

**GLOBAL ENERGY NETWORK FOR URBAN SETTLEMENT (GENUS)**

**African Regional Steering Committee Meeting Report**

*On 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2012*

**Organised by**

**Urban Energy Unit**

**of**

**Urban Basic Service Branch**

**UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

**[UN-HABITAT]**



**Event family picture**

## I. INTRODUCTION

The climate change project is included in Urban Slum Programme contributing to improve the living condition of Douala's poor households and institutions by reaching a sustainable healthy environment through developing a low carbon energy market and enhanced their resilient again climate change issues. This project will increase the awareness raising on climate change and promote low carbon energy options as a crucial for future decisions making targeting slum dwellers, CSOs and policy makers. Now, the project is entering in the implementation phase, so in order to be more efficient in promoting low carbon energy and at the same time, for well counter the climate change issues through gathering lessons learnt and experiences from other organisations, FCTV seizes this opportunity to attend this African Regional Steering Committee Meeting organised by Urban Energy Unit of Urban Basic Service Branch about UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS [UN-HABITAT] at 10 am to 6 pm in Dakar's FANA HOTEL on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2012.

The objectives of my participation were:

- ❖ To be more aware on GENUS Network (what, the reasons and intentions)
- ❖ To introduce FCTV as a membership of this network
- ❖ To get support from the network on climate change strategy whether is available
- ❖ To gather information sharing during the meeting from the others organisation experiences on Climate change issue and green energy access sector in slum areas

## II. ATTENDEES

The meeting brought together Africa-based energy experts drawn from national, regional, and international NGOs, and private sectors involved in energy research and development:

- ❖ **UN-Habitat**, Mr Vincent Kitio, Executive Chief of Urban Energy Section
- ❖ **Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies (CSET)**, Mr Hady Sherif, Executive Manager
- ❖ **Enterprise for Vocational Development (ENVODEV)**, Mr. David Paul De Armye, International Manager
- ❖ **Ecole Nationale des Eaux et Forêts (ENEF) du Gabon**, Mr. Isaac Zama, Renewable Energy and Community Forestry Expert
- ❖ **Environmental Development Action (ENDA)**, Mm. Touria Dafrallah, Research-Action Coordinator
- ❖ **Human Info**, Dr. Michel Loots, General Manager
- ❖ **Orange Senegal**, Mr. Eric MOUKORO

- ❖ **Global Business Africa**, Mr. Adolphe Fossi, General Manager
- ❖ **UN-Habitat**, Armelle Solim Patoki, Assistante Administrative au Programme 'Eau pour les Villes Africaines' acted as facilitator for the meeting

### III. MEETING PROGRESSING

The meeting took place at 10am with the welcome address, following by the self-introduction among participants conducted by Vincent Kitio. After, he officially opens the meeting through the presentation on the Genus and its status in a brief discussion. Then, we had a coffee/tea break managed by Armelle Solim. Afterwards, there were a total of three (3) presentations made focused on 2 thematic areas (i.e slum electrification, and waste-to-energy); each presentation has been followed by Q&A phase to fully understand each situation, and make some comments. Then, we had a lunch break, and after that, we carried on the remaining three presentations. Following all those six presentations, we went ahead in an interactive session on Proposition for the future of GENUS. Then we came up to the closing remarks and AOB.

The next day (4<sup>th</sup> December, 2012), we went to visit three green energy system facilities:

- ❖ **Visit to UN-Habitat Biogas Latrine**

Digester size: 80 m<sup>3</sup> (designed for more than 1000 people per day), not finish yet.



❖ **Visit to the Solar Assembly Facility SPEC (Sustainable Power Electricity Company)**

Production capacity: 25MW per year. The first solar assembly in Africa and the only one.



❖ **Visit to Improved cook stoves Manufacturing plant of M. Lamine Samba, Potter trainer**

("barrier décor", "pave", "bond-stone", and "foyer amélioré")

Production capacity: 380 foyers améliorés per day and he is selling them successfully



#### IV. MEETING SUMMARY

I'll briefly describe what occurs during the presentation of each attendee (what he said and Q&A phase) of the meeting.

##### 1. Presentation on the status of GENUS – by Vincent Kitio

###### a) Presentation

Genus is a platform of multiple institutions and stakeholders working in the urban energy and mobility sectors to facilitate a new and dynamic collaboration, dialogue, and sharing information through a global base of knowledge on energy related topics focused on urban poor. The GENUS Secretariat, the UN-Habitat, was created following the consensus made during the Nairobi Expert Group meeting on "Promoting Energy Access for the Urban Poor in Africa" held on 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2009. We have already held four workshops:

❖ *"Access to Transport for the Urban Poor in Asia"*

This was an expert group meeting which took place in May, 2009 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Organised jointly by UN-Habitat and the Institute of Transportation and Development (ITDP), it focused on deepening the understanding of the issues affecting transport services among urban poor.

❖ *"Promoting Energy Access for the Urban Poor in Africa – Approaches and Challenges in slum electrification"*

This event was held in Nairobi in October 2009. This workshop discussed the challenges and issues pertaining to slum electrification in Africa with emphasis on policy, program design, and data or evidence

❖ *"Energy from Waste Workshop"*

This workshop was held in October 2010 on energy from solid waste.

❖ *"GENUS Interregional Steering Committee"*

Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012, he was to review the status of the GENUS initiative (as now) and to discuss the draft anchoring strategy. They have all agreed to reduce the existing three thematic areas (slum electrification, waste-to-energy, and mobility) on one topic "Sustainable Energy for All" initiative.

The GENUS Network is available online and is hosted by the UN-Habitat Urban Gateway. So it can be found on this link: <http://www.urbangateway.org/genus>.

The GENUS Network through UN-Habitat is compiling a casebook on energy access best practises in developing countries. So far, they have already received 10 cases, and he wishes to receive more other cases until the end of this year. He said that these case studies will be compiled and published in early 2013 and present to potential donors.

He said that they invited 15 organisations, but only 7 of them be presented and expressed the wish to have many organisations for the next meeting that will be (not sure) held on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 in Ndjama, Chad so that he believed to this network and want to see it survive.

He distributed some documents and CDs about ONU Habitat

## **b) Q&A phase**

Dr Michel Loots suggest that it would help building a website for GENUS and rearrange the information's access system that will be more interesting and grouping by categories.

## **2. Household cooking Energy in Chad – by David Paul De Armev**

### **a) Presentation**

He is working on ENVODEV in Ndjama, Chad as an International Manager which doing on improving the public sanitation, energy access, and small enterprise by creating partnerships between local business owners and outside lending groups. Chad has 12 million of populations and increase 3 or 4% per year. Regarding Public Health and Sanitation; he said that only 48% of urban dwellers have access to clean drinking water and just 2% to basic sanitation facilities. To contribute in addressing this issue, they have implemented in Belaba a project pilot, compost toilet solution. Now, about Energy access, he said that Chad is a net oil and gas exporter (around 90%), yet facing an energy crisis. At least, 95% of Chadians use charcoal as their sole source of household fuel as they consume 1.13 millions of charcoal per week and they always burning their waste, just 5% reuse it. After a government ban has made charcoal no more easily available because government thought that deforestation is a crucial problem. So the law force many to live as outlaws just to cook their food. So to address this issue, ENVODEV develop an alternative to wood charcoal which is widespread manufacture of briquettes made from local rice-straw because he estimated that in Chad the rice area is over 110,000 ha. This is one of their current project and the first on green energy access.

### **b) Q&A**

I suggested that to increase the production, they can also use manioc waste in the process, maybe banana tree leaf waste. Ph. D, Isaac Zama, also suggested that they may use biogas for improving

sanitation and health, cooking and agriculture. Dr Michel and Touria have also want to know something about electricity access and what is done; this was the same concern of Hady Sherif.

### **3. Presentation of Environmental Development Action (ENDA) – by Touria Dafrallah**

#### **a) Presentation**

They are working on improving living condition in third world to twelve countries<sup>1</sup> in Africa, Cameroon don't include (she said something like no proposition was coming up to us) in many areas. She focused on Energy area (Enda-Energy, Environmental, and Development). There are currently working hard in Senegal on:

- ❖ *Access to sustainable energy* which consist in the dissemination of improved stoves for fish smoking, solar photovoltaic in the production of ice, domestic energy, rural electrification
- ❖ *Adaptation to climate change* by placing communities first to face the impact of CC and desertification. They have some colleagues in Doha for CC meeting

She has also share some document and CDs about ENDA activities

#### **b) Q&A**

There were not really questions to her, just to show case studies (said by Vincent kitio).

### **4. Presentation of Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies (CSET) – by Hady Sherif**

#### **a) Presentation**

This is a NGO in Monrovia (Liberia) working on slum electrification. He said that Liberia has 4 millions of population and 3% increase per year. He added that less than 10% of the population in Monrovia, and less that 2% of Liberia's rural populations have access to electricity, and the electricity generated is predominantly from imported fossil and cost on average 0.50 \$ US/Kwh. The Liberia Electricity Company (LEC) produces just 412 MW. In order to address or contribute to the mitigation, they are now working on a program to increase the energy access on Monrovia through using sustainable energies (solar light project by manufacturing bottle small technology for lighting) at affordable cost, charcoal technologies (very little people are interested)

#### **b) Q&A**

Dr Vincent kitio suggests to him to send some showcases. Dr Isaac suggests looking forward biogas approach and asking to see more photos. I was very surprise about the electricity access level

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<sup>1</sup> She told me that the upcoming survey will be held to include other africa country and she has promised to tell me more about that

and I was concern about whether a regulation agency already exists. This feeling was the same for all the other attendees

## **5. Presentation of Ecole Nationale des Eaux et Forêts du Gabon – by Isaac Zama**

### **a) Presentation**

He is currently making a research at this School on Renewable Energy for communities, focusing on promoting Biomass (charcoal, and wood) system to produce electricity (biogas for instance). He has presented his research status and some type of relevant biomass technologies for Gabon slum dwellers.

### **b) Q&A**

There were not really questions about the presentation, just a comment of M. Vincent suggesting that to provide the result of his research on a business point of view and maybe after potential donor analysis; he may receive some grants to implement the project. I also ask him to more present those technologies next (during our future the mail exchanges!).

## **6. Presentation of Human Info – by Michel Loots**

### **a) Presentation**

This is a NGOs located in Belgium and Romania working to provide information, data processing and dissemination services to United Nations and development organisations. He also said that they main objective is to be recognised and respected as one of the NGOs fighting to tackle poverty and increase the human potential to all persons involved in development, well-being and basic needs. So they build an open-source software, open source websites to access to essential information in much the same way as mass public health vaccinations, both should be provided as an essential service to every individual willing to help himself or his country. Complete development and basic needs CD-ROM libraries for developing countries seem an efficient way to achieve this swiftly, provided they can be delivered at the lowest cost possible. He had distributed some documents and CDs about and kindly invites us to take a look on their website <http://www.humaninfo.org>.

### **b) Q&A**

There were no really interesting questions, just a request from Vincent to help in creating the GENUS Website

## 7. Presentation of FCTV – by Lucien Yoppa

### a) Presentation

I present those following project (this is a summary):

- ❖ *W2W project*: waste-to-money project through PPP establishment between urban communities, district communities, grassroots communities, and SMEs in clean environment, and waste management. I distributed some leaflets and presented some pictures, and mentioned that this is one of our Douala current project
- ❖ *CC project*: It will improve the living conditions of poor dwellers and institutions in Douala reaching a sustainable healthy environment through developing a low carbon energy market and enhanced their resilient again climate change issues. I left to them her template on case studies filled, CC results and effects in Douala, and I had briefly presented our three cores activities (promoting low carbon energy, Campaign awareness raising through civic education for instance, and develop a CC strategy). As for W2W, I mentioned that CC is our current project and he has just entered in implementing phase
- ❖ *Forest Voices* – Promoting indigenous people’s rights in Cameroon: the project in the Dja Biosphere Reserve to enhance respect for the human rights of marginalised group in Cameroon by improving the ability of civil society organisations to awareness raising and advocate for the human rights of the forest communities. I had also widespread some CDs and the project was take 21 months (from January 2011 to September 2012)

### b) Q&A

They were all interesting with the result of W2W project rely on leaflets and pictures that I gave to them for instance how the AFALIC disabled women transform plastic waste to bag, tablecloth. They also think that CC project is a good initiative and appreciate the planning and hope to have some results about the project and available if we want any kind of input (said in majority by Vincent Kitio).

## V. CONCLUSION

For ending, Vincent Kitio thanks everyone for participating and do hope that the GENUS will survive. He thinks that we can build a better urban because we can’t be developed without improving sustainable energy access for urban and periurban cities of ours countries. The GENUS networks through is secretariat are available for any concerns! He also said, they are looking forward to having the next Genus Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December in Ndjamen, Chad.

## VI. MORE INFORMATION

After the meeting at 6 pm, we went to Africités Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> at King Fahd Palace Hotel just to know more about the meeting. It was not the official opening event (We were there on 3<sup>rd</sup>, now the official opening is on 4<sup>th</sup>), but the relevant participants were the Minister of Urbanisation and Habitat of Senegal and Executive Manager of ONU-Habitat, Dr Clos. They were talking about the relationship between urbanisation and development.

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Lucien Yoppa

Project Officer, LCE project