Capacity Building on GBEP Sustainability Indicators for Bioenergy in the ECOWAS countries

Tiziana Pirelli (FAO - Rome)
Project overview

Project duration: 4 months (September – December 2018)

Financial support: GIZ

Implementing organization: GBEP (FAO)

Project partner: ECREEE

Main objective: to improve capacities of selected countries for sound bioenergy development. In particular the project aims to:

- sensitize national policy makers and relevant stakeholders on the potential of bioenergy production and use, to better contribute to GHG emission reductions by replacing fossil fuel and traditional biomass use, while harnessing socio-economic co-benefits;

- build or enhance existing capacities of local experts to understand, assess and implement the GBEP sustainability indicators for bioenergy and use them to inform bioenergy policy and decision makers; and

- set the basis for the development of effective integrated policies and measures (P&M) for sustainable bioenergy as a part of low carbon and climate-resilient development strategies at the national and regional levels.
Activities in Togo

• A local Multi-Stakeholder Working Group (MSWG) was established;
• 2 National Workshops on Bioenergy and Trainings on the full implementation of GSI for Bioenergy were conducted.

**Project methodology**

1. Share knowledge, experience and lessons learned;
2. Use of participatory approach:
   ✓ Focus groups;
   ✓ Questionnaires;
   ✓ SWOT analysis; and
   ✓ Roundtable discussion.
Activities in Togo

1st workshop: 24-25 October 2018

- Introduce the ECOWAS regional BE strategy and the country energy context, GBEP and its GSI for bioenergy;
- Select the most relevant bioenergy pathways in the country;
- Share experience and lessons learned from the full implementation of the GSI in other countries, with a focus on wood energy pathway in Paraguay;
- Acquire information on the wood energy pathway in Togo (e.g. branches, steps, actors involved, market and regulatory framework);
- Define the main Strength and Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of the wood energy value chain in Togo;
- Define potential P&M to overcome the identified Weaknesses and Threats, in order to promote a sustainable wood energy pathway and contribute to achieve country INDC and SDGs; and
- Train on GSI and select the most pertinent ones useful to assess and monitor the sustainability of the wood energy value chain in Togo.
2nd workshop: 21 November 2018

- Present, discuss and validate the results of the first MSWG consultation;
- Share information and lessons learned within the REDD+ project: how to improve the sustainability of the wood value chain and contribute to AFR100 initiative;
- Discuss how sustainable bioenergy systems can contribute to Forest Landscapes Conservation and Restoration in Sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on Togo as case study;
- Provide practical examples of sustainable wood energy pathways already tested in the country: micro-gasification and biochar: the experience of the University of Lomé;
- Continue the training on the full implementation of the GBEP methodology: the stepwise approach; and
- Discuss financial opportunities for future development of national project on the full implementation of the GBEP indicators in Togo.
Selection of the most relevant bioenergy pathways in Togo

Solid biofuels from agri-forest waste and residues

Wood energy

Biogas

The wood energy pathway:
- currently includes: traditional (e.g. fuelwood and charcoal) and modern bioenergy forms (e.g. briquettes);
- represents the 71% of total energy consumption;
- contribute to 5% of GDP, but the 90% of the activities are still informal;
- 93% of local households rely on woodfuel for cooking purposes;
- Current demand: 8.3 Mm$^3$/y | Current Sustainable offer: 3.28 Mm$^3$/y
Selection of the most relevant GSIs to be used for assessing the sustainability of the wood energy value chain in Togo

1. All GSIs have been recognized as relevant for the scope (an average value < 4 was assigned to all of them);
2. Ind. #3 was recognized as the most relevant to assess the sustainability of the wood energy value chain in Togo, followed by ind.s #1, #7, #22, #12 and #18;
3. Ind.s #6 and #24 have been perceived as the least pertinent in the set of 24 GSIs, to be used when assessing the sustainability of the wood energy value chain in Togo. An average value slightly above 3 was assigned to them (between ‘relevant’ and ‘less relevant’).
Main project outcomes in Togo

Proposed Policies and Measures to improve the sustainability of wood-energy value chain in the country

1. Promote the **sustainable management of wood resources** and a sustainable energy mix;

2. **Improve the regulatory framework** of the wood energy sector;

3. **Building capacities** of local actors to **access existing international and regional (ECOWAS) financial mechanisms**;

4. Promote bioenergy value chains based on the use of **local available feedstock** (e.g. wood, agricultural and agro-industrial waste);

5. **Organize the actors of the value chain** and strengthen their capacities (creation of groups and consortia);

6. Create a new institutional arrangement;

7. Promote mechanisms of land tenure and facilitate contracts between land owners and biomass collectors;

8. Improve **market organization** (e.g. traceability, price controls); and

9. **Improve infrastructures** (e.g. to facilitate biomass transports).
Activities in Ghana

- Identification of a local Multi-Stakeholder Working Group;
  - Present the Regional and National bioenergy strategies and the contribution of the bioenergy sector to achieve Ghana’s NDCs and adaptation goals;
  - Describe the wood energy value chain in Ghana: peculiarities and features in the specific socio-economic, environmental and regulatory context;
  - Build upon the achievement of the previous measurement - 1st pilot project on GSI in Ghana (2012) : pinpoint main outcomes, issues and lessons learned;
- Training on the full implementation of GBEP methodology (12 Dec. 2018):
  - The GBEP stepwise approach;
  - Discuss and select the current most relevant bioenergy pathways in the country;
  - Select the most pertinent indicators to be assessed to evaluate the sustainability of the wood energy value chain in the country;
  - Discuss P&M to increase sustainability of the wood energy sector and to improve the monitoring of it in the future; and
  - Discuss financial opportunities for future development of national project on the full implementation of the GBEP indicators in Ghana.
For further information and material related to the project visit the GBEP website at this [link] …

… or contact-us at: GBEP-Secretariat@fao.org