



Addis Ababa, July 2010

## Power Kick for Africa

### Report of the WFC workshop on Renewable Energy Policies for Sustainable African Development and the Solar Public Viewing of the 2010 Football World Cup

From June 21 to 23, 2010 the World Future Council organised an international strategy workshop on renewable energy policies labeled "Power Kick for Africa" in Accra, Ghana. The workshop gathered members of the African Renewable Energy Alliance (AREA) to elaborate policies, technologies and financial mechanisms for the deployment of renewable energies in Africa. Partners of the workshop were the Energy Commission of Ghana, Reep, SolarWorld, the Alliance for Rural Electrification, Energiebau Sunergy Ghana and Alternative Energy Africa Magazine.



#### Goal of the Workshop and Solar Public Viewing:

- Designed for its participants to exchange information about and experiences on renewable energy policies and practices from different sectors and regions
- Give hands-on experience to sensitize and educate decision makers in politics, business, civil society and the media on the advantages of renewable energy
- Counter prejudices about renewable energies as "niche technologies"
- Motivate the Power Kick for Africa workshop participants to use this event as an entry point for the development and implementation of renewable energy policies

#### Summary outcome:

The workshop brought together some 30 representatives from parliament, energy ministries and commissions, electricity regulators, industry and civil society out of Ghana, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Cape Verde and Europe. This wide range of participants provided an excellent networking opportunity. Throughout the workshop participants engaged in lively discussions sharing their experience and knowledge on renewable energy for sustainable African development. The positive feedback demonstrated the need for such carefully designed meetings and the World Future Council was requested to further coordinate the ongoing communication among AREA including regular live assembling. The following action points were agreed on:



- 1) The participants were determined to expand their cooperation under the umbrella of the **African Renewable Energy Alliance (AREA)**. To strengthen this important network and coordinate its activities an AREA Steering Committee was called to life. Members will volunteer to take responsibility for the groups' direction and action. This **Steering Committee** will ideally convene in autumn 2010 to start organising the next workshop planned for spring 2011.
- 2) A **Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariff** is supported by AREA where electricity grid conditions allow. Lessons learned from different African countries, e.g. South Africa or Kenya should be carefully considered when advocating for RE-FIT.
- 3) The need for **supportive frameworks** to stimulate the production and provision of renewable energy for the rural communities was expressed during the workshop and solutions will be worked on especially for **off-grid regions**.
- 4) The **gender aspect** of energy was emphasized by several speakers. The subject of sustainable solutions for **cooking and heating** is often neglected in discussion on renewable energy and urgently needs to be worked on. Best practices exist, but now it's about developing and implementing **supportive frameworks** and regulations on national levels.
- 5) **Financing** Renewable Energy in developing countries requires investment security. In order to ensure this the Alliance wants to explore an innovative international, national and local financing mechanism for Renewable Energy policies. An international **Renewable Energy Policy Fund** as proposed by the World Future Council was supported and will be further promoted.

The WFC-Power Kick for Africa participants underlined that their basis for cooperation are still the **10 Terms of Reference** declared at the 1st AREA meeting in 2009 in Ethiopia. Four core points are as follows:

- Good governance and transparency of the decision making process and the financial flow is the key for attracting local and foreign investors.
- Energy education and environmental information on challenges, solutions and available technology at all levels of society is a prerequisite for the success of implementing renewable energy strategies.
- In order to foster local employment, Renewable Energy solutions should be linked with the development of local economies, based on a market driven approach. AREA will ensure sustainability in the adaptation of Renewable Energy technologies by supporting Pan-African, regional, national and local capacity-building.
- Access to sustainable energy (electricity and heat) is vital for the achievement of all eight Millenium Development Goals (MDG)



### Solar Public Viewing:

As part of **Power Kick for Africa** the World Future Council (WFC) enabled football enthusiasts in the non-electrified Ghanaian village of Oboadaka to watch Ghana's group matches of the **2010 Football World Cup** live on a large screen. This was Africa's first **Solar Public Viewing**. The workshop participants and media representatives travelled to Oboadaka to join the community watching the World Cup match Ghana vs. Germany.

This Solar Public Viewing proved to be an excellent vehicle for spreading the word about renewable energy and its enormous benefits for off-grid regions among decision-makers, the media and the public. German, Ghanaian and international media reported comprehensively on the WFC-Power Kick for Africa.

### Quotes from participants:

"If we repeat the mistakes of the developed world by realising African development mainly on the basis of the burning of fossil fuels, climate change will have a disastrous effect on our countries", said the **Executive Director of the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency of ECOWAS, Mahama Kappiah**, at the final press briefing.

**Wisdom Ahiataku, Head of Renewable Energy in the Ghana Ministry of Energy:** "In the light of climate change, the necessity to tap alternative energy sources in Africa was stressed in almost every session of the workshop. Africa is already suffering the negative impacts of climate change. It is a challenge finding sustainable substitutes for fuel wood and charcoal to counter deforestation. This is why renewable, decentralized energy is absolutely essential for sustainable development. The knowledge and information exchange enabled by the World Future Council will help us to find the best policy solutions to reach this goal."

**WFC Councillor Hafsat Abiola-Costello from Nigeria** summarizes important opportunities that could be seized: "We want to show the people that solar power is reliable and can be installed easily and without the need to connect to the national electricity grid. We want to motivate African politicians to support the uptake of renewable energies. The first time the World Cup is hosted by an African nation offers the perfect opportunity to promote the benefits of renewable energy."

More information (agenda, presentations, pictures) to be found at:

[World Future Council Power-Kick-Africa](#)



### Participants:

Title	First Name	Surname	Organisation	Position	Country
Mrs	Adeola	Ijeoma Eleri	Energy Commission of Nigeria	Renewable Energy Department	Nigeria
Dr.	Alfred K.	Oforu Ahenkorah	Ghana Energy Commission	Executive Secretary	Ghana
Mrs	Amanda	Luxande	REEEP Regional Secretariat for Southern Africa	Programme Manager	South Africa
Mr	Aminu Haruna	Isa	Energy Commission of Nigeria	Energy Policy Analyst	Nigeria
Mr	Ansgar	Kiene	WFC Africa Liaison Office	Campaign Manager - Climate Energy Africa	Ethiopia
Mr	Anthony	Ighodaro	KXN Nigeria Ltd.	Director	Nigeria
Mrs	Bulelwa	Tinto	Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Energy of the Republic of South Africa	Member, ANC	South Africa
Mrs	Caroline	Usikpedo-Omonyiri	Niger Delta Women's Movement for Peace & Development	National President	Nigeria
Prof.	Eli J.	Bala	Energy Commission of Nigeria	Director, Renewable Energy	Nigeria
Mrs	Elizabeth	Thabethe	Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Energy of the Republic of South Africa	Chairperson	South Africa
Mr	Eric James	Lucas	Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Energy of the Republic of South Africa	Member, IFP	South Africa
Mr	Fortuné	Bationo		Journalist	Côte d'Ivoire
Mr	Guido	Glania	Alliance for Rural Electrification - ARE	Secretary General	Belgium
Mr	Gustav	Ackumey	Neo Rhema	Operations	Ghana
Mrs	Hafsat	Abiola Costello	WFC/ KIND / China Africa Bridge	Councillor / Founder	Nigeria
Mr	Hans Christian	Winkler	Ambassy of the Federal Republic of Germany	Deputy Ambassador	Germany
Mr	Henk	Vermeer	Energiebau Sunergy Ghana Ltd.	Managing Director	Ghana
Mr	Joseph	Essandoh-Yeddu	Ghana Energy Commission	Chief and Head Strategic Planning & Policy Division	Ghana
Mr	Kofi	Agyarko	Energy Commission of Ghana	Energy Efficiency Department	Ghana
Mr	Kwabena	Otu-Danquah	Ghana Energy Commission	Chief, Renewable Energy	Ghana
Mr	Mahama	Kappiah	ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)	Executive Director	Cape Verde
Mr	Malte	Winterstein	University of Leuphana, Lüneburg	Graduate Environmental Communication	Germany
Mr	Marindame	Kombate	E+CO Ghana	Investment Analyst	Ghana
Mr	Martin	van Dam	Rural Energy Foundation	Country Coordinator	Burkina Faso
Mr	Nebiyu	Ezra	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Head, Natural Resource Conservation and Development Department	Ethiopia
Mr	Samuel	Adu-Asare	Association of Ghana Solar Industries (AGSI) under the World Bank Ghana Energy Development & Access Project (GEDAP)	Consultant	Ghana
Mrs	Scharonna	Kröner	WFC International Secretariat	Media & Communications Officer	Germany
Mr	Stefan	Schurig	WFC International Secretariat	Director Climate Energy	Germany
Mrs	Sue	Edwards	Institute for Sustainable Development	Director	Ethiopia
Mr	Sydney	Mphephu	Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Energy of the Republic of South Africa	Researcher	South Africa
Mr	Thembanani	Bukula	National Energy Regulator South Africa	Head of Electricity Regulation	South Africa
Prof	Titilayo	Kuku	Solar Energy Society of Nigeria Obafemi Awolowo University	President Prof. of Electronic & Electrical Engineering	Nigeria
Mr	Wisdom	Ahiataku-Togobo	Ministry of Energy	Head renewable Energy and GEDAP	Ghana
Mr	Yaw	Afrane-Okese	Development Bank of Southern Africa	Regional Director, Energy and Environment Partnership Programme	South Africa
Mr	Yusuf	Abdussalam	Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission	Manager Rural Electrification Renewable Energy/R&D Division	Nigeria