

Educational psychologist Pieter Bon of 'ASD Academy for Sustainable Development', gave a number of public lectures last January in Sierra Leone about the 'global goals' within the framework of the 'CD4D programme of the IOM. Abubakarr Bangura, an expert at CD4D, organised the lectures at five different institutions in Freetown. Below is an impression of Pieter of one of the meetings.

*After a ride on bumpy roads, two rusty doors are pulled open for me and I walk into the courtyard of a school. There is a serene silence. It starts to shimmer lightly. In the middle of the square a group of evening students is quietly waiting for my arrival. On the high stage stands the usual long table with the indispensable bottles of water. After a short introduction by the head of the school and an introduction by Abubakarr, I walk down the white stone stairs from the stage and look at the people in front of me without saying anything. I spread my arms as if to embrace the audience and start my story. 'Good evening ladies and gentleman, I am so happy that I can share 50 minutes of my life with you. Let's talk about the future of Sierra Leone and how to use the sustainable development goals of the United Nations in order to obtain more prosperity in your country'. Almost everyone wants to respond to the questions I ask and the answers take me from one subject to another. We surf the world with each other and eventually return to the square where, in the coolness of the evening and the incident darkness, fifty people talk to me about almost everything that concerns them. Towards the end there is a call for more but it gets too dark and the square is not illuminated. Eventually I can hardly see them anymore but we know that we have been there for each other, on this Monday evening in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone. The meeting ends with the flashlights of the mobile phones with which we happily take pictures of each other. We fall around each other's necks. I am pushed into the car by someone and disappear, hopefully tuned, in the jet-black night. On my way to more. Amen'*