



## Workshop 2: Sustainable African Cities Development Coalition

### *Climate Chance Summit 2019 – Africa*

*Climate chance already asked the question last year in Climate Chance Summit - Abidjan about the sustainable cities in Africa. The objective of this workshop would be to continue the work carried out with a roadmap draft to be followed until the next Climate Chance Summit.*

Mahamoudou Wadidié, Director of the Urban Planning and Development Agency of the Bamako region, Mali, member of the MTPA Africa.

African cities face almost the same problems:

- Demographic problem
- Urban sprawl, which pose difficulties in accessing basic services, work/home journey.

This applies to all cities, but especially in capitals where there is a multiplication of actors and therefore difficulties to coordinate. However, we have all the necessary planning tools to be able to really think about city planning. These tools are addressed to sectoral urban programmes and urban plans. What is missing for local authorities are the coherence tools to have territorial consistency, with master plans for example. Therefore, we need to create an association of local governments with a "guiding path". There must be a willingness to create a joint urban planning scheme that goes beyond the administrative limits of the city, with several municipalities acting as actors, governed by a same urban planning agency.

We also need a vision that takes climate change into account. Today, we have the climate challenges in front of us. Our role as urban actors is to raise awareness and inform all actors so that everyone can take climate change into account. It is necessary to show the links between the importance of local authorities in providing minimum services and climate issues.

#### **Solutions:**

An African network of urban agencies must be set up with a charter. This charter will define a number of key activities to move towards a truly representative African network. To this end, we want this African network of urban agencies to take shape and that concrete actions can be defined on an African scale based on large organizations (UN habitat...).

#### **Mohammed Naciri, Head of the 'Eco cité' project Zenata (Morocco):**

Africa is full of contradiction. The real problems of Africa are poverty, education, health and security.



But it's a continent with a young population that can create projects that will bring jobs. Today, climate change is only a consequence of our lifestyles. We must think of the younger generation, they must be able to find work, so we must prepare the territories in order to attract companies to encourage young people to work there. Zenata Eco city is a sustainable city project adapted to the problems of emerging countries and in accordance with the SDG (UN). In order to new cities could become models, we must design our own model. The Zenata project started 10 years ago, we have tried to transform constraints into opportunities. There is no exact model, the most important thing is the approach we adopt, and we want to develop an ideal approach adapted to emerging countries. The questions are how do we plan to achieve our objectives, with what strategy? What will be the steps? Here are some examples of important aspects in the strategy and planning of our project that we want to share with you.

- To be close to Casablanca, to be on an active and attractive territory.
- You have to innovate, be different to resist and attract. There are social, economic and environmental innovations (only 1% of Casablanca's surface area is dedicated to "green").

An economic model based on high value-added jobs.

- A territory with an international university, an integrated health centre and shopping centres.
- Because it's not possible to develop a city alone, we need partners from the State, citizens and investors.
- We need to know how to deal with African problems and then we need knowledge, research and data.
- The 3 major challenges facing African cities (regarding to the climate challenge) are:
- A sustainable approach, resilient cities. With access to sustainable energy (African cities consume a lot of energy).
- Sharing knowledge and skills.
- Facilitate access to international funding and increase visibility.
- We need to understand our cities and their vulnerabilities.

Head of GPS-Dev, "The climate challenge for African cities";

Today there is urban growth and environmental degradation, the disappearance of green spaces. Climate change is an extreme risk for 2/3 of African cities. And these cities are unsustainable, poor and non-inclusive.

There are two major issues:

- The integration of the peripheries
- The development of effective resilience

Problem: Today, urban statistical data are too disparate. So, there are very few projections.

### **Hastings CHIKOKO, C40**

We need data to be able to plan and ensure that our objectives are aligned with the Paris agreements.

### **Timothy Blatch, ICLEI**

There is a need for projects that combine 5 paths: low-emission, nature-based development, fair, resilient and circular development.

The role of local governments must also be strengthened at the local level.

### **UN Habitat**



The first important problems in Africa: We don't have enough experts (urban planners), and urban planning needs qualified people and planners. In our cities, we should all be real active citizens, not first- and second-class citizens. Secondly, regarding mobility, people are moving to the city (where they can barely live today) but there are many jobs and opportunities.

We need to change the way we build our cities. Our cities must be compact. We must balance the way we build our cities. Local governments are removing places that give us oxygen (trees). Cycling or walking is the future of Africa. We have to make sure that 100% of the transport services are local, make sure by 2030 that 55% of the building is 'green', and 22% of our GHG emissions come from waste.

Then the question is: "is there enough funding"? While there is funding at the national level (African diaspora for example), there is a need to improve the administrative capacity of local government. The problem about financing comes only after good planning; a good conception of needs, of what we want to have are essential in order to have access to financing.

In Africa, waste is the main energy problem, we must start integrating the culture of efficiency. We shouldn't see population growth as a cost, but we must create jobs thanks to the waste collection and processing.

### **Kisumu, Kenya. Urban Tinkery**

We must discuss with local government to ensure that resources are used wisely and locate international funds to local government. If the local population is included in the implementation of the project, it would be difficult for the authorities to misappropriate these funds. Then, including the local population in decision-making is a good way to ensure less corruption.

### **Dennis Papa Odenyi Quansah. IFC EDGE. Green construction.**

Developers must be encouraged to make their projects green. In the long term, there should be software that allows you to see if green projects are viable, and then allow buyers to see that the project they are financing is certified by the World Bank.

