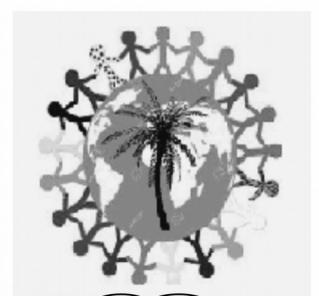
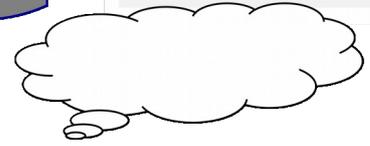




RIDEF 2016 n°2



20 July 2016



Preparation of the long workshops

Before the workshops were presented, there were some general messages. It is important that the buckets in the showers are always refilled, to manage water cuts. Also a letter was read from the president of the EPI (the Association of Public Education and Information in France) to wish us a good RIDEF.

Next, the 13 long workshops were briefly introduced. Full details can be found in the workshop booklets.

In this RIDEF a new concept will be introduced: the base groups. The idea is to improve the exchange between participants of the long workshops. For this, the everybody will be mixed over 7 groups consisting of participants of each long workshop.

Finally, the Ridefians have divided themselves over the classrooms to ask additional information to the workshop moderators and to choose their workshop for the week. The workshops have gradually kicked off, before breaking for lunch.

In the afternoon, the short workshops have started. Everybody could register in the workshop of their choice out of a dozen possibilities.



The FIMEM: International Federation of Freinet Movements

[Editor's note: Freinet himself called the movement "Modern School", therefore in French the organisation is called *Fédération Internationale des Mouvements d'École Moderne*.]

The FIMEM consists of 23 countries spread over 4 continents: Africa, America, Asia and Europe. Its goal is to develop international collaboration in order to consolidate the practice of Freinet pedagogy across the world.

The FIMEM is lead by a Administrative Committee (CA). The CA executes the decisions taken by the General Assembly (AG) and prepares the propositions for the AG.

The members of the CA are put forward by the national movements of each member country and are elected by the AG for a period of 4 years, which can be renewed for an additional 2 years. After that, the seat becomes vacant.



The goal of the CA is to promote the Freinet pedagogy, to enforce the relationships between national movements, to take a stand in the defence of children's rights, and finally to manage the FIMEM's funds (which consist entirely of the movements' membership fees).

The CA meets once per year: 3 days before and after the RIDEF, or during a week in the years without RIDEF. They are experimenting with other ways to work together because the intercontinental trips are too costly.

The FIMEM gives the member movements an international existence. It facilitates the cooperation between national movements. The most concrete result of this is the biannual organisation of the RIDEF.

The Togolese at the peak of organisation!

At the end of breakfast, the delegation of Togo has come together, armed with their workshop booklets. They organised themselves to spread themselves over all long workshops. Every group will make a report of the workshop they attended and they will bring all of this together at the end of the RIDEF. This way, every Togolese will have a report of all the long workshops that take place during this RIDEF. Great idea!



The General Assembly

This week, the FIMEM holds its General Assembly (AG) at the ENI in Dogbo during the 31st RIDEF.

During the AG, each country has one, two or three representatives with voting rights, depending on the number of members of the country's movement(s). Only representatives that are actually present in the RIDEF can vote. The topics are discussed during the meeting so ideas can be exchanged before taking a decision. These topics are sent to the national movements before the AG so they can be discussed up front at the level of the movement. There are many topics and the translations take time as well.

The AG takes place in three phases:

AG1: Wednesday 20th in the afternoon: → The discussion topics are explained and auxiliary information is provided.

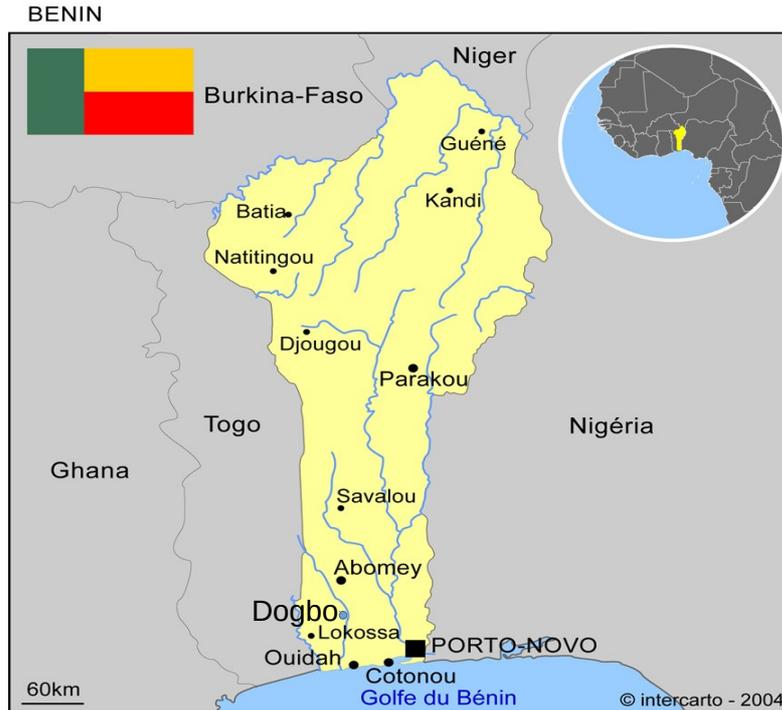
AG2: Saturday 23th in the afternoon: → The Ridefians meet in language groups so it is possible to discuss things with more nuance.

AG3: Tuesday 26th in the afternoon: → The conclusions of the language groups are presented and a vote is drawn on the decisions.

The following topics recur on each AG: the election of the members of the CA, the membership of new movements, the location of the RIDEF in 4 years, the moral report and the financial report. In addition, topics may be proposed by the CA or by member movements.

All Ridefians may join the AG and participate in the discussions. Only the official representatives of each country can actually vote. There will be about thirty representatives this week.

Dogbo, ville du Bénin



Le Bénin

Superficie : 114 763 km²

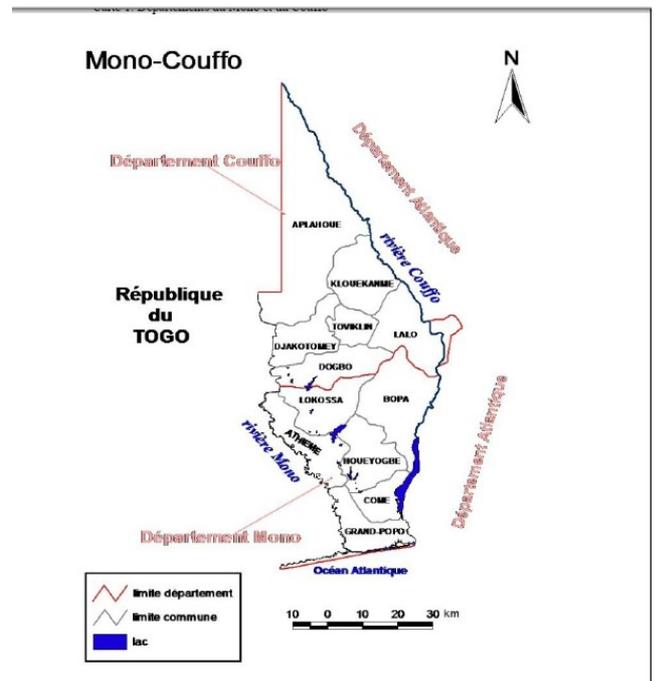
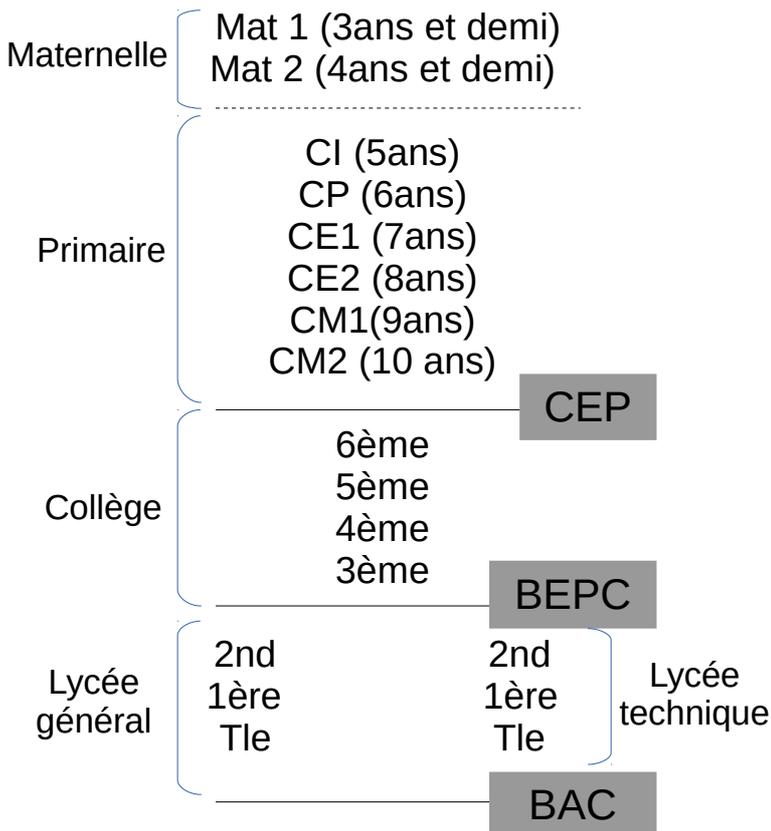
Habitants : 10 448 647 hab. en 2015

Capitale : Porto-Novo

Monnaie : Franc CFA

Indépendance depuis le 1^{er} août 1960.

Le système éducatif béninois



Dogbo

Superficie : 475 km²

Habitants : 101 870 en 2013

Fait partie du département de Couffo.

Voisin du Togo.