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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Le Parlement du Climat

Des législateurs du monde entier combattent ensemble le changement climatique

Parliamentary Action on Renewable Energy (PARE)

Private Investment in Renewable Energy (RE)

Radisson Blu Hôtel Abidjan Airport, Boulevard de l'Aéroport Abidjan – Port Bouet – 03 BP
2176 – Abidjan 03

12 - 13 April 2017

Abidjan, Ivory Coast

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Introduction

The shortage of electricity is a big problem in Southern countries. Yet most African countries have enormous potential for renewable energy such as solar, wind, hydro and biomass. These resources could provide an endless supply of energy that would reduce poverty and contribute to the reduction in gender inequality, at the same time as mitigating climate change.

The absence of legal frameworks and national policies and the lack of financial resources are principal obstacles to overcome in order to promote and incentivize renewable energy for such an important part of the global population. Parliaments are key national institutions to develop policies and legal frameworks to promote renewable energy finance. To be able to carry out their legislative, budgetary and monitoring duties, deputies need to be equipped with the right tools and knowledge in

the subject of renewable energy.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Climate Parliament are collaborating to provide parliamentarians with the information they need to advocate for the development of renewable energy. This process also aims to promote the reform of policies and regulations to encourage investment in renewable energy.

UNDP is particularly well positioned to build the capacity of parliaments in developing countries on energy issues, and to strengthen ties between the deputies and the United Nations system. UNDP is already supporting one in three parliaments in the world. As the primary organisation at the United Nations responsible for renewable energy issues (renewable energy being one of its main areas of intervention) UNDP is a key point of entry for renewable energy project finance.

Climate Parliament is the only global parliamentary network that has the promotion of renewable energy as its core purpose. Climate Parliament has successfully fostered the development of legislation and policy in Africa, India and many Pacific states.

The PARE project aims to create national parliamentary networks and interparty parliamentary groups to promote investment in renewable energy, as well as other ways to achieve access to sustainable energy. At the same time the project aims to facilitate technical advice for parliamentarians according to their needs.

Wednesday 12 April

09:00 - 10:30 - Opening session

Luc Gregoire, Country Director, UNDP, Ivory Coast

His Excellency M. Guillaume Kigbafori Soro, President, National Assembly of the Ivory Coast (*Invited*)

Nicholas Dunlop, Secretary General, Climate Parliament

10:30 - 11:30 - Introduction

Insight on the renewable energy situation in West Africa

Mohamed Youba Sokona, Renewable Energy Adviser, seconded by GIZ to the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)

Parliamentary Action on Renewable Energy (PARE)

Sandra Pointel, West Africa Coordinator, Climate Parliament

Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:15 International Solar Alliance and Scaling Solar

Upendra Tripathy, Director General, International Solar Alliance

H.E. Ragutahalli Ravindra, Ambassador of India

Cassandra Colbert, Country Manager, IFC (Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone)

Nick Dunlop, Secretary General, Climate Parliament

Presentation of Commitment Certificates on Solar

Lunch Break

14:30 - 16:15 Community Grids Initiative

Introduction of Climate Parliament's vision on community grid initiatives and the presentation of the concession agreement for mini-grids

Sanjay Kumar, Executive Director, Climate Parliament

Panel on legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks for community grids

Abdoulaye BA, Expert in Renewable Energy and Rural Electrification, *COSER*

Daniel Schroth, Principal Energy Specialist and Coordinator for SE4ALL Hub for the African Development Bank

Dinesh Patidar, Chairman, Shakti Pumps

Coffee Break

16:30 - 18:00 National group workshops

Action plans for national Climate Parliament groups

Thursday 13 April

09:00 - 10:00 Keynote speaker

Can we run on 100 % renewable?

Upendra Tripathy, Director General, International Solar Alliance

Dr. Youba Sokona, Vice Chair of IPCC and Head of AREI Interim Delivery Unit

10.00 - 11:15 - Gender and Energy in West Africa

Benedicta Mireille Comlan, Head of Gender Integration and Social Inclusion, Millennium Challenge Account Bénin II

Odette Kabaya, Regional adviser on Gender, Central Africa, UNDP, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Monica Maduekwe, Coordinator for ECOWAS Programme on Gender Integration in Access to Energy, ECREEE

Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:00 Initiatives for investment in renewable energy

View from the private sector on establishment of an enabling framework for renewable energy investment

David Achi, Director, AD Solar

Stimulating private investment by exempting VAT and import duty on solar equipment

Dr Souleymane Berthé, Director General, Renewable Energy Agency of Mali (REA-Mali), Minister of Energy and Water, Mali

Jitu Soni, Deputy, Tanzania National Assembly

Salima Faraji, Lawyer and Former Deputy, Morocco

Lunch Break

14:15 - 16:00 - Thematic workshops on pan-African parliamentary actions

By group and by theme

- Green Grid Alliance and large-scale renewables
- Community Grid Initiative
- Financing investments in renewable energy
- Gender and Energy

Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:30 - Close of Roundtable

Declarations of national parliamentary action plans

Acknowledgments from Climate Parliament to Attendees