



## Press Release

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### ECREEE LAUNCHES NEW VERSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TOOLS

**Dakar, July 26, 2016** – During a training workshop in Dakar, Senegal, the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) officially released new versions of the Interactive Country Profile Data Portal, and the Map Viewer, both being flagship products on ECOWREX - an open data platform for managing and sharing renewable energy and energy efficiency information on ECOWAS Member States.

ECOWREX was set up to improve existing knowledge in the energy sector, bridge information gap, alleviate information barriers within the ECOWAS region, and provide decision makers, project developers, investors and other stakeholders with tailored information and planning strategies. To quote the Executive Director of ECREEE, “One of our goals is to establish a good data culture reputation and become a leading institution in knowledge management on renewable energy and energy efficiency in Africa.”

The new Interactive Data Portal archives over 20,000 data points covering renewable energy and energy efficiency information from 2010 to 2016 for the 15 ECOWAS Member States compared to the previous version which contained a little over 8,000 data points dating information up to 2013. The new release was designed and developed in-house by the ECOWREX Unit of ECREEE. Its extended functionality now permits end users to access information under various topics and indicators; easily embed and share the country profile data portal on partner organization web platforms; download the raw data in various formats for further analysis. The new version is currently available online on the [ECOWREX website](#).

The new map viewer has been revamped into a complete Spatial Data Infrastructure, following international ISO and Open Geospatial Consortium standards in geospatial data interoperability and sharing. New data sets on solar and wind power potential maps, energy access maps for non-electrified communities in West Africa, and hydro power resource potential of all river basins in the region have been generated. Additionally, a metadata catalogue has been developed to provide standardised information on the geospatial data and to make the maps accessible by other international platforms, which contributes to increased the visibility of the GIS maps. End users can now explore, share and download easily the geospatial data with the improved functionality. The new map viewer was developed by ECREEE in partnership with UNIGE (Geneva), KNUST (Ghana) and NOVELTIS (France) through the ACP-EU Science and Technology Programme II (ACP S&T II), with the project titled “Promoting Sustainable Energy

Services through the use of Geospatial Technology in West Africa” (ECOWREX2). A soft launch of the tool has taken place and it will be available for public viewing in two weeks.

**About ECOWREX:** The ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECOWREX) is a web-based information platform established in October 2012 to address poor data quality and information pertaining to the energy sector in the ECOWAS region at the same time providing decision makers, project developers, investors and other stakeholders with tailored energy information and planning tool.

The project was implemented by ECREEE and UNIDO under the GEF Project "Promoting Coordination, Coherence and Knowledge Management under Energy Component of the Strategic Program for West Africa (SPWA)" with support from the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

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