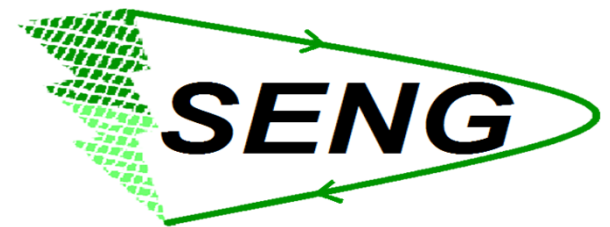


TOWARDS UNIVERSAL ENERGY ACCESS IN GHANA: THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NETWORK OF GHANA (SENG)



ISHMAEL EDJEKUMHENE, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, KITE AND CHAIR OF SENG
STEERING COMMITTEE

Presentation Outline

- Background to the establishment of the Sustainable Energy Network of Ghana
- SENG's Strategic Framework
 - Vision
 - Mission
 - Goal
 - Objectives
- Current Status of the Network



Background to the Establishment of Network

- The ‘twin pillar’ for achieving a sustainable energy policy are renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE)
- These ‘twin pillars’ have been part of Ghana’s energy policy for over two decades now
- However, the adoption of RE systems and EE improvement measures is still very low in Ghana. The contribution of RE to the national energy mix is insignificant while inefficiencies are common in all segments of the energy value chain



Background contd.(2)

- Widespread diffusion and uptake of sustainable energy interventions have been hampered by a number of regulatory, financial, technological and market barriers
- A concerted and coordinated effort is thus required from all stakeholders – government, the private sector and CSOs



Background contd.(3)

- KITE, together with AGSI and other stakeholders in the energy sector who were involved in Affordable Lighting For All (ALFA) project saw the need for a common platform to coordinate the activities of stakeholders which have over the years been largely uncoordinated and isolated
- The Clean Energy Network (CEN) was therefore formed in 2008 as a loose network with the overall goal of promoting clean energy systems in Ghana



Background cont'd (4)

- The CEN is primarily made up of NGOs and private sector actors in the energy sector largely drawn from AGSI
- The CEN (represented by AGSI and KITE) in 2011 put in a bid and won a STAR-Ghana grant to implement a project titled “Towards a Pro-Poor and Gender Sensitive Renewable Energy Policy and Regulation Framework and Service Delivery in Ghana”.
- Among the project activities was the requirement to formalize and broaden CEN



The “Evolution” of SENG

- Name of network changed from CEN to SENG to reflect the focus of the network’s activities
- Inaugural consultative meeting held in April 2012
- Ad-hoc committee formed to detail out the governance structure (including the preparation of draft constitution) for SENG
- Collaboration with Energy Access Practitioners’ Network begun in Quarter 3 of 2012
- Launched in May 2013 as the first country affiliate of the EAPN



The Vision of SENG

SENG envisions a green Ghana within which the vast majority of consumers use sustainable energy.



The Goal of SENG

- To maintain an influential network of sustainable energy practitioners, service providers, researchers, financiers/investors, policy makers and end-users committed to facilitating the accelerated deployment and utilization of sustainable energy systems to underpin poverty reduction and economic development in Ghana.



The Objectives of SENG

- To proactively champion and advocate the formulation and implementation of policy and regulatory measures proven to have helped tackled barriers to commercialization and widespread deployment of renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient (EE) systems in similar jurisdictions across the world;
- To promote practical, affordable and effective best practices/strategies for adoption of RE and EE systems in Ghana;



The Objectives of SENG (2)

- To provide the citizenry with information and facilitate access to resources on relevant sustainable energy solutions for better decision making on energy choices;
- To foster information and knowledge exchange among network members;
- To promote local capacity in research and development of RE and EE technologies;



The Objectives of SENG (3)

- To educate/disseminate information/gender sensitize end users in the form of forum/fora on the use of sustainable energy technologies;
- To build capacity in the use of sustainable energy technologies;
- To provide end-user market and market information for sustainable energy promotion.



Current Status of SENG

- Legally registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee in May 2014
- Membership stands at approximately 120
- Secretariat currently being hosted by KITE
- Website launched <http://senghana.com/>
- ALL THESE HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED LARGELY WITH A GRANT SUPPORT WE RECEIVED FROM THE UN FOUNDATION EARLY 2014



Activities Planned for 2014

- Conduct research on topical issues (such as ongoing debate on coal-fired plants) and use evidence to inform policy – intended to enhance visibility and credibility
- Support a nationwide campaign to promote energy efficiency and conservation
- Embark on vigorous fund-raising drive to mobilize funds to support its activities
- Meanwhile members are involved in various endeavors to promote access to energy



Case Study: KITE

- Being at the forefront of promoting access to sustainable energy and appropriate technology since 1996 through research, advocacy, project development and implementation
- In the process of creating a social enterprise as part of its new strategic plan (2014-2018) to venture into direct service provision in rural and peri-urban communities
- You are welcome to partner is!

