Closing the Data Gap: Driving good decision-making in ECOWAS region


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Laura E. Williamson, REN21
laura.williamson@ren21.net
A Multi-stakeholder Policy Network grouping

**NGOs:**
CURES, GFSE, Greenpeace, ICLEI, ISEP, JREF, WCRE, WRI, WWF

**Industry Associations:**
ACORE, ARE, CEC, CREIA, EREC, GWEC, IGA, IHA, WBA, WWEA

**Science & Academia:**
IIASA, ISES, SANEDI, TERI

**International Organisations:**
ADB, EC, GEF, IEA, IRENA, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank

**National Governments:**
Brazil, Denmark, Germany, India, Norway, Spain, Uganda, UAE, UK
REN21 Network: Diverse and important

Over 400 reviewers and contributors from around the world and across the 5 stakeholder groups
REN21: Support the rapid uptake of renewables worldwide

- Providing high quality information on renewables
  - Global Status Report,
  - Regional Reports (MENA, ECOWAS....)
  - Global Futures Report
  - Renewables Interactive Map

- Developing networks, expanding outreach efforts
  - Contributors network
  - Cooperation with other organisations to promote renewables

- Catalysing discussion and debate
  - International Renewable Energy Conference (IREC)
    - South Africa 2015
  - Workshops and webinars

www.ren21.net
Renewables Global Status Report

- Team of over 400 contributors, researchers and reviewers worldwide

The report features:

- Global Market Overview
- Industry Trends
- Policy Landscape
- Investment Trends
- Distributed Renewable Energy

- All renewable energy technologies
- Sectors: power, heating/cooling, transport

Feature in GSR2014:

- Tracking the Global Energy Transition: A Decade of Unprecedented Momentum for Renewables
Renewables Interactive Map

Collaborative data-sharing effort by REN21 community of renewable energy experts: www.map.ren21.net
Good decisions need to be based on good data.

This means that.....

...to **advance energy access**, and to **monitor advancements** need data on renewable energy and energy efficiency.
Why is Data Important?

- **Basis for decision-making**
  - necessary for energy planning,
  - informs policy design and adaptation efforts
  - monitors progression or regression

- **Demonstrates current situation and opportunities**
  - attract investors and private industry

- **Shows the potential of the region**
  - 128,000 minigrids needed by 2030 to reach ECOWAS target
  - investment 31 billion euros by 2030*

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* Ref: IED study: Low carbon minigrids: Identifying the gaps, building the evidence base
What defines good data?

- Quality / Reliability
- Accessibility
- Timeliness
- Comprehensiveness
- Transparency (necessity of referencing)
- Validity of data
- Methodology

Ensuring these elements increases trust in the data produced
Types of Data

- **Formal Data**
  - Official energy statistics

- **Informal**
  - Business/trade/investment figures
  - Project implementation
  - Research results
  - Reports: NGOs, industry associations
  - Articles: newspapers, on-line publications
  - Publications
  - Personal communication/observation
  - ...........
Forms of Data: from where?

- Government collection process
- Research
- Results from studies, projects
  - Industry associations
  - Pre-investment
- Field work
  - NGOs
  - Business
  - Project developers
  - Practioners
- Interviews / personal communication
- .......?
Renewable Energy Data Challenges

- Energy = cross-cutting and politically sensitive
  - Different sectors: health, agriculture, water, education
  - Different interests

- Renewable energy and energy efficiency data
  - Disperse/decentralised
  - Small-scale
  - Not traded (ex. traditional biomass)

- Formal vs. informal data – tensions between stakeholders
ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Status Report

- ECOWAS region:
  - increasing growth in renewables
  - one of the most active regions in Africa for the promotion of renewables and energy efficiency

- Renewable energy and energy efficiency = real opportunity for the region to achieve a globally important position in the sustainable energy

- Political acknowledgement of importance:

- Support the work of ECREEE
BUT......to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy in the region, need to:

- capture the full range of renewable energy and energy efficiency activities in the region
  - who is doing what
  - current market, installed capacities, energy output, market growth/development → attract investment
- timely and comprehensive information

Data is being collected but there is a need for:

- harmonisation of information: financing, technology options, policies
- wide-spread promotion of information: within and outside of ECOWAS → facilitate policy change
- Transparency and referencing → gives credibility
Objectives of ECOWAS Status Report

- **Detail the status** of:
  - renewable energy markets & industry, in power, heating/cooling, transport
  - regulatory frameworks and policy
  - investments
  - stand-alone energy solutions in the region

- **Outline policy trends**

- **Discuss regional opportunities** in manufacturing, infrastructure and knowledge sharing

- **Highlight the business case** for renewable energy deployment

- **Showcase** the latest market developments and activities undertaken in the ECOWAS region
  - to facilitate the scale-up of domestic, regional and foreign investments
  - to illustrate national and a regional engagement: **ECOWAS as a successful region for other regions to replicate**
Data Collection: What is the status?

Cape Verde

- Orange = data provided/available
- Blue = no data provided/available

Legend:
- Orange = formal and informal data
- Yellow = informal data
- Red = no data provided/available
Data Quality

- Market & Industry
- Policy Landscape
- Distributed RE
- Energy Efficiency
- Investment
- Gender

**Informal Data**
- General numbers; info on financing specific projects

**Formal Data**
- General qualitative information only

Data Quality:
- 0% to 50%
- 50% to 100%
Conclusions

- Data collection: it's not just about numbers
  - Content
  - Timeliness
  - Participation: engaging in the process
  - Validation
- Challenging: cross-cutting nature of renewables
- Must be collaborative
Next Steps

Data Collection Process

- Mid-April: First draft
- End-April: Internal review & revision
- Mid-May: Peer Review REN21+
- July-Aug: Report finalisation including layout & translation
- Sept/Oct: Launch!

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We Need Your Help!

- **Data gaps:**
  - Recent data: 2012 → 2013 ↑
  - Transport
  - Heating and cooling
  - Information: off-grid
  - Concrete numbers on RE investment by government
  - Recent regulations
  - Energy efficiency
  - Gender
  - Trends

= formal and informal data
Thank you

- **Your knowledge + expertise + REN21 experience + ECREEE guidance = important reference document**

**Result:** support the uptake of renewables and energy efficiency measures → **increased energy access for all.**

Laura WILLIAMSON: [laura.williamson@ren21.net](mailto:laura.williamson@ren21.net)

+33.1.44.37.50.99