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## ECOWAS Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency



### BACKGROUND

Accurate knowledge on existing and planned resources are vital for strategic planning and development. The non-availability of reliable and updated information about the energy sector poses a major constraint for policy makers, investors and project developers in the ECOWAS energy sector. In 2012, ECREEE in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and support from the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), under the GEF project "Promoting Coordination, Coherence and Knowledge Management under Energy Component of the Strategic Program for West Africa (SPWA)" established the ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Observatory (ECOWREX), a web-based framework, aimed at addressing knowledge and information related barriers. ECOWREX was adopted by the ECOWAS Energy Ministers in October 31<sup>st</sup>, at its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, in Accra, Ghana.

#### SUPPORTED BY





ECDWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: Address: Achada Sto. Antonio, ECREEE Building - Praia, Cabo Verde Tel.: (+238) 260 4630 e-mail: info@ecreee.org www.ecowrex.org & www.ecreee.org we are also available on:





#### OBJECTIVES

ECOWREX provides decision makers, project developers, investors and other stakeholders with tailored energy information and planning tool, aimed at boosting knowledge, creating awareness, and networking, thus, acting as a catalyst for development in the energy sector in West Africa.

#### **PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

• Maintaining a cutting-edge Content Management System and a robust up-to-date information technology system.

• Implementing the ACP-EU project: Promoting Sustainable Energy Access through the use of Geospatial Technologies in West Africa, www.ecowrex.org/acp-eu. The project is funded by the European Union under the ACP-EU Science and Technology Programme II (ACP S&T II, GRANT FED/2013/330-248). It includes; enhancement of the solar and wind resource maps, development of energy access maps, development of energy consumption / green power production potential maps and implementing a complete Spatial Data Infrastructure.

- Updating the ECOWREX country profiles and contributing to regional data collection activities.
- Managing and updating all sections and integration of new resources developed in other RE & EE projects. Such as the hydro power resource mapping of all ECOWAS river basins.

#### **IMPACT**

ECOWREX serves as a data hub for member states in the region. It contributes toward the development of the energy sector by

- Supporting decision makers with evidence-based decision making system. Geospatial technology is used to visualize and analyze the energy resource potential the ECOWAS Region.
- Promoting investment in RE & EE, by providing the data and tools necessary for planning and feasibility studies.
- Contributing towards harnessing Renewable Energy (RE) resources through identification and mapping of the resource potential.
- Promoting standardization of data collection models, systems and processes.
- Closing the energy data gap in the region, by supporting the member states with data collection. The success of ECOW-REX project is determined by the timely acquisition and uploading of accurate data.
- Building a spatial data Infrastructure, and thereby promoting spatial data management in the region.

#### **BENEFICIARIES**

The final beneficiaries are the entire populace in the region, most especially in the rural and peri-urban areas. Stakeholders include the Energy Ministries and Agencies (planning departments/units), student, researchers and players in the energy sector, Local and International investors and Organizations.

#### PARTNERS









