



- Information Flier -

Launch of regional "Small Hydro for Greening the Tea Industry in Eastern and Southern Africa" and "Cogeneration for Africa" projects

8th November 2007

Conference Room 2, UNEP Headquarters Complex, Nairobi, Kenya

Organised by:

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
African Development Bank (AfDB)
East African Tea Trade Association (EATTA)
Energy, Environment and Development Network for Africa (AFREPREN/FWD)

Sponsored by:

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
African Development Bank (AfDB)
Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)
PRO - INVEST

Projects' Overview

The 'Small Hydro for Greening the Tea industry in Eastern and Southern Africa' Project and the 'Cogeneration for Africa' Project are regional initiatives funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and co-implemented by UNEP and AfDB. Key financiers of the two initiatives include the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) and Pro-Invest. The East Africa Tea Trade Association (EATTA) is the Executing Agency for the 'Small Hydro for Greening the Tea industry in Eastern and Southern Africa' Project. AFREPREN/FWD is the Executing Agency for the 'Cogeneration for Africa' Project.

The 'Small Hydro for Greening the Tea industry in Eastern and Southern Africa' Project (<http://greeningtea.unep.org>) is expected to directly or indirectly benefit over 8 million people including tea farmers, workers, and their dependents in Eastern and Southern Africa through the installation of small hydro electricity generation stations in the region's tea industry - a principal source of convertible currency for the region's countries. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the small hydro power installations will reduce the tea industry's energy costs, enhance global competitiveness of the region's tea industry and increase the share of global tea revenues flowing to the region's tea farming community as well as provide opportunities for extending clean electricity to rural communities.

Project priority target countries that have endorsed this small hydro initiative include Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. With an initial target of 10MW of small hydro, this project is expected to stimulate 82MW of small hydro capacity in the region as well as set the stage for the development of an indigenous and vibrant small hydro design, manufacturing, operation, maintenance and investment industry in the Eastern and Southern African region.

Expected to benefit close to 10 million sugar farmers, workers and their dependents, the 'Cogeneration for Africa' Project (<http://cogen.unep.org>) is an innovative and first-of-its-kind project. The 'Cogeneration for Africa' project is designed to build on the success of cogeneration in Mauritius, which currently meets close to 40% of the country's electricity needs through cleaner power generation plants installed in

Mauritius' sugar industry. It seeks to significantly scale up the use of efficient cogeneration systems initially in seven Eastern and Southern African countries (Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania and Swaziland) that have endorsed the 'Cogeneration for Africa' project.

In its initial six-year pilot phase, the 'Cogeneration for Africa' project is expected to bring on stream 60MW of cleaner power generation capacity and set the stage for the installation of over 200MW of cogeneration capacity in the region. Primarily relying on low-cost and renewable indigenous fuels such as bagasse (a waste by-product of the sugar industry) and offcuts from the timber industry, the installed cogeneration units will reduce energy costs for the region's agro-processing and forest industries, increase export competitiveness of the region's exported value added agricultural and forest products thus increase the share of revenues enjoyed by the region's farming and forest industry's communities. In addition to reducing greenhouse gases emissions, the project will facilitate greater flow of local private sector investment finance to the region's power generation sector, increase electricity network reliability, reduce transmission costs as well as set the stage for expanding rural electrification in the region's rural areas.

Participants

This event is expected to be graced by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, the UNEP Executive Director and the Vice President of the African Development Bank. Other dignitaries include African Energy and Agriculture Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Directors of national power utilities, regulators, representatives of key bilateral and multilateral funding agencies and banking institutions. Also in attendance will be experts in energy, electricity, environment, engineering, technology, finance, economics, and members of the private sector, universities and research centres, and civil society. Over 500 participants are expected to attend the meeting.

Launch Venue and Format

The launch will be held in **Conference Room 2** at the UNEP Headquarters Complex in Gigiri, Nairobi on 8th November 2007.

Registration of invited guests will begin from 8:00am to 10:00am and everyone is expected to be seated by 10:15 before the arrival of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya.

The launch will include keynote speeches by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, United Nations Environment Programme, the African Development Bank and the European Union Delegation in Kenya. There will also be speeches from Hon. Kipruto Arap Kirwa the Kenyan Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Dumsile Sukati the Swaziland Minister for Natural Resources and Energy and Hon. Simon D'Ujanga the Ugandan State Minister for Energy. In addition, there will be presentations made on the '*Small Hydro for Greening the Tea industry in Eastern and Southern Africa*' and '*Cogeneration for Africa*' Projects. There will also be an exhibition by Project Partners, Tea and Sugar Companies and Financing Institutions.

Accommodation and Transport

For participants not residing in Kenya, the organizers have negotiated special rates for accommodation at the exquisite Panafric Hotel (www.sarovahotels.com/panafric/index.php) and the newly renovated Heron Hotel (<http://www.heronhotel.com>) in Nairobi.

Transport will be available for all participants to take them to the launch venue. Pick up points for the transport will be at Panafric Hotel, Heron Hotel and Hilton Hotel.

For participants travelling by air and sponsored by the launch organizers, airport pickups will be provided.

For more information on the launch, please visit <http://www.afrepren.org/launch/> or <http://cogen.unep.org/launch/> or <http://greeningtea.unep.org/ProjectLaunch/>