

# eSEED

## Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of eSEED. The current iteration of the newsletter represents both the City Energy Support Unit (CESU) as well as SEED Phase 4. As these two projects of SEA begin to diverge further, so will the newsletters.

This year has taken off rapidly and there have been some amazing developments in the sustainable energy sector and within Sustainable Energy Africa itself. The CESU and SEED Phase 4 have really taken shape and have been steaming ahead. There have also been some very interesting developments nationally, especially with the announcement of the Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariff, which has gotten the whole renewable and sustainable energy sector very excited. Other events include the National Climate Change Summit and the Renewable Energy Summit held by DEAT and the DME respectively.

I hope this newsletter will be packed with some interesting and useful information. If you have any comments or request, please do not hesitate to contact us. Happy reading.

-Stefan Wiswedel (SEA)



## Index

- 1.0 PSC
- 2.0 Climate Change Summit
- 3.0 REFIT
- 4.0 CESU Website
- 5.0 RE Summit
- 6.0 City Updates
- 7.0 Tran:SIT Lessons
- 8.0 ICLEI Roadmap
- 9.0 Events Calendar



CITY ENERGY SUPPORT UNIT

*a south african sustainable energy and  
climate protection initiative*



## 1.0 PSC

On 24th of March 2009 Livhuwani Siphuma, Executive Director: Environmental Management, City of Tshwane, opened the first Project Steering Committee meeting of the CESU. Participants to the meeting included DEAT, DME, Housing, city representatives (NMB, CCT, eThekweni, Tshwane, Joburg,, SPM); SA Cities Network and ICLEI. Organisations that have accepted a participant role, but were unable to be present include DPLG, Salga and Enerkey.

SEA outlined the history of the CESU, arising out of the ten years of city energy and capacity building work of SEA's SEED programme, and the recognition that cities leading in sustainable energy development are those well-supported by agencies or units.

Stakeholders voiced a lot of enthusiasm about the potential of this project, which aims to reduce the carbon footprint of cities through capacity building, technical support, institutional development and supportive tools and materials.

Cities affirmed that this Agency will be enormously helpful though providing a platform/clearing house for all city energy and climate work in order to avoid confusion, and duplication of resources. Key city network organisations (ICLEI and SA Cities Network) committed themselves to working with the Agency. Similar positive responses were also echoed by the national departments. The DME welcomed the City Energy Support Unit initiative because she felt it would assist them to communicate with municipalities. This sentiment was echoed by DEAT. The Cities Network provided useful insight into the role of a 'convening' organisation and its supportive relationship, through the provision of information, technical/specialist insight and city liaison, to representative bodies, such as Salga, and government institutions.

– Megan Euston-Brown (SEA)

## 2.0 National Climate Change Summit

The National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) hosted the National Climate Change Summit on 03-06 March 2009 at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, Gauteng. The summit was attended by more than 600 climate change response stakeholders. The summit was officially opened on 03 March 2009 by President Kgalema Motlanthe.

The purpose of the summit was to provide all key climate change response stakeholders with an update on the most recent climate change research and other current South African initiatives and interventions; and provide a platform for all key climate change response stakeholders to discuss and agree the framework for a National Climate Change Response Policy that includes, among others, fiscal, regulatory and legislative packages as well as sectoral implementation plans. With regards to the Climate Change Response Policy development process the summit participants committed themselves to ensure that timeframes and milestone are adhered to.

### The following milestones were agreed upon:

- Written submissions on the draft Climate Change Response policy from stakeholders by 15 May 2009.
- Policy Draft Zero by August 2009, *inter alia* to inform negotiating positions for Copenhagen.
- Green Paper published for public comment in April 2010.
- Evaluate the draft policy to ensure policy coherence and alignment across government, including the benefits and costs of the proposed policy interventions and make recommendations on implementation and institutional arrangements.

- The National Climate Change Response White Paper published in the Gazette in December 2010.
- The process to culminate in the introduction of legislative, regulatory and fiscal packages to give effect to the strategic direction and policy by 2012.

For more information on the National Climate Change Summit visit [www.ccs Summit2009.co.za](http://www.ccs Summit2009.co.za)

-Sivuyile Maboda (SEA)



Sivuyile Maboda (left), Kgalema Mothlante (right), Sarah Ward (center)

### 3.0 REFIT

On the 31st of March 2009 the National Energy Regulator (NERSA) released a media statement on their Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariff (REFIT) Guidelines, the proposed tariffs are included below. Shortly after the media statement, the regulatory guidelines were released and can be found on the NERSA website [www.nersa.org.za](http://www.nersa.org.za). These guidelines will also be reviewed in six months time with the aim of considering other technologies for inclusion.

TECHNOLOGY	REFIT
WIND	R1.25/kWh
SMALL HYDRO	R0.94/kWh
LANDFILL GAS	R0.90/kWh
CONCENTRATED SOLAR	R2.10/kWh

We commend NERSA on developing the REFIT and especially on the way they seriously considered and implemented comments made to them on their draft regulation guidelines. The development of these guidelines should prove to be a major step in the direction of a renewable future for South Africa.

Some potential issues still need to be thought through however, such as; Eskom's possible ability to limit the amount of RE purchased, the role of municipal distributors in the RE market and the tendering system proposed by DME.

-Stefan Wiswedel (SEA)



## 4.0 CESU Website

A key part of the City Energy Support Unit is the development of a new Website dedicated to supporting cities in their transition to clean energy development, lowering their carbon footprints and generally moving to a low-carbon future. The website can be found at [www.cityenergy.org.za](http://www.cityenergy.org.za) but is still under construction.

The site will comprise of four main sections, namely; Cities, Resources, Implementation and Transport.



### Cities

This section of the website will hold information on what various cities around the country are busy doing in terms of moving to a more sustainable future. Individual City profiles will be coupled with project summaries as well as key contact persons for those projects with the aim of bringing cities working on similar projects together to share experiences.



### Resources

This aims to provide a single resource for a large amount of documents and other resources including; background information, CESU and SEA published documents, other useful documents as well as an archive of past documents.



### Implementation

The Implementation page will contain an adaptation of the newly updated REEEP 'How-to Manual', which focuses on giving practical information on how to implement sustainable projects for city officials and planners including identifying the barriers, which may be present, and practical steps on moving towards mass rollout of sustainable interventions.



### Transport

Based on the Tran:SIT program in the City of Cape Town, this page will provide information on what steps can be taken to tackle transport in a sustainable way. It will also outline what support could be provided by the City Energy Support Unit in terms of sustainable transport.

Finally, the website will also contain sections for News & Events, useful Links as well as Contact details.

-Stefan Wiswedel (SEA)

## 5.0 Renewable Energy Summit

On the 19-20th of March 2009, the Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) held a Renewable Energy Summit in Centurion. The main objective of the summit was to provide a mid-term review of the 2003 white paper on Renewable Energy, especially of the progress towards the target of 10 000GWh of RE by 2013 as well as reviewing this target going forward from now and beyond 2013.

The final summit resolution was release on the 8th of April and is available from the DME website (<http://www.dme.gov.za>). Some of the outcomes of the summit include, the realisation that the slow implementation of renewable energy is due to "inadequate legal and regulatory frameworks, inadequate research and development, limited funding instruments, low electricity tariffs, lack of technical capacity and lack of clarity on the appropriate level of national ambition" and also outlines possible ways forward in various sectors to increase utilisation of renewable energy in South Africa.

While we congratulate the DME on holding this summit, we did however feel that there were some problems with the organisation and process of the two day event especially in terms of the lack of adequate time for engagement and feedback from the participants on the parallel sessions as well as the summit resolution as a whole.

*-Stefan Wiswedel (SEA)*

## 6.0 City Updates

This section of the newsletter aims to provide cities with a space to update the rest of the network on what projects they have been involved in in terms of sustainable energy and sustainability as a whole in order to showcase what is being done nationally. This also provides another opportunity for cities to identifies others working on similar projects to share experiences.

### Sol Plaatje Municipality

We have recently completed the first draft of the Sol Plaatje Energy and Climate Change Strategy (SPECCS) and have held the technical workshop on the first SPECCS draft with officials and councilors. We are now waiting for council to approve the SPECCS.

SPM is also installing two solar water geysers for the women's build project (china square) as a pilot project. We are just awaiting for the housing section to include a shower in the house. The project will be used as pilot.

*-Desmond Lang (Sol Plaatje)*

### Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality

Our low pressure solar water heater pilot project of 1000 units was started in early March. We will be completing our social assessment of the subject area by early April. In early April we shall also start to install various metering devices to obtain adequate research data for the project. The biggest lesson learned thus far is the importance of introducing such a project to the councillors and to the community as they do not understand it in the beginning.

We are also currently busy installing solar water geysers at all the creches in one our previously disadvantaged areas, called Motherwell.

The installations of our ripple relays are also continuing.

Hopefully by the next newsletter we shall have more projects being implemented on the ground.

*-Steyn van de Merwe (NMBMM)*



### The City of Cape Town

The City of Cape Town is currently undergoing a number of projects relating to sustainable energy including, an analysis of all projects across the city with carbon trading potential either under CDM, Programmatic CDM and voluntary trading as well as identification of carbon offset projects for 2010. Other carbon projects include the development of a carbon trading policy for Council, the initiation of intensive carbon trading and economy capacity building across council officials and development of a Low Carbon Economy workshop for the City Of Cape Town.

There are also a number of energy efficiency projects underway such as the assessment of thirteen council office buildings over 2000m<sup>2</sup> and the tenders for the retrofit of two buildings are being developed. To assist in further projects, a GIS database is being developed of all council owned facilities as well as a generic 'business case' in order to obtain budget for retrofits of council facilities.

Various low income housing and council rental stock greening projects are underway as well as a green schools project and a Smart Living corporate campaign. Finally, a terms of reference is being developed so that LEAP modelling can be done for a Cape Town Energy Futures project.

*-Sarah Ward (City of Cape Town)*

### City of Johannesburg

Joburg is working hard to reduce its carbon footprint. The city has done an energy profile of the city and its supply and demand energy patterns, a greenhouse gas emissions inventory is also in the pipeline. This inventory is crucial, as it will allow the city to quantify Joburg's GHG emissions and track GHG emissions reductions.

Demand Side Management by-laws are being developed to encourage residents and businesses to reduce water and energy demand and cut down on waste. Over 100 council-owned buildings will also be retrofitted with energy efficiency interventions this year to reduce energy consumption.

Energy efficiency criteria have been included for approving new developments and buildings and guidelines will be published shortly giving developers, architects, designers and planners practical guidance on ways of designing buildings that minimize the energy requirements.

The new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system for Johannesburg will also play a major role in reducing the city's carbon footprint.

The City of Johannesburg's Environmental Management Department are going to roll out a number of energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation interventions in 400 low-income houses at Cosmo City, providing housing to the full economic spectrum in the same human settlement. This project will entail installing Solar Water Heaters (SWHs), Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs), ceilings and insulation, water flow reducers and rain water tanks in each house, as well as introducing other general greening measures such as composting and planting trees on the individual stands. The project will be accompanied by intensive awareness-raising efforts to empower the Cosmo City community to make use of the technologies effectively, thus enhancing the long-term sustainability of the project.

*-Lisa McNamara (COJ)*

### eThekweni Municipality

The eThekweni Municipality officially launched the first Energy Office among municipalities in the country, establishing it as a leading local authority in promoting and implementing energy management to achieve a sustainable energy future for businesses and residents of eThekweni. Manager of the Energy Office, Manoj Singh, said, "Strategic partnerships with voluntary organisations, government, tertiary institutions, business and the public are critical in the success of this office and we will be working towards forging these partnerships."

Leading by example, the municipality is presently surveying its buildings to evaluate its energy usage. This information will be used to implement suitable energy efficiency and reduction measures within the municipality.

Very importantly, the energy office will be actively involved with the residents of Durban with all of its interventions. The Energy Office has embarked on a campaign to educate the customers of eThekweni so that residents can make informed decisions regarding the use of energy.

By understanding and utilising the above information, you the consumer are in control of the electricity bill that you pay each month. Information regarding the saving of energy in the following areas will be published in the near future; Lighting, Cooking, Water Heating, Swimming Pool-Heating and Pumping, Air-conditioning, Office equipment. Residents are urged to be part of this energy team – email your suggestions and your achievements to [dsm@elec.durban.gov.za](mailto:dsm@elec.durban.gov.za).

*- Priscilla Moodley (eThekweni)*

## 7.0 Tran:SIT (Lessons Learnt)

The Tran:SIT programme was a sustainable transport programme run with the City of Cape Town by Sustainable Energy Africa and funded by the British High Commission. The project started in 2006 and ended in 2009. Below is a summary of the lessons learnt from the programme.

As the Tran:SIT Programme was the first of its kind in South Africa, there have been several lessons learnt as the programme has unfolded. We will highlight some of them here, with the intention that should similar programmes rollout around the country, they will be informed and be prepared for similar situations.

- There is a need for passionate champions for sustainable transport in a City, with both the political will and enthusiastic buy-in from the senior City officials;
- Capacity building is a key element at the infancy stage of moving towards a sustainable transport agenda. Capacity building in a number of different forms including training and support for the Sustainable Transport Professional (STP), workshops, information dissemination and technical support, is fundamental to getting a City to think differently about transport planning and implementation.
- Sustainable transport must be integrated into policy, budgets, programmes and projects and not be seen as a standalone item. Once capacity is built, the integration of sustainable transport into policy is the next step.
- The one City approach is not ideal and this programme would have been more effective if STPs were placed concurrently in several cities around the country so that lessons and experiences could be shared

- Expect delays at local government level as procedures and processes are bureaucratic in nature and can result in delays in aspects of the programme like this. This needs to be budgeted into future programmes, as this is a reality when working with a local authority environment.
- The programme would have been more effective in a non-2010 World Cup focussed environment as the implementation of 2010-related projects is currently a priority for local authorities and much of the capacity within the staff has been given to that.
- The programme has facilitated better relationships with other city departments, as the STP has been involved in several inter-departmental workshops, meetings and forums, awareness has been raised around the City's new focus on sustainable transport.

At the end of the programme, it can be said that most of its objectives have been met. The STP post, which was a 3-year contract post, has been recognised as strategically critical for the City and has been converted into a permanent post. Sustainable transport has been integrated into the heart of City transport planning and policy with sustainable indicators to measure progress. Implementation projects have been undertaken to promote sustainable transport.

*-Lize Jennings (SEA)*



## 8.0 ICLEI Roadmap

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Metropolis, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the C40 Climate Leadership Group, and the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC), in conjunction with their regional and national associations, networks and partners, have embarked on a local government process that shall seek empowerment and inclusion of cities and local governments in a UN post-2012 framework on climate change, thus influencing the Bali-Poznan-Copenhagen Roadmap.

By providing a dedicated and accessible platform for African local governments to unpack the climate debate, practical implications, priorities and needs for action at the local level, there will be a meaningful horizontal and vertical mobilisation towards concrete action and a consolidated voice from and ownership of African local governments regarding the new Climate Framework. This will lead to improved leadership, capacity, technical expertise, ability, will and commitment to develop and implement strategies and action plans at the local level (both adaptation and mitigation) in a manner that stimulates the green economy, create jobs and leapfrogs to clean technologies, while allowing these participating local governments to access resources and funding mechanisms such as Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) and ODA that will enable delivery and implementation on the ground.

ICLEI Africa, supported by partners such as DEAT, UCLG-A, SACN, National Government associations and others, is driving this process in Africa and will host an African Local Government Dialogue Summit (from 28-30 July 2009) that will create a platform for African Local Government leaders and technical experts to:

- Unpack and translate Climate Change (mitigation and adaptation) in a local government context.

- Create a platform for African Local Government leaders and technical experts to engage AMCEN and SA National Government, the scientific community, Local Government networks, NGOs and development partners to focus on the role and position of Local Governments in the Post-2012 Climate Framework negotiations and outputs.
- Focus on local obstacles, opportunities and priorities for climate action on the ground
- Prepare a common African Local Government position to feed into the Local Government Climate Roadmap process and African (AMCEN) and Global processes towards a post-2012 Climate Framework.
- Agree on and prepare for a strong African Local delegation to participate in Copenhagen and associated events, also as part of national delegations.
- Agree on a post-Copenhagen African Local Government follow-up process to maintain momentum, realise outcomes and ensure effective implementation across Africa at local level, while ensuring optimal access to climate financing mechanisms.

This event will take place in Tshwane, South Africa and more info will shortly be available on the ICLEI Africa and South Africa Cities Network (SACN) websites and distributed via a First Announcement on the event.

Please see [www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap](http://www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap) for more information on the global Local Government Climate Roadmap project and [www.iclei.org/africa](http://www.iclei.org/africa) for more on ICLEI Africa.

Lizanda du Preez ([Lizanda.du.preez@iclei.org](mailto:Lizanda.du.preez@iclei.org)) can be contacted for questions on the project and subsequent event in July.

*-Lizanda du Preez (ICLEI)*

### **ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability**

is an international association of local governments and local government organisations that have made a commitment to sustainable development. Over 1000 cities, towns, counties and their associations worldwide, comprise ICLEI's growing membership and network.

**The ICLEI Africa Secretariat** is one of many ICLEI Regional Offices, works across the African Continent and collaborates closely with the global ICLEI network and other regional offices around the world, in sharing tools, materials and strategies and good practices specifically designed and implemented at the local level. Based on identified needs, in a close partnership with other organisations and local partners, ICLEI Africa is presently building and implementing 5 main and interrelated programmes at city / local government level:

- an integrated sustainable urban planning, capacity building and implementation programme
- a global programme, Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB), which ICLEI Africa coordinate on behalf of ICLEI worldwide ([www.iclei.org/lab](http://www.iclei.org/lab))
- an Energy and Climate Change Programme (Adaptation and Mitigation)
- a Water and Sanitation Programme, and more recently also
- a Sustainable Consumption and Production Programme.



## **9.0 Events Calendar**

### **ICLEI World Congress 2009**

14-18 June 2009

*Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*

### **ICLEI Roadmap Event**

28-30 July 2009

*Tshwane, South Africa*

### **DANIDA, UEMP Event**

20-21 May 2009

*Cape Town, South Africa*

## **Contact Details**

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