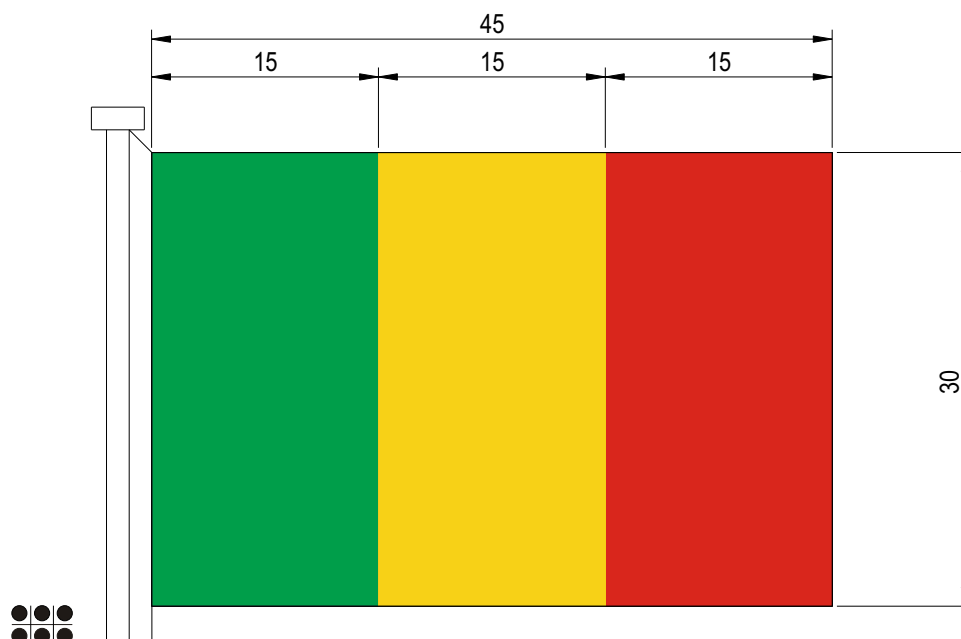


SOUTHERN AFRICAN VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
FLAG SPECIFICATION SHEET

Mali

National flag



DATA		COLOUR RECOMMENDATIONS					
		Colour	Pantone	C	M	Y	K
Usage:	National Flag and ensign	Red	186c	0	90	80	5
Ratio:	2 : 3	Green	355c	100	0	70	30
Adopted:	01 Mar 1961	Yellow	116c	0	15	95	0
Abolished:	In use						
Designer:	-						

HISTORY AND SYMBOLISM

Mali removed the kanaga symbol on 01 Mar 1961, due to pressure from Islamic groups who objected to the human figure being displayed on a flag (See SV - ML - 01.2 - 1). According to the Mali Presidential website:

On 20 January 1961, four months after the official proclamation of the independence of the Republic of Mali on 22 September 1960, the Deputies adopted in a plenary session of the National Assembly the law #61-26 prescribing the national flag of Mali. This flag shall be made of three equal vertical green, gold and red stripes. Initially, the flag of Mali as described in paragraph 5 of article 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mali, adopted on 22 September 1960, was made of three equal vertical green, gold and red stripes; the golden stripe was charged by the black ideogram of the Man with the arms raised to the sky.

The law of 20 January 1961 prescribes the definitive version of the national flag of Mali. It is made of three green, gold and red stripes. The green colour of the first stripe means the hope, the greenery of the pastures and fields in Mali, the richness of its soil and of everything the soil can produce for the welfare of the Malian populations. Green also recalls the main agripastoral vocation of the country for development, modernization and integration for which no effort will be spared. The golden colour of the second stripe shows the gold included in the underground of Mali, as well as other potential mining resources. Everybody remembers the fabulous travel of Kankou Moussa to Mecca. The golden colour therefore shows the awareness the Malians have of their heritage and they want to preserve at any price. The red colour of the third vertical stripe is for the Malians, a remembrance, a meditation and an exhortation. The Malians shall remember the blood shed by their own people for the defence of their homeland against the foreign occupation and the liberation of the homeland from the colonial yoke. The red of the national flag is for the Malians an exhortation to fight until the last drop of their blood for the preservation of the integrity of their soil, underground and artistic and cultural heritage so that they could exploit them for their unique benefits."