

IRENA-ECREEE Capacity Building Initiative

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About IRENA

26 January 2009. Foundation: International Agency since April 2011 The only international RE agency worldwide Members: 102 countries; 50 ratified members Mandate: Sustainable deployment of the six RE resources (Biomass, Geothermal, Hydro, Ocean, Solar, Wind) Location: Headquarters in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates Innovation and Technology Centre IITC in Bonn

Staff: Director-General Adnan Amin, about 72 staff.



Background

1. Major challenges for the region:

Low rates of access to electricity impacting human and economic development;

National budgets impacted by heavy reliance on energy imports and oil price fluctuations.

2. Regional and national commitments:

Commitment to the MDGs geared towards reducing poverty;

Regional policy to increase energy access (White Paper and RE Policy under elaboration);

Ouagadougou Declaration to establish ECREEE;

Some countries with RE Policy adopted.

3. Common goals of IRENA and ECREEE's vision and mission:

Accelerate the deployment of renewable energy;

Capacity Building.

4. IRENA's engagement with Africa and the region:

IRENA-Africa High Level Consultative Forum, Abu Dhabi, July 2011; Pilot Renewable Readiness Assessment, Dakar, November 2011; Capacity Building Expert Meeting, Abu Dhabi, January 2012; RRA roll out. Accra, September 2012.



Guiding Principles

1. We focus on one specific topic to maximize our impact:

Support the development of a sustainable market for on- and off-grid PV applications, including solar PV for:

- a) grid-based power production;
- b) productive and community applications;
- c) rural residential electrification.

2. We look at all dimensions of the topic to make the system work:

- a) Institutional, policy and regulatory framework;
- b) Financing PV projects;
- c) Promotion of renewable energy entrepreneurship;
- d) Establishment and update of higher education.

3. We work closely interlinked with Focal Points and actors anchored in the region:

- a) Partnering with ECREEE, mandated by ECOWAS Member countries;
- b) Working with actors from the region.



Work Package 2: Promotion of national RE policies and incentive schemes in ECOWAS.

Responsible: ECREEE, IRENA, IDAE, AECID

Objectives:Reinforcing the capacities among ECOWAS member states concerning policies to
promote RE at the national level;
Support the development and implementation of a deployment strategy for RET with
emphasis on PV to enhance access to electricity, reduce electricity bill and mitigate
shortfalls or disruptions in electricity supply through promotion of PV electricity
generation by residential, commercial and industrial consumers.

Activities: Workshops for policy makers, utilities and regulators; with emphasis on net-metering.

Expected results: 3 Workshops conducted

Awareness and understanding of regulators and utilities for the requirements to increase market participation of IPPs Creation of a network for exchange on policy implementation;



Renewable Energy Employment

- Report on Renewable Energy Jobs and Access
- Working Paper on Renewable Energy Jobs: Status, Prospects & Policies
- Case Studies on Renewable Energy Jobs and Access
- Methodology EMPLOY



Renewable Energy Economic Value





Work Package 3: Increase lending for PV projects.

Responsible: ECREEE

Objectives: Develop and strengthen the confidence of lending institutions into PV systems with the ultimate goal to increase lending to PV projects (on- and off- grid) in the region.

Activities:Training workshop for lending institutions(commercial banks, microfinance
institutions, and other credit grantors);
Elaboration of lending proposals for RE products (standardized business cases);
Development of support/ educational materials.

Expected results:Workshop conducted;
Creation of a network for exchange;
Awareness and understanding of lending institutions for financing of PV projects;
Micro-lending proposal integrated into products of financing institutions.



Two-day Practitioners' Workshop



Objective

- Address Challenges of Entrepreneurs
- Best Practices of Rural Electrification
- Lessons Learnt

Approach

Comprehensive Approach:

- Policy
- Finance
- Market Development
- Capacity Building

Participants

25 entrepreneurs from

- Asia: India, Vietnam, Nepal, Philippines,
- Americas: Argentina, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, USA
- Africa: Kenya,
 Tanzania, Togo, Ghana,
 Mali

Site Visits

- Teri Biomass Gasifiers
- Orb Energy Pvt. Ltd
- SELCO India
- Waste-2-Energy Plant for Urban Waste Management



Work Package 4: Promotion of RE entrepreneurship.

Responsible: IRENA, ECREEE

Objectives: Using a train-the-trainers approach:

- a) to enable RE entrepreneurs to assess business potentials, develop business plans for PV projects, and loan requests;
- b) to enable RE entrepreneurs to design, install, operate and maintain PV systems.

Activities:Selecting trainers undergoing a training series on regional level;
Selected trainers will conduct trainings for RE entrepreneurs on national level,
supported by training institutions throughout the region;
Engagement with business/ industry associations.

Expected results:Regional training workshops conducted;
Creation of a network for exchange;
Awareness and understanding of RE entrepreneurs for available business models
Strategy for engagement of private sector associations to support RE entrepreneurs



Work Package 5: Establishment and update of RE higher education.

Responsible: IRENA, diverse universities and experts.

Objectives: To enable higher education institutions in the ECOWAS region to establish and update renewable energy modules and study programmes.

Activities: Inclusion of universities and professors in the forum under the IRENA Renewable Energy Learning Partnership, supporting through a network of international experts and academia the elaboration, update and adaptation of current RE curricula; Strengthening of contacts to the international academia; Material development and identification of methods will be facilitated.

Expected results: Increase number of graduates in the region educated in RE and qualified personnel to work in PV increased in the region.





IRENA Renewable Energy Learning Partnership (www.irelp.org)







- Work Package 6: Energy planning.
- **Responsible:** IRENA

Objectives:IN 2011 IRENA has refined an IEA model for the ECOWAS power pool in which
countries are represented separately;
Data on potentials and technology costs were updated;
Paper on scenarios and strategies for African Energy sector has been published;
More detailed report for the West African Power Pool is underway.

Activities:Training workshop to discuss the assumptions and insights of the model, andInitiate the transfer of the tools.

Expected results: Increase awareness and knowledge on the consideration of RET in energy planning



Work Package 7: Communication and outreach.

Responsible: IRENA, ECREEE and all partners

Objectives:Raise awareness for the potentials and benefits of RE for the region;Inform about the objectives, work and progress of the initiative;Acquisition of further partners;Disseminate the results and lessons learnt in ECOWAS and beyond.

Activities:Webpages for the initiative and to display activities;Information materials;Presentation at IRENA's and ECREEE's events.

Expected results:Webpages onlineBrochure available as pdf and printed version



Thank you.

Please contact for queries:

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