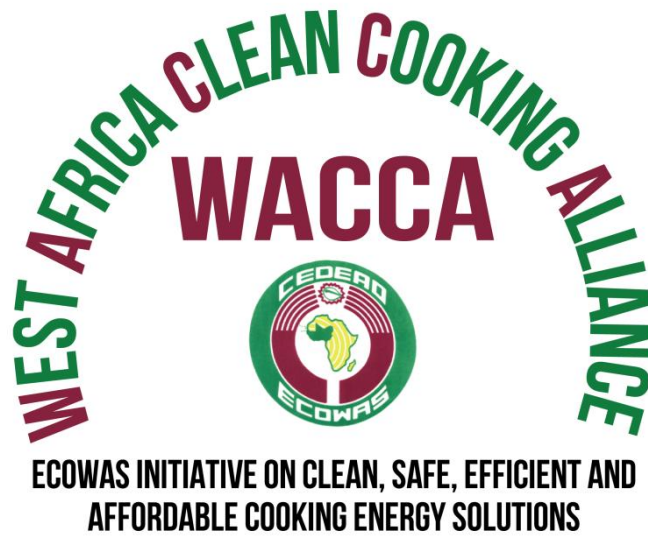


Concept Note and Agenda



**ECOWAS Regional Workshops on the Development of National Cooking Energy Action Plans & Capacity Building on Biochar**

Kairaba Beach Hotel, Banjul, The Gambia

11 - 13 August 2014



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*This event will be organized within the scope of*



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY  
FOR ALL

## Background to West African Clean Cooking Alliance (WACCA)

The ECOWAS region continues to be plagued by high and unsustainable use of biomass (traditional biomass) for cooking, often on inefficient stoves. Fuelwood use in the overall energy demand of the region is estimated at around 80% with negative consequences of smoke-filled kitchens resulting to health problems, especially for women and children. Inefficient stoves are often unsafe and uncomfortable to use and cooking fuel expenses keep on rising while the unsustainable wood fuel supply chains cause environmental degradation and deforestation.

Against this background, the need to address challenges related to unsustainable cooking energy was initiated by ECREEE and its partners in 2012. The initiative, known as the West Africa Clean Cooking Alliance (WACCA), hopes to achieve a wide distribution of efficient, affordable, sustainable and safe cooking fuels and devices to the ECOWAS population through various intervention strategies that overcome barriers related to technical, economic, social and institutional barriers. It was officially launched during the ECOWAS High Level Energy Meeting in Accra, Ghana, on 30 October 2012. Additional information on WACCA can be read at [www.ecreee.org](http://www.ecreee.org).

The objective of WACCA is to bring clean, safe, affordable cooking energy solution to the entire ECOWAS population by 2030. This is in line with the overall objective of ECREEE to promote energy access, renewable energy and energy efficiency within the ECOWAS region. WACCA is one of the programmes of ECREEE that contributes to the SE4ALL goals of the ECOWAS region.

At **regional level**, WACCA is set to build upon existing interventions on the various fuels and technologies, accumulate and share knowledge on the available existing technologies and technical approaches. WACCA will facilitate the adoption of standards for cooking technologies in accordance with international agreements as developed under the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (GACC) and through that, enhance and complement activities implemented in the framework of the ECOWAS Regional Programme on Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) through the use of Renewable Energy (promotion of alternatives of Fuelwood) and Energy Efficiency (ECOWAS Initiative on Standards and Labeling). The capacities for research and policy development on guidelines for the value chain of cooking fuels (wood, charcoal, LPG, bio-ethanol, etc.) will be strengthened and a consistent system for monitoring and evaluation in accordance with other monitoring and evaluation systems will be developed at regional level.

At **national level**, WACCA will assist in mapping the existing initiatives on fuel and cooking equipment and updating national strategies for cooking energy. Through the evaluation of solutions and bottlenecks, the initiative will enable the development of approaches for the local production of equipment and fuels and market development for technologies and fuels. Key elements of the initiative will be development of clean cooking strategies and action plans, capacity development, implementation of awareness campaigns and establishment of financing mechanisms.

To achieve the objectives of WACCA, a framework conducive to broaden and accelerate the development and deployment of clean, safe and efficient cooking was elaborated and validated by the ECOWAS member states at the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Workshop held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 23 – 25 April 2013. The workshop brought stakeholders together that discussed and built consensus among the various segments of society within the countries in the ECOWAS region. The workshop was also used as a platform that provided information on best practices and challenges on clean cooking, how the challenges were overcome and on policies and planning tools that promote integration of clean cooking into national energy strategies.

**The WACCA Regional Action Plan Framework** provides amongst other activities, opportunities to assist member states in the development of their national action plans. Therefore in furthering this activity, ECREEE and its partners, are organizing the regional workshop in Banjul on clean cooking solutions. The workshop would involve a 2-day meeting to be **held 11 & 12 August 2014** to discuss development of national action plan framework with focus on the Gambia.

**Capacity Building Workshop on Biochar** and its benefits for energy generation (cooking/heating) and enhancing agricultural productivity would be held on **Wednesday 13 August 2014**, back-to-back to the 2-day WACCA workshop. It would be held jointly with the University of Udine and other partners in the Biochar Plus Project.

ECREEE is partnering with the University of Udine, Italy in a Project on Biochar Plus that is supporting activities on building capacities in the ECOWAS and ACP countries on the Biochar option at different scales and assure its use. Other partners in the Project include STARTER in Italy, ASA Initiative of Ghana, CORD-SL of Sierra Leone, University of Togo, Bindura University in Zimbabwe and Jimma University of Ethiopia. The Project objectives are to:

- develop the capacities to absorb and use the Biochar technology, which is a readily available knowledge able to promote socio-economic development of families of rural and sub-urban areas through appropriate policies, organizing schemes for incentives, building capacities in technical, entrepreneurial, scientific and technical know-how;
- reinforce national and regional competences to formulate, manage, monitor, evaluate and disseminate Biochar related activities within and across region and ACP. Endogenous learning processes will be encouraged through the adoption of a participatory approach;
- encourage growth and socio-economic development in the ACP through the application of the Biochar. The Be.Bi. project (the earlier project on Biochar) demonstrated that the Biochar production at small scale through the use of micro-gasifier can be effectively deployed in the local contexts and that it is an accessible facility, provided that:
  - the gasifier can be adapted to the local context for cooking, heating and even power generation;
  - the by-product of the gasification produces char called 'BIOCHAR' that can be used to enrich the soil because of its carbon content; and
  - the local population is involved in understanding the multiple benefits of adopting the Biochar and in adapting the burner to their specific needs;

### Objectives of the Workshop

The objective of the Workshop is to share information and promote discussions on clean cooking solutions. It would:

- Share best practices and challenges on national clean cooking activities within and outside the region;
- integration of clean cooking into national energy policies and strategies and establishment of national cooking association;
- sharing planning tools on preparing national cooking action plans that promotes clean, safe, and efficient cooking for economic growth and improving environmental and social conditions;
- discuss and validate the framework on a national cooking action plan for the Gambia; and
- Sensitize and build capacities on the Biochar technology and its benefits for energy, health, agriculture and the environment.

### Expected Results

- best practices and challenges on national clean cooking activities within and outside the region are shared;
- Information on integration of clean cooking into national energy policies and strategies, formation of country action groups and establishment of national cooking association are discussed;
- Planning tools on preparing national cooking action plans are shared with participants for the promotion of clean, safe, and efficient cooking;
- A framework on a national cooking action plan for the Gambia is discussed and validated; and
- Participants are sensitized and capacities enhanced on the principles of Biochar technology and benefits for energy, health, agriculture and the environment.

### Participants

Participants will be drawn from ministries of energy, (cooking energy experts), forestry, environment, health and private sector, testing and standards bodies, partners, finance organizations, and civil societies from the Gambia and the ECOWAS Region.

### Exhibition

In the framework of the Workshop, an exhibition will be organized to showcase practical examples and demonstrate products, technologies and services from the Gambia. The exhibition is expected to attract at least 15 organizations from the country working on clean cooking energy.



# ECOWAS Workshop on the Development of National Cooking Energy Action Plans

Kairaba Beach Hotel, Banjul, The Gambia

11 & 12 August 2014

## Agenda

	<b>Monday 11 August 2014</b>
08:30	Registration of participants
<b>Opening Session</b>	
09:00	<b>Keynote speeches:</b> from Ministry of Energy, ECREEE and GiZ, NEA, Min. of Forestry and the Environment <b>Video on the West African Clean Cooking Alliance (WACCA)</b> <b>Group Photo</b>
10:00	<i>Tea/coffee/cocoa break/ Press Conference</i>
Session 1: EXHIBITION ON NATIONAL/Regional COOKING INITIATIVES IN THE COOKING ENERGY SECTOR Presentations will be given at different booths in the frame of a guided tour Lead: Ms. Anta Jagne, REAGAM, The Gambia	
10:30	<b>Opening and visit of exhibition of ongoing national initiatives on sustainable cooking energy.</b> Presentations will be given for each of the programs and participants will be guided through the exhibition <i>The exhibitions will remain for the 3 days</i>
Session 2: INTRODUCTION to WACCA and the Cooking Energy Situation in the ECOWAS Region Chairperson: Ministry of Energy	
12:00	<b>Introduction of workshop program and objectives:</b> Mr. Bah F. M. Saho, Renewable Energy Expert, ECREEE
12:10	<b>ECOWAS Cooking Situation and WACCA Activities: Developments since Ouagadougou Workshop</b> Ms. Karin Reiss, SE4ALL Expert, ECREEE
12:30	<b>The cooking Energy situation in The Gambia: Current situation and strategy</b> <i>Ministry of Energy, The Gambia</i>
12:50	<b>Gender mainstreaming and cooking energy: Livelihoods and business opportunities</b> Ms. Yacine Diagne, ENERGIA Network, Senegal
13:10	<b>Discussion and feedback</b>
13:30	Lunch break



Session 3: ELEMENTS OF ACTION PLAN FOR CLEAN COOKING SOLUTIONS: Presentations on various aspects of clean cooking value-chain being undertaken and lessons learned Chairperson: Dr. MAI MOUSSA MOURIMA, Chef de la Division Énergies Domestiques (DED), Niger	
14:30	<b>Advanced Waste to Bioethanol - Case Study from Nigeria</b> Femi Oye, SMEFUNDS-GE-Biofuels, Nigeria
14:50	<b>Sustainable Solid biomass fuel supply sector (bio-charcoal/briquettes, etc)</b> Mr. NThié Diarra, Head of BRADES, Senegal
15:10	<b>Production and Marketing of cook stoves: recommendation for the strengthening of an improved cook stove value chain: Case studies for Sierra Leone.</b> Ms. Anne CALVEL, GERES, Mali
15:30	<b>Sustainable production of briquettes and cookstoves in the Gambia</b> Mr. Anthony Tabbal, GREENTECH – Environmental Solutions, The Gambia
15:50	Discussion and Feedback
16:10	<i>Tea/coffee/cocoa break</i>
16:30	<b>Improving access to 1 million Improved Cooked Stoves: Lessons from the GIZ Cookstoves Program</b> Mr. Pierre Gnohor NDIAYE, GiZ-ProCEAO, Senegal
16:50	<b>Standards and Labels for Clean Cooking Energy Solutions</b> Prof. Issakha Youm, CERER, Senegal
17:10	<b>Sustainable Financing Options for Clean Cooking</b> Dr. Segun Adaju, Market Manager, Nigerian Alliance for Clean Cookstoves - ICEED, Nigeria
17:30	Discussions and Feedback
19:00 - Dinner cooked on Improved Stoves and briquettes	

	<b>Tuesday 12 August 2014</b>
09:00	Presentation of the summary of discussions of day 1 by the Rapporteurs
Session 4: NATIONAL COOKING ENERGY ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT Chairperson: Ms. Anne CALVEL, GERES, Mali	
09:30	<b>Development of National Cooking Action Plan: Case study from the Region</b> Dr. Faustina Araba Boakye, GHACCO, Ghana
09:50	<b>Development of National Cooking Action Plan: Case study from the Region</b> Dr. Segun Adaju, Market Manager, Nigerian Alliance for Clean Cookstoves - ICEED, Nigeria
10:10	<b>National Cooking Action Development: Introduction of the Template</b> Mr. William Kofi Horsu, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (GACC), Ghana
10:30	<i>Tea/coffee/cocoa break</i>
11:00	<b>Discussions on the Gambia National Cooking Action Plan Framework</b> Discussion Facilitator: Dr. Andrea Reikat, GiZ-ProCEAO, Burkina Faso
13:00	Lunch break
Session 5: DRAFT NATIONAL COUNTRY ACTION PLAN AND DISCUSSIONS Chairperson: Dr. Faustina Araba Boakye, GHACCO, Ghana	
14:30	<b>Presentation of the Gambia National Cooking Action Plan Framework and discussions</b>
16:30	<i>Tea/coffee/cocoa break</i>
Session 6: VALIDATION OF THE GAMBIA NATIONAL ACTION PLAN Chairperson: Mr. Demba S. Bah, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Min. of Energy, The Gambia	
17:00	<b>Validation of the Framework for the Gambia Cooking Action Plan</b>
17:30	<b>Wrap up and closing</b> ECREEE & Min of Energy



ACP-EU Cooperation Programme in Science and Technology II

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## BIOCHAR PLUS

Energy, health, agricultural and environmental benefits from biochar use:  
building capacities workshop

Wednesday 13 July 2014, Banjul – The Gambia

### Agenda

08:30	Registration of participants
Opening session	
09:00	Keynote speeches. Ministry of Energy, ECREEE and University of Udine, EU, NEA, Min. of Agriculture/Forestry Group Photo
10:00	Tea/coffee/cocoa break/ Press Conference
Session 1: Introduction to Biochar Technology Chairperson: Prof. Issakha YOUM, CERER - Senegal	
10:30	Introduction of workshop program and objectives Mr. Bah F. M. Saho, Renewable Energy, ECREEE
10:40	Pyrolytic stoves in Europe and ACP countries. Prof. Alessandro Peressotti, "Biochar Plus" project coordinator, University of Udine
11:00	Biomass availability Dr. Giorgio Alberti, University of Udine (Italy)
11:20	Biochar and African Dark Hearths (ADE) Dr. Tiziana Pirelli, University of Udine
11:40	Stove and pellets demonstration University of Udine
12:00	Biochar Plus impacts – Value chains implementation (SWOT analysis) Prof. Alessandro Peressotti and Dr. Giorgio Alberti, University of Udine
12:20	Discussions and Feedback
13:00	Lunch break
Session2: Focus Group Discussions the BIOCHAR Chairperson: Dr. Giorgio Alberti, University of Udine (Italy)	
14:30	Focus groups on BIOCHAR-PLUS value chain implementation University of Udine
16:00	Report from focus groups University of Udine
16:30	Tea/coffee/cocoa break



Session 3: Increasing Access to the Biochar Technology	
Chairperson: Permanent Secretary, Min. of Agriculture	
16:50	<b>Promoting Biochar technology in the ECOWAS Region for clean and sustainable cooking and enhancing agricultural production. Final remarks and discussion.</b> <b>Bah F. M. Saho, Renewable Energy Expert, ECREEE</b>
17:10	<b>Sustainable Financing Options for the Biochar benefits and opportunities</b> <b>Sire Abdoul Diallo – WACCA Coordinator, ECREEE</b>
17:30	<b>Discussions and Feedback</b>
Closing Session	
Chairperson: Executive Director, National Environment Agency (NEA)	
18:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>Min. of Energy, Min of Agriculture, Univ. of Udine</b>

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