

## Peer-Learning on inclusive cities in Southern Africa held in Swakopmund

**UNESCO Windhoek Office:** UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa in collaboration with UNESCO Windhoek Office, the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), UNESCO Chair for Intermediary Cities and African Local Government Academy (ALGA) conducted a three-day training on Localising SDG 11 and Inclusive Urban Planning for city authorities in Southern Africa. The peer-learning event took place in Swakopmund from 17 to 19 May 2017.

Officials of 14 Local authorities from Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia, as well as other stakeholders in Namibia participated in the workshop. The workshop offered a platform for fruitful discussions on challenges and opportunities for cities/ local authorities in the implementation of SDG 11. Participants had the opportunity to discuss approaches such as



localising SDG 11 by UCLG and promoting inclusive cities by UNESCO. The peer-learning event also offered space for an exchange of information by ALGA, the Swakopmund Municipal Institute of Learning (SMILE) and the Municipal Institute of Learning (MILE). At the end of the workshop, the participants were assured that they now had a pool of experts and institutions they can call on for support in their plans.

The participating cities indicated that they were interested in adopting the urban planning base plan designed by Professor Josep Maria Llop Torné, UNESCO Chair for Intermediary Cities. The report from the workshop will capture the learning and recommendations from the workshop, and it will serve the purpose of guiding the cities, UNESCO and other partners in developing new initiatives in the near future.