



ECOWAS/GBEP 5th Bioenergy Week

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Study Tour for Capacity Building

“Addressing food and energy security through sustainable biomass value chains”

Ghana, Accra, 22-24 June 2017

Concept note and Agenda

Supported by:



This event will be organized within the scope of the



1. Background

The ECOWAS Bioenergy Week, which is the Fifth Bioenergy Week of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP), will be held in Accra, Ghana from 22 to 24 June 2017, as part of efforts of ECREEE and the GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building for Sustainable Bioenergy (WGCB) to facilitate cooperation and to enhance capacities in promoting the potential benefits of sustainable modern bioenergy.

Under the ECOWAS Bioenergy Program and with the support of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Forestry, Water and the Environment (BMWLWUW) and other partners including GBEP, ECREEE has been holding many successful regional workshops on various thematic areas related to sustainable management of biomass resources. These themes include sustainable policies, sustainable forest management, sustainable wood energy management, efficient charcoal production, etc.

Since 2013, GBEP has been holding the GBEP Bioenergy Weeks, with the first one held in Brazil, followed by the second in Mozambique in 2014, the third edition in Indonesia in 2015, and the fourth Bioenergy Week in Budapest in June 2016.

The GBEP WGCB, under the co-leadership of ECOWAS and Argentina, have stressed the enormous added value of this cycle of regional events in terms of capacity building and information sharing, and expressed the willingness and need to continue this activity. In light of the above, ECREEE is hosting the fifth Bioenergy Week in the ECOWAS region from the 22 to 24 June 2017. The 2017 Bioenergy Week will enhance learning from positive experiences on sustainable production and use of bioenergy integrated within food production value chains, to support the design and implementation of bioenergy policies in Africa, including the ECOWAS region. Furthermore, it will provide the opportunity to continue a dialogue with the private sector and other stakeholders on ways to improve mutual cooperation towards a more sustainable production and use of bioenergy.

2. The ECOWAS vision and the GBEP contribution

The vision of the ECOWAS Bioenergy Program is to promote a “transition to sustainable production, transformation, trade and use of bioenergy in order to ensure universal access to modern energy services with a view to creating added value and jobs, increasing food security, mitigating environmental impacts and of advancing overall sustainable development in ECOWAS”. This vision forms part of the ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy, facilitated by GBEP in 2012 during a workshop held in Bamako (Mali) as part of the Activity Group 1 of the WGCB. The ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy was adopted by ECOWAS Ministers of Energy in October 2012. The Strategy document was used as the basis for the elaboration of the ECOWAS Bioenergy Policy, with the support of the UNDP Regional Bureau for West Africa based in Dakar. This Policy document was adopted by the ECOWAS Energy Ministers on 8 December 2016 in Conakry, Guinea following its technical validation in Dakar in October 2015.

3. Rationale for the 5th Bioenergy Week in the ECOWAS region

As highlighted in the ECOWAS Bioenergy Policy, access to modern energy services and food security are the key challenges in the ECOWAS region. Sustainable value chains that integrate food and bioenergy production are an important means of transforming these challenges into opportunities for the region, to expand modern bioenergy access and increase food security, whilst improving health and livelihoods and conserving biodiversity. A special focus will be put on bioenergy production from biogas in the region. Biogas can be considered as a win-win technology, due to: 1) its flexibility of feedstocks and plant sizes; 2) its capability of providing affordable bioenergy while solving waste disposal issues; and 3) the versatility of the final energy carrier. The biogas pathway also bears environmental, health, agricultural and socio-economic benefits. Nevertheless, its adoption in the region may be hindered by the existence of several limiting factors.

Finally, with the aim of assessing the potential of various bioenergy pathways, including Biochar systems, for energy, health, agriculture and the environment, the event will also discuss challenges and limitations of bioenergy typologies through SWOT analysis. Possible limits to bioenergy production could include natural, agricultural and financial resource availability, and the event will discuss options and strategies to tackle them, thus contributing to enhancing sustainable bioenergy production in the future. Furthermore, the spatial and temporal distribution of biomass is also an important consideration, along with other competitive uses of biomass.

The 5th Bioenergy Week will be the opportunity to exchange lessons learned and to discuss options for future bioenergy strategies in Africa, in particular in the ECOWAS region.

4. Objectives

The 2017 Bioenergy Week in the ECOWAS region is organized to foster discussion and exchange of experiences and skills that have been proven to showcase the practicality of sustainable bioenergy services and to support its accelerated implementation in Africa, in particular in the ECOWAS region. It will serve as an avenue for strengthening cooperation between member states and established institutions for increasing the provision of sustainable energy services.

Specifically, the Forum aims to:

- Show the state of the global, continental and regional bioenergy situation;
- Present the state of the ECOWAS Bioenergy situation and efforts to improve energy access by augmenting the regional energy mix with bioenergy;
- Present the ECOWAS Bioenergy Policy and its role and benefits in achieving the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Goals while enhancing food security;
- Share program of activities in domesticating the ECOWAS Bioenergy Policy for socio-economic development of member states;
- Sharing the food-energy-water nexus that preserves the environment while enhancing food and energy security;
- Discuss successful, replicable bioenergy systems that provide sustainable energy services for cooking, heating and power generation;
- Showcase available financial instruments of partners and investment firms; and
- Provide a platform to the private sector in order to facilitate a viable bioenergy market in the region.

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday 22 June 2017

8.30 – 9.00	Participants Registration
9.00 – 10.00	<p>Opening session/Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Statement – John Yeboah, ECREEE • Statement – Maria Michela Morese, Executive Secretary of the Global Bioenergy Partnership • Statement – Amb. Laudemar Gonçalves de Aguiar Neto, AG3 Leader (Brazil) • Opening Speech – Mr John Nuworklu, Director (Generation and Transmission), Ministry of Energy, Ghana <p>Video on sustainable forest management and clean cooking Group Photo</p>
	<p>Session 1: BIOENERGY POLICY AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT <i>Moderator: Dr Ahenkorah, Energy Commission</i></p>
10.00- 10.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bioenergy development and REGULATORY FRAMEWORK in Africa (15 min) Mr Gilbert Nzobadila, AFREC • The ECOWAS Bioenergy Policy and other national policies (15 min) Mr John Yeboah, ECREEE
10.30 – 11.00	Refreshment Break
11.00 – 12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African country experiences with successful Bioenergy policy frameworks that resulted in positive effects on the implementation of successful Bioenergy Services <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Senegal, Legal and regulatory experience - Mr Birame Faye-Senegal (15 min). ii) Niger, Fiscal incentives - Mr Moumouni Habi – Niger (15 min). iii) Ghana, Otu-Danquah Kwabena, Energy Commission, Ghana (15 min). • Roundtable Discussion
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch Break
	<p>Session 2: SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS FOR FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY <i>Moderator: Olivier Dubois, FAO</i></p>
14.00 – 16.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange of experiences, effective systems, challenges and opportunities in Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Animal, agro-industrial and municipal solid waste (biogas) Mr John Idan – Biogas Africa, Accra, Ghana ○ Agro-industrial residues (pellets and briquettes for combustion, gasification and biochar systems) Ms Veronica Agodoa Kitti, ASA initiative, Ghana and Mr. Pragnesh Mishra, Abellon, Ghana ○ Palm oil (Anaerobic treatment and biogas)

	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr Alex Bulnes, GOPDC Ghana – SIAT Group</p> <p>Speakers will be invited to make cross cutting references to energy access opportunities, as well as to environmental, social and economic impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtable discussion
16.15 – 16.30	Coffee/Tea/Cocoa break
	<p style="text-align: center;">ECOWAS Special Session: REPORT ON DEVELOPING STANDARDS FOR BIOFUELS IN THE ECOWAS REGION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Mr Kwasi Owusu Boadu, Director of Standards, Ghana Standards Authority and Mr Otu-Danquah Kwabena, Energy Commission</i></p>
16.30 – 17.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of draft report on developing Standards for Biofuels in the ECOWAS Region by Ms Meghan Sapp, NREL • Discussion and feedback (30 min)

Day 2: Friday 23 June 2017

	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2: SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS FOR FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY (con't)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: John Yeboah, ECREEE and Veronica Agodoa Kitti, ASA initiative, Ghana</i></p>
9.00 – 10.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Biogas option in Africa: SWOT analysis Outcomes of online SWOT analysis survey on large-scale biogas value chains Interactive SWOT analysis on small-scale biogas value chains <p>Cross cutting references to energy access opportunities, as well as to environmental, social and economic impacts to be discussed.</p>
10.30 – 11.00	Refreshment Break
	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 3: RESOURCES ASSESSMENT, OPTIONS AND STRATEGIES</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Yasuko Inoue, IRENA</i></p>
11.00 – 13.00	<p>Key note address: Resource assessment as a basis to evaluate the feasibility of value chains for food and energy security</p> <p>Bioenergy resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woody biomass, Andreas Schleenbaecker, GIZ Togo Agro-industrial biomass, Lovans Owusu-Takyi, Institute for Sustainable Energy and Environmental Solutions (ISEES), Ghana, and Michael Akoto, Embassy of Brazil in Accra (WAEMU study) • <i>Case Study from Ghana: Biomass Assessment for 6MW Biomass Power Plant Project near Kumasi, Eldad Ackom, Kwamoka Energy Ghana Ltd.</i> <p>Natural resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources, Prof. Suani Coelho, University of San Paulo, Brazil and Mr Wisdom Togobo, Director Renewable Energies, Ministry of Power, Ghana • Soil and land resources, Dr. Edward Yeboah, Head, Soil Microbiology Division, CSIR-SRI, Kumasi, Ghana <p>Discussion and feedback (30 min)</p>
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch Break

	Session 4: Successful Financial Mechanisms and Business Plans for Bioenergy Systems <i>Moderator: Prof. Joseph Adelegan, EBID</i>
14.30 – 16.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to session – <i>Moderator</i> • Existing financial mechanisms and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Prof. Joseph Adelegan, Division Chief</i> Environment and Sustainable Development, ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) ○ <i>Alpha Kaloga</i> Green Climate Fund <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) How to shorten the application-to-funding timeframe? (2) How to find low transaction costs alternatives for small, local project to be executed? (3) Are there mechanisms to mitigate the lack of a region-wide harmonized approach to financing large medium-term programmes for sustainable wood energy management? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel Discussion on financial opportunities (30 min)
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee/Tea/Cocoa break
	Workshop Wrap-up and Closing Session <i>Chairperson: Mr John Nuworklu, Director (Generation and Transmission), Ministry of Energy, Ghana</i>
16.30 – 17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop Conclusions, Recommendation and Follow up actions <i>Bah F. M. Saho</i>, ECREEE (20 min) • Closing remarks <i>Maria Michela Morese</i>, Executive Secretary of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (5 min) <i>Mr John Nuworklu</i>, Director (Generation and Transmission), Ministry of Energy, Ghana (5 min)

Day 3: Saturday 24 June 2017

9.00 – 14.00	Field visit to a 100kW waste to energy plant at Ashaiman, near Tema, and a liquid waste treatment facility/1MW plant also in Accra
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