



RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCE & INVESTMENT FORUM

27 – 28 APRIL 2012

GUSTAV-STRESEMANN INSTITUT
LANGER GRABENWEG 68, 3175 BONN
53175 BONN - GERMANY

Provisional Agenda*

FRIDAY, 27TH APRIL 2012

Till **Arrival and registration**

09:00

09:00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

09:30 **Coffee Break**

09:45

Description **Renewable energy markets available in the ECOWAS countries**

This session will discuss structural engineering, financial evaluation and appraisal methods of different wind projects. An overview of new and innovative hydropower technologies that improves efficiency, increase generation and limits environmental impact. A regionally focused session on hydro and wind power utilities analysing how projects have been procured and integrated to the benefit of the region.

- New Hydro Power Development
- Wind Technology and Development
- Infrastructure in ECOWAS countries
- Private equity and expansion capital

Format Interactive panel discussion

11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:30

Description **Strategic and institutional investment available to the renewable energy markets**

Working with investors and developers to conduct economic and feasibility studies to for completion of construction, execution of contracts, and meeting uptime and performance ratio commitments.

- Power Purchase Agreements – PPA
- Financial Appraisal of Operational Offshore Wind Energy Projects
- Wind Power Utilities
- Federal and state funding available and how to get it

Format Interactive panel discussion

* This is a provisional agenda and is subject to change in the course of preparations till final date.

13:00 **Lunch**

14:00

Description **Investment opportunities across some of the key sectors**

Financing can be difficult to come by. This panel discussion on renewable energy incentives and financing mechanisms, will include updates on renewable energy credit (REC) markets, innovative financing trends and common financial pitfalls to avoid.

- Project Finance in a Post Stimulus region
- Balancing project finance with tax equity, debts, and other methods
- Renewable energy financing mechanisms and incentives
- Early stage Venture Capital investment

Format Interactive panel discussion

15:30

Coffee Break

15:45

Business Round Table

The Business Round Table will aim at exploring the business and Investment potentials of the West African markets, building new business relations with regional entrepreneurs to build and strengthen the Diaspora position of African entrepreneurs in Germany and other West African countries, with a view to the divestiture programmes taking effect in most ECOWAS countries. Areas to be considered are:

- Where and how to obtain tax equity investment,
- Energy,
- Oil & Gas Exploration,
- Health,
- Real Estate Development,
- Infrastructure,
- Mining,
- Agribusiness,
- Industrial & Manufacturing; and more.....!

18:00

RECEPTION

SATURDAY 28TH APRIL 2012

10:00

Description **Solar Africa: The race or the success??**

Africa's renewable energy agenda is envisaged to have a huge expansion of solar capacity. Solar energy may offer innovative opportunities for applications that expand baseload utility-scale power development, increase resources conversion efficiency, and offer more dynamic load support to the utilities. But which technologies will ultimately emerge as the winners in the race for solar? Its benefit as a baseload renewable resource as well as a geologically-derived resource will be discussed in this session.

- Solar Systems and Technology
- Technical considerations for Solar products in West Africa
- Solar at Scale
- Solar power – An ECOWAS opportunity?

Format **Paper presentation**

11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:45

Description **Biomass - Challenges to Biomass Sustainability**

The biomass value chain requires innovation, efficiency, resource stewardship and robust defense of market positions for success. Sustainability strategy is evolving quickly in order to connect sustainability objectives with organizational goals. The panel will provide multiple perspectives on the attainment of sustainability in biomass applications and ventures.

- Biogas Development for Utility
- Biomass Energy - Arguments for and Against Carbon Neutrality

Format **Paper presentation**

13:00 **Lunch**

14:00

Description **Affordable and sustainable Technology**

This panel will focus on case studies from developers that are designing best-in-class utility-scale equipment. Discussion will include system design, module and BOS selection, performance modeling and optimization to achieve target ROIs. The challenge to manufacture lower cost, reliable alternative power solutions. The session will also highlight innovations in technology that can help meet this critical goal.

- Improving the ROI of Utility Scale alternative Power Generation
- Realities of renewable energy Development: Engineering, Construction and Cost
- Advancements to tower renewable energy technologies for efficiency, reliability and cost competitiveness

Format **Panel discussion**

15:30 **Coffee break**

15:45

Description

Policies

The power industry has created a moving target for those players involved in large-scale solar development and ownership. Success requires navigating a dynamic landscape of varying state policy and utility programs. Representing a broad range of interests and experience, the panel will give an overview of existing utility procurement policies and developer strategies.

- Impact of Renewable Policies in the ECOWAS region.
- Renewable energy policy in volatile political climates
- Policy impact on procurement and developer strategies
- Renewable energy by ECOWAS countries??

Format

Panel discussion

17:15

The way forward

- Evaluation and presentation of preliminary report and recommendations
- Action plans: The way forward
- Messages recommendations and suggestions from Representatives
- agreements for the future of renewable energy development in ECOWAS countries Adoption of report
- Closing remarks

18:00

End of Business Forum

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

