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ECOWAS Regional Bioenergy Strategy Framework and Steps

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Traditional Biomass currently 70%+ of total energy consumed in Africa

80% households currently depend on biomass fuels (Pictures courtesy of the World Bank RPTES)
Energy Challenges:

• widespread and unsustainable utilization of traditional biomass

• almost 80% of the total energy consumption comes from the traditional biomass.

• In addition, over 90% of the population uses wood and charcoal for domestic cooking.
Energy Challenges:

- The region’s over-dependence on natural forest resources is a driver of deforestation, desertification and increased GHG emissions.
- Inefficient production and use
- Unsustainable use of wood resources is
  - damaging to public health
  - reduces the time available for women and children to pursue other economically beneficial activities, such as education and entrepreneurship.
Factors: High dependence on Traditional Biomass Use:

- No Policy in most countries - adhoc
- No effective tool for sustainable planning
- Rush for biofuels (2007 onwards) – leading to competition for land dedicated for food
- No effective and sustainable Forest mgt
  - Increased live tree cutting & bush fire
  - Open forests, no ownership
- Efficient cook stoves, LPG and clean fuels: Population increase eroded gains
- Alternatives to traditional Biomass – not competitive
The primary objectives were to:
• Promote the transition from the traditional use of biomass towards a modern, efficient production and use of modern Bioenergy;
• broaden regional dialogue and peer-to-peer learning to support the development of Bioenergy strategies in the ECOWAS Member States and,
• Promote regional policy planning for Bioenergy harmonized with national policies;
The primary objectives are to:

• sensitize and share experiences on modern sustainable Bioenergy production that also promotes food security;
• create a vibrant and sustainable modern bioenergy sector that promotes economic growth, rural development, and poverty alleviation.
The Bamako Forum
The Bamako Forum
Bioenergy Strategy Framework

key components:
• Resource Assessment and Planning
• Policies and Strategies
• Knowledge sharing
• Capacity building
• Financing mechanisms and resource mobilization
Resource Ass. & Planning

Components include:
Resources assessment and mapping, based on a methodological framework that covers:
- resource inventory;
- climatic and weather scenarios; and
- resource availability and utilization such as land, water and other environment considerations;

Catalogue experiences relating to:
- Resource potential uses and threats, e.g. Climate Change -- Adaptation needs;
- Socio-economic context evaluation; and
- rapid assessment methodologies; and

Complemented by assessment and sharing of experiences, and an inventory of existing maps.
Policies & Strategies

Components include:

• Establish a vision (political will- bottom up is critical to sustain a long term vision) on Bioenergy as part of a sustainable development strategy;
• policy coherence with other sectoral policies (consultation through inter-ministerial task teams and regulatory processes);
• capitalize on experiences in region and rest of the world;
• Define political principles, based on subsidiarity between countries in the region; and
• Coordination of Implementation strategy and strengthening of related institutions.
Knowledge Sharing

Components include:

- identify knowledge holders;
- knowledge management, sharing and transferring (communication tools), creation of an ECREEE database and an observatory;
- knowledge monitoring; and
- put in place knowledge management system.
Capacity Building

Components include:
• Increasing awareness among high-level actors in agriculture and energy;
• Reinforcing existing institutional and human structures;
• Providing professional and on the job training;
• Transferring knowledge and promoting innovation and technology across all levels of production; and
• Development of job training and professional profiles, including on existing sustainable bioenergy tools.
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Financing & Resource Mobilization

Components include:
• mapping of financing schemes for every step of the Bioenergy value chain;
• identifying barriers to accessing financing schemes;
• capitalizing on innovative financing mechanisms and experiences such as climate related financing mechanisms;
• mobilizing local finance institutions, particularly private sources of capital; and
• Coordination of donor.
NEXT STEPS

To Roll out Sustainable Bioenergy Services within the Region – actions envisaged:
• Massive information and sensitization campaign on the benefits of using sustainable bioenergy;
• Development of detailed Strategy Framework with implementation plan, budget and time schedules
• Development Relevant and adequate policy frameworks
NEXT STEPS (contd.)

• Capacity development across the board – the training on resource assessment is a positive sign;
• Networking and knowledge Management – results of the resource assessment would feed the ECOWAS Observatory on RE&EE
• Demonstration projects for regional scaling up – waste to energy, ethanol fuels & stoves, etc;
• Fund mobilization and Investment
Obrigado !

Merci !

Thank You !