



8th Bioenergy Week and Study Tour for Capacity Building

Addis Ababa, UNECA Headquarter (details tbc)

28 September 2020 – 1 October 2020 (tbc)

Concept note and agenda

Hosted by:

LOGO of AU/AFREC, UNECA and FAO to be inserted

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1. Background

The 8th Bioenergy Week of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in September 2020 (exact date TBC), in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), African Energy Commission (AFREC) and African Union Commission (AUC).

GBEP has been holding the GBEP Bioenergy Weeks since 2013, and has visited Brazil, Mozambique, Indonesia, Hungary, Argentina and the Philippines in the first and second cycle of regional events. The GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB), under the co-leadership of the ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) and Argentina, has stressed the enormous added value of these regional events in terms of capacity building and information sharing, and has strongly supported a new cycle of these regional events starting with the eight Bioenergy Week to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The 2020 Bioenergy Week will enhance learning from positive experiences on sustainable production and use of bioenergy integrated within food production value chains, to support the design and implementation of bioenergy policies in Africa. Furthermore, it will provide the opportunity to continue a dialogue with the private sector and other stakeholders on ways to improve mutual cooperation towards a more sustainable production and use of bioenergy.

2. Bioenergy Development in Africa

Many African households depend on traditional bioenergy consumption to fulfil energy demands, and the share of solid fuel use (charcoal and firewood) in total final energy consumption in the region is the highest in the world. In 2017, the bioenergy consumption in Africa represented 50% of the total final consumption, which almost was 210 943 ktoe. In countries like Niger, Nigeria and Senegal, for example, firewood and charcoal represent 96%, 80% and 82% respectively of residential energy consumption (AFREC Energy Efficiency Indicators 2018).

Production and consumption of bioenergy in Africa have direct impacts on biodiversity, water and soil quality, as well as on many social and economic aspects of primary relevance for developing countries. In particular, for Africa, indoor household air pollution from traditional cookstoves induce wide-scale respiratory diseases inflecting huge annual causality, production of solid biomass impacts natural forest ecosystems, and lack of modern energy services can negatively impact social and economic development.

Since the adoption of the resolution on Africa Bioenergy Policy Framework and Guidelines by the African Union Assembly in 2013, AUC, ECA and AUDA-NEPAD have spearheaded major activities, in partnership with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to encourage African member states to adopt modern bioenergy technologies and practices. The adoption of the Policy Framework was followed by the implementation of a technical support programme directed towards training on modern bioenergy technologies and policies, as well as on bioenergy project development. Lessons learned from this mainstreaming of bioenergy in the energy economy of African countries include:

- The increases in electrifications rates across Africa has not brought the expected decrease in biomass energy usage in rural and urban settings.

- Almost all African countries and regional institutions have policies and even targets on renewable energy (mainly in solar, hydro, wind and geothermal), but very few have prioritized modern bioenergy development.
- The majority of African countries have not succeeded in introducing clean cooking fuels and technologies, especially in rural areas.
- Competition within the renewable energy space is high. Bioenergy is competing with other renewable energy technologies for policy prioritization and investment.
- Amongst a myriad of international programmes and financing mechanisms, few focus on the promotion of bioenergy in Africa.
- Many countries have little capacity to develop a range of bankable bioenergy projects. Many of the identified projects are small scale with limited impact.
- The majority of project sponsors or project developers lack financial means to fund some of the early project activities, such as pre-feasibility studies, and project structuring packaging.

As a consequence of all the above, the business case for bioenergy is not very strong because of lack of built networks to assist in incubating ideas as well as the lack of institutional support at country level. In response to this, the AUC Specialized Technical Committee mandated the AUC and ECA to assist RECs to develop and implement bioenergy investment strategies for African regions and its plans in the period 2019-2020. These plans and strategies would provide a roadmap for each African region on bioenergy development as well as catalyzing investments in bioenergy projects.

3. Objectives

The 2020 Bioenergy Week is aimed to foster discussion and exchange of experiences and skills from all over the world that have been proven to showcase the practicality of sustainable bioenergy services and to support its accelerated implementation in Africa. It also builds on the ongoing support of AFREC, AUC, ECA and other regional partners in accelerating the role of bioenergy in the energy economy of Africa. It will serve as a platform for strengthening cooperation between African member states and specialized institutions for increasing the provision of sustainable energy services.

Specifically, the Forum aims to:

- Demonstrate the state of global and regional bioenergy, policies and regulations;
- Present the state of the regional bioenergy situation and efforts to enhance further the share of modern bioenergy within the regional energy mix;
- Present the current status of the bioenergy sector in Africa, sharing challenges, lessons learned and opportunities from all over the world, with a view to stimulate modern bioenergy implementation and replication in Africa;
- Discuss successful, replicable bioenergy systems that provide sustainable modern energy services;
- Showcase available relevant technologies, R&D, feedstock and financial instruments of partners and investment firms;
- Engage stakeholders on bioenergy best practices to maximize sustainability and contribute to meeting SDGs and countries' NDCs; and
- Provide a platform to the private sector to facilitate a viable bioenergy market in Africa, as well as investments in new bioenergy technologies for local applications.

GBEP Working Group on Capacity Building (WGCB)

**Study tour for capacity building and training (Activity Group 3)
Agenda for the 8th Bioenergy Week**

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
<p>OPENING Welcome speeches</p> <p>***</p> <p>GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICIES</p> <p>Bioenergy development and regulatory frameworks in Africa. State of the art, challenges and lessons learned</p>	<p>SUSTAINABLE BIOENERGY AS A CONTRIBUTION TO LAND CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION</p> <p>Exchange of experiences and opportunities for feedstocks, technologies and investments. Speakers will be invited to make cross cutting references to sustainability and to value chains approaches, challenges and opportunities.</p>	<p>ROUNDTABLES: <i>Discussion with policy makers, business sector and international Banks/Funds</i></p> <p>BANKABILITY OF BIOENERGY PROJECTS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ***</p> <p>BIOECONOMY OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA</p>	Field Visit
<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Lunch</p> <p><i>Meetings to facilitate B2B and public-private partnership (PPP)</i></p>	<p>Lunch</p> <p><i>Meetings to facilitate B2B and public-private partnership (PPP)</i></p>	
<p>SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS FOR FOOD, ENERGY AND LIVELIHOOD SECURITY</p> <p>Exchange of experiences and opportunities for biomass, technologies and investments. Speakers will be invited to make cross cutting references to sustainability and to value chains approaches, challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>***</p> <p>BIOENERGY REPORTING AND STATISTICS IN AFRICA</p>	<p>LIQUID BIOFUELS IN URBAN AREAS</p> <p>Exchange of experiences and opportunities for feedstocks, technologies and investments. Speakers will be invited to make cross cutting references to sustainability and to value chains approaches, challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>***</p> <p>GBEP YOUTH AWARD</p> <p>Certificate awards will be delivered in recognition of the most remarkable and outstanding research works in the field of bioenergy carried out by students. Brief presentation of the awarded researches and delivery of the award certificates.</p>	<p>BREAK OUT GROUPS with policy makers, business sector and international Banks/Funds</p> <p>1. The importance of national/regional stakeholder engagement for projects in Africa</p> <p>2. How to develop and finance a project in Africa</p> <p>***</p> <p>KEY MESSAGES AND CONCLUSIONS</p>	Field Visit (cont'd)
		Reception (tbc)	

DAY 1

08.30 – 09.30 **Registration of participants**

09.30 – 10.20 **Opening and Welcome Remarks**

- H.E. Dr Amani Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy & Tourism, Infrastructure, Energy & Tourism Department, AU/AFREC
- Dr William Lumgweno, Director, Private Sector Development and Finance Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa
- David Phiri, FAO Representative to the African Union (AU) and to the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Amb. Luiz Eduardo de Aguiar Villarinho Pedroso, Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil, GBEP Co-Chair
- Dr Frehiwot Woldehanna, State Minister for Energy, Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity, Ethiopia

10.20 – 10.45 **Photo Session**

10.45 – 11.15 **Networking coffee break**

11.15 – 12.40 **Global, regional and national policies**

Moderator: Dr Robert Lisinge, Chief, Energy, Infrastructure and Services Section, ECA

- International Energy Agency (IEA) global vision for bioenergy to regional and local strategies to accelerate deployment
Paolo Frankl, International Energy Agency (IEA)
- Overview of the role of bioenergy in the African energy sector
Rashid Ali Abdallah, Executive Director, AFREC/African Union
- Bioenergy regulatory frameworks in Ethiopia
- The contribution of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)
Maria Michela Morese, Executive Secretary, GBEP

12.40 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 15.30 **Sustainable Value Chains for Food and Energy Security**

Moderator: Cristeen Zana

- The experience of ECOWAS, *Bah Saho, ECRREE/ECOWAS*
- Experience in SADC, *Mr Henry Shongwe, Namibia*
- Sustainable bioethanol and biogas from cassava as an opportunity for food security, *James Ogbonna, University of Nigeria, Nsukka*
- Biogas from residues and wastes - experience from Rwanda or Uganda (Monga to propose a speaker)
- The Cogen for Africa project, *Fahrna Nakhooda, Project Director, Uganda*

- Cookstoves in refugee camps, *Desalegn Fetanehe, GAIA Clean Energy or Harry Stokes, Project GAIA*

Q&A session

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.00 **Bioenergy reporting and statistics in Africa**

Moderator: tbd AFREC/AU

- The experience of up to 4 experts

DAY 2

09.00 – 11.00 **Sustainable bioenergy as a contribution to land conservation and restoration**

Moderator: UNECA

- An overview on challenges and opportunities of sustainable bioenergy as a contribution to land conservation and restoration, *Olivier Dubois, FAO*
- Briquette in Chad, *Djingereng Mouiba, FAAM, Chad*
- Sustainability of biogas and solid biomass value chains in Ethiopia, *Berhane Kidane, Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute*
- Cross border charcoal trade: dialogue for evidence based regional strategies for sustainable woodfuel value chains in Africa, *Sola Phosiso, ICRAF*
- Experience from Ghana and Togo, *Cisco Aust and Andreas Schleenbaecker, GIZ*
- Sustainable bioenergy and reforestation experience in Kenya, *Meshack Muga, FAO Kenya*

Q&A session

11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee break**

11.30 – 12.30 **Sustainable bioenergy as a contribution to land conservation and restoration (cont')**

Moderator: tbd

- Challenges and opportunities to produce biochar and briquettes in Togo, *Dzotsi Koffi Elom Towodjo, MPSP NGO Togo*
- Producing pellets in Ghana, *Pragnesh Mishra, Abellon CleanEnergy Ghana*

- Agro-forestry practices using Gliricidia to increase food and sustainable food and energy access. The case of Sri Lanka and opportunities in West Africa, *Lucky Dissanayake, Biomass Group Sri Lanka, Dennis Garrity, Global EverGreening Alliance and Bah Saho, ECOWAS/ECREEE*

Q&A session

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch

Meetings to facilitate B2B and public-private partnership (PPP)

Moderator: Marc Buiting, 1to3 Capital

14.00 – 16.00

Liquid biofuels in urban areas

Moderator: Suani Coelho, USP, Brazil

- Ethanol production business in Lusaka, *Prof Thomson Sinkala, Chairman, Thomro Biofuels, Zambia*
- Policies, program and actions in Kenya
- Sugarcane bioenergy potentials in Southern Africa – Study by IRENA, *Toshimasa Masuyama, IRENA*
- The experience in Mozambique, *Marcelina Mataveia, National Directorate of New and Renewable Energy, Mozambique*
- The experience of Brazil, *Suani Coelho, USP, Brazil*
- Representative from Swaziland

Q&A session

16.00 – 16.30

Coffee break

16.30 – 17.15

GBEP Youth Award

Certificate awards will be delivered in recognition of the most remarkable and outstanding research works in the field of bioenergy carried out by students.

- *Delivery of the award certificates*
- *Brief presentation of the awarded researches (up to 3 presentations)*

DAY 3

09.00 – 10.45

Roundtable: Bankability of bioenergy projects - opportunities and challenges

Moderator: Dr William Lumgweno, Director, Private Sector Development and Finance Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa

- No silver bullet: the need for coalition building within the renewable energy sector, *Candice Wilson, USGC*
- *Flavio Castelar, APLA, Brazil*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker from Versalis, Bonsucro, UNIDO, WBCSD, DEVCO, AfDB, AFD <p><i>Q&A session</i></p>
10.45 – 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 13.00	<p>Bioeconomy opportunities in Africa</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr Monga Mehlwana, Private Sector Development and Finance, ECA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons learnt from mainstreaming modern bioenergy development in Africa (2012-19). <i>Mr Peter Kinithua, Energy Division, Department of Infrastructure and Energy, AUC</i> • Opportunities for generating diesel from animal fat in Botswana, <i>Mr Bioki Mabowe, Managing Director, Biodiesel Botswana, Gabrarone</i> • Making opportunities of urban waste for energy production in Addis Ababa, <i>Mr Samuel Alemayehu, founder, Reppie Waste-to-Energy Plant, Ethiopia</i> • Integrated phytomining and Ethanol Production in the Zambian Copperbelt, <i>Prof Thomson Sinkala, Chairman, Thomro Biofuels</i> • Bioenergy Development Strategy and Investment Plan for the Central African Region, <i>Mr Demba Diop, Owner, EPM Consulting, Senegal</i> <p><i>Q&A session</i></p>
13.00 – 14.15	<p>Lunch</p> <p><i>Meetings to facilitate B2B and public-private partnership (PPP)</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Queenie Rojo, Ethanol Producers Association of the Philippines (EPAP)</i></p>
14.15 – 15.30	<p>Break out groups</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The importance of national/regional stakeholder engagement for projects in Africa – <i>Moderator tbd</i> 2. How to develop and finance a project in Africa - <i>Moderator tbd</i>
15.30 – 15.50	Coffee break
15.50 – 16.30	Break out group moderators report back in plenary
16.30 – 17.00	<p>Conclusions and closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Representative from AU/AFREC</i> • <i>Maria Michela Morese, GBEP Executive Secretary</i>

- Mr Robert Lisinge, Chief, Energy, Infrastructure and Services Section, ECA

XX.XX – XX.XX **Reception** at XXX (tbc)

DAY 4

09.00 – 20.00 **Field visits**