



Energising Local Development Decentralisation of Energy Development in Uganda

Background

Developing community energy supplies requires local planning capacity. In 2007, as part of their general decentralisation policy, the government of Uganda decided to decentralise its energy sector in order to commit resources to local energy investments, particularly for rural electrification. The Ministry of Local Government requested EUEI PDF assistance with related capacity building efforts and to develop training courses for its district-level staff to support communities in planning cost-effective energy investments.

Strategic Targets

More precisely, the Ministry of Local Government requested assistance from EUEI PDF to:

- ▶ Raise awareness of energy issues at the local government level
- ▶ Support the implementation of the new posts of District Energy & Development Officers
- ▶ Train local government staff to identify energy needs and potential energy projects including costing, comparisons and prioritising
- ▶ Integrate electrification and modern energy services into district planning
- ▶ Facilitate information flows in an appropriate format for central planning authorities

Strategy Actions

- ▶ Through a series of consultations and a national conference, agreement was reached on a job description including that of District Energy & Development Officers
- ▶ Management Plans have been designed and implemented
- ▶ Intensive training for planning personnel was conducted in 5 pilot districts
- ▶ Updated national District Planning Guidelines in pilot districts were developed
- ▶ Bankable energy projects were identified and fed into the district planning cycle

Region	East Africa
Project Partner	Ministry of Local Government
Project Manager	Ray Holland
Term	June 2007 – February 2009

- ▶ Procedures and pro-formas related to mapping, assessment and reporting of energy needs and activities have been developed and made available to the Ministry of Local Government and district officials

The Way Forward

At the national level, ambitious targets for the provision of modern energy services have been defined by the government. By 2017, the share of modern renewable energy in total energy consumption should climb to 61% from only 4% in 2007. To reach this objective, collaboration between the districts is essential. While the project has raised awareness of the importance of the provision of modern energy services at the local level, further steps are necessary. Some District Development Plans already include energy activities as a result of the project, and more should follow suit. The process of decentralisation of the energy sector is in full swing. A Cabinet Paper will be drafted concerning the creation of District Energy Development Officers in all districts in the medium term. Further activities are being supported by the World Bank and German development cooperation.



Access to electricity can boost the growth of small enterprises.

For more information,
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