

GHANA SE4ALL NEWS

PROGRESS ON HIGH IMPACT PRIORITY AREAS

For the period of July to September 2014, the following contributions were made by key government Ministries, Departments and Agencies and other SE4ALL Partners toward the achievement of the objectives set under the high impact priority areas of the Ghana SE4ALL Action Agenda:

Promoting Productive Uses of Electricity

- * The cold store facility at Prampram in the Greater Accra Region supported by the Spanish government is currently producing ice flakes for cold storage of fish in the Prampram area. Efforts are being made by the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development to resolve technical challenges encountered in running the other five cold store facilities established at Half Assini, Shama, Kromantse, Nyanyano and New Takoradi.

Access to Improved Cookstove

- * A baseline report for the improved cookstove industry in Ghana has been completed by the Energy Commission. The report identifies local manufacturers of both traditional and improved woodfuel stoves in Ghana, distributors and retailers of cookstoves and fuels, financial and technical capacity providers, factors that informs a consumer’s choice of stove, among others. The report was supported by UNDP-Ghana, using data from a National Mapping of Stakeholders in Ghana’s Improved Cookstove Industry, and Consumer Segmentation Study supported by UNDP-Ghana and SNV; and the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (The Alliance), respectively.
- * The National Mirror Committee formed by the Ghana Standards Authority under the ISO TC 285 on Clean Cookstoves and Fuels has prepared a draft National Standards for the regulation of improved cookstoves in Ghana. The Standard would be finalised by second quarter of 2015. This activity is part of UNDP’s support toward the implementation of SE4ALL in Ghana.
- * Aprovecho Research Center; a world renowned center for research, development and testing of improved biomass cookstoves in the USA has been awarded a contract by UNDP Ghana to supply equipment for the establishment of a Cookstove Testing and Expertise Centre at the Technology Consultancy Centre (TCC) of KNUST. The center would also train staff of TCC in the operation and maintenance of the facility.
- * The Energy Commission under its Sustainable Woodfuel Project, has supported the establishment of about 16 hectares of woodlot plantation at Dabala and Adidome Senior High Schools (SHS) in the Volta Region; and Presbyterian SHS and Greater Manchester Institute at Begoro in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Over 20,000 seedlings have been planted in the selected schools in collaboration with the Forestry Commission.
- * Under SNV Ghana’s:
 - * “Energy, Poverty and Gender in Agro-processing Project (EPGAP)” - 120 improved institutional stoves have been installed across 13 districts in the Ashanti, Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions of Ghana. The stoves have a minimum efficiency of 40%. Two agro-processing groups were supported to establish 2.4 hectares of woodlot plantations in Zugu and Bognaavili in the Kumbungu district to provide sustainable fuelwood supply for their work. Ten artisans were trained in Tamale to build improved institutional cookstoves for agro-processing.
 - * Improved Fish Smoking and Mangroves Restoration Project—a five hectare mangrove and 3 hectare alternative woodlot plantation was inaugurated at Kwakpoyom community in the Ada

GHANA’S SE4ALL ACTION AGENDA SEEKS TO:

- > Promote Productive Uses of Electricity
- > Improve Access to : Improved Cookstove
- > Improve Access to LPG for cooking
- > Provide Access to Electricity for Remote Communities Using Off-Grid Systems

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District of the Greater Accra Region. As part of the inauguration ceremony, “Ban the Coal Pots” initiative was launched to facilitate the displacement of inefficient traditional cookstoves by improved cookstoves and 100 improved charcoal stoves were exchanged for inefficient traditional cookstoves. Other successes chalked under the project include the construction of 30 improved fish smoking stoves at Keta and Ada; completion of a Ghana Fish Smoking Market Assessment study; training of fuel wood traders in the Volta and Greater Accra regions on the wood fuel supply value chain and piloting of a financing programme for improved cookstoves.



EPGAP—Shea butter processors in Bognaavili, Northern Region cooking on an improved Morison Stove



Ms. Amanda J. Childress, Country Director of SNV Ghana commissioning the mangrove plantation in the Kwalakpoyom community in the Ada district

* The Sustainable Energy Solutions for Africa (SESA) programme is implementing an Integrated Clean Cookstoves and Biomass Fuels Market Assessment Project in partnership with Philips with sup-

port from the Government of the Netherlands.



Cooking competition organized by SNV for the Students and Youth Association (SAYA) of Trinity Baptist

* The project aims at identifying and testing innovative business models for marketing advanced household gasifier stoves (such as the Philips stove) and renewable biomass fuels (pellets, briquettes and agricultural residues) for household cooking in Ghana and distribute 500 Philips stoves. Successes chalked to date include: dissemination of 41 Philips cookstoves; conduction of Kitchen Performance Test for five different household stoves in Ghana to assess the financial viability of switching to the Philips stove; testing of the energy efficiency of eight biomass fuels in the Philips stove; and the creation of awareness and promotion of the stove among palm kernel processing groups in Jei Krodua, Madina, Ashaiman and Ejisu.

Improved Access to LPG for Cooking

* Under the Rural LPG Promotion Programme, the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MOEP) and its implementing partners distributed 6,000 LPG cylinders (6kg) and stoves in the Buipe and Tolon districts of the Northern Region of Ghana. About 66 and 74 communities were reached in the Buipe and Tolon districts, respectively. A total of 14,500 LPG cylinders and stoves have been distributed to date under this programme.

* An LPG National Implementation Task Force (NITF) has been constituted by the MOEP to

support in the preparation of key documents necessary for the successful implementation of the nationwide LPG recirculation programme and associated activities under Ghana’s SE4ALL Action Agenda.

The role of the NITF is to:

- * Draft a policy for the implementation of the Nationwide LPG Cylinder Recirculation Programme
- * Draft supporting regulations for the LPG policy
- * Develop and ensure implementation of a transitional plan

The NITF is made up of the MOEP, National Petroleum Authority, BOST, Energy Commission, Ghana Cylinder Manufacturing Company, Ghana Gas, Quantum Energy, Fueltrade Company, The Alliance, and Global LPG Partnership.

Provide Access to Electricity for Remote Communities Using Off-grid Systems

* Under the SESA programme, SNV in partnership with Barefoot Power Limited is implementing solar lanterns savings scheme project to reach energy poor communities in Ghana.



SESA—training of organisations on the repair and maintenance of Barefoot Go Solar lantern at Permaculture Network Training Center in Techniman, Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana. Organised by SNV

The project has seen the distribution of 537 solar lanterns; and organisation of sales and technical trainings for Bottom of the Pyramid organisations like Hunger Project, Permaculture Network Ghana and Kumasi Institute of Tropical Agriculture.

- * **The Global Environment Facility's Small Grant Programme (GEF/SGP) in partnership with the Barefoot College and Indian High Commission supported the Green Solar Energy Association** to implement a project called "Decentralised Solar Electrification Technology for Rural Lighting and Enterprise Development in the Upper West Region." Under the project, five Rural Solar Energy Development Committees were formed, trained, and empowered to build, own, and operate solar energy systems in rural areas. Each committee (made up of five women and four men), collects solar energy user-fees and ensures uninterrupted supply of solar light to registered rural households.

Five non-literate middle-aged women were given six months hands-on training as solar technicians at the Barefoot College, Tolinia in India.



Woman solar technician at work

The project has supplied 176 solar home lighting system to 170 households in Zupiri-Namuah, Siiru, Meguo-Mantare, Gi-

lang and Dupari communities; solar electrified two Junior High Schools in Meguo-Mantare, three public meeting places in Siiru and Dupare, five mosques in all the communities, and two food processing centers in Siiru and Gilang. Two rural electronic workshops equipped with cable television have been established in Meguo and Dupare for repair and maintenance of solar units and managed by the trained women solar engineers. The centers charge mobile phones for a fee.



A woman technician attending to customers at one of the rural electronic workshops established with the support of GEF/SGP

The project has been successful in displacing 1,105 kerosene lanterns with solar lanterns. Other achievements realized under the project include improved health delivery in beneficiary communities as a result of better lighting used by the midwives; savings on household energy budget (cost of batteries and kerosene for lighting); increase in productive activities improving household income; improved telecommunication between beneficiaries and distant relatives; and longer study hours for students improving their performance; among others.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY MINI-GRIDS TO UNIVERSAL ELECTRIFICATION ACCESS IN GHANA

Available data indicates that access to electricity through the national grid stands at 75% nationwide in 2013. In line with the new policy directive by government, the programme for universal access to electricity by 2020 has now been advanced to 2016. However, there are challenges which must be addressed if universal access to electricity is to be achieved.

Majority of the remaining population (about 7 million) live in communities difficult and uneconomical to electrify through national grid. These communities include those along the Volta Lake and the Islands created by the Akosombo Dam. Electrification of these communities are now seen as a significant hurdle in the country's goal of achieving universal access by 2016.



Picture of an island community, Atigagome, Sene East District in Ghana

Renewable energy-based decentralised electrification presents unique solutions for these communities. In recent years, the MOEP has been receiving support from development partners, including the World Bank Group, African Development Bank, and SECD to address the bottlenecks for the smooth implementation of these

decentralised electrification solutions.

In light of this, the MOEP is developing relevant policies and regulatory frameworks as well as a GIS-based assessment of islands and lakeside communities for a sustainable mini-grid electrification programme.

Ensuring that all the barriers have been identified and solutions found, the Ministry through its GEDAP project has awarded contract for the construction of four (4) renewable energy-based pilot mini-grids to serve over 1000 island households in Peditorkope (Ada East District), Atigagome (Sene East District), Aglakope (Krachi West District) and Kudorkope (Krachi East District). The project is expected to be commissioned by second quarter of 2015 and would supply electricity to homes, micro businesses and enhance the socioeconomic levels of the beneficiary communities.



An example of Solar RE electrification in an off-grid community

Leveraging resources and lessons from the ongoing initiatives, Ghana has been selected as a new pilot country for the Scaling-up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) under the Climate Investment Fund to scale up mini-grids development. Clearly, this is a golden feather in the Ministry's Renewable Energy cup and would contribute significantly to increased renewable energy generation capacity and achievement of universal access to electricity by 2016. It is expected that by end of 2016, the Ministry would

electrify 20-50 island and lakeside communities using decentralised renewable energy grid systems.

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**IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
THE CEO OF SE4ALL
PAYS A COURTESY
CALL ON SE4ALL
GHANA**

The CEO of SE4ALL, Dr. Kandeh Yumkella paid a courtesy call on the Government of Ghana and the SE4ALL Secretariat at the Energy Commission on Monday 25 August, 2014. During his visit, Dr. Yumkella was briefed on progress being made in the implementation of Ghana's SE4ALL Country Action Agenda; key roles being played by SE4ALL partners; successes chalked and challenges being encountered.



Dr. Kandeh Yumkella (first from left) being briefed by Dr. Alfred Ofori Ahenkorah (middle) on SE4ALL activities in Ghana; Dr. Kwame Ampofo (first from right, Energy Commission Board Chair) and selected senior staff

Dr. Yumkella also briefed the host team headed by Dr. Alfred Ofori Ahenkorah, Executive Secretary of the Energy Commission on SE4ALL activities on the

global scene and progress being made towards the achievement of the set goals.

Dr. Yumkella was also given a site tour of the SE4ALL Annex building under construction with the support of ECREEE.



From left to right: Dr. Kwame Ampofo, Mr. Wisdom Ahiataku-Togobo (Director of Renewable Energy Electricity at the MOEP), Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, Dr. Alfred Ofori Ahenkorah, Ms. Paula Edze (SE4ALL Coordinator for Ghana) and Ms. Akpene Dzadzra (MOEP) at the SE4ALL Annex building under construction

Link to the Ghana SE4ALL Action Plan: <http://energycom.gov.gh/files/SE4ALL-GHANA%20ACTION%20PLAN.pdf>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sustainable Energy for All

UNDP AND GOG LAUNCH THE RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (RETT) PROJECT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the GoG and the Chinese Embassy signed a formal partnership agreement on Monday 8 September 2014 at the UNDP Country Office in Accra. The ceremony ear-marked the inception of the implementation of the four-year project "China-Ghana-South-South Cooperation on Renewable Energy Technology Transfer" funded by the Government of Denmark with an amount of US\$2,720,000.

The acting UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Gita Welch, in her welcome address said it is the hope of UNDP that the project represents a best practice in South-South cooperation and is able to effectively address Ghana's need to increase universal access through off-grid community-based electrification and increase the share of renewable energy.

Responding to the remarks by Ms. Welch, Dr. Alfred Ofori Ahenkorah, Executive Secretary of Energy Commission said he is expectant that the project will provide tools for building a more sustainable renewable energy subsector which will benefit Ghanaians.



Signing of Agreement between UNDP and GoG—from left to right: Hon. John Jinapor (Deputy Minister of Energy and Petroleum), Ms. Gita Welch (acting UNDP Resident Representative), Dr. Alfred Ofori Ahenkorah (Executive Secretary of Energy Commission), and H.E. Sun Baohong (Chinese Ambassador to Ghana)

The Deputy Minister of Energy and Petroleum, Hon. John Jinapor expressed Government's commitment to the implementation. He said the project has come at an opportune time when Ghana is facing challenges with energy supply and the government is making efforts to diversify the energy mix of the country. He believes the project will have a tremendous impact on increasing access to energy for the rural poor in Ghana.

The Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Cooperation at the Embassy of Denmark, Ms. Karin Poulsen in her remarks indicated the need to strengthen the capacity of the private sector

to apply the requisite technologies on renewable energy.

The Chinese Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Sun Baohong expressed appreciation to UNDP for their role in the project. She said the Chinese people are committed to support Ghanaians with the right technical expertise to make the project a success.

Also present at the event was the UNDP Country Director, Mr. Dominic Sam, the Head of UN System at the Ministry of Finance, Madam Gladys Ghartey, other heads of agencies and cooperations and the media.



Group photograph of key stakeholders at the event