In West Africa, renewable energy entrepreneurs are at the forefront of efforts to extend access to modern energy services as they are open the best placed to offer tailor-made local solutions. Such entrepreneurs, however, face serious challenges including business management and operations, as well as bringing their innovative ideas to fruition.

To overcome some of these challenges and strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS-based renewable energy entrepreneurs, in April 2015, IRENA and ECREEE established the “ECOWAS Renewable Energy Entrepreneurship Support Facility”. The establishment was facilitated in partnership with 2iE in Burkina Faso and, through the financial support of the Government of Luxembourg, with CERMI in Cabo Verde.

Since its establishment, the Facility has held two calls for application, and has assisted over 40 ECOWAS renewable energy entrepreneurs in strengthening their enterprises and project proposals for funding. In 2017, the Facility aims to increase the number of entrepreneurs supported by providing additional assistance and trainings. It also aims to intensify its engagement with financial institutions and improve their understanding of renewable energy projects.

THE 3rd CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IS NOW OPEN UNTIL 25 MARCH 2017

ECOWAS-based entrepreneurs may submit their applications for support in the following:

- Refining renewable energy project proposals in order to reach bankability.
- Enterprise development through the Facility’s mentorship and training programme.

In order to access the form to apply on-line, you may scan the QR Code above, click here or go to the link http://www.cac.2ie-edu.org/lime123/index.php/625834. The applications will go through a selection process and the successful applicants will be contacted.

Co-funders