



PANEL 6 (Salle des fêtes)

Ecological transition and urban governance

For this 6th panel on "**ecological transition and urban governance**", Yves CABANNES, the moderator, opened the session by introducing the panelists.

The first speaker, **Éric PIOLLE**, spoke to the curtailment of greenhouse gas through collective awareness. He urged everyone to take up the principle of participatory democracy towards improving living conditions. Using the case of Grenoble, which has cooperatives in the energy field, the panelist stated that citizen participation has made it possible to raise the issue of ecological transition.

Ms. Espérance, the second panelist, discussed participatory democracy in the daily management of the municipality. By way of example, she referred to the case of the province of South Kivu. This province suffers from environmental damage due to abundant rainfall. The rehabilitation of degraded areas requires the sensitization of young people and managers from various communities who have taken on different projects. In some places, the communities have participated by providing materials. This participation has made it possible to overcome certain difficulties. The appropriation of these actions by the community makes it possible to solve local problems without necessarily waiting for the intervention of the State. **Ms Espérance** concluded that the participatory budget is a good experience.

The third speech, by Paul TESTARD, focused on the ambition of the association "MOI JEU TRIE". The objective is to create today's citizens and those of tomorrow through the education and training of children in the preservation of the environment, in order to achieve the ecological transition in the territories. These children will be the keystone of tomorrow's ecological territories. A real impact of this action will be achievable if we manage to reach the ambition of one million children by 2025. In addition, the speaker mentioned that the ecological transition creates a real financial challenge for municipalities, which despite their insufficient financial means, must allocate 3% of their budgets.

With the activities of "I SORT" we were able to learn 4 lessons;

- Children can participate in the ecological transition,

- It is necessary to think of valorising waste which is perceived as a factor of disease, but which can be used as a source of energy,
- Mayors cannot act alone, they need to create territorial ecosystems,
- The creation of wealth and jobs is promoted by the ecological transition

The fourth (4) paper proposed by **ABOUA Gustave** deals with the environmental issue, which is a concern for the Ivorian State. In 1996, an environmental code, which required the involvement of all, was put in place by the government. He said that the World Bank is supporting actions related to the environment. Speaking of participatory management, the best example is that of household waste, where taxes are imposed on the population through the CIE/SODECI bills. Sustainable development and the participatory approach are being implemented in Côte d'Ivoire.

The Head of EU Cooperation presented the fifth (5) communication on the importance of the energy transition. He pointed out that 50% of electricity consumption is accounted for by a small group of companies. Answering the question of "how to finance the ecological transition". He proposed two solutions which are :

- The establishment of a decentralized cooperation,
- The inclusion of all strata in participatory democracy.

Following the panelists' presentations, discussions with participants focused on various points:

The first intervention was made by Senator DAO Gabala. She proposed that the emphasis be placed on human capital. It is possible to talk about ecological transition, participatory development, sustainability, provided that we invest in "the Human". To show the importance of investing in human capital, she encouraged reflection on the social problems that affect education, nutrition and the lack of identity of children, future actors in the ecological transition, in the Civil Status.

A second speaker wanted to know if Côte d'Ivoire had enough companies involved in waste recovery.

A third speaker asked the question "How did Grenoble manage to be the green city?"

The following responses were provided by the panelists

According to ABOUA Gustave, there are some structures that intervene in the recovery of waste in Côte d'Ivoire, even if they are not known.

For Paul TESTARD, it is obvious that a child who does not have an identity will have difficulty being an agent of urban transition, but it is important to remember from experience that when children raise awareness, parents listen carefully.

Éric PIOLLE replied that there are several strategies for achieving the green city. However, in Grenoble, it was necessary to untie the knot between the elected representatives and the inhabitants. The choice was made to get rid of the classic

attributes of power. This strategic choice consisted in changing the behavior of elected officials by removing the cars of elected officials and promoting travel by bicycle. Furthermore, the behavior of elected officials must be merged with that of the population, the aim being to create a coalition of change between elected officials, the administration and the population.