



EUEI PDF NEWS

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second edition of EUEI PDF News!

This quarterly newsletter of the Partnership Dialogue Facility (PDF) of the European Union Energy Initiative (EUEI) provides information on EUEI PDF's energy access facilitation with updates on selected ongoing projects and events organised by EUEI PDF.

The voluntarily-funded EUEI PDF is financed by 6 EU member states and has been in operation since 2005 with now a total of 30 projects in 13 countries, working with 6 regional organisations. EUEI PDF is promoting the development of energy access policies, strategies and action plans as well as conducting thematic studies on key issues. Its activities are designed to lead to a variety of concrete actions to improve energy access for the majority of the population in Africa and other regions. To learn more about EUEI PDF's projects please visit www.euei-pdf.org.

If you wish to receive EUEI PDF News please subscribe [here](#). We appreciate your feedback and encourage you to forward this newsletter to interested colleagues.

Sincerely,

Celia Nork
EUEI PDF Project Manager

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00 | Editorial

With the formal launch of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership at the Lisbon Africa-EU Summit in December 2007, energy cooperation between the two continents is entering a new era. The original initiative resulted from the [Africa-Europe Energy Forum Berlin 2007](#) at which the priorities of the partnership were discussed with a wide range of African and European stakeholders. Following the Berlin forum, the European Commission and the Commission of the African Union developed a draft action plan that was discussed and endorsed in Lisbon. The Partnership aims to mobilise increased financial, technical and human resources in support of Africa's energy development.

EUEI PDF's working-level networks and dialogue activities with many African governments and Regional Organisations (ROs) provide excellent opportunities to learn about the requirements for technical assistance and financial support that could be provided through the partnership to governments, private sector and NGOs in Africa.

Such an opportunity arises at the [EUEI PDF Workshop in Dakar](#) (that is described below), with representatives of the ROs, the African Union and European Union on 15 April 2008. The African regions are actively developing strategies for improved energy access, to be implemented by their member states with regional coordination and support from the Secretariats or Commissions of the ROs. By facilitating such dialogue activities on energy access EUEI PDF will make a modest contribution to the overall objective of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership.

Ray Holland
EUEI PDF Programme Manager

01 | Project News

EUEI PDF Supports Development of New Energy Policy and Rural Electrification Strategy for DRC

EUEI PDF agreed to assist the Ministry of Energy of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in developing a new energy policy and rural electrification strategy. The project also includes the finalisation of the draft electricity law and the development of a concept for the proposed rural electrification agency, including a road map to its establishment. These processes will be coordinated by the Cellule d'Appui Technique à l'Énergie (CATE) and involve all relevant stakeholders. The consulting firm or consortium that will implement the project is currently being selected through a limited call for proposals. For more information click [here](#).

Development of Biomass Energy Strategies (BEST) – 2nd Regional BEST Workshop in South Africa

The supply of sustainable and clean fuel for cooking is a key policy goal in most African countries. It has been the subject of innumerable projects over the last thirty years - but with modest success. Developing a clear understanding about what are the most effective strategies to improve availability



of wood and charcoal is a complex subject. The efficient and clean combustion of wood and charcoal in households and small industries as well as the supply of alternative, cleaner fuels must be considered in these strategies. Responding to requests for support for strategy development in this area, GTZ and the EUEI PDF launched the [BEST \(Biomass Energy Strategy\) Initiative](#) to support the development of sound approaches. BEST is based on proven practical interventions to improve fuelwood and charcoal supply, introducing and disseminating efficient clean-burning cooking stoves, and developing markets for liquid fuels and appliances. The governments of Botswana, [Lesotho](#), [Malawi](#) and [Rwanda](#) are in the process of developing such strategies with support from EUEI PDF or GTZ. The consultants and government staff involved, as well as selected household energy and forestry experts, including from the private sector will exchange experiences at the 2nd Regional BEST Workshop in South Africa in mid June 2008. The main objective of this event is to provide a forum for exchange of experiences amongst these four countries that are in the process of developing a BEST and for discussing best practices from other countries.

Special Seminar Series "Flagbearers on Energy" in Ghana

Making the energy crisis in Ghana a thing of the past - but how? In an attempt to get to the bottom of this question, the Energy Centre at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) is taking advantage of 2008 being an election year in Ghana to organise a series of seminars in April 2008. In this ["Flagbearers on Energy" special seminar series](#) the potential future political leaders of the country have the opportunity to lay out their visions for solving the energy crisis and improving access to energy. The seminars will provide a platform for each of the presidential candidates of Ghana's main political parties to present their ideas for developing the Ghanaian energy sector. They will also create a forum for lecturers, students and the general public to gain an insight into the plans of presidential candidates to establish favourable policy frameworks for the development of the energy sector. The seminar series is being co-sponsored by EUEI PDF.

02 | Upcoming Events

2nd Workshop on Regional Activities for Increased Access to Energy in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in Dakar, Senegal

As requested by the participants of the first [Workshop on Regional Activities for Increased Access to Energy in SSA](#) in Berlin in March 2007, [EUEI PDF is now hosting a follow-on workshop in April 2008 in Dakar, Senegal](#). The objectives of this one day working level meeting are to learn from recent experiences of Regional Organisations in the development and implementation of energy access strategies, and to identify opportunities for cooperation between each other and with the EU (European Commission and EU member states). Participation is limited to representatives from each Regional Organisation ([CEMAC](#), [COMESA](#), [EAC](#), [ECOWAS](#), [SADC](#), and [UEMOA](#)) with particular interest and involvement in this subject as well as selected African Union, European Union and donor representatives.



Workshop on Renewable Energy and Rural Electrification for the Sustainable Development of Amazonia

Following a request from the Organisation of the Amazon Basin Treaty (OTCA) to support a regional project on rural electrification, [EUEI PDF is supporting a workshop in Ecuador in May 2008](#). The initial workshop will review experiences in the different countries of the Amazon basin region with community energy projects, particularly with renewable energies for rural electrification. The workshop will identify barriers, possible common legal and regulatory framework requirements and means of regional cooperation. The aim is to develop the basis for a regional strategy for scaling up access to electrification in the Amazonian member states of OTCA, which will be the subject of a subsequent regional project.

Workshop on Support Programme for East African Energy Access Strategy

Following the EUEI PDF supported development of a [regional strategy for energy access](#) in the now 5 partner states of the East African Community (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) each country has developed national energy access plans and identified funding gaps. It is clear that regional coordination offers considerable added value in terms of harmonising approaches, and developing an integrated market for energy services and supplies. However, as with the other regions in Africa, the capacity of the regional secretariat to provide support is currently very limited. [EUEI PDF funded a consultation with donors](#) to identify their readiness to fill the financing gaps, including support to the EAC Secretariat in order to finally achieve energy access in the EAC countries. The EAC Secretariat and the EAC member states will hold discussions with donors at a workshop in Arusha on 12 and 13 June 2008 with the objective to agree a support programme for energy access in the region.

03 | Subscription Information

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Published by

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