



ECREEE
Towards Sustainable Energy

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



ECOWAS CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY
CENTRO PARA AS ENERGIAS RENOVÁVEIS E EFICIÊNCIA ENERGÉTICA DA CEDEAO
CENTRE POUR LES ÉNERGIES RENOUVELABLES ET L'EFFICACITE ENERGETIQUE DE LA CEDEAO



Imprint

ECREEE Annual Report 2025

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Acronyms

ADA	Austrian Development Agency
AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFREC	Africa Energy Commission
ARE	Alliance for Rural Electrification
ASER	Agence Sénégalaise d'Électrification Rurale (Senegalese Rural Electrification Agency)
CC	Cross-Cutting
CL	Community Levy
CERMI	Centro de Energias Renováveis e Manutenção Industrial (Center for Renewable Energy and Industrial Maintenance)
COP29	The 29 th Session: Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
DPERSE	Sustainable Development through Renewable Energy in the Southeast of Senegal
DtP	Desert-to-Power
ECBSES	ECOWAS Certification Body for Sustainable Energy Skills
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECREEE	ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
ECSES	ECOWAS Certification for Sustainable Energy Skills
EE	Energy Efficiency
EF	External Funds
ENERGICA	Energy Access and Green Transition Collaboratively Demonstrated in Urban and Rural Areas in Africa
EREF	ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility
ERERA	ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority
ESEF	ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum
EU	European Union
EGDC	ECOWAS Gender Development Centre
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	German International Development Cooperation Agency / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GN-SEC	Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres
IEA	International Energy Agency
IDRC	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency

Acronyms

ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ONEPlanET	Open-source NExus modeling tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa
PPDU	ECOWAS Project Preparation and Development Unit
ProCEM-II	Promoting a Climate-Friendly Energy Market--Phase 2
PV	Photovoltaic
RE	Renewable Energy
ReCCAWA	Regional Program on Clean Cooking in West Africa
ReTAPS	Regional Technical Assistance Project for the Sahel
RVO	Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland (Netherlands Enterprise Agency)
SOLTRAIN	Solar Thermal Training and Demonstration Program
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WAPP	West African Power Pool
WAREP	West Africa Regional Energy Program
WASCAL	West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use
WOCEWA	Women and Clean Energy in West Africa



Foreword

The year 2025 marked another important chapter in our journey towards advancing sustainable energy access, regional integration, and climate resilience across West Africa. I am pleased to present this Annual Report, which reflects the Centre's continued commitment to supporting ECOWAS Member States in accelerating the transition toward affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy systems.

Despite a challenging regional and global context, ECREEE demonstrated resilience and adaptability in implementing its mandate. By the end of 2025, the Centre had completed 75 percent of its planned programmatic activities, with additional initiatives and achievements in progressing across renewable energy, energy efficiency, capacity development, gender mainstreaming, sustainable energy data systems, and regional policy support. These achievements underscore the dedication of our staff, Member States, technical experts, development partners, and stakeholders who continue to support ECREEE's mission.

Looking ahead, our 2026 work plan prioritizes scaling renewable energy deployment, expanding energy efficiency interventions, strengthening regional certification systems, enhancing sustainable energy data platforms, and deepening climate and gender mainstreaming initiatives and continuous stakeholder engagements. ECREEE will also continue advancing its ambition to become an ISO-certified Regional Certification Body for sustainable energy skills while pursuing



Gibson Okezie Obasi
Acting Executive Director of ECREEE

the development of a master plan for regional sustainable energy infrastructure, including the future ECREEE headquarters.

On behalf of the Centre, I extend my sincere appreciation to all our partners and stakeholders for their continued trust and support. Together, we are building a cleaner, more inclusive, and energy-secure future for the ECOWAS region.

Gibson Okezie Obasi
Acting Executive Director



Executive Summary

The 2025 edition of ECREEE's annual report presents a summary of the year's activities, achievements, challenges and a summary of the Centre's approved work program and budget for 2026. By the end of the year, 75% of the 85 planned programmatic activities had been completed, while an additional 6% remained in progress. Types of activities implemented included project preparation studies, capacity-building initiatives, data and knowledge management, and awareness-raising and stakeholder engagement efforts.

The Centre's deliberate efforts to optimize its use of funding, time, and human resources resulted in notable accomplishments, some of which are as follows:

- (i) Technical assistance towards improved access to renewable energy in Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo;
- (ii) Promotion of energy efficiency in transportation in Cabo Verde and Côte d'Ivoire;
- (iii) Certification of 103 in Benin, Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo as solar photovoltaic professionals, and 30 small and medium enterprises leaders in "green entrepreneurship" in Benin;
- (iv) Training of 24 professionals from six ECOWAS Member States as clean mini grid designers, installers, and inspectors;

By the end of the year, 75% of the 85 planned programmatic activities had been completed, while an additional 6% remained in progress. Types of activities implemented included project preparation studies, capacity-building initiatives, data and knowledge management, and awareness-raising and stakeholder engagement efforts.



(v) Identification and commencement of funding and technical support to eight women-led entrepreneurs involved in the production of biochar, clean cookstoves, biodigesters, and solar-powered refrigeration in Benin, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal;

(vi) Award of scholarships to six young women (selected from 192), taking graduate courses in clean energy fields, including Energy, Engineering, and Petroleum Engineering;

(vii) Renewable energy research and technology transfer facilitation, in the River Niger basin (Nigeria) and

(viii) Promotion of access to sustainable energy data, through the revamping of the ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECOWREX).

The main challenge confronting the Centre is inadequate funding for administration.

In the 2026 financial and calendar year, ECREEE plans to implement 25 subprograms and projects across four thematic areas: the Renewable Energy Program, the Energy Efficiency Program, the Cross-Cutting Program, and the Special Regional Initiatives. The ECOWAS Commission has approved a total budget of UA 5,596,108.26, comprising UA 1,142,913.28 from the Community Levy and UA 4,453,194.98 from partner contributions.

ECREEE's 2026 work plan emphasizes scaling renewable energy deployment, expanding energy efficiency programs, strengthening cross-cutting initiatives (gender, data, policy harmonization), and deepening regional partnerships. With diversified funding sources and enhanced institutional capacity, ECREEE aims to consolidate its role as a regional hub for sustainable energy transformation aligned with ECOWAS Vision 2050.

ECREEE's 2026 work plan emphasizes scaling renewable energy deployment, expanding energy efficiency programs, strengthening cross-cutting initiatives (gender, data, policy harmonization), and deepening regional partnerships.



1.0 Background

1.1 Introduction

In 2025, the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) engaged in numerous activities aligned with its vision to be the foremost facilitator of universal access to reliable and affordable modern energy across the ECOWAS Member States. To achieve its vision, ECREEE continued to pursue its mission of promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in the ECOWAS region through programs that create significant socio-economic impact.

ECREEE was established in response to the recommendations of the ECOWAS/UEMOA White Paper on access to energy services in rural and peri-urban areas issued in 2006. In November 2008, during its 61st Session, the ECOWAS Council of Ministers adopted Regulation C/REG.23/11/08, which provided the Agency with a legal foundation. The agency's objectives, as per its "implementing regulation PC/REX.5/06/2020 on organization and functioning," remain relevant:

- Coordinate projects and programs relating to the promotion and development of renewable energy resources, the increase of energy efficiency to improve access to modern energy services, and energy security in Member States;
- Provide sensitization and capacity building in the region on renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Promote policy harmonization and quality assurance of renewable energy and energy efficiency services;

Through an unwavering commitment to this vision, mission, and objectives, ECREEE has become a center of excellence in these fields within the ECOWAS region and a reference point for other economic blocs in Africa seeking to establish similar agencies.



- Undertake energy research and facilitate technology transfer; and
- Develop Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency programs and mobilize resources for these.

Through an unwavering commitment to this vision, mission, and objectives, ECREEE has become a center of excellence in these fields within the ECOWAS region and a reference point for other economic blocs in Africa seeking to establish similar agencies. The Center is part of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), an innovative south-south multi-stakeholder partnership created by UNIDO to accelerate energy and climate transformation in developing countries.

The Centre's accomplishments in 2025 contribute to the attainment of broader objectives elaborated in its 2023 - 2027 strategic plan, the ECOWAS Vision 2050, and the 2022-2026 strategic objectives of the current management of the ECOWAS Commission.

1.2 Overview Activities Implementation Status

By the end of December 2025, ECREEE achieved an overall implementation rate of 75% for its program activities. Table 1 summarizes the implementation status.

Program Area	Completed	In Progress	Not Started	Postponed	Cancelled	Total	%
Renewable Energy	15	1	1	10	0	27	32%
Energy Efficiency	9	1	1	1	0	12	14%
Cross-Cutting	33	2	0	1	2	38	45%
Special Regional Initiatives	7	1	0	0	0	8	9%
Total	64	5	2	12	2	85	100%
%	75%	6%	2%	14%	2%	100%	

Table 1: Summary of Implementation Status

The Centre's accomplishments in 2025 contribute to the attainment of broader objectives elaborated in its 2023-2027 strategic plan, the ECOWAS Vision 2050, and the 2022-2026 strategic objectives of the current management of the ECOWAS Commission.

Inadequate Community Levy funding accounts for most of the postponed or cancelled activities. Other activities have also been postponed because they could not be undertaken until the preceding activities were completed.

A total of **UA 7,167,518.48** was budgeted and subsequently approved by the ECOWAS Commission. The amount consists of three components - **UA 844,903.65** of the regular Community Levy, **UA 425,000.00** of the ECOWAS Special Intervention Fund (ESIF), and **UA 5,897,614.83** of External Funds. By the end of the year, total receipts accounted for **42.66%** of the overall budget. Due to the varying timing of these receipts, the Centre's total expenditure was **81.66% (UA 2,496,941.61)** of the funds received. Table 2 compares budgets, receipts, and expenditures by funding source.

Description	Approved Budget UA	Year-to-Date Receipts (UA)	Implementation (UA)	% Receipts	Implementation Rate on Receipts %
Community Levy	844,903.65	780,337.00	608,197.00	92.36%	77.94%
Special Intervention Fund (ESIF)	425,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	0.0%
External Fund	5,897,614.83	2,277,249.00	1,888,744.61	38.61%	82.93%
Total	7,167,518.48	3,057,586.00	2,496,941.61	42,66%	81.66%

Table 2: ECREEE Budget, Receipts and Expenditure, January – December 2025



Source: DC Studio on Freepik



2.0 The Impact of Our Work: Unfolding Positive Changes

In this section, we focus on articulating the specific areas in which our interventions have meaningfully contributed to positive developments in the lives of populations in the ECOWAS region.

2.1 Technical assistance towards improved access to renewable energy

In anticipation of prospective investments in clean mini-grids, feasibility studies were undertaken in Guinea-Bissau and Liberia to identify 30 suitable sites in each country for potential development under the Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program, financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB). Additional beneficiary countries under this program include Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger¹.

Through the “Promoting a Climate-Friendly Energy Market in West Africa (ProCEM)” project, funded by GIZ, technical assistance has been delivered to Benin, Cabo Verde, Mali, and Togo to enhance renewable energy generation and management. Table 3 outlines the country-specific and regional interventions implemented under this project, along with the expected medium and long-term outcomes for the beneficiary populations.

Feasibility studies were undertaken in Guinea-Bissau and Liberia to identify 30 suitable sites in each country for potential development under the Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program.

¹ The three countries were a part of the project long before their exit from ECOWAS. Since DtP projects are funded by the AfDB, implementation will continue, with the Bank playing and intermediary role between ECREEE and the Ministries in charge of Energy of the three.

Geographic scope	Activity	Medium/Long-term Impact
Benin	Support for the Electricity Regulatory Authority to enable grid injection of surplus renewable energy	Grid injection of surplus renewable energy offers benefits such as reduced costs (through net metering credits), enhanced grid stability (balancing supply/demand), lower emissions, and greater energy independence. In the Benin scenario, it allows excess solar power to be used by others or credited back, preventing waste and integrating renewables more effectively. It turns intermittent generation into a reliable asset, improving overall system efficiency and supporting a greener energy future.
Togo	Assistance to the sector regulator in developing tariff models for renewables, thermal plants, mini-grids, and grid-connected systems. Key national stakeholders (the Electricity Sector Regulatory Authority, Togo Electric Power Utility, and Togolese Agency for Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy) were trained on the use of standardized tariff models for electricity procurement from renewable energy sources solar, hydro, wind, biomass), thermal power plants, and mini-grids.	Electricity tariff models offer benefits such as balancing grid load, integrating renewables, lowering costs for efficient users, and promoting sustainability by incentivizing demand shifting and efficient energy use, thereby supporting a smarter, more resilient, and cost-effective grid for everyone. They shift from flat rates to time-varying or capacity-based charges, encouraging consumers with smart tech (EVs, solar, batteries) to use power when it is cheap and abundant, reducing peak demand and system costs.



Geographic scope	Activity	Medium/Long-term Impact
Mali	Support to the Ministry of Mines, Energy, and Water for operationalizing solar self-consumption and surplus sales to the grid.	Solar self-consumption reduces reliance on utility electricity, which offers a range of benefits for businesses. By using electricity generated by their solar panels to power their operations, businesses can significantly reduce their electricity bills. This can lead to substantial cost savings over time, especially for commercial enterprises with high energy consumption. In addition to cost savings, reduced reliance on utilities helps reduce your carbon footprint. This not only benefits the environment but also aligns with the growing demand for sustainable practices among consumers and investors.
Cabo Verde	Electric Vehicle Impact Assessment Study in Cabo Verde. With support from the GIZ-funded ProCEM-II project, the country's Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Energy conducted a study to assess the impact of increased EV use on grid stability and optimal charging integration. The aim was to ensure reliable, affordable electricity for EV charging while maintaining grid stability.	The economic analysis of EV deployment in Cabo Verde highlights that financial incentives have been a decisive factor in the early adoption of electric mobility, but their long-term sustainability requires careful consideration. Current rebate schemes significantly accelerate decarbonization of the car fleet, with near-complete electrification achievable before 2050 if strong support is maintained.
Regional	Several measures have been completed or ongoing, to improve the enabling environment for solar photovoltaic uptake in the ECOWAS region including: (i) Two standard contractual documents for solar PV deployment, (ii) A catalogue of guarantees and insurances for solar PV projects, (iii) A regional directive for grid-connected solar PV projects, and (iv) The ECOWAS gender assessment manual for grid-connected renewable energy projects.	These instruments collectively strengthen the policy, financial, and social ecosystem for renewable energy in West Africa. Specifically, they will help: • Reduce risks (legal, financial, technical, social). • Increase transparency and predictability for investors and developers. • Promote regional integration and harmonization of energy markets. • Ensure equity and sustainability, making renewable energy not just a technical solution but a driver of inclusive development.

Table 3: Country-specific and intervention under the GIZ-funded ProCEM II Project



2.2 Promotion of energy efficiency in transportation

ECREEE, in collaboration with Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Transport and with financial support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through UNIDO, is implementing the "Integration of Electric Mobility with Renewable Energy in Peri-Urban and Rural Areas" project. The initiative aims to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy powered electric transportation, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and stimulate economic activity. It will establish an enabling environment for electric mobility, pilot small-format electric vehicles—such as e-bikes, and two and three wheelers—for productive use and promote increased public awareness.

Preparation for conducting a study on the localization of value chains for electric vehicles and charging infrastructure commenced during the year. As highlighted in Section 2.1, Cabo Verde continues to advance electric vehicle (EV) adoption through the use of financial incentives and the expansion of its charging infrastructure.

As part of the e-mobility initiative in Côte d'Ivoire, national stakeholders will receive training based on Cabo Verde's experience, demonstrating how the country's approach can inform and strengthen the effectiveness of the Ivorian program.

Potential medium-/long-term Impact

The study, conducted with support from GIZ, assessed the implications of increased electric vehicle (EV) adoption for grid stability and the optimal integration of charging infrastructure. As part of the e-mobility initiative in Côte d'Ivoire, national stakeholders will receive training based on Cabo Verde's experience, demonstrating how the country's approach can inform and strengthen the effectiveness of the Ivorian program. Accordingly, the Cabo Verde study provides an important foundation for expanded investment in the sector and enhanced access to sustainable energy for transportation.



EV charging station in the Municipality of Santa Cruz in Cabo Verde
Source: Ministry of Industry Commerce and Energy of Cabo Verde

2.3 Improved capacity of professionals in the sustainable energy sector

Through the capacity-building and certification program, multiple activities were implemented to collectively improve the enabling environment and increase access to energy. Key activities implemented include the following:

a) Clean Energy Capacity Building: The African Legal Support Facility of the African Development Bank provided capacity-building support to ECOWAS Member States and key ECOWAS energy institutions to advance the implementation of the West African Clean Energy Corridor (WACEC) Program. WACEC aims to meet regional electricity needs and foster a climate-friendly market, targeting 10 GW of solar PV, 2 GW of small hydro, and 1 GW of wind energy.

Fifteen staff members from ECREEE, ERERA, WAPP, and the ECOWAS Energy Directorate participated in a training workshop focused on the legal and regulatory dimensions of grid-connected photovoltaic projects, including Public-Private Partnerships and Battery Energy Storage Systems. The training covered Public-Private-Partnership frameworks, power sector regulations, Independent Power Purchase authorizations, tariff methodologies, procurement best practices, contract drafting, guarantees, and negotiation.



b) Certification of Domestic Solar Photovoltaic Installers in Benin, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo: For a thriving, sustainable energy sector, quality assurance is needed at various levels. Equipment quality is assured through the establishment and enforcement of product standards. However, high-quality products will only provide the desired services if renewable energy systems are designed, installed, and maintained by highly qualified individuals. The Regional Certification System (RCS) for sustainable energy skills currently certifies off-grid solar PV technicians (Level 1) and will expand to other areas. Certified professionals must demonstrate the required skills and knowledge through exams.

Between April and December 2025, ECREEE, in collaboration with GIZ, the World Bank-funded Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP), and partner centres, organized certification examinations in Benin, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo, resulting in the certification of 103 new solar PV installers, including 22 women. Since the program's inception in 2019, 232 installers have been certified.

c) Development of Modules and Training of Trainers on Clean Mini-Grid Design, Installation, and Inspection: Under Phase 1 of the African Development Bank's Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program, training modules for mini-grid designers, installers, and inspectors were developed by the Renewables Academy in Germany, subsequently reviewed by ECREEE,



Twenty-four professionals from nine partner institutions in Benin, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone were trained in October 2025 as trainers in mini-grid design, installation, and inspection at ESMER Academy in Allada, Benin.

and formally validated by regional experts.

Twenty-four professionals from nine partner institutions in Benin, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone were trained in October 2025 as trainers in mini-grid design, installation, and inspection at the Ecole Supérieure des Métiers des Energies Renouvelables (ESMER) Academy in Allada, Benin.

All trainees expressed confidence in their ability to replicate the training, and the majority reported feeling adequately prepared to teach the core modules. The trainers also highlighted the value of the peer-learning environment and affirmed the relevance of the training materials. ECREEE and its partner institutions are now equipped with validated curricula and the foundational resources required to support national-level rollouts in six ECOWAS Member States and, potentially, beyond.

Medium-/Long-term Impact

The training and certification initiatives have strengthened West Africa's capacity to design, install, and maintain mini-grids, thereby reinforcing ongoing efforts to expand the adoption of renewable energy across the region.

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2.4 Renewable energy research and technology transfer facilitation

One of ECREEE's core objectives is to advance energy research and facilitate technology transfer. In alignment with this mandate, the Agency, together with its technical partners, is implementing the EU-funded “Energy System Modelling for Green Development of Africa (EMERGE)” project. This initiative is developing analytical tools and knowledge resources designed to (i) equip policymakers, academics, investors, and citizens—particularly in the Niger River region (Mali and Nigeria)—with the capabilities required to expand clean energy production and (ii) promote the sustainable use of natural resources.

Medium-/Long-term Impact

The Toolbox comprises a suite of innovative methods, algorithms, and platforms to sustain the green energy transition in Africa. It provides functionalities for comprehensive energy system analysis and decision-making.



Source: DC Studio on Freepik



2.5 ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum

The 10th ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum (ESEF), held on September 18 and 19, 2025, in Banjul, The Gambia, convened under the theme “Accelerating Sustainable Energy Infrastructure Solutions for Growth in the West Africa Region.”

ESEF serves as a key platform for mobilizing investments in renewable energy, strengthening stakeholder collaboration, and advancing policy development. Over the years, it has evolved into a prominent annual gathering. The 2025 edition convened more than 400 participants from the energy sector, including ministers, and representatives of international, regional, and national organizations, as well as civil society—all committed to advancing sustainable energy goals in West Africa.

Participant feedback highlighted the strong value of the Forum:

- 96% of the 55 survey respondents agreed that ESEF provided meaningful networking opportunities.
- More than half of the respondents strongly agreed on the quality of these networking opportunities.
- Additionally, 98% agreed that the Forum effectively promoted investment opportunities in the renewable energy sector across the ECOWAS region.

Medium-/Long-term impact

Respondents indicated that, based on their experience at the Forum, they intend to pursue several potential business actions, including:

- Strengthening partnerships and collaboration;
- Deploying new technologies;
- Expanding market development initiatives;
- Advancing policy advocacy and knowledge sharing; and
- Driving innovation and business expansion.

Some participants also reported professional and business achievements linked to their participation in previous editions of ESEF. These included leveraging access to regional policymakers to accelerate progress on regional initiatives, influencing national policymakers to allocate funding for renewable energy projects, and receiving business expansion support through partnerships formed at previous editions of the Forum.

10th Edition of the ECOWAS sustainable Energy Forum in The Gambia, featuring the Vice President of The Gambia H.E. Muhammad B.S. Jallow



Line-up from L - R: Mr. Tijan Wally Bahoum, Board Member of the National Water and Electricity Company of The Gambia; Mr. Dennis Elverir, Managing Director of AIC Green Energy; Prof. Abubakar Sani Sambo, Lecturer at Usmanu Danfodiyo University; Mr. Bah F. M. Saho, Former Executive Director of ECREEE; Hon. Charles Umehai, Deputy Minister for Energy of Liberia; Mr. Mahama Kappiah, Former Executive Director of ECREEE; Dr. Kandeh K. Yumkella, Chairman of the Energy Governance Coordination Group; Mr. Jean Francis Sempore, Former Executive Director of ECREEE; Hon. Kossi Mawusi Kakatsi, Deputy Minister of Mines and Energy Resources of Togo; Mr. Lamin Camara, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum of The Gambia; and Mr. William Zheng, Managing Director of Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd, The Gambia.



2.6 Promotion of access to sustainable energy data

The ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECOWREX) was created to overcome data and information gaps and to support evidence-based decision-making on sustainable energy across the ECOWAS region. A revamped version was launched in March 2025 and is available via <https://ecowrex.org>.

The 2022 and 2023 Annual Progress Reports on regional renewable energy and energy efficiency targets are now available on ECOWREX and the ECREEE website. The regional progress report provides a quantitative overview of ECOWAS Member States' efforts to establish policies promoting renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable energy infrastructure. It also presents the results achieved through contributions from various stakeholders, including technical and financial partners. The report is disseminated to all relevant audiences, including public institutions, private-sector actors, industry, civil society, academia, the scientific community, and non-governmental organizations.

Medium-/long-term Impact

The report offers essential insights on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy access across the region. As data availability continues to improve, future editions are expected to be even more robust, providing a more comprehensive and accurate picture of the region's progress toward achieving sustainable energy for all.

ECOWREX

ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Validation Workshop

Web-based platform providing high-quality of data and information in the sphere of sustainable energy in the ECOWAS region.



www.ecowrex.org





2.7 Mainstreaming gender in energy access

To advance gender mainstreaming in energy access, ECREEE is implementing the “Women and Energy in West Africa (WOCEWA)” project, funded by Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC). As of September 2025, ECREEE has provided funding and technical support to eight women-led energy enterprises in Benin, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal. These entrepreneurs are engaged in producing biochar, clean cookstoves, biodigesters, and solar-powered refrigeration solutions. In addition, six young women—selected from a pool of 192 applicants and currently pursuing master’s degrees in clean energy disciplines such as Energy, Engineering, and Petroleum Engineering—are benefiting from scholarship awards.

Medium-/long-term impact

Supporting the women-led entrepreneurs in the energy sector across West Africa has transformative potential, such as follows:

- **Improved Energy Access and Affordability:** The clean energy solutions tailored to local needs will lead to an increased adoption of clean cookstoves, biodigesters, and solar refrigeration. This will reduce reliance on costly kerosene and inefficient biomass fuels.
- **Health and Social Benefits:** Cleaner cooking technologies reduce indoor air pollution, lowering respiratory illnesses among women and children. Also, solar refrigeration improves food safety and reduces spoilage, enhancing nutrition security.
- **Economic Empowerment:** The assisted women entrepreneurs will generate income and create jobs, particularly for other women and youth. Furthermore, access to biochar and biodigesters supports agricultural productivity by providing organic fertilizers and energy for rural households.
- **Gender Equity in Energy Transition:** The demonstration of women’s leadership arising from the capacity building support they receive will challenge traditional gender roles, positioning them as innovators in climate-smart technologies. Their participation ensures technologies are culturally appropriate and widely accepted.
- **Climate Change Mitigation:** The potential widespread adoption of biochar and biodigesters reduces greenhouse gas emissions by sequestering carbon and cutting methane from waste. Moreover, clean cookstoves reduce deforestation pressures by lowering demand for firewood.

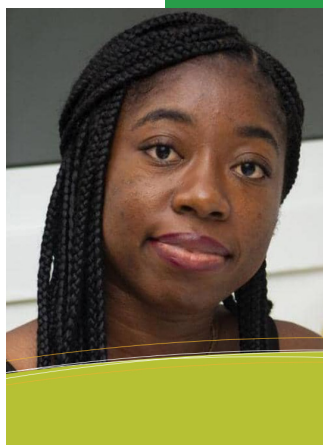
The support to the young female students in STEM amounts to long-term role modeling, inspiring future generations of women in STEM and entrepreneurship.



Full Name
Aminata Hassam Kanu
Age: 25
Current Academic Program
Master in Industrial Technology
Name of Institution
University of Makeni
Nationality
Sierra Leone
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship



Full Name
Mariama Balde
Age: 21
Current Academic Program
Master in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
Name of Institution
University Gamal Abdel Nasser
Nationality
Republic of Guinea
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship



Full Name
Alla Bledja
Age: 28
Current Academic Program
Master in Electrotechnics and Industrial Automation
Name of Institution
Felix Houphouët-Boigny National Polytechnic Institute (INPHB)
Nationality
Côte d'Ivoire
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship



Full Name
Joy Ugoyah
Age: 25
Current Academic Program
Master in Petroleum Project Development and Energy Transition
Name of Institution
Port Harcourt University
Nationality
Nigeria
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship



Full Name
Imelda Paule Ashley W. Nikyema
Age: 22
Current Academic Program
Master in Electrical and Energy Engineering
Name of Institution
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Nationality
Burkina Faso
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship



Full Name
Soumaila Yamine Omonnike
Age: 25
Current Academic Program
Master in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
Name of Institution
Ecole Supérieure des Métiers des Energies Renouvelables (ESMER)
Nationality
Benin
Award Package
Tuition fee, portable computer, 6 months internship

WOCEWA Scholarship Recipients: Selected through a competitive public call for applications, these scholars are undertaking a two-year Master's program followed by a six-month internship. Their respective specialized fields of study include: Petroleum Project Development and Energy Transition, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Electrical and Energy Engineering, and Electrotechnics and Industrial Automation.



3.0 Operational Achievements

3.1 Human Resources and Administration

Key achievements in Human Resource Management and Administration included sensitizing staff to administrative and procurement procedures and providing training in First Aid, Fire Prevention, and Fire Control. In 2025, ECREEE's human resources capacity was strengthened, as the ECOWAS Commission confirmed the employment of three additional permanent staff members after a one-year probationary period. They include the Principal Program Officer (PPO) for Administration and Finance, the PPO for Energy Efficiency, and the PO for Monitoring and Evaluation. In addition, the PO for Administration was promoted from Grade P3 to P4.

Furthermore, two new consultants were recruited, and the three young professionals deployed by the ECOWAS Commission were successfully integrated into the agency and supported in completing their internship program. ECREEE also provided administrative and financial management support to the Office of the ECOWAS Resident Representative in Cabo Verde through the staff-pooling system.

Despite the great additions to its human resources, the Centre unfortunately had to see the departure of its Executive Director following the exit of the Alliance of Sahel States (Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger) from ECOWAS and the consequent compliance by the ECOWAS Commission with its regulation requiring severance of ties with staff from the three countries. This situation likewise extended to the ECOWAS Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalisation, Mr. Sediko Douka, a national of Niger.

3.2 Financial Management

ECREEE strengthened its financial management and reporting processes in full compliance with ECOWAS financial regulations, donor reporting requirements, and relevant international standards. Key achievements included:

- (i) timely preparation and submission of financial reports;
- (ii) timely completion of audit reports;
- (iii) an improved audit assurance rating;
- (iv) updates to the ECREEE Risk Register;
- (v) timely preparation and submission of quarterly budget performance reports;
- (vi) revision of the Finance Division's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); and
- (vii) the issuance of an unqualified 2024 financial statement.



3.3 Information and Communication Technology and General Communication

The ICT Unit strengthened ECREEE's governance, resilience, and compliance framework by updating and enhancing key institutional documents, including the Disaster Recovery Plan, the Backup and Recovery Plan, the Business Continuity Plan (BCP), and the Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Policy. The Unit also conducted a comprehensive review of user access rights as part of periodic access audits, removing obsolete or unnecessary privileges to strengthen internal controls and information security. Additionally, the IT risk register was updated to capture emerging operational and cyber risks.

Operational resilience was strengthened by implementing a structured preventive maintenance plan covering servers, network switches, printers, and other ICT assets. The Disaster Recovery site was tested during the year, with results documented in accordance with internal requirements. In addition, a comprehensive set of IT policies was finalized and formally adopted by Management toward the end of the year. Throughout the year, the ICT Unit continued to provide routine day-to-day technical support to staff, alongside targeted information security enhancements, including the upgrade and migration of the ESET endpoint security solution to an online management platform and the delivery of specialized cybersecurity training to staff. The ICT and Communication Units also jointly supported virtual and in-person meetings, conferences, and events, including ESEF and the production of a documentary video for ECREEE's 15th and ECOWAS's 50th anniversary celebrations.

Beyond core ICT operations, the Unit continued to provide cross-cutting support to ECREEE's technical and institutional mandates. This included support for regional energy data collection under ECOWREX, contributing to data gathering from ECOWAS Member States, and the development and publication of the Regional Renewable Energy Progress Report (2023) and the Energy Efficiency Indicators Report (2018–2022) in collaboration with the African Energy Commission (AFREC).

3.4 Procurement

Several procurement processes were carried out in full compliance with the ECOWAS procurement code, donor procurement guidelines, and international best practices. Of the 44 planned procurement activities for the year, 27 were completed (see Table 4).

Procurement Status	Number	%
Completed	27	64%
On-going	14	33%
Yet to start	2	5%
Cancelled/postponed	1	2%
Total	44	100%

Table 4: Status of Procurement Activities

Operational resilience was strengthened by implementing a structured preventive maintenance plan covering servers, network switches, printers, and other ICT assets. The Disaster Recovery site was tested during the year, with results documented in accordance with internal requirements. In addition, a comprehensive set of IT policies was finalized and formally adopted by Management toward the end of the year.





Source: DC Studio on Freepik

4.0 Strengthening of Partnerships

4.1 Participation in Key Sector Events

During the year, the agency participated in several sectoral fora at the invitation of the organizers. Such events provide opportunities for fundraising and partnership strengthening. Two such events are highlighted in the next five sub-sections.

4.1.1 Seventh Committee Meeting of GN-SEC

ECREEE participated in the Seventh Committee Meeting of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN SEC) held in Gaborone, Botswana. The meeting emphasized the critical role of regional and cross regional cooperation in advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency across the Global South.

The gathering formed part of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Sustainable Energy Week, held from 24 to 28 February 2025 under the theme ‘Accelerating Sustainable Energy Solutions for an Energy Secure SADC Region.’ Co organized by Botswana’s Ministry of Minerals and Energy (MME) and the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE), the event sought to promote sustainable energy adoption through strengthened collaboration and innovation across the SADC region.

The week also featured several flagship events, including the 6th International Off-grid Renewable Energy Conference (IOREC) and the Eighth Solar Thermal Demonstration and Capacity Building (SOLTRAIN) Regional Conference. These events were organized in partnership with UNIDO, IRENA, and the SOLTRAIN Program, with support from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA).



Panel discussion including ECREEE representative Mr. Hyacinth Elayo—exchange insights on advancing sustainable energy solutions through regional cooperation across the Global South

4.1.2 Africa Climate Summit

Convened by the African Union Commission, the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 - 10 September 2025. The ACS brought together leaders from Africa and beyond: Heads of State and Government, development partners, intergovernmental organizations, private sector, academia, Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations, women, and youth.

The Summit aimed to shape and accelerate African led climate solutions and explored ways to leverage both domestic and international climate finance—grounded in regional priorities and local innovation—to advance the implementation of existing commitments.

In addition to the plenary sessions, ECREEE participated in three side events:

i. United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and Africa Energy Commission (AFREC) Side Event on Unlocking Innovative Financial Solutions for just, inclusive and equitable energy transitions in Africa.

ii. Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and ECREEE Side Event on Regional Workshop on Strengthening the Climate Resilience of Energy Systems and Mobilizing Climate Finance in West Africa.

iii. United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Side Event on Scaling Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa (EELA): Accelerating Investments through the EELA Industry Clean-Tech Platform.

ECREEE was prominently showcased as a leading institution advancing climate related initiatives in West Africa. During the Summit, the agency established new relationships with partners providing climate focused financing—including the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet, AFREXIM Bank, the Africa Climate Change Fund of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Agri Food SME Catalytic Financing Mechanism of the AfDB, and the AfDB's Africa Disaster Risk Financing Program. Following the event, ECREEE engaged these partners further to continue discussions and explore potential collaboration opportunities.



A group photo of some participants at the Africa Climate Summit in Addis Ababa

4.1.3 Africa Energy Efficiency Policy Training Week 2025

The International Energy Agency (IEA) and Ghana's Ministry of Energy and Green Transition co-hosted the 2025 edition of the Africa Energy Efficiency Policy Training Week in Accra from 20 to 23 October 2025. Organized in partnership with the African Energy Commission (AFREC) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), the event provided policymakers with a valuable opportunity to learn from international best practices and to strengthen a global community of energy-efficiency practitioners who are committed to doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

Representatives from ECREEE, the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE), the Southern Africa Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE), UNIDO, and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) visited the Ghana Standards Authority's air conditioner and refrigerator testing laboratory.

The visiting team gained deeper insight into Ghana's testing infrastructure and explored potential areas of collaboration, including capacity-building, quality assurance, and the regional harmonization of testing and compliance frameworks.

ECREEE supports strong institutional frameworks and regional collaboration in advancing clean cooking technologies. ECREEE highlighted initiatives being implemented to contribute toward the attainment of critical ECOWAS Renewable Energy Policy objectives, including increasing the share of renewable energy in the region's electricity mix to 48% by 2030, improving energy security, and expanding rural energy access through mini-grids and standalone systems.



Field visit to energy testing infrastructure in Accra during the Africa Energy Efficiency Policy Training Week 2025.

4.1.4 PPDU's Stakeholders Engagement on Strategic Plan Review

The ECOWAS Project Preparation and Development Unit (PPDU)—a specialized agency of the ECOWAS Commission responsible for preparing and structuring regional infrastructure projects—commissioned consultants to develop its five-year Strategic Business Plan (2025–2029). In May 2025, PPDU convened a two-day workshop bringing together key ECOWAS agencies, departments, and development partners to review and discuss both the Strategic Business Plan and the accompanying Communication Strategy and Plan.

The primary objective of the meeting was to gather additional feedback, as requested during the 2024 validation session held in Lomé, Togo. Participants reviewed how the consultants had incorporated recommendations from previous meetings and were allowed to provide further input. ECREEE's participation ensured that its priorities and contributions were more effectively reflected in its sister agency's business plan.

ECREEE's participation ensured that its priorities and contributions were more effectively reflected in its sister agency's business plan.



Group photo of participants at the PPDU Stakeholders Workshop, convened to review and provide input on the 2025–2029 Strategic Business Plan and Communication Strategy

4.1.5 EU Horizon Projects' Annual Stakeholders' Engagement

In October, ECREEE hosted two related partners' engagement fora in Praia, Cabo Verde, within the framework of two EU-funded projects—the Open-source NExus modeling tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa (ONEPlanET) and Energy System Modelling for Green Development of Africa (EMERGE).

Participants included policymakers, academics, investors, and civil societies from across Africa and Europe to advance regional cooperation in sustainable energy and climate resilience. The event highlighted how open-source tools strengthen digital sovereignty and sustainable development in the ECOWAS region by enabling local experts to analyze data and tailor solutions.

The ONEPlanET consortium showcased its key findings derived from three diverse African case studies conducted in the Songwe (Malawi/Tanzania), Inkomati-Usuthu (South Africa), and Bani (Mali) river basins. The initiative supports the region's transition to sustainable energy systems by promoting integrated energy planning and data-driven decision-making. Complementing this effort, the EMERGE initiative delivered tools and knowledge that enable policymakers, academics, civil society, and investors to advance green businesses and clean energy solutions, with specific case studies in Nigeria, Mali, Mozambique and Morocco.



Group visit to the solar plant at the Center for Renewable Energy and Industrial Maintenance in Praia, where participants from the EU Horizon Projects explore sustainable energy technologies and regional clean energy solutions

4.2 Recognition of ECREEE as a Regional Partner of Excellence

The Cape Verdean Centre for Renewable Energy and Industrial Maintenance (Centro de Energias Renováveis e Manutenção Industrial (CERMI) marked its 10th anniversary on March 10, 2025, in Praia, Cabo Verde. During the celebrations, ECREEE was honored as a Regional Partner of Excellence, recognizing its long-standing collaboration with CERMI in advancing capacity building and technical training in sustainable energy across the ECOWAS region. This partnership has strengthened the skills of energy professionals and made a significant contribution to the sustainable energy transition in both Cabo Verde and the wider ECOWAS community.

ECREEE reaffirmed its dedication to strengthening collaboration in order to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency throughout the region.

ECREEE was honored as a Regional Partner of Excellence, recognizing its long-standing collaboration with CERMI in advancing capacity building and technical training in sustainable energy across the ECOWAS region



At 10th anniversary of CERMI, ECREEE was recognized as a regional partner of excellence.
From (Left to Right): H.E. Mr. Eurico Monteiro, Minister of Investment Promotion and Business Development, State Modernization and Public Administration of Cabo Verde and Dr. Claudino Mendes, ECREEE Representative.

Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the
Center for Renewable Energy and Industrial Maintenance (CERMI)



4.3 ECREEE 15th Anniversary Celebration



Celebration of the 15th anniversary of ECREEE. First Line from L - R: Honourable Fanta CONTE, Chairperson of the Energy and Mines Committee, H.E. Alenxandre Monteiro, Minister of Energy, Commerce and Energy of Cabo Verde, Mr. Francis Sempore, former executive director of ECREEE and, Honourable Cécile AHOUMENOU – 1st Rapporteur of the Energy and Mines Committee

Des événements marquant le 15^e anniversaire du CEREEC se sont tenus à Praia, au Cabo Verde. Les participants comprenaient des représentants des Institutions nationales focales de l'agence, de la Commission de la CEDEAO, des partenaires financiers et techniques, ainsi que des experts issus des agences spécialisées et des directions de la CEDEAO.

Les principales étapes franchies depuis le début des opérations du CEREEC en 2010 ont été mises en lumière. Au cours des quinze dernières années, le Centre a joué un rôle central dans l'accélération de la transition énergétique en Afrique de l'Ouest, contribuant à l'adoption de cadres régionaux majeurs tels que la Politique de la CEDEAO en matière d'énergies renouvelables et la Politique de la CEDEAO en matière d'efficacité énergétique. Durant cette période, la capacité photovoltaïque raccordée au réseau dans la région est passée de 5 MW en 2010 à 1 GW en 2025, avec des projections indiquant une augmentation à 5 GW d'ici 2030.

Le Centre a également dirigé des initiatives dans des domaines clés tels que la cuisson propre, l'électromobilité, les systèmes de certification des compétences en énergie durable, l'intégration de la dimension genre et les infrastructures qualité pour les systèmes solaires thermiques et

photovoltaïques. Il est également un promoteur majeur du Nexus Eau-Énergie-Alimentation et du déploiement de mini-réseaux d'énergie propre dans l'ensemble des États membres.

La célébration a souligné le rôle continu du CEREEC en tant que moteur de solutions énergétiques durables et inclusives dans toute la région de la CEDEAO, particulièrement à un moment où les défis énergétiques mondiaux exigent des actions innovantes, collaboratives et tournées vers l'avenir.

Le Centre a également renforcé sa collaboration avec des partenaires stratégiques clés, notamment l'AECID, la GIZ, l'ONUDI, l'ADA, le CRDI, l'Union européenne, le RVO, la BAD, le WASCAL, le PNUD, la Banque mondiale, le GGGI, la BIDC, la JICA, l'IRENA et l'Alliance solaire internationale.

En marge des événements de l'anniversaire, le CEREEC a également tenu des réunions avec des personnalités de premier plan du Cabo Verde, notamment le Président de la République, José Maria Neves, le Premier ministre, Ulisses Correia e Silva, et le Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale, Emanuel Barbosa, jetant ainsi les bases d'une collaboration continue.



On its 15th anniversary, ECREEE presented recognition awards to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Energy. From L - R: Honourable Fanta CONTE, Chairperson of the Energy and Mines Committee, and H.E. Alexandre Monteiro, Minister of Energy, Commerce, and Industry of Cabo Verde.



Source: DC Studio on Freepik

4.4 Partner-funded Projects, 2025

Table 5 illustrates the projects implemented with external funding in 2025. Of the 15, three had reached completion stage as of December 31, 2025. The rest were in progress and at various stages towards completion.

Partner	Project	Goal	Implementation Status (As at Dec. 31, 2025)
 African Development Bank (AfDB)	a) Desert-to-Power West African Regional Energy Program (DtP WAREP)-Phase 1	Accelerated regional-scale development of solar generation, transmission, and decentralized energy projects across the Sahel Region.	In progress. To be closed out by December 2026
	b) Desert-to-Power Regional Technical Assistance Project for the Sahel (DtP ReTAPS)	To provide technical assistance to create an enabling environment for solar power projects in the Sahel while unlocking private sector investments in both the on-grid and mini-grid space	In progress. Planned closing date: December 2028
 African Legal Support Facility (of AfDB)	Capacity Building selected technical staff of ECREEE, WAPP, ERERA, and ECOWAS Energy Directorate on the technical, financial, legal, and environmental aspects of RE projects	Sustainable and systematic capacity development of key actors for effectively developing the West Africa Clean Energy Corridor Program.	Completed
 Austrian Development Agency Austrian Development Agency (ADA)	Piloting of Circular Economy through the Water-Energy and Food Nexus in West Africa” Phase 1	Scoping Exercise to establish the Baseline and to identify value chains for interventions in the Water-Energy and Food Nexus in West Africa.	Completed
 European Union (Horizon Europe)	a) Energy Access and Green Transition Collaboratively Demonstrated in Urban and Rural Areas in Africa (ENERGICA)	Improved access to modern energy services and energy security through promoting and developing renewable energy resources.	In progress.

Partner	Project	Goal	Implementation Status (As at Dec. 31, 2025)
 European Union (Horizon Europe)	b) Open-source NExus modeling tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa (ONEPlanET)	A common Nexus modeling framework was developed to simulate and evaluate pathways to defining a more sustainable future in Africa by deploying renewable energy infrastructure. This will stimulate a green energy transition on the continent and decarbonize existing energy plants.	In progress. Planned closing date: April 2026
	c) Advancing sustainable AGRiculture through off-grid energy and COOLing solutions in Africa (AGRICOOOL)	The research project focuses on reducing food loss and waste and reducing the use of fossil-fuel-powered generators to improve the quality of life for African communities and industries.	In progress. Planned closing date: May 2028
	d) Energy System Modelling for Green Development of Africa (EMERGE) Project	Increased production of clean energy and sustainable use of resources while bridging cultural and socioeconomic divides	In progress. Planned closing date: December 2026
 Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID)	a) Transition to a Clean Energy Circular Economy through the Optimization of High Energy Intensity Value Chains in High Impact Sectors.	Improved livelihoods for women and young people (below age 36) who actively use energy for productive purposes across the agricultural, commercial, and industrial value chains.	In progress. Planned closing date: March 2027
	b) Water and Energy Project for the Increase of Food Security and Socio-economic Development	Increased income for the base-of-the-pyramid women and men involved in food production in participating Member States' rural and urban areas.	In progress. Planned closing date: December 2026



Partner	Project	Goal	Implementation Status (As at Dec. 31, 2025)
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH German International Development Cooperation (GIZ)	Promoting a Climate-Friendly Electricity Market in the ECOWAS Region and Energy Storage (ProCEM-II)	Improved supportive framework conditions for grid-connected renewable energies (REs) and battery energy storage systems (BESS) at regional or national levels.	Completed
 International Development Research Centre Centre de recherches pour le développement international Canada International Development Research Centre, Canada	Women and Clean Energy in West Africa (WOCEWA)	Support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in West Africa's energy sector, transforming them into vehicles that empower women and address gender barriers through their business operations.	In progress. Planned closing date: January 2027
 United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	a) Integration of Electric Mobility with Renewable Energy Solutions in the Côte d'Ivoire Project	An integrated renewable energy- based electric transport system, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support economic and productive use activities in Côte d'Ivoire	In progress. Planned closing date: March 2029
	b) Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa -Regional (EELA) Project	To enhance energy efficiency in appliances, industrial equipment, and lighting systems while promoting economic opportunities and access to energy-efficient technologies for underserved populations.	In progress. Planned closing date: June 2029
 Global Green Growth Institute Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), United Nations Capital Development Fund, and ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development	Technical assistance is needed to establish the ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Facility (EREEEF).	Establishment and operationalization of the proposed blended finance mechanism. Preparation Facility USD 10M: ECREEE Financing Facility USD 65M: EBID Derisking Facility, USD 20 M: UNCTAD	In progress

Table 5: Partner-Funded Projects

5.0 Challenges and Considered Solutions

ECREEE continues to face significant constraints, particularly the persistently low Community Levy allocations for administrative and program activities, which reached only 33% in 2024 and 61% as of December 2025, as well as ongoing gaps in human resources.

Insufficient Funding for Administration

The ratio of administrative costs to program expenditures at ECREEE remains approximately 6% to 94%. The Centre's budget was reduced further by 5% after arbitration, notwithstanding reductions in years. The situation impacted available funds for programs and operations including counterpart funding contributions. Besides, several critical systems required to implement the IT strategy fully have yet to be put in place, which occasionally slows the delivery of program and project outputs. ECREEE's management continues to advocate for increased resource allocation from the ECOWAS Commission to ensure the effective implementation of operational activities essential to achieving the Centre's programmatic goals.

Human Resource Gaps

Thirty-three percent of the positions outlined in the organogram (9 out of 27) remain vacant, indicating a need to strengthen staffing levels further to match the Centre's workload. To mitigate these gaps, ECREEE has engaged consultants within the Project Implementation Units to support ongoing activities.

Mitigation measures

Mitigation measures included scaling back certain activities due to reduced inflows from the Community Levy. In addition, ECREEE engaged consultants within the project implementation units as a temporary measure to address human resource shortages.





6.0 Overview of 2026 Annual Work Plan

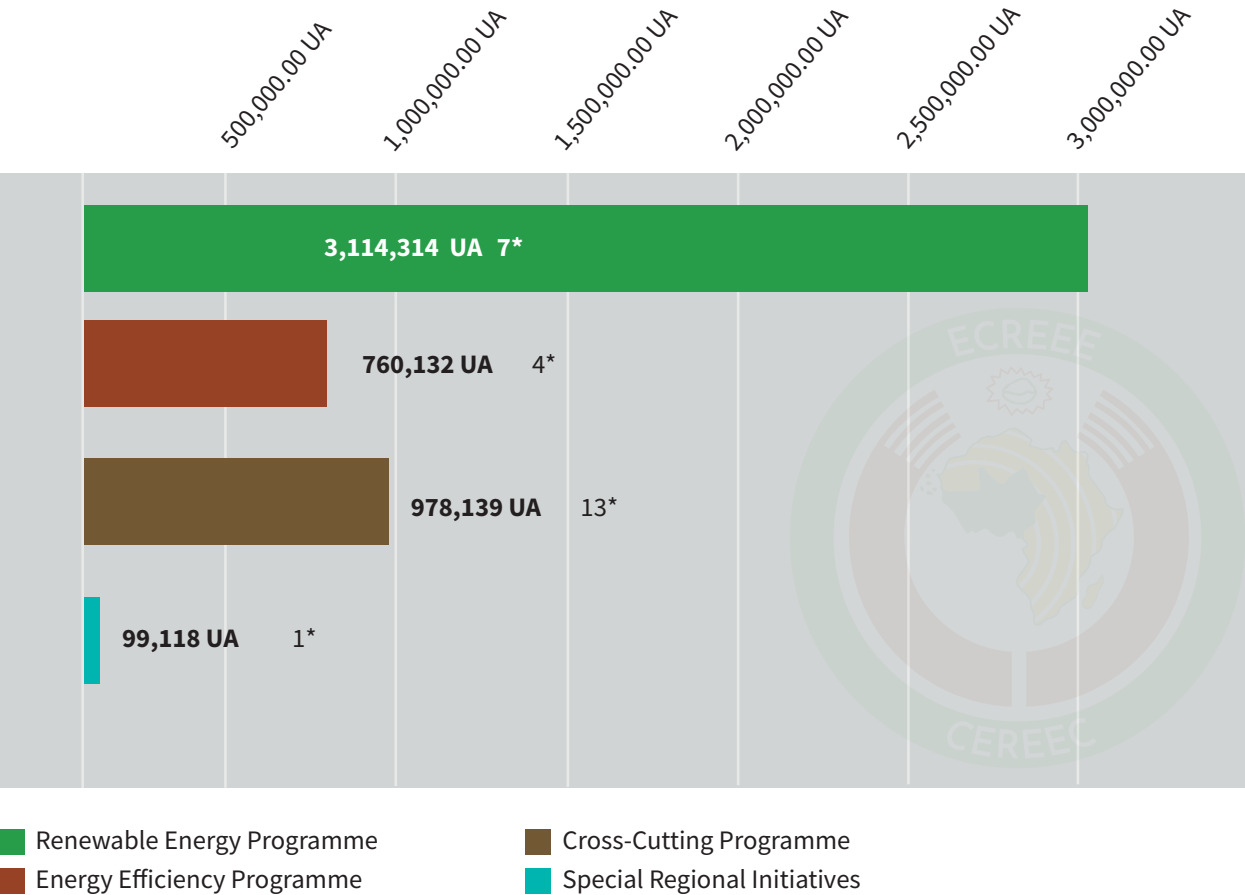
We recognize that the region continues to face significant challenges in expanding access to energy services. Certain areas—particularly the northern parts of coastal states—also remain vulnerable to fragility driven by political and ethnic tensions. Despite these constraints, we remain committed to navigating these complexities and advancing our mission to ensure affordable and reliable energy access for all.

In 2026 and beyond, we will continue implementing our existing programs and projects, subject to available funding. We will also accelerate the process to become an ISO-certified Regional Certification Body for certifying solar photovoltaic and clean mini-grid designers, installers, and inspectors. Finally, we aim to develop the master plan for sustainable energy infrastructure projects, including raising funds for the construction of the ECREEE Headquarters.

In 2026 and beyond, we will continue implementing our existing programs and projects, subject to available funding. We will also accelerate the process to become an ISO-certified Regional Certification Body for certifying solar photovoltaic and clean mini-grid designers, installers, and inspectors.

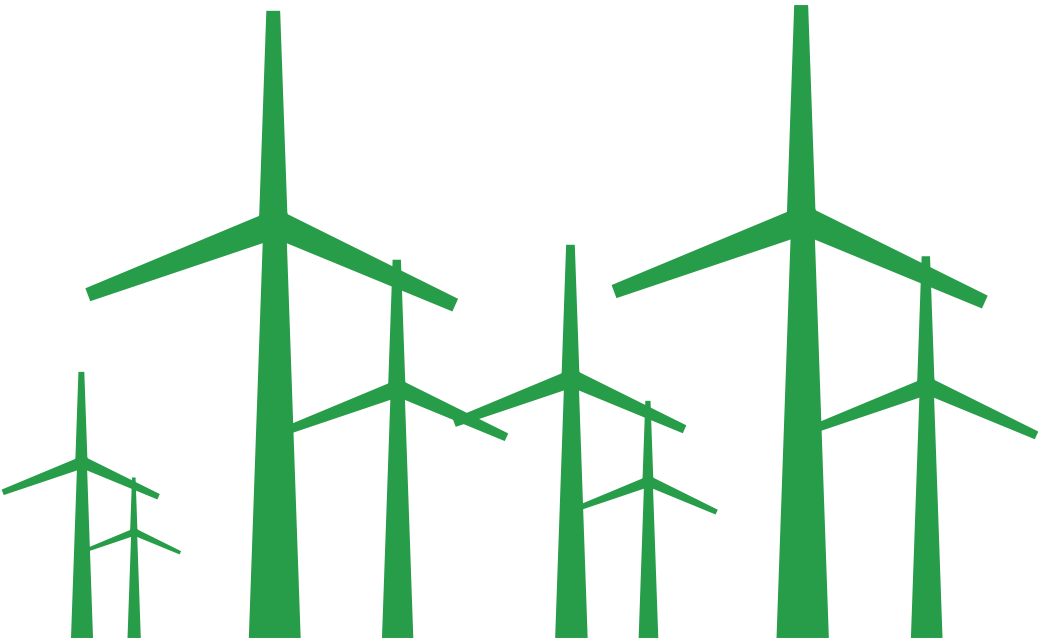
6.1 Budgets and Overall Objectives of Sub-Programs and Projects

Twenty-five sub-programs and projects have been scheduled for implementation in 2026. With a budget of **UA 3,114,314**, the Renewable Energy Program has the largest share (**63%**) of the total Programs budget (**UA 4,951,702**). In descending order, the Cross-Cutting Program followed with 20% (UA 978,139), Energy Efficiency Program with **15% (UA 760,132)** and Special regional Initiatives with **2% (UA 99,118)**. Figure 1 shows the number of sub-Programs/projects per the four program areas and their respective budgets for the year.



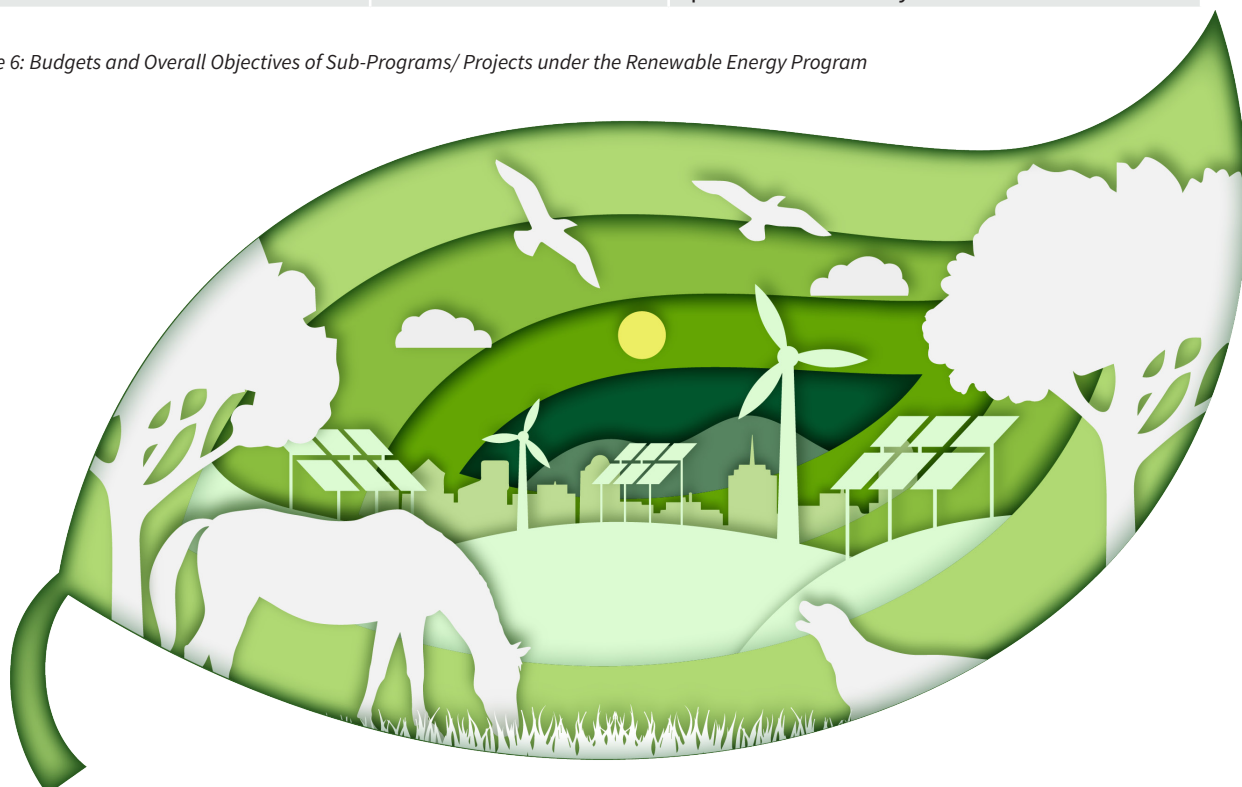
*Number of sub-programmes/projects

Figure 1: Number and Percentage of Sub-Programs/Projects by Thematic Area



Renewable Energy Projects/Sub-Programs	Budget 2026 (UA)	Overall Objective
1. Bioenergy Sub-Program	10,000.00	Improved capacity of Member States to plan bioenergy interventions
2. Regional Pilot Circular Economy Project-Phase 1 funded by AECID	378,170.80	Improved livelihoods for women and young people (below age 36) who actively use energy for productive purposes across the agricultural, commercial, and industrial value chains
3. Regional Pilot Circular Economy Project-Phase 2 funded by AECID	490,484.46	Improved livelihoods for women and young people (below age 36) who actively use energy for productive purposes across the agricultural, commercial, and industrial value chains
4. Water and Energy for Increased Food Security and Socio-Economic Development funded by AECID	270,300.05	Communities involved in agriculture, fishing, and livestock production utilize energy solutions such as solar-powered water pumps, cold chains (for conservation), and institutional cookstoves.
5. Energy Access and Green Transition Collaboratively Demonstrated in Urban and Rural Areas in Africa (ENERGICA) Project	16,136.61	Efficient low-tech biogas and water purification systems demonstrated and tailored to peri-urban and urban contexts demonstrated in Sierra Leone.
6. Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program (DtP WAREP)-Phase 1	298,287.98	Improved preparedness of participating countries to either invest in or facilitate the investment of the private sector in clean mini-grids in rural and peri-urban areas
7. Desert-to-Power Regional Technical Assistance Project for the Sahel (DtP ReTAPS)	1,650,933.66	Enhanced enabling environment for solar power projects that unlock private sector investments in both the on-grid and mini-grid spaces in beneficiary countries

Table 6: Budgets and Overall Objectives of Sub-Programs/ Projects under the Renewable Energy Program



Energy Efficiency Projects	Budget 2026 (UA)	Overall Objective
1. Energy Efficiency in Transport and Electric-Mobility Project	104,521.41	A renewable energy-based electric transport system adopted to foster the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and enhance economic activities in Côte d'Ivoire A regional policy and strategy for e-mobility in the ECOWAS region adopted by the Member States
2. Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa (EELA) Project	229,426.37	Reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in the ECOWAS region through the promotion of widespread adoption of energy-efficient lighting and appliances
3. Pipeline of Infrastructural Projects	98,051.93	Increased energy access in the ECOWAS region as a result of ECREEE's implementation of high-impact renewable energy and energy efficiency projects
4. Regional Clean Cooking Action in West Africa Project	328,132.21	Strengthened the enabling environment of the clean cooking sector in the West African region and in selected countries

Table 7: Budgets and Overall Objectives of Sub-Programs/ Projects under the Energy Efficiency Program





Cross-Cutting Projects and Sub-Programs	Budget 2026 (UA)	Overall Objective
1. Sustainable Energy Policy Sub-Program	7,547.74	ECOWAS Members receiving the needed technical assistance from ECREEE to advance their sustainable energy agenda
2. Climate Change Mainstreaming Sub-Program	7,000.00	Improved funding for climate change adaptation interventions in ECREEE's programming
3. Project Development and Finance Sub-Program	15,000.00	New sustainable energy project proposals accepted by funding partners, and funding commitments made as a result
4. ECOWAS Regional Project for Strengthening Institutional Capacity in the Clean Energy Transition (C2ET) Project	15,000.00	Improved capabilities of Ministries in charge of energy to mobilize resources, implement coherent policies, and deliver inclusive, measurable energy transition outcomes for their populations.
5. Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access Sub-Program	9,177.30	Support for gender-inclusive sustainable energy programs attracted
6. Women and Clean Energy of West Africa (WOCEWA) Project	483,060.37	Gender gap in the energy sector in reduced through targeted technical assistance to women-led businesses in the sustainable energy sector
7. ECOWAS Certification Scheme for Sustainable Energy Skills Sub- Program	28,372.71	Improved quality assurance along the sustainable energy value chain as a result of the training, examination, and certification of technicians
8. Information Technology Sub-Program	154,115.01	Strengthened communication, information system, and digitalization
9. Communication Sub-Program	35,851.76	Improved dissemination of RE & EE knowledge and ECREEE's impact on stakeholders
10. Advancing sustainable Agriculture through off-grid energy and Cooling solutions in Africa (AGRI-COOL) Project	87,351.62	AGRICOOOL-assisted communities in Cabo Verde able to adapt to climate change as a result of reliance on solar-powered irrigation systems and ice-based thermal Energy Storage System (TESS)
11. Energy Modeling System for Green Development of Africa (EMERGE) Project	76,182.81	West African sustainable energy sector policy makers, academics, investors, and citizens provided with the tools and knowledge required to increase the production of clean energy and the sustainable use of resources
12. Open-source Nexus modelling Tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa (ONePlanET) Project	40,206.63	West African renewable energy sector policy makers, academics, investors, and citizens provided with the tools and knowledge required to increase the production of clean energy and the sustainable use of resources
13. 2024 Cycle of ESIF-funded interventions (Impact Assessment)	19,273.00	Increased access to energy for productive uses and lighting as a result of the ECOWAS Special Intervention Fund

Table 8: Budgets and Overall Objectives of Sub-Programs/ Projects under the Cross-Cutting Program



Special Regional Initiative	Budget 2026 (UA)	Overall Objective
ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECOWREX)	99,117.67	Improved energy planning and evidence-based decision-making in the energy sector through improved access to relevant sector data/information

Table 9: Budget and Overall Objective of a Sub-Program under the Special Regional Initiatives

6.2 Funding Sources

A total budget of UA 5,596,108.26 has been approved by the ECOWAS Commission for ECREEE's implementation, with 20 percent (UA 1,142,913.28) for activities to be funded with Community Levy and 80 percent (UA 4,453,194.98) for activities to be funded by External Partners. Figure 2 depicts the proportions expected from these primary funding sources.

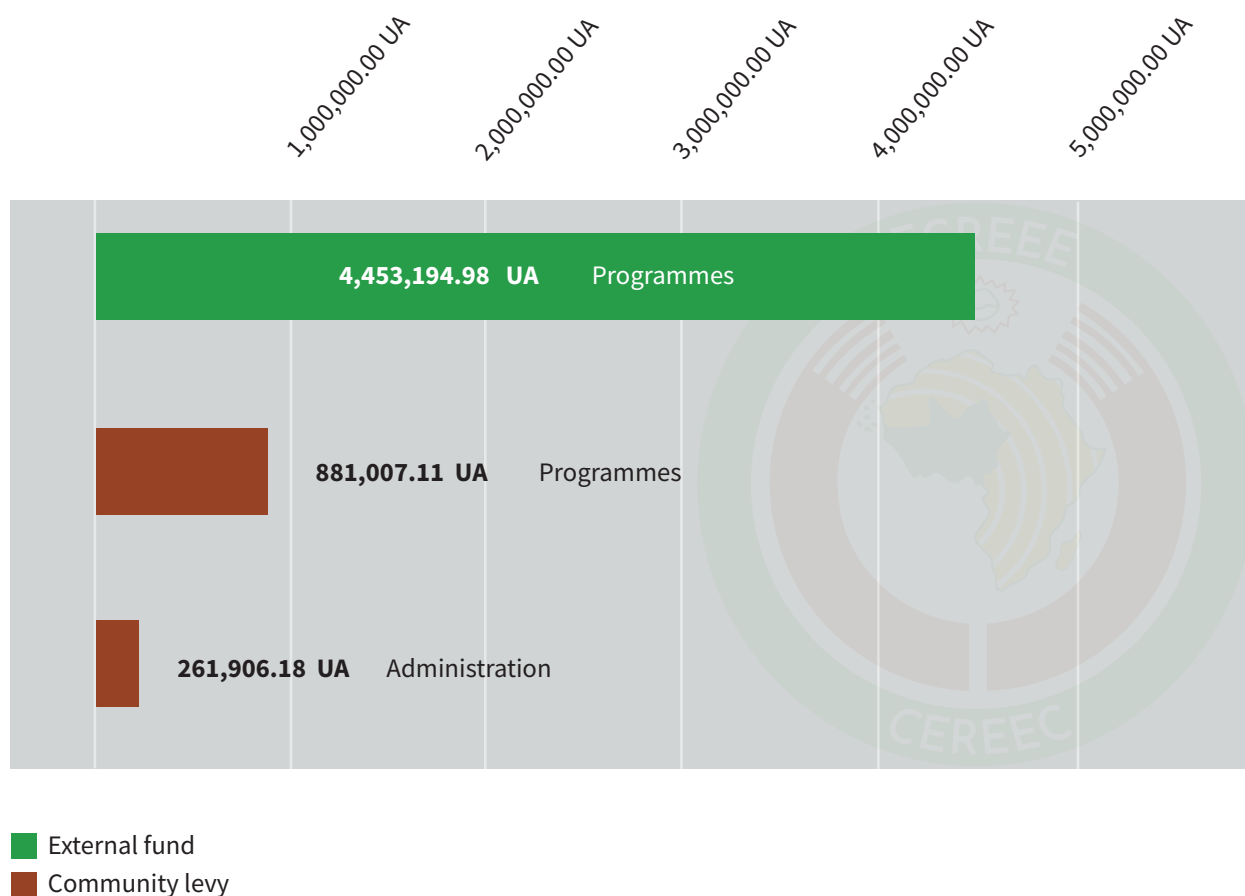


Figure 2: Main Budget Areas and the Primary Funding Sources, 2026

6.3 Key Expectations for 2026

In 2026 and beyond, the implementation of ongoing programs and projects will continue depending on the availability of financial resources. The Center will also continue its efforts to accelerate the ISO accreditation process in order to become a regional certification body for designers, installers, and inspectors of solar photovoltaic systems as well as clean mini-grids. In addition, it will actively participate in the development of a master plan for sustainable energy infrastructure, including the mobilization of the financial resources needed to construct the CEREEC headquarters.

Projects financed by the African Development Bank are expected to account for the largest share of resources from financial partners (44%), followed by AECID (33%), IDRC (11%), UNIDO (7%), and the European Union (5%) (Figure 3).

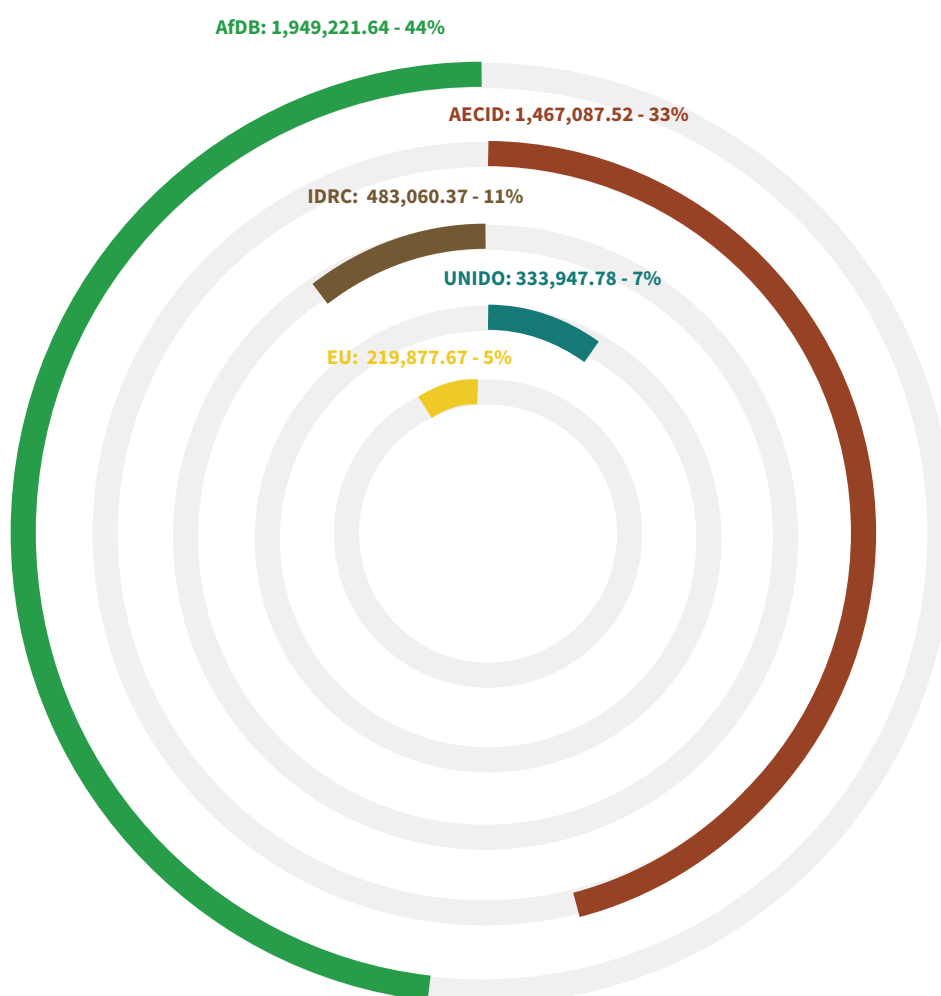


Figure 3: Partners' Shares of Expected External Funds, 2026



Table 10 provides further insight into external funding sources by capturing the specific projects funded.

Partner	Program	Projects	Amount (UA)	%
AfDB	RE Program	Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program (DtP WAREP)-Phase 1	298,287.98	6.7%
		Desert-to-Power Regional Technical Assistance Project for the Sahel (DtP ReTAPS)	1,650,933.66	37.1%
AECID	RE Program	Regional Pilot Circular Economy Project-Phase 1 funded by AECID	378,170.80	8.5%
		Regional Pilot Circular Economy Project-Phase 2 funded by AECID	490,484.46	11.0%
		Water and Energy for Increased Food Security and Socio-Economic Development, funded by AECID	270,300.05	6.1%
	EE Program	Regional Clean Cooking Action in West Africa Project	328,132.21	7.4%
IDRC	Cross-Cutting Program	Women and Clean Energy of West Africa (WOCEWA) Project	483,060.37	10.8%
UNIDO	EE Program	Energy Efficiency in Transport and Electric-Mobility Project	104,521.41	2.3%
		Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa (EELA) Project	229,426.37	5.2%
EU	RE Program	Energy Access and Green Transition Collaboratively Demonstrated in Urban and Rural Areas in Africa (ENERGICA) Project	16,136.61	0.4%
	Cross-Cutting Program	Advancing sustainable Agriculture through off-grid energy and Cooling Solutions in Africa (AGRI-COOL) Project	87,351.62	2.0%
		Energy Modeling System for Green Development of Africa (EMERGE) Project	76,182.81	1.7%
		Open-source Nexus modelling Tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa (ONePlanET) Project	40,206.63	0.9%
Total			4,453,194.98	100%

Table 10: External Funding Sources and Projects, 2026



Source: DC Studio on Freepik



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