

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BIOENERGY IN GHANA

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INTRODUCTION

- Ghana has significant bioenergy resources that currently provide for the majority of domestic energy use for cooking and heating.
- More than 60% of Ghana's prime energy is from woodfuel (firewood and charcoal).
- Bioenergy potential is untapped and somehow unregulated.
- The need for a Policy strategy and regulatory framework to ensure sustainable supply and use of the resources.

BIOENERGY POLICY

Biofuel Policy Objective:

- To address energy security.
- To reduce the high dependency on the imported crude oil and petroleum products and make foreign exchange savings.
- To reduce poverty and create wealth for the well-being of the people.



FEEDSTOCK UNDER CONSIDERATION

Biodiesel – Jatropha, soya bean, palm oil, sunflower, etc.



Bio-ethanol – Sugarcane, cassava, corn, etc.



STATUS

- **Draft Bioenergy Policy Strategy** has been developed and is being subjected to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- **Renewable Energy Act** has been enacted and incorporates bioenergy and other renewable energy resources into the national energy mix.
- Technical Standards for **Bio-diesel** (B-20, B-80) and **Bio-ethanol** have been developed.
- A Licensing/Permitting Manual for RE industry has been developed.
- Bio-energy resources assessment is currently being done.
- Export of Charcoal is permitted **only from sustainable sources** (off-cuts, wood waste and certified woodlot).
- Regulations on production, transportation, storage and marketing of charcoal is currently being done.
- The Energy Commission is supporting research into bioenergy (eg. *“The Development of a Process for the Conversion of Some Biomass Material Found in Ghana into Bioethanol”*).



PRODUCTION

- Some individuals produce bio-diesel for their private vehicles.
- Association of Farmers grow and produce jatropha seedlings for export and local use.
- Some few companies produce biofuel on small scale.
- Some rural communities grow and produce bio-diesel to run their generators for village power supply.

CHALLENGES

- The challenge of **food** versus **fuel**. Palm oil, cassava and corn are main staple food in Ghana.
- Absence of **land use policy or management plan**. Chiefs/traditional authorities are mostly the custodian of land.
- Legal framework for bioenergy industry (until the passage of Renewable Energy Act in Dec. 2011).
- Lack of comprehensive database on bioenergy.

THANK YOU

