

INTEGRATING GUIDELINES INTO RELEVANT POLICY-MAKING AND PLANNING IN GHANA .

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GHANA

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LAND AREA: 238,500 Sq Km

POPULATION: 27,409,893

ELECTRICITY ACCESS: 80%

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES FOR POWER GENERATION IN GHANA

LARGE HYDRO

SMALL AND MEDIUM HYDRO

WIND

SOLAR

BIOMASS

OCEAN

MAIN DRIVERS FOR DEPLOYING RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Governments and consumers take measures to increase the deployment of RE technologies
 - To improve energy security
 - To encourage economic development particularly associated with rural and agricultural sectors or with innovation and high tech manufacturing
 - To protect the climate and the wider environment from impacts of fossil fuels use

OPPORTUNITIES

- Existing International Guidelines
- National Laws

EIA/ESIA/SEA

Renewable Energy Act

Free access to the distribution and
transmission systems

creation of the Renewable Energy Fund

EIA/ESIA/SEA

- EIA: is a procedure used to examine the environmental consequences or impacts, both beneficial and adverse, of a proposed development project and to ensure that these effects are taken into account in project design.
- ESIA: To address possible direct and indirect significance adverse and environmental and social impacts arising from project implementation
- SEA: An instrument which has proven helpful in integrating environmental and economic consideration into the design and implementation of policies, plans and programmes

EIA/ESIA/SEA

- In 1973, the Environmental Protection Council was established in Ghana.
- In 1985 the Investment Code included a requirement for EIA.
- In the following years, EIAs were conducted voluntarily.
- In 1994, Ghana enacted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Act, which established EIA legally.
- The EPA then became the main EIA authority. The EPA published and formally launched the EIA procedures of Ghana in July 1995. These regulations were amended in 1999 and 2002.
- As part of the Ghana Environmental Assessment Capacity Development Programme, environmental assessment sector-specific guidelines have been developed for eight sectors.

EIA

- **Objective of EIA**
- The regulation states that the goal of EIA is achieving sustainable development and fulfilling the objectives of international agreements.
- **Scope of EIA application**
- EPA may request a full EIA for any activity which has the potential to cause significant impacts on the environment. This applies to governmental and private projects, as well as to national and foreign projects.
- Schedule 1 and 2 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations provides a list of projects requiring some form/level of assessment. Schedule 1 projects are required to register and obtain an environmental permit. Schedule 2 projects are required to undertake a full EIA before an environmental permit is issued by the EPA

EIA

- **Central EIA authority**
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates both EIA and environmental permitting. The function of the EPA with respect to EIA is, as determined in the Environmental Protection Agency Act 490 i of 1994: “To ensure compliance with any laid down environmental impact assessment procedures in the planning and execution of development projects, including compliance in respect of existing projects”.
- **Other key (governmental) parties involved in EIA, and their roles**
- Lists other key parties (e.g. a review commission, knowledge institute) that have a role in many or all EIAs.
- Cross-sectoral EIA Technical Review Committees are set up at national level and in all the 10 regions to support the EPA in the EIA process.

CHALLENGES

- Regulatory and policy uncertainty barriers
- Institutional and administrative barriers
- Financial barriers –inadequate funding opportunities
- Infrastructure barriers
 - Eg. Power grid to integrate/absorb renewable energy
- Lack of awareness and skilled personnel
- Public acceptance and environmental barriers

CONCLUSION

- RE Technologies are essential for our development as we strive towards a low carbon future.
- RETs if not properly planned, their deployment can have negative impacts on migratory birds (form barriers to migration and habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation).