# Communiqué de Presse - Presse release -







### **UNIVERSITY OF PEACE IN AFRICA**

**UPA – 2020 Campus de Formation Panafricaine de Paix** 

#### 15th UPA SESSION: Campus 2020 is launched in Rwanda

**16 leaders** of NGOs, ministries, development associations and Human Rights organisations from **6 African countries** started their Pan-African Peace Training. Until December 20, they are deepening their skills in work for social cohesion, de-escalation and positive management of conflicts, violence and trauma. Our team of **5 international trainers** from Cameroon, Rwanda, France and Germany are teaching 6 modules: **biographical work, conflict analysis, mediation and negotiation, non-violent communication, healing and networking/ advocacy**. During 2 days, participants go on an exposure visit to understand the work and commitment of local peace actors.





#### **UNIVERSITY OF PEACE: an annual training opportunity**

The UPA Campus is offered each year, upon invitation of a Peace partner in a particular country: hosted by the Presbyterian Church in its Training Centre Nyagatare, Rwanda is the 12th country that the UPA visits since Senegal in 2003. In a socio and political context that is still complex and violent in Africa, UPA continues to send a strong signal to all men and women of good will to continue their commitment and actions for Peace in their country, their respective communities and in the world. **280 laureates from 30 countries have been trained** on the UPA Campus. They have all understood that a sustainable and peaceful social cohesion cannot be built by conventional political diplomacy only, and especially not by (violent) political manipulation. It can only be achieved through changes in approach and attitudes within communities and the society itself. Thus, a new 2020 class of African Peacebuilders will act with new knowledge (the "know what"), new competences (the "know-how") and especially new attitudes (the "know to be").

#### **UPA 2020:** a strong signal in the Covid-19 pandemic

Carefully prepared by the courageous partners of the UPA, the **IGE** (Institute for Electoral Governance and Education) and the **ISPR** (Superior Institute of Peace and Reconciliation/ASEAC), the UPA Campus was relocated from Bukavu, South Kivu Province, DRC to the north-east of Rwanda in order to allow the organization and development despite the preventive measures of Covid-19. With a concept of hygiene applied according to the international

and particular Rwandan standards (tests, quarantine, disinfection), the Campus protects the participants and its host community: thus the Peace Builders send a strong signal of responsible and fearless action in a complex challenging situation. With the exception of only one participant not attending because of still closed borders, all candidates have organized themselves to travel to Rwanda. Thus, at the end of this particular year, they prepare themselves to 2021 with new impetus.

## PAN AFRICAN UNION OF PEACE BUILDERS: PAUPB The International Platform of UPA Laureates

Facing political and social challenges, actors of Peace stand up, individually and in groups. They are countless those who are involved in non-governmental, state, international and national organizations, churches, mosques and temples. The UPA Laureates Peacebuilders are networking on their active alumni platform. The PAUPB is registered in Cameroon and organizes training in Peace, advocacy and synergy between Peace action of its members and their institutions. PAUPB is the dialogue partner of the African Union and international organizations and donors.

Kigali, Nyagatare / RWANDA Regensburg / Germany 12.12.2020





#### **CONTACT DIRECT**

- > pour de plus amples informations
- pour les inscriptions au Campus 2021 (Cotonou, BENIN)
- > pour demande d'interview avec les organisateurs ou avec des participants
- > for more information and background
- for your registration to the next Campus 2021 (Cotonou, BENIN)
- > for interviews with organisers and participants

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