

ECOWREX 2

Start Date: March 2014

End Date: July 2016

Rationale:

The energy systems in the ECOWAS region is facing interrelated challenges of energy access, energy security and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Access to electricity is low and electricity production is mostly dominated by diesel plants which heavily escalate electricity production cost, thereby making its expansion to poor rural and peri-urban areas very difficult.

To address knowledge and information related barriers, a web-based framework named ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Observatory (ECOWREX) was created.

The main objectives of ECOWREX is to provide targeted, timely and statistical information and data on the energy systems (especially in the field of RE and EE) including the use of geospatial technology to visualize and analyse the energy resource potential, infrastructure, projects and stakeholders, in the ECOWAS Region. ECOWREX provides decision makers, project developers, investors and other stakeholders with tailored information and planning strategies. It is aimed at boosting knowledge management, networking, advocacy and strengthening of capacities on renewable energy and energy efficiency, acting as a catalyst for policy development and energy planning.

GRID-Geneva/Unige will actively support the objectives of the project by developing a SDI based on OGC-compliant services to support ECOWREX and integrate all the data developed during the project. GRID-Geneva/Unige will also develop new maps of energy consumption and green energy production potential as well as support the development of energy access maps as well as provide training for capacity building.

Description:

The project has two overall objectives:

- Addressing the existing knowledge and information barriers hindering development in the energy sector in West Africa.
- Support the policies and plans towards improving access to energy services by identifying gaps and most favourable technologies for improving energy access in the ECOWAS region.

The specific objectives is to develop a platform through the use of geospatial technology to support policy makers, investors and other stakeholders with tailored information on the energy sector in

West Africa.

Outputs/Results:

- Enhancement of existing solar and wind maps on the ECOWREX web-based platform
- Develop Electricity Access Maps using geospatial technologies for improving policies and actions related to access to sustainable energy
- Development of a ratio map between power consumption map / green power production potential map using geospatial technologies for policy makers on electricity access
- Enhancement of ECOWREX map with innovative technologies
- Capacity building at national level to transfer scientific knowledge

Clients/End Users:

Stakeholders of the ECOWAS region (West Africa), especially the population in rural and peri-urban areas living without access to modern energy services

Partners agencies:

- ECREEE (ECOWAS Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency)
- KNUST (the Energy Center, Kwame Nkrumah university)
- Ministry of Energy
- Noveltis

Link(s):

<http://www.ecowrex.org/acp-eu>

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