



Republic of Côte d'Ivoire



COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES
ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMUNIDAD DOS ESTADOS
DA AFRICA DO OESTE

Third ECOWAS BUSINESS FORUM

28 September to 1 October, 2010

Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)

**Theme: Harnessing Energy Resources to Enhance the
Competitiveness of West Africa's Economy**

RECOMMENDATIONS AND DRAFT ACTION PLAN

1. ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

At sub regional level

1. The ECOWAS Commission should declare a decade of energy sufficiency. This would enable governments in the sub region to prioritise their development strategies accordingly.
2. The WAPP should take all the necessary measures to speed up the implementation of its priority regional projects of power production and interconnections.
3. The sub region should adopt an Energy Mix which includes all available energy resources to meet the fast growing demand;
4. The sub region should develop Minimum Renewable Energy Targets (MRET) which member states should adhere to and implement.
5. ECOWAS should strengthen the capacity of the ECOWAS Center for promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency;

At national level

6. Member States should strengthen rural electrification provision mechanisms. ECOWAS should encourage low cost and greener initiatives towards supplying energy to rural communities.

2. BUSINESS AND POLICY ENVIRONMENT

At sub regional level: ECOWAS should

- create a sub regional legal framework to guarantee private investment in the energy sector
- should liaise with other stakeholders to develop and implement capacity building programs to enhanced human capital development in the energy sector;
- develop and enforce an inward looking strategy which promotes the usage of local environmentally friendly and less energy demanding materials.

At national level: Member States should

- a. create an enabling policy framework and a stable regulatory environment for the growth and the health of the private sector through appropriate policy reforms.

- b. develop and implement reforms towards unbundling their energy sector to open it to private sector;
- c. create and/or strengthen national frameworks to promote and manage public private partnerships in the energy sector
- d. adopt and ratify the ECOWAS Protocol for Energy which defines the regulation, the roles and responsibilities of the States in the process of the development of the sector;
- e. provide appropriate incentives to encourage investment in Independent Power Projects including in rural electrification projects such as import duty concessions, tax free, one stop shop for licensing procedure/arrangement, etc

3. FINANCING

At sub regional level

7. ECOWAS should be more engaged and provide assistance to private entrepreneurs to facilitate the attraction of funds from international partners for developing energy projects.

At national level

8. Member States should

- a. Should inject more financial resources towards rehabilitation and maintenance of existing infrastructure;
- b. Mobilize local resources to finance energy production and distribution as alternative foreign intermediation and financing and
- c. develop and implement financing mechanisms for energy projects including setting up low interest loan funds oriented towards energy projects particularly for rural electrification projects.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD ECOWAS BUSINESS FORUM

Objective	Main Actions/Activities	Responsibility
To ensure sub regional self-sufficiency in energy.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Declare a Decade for energy self-sufficiency in the sub region. 2. Develop and implement harmonized sub regional and national policies, programmes and activities towards realizing energy self-sufficiency 3. Implement WAPP power production and interconnectivity projects 4. Create and implement an enabling institutional and policy framework (fair competition regulation, financing, incentives, M&E, etc) for the involvement of the private sector in the development of renewable sources of energy. 5. Develop, implement and strengthen harmonized frameworks for promoting rural electrification and energy procurement in the ECOWAS region 6. Develop and implement Minimum Renewable Energy Targets (MRET) for the sub region which member states should adhere to. 7. Develop and implement a mechanism to monitor and evaluate compliance. 	<p>ECOWAS MS¹/ECOWAS WAPP/ECOWAS /MS MS/ECOWAS MS/ECOWAS MS/ECOWAS</p>
To create a conducive and enabling environment for ensuring the production and supply of energy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake policy reforms to liberalise (unbundling of utilities) the energy sector and create an enabling environment 2. Develop national and sub regional policy and regulatory frameworks for the participation of the private sector 3. Develop and implement national and sub regional capacity building programmes exploration, production, distribution and marketing of energy and energy products 4. Develop a sub regional approach (all encompassing training modules and establishment of relevant institutions) for manpower training in the energy sector for sustainability. 5. Develop and implement a framework for assessing bids for the delivery of energy by the private sector. 	<p>MS/ECOWAS MS/ECOWAS MS/ECOWAS ECOWAS MS/ECOWAS MS</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Develop and implement a transparent policy framework for the award of contracts. 7. Set up monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the sector 	

¹ MS = member States

<p>To stimulate private sector involvement in the energy sector</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement a framework for providing financial and technical assistance to the Private sector (including women) to invest in the energy sector in the sub region. 2. Develop and implement harmonized training programmes to strengthen the capacity of local entrepreneurs in preparing bankable project proposals in the energy sector. 3. Develop national and sub regional strategies with clear directives on how to set up partnership with foreign investors so as to promote local capacity building 	<p>MS/ECOWAS</p> <p>MS/ECOWAS/Other partners</p> <p>MS/ECOWAS</p>
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