PROGRESS ON HIGH IMPACT PRIORITY AREAS

Promoting Productive Uses of Energy

- Under Energising Development (EnDev) project, GIZ has made tremendous progress in the promotion of grid connected irrigation schemes among small holder farmers in Ghana. The total number of farmers supported under EnDev has increased from 20 to 62 at the end of November 2015. Out of the 62 farmers supported, 25 were practicing manual irrigation (classified as farmers with new access to energy) and 37 switched from conventional diesel or petrol pumps to electric pumps (classified as farmers with access to cleaner energy).

- On solar Pumps for irrigation, GIZ launched a call for proposals for participation in the Results Based Financing Scheme. The goal was to provide a sales based incentive for the deployment of Solar Pumps for irrigation particularly in off-grid areas. Nineteen (19) solar companies were invited to submit proposals. Four (4) proposals were received at the close of the call. This pilot phase will provide sales based grants of up to 40% of the cost of the system.

Improve Access to Improved Cookstove

- Again under EnDev, the pilot phase for the promotion of improved institutional stoves for gari-processing has ended with the installation of 32 Chrisaach stoves for gari processing in the Central Tongu, Akwapim North, East and West Gonja Districts. Under phase 2, there would be massive awareness campaigns and the installation of additional 270 improved cookstoves.
Benefits of the Chrisaach stove introduced:
- 40% fuel savings achieved
- Safer to use
- Less smoke and other emissions
- Less heat produced

Improve Access to LPG for Cooking
- Under this reporting period, the Ministry of Petroleum has distributed about 17,000 6kg LPG cylinders, stoves and accessories across 8 districts nationwide for cooking under the Rural LPG Promotion Programme.

OTHER ISSUES AND EVENTS

Ghana Participates in the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Policy and Investment High Level Forum in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Climate Technology Initiative - Private Financing Advisory Network (CTI-PFAN), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) jointly organised the “ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Policy and Investment High Level Forum” from 14 - 18 September 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.

The key objectives of the forum were to: provide a platform for the governments of ECOWAS countries to present their national energy access under the UN Sustainable Energy for All Initiative; facilitate match-making for investment ready projects; and provide a platform for stakeholder dialogue on critical steps required to mitigate existing barriers to sustainable energy investments in the ECOWAS region.

The delegates from Ghana were Mr. Kwabena Otu-Danquah, Ag. Director for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Energy Commission; Mrs. Gifty Delali Tettey, Deputy Director for Renewable and Alternative Energy, Ministry of Power; Ms. Linda Ethel Mensah, Energy Information Manager, Energy Commission; Ms. Paula Edze, SE4ALL Ghana National Coordinator, Energy Commission; and Mr. Kwasi Opoku, Consultant.

Mrs. Gifty Tettey presented on Ghana’s Sustainable Energy for All Action Agenda and targets for energy access, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Mr. Kwabena Otu-Danquah participated in a high level panel discussion on how governments are triggering renewable energy grid connected private investments. He shared on progress made in developing regulations for renewable energy promotion in Ghana.

The five-day workshop was attended by over two hundred participants from governments, high level policy and decision makers, project promoters, investors and international partners, private sector and civil society from within the ECOWAS region. It featured over 50 speakers drawn from a wide range of sectors both at regional and international level.
Inauguration of Ghana’s SE4ALL Secretariat Building by the Deputy Minister for Power

Ghana’s SE4ALL Secretariat building was inaugurated on Tuesday 22 September 2015 by Hon. John Jinapor, Deputy Minister for Power (representing the Minister for Power), supported by the Executive Director for ECREEE and the Charge d’Affaires for the US Embassy.

The SE4ALL Secretariat building was built with support from the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Economy (ECREEE), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Energy Commission of Ghana.

The building provides office space for USAID’s Power Africa Transaction Advisor, the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Ghana Secretariat, Energy Commission’s Renewable Energy Technology Transfer Project and the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and Fuels Ghana office.

The inauguration was attended by the following dignitaries: Hon. John Jinapor, Deputy Minister for Power (representing Minister for Power); Mr. Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director, ECREEE; Ms. Melinda Tabler-Stone, Charge d’Affaires, US Embassy Accra; Mr. Solomon Asaala, Chief Director, Ministry of Power; Dr. Alfred Ahenkora, Director, Policy Planning and Monitoring Evaluation, Ministry of Power; Dr. Nii Darchie Asante, Director, Technical Regulation, Energy Commission; Mr. Kwabena Otu-Danquah, Ag. Director, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Energy Commission, etc.

Ghana’s SE4ALL Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee Inaugurated

A seven-member SE4ALL Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee was inaugurated by the Hon. John, Jinapor, Deputy Minister for Power during the opening reception of the First Ghana Renewable Energy Fair at the Accra International Conference Centre on Tuesday 3 November 2015 at the Accra International Conference Centre.

The Committee which is made up of representatives from the Ministry of—Power (Chair); Petroleum; Food and Agriculture; Fisheries and Aquaculture Development; Health; Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation; and Gender, Children and Social Protection would provide oversight leadership and guidance to the implementation of Ghana’s SE4ALL Action Agenda.

Two International Clean Cooking Events Held in Accra

Two high profile clean cooking events were held in Accra, Ghana over a two week period in November. The events were:

- International Organisation for Standardisation Technical Committee (ISO TC 285) on Cookstoves and Clean Cooking Solutions meeting held from 3-6 November. The meeting was attended by National Delegates and experts who are members of the ISO TC 285 sub-committees working on Conceptual Framework, Lab Testing Methods, Field Testing Methods, and Social Impacts. Committee meetings were held to further develop documents on the above mentioned issues relevant to the process of developing ISO standard for cookstoves and clean fuels.

  The Resolutions of the meeting include progressing drafts to the next stage (Committee Draft) for additional review, continuing or establishing Task Groups that support the standards development process, approvals for working group scopes, separating document drafts to better coordinate work being done, and new commitments to contribute to outstanding tasks.

  The ISO TC 285 Accra meeting was organized by the Ghana Standard Authority with support from the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Chair of the TC).

- Clean Cooking Forum 2015: Ghana hosted the Clean Cooking Forum from 10-13 November at the Alisa Hotel in Accra. This biennial Forum was held for the first time in West Africa.
Africa as part of global efforts to create a thriving market for clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels. It was organised by the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and Fuels, and the Ghana Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and Fuels, and featured more than 500 leaders from over 40 countries. The 4-day forum was made up of meetings, panel discussions, site visits, exhibition and cultural events.

Below is a summary of selected speeches made by some high level Ghanaian dignitaries:

Hon. Emmanuel Armah-Kofi Buah, Minister of Petroleum, Ghana (Keynote Speaker). In his speech, the Honourable Minister said “Ghana has made large strides toward increasing access to cleaner-burning cooking fuels.” He was of the view that the Clean Cooking Forum would serve as a great opportunity to showcase Ghana’s work on increasing energy access and improving the lives of all Ghanaians through the broader use of clean and efficient cookstoves and fuels.

Hon. John Alexander Ackon, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (Keynote Speaker). He said “the greatest contribution that we make by promoting clean cooking is the improved health of our mothers, sisters, and daughters and, indeed, the few men who also find their way into the kitchens to cook.”

Dr. Nii Darko Asante, Director for Technical Regulation, Energy Commission of Ghana participated in a panel discussions on “Influencing Policy to Accelerate Market Growth” and “Global Progress on LPG for Cooking: What Can We Do to Accelerate Scale.” He shared on interventions being made in Ghana by government to accelerate the adoption of clean cooking solutions in Ghana.

Mr. Ali Nuhu Abeke, Coordinator for Finance and Head of Downstream Petroleum, Ministry of Petroleum also participated in the panel discussion on “Global Progress on LPG for Cooking—What Can We Do to Accelerate Scale.” He shared on the Rural LPG Promotion Programme being implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum to increase access to LPG for cooking in low access communities in Ghana.

Ms. Paula Edze, SE4ALL Ghana National Coordinator, Energy Commission participated in a panel discussion on “Standards and Labeling—Country Strategies.” She talked about ongoing process to develop regulations (standard and labeling scheme) for the cooking sector in Ghana.

The forum participants had the opportunity to visit clean cooking activities in Ghana such as cookstove manufacturing centres, distribution and retail points, agro-processing centres using improved cookstoves, etc.

The forum ended with a closing plenary on day 4 during which reflections were presented on the whole forum event, sessions and lessons learned. A call was made for the formation of National Alliances on Clean Cooking and Fuels across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

SE4ALL Ghana Secretariat Participates in Regional Training of Trainers Workshop on the Use of a Centralised Monitoring and Evaluation Tool for Multifunctional Platform Programmes

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) regional office in Dakar, Senegal organised a launching and training of trainers workshop for selected personnel across the West African sub-region from 3-4 December 2015 in Dakar, Senegal.

The GIS-based online tool provides a centralised database of various Multifunctional Platforms (MFP) deployed across the sub-region. It also has a marketing component to facilitate effective transaction of products from MFP. The 2-day workshop was attended by participants from Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Participating from Ghana is Mr. Ebenezer Ashie, Projects Advisor, Ghana SE4ALL Secretariat, Energy Commission.

Screen shot of the online tool (see: http://mfpmeit.org)
SE4ALL Ghana Engages Stakeholders Working on Solar Drying Technologies for Agro-processing

The SE4ALL Secretariat held a stakeholder engagement workshop for nineteen (19) stakeholders from government, academia and research institutions on 11 December 2015 at the City Escape Hotel in Accra. The workshop was organised to:

- properly coordinate solar drying and other renewables energy initiatives in Ghana;
- address identifiable challenges impeding the wide adoption and utilisation of solar drying and other renewable energy technologies;
- share information among key stakeholders on renewable energy technologies inventions across the sectors; and
- collate relevant data on renewable energy technologies in Ghana.

One of the threats identified to food security in Ghana is post harvest loss of agricultural crops. It is estimated that Ghana loses about GHS 700,000 every year in post harvest losses. This consists of between 20 to 50 percent of all vegetables, fruits, cereals, roots and tubers produced each year. Solar drying technology was therefore identified as a priority intervention to be promoted under Ghana’s SE4ALL High Impact Opportunity objective on promotion of Productive Uses of Energy.

Highlights of the engagement were: provision of tax incentives on imported raw materials for construction of solar drying structures to reduce the cost of the technology and make it affordable to farmers; need for capacity building and awareness creation among the research community, financial institutions, artisans, and farmers on the technology and associated benefits; need to develop a sustainable business model to drive market for the technology; etc.

The stakeholder engagement was supported by the UNDP.

Contributors

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