



Réseau d'Afrique Centrale pour les énergies renouvelables
Central Africa Network for Renewables Energies

Turning on Climate Smart development



Harnessing Renewable Energies' Potential For Equitable Economic Growth and Climate Safety in Central Africa

International Workshop

Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, October 25 –26, 2017

Supporting Partners:



Proyecto Energía Sostenible para Todos: Promoviendo hidroelectricidad a pequeña escala en Bioko y otras soluciones de energías limpias para islas remotas

a. **Introduction**

Central Africa is faced with a 3-level challenge, of which the aspects – namely energy-based poverty, economic poverty, and climate “disturbance” – are interconnected. As a result of this, many social, economic, and environmental indicators stand low on the assessment scale, thus affecting sustainable human development. This is compounded by a gloomy picture exemplified by the state of food security and the level of people's quality of life.

It is unfortunate to note that over 80% of the energy consumed in Central Africa countries is fossil-based, hence making a source of global emissions of greenhouse gases, and resulting in high rates of deforestation in many a country.

Therefore, one of the goals set by the Paris climate Agreement consists of maintaining the global temperature below 2°C and 1.5°C thresholds, with a view to minimizing Climate change fallout and hazards. In this context, renewable energy passes off as an opportunity to reduce the gap in access to energy, create jobs, boost incomes, preserve health & household budgets against the recurrent use of fossil fuels, and reduce carbon emissions.

b. **Background & Context**

Central Africa abounds huge potential in terms of renewable energy sources. Should these be wisely tapped and developed, they are likely to meet consumption needs for involved populations. To date, we are witnessing a significant development of technologies and energy systems/services (biomass, micro-plants, geothermal, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, wind, etc.) for various applications.

In addition, developing renewable energy nowadays features in a crucial position in international climate policies. It is quite timely to build on this boost and pool various stakeholders' efforts and initiatives from decision makers (stemming from both private and public policies) to build resilience to climate change effects and eradicate barriers to accessing renewable energy resources in Central Africa countries.

c. **Workshop Objectives**

The workshop is set to pursue the following objectives:

- To strengthen multi-actors partnerships and collaboration to improve access to renewable energy for all.
- To share views, knowledge, strategies, and promising initiatives for a safer (carbon-free) economic growth and Climate change resilient development models across Central Africa.
- To examine strategies those have succeeded in improving access to renewable energies.
- To share learned lessons, challenges and barriers to renewable energies access in Central Africa.

d. **Participants**

Attendance to and participation in this workshop is open to experts, climate activists, political leaders, actors from private & public sectors, NGOs, business corporations, companies, universities, research centers, civil society, representatives of bilateral & multilateral institutions, as well as United Nations bodies from different countries and different walks of life addressing issues related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, low-carbon socioeconomic development, and climate safety.

e. **Organization**

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Environment of Equatorial Guinea, the workshop will be organized by the coordinating body of the **Central Africa Network For Renewables Energies / Réseau d'Afrique Centrale pour les énergies renouvelables (RACEN)** in close cooperation with the *Amigos de la Naturaleza Y del desarrollo de Guinea Ecuatorial* (ANDEGE), **Green Ark Committee (GRC)**, RACEN members organizations and with kind support of the **Global Environment Facility / UNDP**, the **Alliance For Rural Electrification (ARE)**, the **World Bio Energy Association (WBA)** and any other partner willing to join this initiative.

We will do our best to provide for simultaneous interpretation service (French-English-Spanish) during this Sub regional workshop.

f. **Workshop Themes/Topics**

The main themes for the workshop are as follows:

- **“Renewable Energy and Climate sensitive Socioeconomic Development across Central Africa”**
 - Energy pool and economic growth scenarii in the Central Africa countries by 2030
 - Introducing RACEN and their 3-year Activity Programme (2016-2019)
 - Energy-based poverty and economic poverty in Central Africa countries: Which solutions would be adequate, efficient, and sustainable?
 - How to build resilience in socioeconomic sectors and geographic areas, and among vulnerable populations, against adverse effects of Climate change in Central Africa?
 - What are the possible strategies likely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and overuse of fossil fuel (charcoal, firewood, oil, etc.) in Central Africa?
 - What is the potential owned by Central African countries in terms of renewable energy resources?
 - How to overcome/ get rid of barriers (political, technical, administrative, fiscal, economic, and social, etc.) in tapping/using renewable energy resources in Central Africa?
 - What would be [most] useful strategies in promoting investment, entrepreneurship, market expansion, and widespread adoption regarding renewable energy in Central Africa countries?
 - Which role should the various Climate financing channels/structures play in helping increase the level of access to decentralized energy, with emphasis on renewable energy in Central Africa countries?
 - Promoting services, knowledge, information, practices regarding energy efficiency in industry, business, housing and household related issues, at the supply and consumption levels in Central Africa countries

- Identifying/devising strategies to build an economic growth model with low emissions of greenhouse gas in Central Africa.
- **Promote decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energy, for energy equity and improved quality of life.**
 - Basic rudiments on decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energies
 - Actual state of renewable energies / climate related technology – knowledge, practices, services, policies, technologies, and targets across Central African countries
 - How can clean development mechanisms and or the law help improve equitable access to renewable energy / climate technologies in Central Africa countries?
 - Social Entrepreneurship and Decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energy: Which prospects for Central Africa?
 - How to reduce energy waste along the energy chain (extraction, processing, end-use consumption)?
 - Role of energy in poverty reduction and development
 - How to attract more capital to increase access to modern energy services in Central Africa?

g. Workshop Agenda

DAY ONE:

Renewable energies & Climate sensitive Socioeconomic Development across Central Africa

Timing	Activity	Person/Body in charge
07:30	Registration of participants	Logistics' Team / Ushers
08:30	Welcome Remarks	Moderator
08:35	Organizers' Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natividad Consolación Bindang Mba, National Focal Point - Pierre Panda, Regional Coordinator of RACEN
	GEF / UNDP Address	Mrs Kumba
09:00	Official opening of the Workshop	Minister of Environment (Equatorial Guinea)
09:10	[Self] Introduction of/by Participants & Expressing expectations from Workshop	Participants & Moderator
09:35	Formulation & Adoption of proceedings' Code of conduct	Participants & Moderator
09:45	Topic 1: Energy pool & Economic growth scenarii in the Central African countries by 2030	Expert
10:15	Tea/Coffee Break	
10:45	Introducing RACEN and their 3-year Activity Programme (2018-2020)	Pierre Panda
11:00	<p>Break out Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Energy-based poverty and economic poverty in Central Africa countries: Which solutions would be adequate, efficient, and sustainable? 2. How to build resilience in socioeconomic sectors and geographic areas, and among vulnerable populations, against adverse effects of Climate change in Central Africa? 3. Possible strategies with the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and overuse of fossil fuel (charcoal, firewood, oil, etc.) in Central Africa? 4. What is the potential owned by Central Africa countries in terms of renewable energy resources? 3.1. How to overcome/ get rid of barriers (political, technical, administrative, fiscal, economic, and social, etc.) in tapping/using renewable energy resources in Central Africa? 5. What would be [most] useful strategies in promoting investment, entrepreneurship, market expansion, and widespread adoption 	Participants

	regarding renewable energy in Central Africa countries? 6. Which role should the various Climate financing channels/structures play in helping increase the level of access to decentralized energy, with emphasis on renewable energy in Central Africa countries?	
12:00	Lunch Break	
13:00	Group works' submissions (Plenary session)	Participants, Moderator & Facilitators
14:30	Comments & Discussions	Participants & Facilitators
15:15	Topic 2: Promoting services, knowledge, information, practices regarding energy efficiency in industry, business, housing and household related issues, at the supply and consumption levels in Central Africa countries	Expert
15:45	Topic 3: Identifying/devising strategies to build an economic growth process with low emissions of greenhouse gas in Central Africa.	Expert
16:15	Questions, Answers/Clarifications & Discussions	Participants & Facilitators
16:30	Day one closing	Pierre Panda

DAY TWO: Promoting decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energy, for energy equity and improved quality of life

Timing	Activity	Person/Body in charge
08:30	Summary of Day One proceedings	Moderator
09:00	Topic 1: Basics on decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energies	
09:30	Topic 2: Actual state on renewable energies / climate related technology – Knowledge, practices, services, policies, technologies, and targets across Central Africa countries	Expert
10:00	Topic 3: How can clean development mechanisms and or the law help improve equitable access to renewable energy / climate technologies in Central Africa countries?	Expert
10:30	Topic 4: Social ¹ Entrepreneurship and Decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energy: Which prospects for Central Africa Countries?	Expert
11:00	Questions, Answers & Discussions	Participants & Facilitators
11:15	Tea/Coffee Break	
11:30	Plenary Presentations: Case studies and pilot initiatives geared towards decentralized rural electrification, based on renewable energy [10 minutes per orator] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ Equatorial Guinea ☞ Democratic Republic of Congo ☞ Republic of Congo (Brazzaville) ☞ Cameroon ☞ Chad ☞ Centrafrican Republic ☞ Burundi 	Respective country Representatives, Moderator, Dr. Robert Mbiaké
12:45	Lunch Break	
13:45	Technical and financial feasibility of the multi-country Project on Decentralized rural electrification based on renewable energy	Pr. Tangka Julius, Cameroon
14:15	Strategies to expand decentralized clean energy & Goals of the Pilot Project on rural electrification	Dr. Mbiaké Robert, RACEN Chairman, University of Douala (Cameroon)
15:00	Workshop Evaluation & Recommendations (in writing) and Closure	Pierre Panda

¹ This concept refers to the implementation of technical and market mechanisms to solve social problems.



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For Equitable Economic Growth and Climate Safety in Central Africa
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REGISTRATION FORM

I. Identity

Full Names:

Title: Mr Mrs Dr , Prof Other

Sex:

Nationality:

Email address:

Phone:

2. Particulars about your Institution (Names, contact (s) and the focus of its activities) (if applicable):

3. Participation to the workshop²

3.1 Can your Organization provide for the expenses regarding your travel, visa and accommodation costs, to allow you to attend the conference? Yes No

3.2 Would you wish to produce write-up in line with the topics listed on the Conference Agenda?
Yes No if yes, please enclose a summary of its content.

3.3 Do you have a different topic you would like to propose for the conference? Yes No

4. Any other information:

Description	Registration fee (USD \$)
NGOs / University / Think thanks / Research centres / CSOs	200
Government entity / Political Party	300
Large global company	500
Medium sized company	400
Small company	300
UN bodies	400

Date:

Kindly fill out and send back this form to: racencentralafrica@gmail.com and / or pierrepananda@gmail.com

² The organizing committee is charging a **registration fee** (nonrefundable) to cover the management costs of this event. 15 % of discount is offered for ARE, RACEN and World Bio Energy Association (WBA) members. As soon as you have submitted your completed registration form, you will receive the details of the payment of your registration fee. **Green Ark Committee (GRC)**, a RACEN member organization is managing the registration fees for this event.



**Central Africa Network
For Renewables Energies**

Turning on Climate Smart Development



ANDEGE



saving the planet

**Harnessing Renewable Energies' Potential
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International workshop

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FINANCIAL SUPPORT VOUCHER

Yes, I agree to join this initiative and contribute to its funding

Your names and/or particulars or Institution's details (if applicable):

.....

I offer to contribute by giving USD

1,000 2,500 5,000 10,000 15,000 any other amount (please specify):

.....

We highly appreciate your support towards building a more livable world !

Please send me the bank account details for the payment of my proposed donation.

Note: Our gratitude for your support will be expressed through each communicational/advertizing material related to the Conference.

Date & Signature:

Kindly notify racencentralafrica@gmail.com and or pierrepanda@gmail.com for your proposed donation

For any queries about this event, you can reach us through:

**1. Réseau d’Afrique Centrale pour les énergies renouvelables (RACEN)
Central Africa Network for Renewables Energies**

Permanent Secretariat

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2. Amigos de la Naturaleza Y del desarrollo de Guinea Ecuatorial (ANDEGE)

Malabo, Equatorial Guinea

Mrs. Natividad Consolación Bindang Mba

Local Event Organizing Committee & National Focal Point

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Réseau d'Afrique Centrale pour les énergies renouvelables Central Africa Network for Renewable Energies

Promoting renewable energies for climate safety and low carbon economic growth



For records

The Central Africa Network For Renewables Energies (RACEN) was created on April 14, 2016 in Kinshasa, DRC, by actors/leaders/ decision makers from NGOs, civil society movements, business corporations, political parties, State-led bodies, cooperatives, youth groups, women's associations, denominational/clergy structures, universities and research institutions from the **DRC, Congo-Brazzaville, Cameroon, Chad, D.R Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Burundi** – gathered during a sub-regional colloquium sponsored by **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)**

The purpose of the Network, a multi-stakeholder coalition, is to promote a widespread recourse to and use of renewable energy, energy saving practices, energy efficiency, and equitable access to renewable energy for a development pattern based on low-emission of greenhouse gas and resilient to climate change across Central Africa sub region.

Drives behind the RACEN inception:

- The frighteningly increasing deforestation pace in Central Africa giving rise to significant emissions of greenhouse gas;
- The high rate of energy shortage experienced by most of populations in Central Africa coupled with income losses at household level, owing to marked reliance to fossil energies;
- The direct and practically irreversible threat of Climate change and its fallout on Economy, Bio-diversity, health, water access, peace, and human life;
- The strong vulnerability of various economy sectors, geographic spaces, and Central Africa dwellers to devastating effects of climate change;
- The utmost need to curb greenhouse gas emissions and maintain global temperature at an acceptable threshold;
- The role and potential of the Congo Basin forests in mitigating anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, way beyond regional borders;
- The need for implementing commitments by Central African countries, at the international level, by signing and ratifying agreements, conventions and treaties with regards climate and sustainable development;
- The poor knowledge regarding Climate change related issues, among private sector's actors, as well as the entrepreneurial gap in promoting hands-on/ available solutions;
- The need for capacity building among most of stakeholders in both public and private sectors in a bid to bring them to internalize financial mechanisms related to climate and sustainable development;
- The call for identifying needs in line with available solutions through provision of support in terms of engineering to conduct specific projects;
- Bearing in mind adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement on Climate (December 11, 2015) and its relevant resolutions;
- The rationale of the "global access to energy" as a basic and undeniable **right** – but not as a favor – for the mankind;
- The need for a platform for concerted action and synergy with a view to boosting adaptation capacity and minimizing climate change fallout at the Central Africa level.

Our Goal

To promote a widespread recourse to renewable energies, energy saving practices, energy efficiency, as well as access to renewable energy, for a development pattern prone to low greenhouse gas emissions and resilient/adaptive to climate change.

Our Objectives

The Network is set to achieve number of objectives, that is:

- To stand as a relevant forum for information sharing and as a knowledge conveyor, for effective capacity building as regards access to funding, renewable energies, and climate sensitive initiatives, with a view to equipping climate activists at various levels with handy skills/knowledge.
- To serve as a collective intervention platform for implementing lobbying and advocacy related steps/initiatives targeting decision makers within both private and public sectors, in a bid to ensure equity and efficiency of programmes meant to tackle climate and renewable energies' issues.
- To boost and guide climate activists-led initiatives, aimed at providing effective solutions to climate, sustainable energies, and energy efficiency across involved countries in the Central African sub-region.

Our Intervention Fields

- Capacity building regarding climate friendly technologies, renewable energies, climate financing, environmental assessment, and resilience to climate change
- Lobbying and advocating for conducive policies with relation to renewable energies and more effective climate change measures/action
- Research on renewable energies, climate friendly technologies, and on relevant adaptation and mitigation measures/practices
- Provision of technical support and equipment/ facilities to initiatives/bodies implementing climate related activities at country level
- Designing/promoting awareness initiatives popularizing and ownership of sustainable energy solutions
- Setting up and maintaining database regarding "Centres of excellence" on renewable energies and climate related technologies.

RACEN Membership

The membership is open to any individual or moral person willing to make some contribution to efforts towards promoting the use of clean and sustainable energies, as well as climate sensitive systems and relevant technologies.

The RACEN membership includes diverse corporations, NGOs, Civil society organizations, women and youth groups, Universities, research centers, Government-led bodies, political parties, Trade Unions, and denominational bodies.

Through the Membership status, you are entitled to:

- Be eligible to join Network's bodies
- Take part in electoral processes to fill designated positions within Network's bodies
- Be invited to attend various meetings, colloquia and/or seminars to be held by the Network
- Receive Network's reports and publications
- Be allowed to represent the Network

Enjoy various services provided by the Network (information/news, technical support & advice, provision of equipment/facilities, etc)

Nonetheless, you are bound to:

- Strictly abide by the Network's Chart
- Pay your annual dues (contributions) on time
- Actively get involved in Network's activities.

Our organizational structure

RACEN is made up of:

- Members' General Assembly
- The Board of Trustees (Steering Committee)
- The Permanent Secretariat
- The Advisory Board
- National Committees.

Our Operating Committee

This comprises:

1. The Board of Trustees

Chairperson:

Dr. Robert Mbiaké (Cameroon)

Secretary/Spokesperson:

Joseph Badevokila (Congo Brazzaville)

Deputy Secretary/Spokesperson: Ms. **Colette Bénoudji** (Chad)

Members :

Maria Beatriz Teixeira (D.R Congo)

Télesphore NGOMA KOUMOU (CAR)

Ex officio Member & Regional Coordinator :

Pierre PANDA (D.R Congo)

2. The Advisory Board

Prof. Tanka Julius (Cameroon), Prof. Ndaye Nkanka Bernard (D.R Congo), Njamnshi Augustin (Cameroon), The CIDEP (Burundi), Mengomo Sebastian (Equatorial Guinea), Landry Ninteretse (Burundi), Ngabo Ganda (Chad), among others.

3. The Permanent Secretariat

Pierre PANDA, Regional Coordinator (D.R Congo)

4. National Committees

We need your support!

Renewable energies provide a great opportunity for:

- Getting rid of CFC in our economy and all over our planet
- Reducing energy poverty
- Boosting job creation and income generation
- Preventing eye and respiratory diseases

If you are an **eco-citizen**, please help us kick off a stronger action at the Central Africa level.

We therefore welcome any type of support (in kind or cash donation, or any type of technical support) in line of our intervention field.

