

/MEETING REPORT/



**Inception and Strategy Meeting
ECOWAS Climate Change Mitigation program
ECCMP**

7th to 9th of July 2015

ECREEE Secretariat, Praia, Cabo Verde

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List of Abbreviations

AFDB: African Development Bank

CC: Climate Change

CDM: Clean Development Mechanism

CILSS: Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel

COP: Conference of Parties

CTCN: Climate Technology Center and network

ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African states

ECREEE: ECOWAS CENTRE FOR Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

ECCMP: ECOWAS Climate Change Mitigation Program

EE: Energy Efficiency

GEF: Global Environment Fund

GCF: Green Climate Fund

IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature

INDC: Intended Nationally Determined Contributions

MRV: Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

RE: Renewable Energy

T.T: Technology Transfer

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WACCA: West African Clean Cooking Alliance

WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union

1. Introduction

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) organized a 3 day inception and strategy meeting at the ECREEE headquarters in Praia Cape Verde to define a framework for a Regional Climate Change Mitigation Program for the ECOWAS region.

The ECCMP aims at advancing low carbon development in the ECOWAS region by supporting the ECOWAS countries in their quest to address the interrelated challenges of energy access; energy security and climate change simultaneously.

The meeting featured the participation of key experts from the UNFCCC, the ECOWAS commission, the GCF, as well as other experts vested in the knowledge of Climate Change, as well as ECREEE Technical Experts.

(The list of participants is attached as Annex 1 of this report).

The meeting also sort to build momentum towards the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) twenty first Conference of Parties (COP 21), scheduled to hold from 30th November to 11th December in Paris where a universal, legally binding agreement to combat climate change effectively and boost the transition towards resilient, low-carbon societies and economies by limiting greenhouse gases –is expected to be agreed upon. The ECCMP is expected to align with the goals of this global agreement.

2. Objectives of the meeting

The inception and strategy meeting was organized with the aim of

1. raising the level of understanding and commitment of ECREEE to undertake Climate change activities as a core aspect of its mission in order to achieve the sustainable development goals of the region.
2. Defining a pathway for ECREEE to play an active role in climate change activities at the regional and global level.
3. Establishing a regional coordination and support framework that will enhance the response of ECOWAS countries to climate change.

At the end of the meeting, all three objectives were meet. Participants stated that although ECREEE climate change activities is a bit late it is also coming at the right time. In addition, ECREEEs approach to Climate change is a no regrets approach. However, ECREEE must cave a niche and must meet a need in the overall climate change space in order to be effective and have impact.

Other objectives included defining a long term vision and a core Mission including SMART¹ objectives for the ECOWAS Climate Change Mitigation programme as well as a plan for the financial sustainability of the program. This was quite ambitious and could not be achieved during the three days meeting and has been put forward to be implemented as a follow up activity based on the discussions and output of the strategy meeting.

¹ SMART – Specific, Measurable, Action-Oriented, Realistic and Time-bound

3. Opening Remarks

Mr. Bah Saho, Senior Renewable Energy Expert at ECREEE gave the opening remarks. He stated that Climate Change is a very serious challenge as indicated by the 2013 IPCC 5th assessment report and from current evidences of changing weather patterns in the ECOWAS region. He also stated that a lot of ECREEE's core activities are already aimed at mitigation of GHG emissions. However, ECREEE still needs to do more and lead the region in terms of a more elaborate climate change program.

He went on to say that the ECCMP is poised to be the regional response to advance low carbon development in the ECOWAS region by directly supporting the ECOWAS countries in their quest to address the interrelated challenges of energy access; energy security and climate change mitigation simultaneously.

Mr. Saho finally hoped that all hands will be on deck for a successful meeting.

4. Working session

4.1 Main outcomes and Discussions

Day 1: To raise the level of understanding and commitment of ECREEE to undertake Climate change activities as a core aspect of its mission in order to achieve the sustainable development goals of the region.

Presentation 1: Climate change impacts and trends in the West African region- Key facts and Actions of the ECOWAS commission - Mr. Raoul KOUAME, Project Coordinator-Climate Change, Environment Directorate ECOWAS Commission.

- West Africa in particular is one of the regions in the world most vulnerable to climate change.
- Droughts, natural resource degradation, flooding, coastal land erosion and even salinization of coastal land are some of the impacts of climate change evidenced in the West African region.
- More specifically, there has been an increase of annual minimum and maximum temperatures in the region (Tmin increased from +1 to 1.4 °C and Tmax about 0.5 °C to 1°C). e.g in Niger chad and Togo temperature increased from 1 to 1.5 degrees.
- In addition, Crop yields have decrease in Niger and Burkina Faso due to temperature changes based on a study done by the Agrhymet regional centre.
- Given the situation, the commission has developed a number of activities to combat climate change such as the ECOWAS Agricultural and forestry policy (ECOWAP, 2005) and its Regional and National Agricultural Investment Programme (RAIP). The National Agricultural Investment Programme has several components dedicated to adaptation and mitigation of climate change.
- Other policies and strategies developed by the ECOWAS commission to tackle climate change include:
 - ECOWAS Forestry Policy Statement (2005)
 - ECOWAS Environmental Policy (ECOWEP, 2008)
 - Strategic Programme on Reduction of Vulnerability And Adaptation to Climate Change in West Africa (2010)
 - The Convergence Plan for Management and Sustainable use of Forest Ecosystems in West Africa in 2013 (WA-FCP)
 - ECOWAS Meteorology Program (draft) under review
 - ECOWAS Water Resources Policy and Action Plan
 - And also the establishment of ECREEE with the ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policies.
- The ECOWAS commission also has a Strategic Program for Reduction of Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change in West Africa with one of its objective being to develop consultative framework on climate change to improve synergy on climate actions in the region.
- As part of the program, a study will be conducted to develop a comprehensive regional strategic program to address climate challenge in the ECOWAS region. This will be technically validated and adopted by the ECOWAS Ministers.

- Finally the Commission is currently developing a joint roadmap with WAEMU, CILSS, and IUCN to submit to the COP 21.

Presentation 2: International Climate Change policies and the UNFCCC Processes and instruments: NAMAS, INDCS, CDM etc - Mrs. Uzoamaka Nwamarah UNFCCC processes.

- Climate change is complex and affects development outcomes and vice versa.
- Discussions at the UNFCCC have been taking place for over 25 years.
- Within the Africa context. The discussion at the UNFCCC has been on adaptation as a priority.
- There is a thin line between climate change adaption and mitigation. Strong infrastructure and energy systems are also needed to reduce vulnerability to climate change.
- Strong and functioning Energy systems are also a form of adaptation.
- ECREEE as a regional institution that promotes the development t of RE and EE technologies needs to understand it place within the climate change debate.
- There is always the disconnect between the technical people on the ground and political Leaders, ECREEE can ensure that the spokes people in the region are giving the right information on the existing and planned activities at the COP. The work ECREEE is doing is important to inform the spokespersons for Africa.
- Kyoto protocol is legally binding agreement with various mechanisms. For instance CDM is a mitigation mechanism and countries always need support for the implementation of the UNFCCC mechanisms. It takes a lot of work in the different aspect.
- Programmatic CDM (PCDM) which is the bundling of activities and can also be implemented across countries and ECREEE can look into developing PCDM. The means of implementation for the mechanisms are always similar.
- Gender discussions started as far back as cop 7 but the momentum to consider gender in the discussions have picked up again. Lima work programme on gender clearly highlights that Climate change decisions need an equitable balance of both men and women.
- Africa is already active in the COP but a lot of support is still required especially with information and knowledge sharing. In other words, ECREEE needs to connect with the African Group of Negotiators.
- On INDCs, No West African country had submitted INDC as at July 7th 2015. ECREEE can give technical and financial support to countries in the preparation and implementation of the INDCs.
- In addition, Institutional frameworks are very important in countries because they help in good facilitation and coordination.

Presentation 3: Climate change policies and activities at Country level. Case study of Senegal (Policies, institutional framework, activities current support and experiences). Senegal - Ousmane Fall COMMNC Senegal

- Senegal is party to the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (signed in 1992 and ratified in 1994) Kyoto protocol (signed in 2001 and ratified in 2005).
- Senegal's institutional framework for Climate Change is made up of
 - The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (CC focal point)
 - The National Climate Change Committee (COMNACC) that was established in 2003.
 - CDM DNA,
 - National Implementing Entity for Adaptation Fund and GCF (CSE),
 - National designated entity for CTCN (CERER),
 - National designated Authority for GCF, National Climate Fund (under creation)
- The COMNAC is in charge of coordination, consultation, information sharing, management and monitoring of all implementing activities relative to the UNFCC Convention and its legal instruments.
- All Climate Focal points (IPCCC, UNFCCC) and stakeholders, at a national and local level are represented in the committee, working on various thematic Groups (Adaptation, Mitigation, Tech Trans, Finance &MM, Com & Capacity Building and ADP.
- Senegal has a lot of National polices, program ad activities centred on addressing climate change.
- Senegal is currently elaborating its INDC to meet its deadline in September. The INDC has both Adaptation and Mitigation Components The process involves high level engagement, stakeholders' awareness and technical preparation.

- The INDC process consists of economic and social analysis as well as financial evaluation
- Senegal has a lot of technical and financial support for addressing climate change including support from the GIZ, EU, AFD GEF: UNEP - DTU Partnership.

Questions and Discussions

1. What are the linkages between ECREEE and the Environment Department of the Commission on climate change? What is the coordination like?
2. What is the Experience from Senegal on how they actualize plans and keeps the momentum going?
3. How does ECOWAS plan to work with the commission and support negotiators and which institutions? Because strong coordination is required with a strong technical back office. How will ECOWAS take this lead before and after the Paris agreement?

Discussions

- Based on Mandate and relevance, there needs to be an overall coordinator which is the ECOWAS commission. ECREEE is a major stakeholder and is giving the gear and push.
- ECREEEs relevance in the climate change space. Helping the region to fine tune and support the INDCs is one thing to make a difference for ECREEE. However, the Environment Department of the Commission also plans to give support for INDCs so it's important to have more discussions on clear roles and focus areas.
- ECOWAS already started to build capacity for INDCs development in the West African region and another meeting is planned at the end of October to see which stage each country is on the process.
- There is need to develop a team to support the new AGN president.
- There are overlaps with ECOWAS commissions programme so the ECCMP must be synergistic and make sure that actions on the ground are not replicated.
- ECREEE should take the institutional framework of Senegal as best practice and showcase and propose it to countries with weak coordination and institutional frameworks.
- ECREEE should Synergize with upwards ECOWAS commission and downwards with national strategies and program.
- ECREEE has done a lot already in policy development. Skills and capacity development is needed irrespective of the policies and incentives developed.

Presentation 5: Opportunities and challenges of a regional climate change mitigation program including the role of the CDM - Chunyu Liang, RCC Lome UNFCCC Chunyu Liang

- Climate mechanisms will still have a place in the COP agreements.
- CDM statistics reveal that there are
 - **7649 +** registered projects in **80+** countries
 - **10 000 +** projects in pipeline
 - **1.6 billion +** CERs issued to date
- The sad news is that there are Less than 10 projects out of the 47 countries in West Africa and 19 in total in Africa.
- The good news is that 1.7 billion certified emission reductions are expected by 2020.
- For ECREEE CDM offer opportunities to prove the mitigation outcome of its existing projects and future programmes.
- CDM tools also offer an opportunity for ECREEE to develop new activities around such as Green climate Fund- GCF, readiness of ECOWAS counties and should be considered as a component in the ECCMP.
- Some tools to speed up the process such as standardized baselines etc. can help create a pipeline of MRVable projects and programmes.
- Challenges remain such as
 - Low emissions profile: relatively low existing emissions in ECOWAS countries
 - Lack of awareness, capacity: institutional, human resources
 - Finance: access to capital, PPA, additionality, etc. GCF can make a difference
 - International system: fast changing, fragmented, lack of coordination
 - Lack of robust Monitoring, Reporting, Verification system

- Regional coordination and operations – multi-country, multi-level, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral.

Questions and Discussions

1. What is the opinion of regional markets/domestic etc? How can voluntary markets be useful to the region? How can a regional carbon market be established?
2. What is the opportunity cost of ignoring CDM?

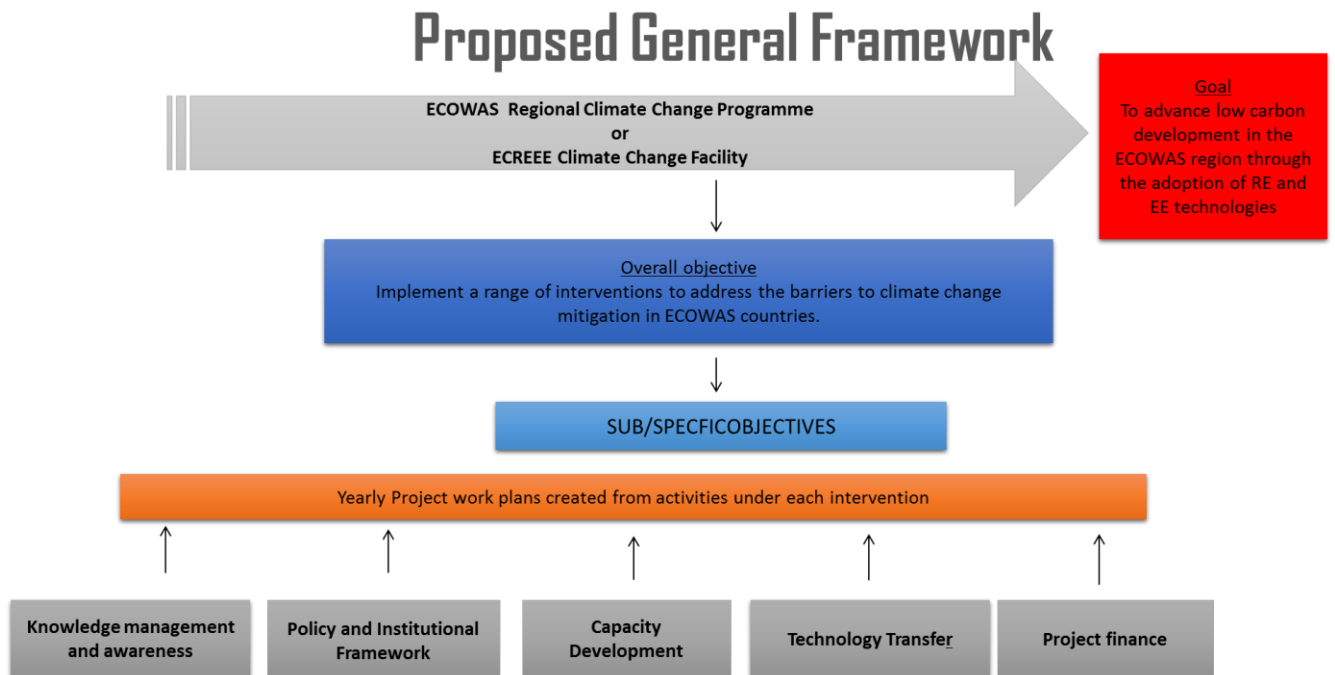
Discussions

- The problem with markets is that of volume and that's why there have been talks to linking markets across sub regions. However, it requires capping emissions and trading of which West African countries have very little emissions.
- Setting up market is very complicated as it needs infrastructure, MRV and possible developing offset scheme, registry system.
- CDM is a credible system to prove outcome and the standards and systems are well recognized and since ECREEE climate change program cannot delink PD and Finance, CDM offers a useful tool to prove mitigation outcomes.
- ECREEE should start to help countries to develop programme of activities, POAs it helps as a tool to develop NAMAs e.g cook stoves, rural electrification and energy efficient lighting because they can be additional and can be easily demonstrated as mitigation projects

Presentation 6: Introduction to the proposed ECOWAS Climate Change Mitigation Program: Inception, Milestones and proposed General Framework- Adeola Adebiji Program Officer

- The initiation and development of the ECCMP has had three major timelines.
 - **2012:** ECREEE Climate Change Facility: An action plan for developing and building NAMAs capacities in the ECOWAS Region.
 - **2014:** ECREEE Climate Change program: A Collaborative Initiative on climate change mitigation in the West African Sub Region.
 - **2015:** ECOWAS Climate Change Mitigation Program: A comprehensive approach to building a vibrant RE & EE sector and meet the energy access challenge in the region. More forward looking objective
- However a Long term program with a more elaborate scope was required and so ECOWAS climate change mitigation program- ECCMP was seen as a more strategic approach based on ECREEE mandate and strategic advantage. It is ECREEEs belief that taking action on climate change mitigation promoting investments and technology transfer in the renewable energy, energy efficiency (RE&EE) and environmental sector in the region.
- The overall goal of advancing low carbon development in ECOWAS Region was adopted because it presents an opportunity to improve access to energy in the region as well as meet other developmental and social challenges.
- There are still institutional barriers, policy gaps, financial and capacity constraints that will need to be addressed to support ECOWAS countries to meet their commitments to the UNFCCC and ECREEE is able to support the Member states to close this gaps.
- As a way to make and strengthen its capacity to undertake Climate change activities as a core aspect of its mission, ECREEE has increased participation in climate change forums, workshop, meetings and seminars regionally and internationally e,g the Africa Carbon Forum held in Marrakech, Morocco where presentations of the activities of ECREEE towards climate change mitigation in the West Africa sub-region was done.
- Also Joined the LEDS partnership and discussions are also ongoing with the Global Low Emission Partnership for financial support to ECREEE Climate Change Mitigation Programme for the West Africa sub-region.
- Commenced accreditation to the Green Climate Fund – GCF.
- ECREEE also joined CTCN of the UNFCCC and a lot of activities will be centred on technology transfer issues.

5. Presentation of the Proposed General Framework of the ECCMP



Discussions and Feedback from Experts on the proposed Framework

The name of the program

- On what name could give the program a strong brand and Identity, the name could be ECREEE climate change mitigation program, rather than ECOWAS Climate change mitigation program because there is another regional program being developed by the commission.
- Other options for revising the name included having the ECOWAS Climate Change programme remain for the two regional approaches but having ECREEE focus on the mitigation aspects.
- It is possible that ECREEE Climate Change mitigation program will have more value than ECOWAS as ECREEE is a well-known regional institution.
- In addition, the regional centres in Africa are going to be replicated and so the name should be carefully chosen.

ECCMP Goal:

- The goal is an aspiration and ECREEE cannot be accountable for it but rather contributes to it.
- The goal should not have RE and EE specified but be inclusive
- The goal however could determine why the program exists.

Pillars of Intervention

- It will be good to add another pillar for Monitoring, Reporting and Verification-MRV, because it is a useful tool to determine mitigation outcomes of RE and EE technologies at project level.
- Under the MRV pillar ECREEE can develop Baselines for each ECOWAS country. ECREEE already supported the development of the baseline in Cape Verde.

Policy and institutional framework

- ECREEE needs to follow the key meetings and support technical review processes and conduct analysis of the RE and EE tracks. The amount of work is huge and so support for the development of technical papers is highly crucial.
- Valuable expertise to develop papers is needed. ECREEE can conduct back to back meetings and provide financial support to the negotiators.

- Design a structure for stakeholder communication.
- Conduct an assessment of countries institutional framework and the coordination system in place.
- Identify a way of elaborating policies that still need to be improved in countries.

Capacity Building

- Internal capacity of ECREEE needs to be developed to implement the programme.
- The capacity building pillar needs to focus on building capacity of people and institutions.

Technology transfer

- There is need for a concrete technology transfer activities in the ECOWAS. MRV can measure the success of technology transfer in the region.
- ECREEE can use its membership of the CTCN as a good entry point into the climate change space.
- Technology transfer activities present a comparative advantage and can help fill the gap in the region.
- There are many funding streams for Technology Transfer.
- RE and EE needs to address technology needs assessment as a form of assessing barriers and to find required measures to remove barriers that often country Specific.
- For INDC implementation institutions will have to host MRV.
- Ghana currently developing a good MRV system for climate data and can be assessed for possibility of replication across the region.

Other Observations/Comments

End of day 1: Round table discussions: Contributions from all participants

1. **How can ECREEE avoid duplication of efforts and associate the program to overall regional strategy and also ECREEE strategy?**
 2. **Strengths and weakness, opportunities and risks of the proposed ECCMP**
- Based on strategic focus of the program, ECREEE Climate Change activities might have to consider adaptation components. It is difficult to separate mitigation and adaptation when it comes to development. It's good to look at the needs of the countries and decide if it's primarily about reducing ghg emissions.
 - Adaptation and mitigation is a linkage between technology and activity. Some activities can improve resilience while also reducing emissions.

Strengths and weaknesses

- Regional cooperation and coordination is needed so the program comes at a right time. However, no need to reinvent the wheel, use existing coordination frameworks. In order to have all the actors in the process.
- It should be an overall ECOWAS programme and ECREEE leading the mitigation side.
- Activities need to be streamlined
- GEF through AfDB is to implement the Africa technology finance centre. ECREEE should Position itself and find an entry point to work with AfDB.
- The challenge is that ECREEE programs all contribute to climate change mitigation one way or another. There is need to have a result based approach and a stronger voice when it comes to Climate Change.
- ECREEEs approach to CC is a no regret approach. ECREEE must have a brand and decide what it can achieve, even though ECREEE needs to be ambitious.

Day 2: To define a pathway for ECREEE to play an active role in climate change activities at the regional and global level.

Presentations focused on how ECREEE can capitalize on climate finance to implement the interventions and related actions, including ECREEE readiness to access climate finance for the implementation of the program.

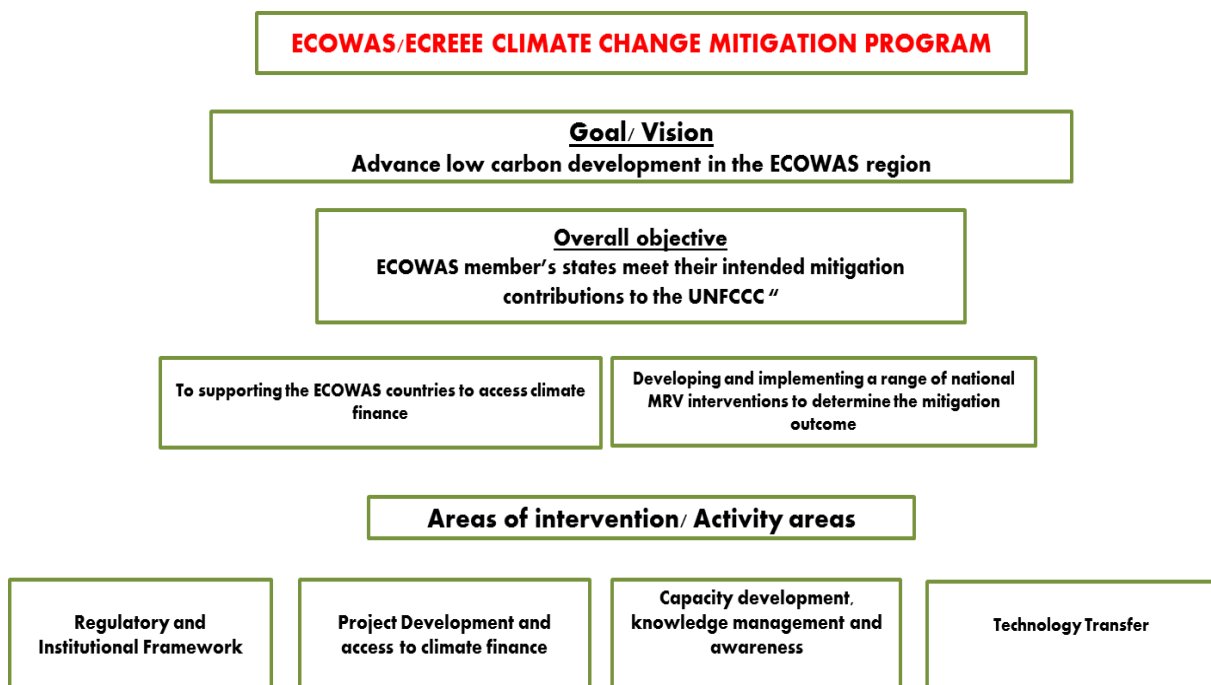
Presentations included

- Experiences on accreditation to the GCF
- Climate Finance Overview
- Update on GCF, its modalities and processes and opportunities for ECREEE as an implementing entity.

: For more details of this presentations please see link to all presentations at the meeting <http://www.ecreee.org/news/ecreee-organizes-strategy-meeting-supporting-ecowas-countries-address-climate-change>

Day 3: Establish a regional coordination and support framework that will enhance the response of ECOWAS countries to climate change.

Revised Framework: Contributions from Experts and ECREEE Technical Staff



Proposed Activities under Revised Framework

1. Provide technical and statistical information on RE and EE and T.T to negotiator group –Both (soft actions)
2. Support the establishment of a regional coordination framework for managing CC stakeholders- Both
3. Mapping analysis of regional and national stakeholder and regulatory framework-both
4. Support the implementation and supplementary activities of INDCs relevant to RE and EE - both
5. Map out all the existing climate finance and relevant climate finance instruments –Climate finance
6. Development and maintain of power sector baselines -MRV
7. Determine the financial implications of relevant projects from INDCs and assist in the resource mobilization -CF
8. Building capacity and to be a delivery partner for GCF readiness program-CF
9. Develop standardized baselines for sectors with high emission reduction potential-MRV

10. Support Development Banks and commercial banks in the region to define dedicated policy and funding windows for RE and EE - Both
11. Training key stakeholders (internal and external) on MRV tools and methodologies- MRV(build a pool of national consultants to deliver on MRV and TT in the region and maintain a roster
12. Development of an Information system for MRV-MRV
13. Data collection for clean technology penetration rate - MRV (possible indicator of 17)
14. Assessment of impact of TT on economic and social development for instance green job creation-MRV
15. Monitoring of the evolution of appropriate clean technologies adapted local context –MRV
16. Assessing the linkages, identify gaps between INDCs and TNAs.

6. Closing remarks

The closing remarks were given by Mr. Sire Diallo WACCA coordinator at ECREEE who was the moderator for the day. He thanked all participants, especially the invited experts for their time and invaluable contributions and insights to the meeting. He expressed that the meeting is a success in terms of meeting the three main objectives. He also noted that all the puts and suggestions to the ECCMP from the experts will surely be incorporated to make the final reviewed ECOWAS Climate Change programme viable and impactful for the ECOWAS region.

7. Follow Up Actions

1. Engage a consultant to develop a comprehensive 5 year program document supported with budgetary requirements that will be validated by ECOWAS Member States. This will form the basis for the implementation of concrete actions.
2. A "Declaration of Intent" or resolution which will be an affirmative decision to support the ECOWAS member states to advance low carbon development which could be validated by ECOWAS Energy Ministers or even Heads of Governments.
3. Jointly organize a coordination meeting between ECREEE and the Environment Department of the ECOWAS commission to define a proper mandate for both bodies.
4. Create a steering committee to provide strategic guidance for the development and implementation of activities in line with the goals and objectives of the programme.
5. Launch the program with a regional conference.

DONE AT
ECREEE Secretariat, Praia, Cabo Verde
7th to 9th of July 2015

List of Annexes:

1. List Of participants
2. Invited Experts profile/CV

Annex 1: List of participants

	Name	Designation	Institution
1.	Mr Raoul Kouame	Coordinator Climate Change	ECOWAS Commission
2.	Mr. Chunyu Liang	Team Lead	UNFCCC RCC Lome
3.	Mr. Ousmane FALL-Sarr	Senegal UNFCCC DNA	COMNAC Senegal
4.	Mr. Dethie Soumare Ndiaye	Coordinator Climate Finance Unit (CFU)	Centre de suivi Ecologique -CSE
5.	Mrs. Uzoamaka Nwamarah	Climate Finance Expert	Independent Consultant
6.	Mr. Liberal Seburikoko	Regional Advisor	GCF
7.	Mr. Sire Diallo	WACCA coordinator	ECREEE
8.	Ms. Adeola Adebisi	Programme officer Climate Change	ECREEE
9.	Mr. John Yeboah	Programme officer - Bioenergy/Climate change	ECREEE
10.	Mr. Hyacinth Elayo	Policy Expert	ECREEE
11.	Mr. Bah Saho	RE Expert- Bioenergy	ECREEE
12.	Ms. Monica Maduekwe	Gender Coordinator	ECREEE
13.	Mr. Jansenio Delgado	RE Expert – Capacity Building	ECREEE

Annex 2: List and Profile of Invited Experts



Chunyu Liang: Team Lead Regional Collaboration Centre, Lomé CDM A collaboration between UNFCCC and BOAD.

Mr Chunyu is currently leading the UNFCCC-West Africa Development Bank Regional Collaboration Centre in Lome (RCC Lome). Prior to joining the RCC Lome , Chunyu had worked for UNFCCC for over 7 years with responsibilities in CDM project evaluation and developing stakeholder capacity in West Africa region. Prior to UNFCCC, he worked for a couple of environmental finance companies in the field of CDM development. His current focus is to help West African countries prepare for the future climate finance opportunities. Chunyu holds his Masters degree in Environmental Science, Policy and Management.

OUSMANE FALL SARR, Eng.: Head of the Studies and Information System Unit at The Senegalese Rural Electrification Agency (ASER).



Environment-Energy Expert, Mr. SARR is presently working at the Senegalese Rural Electrification Agency (ASER), an autonomous entity of the Senegalese Ministry of Energy, in charge of rural electrification development. Chairman of the Senegalese National committee on Climate Change (COMNACC) since 2012, Mr. SARR has been regularly involved in the international negotiations process under UNFCCC with focus on CDM, Market Mechanisms, and Technology transfer. He's coordinated the development of the first Senegalese registered CDM PoA initiated by ASER. He also coordinated the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) process in Senegal, for the Energy Sector. As chair of the COMNACC, he is presently coordinating the technical process of the elaboration of Senegal INDC.

UZOAMAKA U. NWAMARAH: Climate Finance expert


Mrs. Uzoamaka U. Nwamarah has worked for over a decade in the sustainable development field with a focus on energy, environment and climate change. Her expertise spans across policy development, project operations, capacity building and advocacy in both the public and private sectors. Uzoamaka worked from 2009 to 2015 as a Senior Climate Change Specialist with the African Development Bank (AfDB). She was responsible for the management of the Bank's Climate Change Coordination Committee Secretariat which established and oversees its climate change and green growth programmes including its climate finance platform and support to the African Group of Negotiators in the international negotiations. Prior to joining the AfDB, Uzoamaka was an Energy Policy and Strategy Consultant with Carbon Asset Management Company (Camco) United Kingdom (UK). She was Technical Advisor for the UK Carbon Trust Carbon Management Programme and also focused on international business development activities of the Clean Development Mechanism in Africa. Uzoamaka has a Masters degree in Environmental Science and Technology – Energy Policy, from Imperial College London.

Dethie Soumare Ndiaye: Coordinator Climate Finance Unit, Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE)


Dethie Soumare Ndiaye has a primary background in forestry. He has close to 15 years of experience in the field of environment and climate change. His expertise lies in direct access to climate finance, as well as land degradation and natural resources management. A special consideration of his current work is exploring the interlinkages between land degradation and climate change and analyzing how they impact the livelihoods of the most vulnerable. Dethie S. Ndiaye is currently the coordinator of the Climate Finance Unit of the Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE), in Senegal. The CSE is the first African organisation to be accredited as a National Implementing Entity (NIE) by the Adaptation Fund Board and the Green climate Fund. It supports the formulation and implementation of projects in Senegal and in neighbouring countries. CSE is actually implementing a "readiness programme" funded by the Adaptation Fund

Mr. Raoul KOUAME, Environment and Climate Change Expert, ECOWAS commission


Mr. Raoul KOUAME, Environment and Climate Change Expert, has worked five years at the Institute for Research on Renewable Energies of Côte d'Ivoire. After this experience on renewable energies, he joined the Climate Change Office of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire which is in charge of the development of National Communications under UNFCCC as well as other climate change projects. He led also the NAMAs process and assist the development of project on Technology Need Assessment in Côte d'Ivoire. Since 2009, Mr Raoul KOUAME has been involved in the international negotiations on climate change as Assistant of the UNFCCC National Focal Point. Since January 2015, he moved at the regional level to work as Climate Change Project Coordinator at the Environment Directorate of ECOWAS Commission

Mr. Liberal Seburikoko, Regional Adviser to the Green Climate Fund-GCF


Mr. Liberal Seburikoko is the Regional Adviser to the Green Climate Fund, assessing needs and providing readiness support to African countries. He previously worked as Regional Representative for Grow Africa, a partnership platform, founded by the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Agency and the World Economic Forum to help catalyse sustainable investment and growth in African agriculture. Liberal has over 15 years of experience encompassing climate policy analysis, financial management, programmatic approaches, results-based management, multi-stakeholder process facilitation, and investigation skills. He has been involved in UNFCCC negotiations providing technical and political support to LDC countries and was part of the design team for the Rwandan Climate and Environment Fund (FONERWA). He holds an MBA in Finance and a post-graduate diploma in anti-corruption.