

## **Integrating Energy Considerations into Development Planning: Lessons Learned from the Ground**

The course was presented by Mr. Eric De Muynck from UNDP-Senegal, and by Professor Vijay Modi from Columbia University. Mr. De Muynck and Prof. Modi are co-authors of the UN Millennium Project publication: *Energy Services for the Millennium Development Goal*. The presentation began by pointing out that even though energy is not one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), there is a strong connection between it and most MDGs.

Experiences in Senegal show that there are three main challenges to integrating energy considerations into development plans such as Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS). These challenges are:

- i) sharing a common vision and building national consensus among the key stakeholders on the need for energy services;
- ii) reorienting national investment to correct the existing energy inequity (there is a reverse correlation between energy need and investment); and
- iii) delivering effective output through a the following 5 step process: a) launching a multi-sectoral process; b) creating a vision; c) assessing needs; d) elaborating programmes; to e) planning investments.

In conclusion, the path for integrating energy into PRS outlined by Mr. De Muynck, after reaching political momentum through a multi-stakeholder consultative process, leads to programming or reflecting the energy services costs in national budgets first, and later to allocate additional resources.

Professor Modi illustrated the methodology for budgeting and programming energy services to be reflected in development planning. The key to success in this exercise is to engage the right people to collect the right data. In the Senegal case, the areas of energy services selected were electricity, mechanical power, and cooking fuel. For each of these areas, goals for 2015 were set, and the investment required was determined.

UNDP is currently developing a practical manual about integrating energy into developing planning at the national level, and to share lessons learned at the regional level.