



Summary of the Abidjan workshop on advancing SE4ALL country action in Africa

AfDB, Abidjan, 26-27 January 2015

The SE4ALL Africa Hub organized a workshop on 26-27 January 2015 in Abidjan on advancing Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) country action in Africa. Meeting participants included the Hub partners, the Global Facilitation Team (GFT), development partners, national and regional institutions and other participants (the list of participants is included in Annex 1).

Background

The Abidjan workshop was convened at a critical time following an acceleration of SE4ALL country action processes in 2014, but with the implementation of SE4ALL continues vary considerably across the African continent, despite the adoption at the beginning of 2014 of the Country Action Reference Document. The workshop addressed in particular the following questions:

1. What are best practices/lessons learned from first AA/IPs already developed?
2. How to ensure the quality of SE4ALL AAs/IPs?
3. How to ensure an inclusive AA/IP process?
4. Can IPs be standardized?
5. How can SE4ALL facilitate a coordinated follow-up to AAs/IPs?
6. What are the SE4ALL next steps in Africa for 2015?

Summary of discussions

- The workshop was opened by the Vice President for Infrastructure, Private Sector and Regional Integration of the African Development Bank, Solomon Asamoah, who thanked Kandeh Yumkella for his leadership in moving SE4ALL forward, highlighted the role of the SE4ALL Africa Hub hosted by the Bank in partnership with the AU, NEPAD and UNDP and underlined the critical importance of seeing concrete progress at country level which requires addressing the issues of quality assurance of SE4ALL products and concerted follow-up.
- Kandeh Yumkella, SRSR and CEO of the GFT, presented an update on the state of play of SE4ALL, explaining that important milestones were achieved in 2014 notably regarding the proposed Sustainable Development Goal n.7 on energy. Mr. Yumkella recalled that a number of tools have already been put in place, that the commitments from the SE4ALL partners to Africa are solid and that SE4ALL will be present in the agenda of important up-coming events in 2015 (e.g. G20 and COP21). The question for 2015 is how to convert this momentum and all these commitments into delivery of energy services on the ground.

1. Status report on SE4ALL Action Agendas and Investment Prospectuses in Africa

- Daniel-Alexander Schroth, SE4ALL Africa Hub Coordinator, provided an update of the state of play of SE4ALL in Africa noting that 43 African countries have joined SE4ALL: most of them have completed the rapid assessment stage, Action Agendas are under development in some 20 countries, and about 10 Investment Prospectuses are under development. He stressed that significant progress was made in 2014 with the Country Action Reference Document (CARD) and the Action Agenda template providing critical guidance to countries and SE4AL and with country action processes having commenced in all of the 14 focus countries for 2014 albeit at different speeds and varying levels of quality.
- From the analysis of some of the draft AAs the following lessons learned can be derived:
 - AAs are built on current country priorities
 - Consultation processes should be a building block rather than a tick the box exercise
 - High-level and inter-ministerial coordination needs increased emphasis
 - SE4ALL Country Focal Point Teams need to be institutionalized
 - Ownership of individuals and institutions is very important and absorptive capacity is a major concern
 - The Action Agenda Template helps structuring AA but needs to be adjusted to national circumstances
 - The link between HIOs and AAs need to be better defined
 - AAs focus mainly on electricity, and not enough on energy services
 - Renewable Energy (on- and off-grid) are generally well covered in the AAs but Energy Efficiency appears to receive little priority
 - In most cases, nexus targets are not well developed
- Participants concurred that considerable progress has been made, but that the success of SE4ALL will depend on its ability to deliver transformative results on the ground. This requires quality outcomes of AA/IPs processes and concerted follow-up to AAs/IPs.

2. Moderated discussion and analysis of AAs/IPs (chaired by Philippe Niyongabo, AUC)

- The SE4ALL focal points from Uganda, Moses Murengezi, and Rwanda, Emmanuel Kammanzi, presented the draft SE4ALL Action Agendas for their respective countries, outlining the opportunities presented by the Action Agenda and the different challenges faced in the development of the AA, in particular cross-sector coordination, overlap of assignments, the lack of quality data for analysis, the limited number of staff available and absorptive capacity.
- Mahama Kappiah and Karin Reiss from ECREEE presented the state of play of the SE4ALL AA development in the ECOWAS region, following the validation of the AA template by the ECOWAS countries in March 2014, and the mobilization of assistance from ECREEE in support of the 15 countries. The national consultants supporting the AA process in Cabo Verde, Anildo Costa, and Nigeria, Afolabi Otitoju, presented the progress made on the AA development in these countries. The presentations highlighted *inter alia* the importance of a validated baseline, the unclear link between HIOs and country action and the importance of quality assurance for SE4ALL AAs.

- Mosad Elimissiry from NEPAD highlighted some of the lessons learnt from the AA/IP processes in the Gambia and Kenya, including the importance of having a national champion of the process – he also underlined the critical importance of cooperation and coordination amongst partners. Claudia Boldrini from the European Commission referred to the EU support to the AA processes in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Uganda and also recalled some of the financial instruments of the EC to support SE4ALL including the Technical Assistance Facility, the blending instruments and the ElectriFI initiative. Yussuf Uwamahoro from the World Bank, provided an update on the Bank's SE4ALL Technical Assistance Program (S-TAP), which was launched in 2013 to support Liberia, Senegal, Guinea, Burundi, Mozambique, plus a regional activity focused on power trade. A concrete output of S-TAP will be an 'investment prospectus' in each country focused on specific themes. He also briefly presented RISE (Readiness for Investment in Sustainable Energy), which assesses enabling environment for sustainable energy. RISE can be a powerful tool and linkages between RISE and the AA-processes should be further explored.
- The workshop touched on the inherent tension between the setting of ambitious targets in the Action Agenda as response to the SE4ALL targets and the need to set realistic and implementable targets. Partners also underlined that while the AA/IPs are national processes, the regional dimension should be considered and regional institutions should be further engaged on this.
- The issue of ownership of the country action process was repeatedly emphasized and all participants concurred that this is essential for SE4ALL to make a difference. Partners also underlined the importance of establishing an institutional structure for SE4ALL as a place to go, the example of Ghana was mentioned which in addition to the focal point office also established a financing working group. It was also recommended that information on country focal points and leads on development partner side should be made transparent to facilitate stakeholder engagement.

3. Discussion of SE4ALL stakeholder consultation processes (chaired by Daniel Schroth, AfDB)

- Aaron Leopold, Practical Action, presented the results of a survey on civil society experiences with SE4ALL consultation processes. The survey highlighted that the consultations processes on a number of dimensions were insufficient, which underlines the need for some enhanced guidance on multi-stakeholder processes.
- Aneri Patel, UN Foundation and Martin Niemetz, GFT presented the draft SE4ALL Stakeholder Consultation Guidelines that were shared with workshop participants in advance. These guidelines are intended to help standardize how stakeholder input is provided into Action Agenda and Investment Prospectus development, as well as into the broader SE4ALL planning and implementation processes. The document outlines ten best practice principles for multi-stakeholder consultations: communication, representation, timeliness, information, gender and other marginalized groups, ensuring quality, decision-making, follow-up, implementation and monitoring, ensure global coherence.
- The discussion underscored the importance of government involvement in the consultative processes on AAs/IPs. Partners also suggested to provide further clarity on who should be included

in such consultations without being over-descriptive and as to the duration of the consultative processes, which should generally be seen as a continuous process rather than a one-off event. Furthermore, the issue of involvement of the HIOs in consultative processes was raised. Participants concluded that the draft guidelines provide a good basis and should be revised taking into account the comments raised.

4. Discussion of quality assurance of AA/IPs and targeted follow-up (following working group discussions chaired by Gregory Woodsworth, UNDP and Mosad Elmissiry, NPCA)

- As far as the issue of how to ensure that the **SE4ALL AA/IPs have the quality** required to spur reforms and investments and what can/should be done to further standardize them, the following recommendations were made:
 - Regarding the quality of the AA process:
 - AA guidelines/principles and the AA template provide a suitable framework for the development of the AA – these documents should be promoted by SE4ALL partners providing support to countries.
 - To strengthen the quality of the AAs, “Generic ToR” (or elements of ToRs) could be developed for the recruitment of service providers – recruitment and mandates of service providers should be transparent and shared to the extent possible, e.g. using the SE4ALL collaborative platform (Yammer).
 - Training of consultants working on AAs is important, in addition to trainings provided to country focal points/administrations to ensure that there is a consistent messaging.
 - Consultation process guidelines should be developed as means to help increase input and quality of product (also as means of capacity-building).
 - A country-owned validation process of AA is very important to ensure that it is not another “consultant report”.
 - Regarding the review/independent assessment of AAs:
 - The review should be seen as part of the process (early-on engagement prior to validation) and not as ex-post external judgment of country work undermining the principle of ownership.
 - The assessment criteria should be consistent with AA principles and template and should cover both the AA development process and the content of the AA (the non-paper circulated in advance of the workshop provides a basis).
 - A proposal for such review panel/quality circle should be developed and circulated.
- As far as the issue of further **standardization of the SE4ALL Investment Prospectus** is concerned, it became apparent that the conceptual understanding of what constitutes an IP differs considerably amongst participants ranging from a list of opportunities to a “bankable” document and underscored the need to agree on the concept and how the document is meant to be used and then provide additional guidance. Partners concurred that the IP needs to retain flexibility to respond to different sectoral focus or target audience, but that some degree of standardization for IPs would be desirable, which would in turn also facilitate the uploading of information into a market place for AAs/IPs.

- As far as the issue of a **targeted follow-up to AAs/IPs** is concerned, participants considered the starting point of the follow-up actions the voluntary submission of the country specific AA/IPs to the GFT and the Africa Hub. A number of possible follow-up activities were identified in the areas of 1) Promotion / Marketing and Networking, 2) Political engagement/ awareness raising / lobbying and 3) mobilization of resources:
 - 1) Promotion/Marketing/Networking activities:**
 - a. Publication of SE4ALL AAs/IPs on websites, newsletters and communication.
 - b. Promotion of the AA/IP in SE4ALL events, notably the SE4ALL Forum.
 - c. Matchmaking between investors interested in engaging on SE4ALL and countries with reference to AA/IPs. This could be done by the creation of an online market place where countries could share their AA and IPs
 - d. Facilitation of dedicated SE4ALL investment fora (including roadshows, donor conferences, private investor fora, roundtables, etc.) to introduce country stakeholders to local, regional and international investors.
 - e. Strategic involvement of SE4ALL Advisory Board members and Committees in the resource mobilization efforts for AA/IPs
 - 2) Political engagement/awareness raising/lobbying:**
 - a. SE4ALL concerted approach (GFT, Africa Hub & SE4ALL partners) towards political leaders to ensure high-level buy-in and as relevant to allocate own resources for the implementation of the AA/IPs.
 - b. SE4ALL through the Africa Hub could bring IPs to the attention of the African Energy Leaders Group (AELG), Regional Economic Communities and other specialized institutions to profile AA/IPs and seek support from investors.
 - c. Engaging with development partners to use the AA/IP as guiding tool for their assistance to the country.
 - d. In the context of the emerging post-2015 energy goal, SE4ALL could promote with the international community, the AAs as recognized implementation responses to such goal.
 - 3) Mobilization of resources:**
 - a. Facilitating access to finance from available resources of partners – the AAs and IPs can significantly contribute towards pipeline generation for existing facilities and SE4ALL is well placed to facilitate such links.
 - b. Support with the mobilization of resources to prepare project specific investment memoranda building on available technical feasibility work and where necessary support for technical feasibility work.
 - c. Work with SE4ALL partners to explore opportunities for bundling clusters of projects/programmes across countries and potentially technologies with similar risk profiles and targeting of dedicated financiers. Mobilization of financing from available resources of partners.
- Participants concurred that the value addition of SE4ALL needs to be more clearly articulated and that the question of mobilization of support to AAs/IPs will be central to the success of the initiative. In this context, the issue of a specific SE4ALL financing mechanism/fund was raised by several attendees without reaching any consensus on the idea. Kandeh Yumkella referred to various opportunities in the course of the year to engage with the SE4ALL Advisory Board on this issue.

- The workshop also provided an opportunity for Jyoti Prasad Painuly from the Energy Efficiency Hub to briefly present the Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform. This Platform was established to help reach the objective of doubling of the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030. It will do so by driving action and commitments by national and sub-national leaders at the country, city, state, region, or sector level. Several groups of accelerators have been developed including for lighting, appliances and equipment, building efficiency, transport and motor vehicle fuel efficiency, and district energy.
- Kandeh Yumkella, highlighting several upcoming events:
 - G20 selected SE4All as a primary focus for the G-20 Summit in late 2015.
 - The African Energy Leaders Group (AELG) was launched in Davos on 23 January 2015 as a unique public-private partnership to advance regional energy projects. The AELG secretariat will be placed within the African Development Bank.
 - The French Government is considering having SE4ALL in the “Agenda Positif” during COP21. SE4All is seen as an appropriate framework for providing a positive transformative agenda for climate mitigation.
 - The 2nd SE4ALL Forum will take place from 18-22 May 2015 in New York. The theme of this year’s Forum is "Financing Sustainable Energy for ALL".
- The workshop was closed by Kandeh Yumkella and Alex Rugamba, Director of the Energy, Environment and Climate Change Department at the AfDB, both highlighting the importance of moving quickly to concrete actions on the ground.

5. Next steps:

- Finalize the ongoing development of AA/IPs and provide support to additional African countries wanting to embark on the process
- Finalization of the stakeholder consultation guidelines (GFT, UNF, Practical Action, Q1 2015)
- Development of a proposal for a review panel for AA/IPs (GFT, Africa Hub, Q1 2015)
- Provide training to national and international consultants and SE4All focal points involved in the process (Hub, ECREEE, Q2 2015)
- Clarify the concept and use of IPs and develop a proposal for a structure/approach for Investment Prospectuses (Africa Hub, GFT, US, other partners) linked to below action on the marketplace
- Development of a concept for a AA/IP marketplace (possibly linked to or building on ongoing efforts)
- Identify mechanisms for a closer link between HIOs and the Advisory Board Committees and the country action processes (GFT, Hubs)
- Assure that follow-up actions are planned and implemented in countries that are completing AAs/IPs processes (all development partners)

Annex 1: List of attendees of Abidjan workshop

	NAME	TITLE, ORGANISATION
1	Kamanzi Emmanuel	SE4ALL Focal Point Rwanda, <i>Ministry of Infrastructure/MININFRA, Rwanda</i>
2	Christine Eibs Singer	Senior Advisor, <i>SE4All</i>
3	John Wasielewski	US State Department Consultant
4	Paula E. Edze	Coordinator, <i>SE4ALL Secretariat Energy Commission, Ghana</i>
5	Philippe Niyongabo	Head of Division <i>Infrastructure and Energy Department African Union Commission</i>
6	Mahama Kappiah	Executive Director, <i>ECREEE</i>
7	Karin Reiss	SE4ALL Coordinator, <i>ECREEE</i>
8	Mosad M. Elmissiry	Head Energy Division, <i>NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency</i>
9	Federico S. Fische	Renewable Energy and Sustainability Expert, <i>Alternative and Sustainable Energy Inc.</i>
10	Aneri Patel	UN Foundation
11	Moses Murengezi	SE4ALL Focal Point Uganda, <i>Ministry of Energy</i>
12	Styden Rwebangila	SE4ALL Focal Point Tanzania, <i>Office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Tanzania</i>
13	Aaron Leopold	Global Energy Representative, <i>Practical Action</i>
14	Claudia Boldrini	Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid <i>European Commission</i>
15	David Otieno	Project Manager <i>Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)</i>
16	Mike Enskat	Head of Program <i>Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)</i>
17	Mark E. Kissel	Senior Energy Officer <i>U.S. Department of State – Bureau of Energy Resources Office of Alternative and Renewable Energy</i>
18	Jyoti Prasad Painuly	Head, <i>Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency</i>
19	Gregory Woodsworth	Regional Energy Policy Advisor, <i>Regional Service Centre for Africa, UNDP</i>

20	William Blyth	<i>Oxford Energy</i>
21	Belkacem Ouzrourou	Director, <i>Africa Region</i> <i>OFID</i>
22	Namat Abu Al-Soof	Consultant, <i>Corporate Planning</i> <i>OFID</i>
23	Aleksi Lumijarvi	IRENA
24	Asami Miketa	IRENA
25	Yussuf Uwamahoro	World Bank
26	Bouba Oualy	UNDP
27	Anildo Costa	Coordinator of the Energy Country Expert Group and National Consultant to ECREEE and the Ministry of Energy on the SE4ALL Action Agenda and the RE and EE Action Plan
28	Afolabi Otitou	National Consultant to ECREEE and the Ministry of Power on the SE4ALL Action Agenda and the RE and EE Action Plan
29	N'guessan Egnly Pierre	National Consultant to ECREEE on the SE4ALL Action Agenda and the RE and EE Action Plan in Cote d'Ivoire
30	Kandeh Yumkella	SRSG SE4ALL
31	Martin Niemetz	SE4ALL GFT
32	Bruno Leclerc	Director AFD Abidjan
33	Solomon Asamoah	Vice President, AfDB
34	Alex Rugamba	Director, Energy, Environment and Climate Change Department, AfDB
35	Daniel Schroth	SE4ALL Africa Hub Coordinator, AfDB
36	Giorgio Gualberti	SE4ALL Africa Hub, AfDB
37	Florence Ventura	SE4ALL Africa Hub, AfDB
38	Cherif Seye	Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa, AfDB
39	Anthony Karembu	Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa, AfDB
40	Zakou Amadou	Manager ONEC 1, AfDB
41	Kurt Lonsway	Manager ONEC 3, AfDB