



Special Session, Africities Summit, September 2006

Solidarity funding mechanisms for better meeting the needs and expectations of African local governments in the area of water and sanitation

PS-Eau / UCLG-A / WWC

Date: Wednesday 20 September, 2.30 pm, Tent 4

Session Organisers

Programme Solidarité Eau (pS-Eau)

World Water Council (WWC)

United Cities and Local Governments – Africa (UCLG-A)

Context

Regarding the challenges associated with reaching the Millennium Development Goals in the field of water supply and sanitation, two key points have been highlighted by the international community: the need to increase financing at local level and, at the same time, the need to enhance local capacities to manage water resources. Solidarity financing mechanisms contribute, among other means, to meet both these needs. Based on sustainable ties of solidarity and offering a bond between people as well as financing, these mechanisms target funds directly to local stakeholders and at the same time promote the sharing of experiences and building of capacities.

Session Objective

The objective of this special session is to examine how the African stakeholders in decentralised financing mechanisms based on solidarity perceive these mechanisms, what their advantages are and how they feel they could be advanced and improved. The results of a survey on this topic will be presented, leading to further debate among the local authorities present in the panel and the audience.

In addition to debating issues relating to North-South financing, discussions shall also look at the feasibility of implementing mechanisms based on solidarity between the people within a country, whereby the more wealthy users show their solidarity with those less well-off.

Session Schedule (3 hours)

OPENING ADDRESS AND INTRODUCTION (15 MIN.)

Opening address by session Chair, **Mr. Jean-Marie BOCKEL**, Maire of Mulhouse, Senator of the Haut-Rhin and President of the Large French Cities' Mayors' Association.

PRESENTATION OF SOLIDARITY FINANCING MECHANISMS AND SURVEY RESULTS (35 MIN.)

Presentation of the principles underlying solidarity financing mechanisms and the results of a survey carried out amongst Southern partners regarding the impact, advantages and opportunities for improvement of solidarity financing mechanisms as a means of contributing to the water and sanitation MDGs.

DEBATE WITH THE PANEL (40 MIN.)

Debate with the panel, reactions to the presentation, testimonies, prospects and recommendations.

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

Name	Organisation
M. Felix ADEGNIKA	Coordinator, PDM, Benin
M. Blaise GLELE AHANHANZO	Mayor of Abomey , President of the National Association of Communes of Benin (ANCB), Benin
M. Lodé AOUISSI	President of the Special Delegation of the Commune of Lomé, President of the Union of Communes of Togo (UCT), Togo
M. Amadou Ly BELKO	Mayor of Torodi, Niger
M. Emmanuel NGNIKAM	Research professor at the <i>Ecole polytechnique de Yaoundé</i> and Director, ERA, Cameroon
M. Ludovic PIRON PALLISER	Project Manager, Large French Cities' Mayors' Association (AMGVF), France
M. Malal TOURE (<i>Session Rapporteur</i>)	Coordinator, ENDA – Eau Populaire, Senegal

DEBATE WITH AUDIENCE AND PANEL MEMBERS (50 MIN.)

THEMES FOR DEBATE

- Reactions to the presentation
- Testimonies
- Debate on outlook and recommendations

CONCLUSIONS (20 MIN.)

Conclusion of debate and summary of recommendations by the session rapporteur.

CLOSING ADDRESS (20 MIN.)

Closing address by

M. Jean-Marie BOCKEL, Maire of Mulhouse, Senator of the Haut-Rhin and President of the Large French Cities' Mayors' Association

M. Loïc FAUCHON, President of the World Water Council