



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

SELECTION OF INDIVIDUAL CLEAN MINI-GRID PROJECT DEVELOPERS OR PROMOTERS TO BE TRAINED ON CLEAN MINI-GRID DESIGN, INSTALLATION, AND INSPECTION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECOWAS CERTIFICATION OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SKILLS PROGRAM

A. BACKGROUND

Within the implementation framework of the ECOWAS Renewable Energy Policy and the National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs) of the ECOWAS Member States, the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) established the ECOWAS Certification of Sustainable Energy Skills (ECSES) in 2014. With support from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and other development partners, thorough Job Task Analyses have been developed. The ECSES aims to strengthen professional skills and develop practical solutions to address substandard equipment and facilities in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors.

ECREEE, as the Regional Certification Body, partners with selected institutions to organize certification examinations in the ECOWAS Member States. Two types of centres have been selected for partnerships:

- Training Centres, which will run gender-responsive training courses for photovoltaic (PV) installers, women and men, based on the elaborated Job-Task-Analysis (JTA) for PV Mini-Grid and Off-Grid Solar PV Systems. These training sessions have been advertised in a gender-responsive manner, targeting both women and men in the recruitment campaign. The training has been provided by a mixed team composed of women and men trainers. The course materials include references to women in the examples (oral and visual representations of both women and men in concrete situations). Women are included among trainee groups to reach gender equality as much as possible; and
- Examination Centres, which will organize gender-responsive examinations on PV mini-grid and SHS installers for eligible candidates, leading to their certification. Gender-responsive sensitisation was included in the overall communication campaign and in the call for expressions of interest from candidates' Examination Centres. Likewise, the examination materials include references to women.

The current certification system is for off-grid solar photovoltaic system technicians, rated by ECREEE as Level 1 of the solar PV certification system. The ECREEE certification scheme is being expanded to meet the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization's standard called ISO/IEC 17024:2012. This standard is also known as the "Conformity assessment," and it comprises "the general requirements for bodies operating certification of persons". Professionals who meet the requirements set out in the Job Task Analysis (JTA) will receive a certificate recognized at the regional and international levels.

Level 2 of the certification scheme is for the designers, installers, and inspectors of photovoltaic mini-grids. ECREEE is partnering with GIZ and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to operationalize this certification Level. The interventions through which this is to be realized are the GIZ-funded “Promotion of Climate-friendly Electricity Market in the ECOWAS Region--Phase 2 (ProCEM II)” and the AfDB-funded “Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program (WAREP)-Phase 1”.

Following a regional training-of-trainers workshop held in October 2025, where 24 experts were trained on clean mini-grids grid design, installation, and inspection (Level 2), ECREEE intends to replicate the training at the national level for technicians and other professionals.

B. PURPOSE OF THIS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The objective of this call is to select individual Clean Mini Grid Project Developers or Promoters to build their capacity to design, install, and inspect solar photovoltaic mini-grids.

C. SELECTION CRITERIA

To be selected for the training, an applicant must have:

- i. a Degree or Diploma in Engineering or a related field;
- ii. a minimum of three (3) years’ experience as a solar photovoltaic system project developer or promoter;
- iii. good proficiency in MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; and
- iv. preferably, some experience in working with Medium Voltage and Low Voltage electrical distribution systems.

D. SELECTION AND TRAINING

Applications will be evaluated, following which individuals who meet the minimum requirements will be selected and invited to attend a gender-responsive training workshop on Clean Mini-Grids Design, Installation, and Inspection. Due to limited resource availability, the training opportunity will be granted to the top-ranked applicants.

Other selected experts from ECREEE Partner Training or Examination Centres will also attend the training.

E. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Individuals desiring to be considered for the training on Clean Mini-Grid Design, Installation, and Inspection are invited to submit their applications by completing a form online. [Click here to access the form.](#)
2. Before starting, applicants are advised to reference the attached PDF version of the form to ensure that all the required information/documents are ready.

3. The forms are available in the three official languages of ECOWAS -English, French, and Portuguese. To choose your preferred language, click the **Languages** icon. 
4. Click the “**Add record**” button on the left side of your screen to start filling out the form.
5. When done, click the “**Save record**” button to submit your application.
6. In case you want to withdraw an application and re-send another version, you may email a request to the email addresses provided.
7. The application deadline is **April 17, 2026 (23:59 hrs (GMT))**.
8. Further information/clarification can be obtained between 10 hrs. and 16:00 hrs. GMT at the following email addresses: cmendes@ecreee.org, mfurtado@ecreee.org and aobasi@ecreee.org ; keeping in copy jdamada@ecreee.org and cosae@ecreee.org.

“Disclaimer: This document has been translated into French and Portuguese to reach a wider audience. While reasonable efforts were made to provide accurate translations, portions may be incorrect. ECREEE assumes no liability for any errors, omissions, or ambiguities in the French and Portuguese translations. The English version remains the original and final version for reference.”