



## **National Information Workshop**

*Dakar, 25 September 2018*

SEA4cities national workshop began with a welcome address by EPT Director, University Professor El Hadj Bamba DIAW, who, then, invited the First Secretary to the Embassy of the Republic of Austria in Senegal, Mr. Michael SCHMEISER; to say some words about the program Appear that funds SEA4cities. Following this introduction and a coffee-break, Prof. Diaw, chairperson of the first session invited the presenters to deliver their messages. The first intervention was that of the National Coordinator, Prof. Mamadou WADE, who presented an overview of the project, with a focus on the objectives and expected results. Prof. Wade also emphasized what is expected, as support to the project, from the institutions and private organizations represented in the room.

The series of presentations continued with that of the project Communication media delivered by the SEA4cities IT Development Focal point, Cheikh Ahmadou MBODJI. M. Mbodji presented a video showing the various features of the website and Dashboard, since the page opening from any Internet search engine. In particular, he emphasized the virtual collaboration space available to partners for information on the project and for interaction with the project team. Mr Mbodji also showed how to register and join SEA4cities webinars convened once a quarter.

The project Coordinator, Aminata FALL, closed the series of presentations by outlining the functionalities of the Project Energy Systems Planning Tool (ESPM). Ms. Fall highlighted one of the innovative aspects of this tool that integrates a visualization function, which do not have existent tools in the market. The other innovation of the ESPM is that, unlike existent energy planning software, it is designed for application at the scale of the city, and its components such as the communes, the districts and individual buildings. The ESPM should allow the stakeholders present in the room, mostly local administrations' representatives, to simulate the energy behavior of their districts, thus enabling an optimization of energy consumption and production on the basis of criteria that complies with the standards of environmental, social and economic sustainability.



Following these presentations, the workshop continued with plenary discussions chaired by Professor Ibrahima DIEDHIOU, Director of Research at Thies University. In addition to the contributions from the Ministry in charge of Energy on ongoing initiatives that could be complementary to the project activities, majority of the questions can be summarized on two points:

- The practical usability of the tool, and its impact on the electricity bill of local administrations;
- The sustainability of the project's results of the 30-month timeframe indicated.

On questions related to usability of the project's results, Prof. Diaw explained SEA4cities is an academic research project and not an investment project, which would intervene directly in the production of energy with renewable sources or the implementation of energy efficiency measures. Following Prof. Diaw intervention, Ms. Fall speaking on this point explained the mandate of the current project ends with the design of the tool that will help stakeholders on the ground to better plan their actions. Ms Fall also stressed the need to consider the project as part of a dynamic chain; in the same way the tool development draws from what has been done in the past in the sector to meet a specific need, it shall be used in future initiatives to improve their impact on populations' life. On results sustainability at the end of SEA4cities implementation period, Prof. Diaw and Wade reassured the audience saying the project's actions, including the workshop, and the results that will be achieved are steps in an enduring process.

Apart from contributions and questions from the audience, different organizations voiced the need for SEA4cities to collaborate with their initiatives. Ms. Niane, the representative of Bureau de Mise a Niveau des Entreprises (BMN), a public institution that implements on behalf of the Senegal government various projects related to the energy transition, particularly in the commercial sector, listed synergies that exist between SEA4cities and the ongoing project of the Senegal government with UNIDO, of which BMN is the prime executing agency. Ms. Niane concluded by proposing a partnership that could be beneficial to both projects. Mr. N'diaye, representative of Ville de Dakar, the municipality office, also intervened to present the Dakar municipality's new initiative to



accelerate energy transition in Dakar. The initiative is implemented through the Dakar Climate Action Platform (DakClim), which was created under the Covenant of Mayors of Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA). The initiative supported by the European Union aims to integrate in territorial planning Energy and Climate dimensions. Mr. N'diaye invited the project coordinators to visit their premises in order to further exchange with colleagues on the two initiatives. This meeting took place the following Friday at DakClim headquarters. Finally, Agence de Développement et d'encadrement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (ADEPME) offered to support the project survey scheduled in the framework of the ESPM development, by circulating the data collection forms in the network of companies it supports and by printing the same forms that will be available at the Agency's reception desk. Apart from this support, ADEPME invited the coordinators to communicate with its network of companies on the potential gains of an energy transition that the ESPM could simulate.

Local administrations representatives also invited the project team to deliver the presentations to their colleagues absent from the workshop. Thus, the coordinator of the association grouping districts' administrators in the Municipality of Diamniadio invited the national coordinator to present the project and its impact on the local energy situation in Diamniadio. The appointment was made for October 13, 2018. The national project team will travel to Diamniadio to discuss with the mayors and districts delegates of the municipality, in anticipation of the project's field surveys. A similar meeting will be organized with the mayors of Point E and Sicap Amitie, other targets of SEA4cities survey, at a date to be agreed.

The workshop interventions ended with an information on the perspectives, with the agenda of the upcoming activities communicated by the project coordinator, followed by an intervention of the coordinator of ProGreen, new partner of SEA4cities. Prof. Bamba DIAW wraps-up the meeting by thanking all the participants before inviting them to share the lunch offered by SEA4cities.