



Global Ecovillage Summit Dakar December 2014

Report Supporting Documents

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The Global Ecovillage Network is a registered charity: SC043796 and has consultative status in the UN-ECOSOC

www.aen.ecovillae.org

GLOBAL ECOVILLAGE SUMMIT (GES) COMMUNITY DAY

Date: **Saturday, 13th of DECEMBER 2014**

Time: **9.00AM- 17.00PM**

Venue: **Dakar City**

THEME: **“ERA OF COMMUNITY TRANSITION”**

The **Global Ecovillage Summit (GES), Community Day**, provided an opportunity to interact and exchange with people and communities across Dakar, the capital city of Senegal. We offered five interesting and interactive programmes to choose from. Some examples of these include: **beach cleaning with local youths groups at Yoff, workshop and tracking the slave trade route through the World Heritage Site of Goree Island.**

Linking the Local to Global, the programme raises awareness about, the end of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It also highlights the U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's recently revealed vision for the post-2015 development framework (Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), that will replace the MDGs. Mr. Ban Ki-moon told the U.N. General Assembly in New York, USA (September 2014), that the world body is poised to usher in an “era of transformation” that places “people and the planet” at the centre and “underpinned by human rights” as it develops the new agenda.

Over the past 3 decades or so, ecovillages and eco-communities worldwide have been at the forefront to promote community transition to resilience. Hence the Global Ecovillage Summit (GES) 2014, Community Day programme, ensured that participants have a taste of community activities and projects within Dakar, the Senegal Capital City.

Please note that two outings were unable to provide Photo's .

The five thematic community visits relating to some of the four (4) pillars of the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN)/Gaia Education were as follows:

1) **GOREE ISLAND (AFRICAN HISTORY/WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE) (THEME –CULTURAL/SOCIAL)**



A view of the island from the Ferry upon arrival Photo: Dorota Owen

Participant's feedback:

“The trip to La Goree was a highlight of the GEN conference in Senegal. I had heard of the sad history of this slave island but was quite unprepared for its beauty and the joyful nature of our experience there, despite the serious background. We had boarded a boat to the island on a warm sunny day, from which the island itself was a dark speck in the distance. It looked mysterious and gloomy as we approached, with a huge fort looming over it and the massive, foreboding stone walls of the harbour front.

On disembarking at the beach, I was struck by the contrast to that first impression ; I enjoyed the small boys frolicking in the waves, gaily- coloured beach umbrellas over the terraces of restaurant tables , cheerful music and smiles from the street traders.



Group Photo, trying to smile in front of a building with deep pain and sadness Photo: Hawa Altgani

We were led by a fluent guide to various spots where he stopped us to tell the story of how enslaved people were brought here by force over many years and sorted into deportations to other countries – but first, how badly they were treated during that journey of horrors and the many sufferings they endured. I had heard much of this history before, but I was quietly horrified to learn of it again in the very place where these buildings stood. It was no longer a history but a living story, a place full of echoes. We were suitably silent, reading the inscriptions in the museum and seeing the etchings showing what this looked like during that awful period of time.

Yet there has been a transformation in La Goree. In the past it was a slave island full of the misery of the enslaved and the successes of those who were in power. Now it is a tourist island, an artists' haven. There is beauty everywhere in the restored buildings swathed in bougainvillea, the sandy paths uncrowded by cars, the endless displays of artistic works for sale.



Art Market on Goree Island Photo: Dorota Owen

Visiting the fort – now also a museum – I was struck also by the beauty of the island itself, stuck like a sentinel in the middle of the sea, surrounded by rocks and waves. A hard place from which to escape, but now a quiet place on which to retreat and find peace. A place for remembrance to say prayers for the dead and departed, and yet also a place to look to the future, where we may hope for similar transformations in the tortured places which remain on our planet.

The lesson of La Goree is that the wheel of fortune is ever turning. What was once a house of horrors is now graced with a memorial monument raised and paid for by the American ancestors of all those who left Africa, yet survived and in many cases, ultimately did flourish... despite everything. As a child of a Diaspora myself, I am witness to this potential within all of us, both individually and collectively, to transcend the stories of the past and look forward to the creation of a new story that elevates all of us.



The gate of no return Photo: Andre Zigabe

Highlighted Solution:

North and South Reconciliation

2) BEACH CLEAN UP (THEME-ECOLOGY/SOCIAL)

Participant's Feedback:

" Cleaning the beach brought the realisation that we live in one world and that anything thrown into the sea always finds its way back to land whether in Senegal or Brazil. When we were told how plastic is a non-biodegradable product and is a massive problem, the actual example was seen immediately when clearing hundreds of shoe soles from the beach that day. At one spot on the beach where it seems the waves bring back the particular unwanted gift of plastic bags and packaging, I had the sense of suffocating, as if my legs were barely breathing. I felt it was an experience of that same suffocating that all the living beings in the sea must feel. The waves never stopped, nor the unwanted gifts. No matter how much we collected, more and more followed. Experiencing such beauty mixed with the reality of one's actions, I realised how sheltered I was living on the other side of the world where the rubbish is collected and never seen. What did I get out of it? Our paradise world is also our rubbish skip.... so I will continue to recycle... "

“The beach clean up was not well attended because of the other activities being more attractive. However the beach cleaning was done well in the target area. Firstly It was very clear that the beach needed cleaning as there was a lot of litter strewn all along the beach. The litter ranged from plastics to dead fish. At the end of the cleaning exercise the target area was clean. All in all this was a worthwhile activity that showed me a lot more needs to be done and how crucial recycling and packaging conscious consumption is”

Highlighted Solution:

Recycling

3) ANEV (THEME-SOCIAL/POLITICAL)

The National Agency for Ecovillages in Senegal

Participant’s feedback:



Visiting ANEV connecting with my roots Photo: Jennifer Trujillo Obando

“Ya estoy de regreso en Colombia...
agradecida por este encuentro con mis raíces, agradecida por compartir mi
historia con seres absolutamente maravillosos.
I am already back in Colombia...
I am very thankful for this encounter with my roots, I am thankful for sharing my story
with loved ones it was absolutely wonderful.”

“We were so happy and grateful to welcome beautiful visitors from Latin
America/CASA”

Please see “ The Senegalese Ecovillage : The Past,Present and Future By Troy Olivier



Mother Love – ANEV Photo: Leila Dregger



A

Energy wise cooking Photo: Leila Dregger



*The best place to come together – meeting space by the Baobab tree at ANEV
Photo: Leila Dregger*



Community Day outing to ANEV Photo: Leila Dregger

Highlighted Solution:

South- South exchange

4) PARC DE HANN (THEME-ECOLOGY)

“I was blessed to attend the Global GEN summit in Senegal last December, meeting older friends and getting to know new ones who share the same interests in sustainable livelihood and are eager to learn best practices from all over the world. I had magnificent five days of inspiration that changed my life

On the third day I found myself in trouble – it was community visit day in Dakar, the organizing committee has prepared different visits with different themes, I wished If I could divide myself into 4 pieces I wanted to explore four of them which was not possible, I asked a friend from of mine from the organising what to do, he smiled and asked me why

do you think you were divided into groups? The whole idea behind that is to share knowledge, you meet people and learn from them and share what you have

learnt with them, so it doesn't really matter which group you will sign up for since you will share what you have learnt with others.

Thank you! That was really helpful, I decided I will sign up for the traditional medicine group I always had an interest in herbs and their medical use, since I studied forestry and environmental sciences, I also had some experience on this, but I really wanted to learn about Senegalese alternative medicine and different uses for medical plants and maybe have some to take back home. So I made my decision it was indeed the traditional medicine group which would head to the botanical garden.

Our team was so lucky to also have people from different cultures,- from India, Morocco and the Gambia, - which enriched discussion. We explored the plants and their medical uses and received some seeds. I wasn't feeling well at some point, I had stomach ache, our facilitator noticed this and he approached me and asked me, I told him I feel pain in my stomach, he took some seeds and went to a man who was inside a cottage, who prepared the seeds and then gave it to me. I didn't like the taste of the seeds but I drunk it anyway and continued the tour at the garden, after around 15 minutes I started to much better, I couldn't believe it, this was magic.

I came back that evening with seeds and information that I was very excited to share with others, I exchanged notes with my Canadian friend who visited ministry of eco-villages, and also with my Ethiopian friends who went to beach cleanup. I have learnt about medical plants, communities in Senegal, Morocco and India but the most powerful lesson I got was from my friend which is you don't have to be everywhere, share with people and you will get everything!"

Highlighted Solution:

The power of sharing

5) Iles de la Madeleine (AFRICAN HISTORY/WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE) (THEME –CULTURAL/SOCIAL)

Participant's feedback:

“The Iles de la Madeleine is west of Dakar in the Senegalese Atlantic Ocean. The island is uninhabited and is the smallest national park in the world, and a UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List site. Its known for the special birds, fish and plant life.

It's an island of mystery. Some locals believe that evil spirits live there others feel that it is sacred ground, which prevents it from being populated.

With a small boat our little group crossed the piece of ocean that seperates Dakar and the Ile de la madeleine. To feel the power of the waves already put us in a space of deep humbleness towards the forces of mother nature and became even stronger when the first rocks and cliffs of the island appeared in front of us.



The first glimpse of the Island Photo: Lydia Schellenhammer

As soon as we arrived and made our first steps on the island everybody felt the specialness of this piece of land. The natural beauty seems peaceful from the outside, but it is en-souled by powerful, energetic spirits.



*The group was happy to see many different plants and animals such as this Baobab fruit
Photo: Lydia Schellenhammer*

Our Senegalese Tour guide started to be surprised when he saw us not only climbing the mighty old Baobabs but also hugging them and listening to them.

Our tour guide became even more surprised because we took a lot of time to view different places where we sang, danced, looked at insects or walked barefoot.

As well as the tour guide I too have never travelled with such a special group. It was a deep, healing experience for me and very helpful to internalise all the impressions of the GES.

I want to thank the beautiful beings that shared this trip with me and most of all those that allowed it to happen.”



With deep gratitude and love Photo: Lydia Schellenhammer

Highlighted Solution:

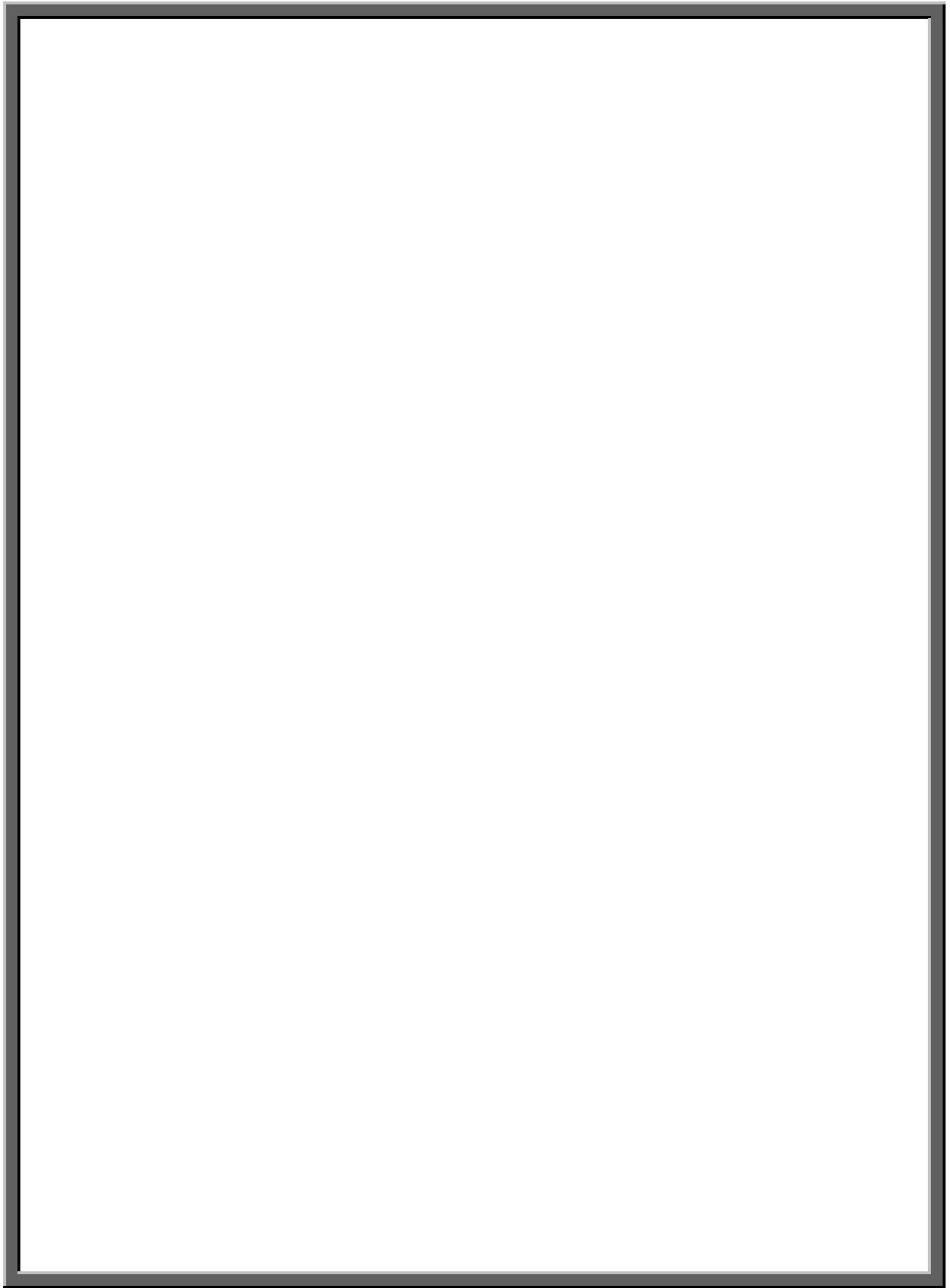
Healing through Nature by recognizing the spirituality within



The last glimpses of the Island and its serenity Photo: Lydia Shellenhammer



Transcending the painful – Accepting the healing – Bridging the divide Photo Lydia Schellenhammer





Global Ecovillage Summit Dakar December 2014

Feedback Evaluation

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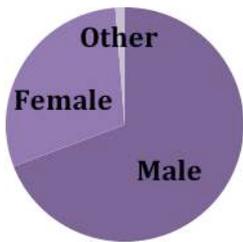
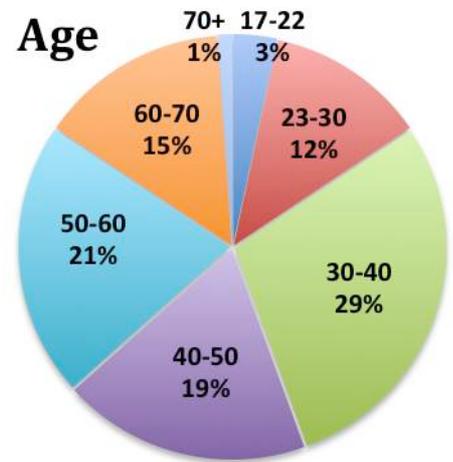
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Feedback Analysis Global Ecovillage Summit 2014 Dakar, Senegal

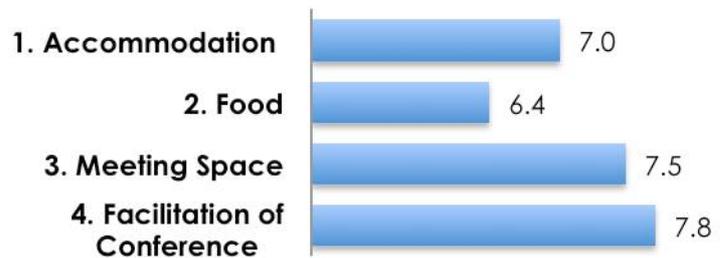
A total of **86** feedback forms were completed, with participants ranging in age from 17 to 70. The most common age bracket was **30-40** holding 1/3 of participants.



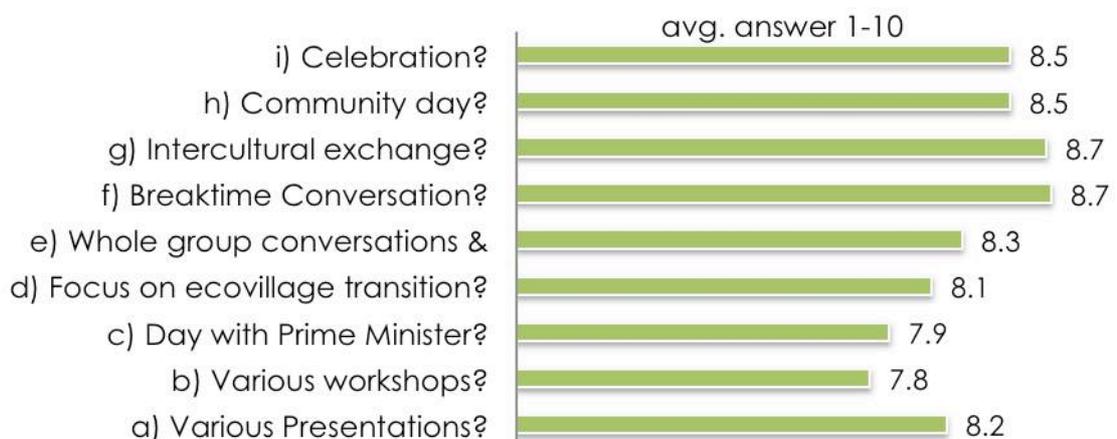
There were significantly more **men (70%)** than **women (30%)**.

26 nationalities were represented including **12** African countries, **8** European and Eastern European, **4** North & South American, and **2** Asian.

Participants were asked to rate different aspects of the conference on a **scale of 1 – 10**, and the **averages** are stated here.



The 5th Question asked: **How valuable do you find?**



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Additional Information

1. What were the **highlights** from your time at GES?

Meeting the network

Day with Prime Minister

Presentations were great.

Abundance of **love** and **knowledge**

Meeting **old friends** was wonderful.

2. Was there anything **missing** or anything you would have liked more of?

Would like to see more:

- **Time** to digest material.
- Clearer **translation**
- More celebration.
- Vegan and **vegetarian food**.
- More emphasis on the values of GEN
- More **connection** with the **local** Senegalese culture

The question evoked a clear message that **cities are difficult** places to connect to the values of GEN. Participants found it hard to create a sacred space in a commercial area.

3. Is there anything you would like to say about the **conference facilitators**?

Amazing Very **grateful**.

Good male, female **balance**

Weakness in **Coordination** and **Communication**

4. What are your **next steps**? What would you like to see happening?

Connection and **collaboration** between **Ecovillages**

Quotes from the surveys:

"We can work together to create a life-sustaining culture everywhere"

"It's high time we go back to our traditions, our planet is beautiful if we

"It is time to create a master piece"

"Be conscious about what we do, we have to be leading by example. Every step counts."

"Be ambassadors for change"

Global Ecovillage Summit 2014

Ecovillage Transition Strategies for a Sustainable World

10-15 December 2014

Name (Optional).....

1. **Your age?**.....
2. **Your gender?**.....
3. **Your nationality**.....
4. **Country of residence?**.....

Please rate (circle) the following (1 is lowest – 10 highest):

1. The quality of the accommodation: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
2. The quality of the food: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
3. The meeting space: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
4. The facilitation of the conference: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
5. How valuable did you find
 - The various presentations: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - The various workshops: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - The day with the Prime Minister: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - The focus on ecovillage transition: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - Conversations and sharing in the whole group: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - Conversations in the break times: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - Intercultural exchange: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - The community day: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
 - The celebrations: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



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Participant List

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Participants

Continent	Country	Name	Payment	WP+NT	Signatur	
Africa	Algeria	Khaled Benchaala		X		
	Cameroon	Joshua Ngwa Konkakoh		X		
		Elisabeth Fende Atang		X		
		Abel Ngwasoh Langsi		X		
		MBATH SONITA NETH		X		
	Congo D.R.	André Zigabe			X	
		Marc Malago			X	
	Cote d'Ivoire	Ndeye Salimatta Fall				
	Egypt	Mo'men Zaki			X	
		Niveen Adel			X	
	Maïthe	Marie Therese Leroy	X		X	
		Mohamed Anwar			X	
	Ethiopia	Mohamed El Mongy			X	
		Fillimon Tesfasellasi			X	
		Girum Bekele			X	
		Samuel Fikre Silase			X	
		Hanna Mesfin			X	
	the Gambia	Elshahday Alula			X	
		Maurice Phillips	X		X	
Mary Jassey		X		X		
Gilbert Jassey		X		X		
Andrew Jassey		X		X		
Alagie Manneh		X		X		
Simon Gibba		X		X		
David Manneh		X		X		
Geri Mitchell						
Kabiro Manneh				X		
Ghana	Geri Mitchell	pp		X		
	ADAMA BAH	pp		X		
Kenya	Isaac Hirt-Manheimer			X		
	Dennis Siroh			X		
	Philip Munyasia			X		
Morocco	Karambu Ringera			X		
	Oumar Hajji			X		
	Mohammed Erribani			X		
Namibia	Kenza Insani ISNANI			X		
	Visolela R. NAMISES			X		
Nigeria	Clio Pauly			X		
	Adebayo Akomolafe			X		
Senegal	Ousmane Pame			X		
	Amadou Fall			X		
		Amadou Ba		X		

Participants

	2	Gulimata Thiaw			
	y	Binta Bassé		x	Binta Bassé
		Djamine Seck			
	z	Bakary Sagna	Marie Therese Goly	x	Maria
	x	Ibou Ngom		x	Ibou Ngom
		Adama Ly			
		Soureba Souare			
		Oulimata Thiaw			
	x	Blandine Badiane			
	x	Assane Diop			
	x	Mamadou Diouf		x	left
		Binta Dieng			
	x	Wilfred Rousselot		x	Wilfred Rousselot
	x	Aminata Kamara			
		South Africa	Nokwanda Langazana	x	Nokwanda Langazana
			Bongiwe Ndakisa		
			Lua Bashala		
	o	Malesela Jan Lekalakala		x	Malesela Jan Lekalakala
		Chininga Francis Rachel		x	Francis
		Sudan	Hawa Al Tijani	x	Hawa Al Tijani
			Mahir El Fiel	x	Mahir El Fiel
		Swaziland	Renata Reck	x	Renata Reck
			Genoveva Reck		Genoveva Reck
		Tanzania	Bertha Maturo	x	Bertha Maturo
			Rosemary Olive Enie	x	Rosemary Olive Enie
	o	Togo	Senam Koffi Tsogbe	x	Senam Koffi Tsogbe
		Uganda	Peter Lukwiya		
			Ephraim Nuwagaba	x	Ephraim Nuwagaba
		Zambia	Mugove Walter	x	Mugove Walter
		Zimbabwe	Admire Gwatidzo		Admire Gwatidzo
			Linda Kabaira		
			Tsuro Bore		Tsuro Bore
	o	GAMBIA	DAUDA NIANG		DAUDA NIANG
	o	GAMBIA	MUSTAPHA BOJANG PP		MUSTAPHA BOJANG PP
	o	GAMBIA	Betty Cabbu		Betty Cabbu
	o	GAMBIA	Mary Fossey		Mary Fossey
	/		Nimsate Kane		Nimsate Kane
	/	Senegal	Demba Koudji		Demba Koudji
	/		Alassane Dia		Alassane Dia
	/		Souleymane Kane		Souleymane Kane
	/		SAMSI dui's dia		SAMSI dui's dia

/ Gambia SANG SILVA Seite 2

/ Boubacar SAMAKE

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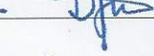
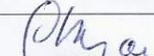
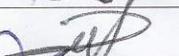
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Participants

Continent	Country	Name	Payment	WP + NT	Signatur	
Latin America	Brazil	Flavio Januário		X		
		Denise Freitas Dornelles		X		
	Colombia	Margarita Zethelius		X		
		Jennifer Trujillo		X		
	Mexico	Alberto Ruz Buenfill		X		
North America	Canada	Jeffrey Schnurr				
	USA	Juven Hovey		X		
		Daniel Greenberg		X		
		Isaac Hirt-Manheimer		X		
		Nick Joyce		X		
		Seth Reynolds		X		
		Mathew Hamilton	pp	X		
		Hilton Simmet	pp	X		
Ethan Hirsch-Tauber						
Middle East	Palestine	Aida Shibli		X		
Asia	Bangladesh	Boniface		X		
	India	George John		X		
	Thailand	Pracha HUTANUWATRA		X		
		Mon (Narumon Paiboonsittikun)		X		
Europe	Belgium	Tim Clarke		X		
	France	Mathilde Dhaussy		X		
	Germany	Steffen Emrich			X	
		Leila dregger			X	
		Jan Kipper	X	X		
		Maria Elettra Griesi	pp			
		Josie Parkner Amahoro		X		
		Lydia Schellhammer		X		
	Romania	Claudian Dobos		X		
	Scotland	Kosha Joubert		X		
		Jane Rasbash		X		
	Spain	Alfonso Flaquer		X		
		Achim Burkhard		X		
		Nonty Charity Sabic		X		
			Julia Ramos	X	X	
	Switzerland	Brigitta Spaelti	X			
Jasmin Helg		X				
United Kingdom	Troy Olivier					
	Cadi Robert	PP (Transfer)				
	Dorota Maria Owen	X				
	Fasil Bogale					
	Noah Joubert					
NETHERLANDS		RENS CAMMEESEN				

Tabelle1

	Name	Country	Organization	Signatur
1	Moussa M. GUEYE	SENEGAL	ENDA LEAD	
2	Alioune Boubou Diouf	SENEGAL	Djiromait	
3	x Malamine SANE	SENEGAL	Tbadjiro	
4	Salihina Sane	senegal	FSS/OSP	
5	Papir Tamba	SENEGAL	Tambjiro	
6	Babacar Tamba	SENEGAL	Tambjiro	
7	Mamadou SECK	SENEGAL	iranslater	
8	Adama Djimera	SENEGAL	Translator	
9	Salim Demba ATY	SENEGAL	Translator	
10	Carrie MARIAS	SENEGAL	ABPE	
11	Nouty Sabir	SENEGAL	NextGen	
12	Ilouison Bassene	SENEGAL	Etudiant	
13	Harwood Schaffer	United States	Univ of Tenn	
14	Nimsate Kane	Senegal	nubilionid	
15	Abdou Sane	Senegal	Tambjiro	
16	ELHADI BÉYE	senegal	CDR 5	
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