



Atelier Régional sur l'Evaluation Environnementale & l'Intégration  
de l'Environnement dans la Conception et la Gestion des Activités  
de Développement à Petite Echelle en Afrique  
(Dakar, 18-22 février 2008)

# REPORT



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## SUMMARY

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## **1. Introduction**

Held in Senegal on February 18-22, and delivered in french, the Regional EA-ESDM Course was officially opened by the USAID Senegal Mission Director in presence of Zema Semunegus, Director, Food For Peace Regional Office, CPI-Senegal Director (Josephine Trenchard), the four facilitators (Camilien, Saliou, Seydou and Damas), the logistics coordinator (Tashina M.Giraud) and 40 participants from Africare (Mali, Burkina, Tchad, Niger), CPI (Mauritania, Senegal), CRS (Burkina, Mali, Niger), CARE (Madagascar), WWF CARPE (DR Congo), Direction Nationale des Eaux et Forets (Guinea), Direction Nationale de l'Environnement (Guinea), Institut de Recherche Agronomique de Bordo (Guinea), Direction Nationale de la Conservation de la Nature (Senegal), FHI (Senegal), GRDR Ziguinchor (Senegal), Institut d'Economie Rurale (Mali), Institut du Sahel (Mali), IFDC-WACIP (Mali), IRD (Niger), MCA (Benin), WFP-CAR (RCA), USAID-Senegal.

Prior to the speech of the USAID-Senegal Mission Director, the Participants introduced briefly themselves followed by the Facilitators and the Logistics Coordinator contracted through CPI-Senegal.

The overall organization of the workshop was done through a communication facility established between the facilitators and USAID WAFR Regional Environmental Advisor (Rob Clausen), and Bureau Environmental Officer D.C.H.A./U.S.A.I.D. in Washington D.C. (Erika Clesceri).

Counterpart International Senegal played the role of logistics coordination and recruited Tashina M. Giraud as coordinator to organize the overall facilities of the workshop.

The workshop benefited from great support of the USAID Senegal Mission. The Director of the Mission took personally part in the opening ceremony and delivered a speech. That gave to the workshop a very special touch highly appreciated by the participants and the facilitators.

## 2. Venue and Logistics

The main venue of the Workshop was USAID-Senegal Mission Office located at Petit Ngor, near the notorious Ngor Diarama Hotel, Dakar, Sénégal as shown on the photos below which are in the Participant Welcome Guide prepared by Tashina M. Giraud, the Logistics Coordinator.



Hotels, Restaurants and Conference Room were concentrated in this same area (right) near the Dakar International Airport (left).

Counterpart International – Senegal assumed the role of logistics coordination. Tashina M. Giraud was contracted by Counterpart as logistics coordinator.

Both participants and facilitators rated very good the logistics coordination. All aspects were considered at time and properly thanks to a well organized coordinator, Tashina who deserves high marks for contributing to the success of the workshop.

- ***Conference room and facilities***  
USAID Mission in Senegal contributed in giving its conference room to host the workshop. The logistics coordinator and the facilitators agreed on the set up of the conference room. All facilities including photocopying and a coffee space were made available.
- ***Hotel reservation***  
For all participants who required it reservation was done in hotels situated in the nearby of the USAID Mission.
- ***Restaurant***  
Arrangement was made to have lunches taken at the restaurant in a hotel near the Conference Centre. Participants appreciated the good menu and the service given to them at the Madrague Hotel.
- ***Field trips***  
Well planned, all the field trips went well. Both transport and food packs were available at time.
- ***Cultural event***  
Participants were glad to share a “Soirée culturelle” together with a dinner at a notorious place in Dakar. They were especially honored by the presence of the USAID Senegal Mission Director.

A week prior to the opening of the Workshop, the facilitators revisited all the case sites identified during the preplanning phase for field trips and reconfirmed the planned visits to happen on the whole second day for rural sites and in afternoon of the fourth day for urban sites.

### 3. Facilitators and facilitation approach

The workshop had four facilitators as listed below. All four familiar with EA-ESDM Courses having taken part in previous ENCAP Workshops held in Madagascar and Burundi, they equally shared the responsibilities of conducting the activities set on the agenda.



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About the contents and the facilitation approach of the Workshop, the team of facilitators followed closely the guidelines reproduced on the right, sent by the WA Regional Environmental Advisor, Rob Clausen. Though the Cape Coast Course approach and format were not documented by written description (not found in the Final Proceedings of the Workshop distributed), following the discussion the facilitators had within the team, they all agreed that the approach emphasizes more on outdoor activities and special presentations of experiences than plenary lecture sessions. This explains why more time in the agenda was devoted to transect walks and urban environmental sites visits in addition to the rural case sites studies.

Trainers/Facilitators met each day to plan the day ahead. Before the workshop to take place, they were prepared to work as a team. They went through the agenda, focused themselves on what participants expressed as expectations, then convened to maximise the results of the course. In

This email is primarily for Cam, Damas, Saliou and Seydou. I am sending along 4 power point presentations - the two I have attached here are nos. 4 and 3 respectively. I am splitting the 4 up on account of their size.

A few important points to keep in mind when working on these slides:

1. These 4 presentations represent ALL of the ENCAP related pp slide shows that are to be used for this workshop (there are 59 slides in total);
2. All of these presentations are delivered Monday morning and the first hour or so Monday afternoon (before the transect walk) - by Monday afternoon all of the ENCAP related pp materials will have been used;
3. It is critical to keep in mind that these slide shows are only to be used to cover the basics while stimulating discussion and active participation from everyone. These are NOT to be used in a LECTURE format (i.e., run through the slides and answer questions after) - if folks have questions during the presentation - answer them. That is essentially why there is 4-5 minutes allotted to each slide (more or less).
4. It is also critical to keep in mind that all of the formal "teaching" part of this course really takes place the first morning - after that participants are working the rest of the week applying what has been covered (and of course asking a bunch of questions). The field application is the focus of this course (in addition to special presentations near the end of the week).

Damas is very familiar with the approach and format we are striving to use, having worked on the Cape Coast course. Cam is also familiar, having discussed this approach with him often; plus Cam has worked on a lot of courses. Saliou and others have done a great job on lining up field sites, which are really the backbone of the course. So, I expect Damas and Cam to set the framework and tone for the overall course while Saliou and Seydou take a good deal of the lead in the field. It is assuring to know that we have a very high quality team (which includes Tashina), implementing this course; I know you folks can collectively work out the numerous issues that inevitably come up during one of these courses.

Rob

plenary sessions facilitators were mostly active listeners as well as learners, at the same time, guiding the whole group to see what is important, why it is important, and what are the appropriate tools for specific environmental problems and how they can be applied.

Facilitators relied more on practical experiences and avoided theories, then created an adequate learning climate for adult learning.

Following the evaluation of the workshop by the participants, this approach was considered a successful one though some mentioned the need in this kind of course to extend the time allotted to environmental concepts and evaluation procedures.

#### **4. Objectives**

The workshop had the four following objectives:

- a) Help participants develop deeper understanding and awareness of how environmental concerns can affect the sustainability of development programs, projects and activities, and thus to appreciate the role for environmental assessment, monitoring and evaluation.
- b) Familiarize participants with the basic principles and practice of environmental assessment, and provide them with practical experience in the application of simple assessment tools and approaches.
- c) Understand USAID procedures in the context of evolving local policies and needs, using local expertise where possible to do so, and thereby avoiding unnecessary delays in activity approval and implementation.
- d) Know how to mitigate, monitor, and thereby avoid unnecessary adverse environmental impacts, and be able to prepare effective Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) for mitigation and monitoring..

#### **5. Conference**

Five themes and four special presentations were introduced and discussed through plenary and groups sessions during the workshop.

##### **- The five themes:**

- (i) Why Assess Environmental Impacts ?
- (ii) Introduction to EA-Environmentally Sound Design and Management
- (iii) Environmental Assessment Basic Concepts
- (iv) USAID Environmental Procedures
- (v) Mitigation, Monitoring and Environmental Management Plans

##### **- The four special presentations:**

- a. Pesticides and PERSUAP.
- b. Environment and Health – Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis
- c. Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM)
- d. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – the Experience of the Sahel Institute

## 6. Transects walks

Following the series of talks and discussion during the morning of the first day, participants after having been introduced on the concept and approach of environmental transect by the facilitators, took part in a transect walk prepared for rapid evaluation of the environment in the nearby of the Conference Centre. Divided in four groups they made observation and reported on the environmental status of the area they walked in, putting special attention on the environmental problems they noticed. On return to conference room, discussions went on what they found and what to put in an environmental management plan for the areas visited.



### LIGNES DIRECTRICES POUR LA CONDUITE DU TRANSECT ENVIRONNEMENTAL

Le transect environnemental se déroulera dans un secteur du quartier de Ngor à proximité de la Mission de USAID-Sénégal. Deux parcours ont été identifiés à cet effet. Deux groupes seront constitués et se répartiront chacun en deux sous-groupes qui feront des parcours opposés sur le même transect. Au terme de la randonnée, chaque groupe présentera un rapport succinct comportant une **partie descriptive** et une **partie analytique**.

En rappel, un transect est un chemin (tracé, sentier) le long duquel en marchant on peut enregistrer et compter les occurrences des éléments que l'on étudie, dans ce cas les éléments constitutifs de la dynamique anthropique de l'habitat urbain.

Le transect demande que l'observateur se déplace sur un parcours déterminé et note ce qu'il observe le long de ce parcours et, en même temps cherche à obtenir la distance entre un ou des objets et un point du tracé sur son schéma, voir si possible de déterminer grâce à un GPS les coordonnées géographiques exactes d'un objet observé, par exemple un centre de santé, un dépôt d'ordures, des caniveaux à ciel ouverts, un marché, une route, une école, etc.

Un transect environnemental consiste en une observation minutieuse des éléments caractéristiques du milieu de part et d'autre du tracé du parcours. L'observateur devra être assez attentif pour ultérieurement être à même de faire une analyse distinctive de tout ce qui lui semble positif ou négatif en terme de normes environnementales. Il peut s'agir d'états de lieux des habitations ou des routes comme il peut s'agir de facilités existantes dans un bon ou un mauvais état ou carrément faisant défaut là où c'est pourtant nécessaire. Les écarts négatifs vis-à-vis de normes admissibles pour un environnement viable sont estimables parfois à vue d'œil à condition d'y porter un minimum d'attention.

Il faudra simplement noter que le descriptif doit précéder l'analyse.

**Pour le descriptif**, voici quelques éléments de guide d'observation (liste non exhaustive)

- Schéma d'urbanisation de la zone du transect (tracé et état des routes, trottoirs, blocs d'habitation, équipements d'assainissement, éclairage public, bornes-fontaines, toilettes publiques, espaces verts, terrains de sport, ...)
- Types de construction, y compris taudis et autres habitations précaires
- Commerce (tous genres)
- Etablissements industriels
- Moyens de transport
- Animaux domestiques
- Maraîchage
- Activités artisanales (ateliers de tous genres)
- Déchets solides et liquides
- Air ambiant

**Pour l'analyse**, il est suggéré de ressortir les éléments positifs et négatifs observés, y compris le niveau de réflexe environnemental des riverains du transect, et de proposer les éléments d'une esquisse de stratégie et de plan d'action pour améliorer l'état de l'environnement de la zone observée.

## 7. Case Sites Visits

Three rural and three urban sites were visited in groups the second day of the workshop.



Two of the rural sites were close to each other at Diamnadio

(Agriculture Case) and Sebi-Ponthy (Rural Road Case) and one at Niagga (Heath, Water and Sanitation Cases), all three at around 50kms from Dakar.

Participants did the visits in three groups, each going in a specific site, assisted by a facilitator : Damas at Diamnadio, Seydou at Sebi-Ponthy and Saliou at Niagga.

The first case sites visits went on the second day as planned while the second visit was done the afternoon of the fourth day. Accompanied by a facilitator and using the guidelines they were given, each group observed and took note on various environmental settings of the site visited in order to prepare a report and present at the plenary of the next day.

Participants were able to identify, analyze and report on a number of environmental problems they encountered during their visits.

All participants agreed that these visits were a good opportunity to have real insight of the environmental problems in small scale activities and understand the need of good planning and designing activities with due respect to their environmental dimension.

## 8. Evaluation

At the end of the workshop, the participants were asked to fill in an anonymous evaluation form. They used five level grades (5-4-3-2-1) to appreciate the following issues and rate them:

Sujets	Note
a. Organisation matérielle et logistique	
o Salle	4,63
o Autobus	3,76
o Pause Cafe-Déjeuner	4,50
b. Thèmes abordés	4,44
c. Documentation	3,89
d. Déroulement des sessions en salle	4,00
e. Etudes de cas - Visites de terrain.	
o Transect	4,21
o Sites ruraux	4,39
o Sites urbains	4,26
f. Ce Cours a-t-il amélioré votre compréhension de l'évaluation environnementale et de l'intégration de l'environnement dans la conception et la gestion des activités de développement ?	4,36
g. Participation et Interaction	3,94
<b>MOYENNE DU COURS</b>	<b>4 sur 5</b>



## 9. Conclusions and Recommendations

The participants appreciated the overall organization of the workshop as very positive. They found its contents interesting and the facilitation approach open and proactive. They confirmed that the Course brought up their knowledge in environmental assessment.

However, they recommend :

- The length of the course extended from 5 to 10 days.
- More time dedicated to the presentations and the discussions in plenary.
- More field visits.
- Handouts of the course distributed to the participants.
- All chapters of the course made available in French.
- Every group to have a laptop to be able to produce and to present its reports in PPT.
- The copies of the reports of groups shared.
- Set up a follow-up/network mechanism of the workshop.
- The USAID Mission of the host country is more involved more and as early as possible.

## 10. Participants feedback

When back to their respective countries, some participants gave a first feedback by email. Following are copies of some of these emails.

Bonjour à tous,

Je suis bien retournée au Bénin et je pense qu'il en est de même pour chacun d'entre nous. L'atelier de Dakar a été une réussite ; nous avons eu de riches échanges sur la loi 216, les procédures environnementales de l'USAID, la gestion des pesticides,..., les visites de terrain. Tout a été bien organisé, l'ambiance conviviale et nous nous sommes enrichies des expériences des uns et des autres.

Bien que les procédures environnementales de l'USAID ne sont pas exactement les mêmes que celles de MCC, il y a des similitudes puisque les deux s'appuient sur la loi américaine relative à l'environnement. Le but poursuivi aussi est le même, celui de s'assurer de la prise en compte des opportunités devant permettre d'éviter ou d'atténuer les éventuels impacts environnementaux indésirables et d'amplifier les impacts positifs de toute action menée..., je suis sortie de l'atelier de Dakar encore plus enrichie, plus affermie et engagée.

Je voudrais ici remercier les organisateurs pour cette initiative, qu'il faudra d'ailleurs multiplier pour donner l'occasion à un plus grand nombre de collègues de renforcer leurs capacités dans les procédures d'évaluation environnementale.

Je félicite tous les facilitateurs pour leur maîtrise du sujet et surtout leur doigtée pour diriger des formations d'adulte, sans oublier les histoires de "bègue"....,

Un grand bravo pour madame Tashina, pour sa disponibilité, sa convivialité, son sourire permanent...toutes les dispositions logistiques ont été correctement assumées.

A toute l'équipe, gardons le contact.

Je souhaite une excellente journée à tous.

**Jeanne Josette ACACHA AKOHA**

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Un grand bonjour à tous de Madagascar,

Je remercie vivement les organisateurs de cet atelier ainsi que les hôtes et facilitateurs, sans oublier la logistique, pour nous avoir donné l'opportunité d'approfondir sur un élément aussi important de nos activités quotidiennes qu'est l'Evaluation Environnementale Initiale des actions menées ainsi que l'élaboration du Rapport d'Evaluation Environnementale. Je considère que les acquis de cet atelier amélioreront grandement notre performance et nous serviront, à nous personnellement ainsi qu'à nos organismes respectifs, pour tout le reste de notre carrière. En effet, l'évaluation environnementale n'est pas restrictive à l'USAID, mais devrait être promue pour toutes les actions qui peuvent avoir des impacts sur l'environnement, à charge à chacun de valoriser ces acquis.

Je remercie également tous les participants pour leur compréhension et la convivialité qu'ils ont fait preuve durant tout l'atelier. Sans ce respect et confiance mutuelle, toutes les échanges effectuées auraient été vaines.

Un grand merci à tous de Madagascar, avec mes meilleures salutations.

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Chers collègues

Salut à tous. Ce fut un immense plaisir de partager avec vous vos riches expériences. Et que l'on se rappelle que l'échange d'informations est une activité à "exclusion catégorielle "; donc pas de risque.

Au plaisir de vous lire.

[s\\_boubacar71@yahoo.fr](mailto:s_boubacar71@yahoo.fr)

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C'était un réel plaisir d'assister à cet atelier avec vous et partager des opinions sur l'environnement et d'autres choses. L'atelier a été une réussite pour moi et durant l'atelier nous avons eu de riches échanges sur les procédures environnementales de l'USAID, la gestion des pesticides et surtout les visites de terrain qui m'ont donné beaucoup d'expérience. Je remercie vivement les organisateurs de cet atelier ainsi que les facilitateurs, sans oublier la logistique, pour nous avoir donné l'opportunité d'approfondir sur un élément aussi important de nos activités quotidiennes qu'est l'Evaluation Environnementale Initiale. Je remercie également tous les participants pour leur compréhension et la convivialité qu'ils ont fait preuve durant tout l'atelier. Sans ce respect et confiance mutuelle, tous les échanges effectués auraient été vaines.

Tout a été bien organisé, l'ambiance conviviale et nous nous sommes enrichies des expériences des uns et des autres.

Abdoulaye Camara

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Chers collègues

C'est avec un réel plaisir que j'ai lu vos différents messages et je salue votre spontanéité et promptitude à créer une liste de distribution pour consolider les relations d'amitié et de travail qui se sont tissées au cours des 5 jours que nous avons passés ensemble. j'ai beaucoup appris de chacun d'entre vous tous, en particulier des facilitateurs qui ont mis à notre disposition des outils et des informations essentiels pour mesurer les impacts environnementaux des actions menées dans le cadre de nos activités.

Merci à tout le monde sans oublier Tashina, Counterpart et l'USAID qui ont rendu possible et agréable la session de formation.

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### **13. Documentation**

A CD on USAID's Environmental Guidelines for Small Scale Activities in Africa (EGSSAA) was introduced and distributed to participants for use in identifying options to minimize negative environmental impacts.

The participants complained for not having got printed handouts of the course.