

# COOPENER

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DEA

Development and Energy in Africa

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## Final National Workshop Report Ghana

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Solomon Kojo Quansah, KITE, Ghana

[solomon@kiteonline.net](mailto:solomon@kiteonline.net)

Tel: +233 24 4660 296

Project website: [www.deafrica.net](http://www.deafrica.net)

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Development and Energy in Africa (DEA) was a 30-month long project funded by the European Commission under its Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) COOPENER Programme and co-financed by the Danish Government. The project was implemented by RISOE National Laboratory of Denmark, the project coordinator, and in collaboration with Energy Center of Netherlands (ECN) in partnership with six African centres. The Kumasi Institute of Technology and Environment is the project partner in Ghana.

The principal aims of the DEA project were:

1. To identify and examine the developmental impacts of energy interventions linked to improving energy access and poverty alleviation.
2. To use the information and insights gained to improve on on-going and future energy interventions by energy policymakers and institutions in six Sub-Saharan African countries: Botswana, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia.

The project was in three stages. In the first stage, information was obtained through three parallel Work Packages that facilitated and formed the basis for the development of an Assessment Framework, specifically for evaluating the impacts of energy innovations on sustainable development. The three parallel activities are:

- (i) A literature survey.
- (ii) A cataloguing of experience with relevant energy projects and innovations in the target countries.
- (iii) A process of consultation with stakeholders in the respective countries.

In the second stage, the Assessment Framework itself was developed, then tested through a national Case Study and refined. Finally, in the third phase, the Assessment Framework was presented to policy makers and stakeholders in the six participating countries and eventually introduced further to other developing countries.

The key output of the DEA project was an Assessment Framework, which is an operational tool for policy makers and other stakeholders to integrate the complex linkages between energy interventions and socio-economic development

into poverty reduction programs. The tool allows energy interventions to be designed to contribute to real development needs, especially poverty alleviation and income generation, and to achieving the millennium development goals.

### *1.1 Objective*

The purpose of the national training workshop in Ghana was to present the Assessment Framework to a wider stakeholder group and provide 'hands-on training' for stakeholders on the Assessment Framework. The workshop was also used as a platform for discussions among stakeholders on how the Assessment Framework could be integrated in the work and activities of stakeholders.

### *1.2 Participants*

Participants at the workshop were mainly from the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as the private sector and non-governmental organization (NGO). There were a total of 13 participants. See *Appendix* for list of all participants.

## 2.0 PLENARY SESSION

The workshop begun with the chairman, Mr. William Agyeman-Bonsu introducing Mrs. Harriette Amissah-Arthur, the Director of KITE who delivered the welcome address. In her address, she explained to the participants the purpose of the workshop and the need for participants to see beyond the workshop and plan on how they can integrate the Assessment Framework in their work activities to ensure that the benefits of the project are fully realised. The speech was followed by two key presentations which were made by Mr. Solomon Quansah from KITE. Highlights of the presentations were as follows:

### *2.1 An Overview of the DEA Project and Purpose of Training*

The presentation highlighted the key activities of the DEA project and quickly refreshed the memories of participants on previous activities of the project. He crowned the presentation with a reminder of the purpose of the training workshop which was to assist the participants or stakeholders in integrating the assessment framework during policy planning and decision making processes.

## 2.2 *The Assessment Framework.*

The second presentation took participants through the rudiments of the Assessment Framework and highlighted the various tools within the framework. It also gave a guide on steps to using the Assessment Framework. These steps were demonstrated with examples from the case studies conducted in different countries using the Assessment Framework.

## 3.0 DISCUSSION

A healthy and interactive discussion session followed the presentations which afforded participants the opportunity to make clarifications as well as suggestions on ways of integrating the framework in their activities. Notable among the clarifications made are the following:

- The distinction between the output and outcome in the causal chain.
- Modifications to be made on the “sources of data” at the various levels.
- The gender specific impacts of the project especially during the research stage.
- A need to provide clearer definition of ‘ACCESS’ in the causal chain.
- The need for researchers to select sample sizes that gives a good representation of the population.
- The measurability of the indicators given in the indicator table.

## 4.0 HANDS ON TRAINING

In order to practice the use of the Assessment Framework, participants made suggestions on the examples of projects that could be used as a test case for the hands-on training. Projects suggested included the following:

- Effectiveness of services provided by the National Board for Small Scale Industries to the Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Impact of shift from traditional diesel to biodeisel.
- Impact of Change from incandescent bulbs to the Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL).
- Impact of Community Information Centres (CICs) in the districts.
- Impact of the Cost Recovery Policy on electricity.

Participants finally decided to use the Impact of Community Information Centres in the districts as a test case for practice. Using this project, participants developed a four level causal chain and proceeded to develop the indicator table and a research plan guide. Participants, in a high-spirited and enthusiastic mood discussed and developed the causal chain, indicator table, research plan guide and the research plan for the impact assessment of this project. The exercise was very instrumental in helping participants understand the rudiments of the Assessment Framework.

## 5.0 CLOSING AND WAY FORWARD

In their final remarks all participants were happy with the training acquired and were looking forward to applying the Assessment Framework to their various projects. This, they believed would help them in feeding back lessons on impacts of projects to policy formulation and project planning and implementation.

Participants unanimously recommended that the final causal chain developed using the Community Information Centers should be completed by the Ministry of Communications and circulate it among all participants for comments.

The Chairman then expressed his appreciation to all the participants for attending the program and charged them to ensure that they use the Assessment Framework in order to help develop the country.

## APPENDIX - List of All participants

<b>N O</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>	<b>CONTACT ADDRESS</b>
1	Katie schindall	Technoserve		kschindall@tnsgh.org	
2	William k. Agyeman-Bonsu	Environment Protection Agency (EPA)	664697/8	wbonsu@epaghana.org	P. O. Box M326Accra
3	Grace Howard	National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI)	0208470382	graceah@jahis.com	P. O. Box M45 Accra
4	Winfred Nelson	National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)	024482407	winfrednelson@yahoo.co.uk	P. O. Box CT633, Cantonments, Accra
5	William Dokyi Asare	National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)	0243409869	dokyiasare@yahoo.co.uk	P. O. Box CT633, Cantonments, Accra
6	Solomon K. Ekyirefi	Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG)	0244476676	sekyirefi@gmail.com	P. O. Box 521, Accra
7	Kennedy Amankwa	Energy Commission (EC)	0242261212	kenamankah@yahoo.co.uk	Private Mail Bag
8	Amadu Iddi Mohamed	Ministry of Communication (MoC)	020-8246524	aimuhammed@yahoo.com	P. O. Box M38, Accra

<b>N O</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>	<b>CONTACT ADDRESS</b>
9	Dr. F. Addo-Yobo	Center for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)_	024-2982816	waddoyob@hotmail.com	
1 0	K. Edem Saani Yunus	Africa 2000 Network (A2N)	0244367329	kesenonu@yahoo.com	P. O. Box 113, Legon
1 1	Joseph Essandoh-Yeddu	Energy Commission (EC)	0208187299	jyeddu@yahoo.co.uk	PMB Ministries, Accra
1 2	Stephen Dodu	Energy Foundation	0244-267344	sduodu@ghanaf.org	P. O. Box CT 1671 Accra
1 3	J.B. Okai	Ministry of Energy (MoE)	0244089403	Jbenokai@hotmail.com	
1 4	Solomon Quansah	KITE	0244660296	Solomon.quansah@gmail.com	P. O. Box AT 720 Achimota, Accra
1 5	Daniel Didger	KITE		ddigber@kiteonline.net	P. O. Box AT 720 Achimota, Accra