



UPCOMING EVENTS

ECREEE will participate in the first High Level Meeting of the African-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP), from the 14 to 15 September 2010 in Vienna Hofburg, Austria. [More Information](#)

The third ECOWAS Business Forum on "Harnessing of Energy Resources to enhance the competitiveness of West Africa's economy" from 27 September to 1st October 2010 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

From 18 to 21 October 2010 ECREEE organizes a Regional Forum on the ECOWAS Solar Energy Initiative (ESEI) in Dakar, Senegal. [More Information](#)

ECREEE will Participate in the fourth session of the International Renewable Energy Agency's (IRENA) Preparatory Commission, scheduled from 24 to 25 October 2010, in Abu Dhabi UAE. [More information](#)

ECREEE will Partake in the Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference, organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India MNRE from 27 to 29 October 2010, in Delhi, India. [More information](#)



From 6 to 8 December 2010 ECREEE organizes a special regional energy efficiency workshop on the new Management Standard ISO 50001 in Praia, Cape Verde. The workshop will be jointly organized in cooperation with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and UNIDO. [More Information](#)

From 9 to 11 December 2010 ECREEE organizes a training on financial appraisal of RE&EE projects in cooperation with RETScreen. [More Information](#)

Message from the Director



Mr. Mahama KAPPIAH

As we journey together towards a cleaner and sustainable energy future, I am delighted to present the maiden edition of our newsletter, with the hope that it fosters information dissemination and creates a synergy of purpose. This edition gives an overview on the status of our newly established Centre and highlights some of the envisaged activities to be implemented under the 2010 ECREEE work plan.

Today, we look back at a busy but successful six-month preparatory phase of the ECREEE Secretariat during which initial administrative and expert staff were recruited. The ECREEE website is live, and our office facilities fully operational. Apart from setting up the internal management and administrative structures of the Centre, we initiated the first operational activities and built up a strong network of national focal institutions which interlinks our Secretariat with ECOWAS member states.

Special thanks are due to the ECOWAS Commission and our partners: the Governments of Austria, Cape Verde, Spain and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) who made it possible for the smooth take-off of the Centre.

The official inauguration of ECREEE on 6 July 2010 in Praia, Cape Verde, marked the completion of the preparatory phase and the commencement of the operational phase of the Centre. The event featured the signing of the ECREEE headquarter agreement between the Government of Cape Verde and the ECOWAS Commission, as well as the constitution and first meeting of the ECREEE Executive Board. The 2010 half-year work programme approved by the Board will guide the activities of the Centre during the coming months.

The Centre also established strategic partnerships and networks with regional and international RE&EE organizations, including REEEP, AFRETEP, GBEP, GEF, REN-21, IRENA, AREA and GFSE, to mention a few.

We also made efforts to sustain our financial base for initial programme and project activities through active fundraising in the last months. ECREEE has developed several regional programme proposals, including the ECOWAS-Brazil Renewable Energy Partnership (EBREP), and the ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility (EREF) for West Africa. Several proposals were also submitted to the current call of the EU-ACP Energy Facility.

And also An initial EE strategy workshop organized by ECREEE, in collaboration with other partners, including ADEME, the French Ministry of foreign Affairs, and 2iE in Ouagadougou, April 2010, defined the priorities for a comprehensive Regional Energy Efficiency Program. As a concrete follow-up activity, a workshop with ISO and UNIDO on EE management standards & EE equipment and labelling standards is planned for the end of 2010.

Initiatives on Regional RE resource assessments; Regional Carbon Finance Guide for West Africa; wind energy, small hydro power, Bio-energy, solar thermal for warm water heating, process heat and cooling; and concentrated solar power generation are also underway.

Indeed, the 38th summit of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS adopted a Special Resolution establishing the ECOWAS Solar Commission (ESC) with the objective to develop large-scale solar plants to compliment the region's energy needs. Under the Chairmanship of H.E. Me Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, ECREEE has been designated the implementing agency for the ESC. A Regional Forum to launch the ESC and define a regional strategy for the attainment of its objectives is planned for October 2010 in Dakar, Senegal.

Exciting times truly lay ahead. We are confident that with your continued support and collaboration, we will succeed in our mission to proliferate RE&EE technologies across the West African region.

Thank you.



Official Inauguration of ECREEE on 6 July 2010 in Praia, Cape Verde

The Official Inauguration of ECREEE brought together high-level representatives from the ECOWAS Commission, UNIDO, the Governments of Cape Verde, Austria, Spain and Canary Islands. In his address, the Prime Minister of Cape Verde, H.E. Mr. Jose Maria NEVES emphasized the importance of the regional Centre for the Government of Cape Verde and the sustainable social, economic and environmental development of the West African region.



In his speech, the President of the ECOWAS Commission said the inauguration of the Centre was an important step forward in providing the region's population with access to energy services in a sustainable and environmentally benign manner. He also commended the Centre's development partners, as well as the Government of Cape Verde for hosting and providing all the support required for the Centre. He also expressed delight with the outcome of the just concluded historic ECOWAS-Brazil Summit, where both partners committed themselves to support the activities of ECREEE.

Also speaking, H. E. Gerhard DOUJAK, the Austrian Ambassador in Dakar, representing H. E. Michael SPINDELEGGGER, the Austrian Minister for European and International Affairs, noted that the work of ECREEE in Praia will contribute further to the mutual endeavors

of ECOWAS and Austria in the sphere of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

In his remarks, the UNIDO Deputy Director-General, Mr. Yoshiteru Uramoto, representing the Director-General, Mr. Kandeh K. Yumkella, assured of UNIDO's support to the Centre in its role of rapidly deploying renewable energy technologies and knowledge in the ECOWAS region. It was announced that ECREEE will become one of the main executing agencies for a USD 150 million programme, partly financed by GEF. The programme aims at supporting renewable energy and energy efficiency in West Africa.

The climax of the ceremony was the signing of the ECREEE Headquarter Agreement between the Government of Cape Verde and the ECOWAS Commission by the Prime Minister of Cape Verde, and the President of the ECOWAS Commission. Thereafter, the President of the ECOWAS Commission and the Cape Verdean Minister for Energy, Industry and Tourism performed the cutting of the ribbon to declare the Centre officially open.



The ECOWAS Commission, UNIDO and the Government of Cape Verde gave a press conference on the official launching of ECREEE. And they also announced the launching of a GEF renewable energy project entitled "Promoting market based development of small to medium scale renewable energy systems in Cape Verde".

PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIDO ON GEF ENERGY PROGRAM FOR WEST AFRICA

During the fourth replenishment period, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) adopted the GEF Strategic Program for West Africa (GEF SPWA) that has an energy component. Under the GEF SPWA, each ECOWAS member state accessed GEF grants to implement renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. UNIDO acts as the lead implementing agency of the USD 150 million programme.

In line with the mandate of ECREEE, i.e. leading and coordinating activities to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency

programmes and projects in ECOWAS region, the Centre will naturally become a focal institution for the GEF program. UNIDO, GEF and ECREEE are currently discussing an agreement on a collaborative framework on the implementation of the energy component of the GEF Strategic Program for West Africa.

As a first pilot, ECREEE is executing the GEF project entitled "Promoting market based development of small to medium scale renewable energy systems in Cape Verde". First stakeholder meetings on different islands have been undertaken. The project will particularly focus on the island of Brava. The objective of the Government is to cover 100% of the electricity generation of the island by renewable energy sources.



First Executive Board Meeting of ECREEE

At the margins of the inauguration event, the first Executive Board Meeting of ECREEE was held. It was attended by the President of the ECOWAS Commission, H.E. Amb. James Victor Gbeho, who, inaugurated the Board. He delivered a list with the nominated permanent Board Members and explained the Composition, Functions and Mode of Operations of the Executive Board (EB).

Also present were H.E. Amb. Manuel José Villavieja Vega, Spanish Ambassador in Cape Verde; Dr. Vincent Dogo, Special Technical Advisor to the Minister for Power, Nigeria; Mr. Diego Masera, Unit Chief of Rural and Renewable Energy UNIDO; Ms. Ursula Steller Head of Unit Countries and Regions Austrian Development Agency; Mr. Cyr M'po Kouagou Director, WAPP



Planning Investment Programming and Environmental Safeguards; Mr. Mahama Kappiah Executive Director and Mr. Celestin TALAKI, ECOWAS Commissioner for Infrastructure, who was elected as the Chairperson of the Executive Board.

The ECOWAS President referred to the speeches held at the inauguration and stressed the importance of renewable energy and energy efficiency promotion for the sustainable development of the West African region. He expressed gratitude to the international partners of ECREEE, such as Austria, Spain, UNIDO and recently also Brazil, for their invaluable support to ECREEE.

In the meeting the staff regulations, procurement, financial and accounting procedures of ECREEE were approved. Moreover, the ECREEE status report on the preparatory phase and the 2010 work plan of the Centre were adopted. The work plan is guiding the initial operational activities of ECREEE.

PARTNERSHIP WITH REEEP

Concurrent with ECREEE's inauguration on 6th July 2010 in Praia, Cape Verde, which saw the signing of the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Cape Verde and the ECOWAS Commission as well as the first meeting of the ECREEE Executive Board, REEEP has signed a Memorandum of Understanding making ECREEE the West African focal point for REEEP. Among a wide range of items, the document commits the two organizations to creating synergies through:

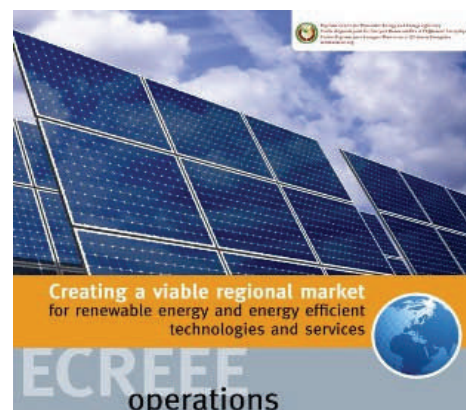
- Maintaining regular working contacts and strengthening the co-operation;
- Joint activities in creating an enabling environment for renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and services;
- Joint promotion of REEEP's and ECREEE's calls for proposals; mutual review of work programmes;
- Publishing of common positions or documents

"We think the formation of ECREEE will help to reduce the technical, financial, economic, legal, institutional barriers to the development of modern energy services in the region," says Marianne OSTERKORN, REEEP's Director General, "and we look forward to fruitful collaboration in the future." Mr. Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director of ECREEE, expects that the cooperation will open up unique possibilities for knowledge transfer from other regions of the REEEP network.

ECOWAS SOLAR ENERGY INITIATIVE ADOPTED

The 38th Summit of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS endorsed an initiative by H.E President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal to harness the Region's solar energy potentials. The enhanced deployment of solar technologies should ensure reliable and affordable energy as a complementary source for meeting West Africa's energy needs.

Within the implementation of this Initiative and at the directive of the Chairman of the ECOWAS Solar Commission, H.E President Abdoulaye WADE, the ECOWAS Regional Centre for



Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) will hold a Regional Forum on the ECOWAS Solar Energy Initiative – ESEI from 18th to 21st October 2010 in Dakar, Senegal. The workshop will adopt a solar energy deployment plan for the ECOWAS region which will be implemented under the guidance of ECREEE.



ABOUT OUR PARTNERS

[UNIDO](#)

[Austrian Development Cooperation \(ADC\)](#)

[Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation \(AECID\)](#)

[International Renewable Energy Agency \(IRENA\)](#)

[Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership \(REEEP\)](#)

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Resident Coordinator,
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Cape Verde

Experts interested in working with ECREEE should check the service section of our website regularly. Do not hesitate to send us your application.

BRAZIL PLEDGES SUPPORT TO ECREEE AT THE ECOWAS-BRAZIL SUMMIT

The ECOWAS Brazil Summit was held on 3rd of July 2010 in Sal, Cape Verde. At the Summit, ECOWAS and Brazil agreed on new initiatives that will boost their economic and political cooperation focusing on addressing the issues of poverty, food security, environment, renewable energy, capacity building and political dialogue.



From the left, President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina-Faso, President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and President of Nigeria Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan exchanging handshake at the summit

In the final communiqué both parties also committed themselves to cooperate regarding the promotion of clean and sustainable energy. Based on a ECREEE proposal for the establishment of an ECOWAS-Brazilian Renewable Energy Partnership (EBREP) the Brazilian Government pledged support for the ECREEE activities particularly in the field of bioenergy.

The Summit which is a follow-up to the Africa-South America Summit held in Abuja in November 2006, agreed to progressively uphold and open free and fair trade and investment opportunities through the promotion of two-way trade, investment and business development for their mutual benefit.

POWER KICK FOR AFRICA

The seminar was organized by the World Future Council Foundation, based in Hamburg, Germany, in cooperation with the Energy Commission of Ghana. It brought together



representatives from utilities, regulators, industry and civil society from ten African countries who are determined to expand their cooperation under the umbrella of the African Renewable Energy Alliance (AREA). Their main point of discussion was how policy-makers can support the harvesting of abundant renewable energy and thus open the door for sustainable African development.

"If we repeat the mistakes of the developed world by realising African development mainly on the burning of fossil fuels, climate change will have a disastrous effect on our countries", said the Executive Director of the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency of ECOWAS, Mahama Kappiah, at a press briefing in the Coconut Grove Regency Hotel, Accra. On the other hand, decentralised energy production through solar systems and wind farms could bring power to many remote regions, thus allowing development, creating jobs and benefitting health. Kappiah: "Solar power is reliable and can be installed easily and without the need to connect to the national electricity grid."



Right after the press briefing in Accra the delegates set off for the two hour journey to the small, non-electrified town of Oboadaka near Aburi where the World Future Council and cooperation partner Energiebau Sunergy Ghana staged a Football World Cup public viewing powered by solar energy. Together with several hundred people from Oboadaka and the surrounding villages – and a few German World Future Council employees – they watched the all-important Ghana-Germany game on a screen installed in Oboadaka's school-house.

At half-time the solar system was donated to the town for the benefit of the local health clinic that hitherto had to operate completely without electricity. This is a big step forward for the town's infrastructure, a step that many other African towns and villages can take if AREA's renewable energy policy recommendations are taken up by governments.



ECREEE NATIONAL FOCAL INSTITUTIONS

ECREEE has established a network of National Focal Institutions (NFIs) which covers all ECOWAS Member States. Regional projects and programmes will be coordinated and executed by the ECREEE-Secretariat in cooperation and alignment with these institutions.

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ECREEE JOINS THE BOARD OF AFRETEP

ECREEE becomes a member of the African Renewable Energy Technology Platform (AFRETEP). The project is funded by the European Commission, Europe Aid Co-operation Office and implemented by the European Commission - Joint Research Centre (JRC), Institute for Energy, Renewable Energy Unit, based in ISPRA, Italy. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the understanding of the potential for renewable energy options in Africa for increased access to electrification in rural areas. The purpose of the project is to develop a common African scientific approach towards evaluating rural electrification methodologies. Apart from being member of the AFRETEP Board ECREEE will especially contribute to the activities regarding the generation of high quality renewable energy resource data (solar, wind, small hydro), the development of appraisal tools to assess off-grid rural electrification projects and related capacity building activities. For more on the project, visit www.afretep.org

WWW.ECREEE.ORG ONLINE

The ECREEE website is available and can be accessed in English, French and Portuguese through www.ecreee.org. Please do not forget to subscribe for our electronic newsletter.



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

ECREEE supported and participated in the International Symposium on Renewable Energy and Economic Competitiveness, held from 17 to 21 May 2010 in Praia/Mindelo, Cape Verde with the main theme: technology, economic, business and political strategies for the development of the sector as a factor in economic competitiveness, and improving the business environment. The Symposium was organised by the Centre of Strategic Policies, in partnership with the School of Business and Governance (ENG) at the University of Cape Verde (UNI-CV). The Symposium brought together national, regional and international experts, creating an environment of interaction and dialogue, structured and results-oriented, with policy makers, managers of the energy sector, business leaders, researchers, teachers, and students.

The central objective of the symposium was to organize a political dialogue on strategies for improving the country's economic competitiveness and business environment. The symposium also seeks to explore new technologies and cost-effectiveness that make renewable energy a competitive solution for companies.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKSHOP FOR WEST AFRICA

The ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), in collaboration with the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions, and supported by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE), ADEME of France and the 2ie University organised a Regional Workshop on Energy Efficiency in Ouagadougou, from April 12 to 13, 2010. The Workshop was preceded by the successful completion of the investigation phase, December 2009 to February 2010, which assessed the current situation, the potential for energy savings, the framework conditions and the possible national actors on energy efficiency in the ECOWAS region.

The objective of the workshop was to define a regional action plan to address the issues of energy efficiency in the ECOWAS/UEMOA Region. The workshop also sought to identify priorities for national and regional action plans on energy efficiency. By sharing of experience and success stories, the workshop purposed to build awareness among decision makers of the potential for energy efficiency. The workshop was also intended to contribute to the work plan of the ECOWAS Regional Centre on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE). The workshop concluded with concrete proposals for action, to be submitted to the region's development partners.

ECOWAS RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY SEEKS INTERNATIONAL FUNDING

Based on the action plan of the ECOWAS/UEMOA White Paper on Energy Access ECREEE prepared a comprehensive proposal for the establishment of an ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility for West Africa. The initiative responds to action line 2 of the white paper which calls for the establishment on an investment and innovation fund for RE&EE. The fund should raise finance at least for 200 demonstration projects and support local manufacturing and service companies.

The ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility will be managed by the ECREEE Secretariat in cooperation with its National Focal Institutions (NFIs) and aims at the creation of a favourable business and investment environment for the deployment of small and medium scale RE technologies and services for peri-urban and rural areas.

Based on competitive call-for proposals the Facility will mitigate financial barriers by providing risk capital for project development through the co-funding of (pre-) feasibility studies and other pre-investment related activities (e.g. potential assessment, measurements). Moreover, the facility will support business development activities (e.g. preparation of business plans), capacity building for local RE&EE technology and service companies and facilitate north-north and south-south economic partnerships.

The ECREEE Secretariat will undertake regular demand-driven competitive call for proposals open to all ECOWAS countries. Eligible applicants will be private companies, municipalities, and public companies, NGOs and cooperatives. The participation of local project partners will be obligatory. The ECREEE Secretariat currently seeks funding from different international partners.





Inauguration Photos



The President of ECOWAS Commission, H.E James Gbeho, right, and H.E. Spanish Ambassador to Cape Verde, Manuel José Villavieja Vega, representing the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Inauguration



From left, the Prime Minister of Cape Verde, H.E. Mr. Jose Maria NEVES, Dr. Fatima Maria Carvalho Fialho, Cape Verdean Minister for Energy, Industry and Tourism and the Austrian Ambassador H. E. Gerhard DOUJAK, representing H. E. Michael SPINDELEGGGER, the Austrian Minister for European and International Affairs at the inauguration ceremony.



Cape Verdean Minister for Energy, Industry and Tourism and the ECOWAS President, cutting the ribbon to declare ECREEE officially open.



The Prime Minister of Cape Verde, and the President of the ECOWAS Commission, signing the Headquarter Agreement



Deputy Director General of UNIDO, Mr. Yoshiteru Uramoto and the Cape Verdean Minister for Energy, Industry and Tourism



The ECOWAS Commissioner for Infrastructure, Mr. Celestin TALAKI on the right and the Senegalese Ambassador to Cape Verde Mariène N'DIAYE



From left the Ambassador of the USA to Cape Verde, Marianne M. MYLES and the Senegalese Ambassador



Other Government Delegates



The President of the Canary Islands, H.E Paulino Rivero Baute giving a Speech at the inauguration



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