EVENT AGENDA

High-Level Multi-Stakeholder Renewable Energy and Clean Cooking Conference for the Manor River Union

GROWING THE SUB-REGIONAL ENERGY MARKET

18th – 19th November 2019 • Freetown, Sierra Leone
Radisson Blu Mammy Yoko Hotel in Freetown, Sierra Leone

It is no secret that expanding energy access on the continent is essential. Not only is it a primary concern for African governments, but also recognized as a top priority by the international community.

Across ECOWAS, and in the Mano River Union (MRU) sub-region of Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, energy sector leaders are prioritizing deployment of decentralized renewable energy sources; standalone systems and appliances for households and small businesses and clean energy mini-grids for stimulating productive, income-generating activities across key growth sectors in the sub-region. Efforts have also recently strengthened to promote a regional, off-grid market to better attract companies and investors through harmonization of policy and regulatory efforts, by scaling up financing and jointly tackling market barriers. Furthermore, regional transmission projects under the West African Power Pool-WAPP are advancing, including the MRU-CLSG Project, and MRU Governments and energy sector stakeholders increasingly recognise the financial and technical promise of WAPP regional power trade

Alongside this exciting progress, energy stakeholders of Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Cote D'Ivoire can – and should – be brought into the nascent Global Coalition on Clean Cooking given the importance of the issue and related social and environmental impact in each of the four countries. Through demonstration of clear leadership and increased coordination, the MRU can help to incentivize new ECOWAS-wide political commitments and projects required to turn the tide on Clean Cooking.

Taken together, these important themes present an opportunity for Governments (Ministers and Legislators), Sub-Regional Institutions and their partners to share lessons, develop and launch pilot projects, and host national and regional investors and partners.

Scope:

- The Event will aim to allow for in-depth discussion on **specific technical areas and financing options of relevance for the uptake of renewable energy,** while identifying concrete opportunities for regional cooperation (on a project level and through knowledge and data sharing). Emphasis will also be provided on enhancing the capabilities of national and sub-regional legislators, who have a critical role to play in scaling up renewable energy and MRU sub-regional integration.
- To ensure a practical, 'first-hand' element alongside the more typical plenary set-up, site visits will be planned, to allow for presentation by developers and distributors – for example, mini-grid developers seeking to address the affordability challenge through productive use applications in rural areas in Sierra Leone.
- Five 'themes' will be explored during the meeting,
  1. energy access;
  2. sub-regional power trade;
  3. the 'energy nexus' (energy-health and economic development);
  4. Clean Cooking; and
  5. utilities infrastructures.
- Policy material that will support parliamentarians and political decision makers to implement the outcome of the event will be developed and provided to participants as open source material.

EVENT PARTNERS

Ministry of Energy · Global Renewables Congress · World Future Council · USAID From the American People · TENN · Hivos people unlimited · Energia International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy · ECREEE · Tony Blair Institute for Global Change

EVENT AGENDA • Day 1 • Monday, 18th November 2019

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REGISTRATION AND WIDE-ATTENDANCE WELCOME SESSION

08:00 – 08:45 **Registration**

09:00 – 10.30 **Opening Plenary – Convening senior representatives from the Government (Ministers and Members of Parliament), Civil Society Organizations, Electricity Energy Regulators, Renewable Energy Agencies, Energy Experts, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, and the general public.**

- **Welcoming Statement by Sierra Leone Ministry of Energy** | Permanent Secretary
- **Video Message from Partners**
- **Remarks from MRU Secretariat** | Amb. Medina A. Wesseh Esq., MRU Secretary General
- **Global Energy Context** | Hon. Dr Kandeh K. Yumkella, (Founder and Chairman of TENN)
- **Remarks from ECREEE** | Mr. Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director
- **Ambassador Maria E. Brewer** introducing **Mr. Andrew Herscowitz** (Power Africa Coordinator) for his Remarks: Accomplishments on the continent, in the MRU and the new WAEP
- **Ambassador Horst Gruner** introducing **Hon. Bärbel Höhn** (Chair of the Global Renewables Congress and former MP of the German Bundestag and Acting Commissioner for Energy Reform in Africa) for her Remarks
- **Welcoming Address** | Hon. Alhaji Kanja Sesay, Minister of Energy of Sierra Leone: Situating Sierra Leone's energy sector – challenges and opportunities – within the Sub-Regional MRU context
- **Key Note Address** | H.E. President Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone: Re-visiting the New Direction Energy objectives and Energy Sector progress. Establish the high-level commitment to Sub-Regional Energy Market integration and towards new MRU government commitments for clean cooking

10:30 – 11:00 **Break:** Networking Tea-break – informal session

SESSION I. Ministerial Roundtable – key successes, new opportunities in their respective sectors

11:00 – 12:00 **Moderator – Hon. Minister of Energy Alhaji Kanja Sesay**

- Presentations (or Q&A) regarding progress across the 5 principal themes: energy access, regional trade, energy-economic development/energy-health nexus; clean cooking; & Utilities
- Ministers to present priority projects, critical issues on the need to secure baseload power and generation planning. Template to be provided for these inputs, in advance of the event.

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SESSION II. Overview of Sub-Regional Integration efforts for Energy Development in the MRU

12:00 – 13:30 **Moderator – Hon. Dr Kandeh Yumkella, and Prof. Kelleh Mansaray Dean, College of Eng. USL**

- Sustainable Energy Ecosystem | **Ms. Huda Jaffer, Lead Designer SELCO Foundation**
- Power Sector Integration and Role of Regulators | **Ms. Esther Drumm, Project Manager, German Development Bank**
- MRU Road Map for Energy Market Integration | **Mr. Ahmed Jalloh, MRU Energy Officer**

Overview of progress towards, and opportunities for, driving the sub-regional energy markets: off-grid and regional energy trade. Suggested themes:

- Access to finance through the Regional Off-Grid Electrification Project (ROGEP), including debt financing for ECOWAS and the Sahel for scaling up proliferation of standalone home solar market | **Mr. Mahama Kappiah, ECREEE Executive Director**
- Progress towards quality assurance frameworks, and regional harmonisation Analysis of benefits of sub-regional energy trading and key regional projects (transmission and distribution) | **Mr. Bakayoko, DG for CIE / Dr. Patrick Tarawalli, Adviser-MoE Sierra Leone**
- The Market Delivery Unit – accelerating the West African Power Pool (WAPP) - Market Integration | **Rep. from WAPP**
- Private Sector Operators of Mini-Grids | **Mr. Joseph Harrington, PowerGen, Energy City Rep.**

13:30 – 15:00 **Lunch:** Networking Lunch

SESSION III. Parallel Break-Out Sessions – Participants signing-up for the following sessions

15:00 – 16.30

- Levelling Off-Grid/On-Grid Subsidy: "Taking a more Bold and Innovative Approach" | **Hon. G. Murray, MoE-Liberia /Anita, USAID Off-Grid Lead/Pradeep, Konexa-CEO/Aminata ACE/TAF**
- Mano River Union: Review of projects for sub-regional energy trade (including CLSG) and estimating overall market readiness – **Mr. Sergio Portatadino, TBI Power Africa Regional Adviser / Hon. Aboudramane Cissé, Minister of Petroleum, Energy and Renewable Energy-CI**
- Promoting Productive Use of Energy to increase project viability | **Mr. Nick Gardner-UNOPS-Country Manager/ Mr. Kofie Macauley, President of the REASL / Mr. Hartlieb Euler, GIZ-MRU**
- The role of Parliament in Renewable Energy Development – regulatory environment, financial incentives, target setting etc. | **Hon. Bärbel Höhn, Chair of the Global Renewables Congress / Hon. Keikura C. Vandy, Chair Energy Select Committee Parliament of Sierra Leone**
- Joint planning towards a priority sub-regional project and developing a pipeline of bankable projects for MRU | **Hon. Dr. Cheick Taliby Sylla, MoE-Guinea/ Mr. Jalloh, MRU Energy Officer**

16:30 – 16:45 **Break:** Networking Tea-break – informal session

16:45 – 18:15

- Standards and Taxation for Off-Grid | **Ms. Tessa Lee, TBI Energy Access Policy Advisor**
- The role of energy utilities: how to solve the challenges of financial sustainability, management and losses | **Managing Director EDSA**
- The Role of Natural Gas in MRU Energy Trade, LNG terminals | **Rep. Power Africa**
- Access to Finance, and locally embedded financing models for Renewable Energy | **Rep. of Power Africa / Mr. Benjamin Laag, Senior Policy Officer, Energy, Infrastructure, Raw Materials at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development**
- Modelling Energy Transition Roadmaps | **Mr. Stefan Schurig, SG of Foundations-20**

EVENT AGENDA • Day 2 • Tuesday, 19th November 2019

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SESSION I. Building an MRU Coalition of Leader for Change around Clean Cooking

09:00 – 10:15 **Chair – Hon. Dr. Elfred Tunder Taylor, Deputy Minister of Energy of Sierra Leone**

- Reporting from Breakout Sessions
- Presentation of Principal Conclusions

10:15 – 11:00 **Break:** Networking Tea-break – informal session

SESSION II. Energy and Health Nexus

11:00 – 12:15 **Chair – Ms. Gayle Martin, World Bank Sierra Leone Country Director**

- **Video on Energy and Health Nexus**
- **Powering Health Service Delivery** | Mr. Rahul Srinivasan, Energy Specialist at the World Bank
- **Beyond Fire to Clean Cooking Solutions** | Eco Matser, Coordinator Climate Energy & Development
- **Building the Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)** | WHO
- Moderator will solicit contribution from Energy Practitioners and general audience

12:15 – 13:00 **Moderator – Ms. Aminata Dumbuya, Country Manager ACE-TAF**

- Africa Clean Energy-Technical Assistance Facility (ACE-TAF) Sierra Leone Kick Off

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch:** Networking Lunch – informal session

SESSION III. Closing Plenary – MRU Roadmap for Integration

14:00 – 15:00 **Facilitators – Hon. Alhaji Kanja I. Sessay / Hon. Bärbel Höhn**

- Reviewing relevant outcomes of technical sessions
- Commitments from Legislators and Ministers
- Roadmap for Energy Market Integration – what's needed to drive forward

SESSION IV. Field Visits

15:00 – 18:00 **Participants are requested to register interest for the Field Visit:**

- 6MW Solar Park at Newton, and Barefoot Women College

SPEAKERS' PROFILE

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Hon. Alhaji Kanja I. Sesay

Hon. Alhaji I. Kanja Sesay is the current Minister of Energy of Sierra Leone, serving in this capacity since May 2018. He brings to the position a wealth of Public Sector experience. The Honourable Minister had served as Head of the National Commission for Reconstruction, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (NCRRR). In 2001, at the end of NCRRR's mandate, Hon. Kanja I Sesay worked with development partners to establish the National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA) aimed at transitioning the work of NCRRR on relief and reconstruction to development and sustainable reintegration. In his position as Minister of Energy, Hon. Kanja Sesay has prioritised energy transmission and distribution, increase electrification of rural districts and implement energy sector reform.

Hon. Bärbel Höhn

Hon. Bärbel Höhn has served as Member of Town Council Oberhausen from 1985 to 1989. Between 1990 to 1995 she served as Member of State Parliament North Rhine-Westphalia. From 1995 to 2000 she served as state Minister of the Environment, Agriculture and Planning North Rhine-Westphalia between. Between 2000 and 2005 she was State Minister of Environment, Agriculture, Conservation and Consumer Protection North Rhine-Westphalia. From 2005 to 2017 she was Member of the German Bundestag Vice Chair of the Green Parliamentarian Group and chaired the Committee on Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, and the Committee on Environment, Climate Protection, Buildings, City Planning and Nuclear Safety. Since November 2017 to-date, Hon. Bärbel Höhn serves as Special Representative for Energy in Africa of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Mr. Andrew M. Herscowitz Esq.

Since 2013, Mr. Andrew Herscowitz serves as the Coordinator for USIAD Power Africa Programme. The programme aims at doubling access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa, thus, becoming the world's largest development partnership with $56 billion commitments from 160 public and private partners. Mr. Herscowitz has worked with USAID in other positions as Ecuador Mission Director, Peru Deputy Mission Director, and Legal Adviser for the Andes and the Caribbean. Before joining USAID, Mr. Herscowitz practiced law with Piper & Marbury and Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison. He is a graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and its Law Center. In 2005, the Federal Bar Association recognized Herscowitz as one of the five most outstanding young lawyers in the U.S. Government. In 2018, Mr. Herscowitz won the Service to Americas "Sammie" awards, given to officials who have provided the greatest benefit to the American people.

Hon. Dr. Kandeh K. Yumkella

Hon. Dr. Kandeh K. Yumkella Is a distinguished development and agricultural economist. Between 2008 and 2015, he served as the founding Chief Executive and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All). In this capacity, he brought renewed focus on energy by ensuring SDG 7 is placed on global agenda. He mobilized action and engaged relevant stakeholders at the highest-level advocating on sustainable energy future. Dr. Yumkella previously served as Director General of UNIDO between 2005 and 2013. Prior to joining the UN, he was Minister for Trade, Industry and State Enterprises for Sierra Leone, and Assistant Professor at Michigan State University. Building on his international experience on global energy, he founded in 2018 The Energy Nexus Network-TENN. Dr. Yumkella is a member of pre-eminent global organizations and recipient of numerous international awards.

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Amb. Medina A. Wesseh Esq.

Ambassador Medina A. Wesseh is a former Director General to the Cabinet and Executive Assistant of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Amb. Wesseh has accumulated over 30 years professional experience working with UNECA, USAID, OSIWA, UNHCR, then UNIFEM, and UNDP. Amb. Wesseh is a graduate of University of Ghana at Legon in Political Science and International Relations, and the Ghana Institute of Journalism in Mass Communications. In her present role Secretary General of the MRU Secretariat, she is committed to ensuring effective state collaboration, enhancing peoples'/women's participation in socio-economic development, strengthening of regional cooperation and integration for peace, security and development within MRU Member States.

Mr. Mahama Kappiah

Mr. Mahama Kappiah is the Executive Director of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), and agency that aims to increase access to reliable, affordable and clean energy in the West African region. Under his leadership, ECREEE has attained international recognition as a unique regional renewable energy and energy efficiency promotion agency in Sub-Saharan Africa. Mr. Kappiah had served as Head of the ECOWAS Energy Division and contributed to the creation of the West African Power Pool (WAPP) and the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulation Authority (ERERA). Before joining the ECOWAS Commission, he worked in the Planning and Development Department of the Volta River Authority of Ghana. He holds a Master of Science degree in Electromechanical Engineering from the Kharkov Polytechnic Institute, Karkov, Ukraine and has over 25 years of experience working on issues related to energy, environment, climate change and sustainable development. He is recipient of the African Energy Leader Award 2017, and the Green Future Leadership Award 2017, in recognition of his work in sustainable energy development.

Mr. Eco Matser

Mr. Eco Matser has led global campaign/advocacy programmes and presently serves a Senior Program Manager for Strategic Partnership, Green and Inclusive Energy at Hivos. His work focuses on promoting decentralized solutions for universal renewable energy access and between 2010 and 2015 he was responsible for the 100% Sustainable Campaign at Hivos. In his effort to changing the energy landscape, he has started an initiative called the **Energy Change Lab** aim at creating space for critical thinking, exploring complex ideas, and searching for innovative solutions in the energy domain globally with a pilot project in Tanzania. Mr. Eco Matser also started the Sumba Iconic Island Programme in Indonesia with the objective to harmonize efforts by the government, civil society organizations, and private investors to provide 100% renewable energy for 700.000 inhabitants in rural poor Indonesian islands.

Ing. Stefan Schurig

Ing. Stefan Schurig in 2017 established Cities and Energy Consulting-CEC. He serves in several advisory and research boards in the field of Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Sustainable Cities with the World Future Council-WFC. Mr. Stefan is the Secretary General of Foundations-20, Platform-F20 pioneering the relevance of 2030 Agenda, and the Paris Climate Agreement for energy transition. He had previously served as Member of the Energy Advisory Board of the International Building Exhibition between. Prior working with WFC, Mr. Schurig worked for Greenpeace as Director for Climate Energy and co-founded a "Nation-wide Green Electricity – Greenpeace Energy". Mr. Stefan Schurig is author and co-author of publications on environmental protection, energy and urban development, and serves as lecturer in Urban Planning, at the Hamburg University.

CONTACT

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CONFERENCE ORGANIZER/COORDINATION:

Institute of Leadership and Environmental Management (ILEM Consultancy)

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