GHANA SEforALL NEWS

GHANA SEforALL SECRETARIAT

GHANA'S SEforALL ACTION AGENDA SEEKS TO:

- Ensure Universal Access to Modern Energy Services
- Increase the Share of Renewable Energy in the National Energy Mix
- Increase the National Rate of Improvement in Energy Efficiency

In this Issue

- 54,753 Households Reached with Improved Charcoal Cookstoves under Ghana's Flagship 500,000 Improved Cookstove Distribution Project.
- US$66 Million Dollars Secured to Start Full Implementation of the Scaling-up Renewable Energy Programme (SREP) Later this Year.
- The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of the People's Republic of China Supports the Installation of 836 Solar Home Systems, 427 Solar Street Lights and 930 Inverter Air Conditioners in Off-grid Communities and Public Institutions.

PROGRESS ON HIGH IMPACT PRIORITY AREAS

ENSURE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY SERVICES

* **Increase Access to Improved Biomass Cookstoves**

Ghana's Flagship 500,000 Improved Cookstove Distribution Project Takes Off

In January 2020, the Government of Ghana, represented by the Ministry of Energy signed the Project Implementation Agreement (PIA) with the Climate Change Centre of South Korea to implement the 500,000 Ghana Improved Cookstoves Distribution Project (GICDP) under the Carbon-For-Free-Stove initiative. The project is financed by the Climate Change Centre (CCC) of South Korea with funding from the East-West Power Cooperation of South Korea.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the start date of the project implementation was delayed. The GICDP however, became effective 1 October, 2020, following the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in the country and the subsequent recruitment of key project staff by the Ministry of Energy for the Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

Stove distribution commenced on 14 October, 2020, following the delivery of 60,919 units of improved cookstoves (ICS) from Green ENS (the production aggregator). Two local manufacturers: SUDRA, and Radiant Beam (RB), are the producers of the Kenya Jiko biomass cookstoves for the project.

Launch of the ICS Project

The GICDP was launched by His Excellency, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, the President of the Republic of Ghana at Akuse in the Eastern Region, on 26 October, 2020. The colorful event was attended by the Hon. John Peter Amewu, Minister of Energy; Hon. Joseph Cudjoe, Deputy Minister

Contents

of Energy; Korean Ambassador to Ghana and Togo, His Excellency Sungsoo Kim; and other high-profile dignitaries including Chief Executive Officers of State Institutions; Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and Fuels; to name a few.

In H.E. President Akufo-Addo's keynote speech, he reiterated that the GICDP would distribute 500,000 ICS in all 16 regions of the country. The President was thankful to the East West Power Corporation of South Korea for providing a grant of US$5.5 million for the implementation of the project.

The Korean Ambassador, H.E. Sungsoo Kim pledged his country's support to Ghana's developmental agenda and hope that the ICS project would check the rate of tree felling for firewood and charcoal production.

The Hon. Energy Minister, Mr. John Peter Amewu, on his part gave the assurance that the Ministry of Energy would collaborate with the relevant stakeholders to ensure the proper accountability of the project.

H.E. President Akufo-Addo cuts Ribbon to Launch the GICDP Supported by the Korean Ambassador, the Hon. Minister of Energy and the Queen Mother of Akuse (Photo Credit: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, Ministry of Energy)

Quantity of Stoves Distributed in 2020

Out of the 60,919 stoves received from Daily Supply and Service (DS&S), the total number of stoves distributed from 14 October, 2020 to 30 November, 2020 stood at 54,753 in seven (7) Component Project Activities (CPAs) across eight regions. The regions covered are: Ashanti, Eastern, Greater Accra, Northern, North East, Upper East, Volta and Western.

Public Awareness Prior to Distribution of Stoves in Dome, Ashanti Region (Photo Credit: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, Ministry of Energy)

Establishment of an Online Database

The PIU has successfully commenced uploading of the beneficiary data into the GICDP online data portal. This is in fulfillment of the project accountability architecture in line with the UNFCCC.

Planned Activities for January, 2021

Stove Distribution: The PIU would continue with the distribution of the stoves and reach a cumulative target of 130,000 stoves distributed by end of February, 2021.

Public Awareness and Education: The PIU would collaborate with the Ministry of Energy's Communications Unit, and the Energy Commission to embark on series of public awareness campaigns to educate the public and beneficiaries about the project, how to use the stoves, and the responsibilities of the key stakeholders.

Monitoring and Evaluation Activities: Monitoring and control activities would continue to track the effectiveness of the distribution strategy, awareness campaign and provide feedbacks to enhance the communication activities.

Report by: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, Project Coordinator. For more information about the project, contact him via smagbeve@yahoo.com.

INCREASE THE SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE NATIONAL ENERGY MIX

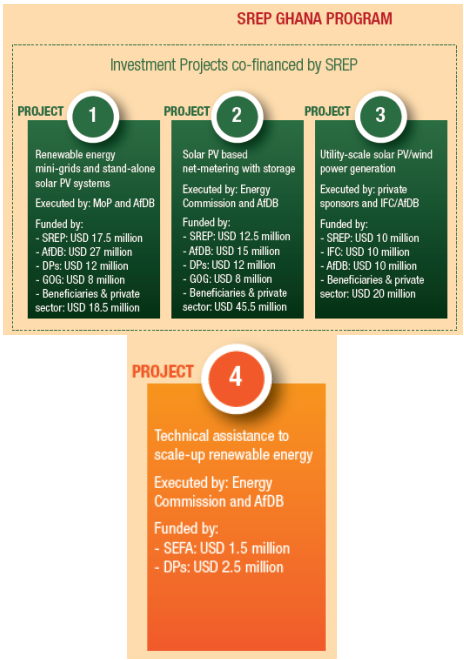
Progress Report on the Ghana Scaling-up Renewable Energy Programme—Investment Plan (SREP-IP)

The overall objective of SREP programme is to enable the Government of Ghana (GoG) meet its 10% renewable energy target by 2020 (now 2030) as well as its universal electrification goal by 2025. This objective is

intended to be achieved through the following interventions:

* implementation of flagship renewable energy investments that would provide models for scale-up and leverage additional private and public financial resources into the country's renewable energy sector;
* increment in investor confidence;
* reduction in sector challenges; and
* provision of required technical support and capacity building.

The programme is designed with focus on three strategic and transformative investment projects and an overall technical assistance component to leapfrog Ghana into a net-zero carbon energy market.



Both public and private sector business models are being used to achieve the specific objectives of the programme. The US$230 million SREP investment programme would deliver an estimated 55 renewable mini-grids, 33,000 stand-alone solar PV systems for households and small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs), and about 1,350 schools, 500 health centres and 400 communities energy service centers in off-grid unelectrified communities. This would provide access to over 140,000 Ghanaians. The SREP programme would also contribute to addressing the myriad of challenges in the power sector through the deployment of about 15,000 units of net-metered solar PV systems with desirable storage. This would reduce the economic cost of power on SMEs, households and public institutions as well as strengthen the balance sheet and the quality of electricity of the distribution utilities.

On the utility scale renewable energy front, the SREP is leveraging other financial resources to provide massive investment in grid transmission infrastructure improvement and variable renewable energy technologies integration.

SREP Implementation Progress to Date

The SREP preparatory activities have advanced significantly and expected to reach completion by end of the third quarter of 2021. Specifically, a total of 55 communities have been surveyed, base maps developed, land release agreements for construction of the mini-grid plant signed with all 55 communities, and demand forecast and socioeconomic studies completed. For the standalone solar PV subcomponent, 300 out of 600 communities have been surveyed.

Regarding the net-metering project, the preparatory activities have also been implemented. A few additional in-filling studies are underway to address gaps to ensure smooth implementation of the SREP.

The SREP Coordinating Unit (SREP CU) has also been duly established and is currently coordinating the preparatory activities.

Community Sensitisation at Sene East District (Photo Credit: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, Ministry of Energy)

Ing. A.T. Barfour (Former SREP Coordinator) Educating a Beneficiary Community with Eric Paddy Assisting with Translation in Local Language (Photo Credit: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, Ministry of Energy)

SREP Funding

The SREP team has worked tirelessly to secure the programme in the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) sealed pipeline. An estimated US$66.0 million dollars have been secured to kick-start the full implementation of the programme towards the end of 2021.

Leadership at CIF

Ghana has renewed its mandate to serve on the CIF committee at Washington for the next three (3) years starting from December 2020. During this period, Ghana would contribute to decisions on new and ongoing SREP activities within the CIF and impact on the overall governance of the CIF.

Report by: Ing. Seth A. Mahu, National Focal Point for SREP, Ministry of Energy. For more information about the programme, contact him via smagbeve@yahoo.com.

The University of Energy and Natural Resources, and the Ministry of Energy Off-grid Solar Project under the China South-South Cooperation Initiative

The University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR) through the then Ministry

of Energy and Petroleum (MoEP), now Ministry of Energy (MoEn), has been implementing an off-grid solar project since 2015. The project is a South-South cooperation launched by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of the People's Republic of China to help developing countries address the adverse effect of climate change through the provision of renewable energy and energy efficient appliances. Under the initiative, the NDRC is providing 500 Solar Street Lights, 1000 Inverter Air-Conditioning Units, and 2000 Solar Home Systems.

Goal and Objectives

The overall goal of the project is to bridge the gap between off-grid rural communities and urban areas by providing them with productive use of energy opportunities through the provision of renewable electricity.

The objectives are to: (1) mitigate the harsh effect of climate change on underserved rural poor Island and Inland communities not earmarked for electrification in the near future; and (1) provide inverter air conditioning units to reduce electricity consumption in public facilities.

Beneficiaries of the Project

As at the end of December 2020, the project has benefitted 19 communities across nine (9) regions in Ghana, namely: Ahafo, Ashanti, Bono, Bono East, Oti, Upper East, Upper West, Volta, and Western region. The institutions that benefitted include: University of Mines and Technology, Tarkwa; University of Education, Winneba; University of Development Studies; Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST); Sunyani Technical University; Koforidua Technical University; The Brew-Hammond Energy Centre (KNUST); Kumasi Institute of Technology; The Ghana Police Service; Radio BAR, Sunyani; and other public universities, hospitals, schools and district assemblies.

Achievements and impact

Since the inception of the project, there has been a successful technology transfer of knowledge from the manufacturers of the solar system to over 150 UENR students which have increased their knowledge and understanding of solar PV systems and inverter air conditioners. The UENR team has trained technicians of the various universities on the installation processes of the units received under the project.

As at the end of 2020, 836 solar home systems, 427 solar street lights and 930 inverter air conditioners had been installed nationwide. The provision of the various units have transformed many lives, especially, the use of the inverter air conditioners has reduced the energy consumption of the beneficiary institutions. Productive applications of the solar systems disseminated include provision of light for gari production, selling of groceries, and studying at nighttime.

A Beneficiary of the Solar Home System (Photo Above); Installation of Solar Street Light (Photo Below) (Photo Credit: Dr. Samuel Gyamfi, UENR)

A post-intervention survey conducted also revealed that the beneficiaries do not spend money on other sources of fuel such as kerosene and diesel for lighting as they used to. (For more information on impacts made by the project, see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PobK0uRlPt0).

Report by: Dr. Samuel Gyamfi, Regional Centre for Energy and Environmental Sustainability, UENR. For more information about the project, contact him via Samuel.gyamfi@uenr.edu.gh.

Contributors

*Dr. Samuel GYAMFI, University of Energy and Natural Resources, Sunyani.

*Ing. Seth A. MAHU, Ministry of Energy, Accra.

Compiled by:

*Paula EDZE, Energy Commission, Accra

Reviewed by:

*Kofi AGYARKO, Energy Commission, Accra

Link to the Ghana SEforALL Action Plan: http://energycom.gov.gh/renewables/se4all

Energy Commission
Ghana Airways Avenue
PMB, Accra
Phone: +233 302 813756
Fax: +233 302 813764
E-mail: pedze@energycom.gov.gh

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