



**ECREEE**  
Towards Sustainable Energy

# ECREEE Annual **REPORT**

## 2022

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# **Annual Report 2022**

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## List of Acronyms

<b>ADA</b>	Austrian Development Agency
<b>AECID</b>	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
<b>AfDB</b>	African Development Bank
<b>ASER</b>	Agence Sénégalaise d'Electrification Rurale
<b>CC</b>	Cross-Cutting
<b>COP27</b>	The 27 <sup>th</sup> Session: Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>DtP WAREP</b>	Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program
<b>DPERSE</b>	Sustainable Development through Renewable Energy in the Southeast of Senegal
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>ECOSHAM</b>	ECOWAS Standards Harmonization Model
<b>ECREEE</b>	ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
<b>EE</b>	Energy Efficiency
<b>EREF</b>	ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility
<b>ESEF</b>	ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GGGI</b>	Global Green Growth Institute
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas
<b>GIZ</b>	German International Development Cooperation
<b>GN-SEC</b>	Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres
<b>GOGLA</b>	Global Off-Grid Lighting Association
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>ONePLANET</b>	Open-source Nexus modeling tools for PLANning sustainable Energy Transition in Africa
<b>PV</b>	Photovoltaic
<b>ProCEM-II</b>	Promoting a Climate-Friendly Energy Market - Phase 2
<b>RE</b>	Renewable Energy
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SEforAll</b>	Sustainable Energy for All
<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedure
<b>THC5</b>	Electrotechnical Standards Harmonization Committee
<b>UNIDO</b>	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WACCA</b>	West Africa Clean Cooking Program
<b>WAPP</b>	West African Power Pool
<b>WASCAL</b>	West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use

## Executive Summary

The year 2022 was quite eventful in several ways. A new Strategic Plan that guides ECREEE's operations for the medium term (2023-2027) was developed. The Centre's management has also been strengthened due to the appointment of a second substantive Executive Director and, for the first time, a Director of Operations.

Significant programmatic achievements of the year included the development of a draft Green Hydrogen Policy, the training of a cohort of artisans in Sierra Leone in the construction of clean cookstoves, training of public and private stakeholders in Lomé, Togo and Banjul, the Gambia, in using bioethanol for clean cooking. Others are the completion of a USAID-funded mini-grids project, the installation of electronic appliances testing laboratory in the Gambia, and the successful implementation of the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum in the face of challenges within a few days leading up to the event. The Centre's ECOWAS-Donors' Consultative Committee also held its second meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, to deliberate on critical organizational governance matters.

Delayed release of funds was the foremost challenge. As of December, 71.70% of Community Levy and 20.98% of Donor Funds had been received. This contributed to the delayed implementation of some activities. Furthermore, nearly one-third of the 26 ECREEE permanent staff positions still need to be filled.

Beginning in 2023, the Agency will implement an action plan based on the 2023-2027 strategy. In addition, fund-raising efforts will be renewed, and engagement with existing partners will be revitalized while establishing new partnerships. Furthermore, the Green Hydrogen Strategy will be developed, and the 2023 edition of the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum will be held in Cabo Verde.



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Brief Background

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECEEE) was established in response to the recommendation of the ECOWAS/UEMOA<sup>1</sup> White Paper on access to energy services in rural and peri-urban areas issued in 2006. This recommendation was further boosted by the Ouagadougou Declaration, where the ECOWAS Conference on Peace and Security on the 12th of November 2007 articulated the need to establish the Agency. At the same conference, the Austrian Minister for European and International Affairs and UNIDO pledged support for the creation and take-off of the Agency.

In November 2008, the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the ECOWAS Council of Ministers adopted Regulation C/REG.23/11/08 and gave the ECEEE a legal basis. Accordingly, in 2010, the secretariat of the Centre was established during a six-month preparatory phase in Praia, Cabo Verde, with the support of the ECOWAS Commission and the Austrian and Spanish Governments, as well as technical assistance from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

As a specialized ECOWAS agency, ECEEE operates within the legal, administrative, and financial Framework of ECOWAS rules and regulations. The Agency is also part of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), coordinated by UNIDO in partnership with various regional economic communities.

ECEEE is responsible for developing and promoting RE and EE in the ECOWAS region. Its objectives, according to ECOWAS implementation regulation<sup>2</sup>, are:

- Coordination of projects and programs related to EE and RE, improving access to modern; energy services and energy security;
- Sensitization and capacity building on EE and RE in the Region;
- Policy harmonization for the implementation of such projects in the member states;
- Research and technology transfer; and
- Program development and resource mobilization.

ECEEE defines and implements interventions to achieve short-term objectives through its annual work programs. These work programs bring out the specific sub-program/project

<sup>1</sup> UEMOA means “Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine”.

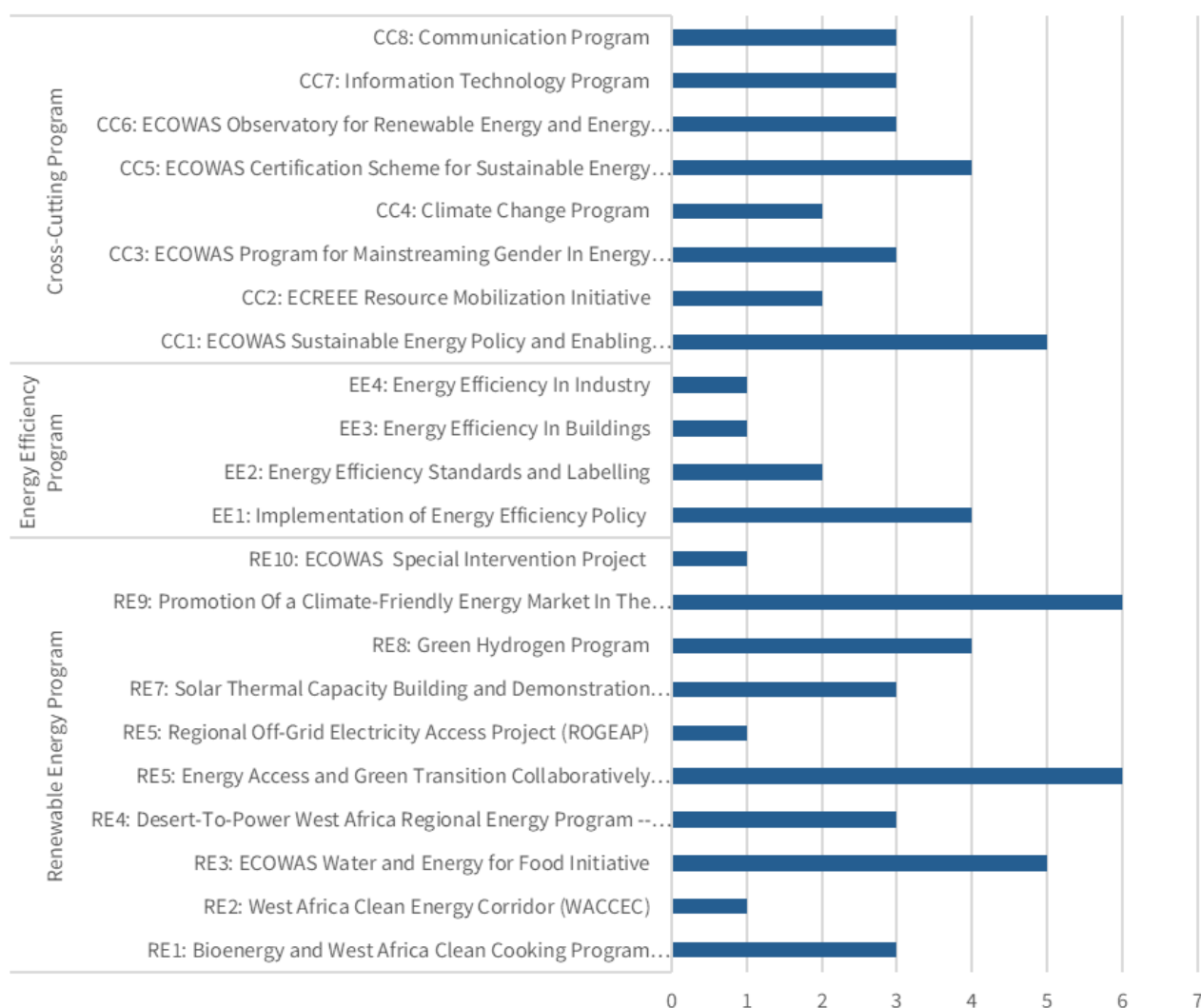
<sup>2</sup> ECOWAS Implementing Regulation PC/REX.5/06/2020 on the Organization and Functioning of ECEEE.



objectives, activities, budgets, and expected outputs under the three main program areas – Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Cross-Cutting. These align with the year’s ECOWAS policy direction and the Agency’s strategic plan objectives.

## 1.2 Work Program Structure for 2022

ECREEE planned to implement 66 activities in 2022 across its three main program areas— Renewable Energy (RE), Energy Efficiency (EE), and Cross-Cutting (CC). Figure 1 illustrates that half of these activities are RE and 8 EE, and 25 CC activities.





## 2.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

### 2.1 Overview

As of December 2022, 12 of the 66 planned activities had been completed, and 40 were on-going<sup>3</sup>. Ten had yet to be started due to inadequate funding and delayed action by a funding partner. Whereas two have been postponed, two others have been canceled. One instance of the cancellation resulted from an undue protraction of the procurement process, and the other was due to inadequate funding. Although Table 1 shows the summary of the status.

Program Area	Completed	On-Going	Not Started	Postponed	Canceled	Total	%
Renewable Energy	4	19	9	0	1	33	50%
Energy Efficiency	2	5	0	0	1	8	12%
Cross-Cutting	6	16	1	2	0	25	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Table 1: Summary of Implementation Status

<sup>3</sup> It is important to note that all on-going activities were at different stages of completion as of December 2022. In the subsequent annual reports, the percentages of completion at the end of the year will be presented.





Table 2 provides explanations for not started, postponed, and canceled activities.

Status	Explanation
Not started	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Water, Energy, and Food Nexus project partner did not determine the project’s funding. Instead, it altered some terms and conditions in the Memorandum of Understanding after several iterations of engagements. Five planned activities were therefore not started. Further deliberation has been scheduled for Q1 of 2023.</li> <li>• The budget for three activities under the Solar Thermal Capacity Building and Demonstration Program was inadequate.</li> <li>• Two activities of the Green Hydrogen Program could only be started after the policy had been developed—the GH strategy and pilot project. However, given the progress made in policy development, the said activities can be pursued in subsequent years.</li> <li>• A media capacity-building workshop was not conducted due to inadequate funding.</li> </ul>
Postponed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for an activity under the Climate Change Program -- In-house training on Carbon accounting for renewable energy projects—was reallocated to another—ECREEE’s participation in the 27th Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.</li> <li>• Under the ECOWAS Certification Scheme for Sustainable Energy Skills Program, examinations in five Member States were postponed allowing for adequate preparation and the involvement of actors at the national level.</li> </ul>
Canceled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The budget for an activity— “Agroforestry and Sustainable Farming Practices in ECOWAS Countries”— to support two intended national training workshops and partly as used grants for trainees. The activity was one of the three planned for the year under the Bioenergy and West Africa Clean Cooking Program (WACCA).</li> <li>• Under the Energy Efficiency Standards and Labelling sub-program, the procurement process of one activity was delayed due to a long lag in finding suitable consultants. As a result, implementation could no longer fit into the time limit recommended by UNIDO. Therefore, UNIDO canceled the project. The activity was the “Training in technical and marketing skills for energy efficiency and clean cooking solutions.”</li> </ul>

Table 2: Reasons for three categories of implementation status

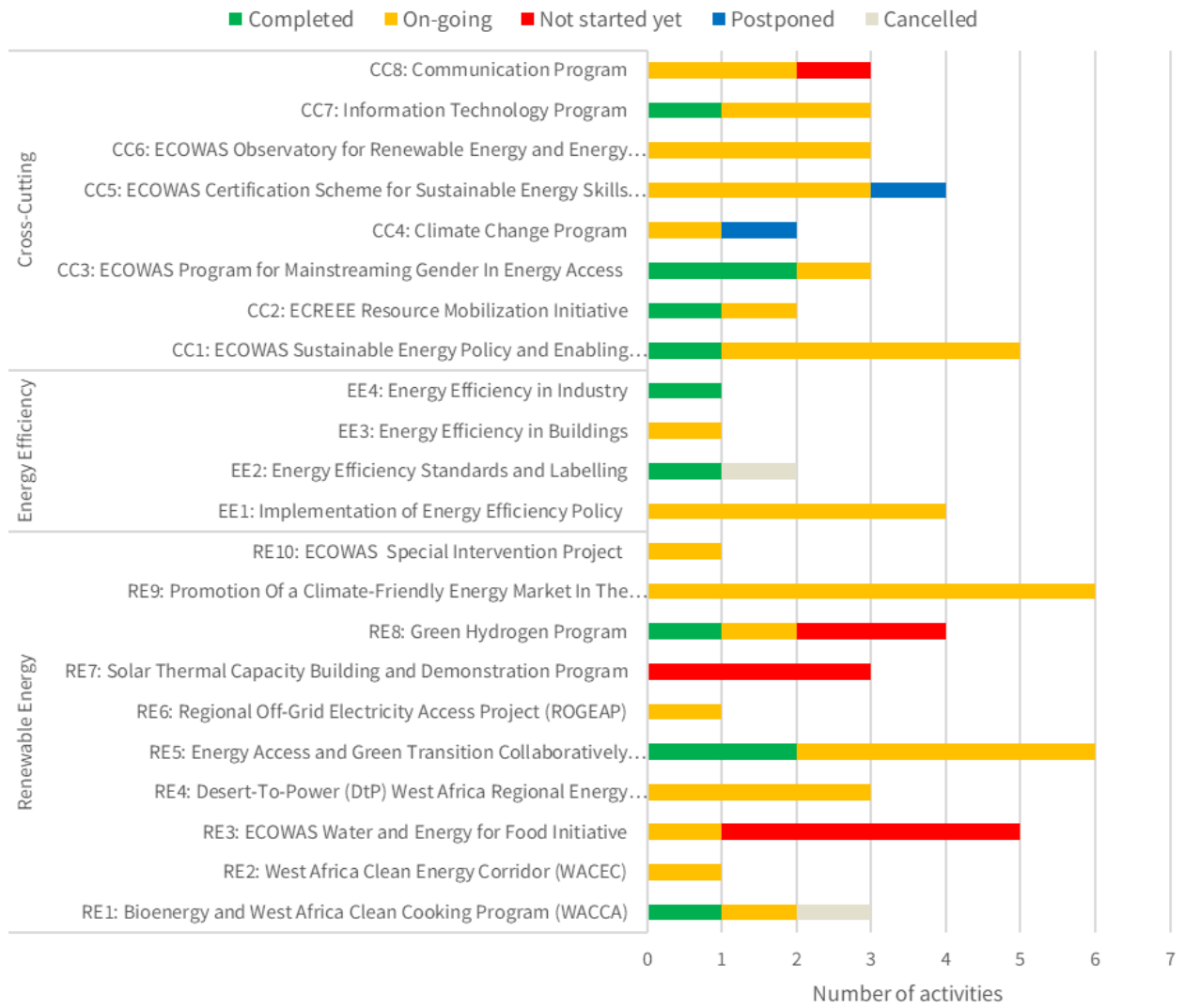


Figure 2: Implementation Status by Sub-Program & Project

## 2.2 Major Achievements

### 2.2.1 ECOWAS Bioenergy and Clean Cooking Program

The traditional use of biomass constitutes about 80% of the overall primary energy consumption of the ECOWAS region. The Bioenergy Program contributes to achieving the goal of universal access to sustainable energy services in the Region by 2030 by promoting modern bioenergy services and clean cooking solutions. ECREEE's support has led to finalizing and validating National Bioenergy Action Plans for Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, and Togo. The activity is on-going in the remaining nine Member States. In addition, 90 public and private stakeholders (38 in Lomé, Togo, and 26 in Banjul, The Gambia) were trained in using bioethanol for clean cooking. Further still, 26 artisans and local entrepreneurs from 10 chiefdoms in Sierra Leone were trained in constructing and marketing improved cookstoves.



A subset of the twenty-six artisans and local entrepreneurs from 10 chiefdoms trained in the construction and marketing of improved cookstoves in Sierra Leone, July 18 to 22 2022



## 2.2.2 ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility (EREF)

EREF provides non-reimbursable grants through regular demand-driven competitive calls for proposals. With the Facility, ECREEE contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll), and the reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to keep the global average temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. For example, a 120-kWp solar photovoltaic mini-grid was commissioned in The Gambia during the year's first quarter. It provides sustainable energy to at least three thousand inhabitants. Similar mini-grid projects have been completed in Cabo Verde, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone. Furthermore, to address the ECOWAS region's challenges in enabling access to renewable energy, ECREEE and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) will launch a new blended finance facility called ECOWAS Renewable Energy Facility (EREF2030) to support small and medium-sized renewable energy and energy efficiency projects and businesses in rural and peri-urban areas of the Member States. EREF2030 will build on the lessons learned from the previous phases.





### 2.2.3 ECOWAS COVID-19 Response and Recovery Support Fund (RECOVID)

RECOVID aims to provide targeted Support to ECOWAS Member States to help them overcome the health and development crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Persons most vulnerable to economic hardship and social disruption in their respective countries are the specific target group. Therefore, based on the request, ECREEE supported the solar electrification of two health Centres, one educational Centre in Togo, and two Health Centres in The Gambia.

### 2.2.4 ECOWAS E-Mobility Program

The E-mobility program aims to identify the potential for introducing electric vehicles in the ECOWAS Member States and raise awareness about electric mobility among policymakers in West Africa. A baseline assessment of two- and three-wheelers in the ECOWAS region was in progress as of the end of the year. Follow-on projects will be developed.



Community: Koundjoaré, Savanes,

Region: Northern

Country: Togo

PV system capacity: 5 kWp + 2x100Ah/48V storage capacity

Uses: Solar electrification of the Koundjoaré Primary School, as well as a solar kiosk for selling water, photocopies, mobile phone charging services.



Community: Macca Balla Manneh  
Region: North Bank  
Country: The Gambia  
PV system capacity: 4 kWp + 8x200Ah/48V storage capacity  
Uses: Solar electrification of the Macca Balla Manneh health centre, and solar water pumping for the clinic.

#### **2.2.4 ECOWAS E-Mobility Program**

The E-mobility program aims to identify the potential for introducing electric vehicles in the ECOWAS Member States and raise awareness about electric mobility among policymakers in West Africa. A baseline assessment of two- and three-wheelers in the ECOWAS region was in progress as of the end of the year. Follow-on projects will be developed.

#### **2.2.5 ECOWAS Green Hydrogen Policy**

Green Hydrogen as a fuel for the future has gained global interest in recent years. Developed with funding support from the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research and technical support from the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL), the draft of the ECOWAS Green Hydrogen Policy has been validated by representatives of Ministries responsible for energy and members of the ECOWAS Green Hydrogen Working Group.



ECREEE is leading efforts to assess the potential of Green Hydrogen production in Africa and how that can support sustainable development in the continent and explore the possibility of exporting Green Hydrogen from Africa.

Following the incorporation of inputs from the experts, the draft policy document will be presented to the ECOWAS Energy Ministers for adoption. Subsequently, ECREEE will collaborate with the Technical Committee of the Energy Ministers and the ECOWAS Commission through the Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy, and Digitalisation to present the regional policy to the ECOWAS Council of Ministers for adoption. The adopted policy document will then be submitted to the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government Summit for approval, as illustrated in Figure 3.



Technical Experts at the Regional Meeting to validate the Draft Regional Policy, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire; October 2022

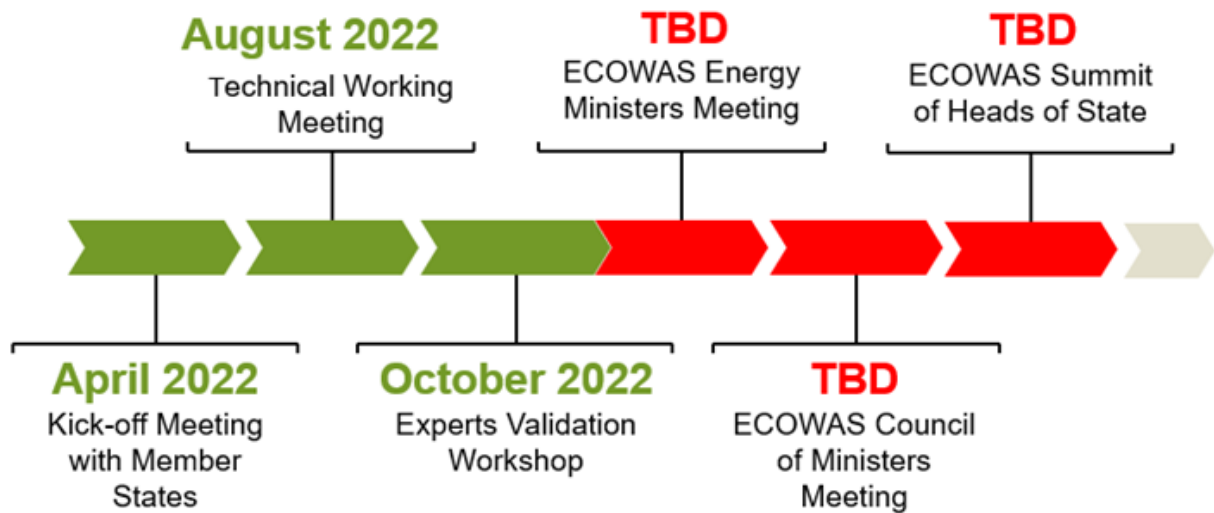


Figure 3: The process of development, adoption and approval of the ECOWAS Green Hydrogen Policy

ECREEE commits to conducting the following activities:

- i. Organizing the meeting of Energy Ministers for endorsement by the end of March 2023;
- ii. Facilitating the policy adopted by the Council of Ministers and subsequent approval by the Conference of Heads of State and Government by the end of July 2023.
- iii. Recruiting consultants to replace the two former officers to ensure continued program implementation.

### 2.2.6 Promoting a Climate-Friendly Energy Market--Phase 2 (ProCEM-II)

ECREEE, in collaboration with the German International Development Cooperation (GIZ), is also implementing the ProCEM II project. The project aims to contribute to efforts at meeting the energy needs of households, public institutions, and companies in the Member States of the West African Power Pool (WAPP). The project's expected outcome is an improved institutional, technical, legal, and regulatory framework for a climate-friendly regional electricity market. Activities being carried out include a) providing technical assistance to national and regional institutions as part of the West Africa Clean Energy Corridor program, b) developing a least-cost investment plan, c) developing a regulatory and environmental framework for the deployment of utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems in the West African Power Pool network, and d) capacity building, including the promotion of the professional skills of installers and the quality of devices, equipment, and installations of sustainable energy systems.





### 2.2.7 Rural Electrification through Renewable Energy Systems in the Liptako-Gourma Region

To support the efforts of the governments of the Liptako-Gourma region (Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger) toward providing sustainable energy services to the most vulnerable populations, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) -- in partnership with ECREEE -- are implementing, a project called "Support for Rural Electrification by Renewable Energy Systems in the Liptako-Gourma Region - Pilot Phase." The project capitalizes on the very significant potential for solar energy in the Region and aims to (i) provide institutional support in the field of rural electrification and support the revision of the regulatory framework to promote investment in renewable energy; (ii) install six photovoltaic mini-grids with batteries; (iii) support the private sector engaged in the development of mini-grids, and (iv) promote the creation of income-generating activities through the use of the energy services provided to communities by the project. In addition, a study of investment risks in solar photovoltaic mini-grids and risk mitigation measures has been conducted in Burkina Faso. Those for Mali and Niger were scheduled for the first quarter of 2023.

### 2.2.8 Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling

The Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling sub-program of ECREEE aims to support Member States to generate energy savings by introducing measures that address inefficiencies in the use of electrical appliances. As part of efforts to establish an energy-efficiency testing laboratory for clean cooking, energy-efficient lighting, and appliances for The Gambia Standards Bureau, testing equipment has been procured, and stakeholders have been trained on its use.

Besides this, a regional product database for electrical appliances of ECOWAS-approved Minimum Energy Performance Standards has been developed, approved, and functional. The product database contributes to efforts to prevent the dumping of non-compliant electrical equipment in the ECOWAS region. The database is available at <https://ecowasprs.com/>.





### 2.2.9 Energy Efficiency in Industry

The Energy Efficiency in Industry Program is designed to promote reducing carbon dioxide generated by the industrial sector by introducing energy efficiency measures and facilitating clean energy technologies uptake. During the third quarter, an awareness creation and capacity-building workshop on the relevance of industrial energy efficiency and resource-efficient cleaner production in the industrial sector in Nigeria was held in Lagos, Nigeria. Participants included policy-makers, national energy efficiency experts, financial institutions, Chief Executives, and technical staff of enterprises. ECREEE also organized a regional workshop on operationalizing national energy efficiency action plans in industry and building. The objective was to review the progress toward achieving goals and define an ambitious roadmap for implementing energy efficiency projects.



Workshop participants, August 8-19, 2022, Lagos, Nigeria



### 2.2.10 ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum

The seventh edition of the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum (ESEF) themed "Achieving Sustainable Energy targets in the ECOWAS Region: Moving from Resilience to Transition" was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on October 31st and November 1st, 2022. A successful event that highlighted opportunities for the implementation of game-changing projects that will speed up the development of a viable market for sustainable energy solutions in the ECOWAS Member States, the Forum brought together over four hundred participants from the private sector, policy-makers, regional organizations, international organizations, academia, etc. Cabo Verde will host the next edition of ESEF.



A cross-section of dignitaries at the opening session of ESEF



### **2.2.12 Implementation of activities of the Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP)**

In support of ROGEAP implementation, ECREEE began collaborating with the ECOWAS Standards Harmonization Model (ECOSHAM) Secretariat and the Electrotechnical Standards Harmonization Committee (THC5) Secretariat to organize the first Standards Harmonization meeting on Pico-Solar photovoltaic (PV) products and Solar Home System Kits and a second Standards meeting on photovoltaic mini-grids in November 2022. ROGEAP is funded by the World Bank.

### **2.2.13 Capacity Building Program**

ECREEE held a certification examination for off-grid solar PV installers in December within the framework of the regional certification system for renewable energy and energy efficiency professionals. Of the 349 applications received, 19% came from female applicants. Seventy-seven percent of the applicants (269) were eligible, of which 20% were female. Finally, 20% of the 96 certified were women. The Benin Minister of Energy, Mr. Dona Jean-Claude Houssou, chaired the award ceremony held on Friday, December 16, 2022, at École Supérieurs des Métiers des Énergies Renouvelables (ESMER) in Abomey-Calavi, Benin. The ECREEE Sustainable Energy Skills Certification Program is supported by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

As of December 2022, the total number of certified professions since the pilot phase that started in 2019 was 166. To sustain the certification system ECREEE, in collaboration with GIZ, launched a study that will lead to elaborating a business plan.







## 3.0 OTHER STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

### 3.1 ADA-UNIDO Capacity Building Support Project

In January 2022, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the ECREEE signed a Two-Hundred-and Forty-Thousand Euro (€240,000) contract to support ECREEE's internal capacity-building. The assistance was provided within the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SECs) scope by the Austrian Development Agency. The project's overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of ECREEE to continue delivering high-quality services and maintain its recognition as the Centre of Excellence within the ECOWAS region. Areas identified were:

- Monitoring and evaluation, with the view of improving the design and results-based management of programs and projects;
- Communication, to deepen understanding of ECREEE interventions, better integrate communications into new initiatives, and boost outreach efforts of the Centre and
- Technical capacity to improve ECREEE's technical and program outreach.

The status of the implementation of the activities is described in sections 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, and 3.1.5.

#### 3.1.1 Training of Staff of ECREEE in Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation

The objective of the M&E training was to improve participants' understanding of Results-Based Management and the foundational concepts of M&E and to enable their effective utilization of the Logical Framework and the Results Measurement Frameworks for effective program/project performance. The training was delivered by a consulting firm, SMD Policy Management Group, in July 2022, and the following were the modules:

- Introduction to Results-Based Management,
- Results-Based Monitoring & Evaluation,
- The Logical Framework Approach to Project Planning & Management,
- Performance Monitoring Plans/Results Measurement Framework and
- Independent Evaluations.

Each module was concluded with a group exercise to deepen the theoretical presentations' understanding and application. Existing ECREEE projects were used during the work group exercises. The preliminary outcome of the training was established from two perspectives:

- a) The analysis of the results of the pre-test and post-test, and
- b) The evaluation of the training by the participants.

Participants attained an average score of 56% for the pre-test, indicating that some prior M&E knowledge existed. Nonetheless, this score improved remarkably to about 75% for the post-test, with some participants improving their scores by more than 45%. Moreover, only one out of the 19 participants that submitted both the pre-and post-test had a drop in score. The consultants considered this a good indication that effective learning and skills transfer had occurred.

An analysis of the results from participants' feedback regarding the training modules and group work illustrated that the participants appreciated all the presentations. An average score of 2.88 out of 3 (96%) was attained for the thematic exhibitions and 2.71 (90%) for the working group exercises. These scores revealed that the participants improved their understanding of most topics discussed.



### **3.1.2 Software to aid program/project planning, monitoring, and evaluation**

The purpose of the software is to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of interventions through recording, analyzing, and retrieving program/project performance data from a centralized repository. As of December 2022, the service provider, BeDataDriven B.V., had:



- customized the software called ActivityInfo for ECREEE planning and M&E workflow,
- prepared a plan to train two staff who would, in turn, train other staff,
- developed users manual, and
- produced an Information Security Overview, which also covers a backup plan.

### **3.1.3 Advocacy, Communication, and Outreach Services**

The development of the branding manual and document templates was on course as of December 2022. The Communication Strategy will be aligned with the strategic orientations of the Centre's 2023-2027 strategic plan. In addition, new guidelines from the Communications Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission will be followed in developing the strategy and the templates.

### **3.1.4 Production of Advocacy Videos for ECREEE**

A contracted consulting firm produced two short videos. One lasts three minutes and the other 10 minutes. As of December, ECREEE had reviewed and provided feedback to the firm. Final versions were scheduled to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2023.

### **3.1.5 Recruitment of Two Short-Term Experts**

A Small Hydro and Ocean Energy Expert undertook the following assignments:

- Development of a complete small-hydropower training package (Concept note, modules, etc.);
- Preparation of a comprehensive survey (Concept notes, questionnaires, etc.) for ocean energy technologies development in West Africa;
- Review of several reports/documents prepared by ECREEE external consultants;
- Preparation of draft concept notes for possible GCF/GEC funding; and
- Preparation of a draft five-year small-hydropower technical assistance program in the Region.

The second consultant, A Policy, Regulation, and Planning Expert, also conducted the following tasks:

- Review of past ECREEE projects and policies on RE and EE;
- Preparation of briefs on strategies for feed-in tariffs, new technologies to consider, and RE&EE economic incentives in ECOWAS;
- Extraction of 2005-2021 data on solar thermal progress in West Africa;
- Preparation of a brief on financing for clean energy in West Africa;
- Assessment of the status quo versus national energy action plans, and
- Identification of the challenges with RE&EE policies in West Africa.





### 3.2 Risk Assessment & Finance Standard Operating Procedures Validation

In August, staff assessed the Agency's risks and validated a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for finance developed by the Directorate of Administration, Finance, and ICT. This took place during a special retreat.

While the intended outcome of the risk assessment was to ensure that unmanageable risks do not weaken the environment within which the Centre operates, the output produced—the immediate result—was the 2022 risk register. Program Officers and, Administrative and Finance Unit staff identified the risks associated with their respective portfolios and mitigation strategies needed to achieve the outcome.

The SOP aims to streamline and standardize the processes, procedures, methodologies, and resources required to implement the finance functions effectively and efficiently. The document covers five significant areas of the operation, namely i) Document Management; ii) Budgeting and Budgeting Procedures; iii) Cash and Bank; iv) Financial Reporting; and v) Internal and External Audits.

### 3.3 Development of the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

A contracted consultant produced a final draft of the 2023-2027 strategic plan for the Centre, incorporating substantial input from ECREEE staff and external stakeholders. At the heart of the strategy are three strategic orientations, each with a set of expected outcomes and strategic interventions. These strategic orientations are: 1) Strengthened institutional, administrative, financial, and digital governance; 2) Improved implementation of programs and projects and 3) strengthened partnerships and resource mobilization. ECREEE staff further reviewed the document to ensure coherence and that the orientations align with higher ECOWAS strategic goals.

Stakeholders consulted include the following:

- ECOWAS Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy, and Digitalisation: Mr. Sediko Douka
- ECREEE's ECOWAS-Donors Consultative Committee, Member: Prof. Abubakar Sambo,
- ECREEE's Executive Director: Mr. Jean Francis Sempore,
- ECREEE's former Acting Executive Director: Mr. Bah Saho,
- ECREEE's Ag. Director of Admin, Finance, and ICT: Mr. Gibson Obasi,
- ECREEE's Director of Operations, Mr. Kouakou Alexis Kouassi,
- ECREEE's Resource Mobilization Officer: Ms. Monica Maduekwe,
- Representatives from Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), Austrian Development Agency (ADA), European Union (EU) delegation in Cabo Verde, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), African Development Bank (AfDB), West



Africa Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Bank,

- Representatives of ECREEE's National Focal Institutions,
- Selected renewable energy entrepreneurs and
- ECREEE 2010-2020 Impact Evaluation Consultants: Mr. José de Bettencourt and Ms. Claudia Raimundo.

The final version of the documents will be translated into French and Portuguese and disseminated across the Member States, ECOWAS Commission, partners, and the general public.

### **3.4 Second Consultative Committee Meeting**

The second meeting of the ECREEE's ECOWAS-Donor Consultation Committee) was held on November 7, 2022, at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel in Abuja, Nigeria. The objectives of the meeting were to i) review the implementation of the Work Program and Budget for 2022 and achievements thus far, ii) consider prospects for projects to be funded by potential donors, and iii) deliberate on the overview and description of the 2023 priority programs and budget, iv) validate the draft strategic plan 2023-2027, v) validate the new logo, and vi) assess measures taken to have a trilingual (English, French, and Portuguese) website to replace the English-only website. Recommendations made by the committee included the need for the Centre to:

- a) Evaluate the possibility of increasing the contribution of the ECOWAS Community levy to the ECREEE budget and reducing delays in the disbursement of funds. This is to be pursued by the Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy, and Digitalisation with support from ECREEE management;
- b) Devote special attention to financial reporting on funds managed directly by donors;
- c) Finalize the 2023-2027 strategic plan by the end of November 2022 and begin operationalization in early 2023; and
- d) Present the draft Green Hydrogen policy developed by ECREEE with the support of WASCAL, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), and the 2023-2027 strategic plan to ECOWAS Energy Ministers for validation and adoption during the first quarter of 2023.

### **3.5 Human Resource Updates**

Between July and August, two top-level and one middle-level positions were filled. They



included the Executive Director, Director of Operations, and Acting Head of Administration and Finance. In addition, the Spanish Agency for International Development (AECID) seconded a technical expert to the Centre to manage AECID-funded projects. Below are biography summaries of the new staff:



Mr. Jean Francis Sempore,  
Executive Director

Prior to joining the ECREEE, Mr. Semporé worked for the West African Power Pool (WAPP) based in Cotonou, Benin, as Program Officer. He served for nearly twenty years at the Institut International d'Ingénierie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement (2iE), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in several positions of responsibility, including Advisor to the General Director in charge of Institutional Development, Prospective and Digital, Director of the Technopole, Director of International Relations, Director of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, Director of the e-Education Centre, Head of the Master's Degree program in Energy Engineering. Before joining the 2iE Institute, Mr. Semporé worked in the private sector in the fields of Energy, Air Conditioning and Industrial Refrigeration in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. He was a Design Engineer, Business Engineer, and Country Agency Manager, Senior Energy Expert, Specialist in Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency.

Mr. Semporé holds a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Specialized Master's Degree in Energy and Industrial Refrigeration Engineering. He is certified in Business Management from HEC Paris, France and has a Diploma of Specialized Training in Regulation and Energy Market from Mines ParisTech, France.



Mr. Kouakou Alexis Kouassi,  
Director of Operations

Mr. Kouassi served for over 23 years at Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Electricité (CIE), Cote d' Ivoire, with 14 years in managerial capacity. As Director of Operational Audits in charge of the fight against electricity theft, he contributed significantly to improving the distribution performance of the Ivorian electricity sector by 14 points in 10 years. Mr. Kouassi holds a Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Automation from the National Polytechnic Institute Houphouët Boigny in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire. He has also undertaken several management and leadership courses, including the Program for Management and Development at the MDE Business School of Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. For over 20 years, he has supported the Junior Chamber International (JCI), an international non-governmental organization (NGO) of young leaders strongly advocating for world peace and sustainable development.



Mrs. Liliane Torella Diguimbaye,  
Ag. Head of Admin. & Finance

Mrs. Diguimbaye has extensive international experience in financial management and administration having worked for the United Nations, ECOWAS and in the private sector. Her previous experience includes Chief Accountant at Société Ivoirienne de Distribution de Produits de Mer SIDIPROM, and Chief Accountant at the Marketing and Distribution Agency (AMEDIS), both in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. Mrs. Diguimbaye was also an Auditor at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) – Regional Office for Africa, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire; Senior Financial Officer of the LUTRENA Regional Project, ILO, Dakar, Senegal); Accountant for the ECOWAS Mission for Côte d'Ivoire and, Administration and Finance Officer at ECOWAS.



Ms. Martos earned her master's degree in Electro-Mechanical Engineering from Universidad de Malaga in Spain and holds a post-graduate Certificate in Power Generation and Distribution. She has extensive experience in the private sector. Her previous roles include Project Manager, and Head of Business Development, Electro-Mechanical projects at the renowned Spanish engineering company, GHESA/Empresarios Agrupados. Ms. Martos was also a volunteer for the Spanish non-governmental organization, Energias Sin Fronteras, where she served as Project Manager for Clean Energy and, Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) projects in the Central Africa Region.

Ms. Vanesa Martos Pozo,  
AECID-seconded Technical Expert

The Acting Executive Director, Mr. Bah Saho, was re-assigned to the Directorate of Energy under the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalisation at the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja, Nigeria. However, the contracts for Mr. Siré Abdoul Diallo, Private Sector Consultant, Mr. Abdoulie Gassama, Communications Consultant, and Mr. Chinedu Nweze, another Communications Consultant, ended within the year. In addition, three other consultants resigned. They were Mr. Baboucarr Njie, Program Manager; Ms. Adeola Adebisi, Program Officer and Mr. Eder Semedo, Program Officer. The process of procuring replacements for the three who resigned was started.

Despite this effort, other positions must be filled to enable the organization to function optimally. For example, an Energy Efficiency Consultant is only on technical staff managing the implementation of the Energy Efficiency portfolio. Figure 4 depicts the status of ECREEE's organogram as of December 2022.

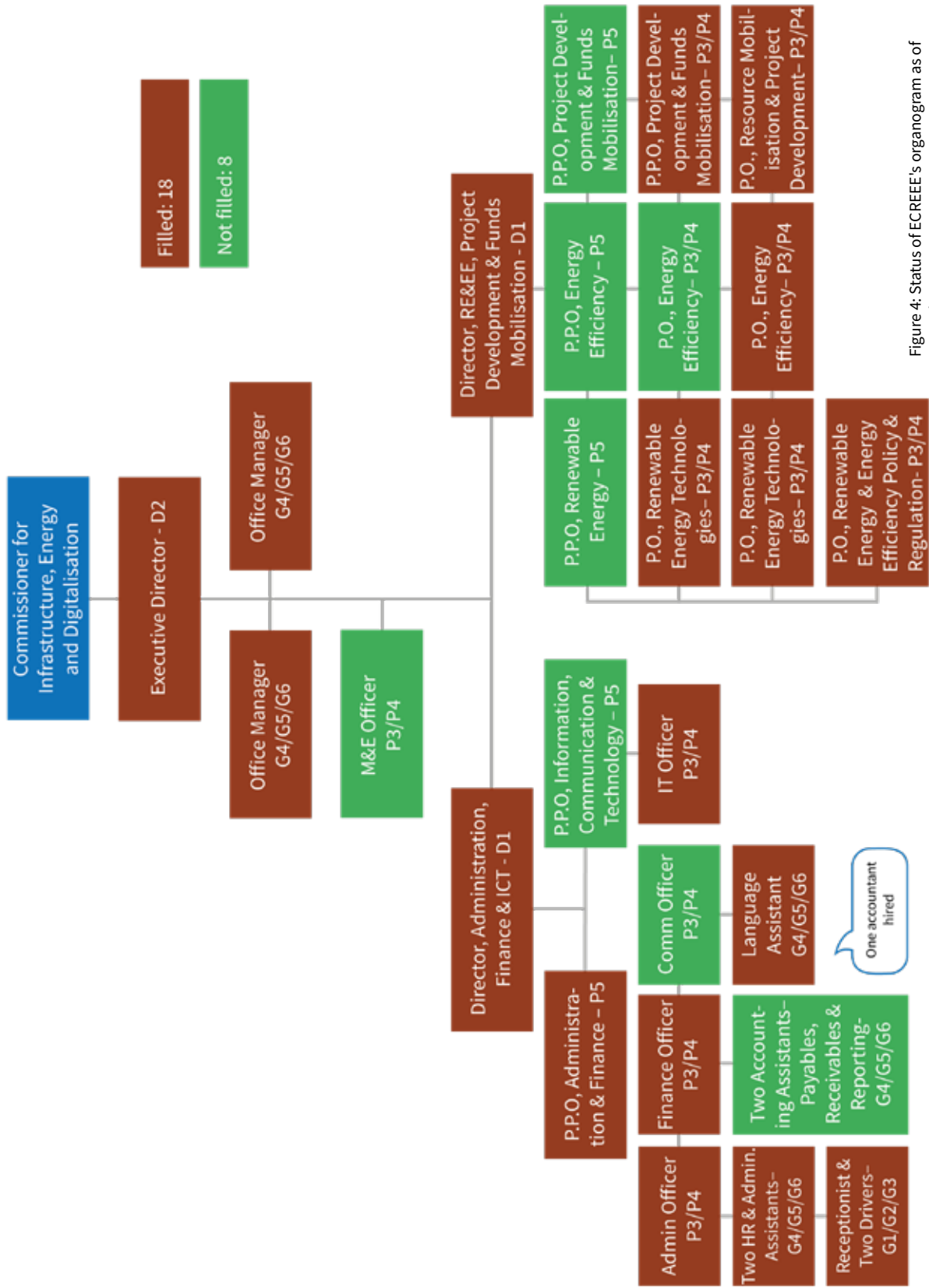


Figure 4: Status of ECREE's organogram as of December 2022





## 4.0 PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ENERGY EVENTS

### 4.1 Pre-COP27 Engagement in Adaptation Finance and Participation in COP 27

ECREEE participated in a workshop convened by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the South African Institute of International Affairs in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to identify key adaptation finance priorities for Africa. The meeting was held in preparation for the 27th session of the Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its objectives were to:

- Support evidence-based negotiation positions on adaptation finance for African stakeholders, and
- Strengthen linkages between the research and policy community on adaptation finance.

ECREEE used the platform to put forward the interests of the ECOWAS region regarding climate finance. The Agency explored opportunities for collaboration with the African Development Bank on funding an existing project called the "ECOWAS Project on Promoting Agricultural Competitiveness through Solar Energy (PAC-SOLAR)."

COP 27 was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, and ECREEE participated between November 8 and 11, 2022. In addition, the Centre organized a side event themed "Strengthening West Africa's climate change adaptive capacity through project development which took place in an ECOWAS-dedicated pavilion that ECREEE shared with selected agencies. Other events held during the Conference of Parties included:

- A meeting with Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable (IFDD) that focused on its collaboration with ECREEE in the areas of:
  - o Capacity building in data collection for the evaluation of progress in the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals,
  - o Training in French in different energy domains, and
  - o Gender awareness training.
- The Role of Green Hydrogen in Response to Climate Change (a side event),
- Discussion of ECREEE's accreditation to the Adaptation Fund.





Representatives from the public and private sectors, including regional bodies (e.g., the African Union and ECREEE) and regional development banks like the African Development Bank (AfDB), participated in the event.

#### **4.2 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC)**

The Executive Director and the Energy Efficiency Expert, Dr. Charles Diarra, participated in the 2022 edition of the Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) meeting held in Vienna, Austria, in September.

The 5th GN-SEC SC meeting provided updates on the Centers' individual, south-south and triangular activities. It also created a “maker space” for new initiatives, projects, events, and activities. Moreover, it reviewed the proposed project document of the GN-SEC platform and provided concrete inputs for an annual work plan. Working groups and activities were organized based on the participants' priority topics. Partnerships with other UNIDO departments and external partners on joint initiatives were discussed. The meeting discussed exploring new funding opportunities targeting multilateral donors in the energy and climate space, including, among other things, the European Union, Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, and other development partners.

The main objectives of the meeting were to:



1. Reconnect and strengthen the common GN-SEC identity;
2. Provide updates on the status and activity portfolio of the individual Centres;
3. Provide updates on south-south and triangular GN-SEC projects, activities, and events;
4. Review and validate the results framework of the GN-SEC project document;
5. Reach an agreement on an annual work plan for joint GN-SEC activities; and
6. Identify new funding and partnership opportunities.

The team took part in a session that focused on three critical areas of “Green Skills”: i) Cooperation between governments, businesses, and Technical and Vocational Educational Training (TVET) institutions; ii) Anticipating skills of the future/forecasting needs for training and re-training; iii) Designing and implementing flexible education and training programs participants deliberated on solutions to several questions, some of which are:

- How can more effective programs to deliver green skills to young people in developing countries be created?
  - What measures can help create more jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors?
  - How can cooperation between educational institutions and companies help create demand-oriented professional training in renewable energy and energy efficiency that meets the needs of companies? How to foster this cooperation?
  - How can education and training in renewable energy be more inclusive and accessible to marginalized young people?
  - What can companies do to make careers in the clean energy sector more attractive to young women?

#### **4.3 Global Off-Grid Solar Forum and Expo**

The seventh edition of the Global Off-Grid Solar Forum and Expo (GOGSFE) was held in Kigali, Rwanda, from October 18 to 20, 2022. ECREEE was represented at the invitation of conference organizers-- the Global Off-Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA). GOGSFE is the premier meeting of the off-grid solar sector, providing a unique platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and highlighting off-grid solar products and services. The event aimed to accelerate the development of the global off-grid solar market, contributing to achieving universal energy access by 2030.

A presentation by Open Capital Advisors on the 2022 edition of the Off-Grid Solar Market Report highlighted happenings in the industry, especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and also set the tone for deliberations during most of the sessions that followed. Key insights shared included the following:



- Despite the challenges of COVID-19, the off-grid solar industry has enabled an additional 70 million people to access clean, reliable light and power over the last two years. Most of these customers live in rural areas, on less than \$3.10 a day. But, unfortunately, they are the people the grid has not yet been able to connect.

- The services powered by off-grid solar have also been steadily expanding. Over the last five years, sales of productive use appliances, such as solar water pumps and cooling systems, have also hit a significant scale, allowing smallholder farmers to boost their crop yields, entrepreneurs to power their businesses, and health centres to store vaccines through a reliable cold chain.

- Yet despite these advances, restrictions on movement, supply chain issues, economic challenges, and a slowdown in investment resulting from the pandemic led to 120 million fewer people accessing off-grid solutions than projected and caused repayment issues for some pay-as-you-go (PAYGo) customers. In addition, a lack of equity funding further impacted the pace of expansion into new countries.

To ensure the poorest are not left behind, there is the need to i) Address the growing affordability gap, ii) Support off-grid solar in nascent and emerging markets, and iii) Increase finance for seed and start-up companies.

Some organizations with whom the ECREEE delegate engaged expressed the following interests:

- Seeking distributors in the ECOWAS Member States,
- Collaboration with ECREEE to expand the reach of the Certification Program and
- Seeking ECREEE’s Support to establish their presence in West Africa in 2023.







## 5.0 FUNDING AND BUDGET EXECUTION

By the end of the fourth quarter, ECREEE had received UA705,569.29 of Community Levy funds and UA1,080,188.57 from partners. The disaggregation of these amounts is illustrated in Section 5.1 below.

### 5.1 Breakdown of Funds

As shown in Figure 5, the most significant portion (52.8%) of a total of UA705,569.29 was received during the second quarter in two tranches.

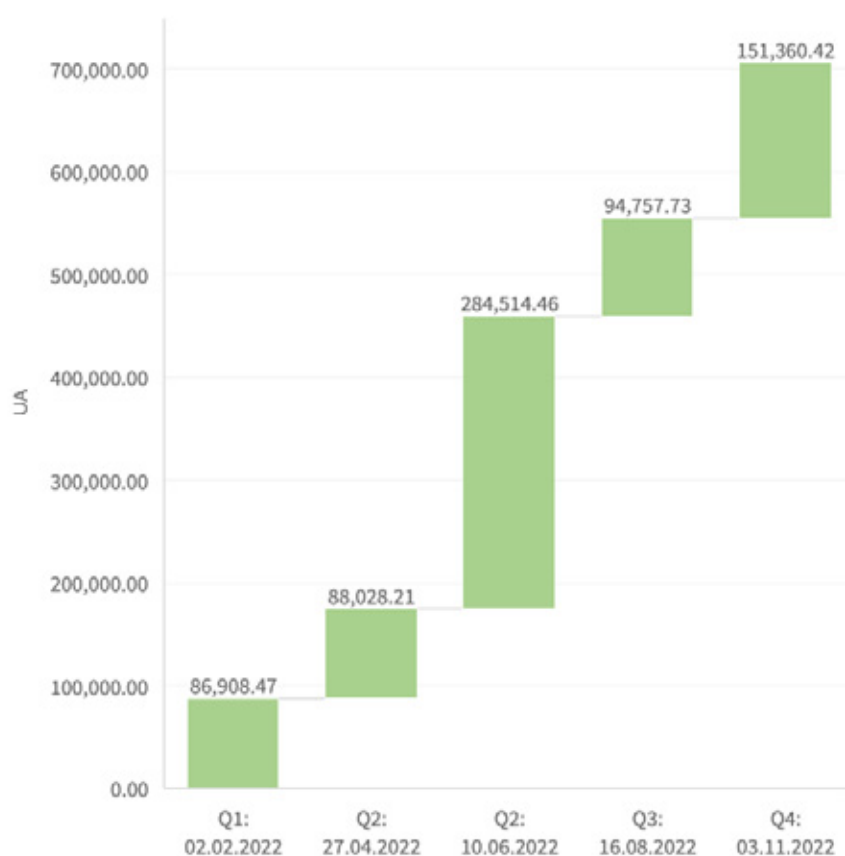


Figure 5: Community Levy Funds Received by Quarter, 2022

On the other hand, the total funds mobilized from eleven external sources was UA1,664,512.92 (Reference Figure 6 and Table 3). This comprised actual funds received in 2022 and amounts rolled over from 2021. Figure 6 illustrates a comparison of these two streams of inflows.

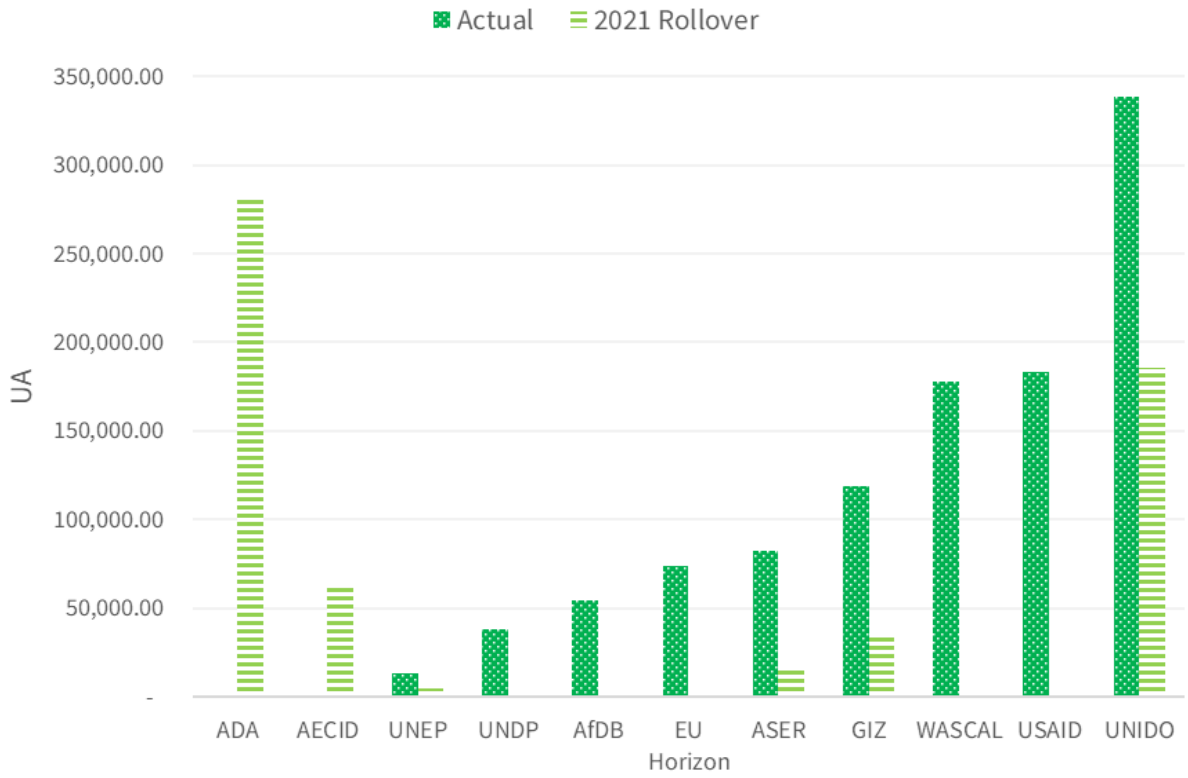


Figure 6: 2022 Actual and 2021 Rollover Funds

Table 3 adds further detail to the picture as it presents the projects funded and the sum of actual and rolled-over funds (i.e., available funds).



s/n	Source	Project	( A ) Actual (UA)	( B ) 2021 Rollover (UA)	( C ) = ( A ) + ( B ) Available (UA)
1	AfDB	DtP WAREP--Phase 1	54,311.45	-	54,311.45
2	ASER	DPERSE	82,059.55	14,900.13	96,959.68
3	EU Horizon	ONePLANET	73,643.42	-	73,643.42
4	UNIDO	GEF	338,315.93	185,232.53	523,548.46
5	GIZ	ProCEM II	119,164.99	35,487.85	154,652.84
6	UNDP	Liptako Gourma	38,272.14	-	38,272.14
7	UNEP	2/3 Wheelers	13,259.90	4,996.29	18,256.19
8	USAID	Sustainable Electricity	183,539.89	827.59	184,367.48
9	WASCAL	Green Hydrogen	177,621.30	-	177,621.30
10	ADA	2017– 2021 Strategic Support	-	281,312.80	281,312.80
11	AECID	Technical Assistance to ECREEE	-	61,567.16	61,567.16
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,080,188.57</b>	<b>584,324.35</b>	<b>1,664,512.92</b>

Table 3: External Funds Sources, Projects, and Amounts Mobilized

## 5.2 Summary Budget Execution Report

A comparison of the budgets and consumption levels per the two primary funding sources as of the end of the fourth quarter is depicted in Table 4.

Funding Source	2022 Approved Budget (UA)	Funds Available for Execution as of 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2022 (UA)	Variance (UA)	Year-To- Date Rate of Funds Mobilized %	Execution as of 31st Dec. 2022 (UA)	Budget Execution Rate %	Funds Received Execution Rate %
Community Levy	1,194,003.55	856,075.74	337,927.81	71.70%	671,994.78	56.28%	78.50%
External Funds	7,907,427.88	1,658,689.04	6,248,738.84	20.98%	1,812,719.17	22.92%	109.29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,101,431.43</b>	<b>2,514,764.78</b>	<b>6,586,666.65</b>	<b>27.63%</b>	<b>2,484,713.95</b>	<b>27.30%</b>	<b>98.81%</b>

Table 4: A comparison of funding and expenditure







## 6.0 PARTNERS' SUPPORT

The strength of ECREEE's partnership with strategic technical and funding entities was taken to a higher level during the year. Below are highlights of engagements with some partners:

### 6.1. The Government of Cabo Verde

- ECREEE engaged with the Government of Cabo Verde (GCV) through the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Energy on relocating to another building due to its need for additional offices. This is an interim measure as the agency plans and mobilizes resources to construct its Headquarters, for which the GCV has already provided a piece of land.

- The Executive Director, Mr. Jean Francis Sempore, paid a visit to H.E. Mr. Alexandre Monteiro, Minister for Trade, Industry and Energy of Cabo Verde, at the headquarters of the Ministry in Praia, on October 25, 2022. Mr. Sempore congratulated Cabo Verde as an example of good regional governance and stability. Furthermore, he praised the country's investment initiatives in sustainable energy, positioning the nation as the right place to host ECREEE. On the other hand, Mr. Monteiro highlighted the Centre's role in the region's development and in improving people's lives through access to reliable, cheaper, and sustainable energy. The Minister further stressed the importance of strengthening the strategic partnership between the Government of Cabo Verde and ECREEE to develop and accelerate the energy transition while encouraging ECREEE to count on the support of Cabo Verde.

- Earlier in the month, Mr. Sempore had paid a courtesy call to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cabo Verde, Mr. Rui Alberto de Figueiredo Soares, on October 18, 2022. Mr. Alberto reiterated Cabo Verde's Support for the activities promoted by the Centre for developing renewable energy and promoting energy efficiency in the ECOWAS Member States. Mr. Sempore also thanked Mr. Soares for the facilities offered by Cabo Verde to the Agency and for the quality of the collaboration with the various actors involved in the energy sector and related fields in the country. The two parties agreed to pool their efforts to make the construction of the ECREEE headquarters in Praia a reality.

### 6.2 The Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

- ADA committed to funding a pilot regional circular economy project to promote socio-economic development by improving the productivity of selected value chains.

- The Agency also provided funding to support the development of the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and ECREEE's internal capacity-building project, managed by UNIDO.

### 6.3 The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)

- AECID consulted with ECREEE and other ECOWAS Agencies in developing a new multi-annual



strategy to guide the Spanish government’s cooperation with ECOWAS. The final document will be shared with the ECOWAS Commission in Quarter 1 of 2023. In parallel, a new framework agreement between ECOWAS and the Spanish Government has been produced and is scheduled for signing in 2023.

- The ECOWAS Commission President, H.E. Dr. Omar Alieu Touray, and the Head of Spanish Cooperation to Nigeria and ECOWAS, H.E. Ms. Raquel Ferrando Sellers, signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December for the development of four projects that will foster the clean energy transition, contribute to the zero hunger, and gender equality goals in the region. ECREEE is the implementing Agency for two projects to promote the transition to a clean energy circular economy and improve food security through reinforcing the region's water, energy, and food nexus.

- H.E. Sellers was consulted by the conducted by the ECREEE strategic plan consultant as part of ECREEE’s stakeholder engagements.

- AECID was represented at the ESEF 2022.

#### **6.4 The African Development Bank (AfDB)**

- AfDB conducted a supervision mission to ECREEE in the framework of the Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program—Phase 1

- The Bank was also represented at the Second ECOWAS-Donors Consultative Committee meeting and ESEF 2022.

#### **6.5 European Union**

- The European Union Representative in Cabo Verde, Mr. Francisco Pacheco Vieira, was consulted by the strategic plan consultant.

- Two EU-funded agreements were signed-- the Energy Access and Green Transition Collaboratively Demonstrated in Urban and Rural Areas in Africa (ENERGICA) and Open-source Nexus modeling tools for Planning Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa (ONePlanET).

#### **6.6 The German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)**

- GIZ organized a planning workshop for 2022 activities in Cotonou, Benin, with ECOWAS Specialised Agencies (ECREEE, WAPP, and ERERA) in the framework of the project called “Promoting a Climate-friendly Energy market (ProCEM II).”

- GIZ Embarked on a supervision mission to ECREEE in the framework of the ProCEM II project.

- In addition, a representative of the Cooperation participated in ECREEE’s ECOWAS-Donors



Consultative Committee meeting.

- GIZ also supported the certification examination for off-grid solar PV installers held in December in Benin within the framework of the regional certification system for renewable energy and energy efficiency professionals.

### **6.7 United Nations Development Program (UNDP)**

- ECREEE is collaborating with the UNDP to implement the Support for Rural Electrification by Renewable Energy Systems in the Liptako-Gourma Region - Pilot Phase

### **6.8 United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

- Provided technical support to the ECREEE in the framework of the ADA-funded capacity building to ECREEE project,

- Conducted an assessment of ECREEE as a Project Executing Entity (PEE). The “Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers Assessment (HACT) ” aimed to assess the Centre’s management capacities related to accounting, procurement, reporting, internal controls, and other vital areas and to determine the overall risk rating of the PEEs and assurance activities. UNIDO uses the assessment results and additional information to set the appropriate engagement modality with the recommended PEE.

### **6.9 United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**

- USAID/West Africa undertook a supervision mission to ECREEE in the “Access to Sustainable Electricity Services” project framework in May.

- The Agency also granted the ECREEE strategic plan consultant an audience during the stakeholder engagements phase.

- The regional Agency held a Roundtable Event with ECREEE, WAPP, and ERERA in Ghana on October 6. ECREEE’s presentation focused on its perspectives on the region’s transition efforts.

### **6.10 West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL)**

- WASCAL funded the Green Hydrogen Policy Development process and continued to engage with ECREEE on the partnership's future.

- ECREEE participated in the activities of the H2Atlas-Africa Project.

- The Centre also supported ECREEE in organizing ESEF 2022.

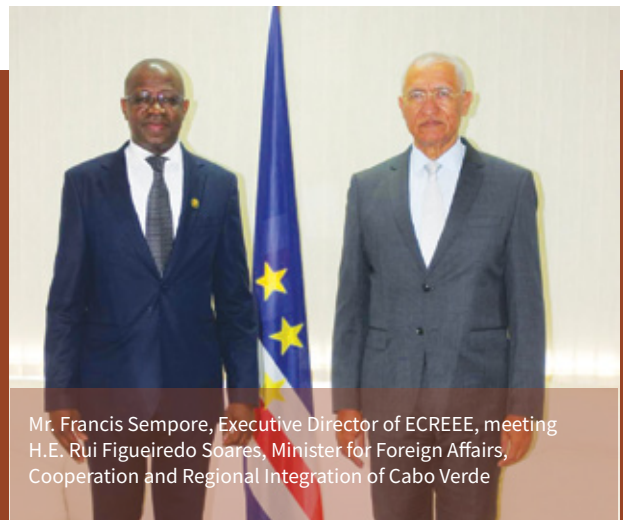


## 6.11 World Bank

ECREEE participated in the World Bank-funded Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP) activities. In 2022, the Centre supported the Project Implementation Unit based in Abuja, Nigeria, to organize meetings with stakeholders on the Standards Harmonization meeting on Pico-Solar photovoltaic (PV) products and Solar Home System Kits.



Mr. Francis Sempore, Executive Director of ECREEE, meeting H.E. Alexandre Monteiro, Minister for Industry, Commerce, and Energy of Cabo Verde



Mr. Francis Sempore, Executive Director of ECREEE, meeting H.E. Rui Figueiredo Soares, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration of Cabo Verde



Dr. Raquel Ferrando Sellers, Head of Spanish Cooperation in Nigeria and ECOWAS with H.E. Dr. Omar Alieu Touray, President of the ECOWAS Commission



## 7.0 CHALLENGES

Within the course of the year, challenges that the Centre encountered include the following:

- Insufficient administrative budget for ECREEE activities and programs: For 2022, the executive budget was 5 percent of the total budget.
- Restricted Community Levy budget for some years now: The ECOWAS Commission, for the last three years at least, has maintained that its Specialized Agencies and Institutions did not increase the Community Levy side of the budget due to a lack of adequate funds.
- Nearly one-third of 26 ECREEE permanent staff positions are yet to be filled (See the organogram in Section 3.5). This has resulted in Available human resources being overworked.

## 8.0 MAJOR EXPECTATIONS FOR 2023

In addition to the implementation of critical program actions, some major tasks scheduled for 2023 include the following:

- Implementation of an action plan for the new strategic plan;
- Renewed efforts at fund-raising;
- Revitalized engagement with old and establishment of cooperation with new partners;
- Facilitation of the process leading to the adoption of the Green Hydrogen Policy by the Ministers of Energy, Council of Foreign Affairs Ministers, and the Heads of State and Government,
- Development of the Green Hydrogen Strategy,
- Hosting of the third meeting of the ECOWAS-Donors Consultative meeting;
- Participation in statutory meetings at the ECOWAS Commission; and
- Hosting of ESEF 2023 in Cabo Verde.







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