

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the May issue of GIZ's Energy Newsletter. As we move further into 2011, I am optimistic about the progress in the worldwide deployment of sustainable energy systems. As we are counting down to the "International Year for Sustainable Energy for All", renewables features prominently on the international and national political agendas and the Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) held its first session. Energy, a precondition for sustainable economic and social development, plays a vital role in GIZ's work – and as recent awards have shown we receive credit for our successful commitment. News from 4 continents highlighted in this issue paint a promising picture – vibrant with energy. I hope you will find this newsletter of interest. Please forward this newsletter to interested friends and colleagues. Kind regards

Bernhard Zymła (energy@giz.de)
(Head of GIZ energy and transport)

Contents

- SOS Children's Village Mombasa acts as pilot for feed-in policy
 - PPP between INENSUS and PERACOD wins two awards
 - ProBEC wins prestigious award
 - High ranking delegation led by Afghan Minister for Energy and Water
 - Helping to Establish Wind Energy Farms in Vietnam
 - GIZ Energising Development (EnDev) Nepal – Power to the people
 - Strategic Alliance between EnviTec, MPPL and GIZ
 - Cooperation with the Private Sector – German Electrical and Electronics Industry
 - Gender as a central factor for successful infrastructure projects
 - First Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
 - Turkish-German Biogas Project transforms manure into energy
 - Towards climate-friendly transport technologies and measures
 - 6th Joint Experts Group Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)
 - Towards a European contribution to the "UN Year of Sustainable Energy for All"
 - Conference Energy Efficient Lighting, Montenegro
 - GIZ at CARBON EXPO 2011 in Barcelona
 - Renewable Energies in Paraguay
 - Sector Network Energy in Sub-Sahara Africa
-

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GIZ Paraguay
Situación de Energías Renovables en el Paraguay
March 2011
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GIZ Energy
Access to Energy – Newsletter Special
March 2011
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GIZ HERA – Poverty-oriented Basic Energy Services
Modern Energy Services for Modern Agriculture - A Review for Smallholder Farming in Developing Countries
January 2011
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GIZ HERA – Poverty-oriented Basic Energy Services
Micro-gasification: Cooking with gas from biomass
January 2011
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GIZ HERA – Poverty-oriented Basic Energy Services
Carbon Markets for Improved Cooking Stoves – A GTZ Guide for Project Operators
Revised Edition – January 2011
[Download PDF 1.04 MB \(English version\)](#)

GIZ Project Development Programme (PDP) East Africa SOS Children's Village Mombasa acts as pilot for feed-in policy



As of this spring, the third largest solar plant in Eastern Africa will meet the energy needs of the SOS Children's Village in Mombasa, Kenya. A German company and their Kenyan partner installed the 60 kW photovoltaic system designed to feed

surplus power into the local grid – a novelty in Kenya.

For the SOS Children's Village the solar system not only provides a clean and reliable source of energy, it also pays off economically in the long term, once the regulatory framework is fully established. GIZ supported SOS Children's Villages in developing the project through the "Project Development Programme (PDP) East Africa", implemented on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) in the context of the Export Initiative Renewable Energies.

The partnership between the German solar company and their local partner was initiated during a PDP business trip to Kenya in 2010. On this occasion, local decision makers suggested to use the plant as a pilot and demonstration project for the development of a general model for grid connection of decentralized renewable energy power generation in Kenya. The proposed approach envisages net- or dual-metering, a regulatory instrument that effectively allows renewable energy producers to use the national grid as a battery. GIZ is now advising local authorities and the electricity utility on options for implementing this model, based on the empirical data and experiences gained with the SOS PV project.

The SOS PV installation is thus a lighthouse project for the development of large solar projects in Kenya, where frequent power shortages hamper economic development and where solar PV is therefore increasingly seen as an important element of the future energy mix.

Further information on www.gtz.de/projektentwicklungsprogramm.

top

GIZ Senegal

PPP between INENSUS and PERACOD wins two awards



On March, 15, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the BDI (Federation of German Industry) awarded the prestigious IKU prize for innovations in the field of environment and climate. The partnership between INENSUS and PERACOD (Programme to promote rural electrification and a sustainable supply of domestic fuel) won the prize in the category "technology transfer". The prize carries a value of 25,000€, which INENSUS will invest into broadening the scope of its rural electrification activities.

The German wind energy specialist INENSUS and PERACOD have been collaborating since 2008 in the field of decentralised rural electrification using small wind energy turbines and its innovative business model called "Micro Power Economy". One village with

[version](#)

Upcoming events

1-3 June 2011
Barcelona, Spain
[CARBON EXPO](#)

6-7 June 2011
Ulm, Germany
[Small PV-Applications – Rural Electrification and Commercial Use](#)

8-10 June 2011
Munich, Germany
[Intersolar Europe](#)

21-23 June 2011
Vienna, Austria
[Vienna Energy Conference 2011](#)

21-22 June 2011
Eschborn, Germany
[eschborndialogue 2011](#)

13 September 2011
Berlin, Germany
[Wind Energy and Development Dialogue 2011](#)

Recommended newsletters

European Union Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI-PDF)
[EUEI-PDF newsletter](#)

GIZ Transport Policy Advisory Services
[GIZ Transport News \(German edition\)](#)

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[GIZ – International Fuel Prices](#)
To subscribe, please contact Armin Wagner (armin.wagner@giz.de).

Programme for Basic Energy and Conservation in Southern Africa
[ProBEC Mailing List](#)
(www.probec.org)

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[More GIZ newsletters](#)

Links

energypedia
www.energypedia.info

about 70 households has been electrified with a solar-diesel-wind hybrid system; two more villages are to be added until the end of this year. INENSUS hopes to attract private investment in order to electrify about 100 villages in the following years.

INENSUS is also among the winners of the SEED award for 2010. It is awarded to innovative and locally led enterprises from developing countries that contribute to sustainable development. Award winners receive business training and advice, plus financial support of 5,000 USD. (Photo GIZ / Sandy Haessner).

For more information, please contact gunnar.wegner@giz.de or js@inensus.com or contact www.peracod.sn.

top

reegle – the Search Engine for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership – REEEP & the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century – REN21)
www.reegle.info

Renewables Interactive Map (REN21)
www.ren21.net/...

Back issues

[Browse](#) back issues of GIZ's energy newsletter.

GIZ Programme for Biomass Energy Conservation (ProBEC) ProBEC wins prestigious award



The GIZ Programme for Biomass Energy Conservation (ProBEC) was honored at the 2011 Africa Energy Award ceremony as the winner in the "Best

Clean Technology Solution Provider" category. The award ceremony took place on 31 March 2011 in Johannesburg and was attended by 300 dignitaries from the African energy and power sector. The Africa Energy Awards focus on exceptional energy projects in Africa and winning an Africa Energy Award is regarded as a recognizable standard of industry excellence and innovation.

ProBEC's work in building sustainable markets for energy efficient stoves aimed at low-income households and institutions that cook with wood fuel and charcoal on a daily basis impressed the judges. However it was the programme's efforts to establish a local manufacturing facility in Maputo, Mozambique for a highly efficient and innovative charcoal stove that finally clinched the award for ProBEC ahead. Marlett Balmer, former deputy programme manager of ProBEC attended the ceremony and accepted the Award on behalf of the ProBEC team, its partners, collaborators and funders.

Winning an African Energy Award is a special honour for GIZ as it indicates that the energy sector recognizes the special contribution of GIZ and its partners to the sustainable development of Africa and its resources.
www.probec.org

top

Generating energy from waste

A high ranking delegation led by Afghan Minister for Energy and Water visited Germany in January 2011



The Afghan Minister for Energy and Water, H.E. Ismail Khan, Head of a high-ranking Afghan delegation visited Germany in January 2011 to gather information how to generate energy from municipal waste by employing new technologies.

The mission took place from 17 to 25 January 2011 and was organised by the Programme "Renewable Energy Supply for Rural Areas of Afghanistan" (ESRA), which GIZ is conducting on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation

(BMZ) in Afghanistan.

The delegation consisted of seven senior staff and decision makers from the

Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW). During their field-trip the delegation received information on new technologies of municipal waste treatment. The delegation visited four biowaste fed biogas plants in the federal states of Hesse and Lower Saxony. The operators of the state owned plants explained the mechanisms of communal authority, waste management and the operation of biogas plants and land fills. In addition, the delegation heard about matters of fees, costs and benefits of waste separation and treatment. The participants were impressed of the possibilities how to convert household waste to energy and compost while at the same time protecting the environment and reducing waste quantities. (Photo/GIZ: Dr Bernd Eisenblätter (Chairman of the Management Board of GIZ) and HE Ismail Khan (Minister of MEW)).

Contact: Rolf-Peter Owsianowski (rolf-peter.owsianowski@giz.de)

top

GIZ Vietnam

Helping to Establish Wind Energy Farms in Vietnam



The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is one of the fastest growing economies in South-East Asia: Production outputs have increased

substantially, more and more Vietnamese are able to escape poverty.

However, these developments come at a price: They have led to a fast growing energy demand and severe energy shortages which threaten the country's further economic development.

The GIZ Wind Energy Project, sponsored by the Federal German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), started in 2008. It advises the Vietnamese Government on how to make the best use of the country's impressive potential for wind energy. The project aims to improve the legal framework for grid-connected wind energy in Vietnam. A change in the legal framework is urgently needed to encourage investments in wind farms in Vietnam.

Two years after the project team began its work, results start to show: Among them is a new draft decision on investments in wind power projects that has been developed by the project partner, the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade: It clarifies administrative procedures and introduces a financial support mechanism, so called feed-in tariffs, for wind energy projects. In September 2010, this draft decision was submitted to the Prime Minister and is expected to become effective in 2011. With the proposed feed-in tariffs, hopes are on the rise for wind energy in Vietnam.

For more information please visit www.windenergy.org.vn.

top

GIZ Energising Development (EnDev) Nepal Power to the people



Since 2008 Energising Development (EnDev) Nepal supports rural communities to take a proactive approach to provide electricity to the rural population. Within the governmental Community Rural Electrification Program local communities are

encouraged to establish community-managed cooperatives, which operate

their own distribution network, take over the responsibility for maintenance and billing, buy bulk power from the national utility (NEA) and sell it to their customers. EnDev Nepal provides both technical and management training in order to strengthen the organisational capacities of the local utilities. The project also assists in providing loans via a fund created in the NEA in order to support the communities in raising their initially high own contribution. In addition, the umbrella association for community electricity users is supported to represent their interests towards the national utility and follow up the progress in grid extension.

Up to April 2011, 14 communities have been connected to the grid, covering 11,250 households and hence providing modern energy services to more than 60,000 persons. Compared to the old single customer based electrification by NEA, the community scheme has proved to be faster in providing a reliable and affordable electricity supply as well as cost-efficient as billing is carried out within the community. The communities' ownership is significantly higher, resulting in an elimination of electricity pilferage and improved service provision by local technicians.

For more information on EnDev please visit

www.agentschapnl.nl/programmas-regelingen/energising-development.

top

Strategic Alliance between EnviTec, MPPL and GIZ Rural development via industrial biogas programmes in India and the Philippines



In February the development partnership between the German biogas producer EnviTec, the Indian biomass specialist MPPL and GIZ was officially inaugurated in Bangalore.

The companies joined forces in the scope of the "developp.de"

programme of BMZ (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) with the objective to strengthen public awareness for efficient and grid connected biogas technology and deepen the know-how of local and national stakeholders about biomass use as well as design and operation of large scale industrial biogas power plants.

In order to harness the potential for rural development offered by biogas technologies as best practice models, training and business schemes for rural entrepreneurs for a sustainable biomass supply and the marketing of organic fertilizer are developed in close cooperation with local extension services which are enabled to promote these schemes on a long-term basis.

GIZ's expertise in the Indian and Philippine energy sector and its worldwide experience in agricultural projects complement the technical expertise of EnviTec and MPPL in the development, demonstration and roll out of these best practice models for sustainable industrial scale biogas based rural electrification.

For more information please contact dunja.hoffmann@giz.de.

top

Private Sector Cooperation

Additional support for creating and strengthening Business Cooperation in Developing and Emerging Countries with German Electrical and Electronics Industry

As an expression of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's (BMZ) enhanced focus on cooperation with the private sector, including German private sector, an additional approach for mobilizing collaboration between German Development Cooperation and companies has been kicked-off in 2011: a group of consultants – so-called Development Cooperation Scouts (German "EZ Scouts") – have been seconded to selected German industry associations and chambers of commerce for a period of 2 years.

What is the added value of this scout placement?

Besides interconnecting with and informing about existing forms and instruments of cooperation with private sector players (companies, industry associations, chambers etc.), this group of scouts – among other tasks – reaches out to new private actors in additional branches, such as the electronic and electro-technical industry sector: from an energy sector perspective, the scout placement in particular at ZVEI - German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (Deutscher Zentralverband Elektrotechnik- und Elektronikindustrie) opens interesting linkages, contacts and topics in the field of energy supply in developing cooperation (including both supply and demand side of generation, transmission and distribution; grid-connected and off-grid supply, intelligent grid and storage solutions, energy efficiency in the industry, private households, and public and grid infrastructure; standardization and product safety of technical appliances).

Other scouts are e.g. so far placed or will start soon at: chamber of commerce (IHK) Mannheim, German Chamber of Industry and Trade (DIHK), Federation of German Wholesale, Foreign Trade and Services (BGA), and German Water Partnership (GWP). Diana Kraft as scout at ZVEI will support creating opportunities for mutual benefits of private, public and development partners by providing latest information about German development cooperation in relevant infrastructure sectors (programmes, partners, instruments etc.), and about business interests in markets of partner countries, by shaping strategic topics for cooperation, and by bringing technology players and local players together.

For proposals or specific interests for collaboration with ZVEI / member companies please contact Diana Kraft at diana.kraft@giz.de or kraft@zvei.org (phone: +49-69-6302-376)

Further information (so far mainly in German): [www.zvei.org/...](http://www.zvei.org/)

top

Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in the Infrastructure Sector

Gender is a central factor for successful infrastructure projects



On 22 - 24 March 2011 the World Bank and the African Development Bank hosted a regional workshop focusing on mainstreaming gender into infrastructure projects. The German development cooperation co-sponsored the event together with the Canadian International

Development Agency.

More than 100 participants discussed how gender aspects could be stronger integrated in water, energy and transport projects. The workshop was opened by the Ethiopian Minister for Finance and Economic Development Mr. Sufian Ahmed.

Mr. Joachim Prey, Deputy Director General for Planning and Development at GIZ, highlighted the important role of gender for improved infrastructure development in Africa. He pointed out that for successful projects in the infrastructure sector, gender competence is a "must", not a "nice to have".

For more information please visit <http://go.worldbank.org/...>

top

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) IRENA comes of age – First Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)



The first IRENA
Assembly was held on
4/5 April 2011 in Abu
Dhabi, United Arab
Emirates.

The event marks a milestone in the history of IRENA since it completes the founding phase of IRENA that started in January 2009 with the founding conference in Bonn.

This speedy founding process as well as the large number of 150 Signatories of the IRENA Statute, of which 70 have already ratified it, shows the strong support and the expectations of the states to IRENA in particular and renewable energies in general.

Fitted with an overall budget of about 25 m US\$ and an ambitious but realistic work programme for 2011 IRENA aims at becoming the global voice for the widespread adoption of all forms of renewable energy sources. IRENA will focus on knowledge management and technology transfer, offer policy advice and capacity building to its members and work on renewable energy technologies and innovations.

The first Assembly confirmed Abu Dhabi as the permanent seat of IRENA. The IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC) in Bonn, as an integral part of the IRENA Secretariat, will contribute to implement IRENA's work programme and achieve the overall targets.

GIZ has supported the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in their work as active parties and supporters of IRENA since 2009. (www.irena.org)

top

Germany's International Climate Initiative Turkish-German Biogas Project transforms manure into energy

Animal waste from cattle breeding and agro industry wastewater are the source of considerable greenhouse gas emissions and massive water pollution in Turkey. GIZ in cooperation with the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and the Turkish Ministries of Environment and Agriculture takes up the challenge: A holistic concept around the production of biogas shall promote renewable energy potential, protect the environment and modernize agricultural production systems.

By using manure for energy production, animal waste is no longer dumped into the rivers. At the same time, greenhouse gas emissions are significantly

reduced. The Turkish-German Biogas Project supports the Turkish decision makers in creating an encouraging legal and institutional framework for biogas production as well as a stricter environmental legislation. On local level, GIZ is currently analysing the regional potentials for the pilot biogas plants.

"Biogas production offers great opportunities for modernization of agriculture and local economic development", GIZ Project Director Dr Thomas Breuer affirms. "For example, manure collection systems will require modern barns." As feasibility studies have shown, local plant breeders mainly use chemical fertilizers. Replacing these with organic fertilizers from biogas digestates is also part of GIZ's holistic approach.

For more information please contact Dr Thomas Breuer (thomas.breuer@giz.de).

top

GIZ

New GIZ Project: TRANSfer – Towards climate-friendly transport technologies and measures



The overall objective of the new TRANSfer project is to enable decision-makers in developing countries to develop climate

change strategies in the transport sector as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions – so called NAMAs. The NAMA concept was finally agreed on in Cancun during the last UNFCCC conference. The 3-year project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. During the project, GIZ will develop a manual on "Navigating Transport NAMAs". It will be based on south-south networks of countries and practical implementation within the partner countries Indonesia, South Africa and Colombia. Background to the interest on NAMAs in the transport sector is, that almost no CDM projects have been successfully registered as CDM projects. Focussing on policies rather than on projects is more appropriate to the transport challenge. Hence, the final intention is to achieve co-benefits, i.e. reduce CO2 emissions in the transport sector and, at the same time, achieve more efficient and sustainable transport systems in developing countries.

For further information visit www.transport-nama.org or contact Daniel Bongardt (daniel.bongardt@giz.de)

top

Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)

6th Joint Experts Group Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)



From 17-18 March 2011 the 6th Joint Experts Group Meeting (JEG) of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) took place in

Mauritius.

While the previous 5th JEG in September 2010 in Vienna was characterized by the finalisation of the 2nd Action Plan of the AEEP, the 6th JEG focussed on its implementation status. Based on a presentation by Germany in its capacity as one of the two European Co-Chairs of the AEEP, participants discussed current bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation between the two continents in the energy sector. These efforts and initiatives also contribute to the ambitious AEEP 2020 Political Targets. They seek in particular to bring access to modern and sustainable energy services to at least an additional 100 million people on the African continent.

To achieve the targets on renewable energy, JEG participants endorsed the start-up phase (2011-13) of the AEEP Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) in Mauritius. It is implemented by the EUEI Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF) and the Agence Française de Développement. Considering the vast potential for renewable energy in Africa, the JEG has also endorsed a guiding vision for the development of a larger RECP up to 2020.

For the coming months, the AEEP agenda will concentrate on the implementation of the RECP as well as the organisation of the 1st AEEP Partnership Forum bringing together NGOs, the private sector, and research. Both present unique opportunities to further fill the Africa-EU Energy Partnership with life.

For more information on the AEEP process, please consult the Joint Website of the AU and the EU Commissions (www.africa-eu-partnership.org/...), the website of the EUEI PDF (www.euei-pdf.org/...), or contact the EUEI PDF through info@euei-pdf.org.

top

EUEI Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF)
Sustainable Energy for All? Towards a European contribution to the "UN Year of Sustainable Energy for All"



EUEI PDF Discussion
Forum: On 14 April
2011, the GIZ-hosted
EUEI Partnership
Dialogue Facility (EUEI

PDF) organised a roundtable discussion in Brussels on the EU's positioning towards the 2012 UN Year of Sustainable Energy for All and the European contributions towards increasing energy access.

Back-to-back with the EUEI PDF Annual Governing Board Meeting, participants discussed how the EU and other European actors can best address the estimated 1.4 billion people (or ca. 21 %) worldwide that still lack access to electricity as well as the 2.7bn people worldwide that rely on the traditional use of biomass for cooking.

Representatives of seven EU Member States (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, and the UK), the European Commission as well as the private sector, NGOs and research concluded that a "European Energy Identity" is needed characterised by renewable energy as the prime source to increase energy access. Participants agreed that renewable energy in the long term is both ecologically and economically the only sustainable and viable solution. Further, it was highlighted that new financing instruments and innovative business models are necessary to strengthen the role of the local private sector. Europe should focus on 'enhanced access' including mini-grids and productive use of electricity that form the neglected middle ground between household-level basic access and utility-scale, grid-connected power generation. Here the European private sector can strengthen its competitive advantage.

For more information please consult the website of the EUEI PDF (www.euei-pdf.org/...), or contact the EUEI PDF through info@euei-pdf.org.

top

GIZ

Conference Energy Efficient Lighting, Montenegro



The Conference on Energy Efficient Lighting was held on April 28th, 2011 at the Crna Gora Hotel in Podgorica, Montenegro. The Conference gathered relevant political subjects and economic operators with a view to disseminating the

idea and finding new possibilities of cooperation in the area of energy efficiency with emphasis on energy efficient lighting and energy management in local government.

The Conference was organized by the Ministry of Economy of Montenegro and the German Organization for International Cooperation (GIZ). For several years, Montenegro has been implementing intensive activities in creating prerequisites for the reduction of energy consumption in conformity with European directives, also keeping in mind the limitations of energy resources and the significant import dependence. To this end, the most significant legal acts have been prepared, regional conferences with similar topics were organized in 2009 and 2010 and a series of measures and activities were implemented relating to awareness-raising about the significance of rational energy consumption.

This Conference, among others, aimed at connecting the domestic and foreign market, private and public sector, institutions and organizations with activities in the area of energy efficiency, and also at promoting and strengthening energy efficiency in Montenegro. Participation in the Conference offered a special opportunity to get information and to establish the necessary contacts with experts from the area of energy efficient lighting. The presentations at the Conference were conducted by renowned national, regional and international experts in this field. The Conference was attended by manufacturers of light fixtures and equipment, such as Swarco, Osram, Siteco, Regiolux, etc.

More details on the website of the Conference: efficient-lighting-conference-eng.yolasite.com/.

top

GIZ at CARBON EXPO 2011 in Barcelona

World's leading Trade Fair & Conference for Climate and Carbon Finance, Emissions Trading and Carbon Abatement Technologies



GIZ will take part in the CARBON EXPO 2011 in Barcelona from 1 - 3 June. For the 8th consecutive time, the world's leading Trade Fair & Conference for Climate and Carbon Finance, Emissions

Trading and Carbon Abatement Technologies is opening its doors for industries, project developers, buyers, decision makers, politicians and governments. The last EXPO brought together over 250 exhibitors, around 3.000 visitors from 111 countries and more than 47 CDM / JI host countries.

On behalf of the German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and in the context of the CDM-Country-Manager-Project, GIZ will be represented at the CARBON EXPO within the German

Pavilion. A joint side event, in cooperation with the German development bank KfW and BMU is foreseen and will focus on the role of Programs of Activities (PoA) related to the current discussion on Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA). Furthermore, additional meetings between the CDM Country Units and the BMU will take place during the fair.

For more information on the CARBON EXPO 2011 please visit:

www.carbonexpo.com.

top

GIZ Paraguay

Renewable Energies in Paraguay



In cooperation with the Vice Ministry for Mining and Energy and the Paraguayan German Chamber of Commerce, GIZ released a publication on the current situation of Renewable Energies in Paraguay. The publication, the first of its kind in the country, introduces the different types of Renewable Energies and provides information about the potential, the perspectives and current applications in the country. Additionally, it provides information about Energy Efficiency, presents research activities of Paraguayan Universities and includes a list of relevant contact

addresses.

Due to its vast hydropower resources more than two thirds of Paraguay's Energy Production is derived from Renewable Energies. Itaipú, the second biggest dam worldwide plays a special role, not only for the generation of energy, but also because of its relevance for energy exports (Paraguay exports 42% of the energy it generates). However, more than 50% of energy consumption is based on biomass, mainly wood, with detrimental consequences for the environment (deforestation).

The publication which met a lot of interest from various sides will contribute to the nascent discussion about the use of other renewable energies. Based on a proposal from the Paraguayan side, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation already confirmed its interest to support the Paraguayan side in its endeavor to foster renewable energies. [Download PDF 5.3 MB \(Spanish version\)](#)

top

GIZ

Sector Network Energy in Sub-Sahara Africa - Scaling up GIZ's energy portfolio



Within the German Development Cooperation the energy sector is one of the fastest developing focal areas. African countries have become aware of the potential of sustainable energy

sources, and the role they can play in the fight against poverty. The founding of the Sector Network (SN) "Energy in Sub-Sahara Africa" in November 2009 was thus well-timed. During the SN first conference in Cape Town in 2010, conference participants discussed new concepts and shaped common positions on strategy and policy issues. Increasing and securing the effectiveness and quality of GIZ's corporate service delivery is the SN's ultimate objective.

Finance gaps for infrastructure, institutional and capacity weaknesses, low electrification rates, and traditional biomass usage are some of the most crucial challenges the African continent faces today. The SN wants to contribute to a deeper understanding of how energy challenges can be met best in the African context with a view to up-scaling, poverty alleviation, and climate change.

Most of the SN's work is done within four Working Groups (WG) focusing on biomass, hydro power, productive use of electricity, and power market development, respectively. All WGs are developing strategies, tools and studies with the aim of scaling up successful and good practices.

[top](#)

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