



As the year 2023 begins, we are pleased to announce the return of our newsletter.

The year 2022 has been a year of significant achievements for Graines de Paix. Thank you for your loyal support! Our mission remains the same while our goals continue to evolve. We are extremely grateful to you and trust that you will remain engaged as we continue our work in developing a healthy and peaceful educational environment for children.

We are most grateful for the continuous and valuable contributions of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

To begin the year on a positive note, discover the highlights of Graines de Paix in 2022 and our objectives.

We wish you a pleasant reading!

[Support us](#)

2022: A Year in Review

UNESCO Hamdan Prize 2022

"The prestigious UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development has been awarded to the Swiss NGO, Graines de Paix Foundation, in this 7th edition."



Since 2008, the prize has been awarded to projects that improve the performance and effectiveness of teachers. In 2022, the award recognized the innovative pedagogical approach developed by our Foundation in our APEV-Innovation program: "Learning in Peace, Teaching without Violence", implemented and adapted to the local context in Benin following Côte d'Ivoire.

How is the pedagogy used by Graines de Paix innovative?

What was deemed innovative was the successful integration of violence prevention and radicalization into teachers' training. Raising the school success rate and preventing violence at early stages.

The innovation thus focused on transforming the approaches and practices of Benin's teachers, to prevent violence. Teachers learned how to adopt a culture of peace in the classroom.

What is the culture of peace in schools?

It is a set of values, behaviors, and skills that create a positive and comforting classroom climate for all.

[Read more](#)



"We don't teach a subject, but a way of teaching"

Initiated in Benin in 2019, our ambitious program offers educational solutions focused on how to prevent all forms of violence, prevent radicalization, and foster well-being, a culture of peace, safety, equity and inclusion.

"Learning in Peace, Teaching without Violence" APEV-Innovation

In terms of methods, the teachers were able to learn about positive pedagogy, with a firm, benevolent and rewarding influence, which is more effective in terms of school results than disciplinary violence, which is still widely used. The teachers encourage the development of their students and reinforce their self-esteem, while calming their fears and anxieties of not succeeding.

In terms of practice, they have learned to teach with participatory, collaborative and democratic methods. These are dialogue-based pedagogies: students learn lessons through dialogue. They learn to listen to each other, to consider each other and to help each other, they practice peace skills in the classroom that help them learn together in harmony.

This type of education towards a culture of peace is not a subject, but a way of teaching, a way of being, acting and interacting that trainers, teachers and parents learn to adopt.

[Read more](#)

"Living Well Together"

Our pedagogical team leads the "Living Well Together" program for secondary schools, which implements the "Whole School Approach".

The goal is to foster inclusiveness, consideration and appreciation among all stakeholders involved in the school: the teaching staff and students, the school principal and the auxiliary staff. Parents are also involved in the activities, with the aim to strengthen the well-being of young people.

The program is being tested during the 2022-2023 school year in two schools in the Canton of Vaud. It is the result of a three-year conceptualization and development project carried out in collaboration with the Unit of Health Promotion and Violence Prevention, a unit linked to the department of education of the canton.

Starting in 2024, it will be available to all schools interested in developing true student and teacher well-being.

On the news

Read

- [Un projet visant à réduire la violence dans l'éducation au Bénin reçoit le Prix UNESCO-Hamdani](#)
- [Le Bénin, lauréat du](#)



Radio Cité Genève Podcast

Listen



Forum des idées - RTS

Watch

Prix UNESCO-Hamdani
2022 pour le
développement des
enseignants - Les
Pharaons

- Moving beyond violence in society- what does it take? (News Special)
- Sowing the seeds of peace in the classroom (Geneva Solutions)

The Graines de Paix team is growing

Communications and Advocacy Unit



«It is impossible to obtain zero risk in communications, but always be prepared for a plan B is one of the most valuable strategies I have learned.»

I am pleased to announce that I have joined the Graines de Paix team as the new Communications and Advocacy Manager. In 2023, the foundation aims to achieve new objectives, one of which is to strengthen its advocacy approach to persuasively highlight the growing needs for a change in teaching methods.

I look forward to being able to contribute to the Foundation's mission for a peaceful and sustainable educational environment. And to inspire you to do the same.

Ferial Ramoul

Pedagogical Unit



Our pedagogical team is now composed of three passionate pedagogical experts:

Edivanda Mugrabi, PhD in Educational Sciences, who joined us in 2020 as Head of Pedagogy and Training.

Sandrine Saison Marsollier, our Head of Pedagogy and Trainings from 2016 to 2020, who is returning after two years in the Netherlands.

Frédérique Boubakeur, who returns to us after two years of adventures abroad. She has written [35 ateliers pour une école inclusive](#) et [À la poursuite de Léon et ses émotions](#) between 2016 and 2020.

Programs Unit, Finance and Administration Unit



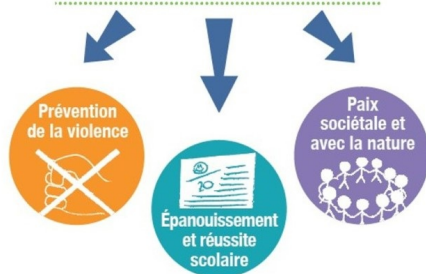
Meet **Christophe Viltard**, Program Manager who has been successfully managing our programs since 2018, including the APEV program in Benin, which was recognized by the UNESCO Award. For budgets, he collaborates with our Finance Manager, **Leah Marugg**, who joined us in early 2022.

Dear readers,

We appreciate your commitment to the cause of education for a more peaceful and safer environment. With the recognition of the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize in hand, we encourage and value your contribution.

Donate

Notre mission



À quoi servent VOS DONNS ?

Quand vous donnez 100 CHF...

- 81 CHF** permettent la conduite de projets pédagogiques
- 16 CHF** financent la recherche de fonds et la communication
- 3 CHF** couvrent les frais administratifs

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