President and Founder of Distance Education for Africa (DeAfrica)/Enseignement à Distance pour l' Afrique (EdAfrique). Prior to that, he worked for the African Virtual University (AVU) for 12 years. He occupied the position of Director of the West Africa Regional Office in Dakar of the AVU, in Dakar, Senegal for five years. During the Pilot Phase of the AVU in Washington DC, he introduced the AVU English and French Language programs. Then he served as Program Coordinator for the long semester courses in sciences, math, chemistry, IT and languages. During the transition period of the AVU in Washington DC, he was the Studio Technician delivering live sessions to the AVU sites and then the Program Officer for the Short courses. As a Senior Program Officer, he designed many short courses such as the popular Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Java Revolution. Then, designed and managed the current Certificate Programs in IT, Journalism and Business English Communication.

As a Site Liaison Officer, he was instrumental in opening the AVU Learning centers in numerous African countries such as the Gambia, Guinee –Conakry, Guinee-Bissau, Cameroon, DRC, Malawi, Madagascar; Sudan, Nigeria, Senegal. He has been in the forefront of expanding the AVU in the African continent.

His main goal is to contribute his expertise as a seasoned educator, instructional designer, cross-cultural liaison and translator to the development of quality long-distance education for Africa by developing and strengthening the network of Distance Education for Africa (DeAfrica).

EDUCATION:

Master of Science in Applied Linguistics from Indiana University

Master of Arts in Instructional Systems Technology from Indiana University

Diplôme D'Etudes Approfondies (D.E.A) from the Institut D'Anglais, University of Paris VII, France

Bachelor of Arts, English Education, Ecole Normale Superieure, Bamako, Mali

LANGUAGES:

Native speaker of French and Bambara

Fluent in English

Conversant in Russian

CONFERENCES:

- Participated in the journalist conference from Francophone countries in Libreville, Gabon where I manned a booth to market AVU to the Francophone world, gave a presentation on AVU with Marketing, November 2-9, 2003
- Participated in the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) in Mauritius in December 3-6, 2003 (manned a booth and helped organize pre-conference for Ministers of Education)
- Participated in the All African Ministers of Higher Education meetings in Capetown, South Africa in February 2-4, 2004. Manned a booth to promote the AVU

- Presented the new AVU Initiative ODeL at a National Conference organized by the Ministry of Education in Khartoum, Sudan September 24, 2004
- Held a press conference on AVU at the University of Hargesia in Somaliland, September 29, 2004
- Participated in the 51st Session of the Conference of Ministers of Education having French as a Common Language (CONFEMEN) in Mauritius held on October 20th to 22nd 2004
- Participated in the Third International Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Africa organized by the UNESCO Bamako Cluster in Dakar from 15-17 September 2008 in Dakar. Theme was: Millennium Development Goals and the Challenge of Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Africa
- Participated in the UNESCO Regional Conference on Higher Education in Dakar from 10 -13th November, 2008
- Participated in E-Learning Africa in Dakar Senegal from May 27-30th 2009
- Participated in Edu in Berlin, Germany, December 6-10, 2009
- Participated in E-Learning Africa in Lusaka, Zambia from May 27-30th 2010

EMPLOYMENT:

African Virtual University, Dakar, Senegal	(2004 – Present)
AVU International, Washington, D.C. and Nairobi, Kenya	(2000 – 2003)
World Bank, Washington, D.C.	(1999 – 2002)
U.S. Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C.	(1996 – 1999)
U.S. Department of State, Arlington, VA	(1991 – 1996)

COMPUTER SKILLS:

COMPUTER COURSES, CAREER TRAINING INSTITUTE, SILVER SPRING, MD (5/97 – 5/98)

- Microcomputers, DOS, Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Word, Advanced Word, Word Perfect, Excel,
- Advanced Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, Advanced Lotus 1-2-3, PowerPoint, Pagemaker, Using The Internet & WWW and HTML.
- Hardware Technician & Computer Repair (part of the A+ Certification Program).

MICROSOFT-CERTIFIED SYSTEMS ENGINEER TRAINING COURSES (in Microsoft Windows NT 4.0):

Networking Essentials, Administering MS Windows NT (Workstations),

Supporting MS Windows NT 4.0 Core Technologies (Server),

Supporting MS Windows NT 4.0 Enterprise Technologies,

Internetworking MS TCP/IP using Windows NT,

Microsoft Exchange Server.