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**NEW PUBLICATION | Energising Sustainable Development – Concepts and Projects**

### Editorial:

#### Dear readers,

After a decade of neglect energy has moved back to the top of Africa's political agenda. Reliable energy supply at competitive prices is a prerequisite for a continuation of economic growth and a full integration of Africa's economies into the world economy. Local sustainable development and poverty alleviation will not happen without an affordable and sustainable supply of energy services at the peoples' level, be it heat for cooking or electricity for reading and income generating activities.

Africa is richly endowed with all kinds of energy resources – renewable and fossil. The contributions to this edition of GTZ Energy News illustrate a few examples of how these resources can be turned into social and economic development. What is required is a combination of political will and skill, capacity to plan and implement, and a lot of innovative and entrepreneurial spirit on the ground. We hope that this edition of GTZ Energy News, once again, offers an interesting insight into some solutions that work!

**The Editorial Team**

**01 | Electrification of rural municipalities in Mali using solar energy**

A new project for rural electrification is getting underway as part of the Dutch-German “Energising Development” (EnDev) partnership in Mali. Decentralised solar energy systems for municipal buildings and community services as well as solar battery charging stations for the domestic market are aimed at providing initial access to electricity at the municipal level. A principal objective of the project strategy is to recoup maintenance costs for municipalities through the income earned from battery charging services. In the first phase, the project will target seven municipalities in the Koulikouro and Segou regions, providing basic services for over 80,000 people.

The Dutch-German partnership is based on a pledge made by the Government of the Netherlands to provide access to modern energy services to 10 million people in developing countries by the year 2015. The Netherlands and Germany have agreed to intensify their cooperation in the field of modern energy services to the poor, including renewable energy and energy efficiency. GTZ was given the assignment to provide access to energy for about 3.1 million people in the first four-year period (2005-2008). The EnDev programme was established to carry out this assignment. More information about EnDev can be found [here](#).

[>| CONTENT](#)**02 | PPP with German municipal utility of Mainz on renewable energy in Rwanda**

The contract between German municipal utility and electricity supplier “Stadtwerke Mainz AG” and GTZ has recently been signed: Both are entering a Public Private Partnership (PPP) project in Rwanda to support the development of technical and entrepreneurial capabilities among renewable energy engineers, especially in the field of solar energy. This summer Stadtwerke Mainz are planning to inaugurate Africa's first 250 kW grid connected photovoltaic power plant in Kigali. The power plant is designed for 1 MW, with Stadtwerke Mainz financing the first 250 kW. The PPP aims to enhance local capacity building in the field of renewable energies by establishing pioneering institutions for vocational training and training specialists in solar engineering.

[>| CONTENT](#)**03 | New PDF-funded projects in Swaziland, Uganda and Malawi**

The EUEI Partnership Dialogue Facility (PDF) has issued a limited call for proposals for projects in Swaziland and Uganda and is currently preparing another call for tenders for a project in Malawi. In Swaziland, PDF will be developing a strategy for implementing the National Energy Policy and an action plan for promoting access to energy services in rural and periurban areas. The PDF project in Uganda aims at building capacity on energy issues within local government institutions and integrating energy into planning processes at district level. Malawi is taking part in the Biomass Energy Strategy (BEST) initiative and will be the first country to develop a national BEST. The PDF management unit is hosted by GTZ in Germany. More information can be found [here](#).

[>| CONTENT](#)**04 | Economic evaluation shows benefits of Ugandan stove programme**

Investments in efficient cooking technologies pay off. This is the main finding of a cost-benefit analysis carried out in Uganda, where GTZ (on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, BMZ) is implementing an improved stove programme as part of the Energy Advisory Project. “The impact is tremendous: the investment of one euro yields a return of 25 euros, taking into account all the economic benefits over a period of ten years and factoring in a discount rate of 10%” reports Marlis Kees, who is the manager of GTZ's household energy programme HERA. The study quantified the benefits for households as well as the benefits derived from national and global impacts caused by the use of 200,000 efficient and clean stoves in 190,000 households. Benefits due to fuel savings, reduced cooking time, improved health, preservation of forest reserves, greenhouse gas reduction as well as the benefits of preventing a drop in soil fertility were all considered. The full analysis, which was conducted by economist Helga Habermehl, can be downloaded [here](#).

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**05 | African Ministerial Conference on Energy Security and Sustainability in Mozambique**

*Security and regional integration in the energy sector* – these were the main issues discussed in Mozambique's capital Maputo. The Conference was organised by the Forum of Energy Ministers of Africa (FEMA), whose main agenda is to provide political commitment, policy direction and advocacy to increase access to energy and enhance the utilisation and management of energy resources for a sustainable social and economic African development. From March 28 to 30, representatives from 27 African countries and 17 international development organisations discussed how best to improve the energy situation on the continent. It became apparent that efforts to foster stronger regional integration are crucial, both in terms of harmonising policies and in establishing links between existing and planned regional power pools. Access to modern energy for those still relying on traditional biomass and the strong need to work with key sectors, especially the Ministries of Finance and Planning, were recognised to be important areas of work. Capacity development to create a critical mass of local and regional experts remains high on the agenda. These issues are reflected in the work plan for the next years. The chair of FEMA, currently based in Uganda, will pass to Mozambique in August for the next two years.

The political role and the internal structure of FEMA are issues still to be discussed in the near future. Nevertheless, this conference has been an important step towards the institutionalisation of FEMA and has boosted its implementation capabilities. The conference was sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)/ GTZ and other donors.

[>| CONTENT](#)**06 | Large-scale hydropower - a controversial issue for sustainable development**

Recently, several agreements with Uganda, Togo and Ghana to support on-going multi-stakeholder dialogues on large-scale hydropower have been signed. On behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) GTZ is assisting partner countries in promoting dialogues between critics and proponents of large dams. The aim is to ensure a socially and environmentally sustainable planning and implementing of dam projects which are in line with the guidelines of the World Commission on Dams (WCD).

Africa has an immense yet unexploited technical potential for large scale hydro power. With an estimated technical hydropower potential of 1.750 TWh of electricity production, Africa accounts for 12% of the total global hydropower potential. Out of this, roughly 58% are technically and economically feasible. Even though hydropower can be an important renewable energy source large dams, if not planned and implemented in a socially and environmentally sustainable manner, are often causing conflicts. There is a high risk of destructing ecosystems and displacing people. Furthermore, due to financial and technical risks, large dams are not always proving economically viable.

[>| CONTENT](#)**07 | German and Tunisian Environment Ministers sign agreement on CDM cooperation**

In March 2007 the German and Tunisian Environment Ministers, Sigmar Gabriel and Nadhir Hamada, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to intensify further cooperation between Germany and Tunisia on the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

From early 2006 GTZ has been supporting the Tunisian Ministry for Environment and Sustainable Development on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in implementing the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. As one of its key undertakings GTZ is conducting capacity building activities within the Tunisian Designated National Authority (DNA). In addition, the German-Tunisian project is focusing on training potential project developers, e.g. the public electricity and gas supplier (STEG), the national waste disposal agency (ANGEd) and various Tunisian consultants based mainly in the energy sector.

In Tunisia around 50 CDM projects have been identified and are in the process of planning and approval. GTZ is currently facilitating the development of three projects: A solar water heating project (Project Design Document submitted) and two projects aimed at substituting oil for natural gas (Project Identification Note submitted). More information about the German-Tunisian project will soon be available online.

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## 08 | Africa-Europe Energy Forum Berlin 2007. Towards an Africa-Europe Energy Partnership

“A comprehensive, long-term energy partnership between Africa and Europe is of mutual interest. The aim must be to improve the climate for investment, to increase the amount invested in energy and to bring transparency to oil and gas revenues. Moreover, in light of climate change renewable energies have to be intensively developed.” stated the German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Heidemarie Wiecek-Zeul at her opening speech at the Africa-Europe Energy Forum Berlin 2007. In response to an invitation extended by the German government and the European Commission, more than 220 representatives of African and European countries, international financial institutions, UN organisations, NGOs and other decision-makers met in Berlin for the Africa-Europe Energy Forum 2007. The forum organised by GTZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) took place in the framework of the German EU Presidency 2007 as well as the EUEI (European Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development). The final declaration of the Africa-Europe Energy Forum calls for an official proclamation of an African-European Energy Partnership at the EU-Africa Summit in December 2007 in Lisbon. The Forums' outcomes already received support at an informal meeting of EU development ministers on 12-13 March 2007. More information can be found [here](#).

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## 09 | New Publication: Energising Sustainable Development – Concepts and Projects

Access to modern energy services, the promotion of renewable energy, and greater energy efficiency are the key elements of any strategy for a sustainable energy supply. The transformation of the global energy system is one of the greatest challenges facing humankind in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The contributions to our new publication discuss the energy challenges in different parts of the world, illustrate some conceptual approaches to address these challenges, and provide concrete examples how we, at GTZ, work with our partners to find solutions that work. The publication for download can be found [here](#).

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### Service

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