

EXPANDING THE GREEN ENERGY LANDSCAPE: The Evolution of SREP

With support from AfDB and SREP, the landscape of green energy generation in low-income African countries stands to evolve significantly. Along with up and running projects Kenya Menengai and Mali PAPERM, the five original AfDB-supported SREP pilot countries are working to move their programs ahead, even where they face challenging circumstances such as disease and operational complexities. In addition, nine new African countries have won SREP endorsement and are beginning preparation of their Investment Plans.

Newcomer African Countries

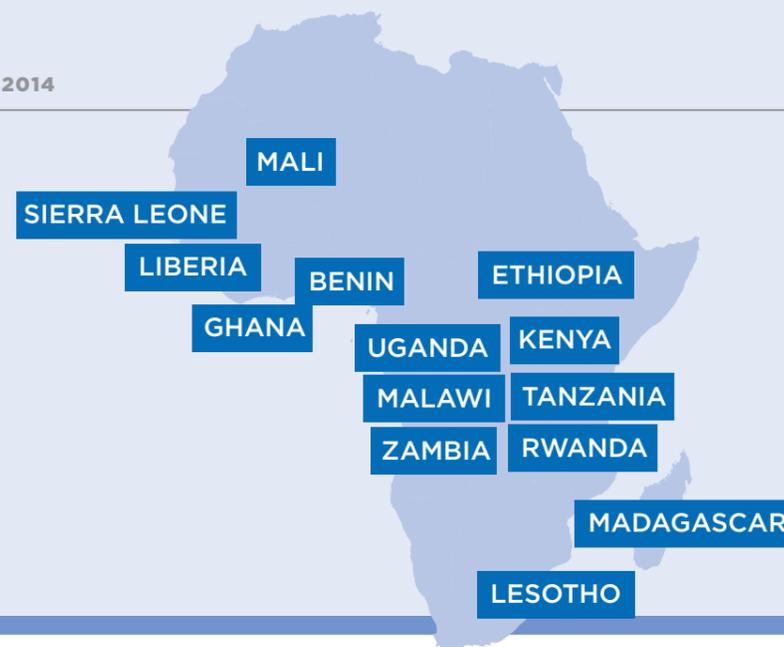
Five African countries are underway with their SREP programs, as outlined on the next page. In addition, with a growing interest in gaining SREP help to enhance green energy services, many other countries have expressed interest in qualifying for funding. An Expert Group recommended a set of new low-income countries based on agreed criteria: lack of energy access, relative poverty, enabling environment, good governance in the sector, and capacity for implementation.

On review, SREP endorsed a cadre of new low-income countries to develop Investment Plans (IPs) to ramp up climate-smart energy services. Of these countries, nine are in Africa. AfDB will be the lead MDB to support preparation of five IPs— Benin, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda — and provide support on the other four — Lesotho, Madagascar, Rwanda, and Zambia. Each country can request up to \$300,000 to enable them to work with the MDBs to develop their full IPs.



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SREP supports technologies such as solar, wind, bio-energy, geothermal, and small hydro technologies, works with governments to build renewable energy markets, engages the private sector, and explores productive energy use.



Ethiopia

Assela Wind Farm: AfDB approval is planned for December 2015. Procurement of a consultancy firm to undertake year-long feasibility studies is at the final stage.

Kenya

In addition to **Menengai Geothermal** (see page 11), in August 2014 an MDB joint mission to Kenya took place to assess all projects in the IP; and based on the findings the government will seek to submit a revised IP in early 2015.

Liberia

Renewable Energy for Electrification in Eastern Liberia Project-Stand-Alone PV: AfDB approval is planned for October 2015. To support the government, AfDB is hiring consultants to undertake feasibility studies for mini hydro and biomass. Due to Ebola, missions have been moved to early 2015, with an appraisal mission in May and presentation for approval in Fall 2015.

Scoping missions help shape new SREP approaches

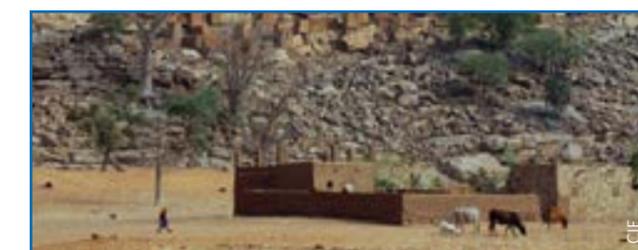
With support from AfDB as lead MDB and the World Bank, Ghana, Uganda, and other selected African countries are hosting scoping missions to launch preparations for their SREP Investment Plans, and identify priority areas, stakeholder engagement, and timing. Focus areas some countries are considering include hydropower, solar energy, wind energy, biomass and waste-to-energy resources including agricultural to forest and urban energy, and the national transmission and distribution infrastructure.

Mali

Promoting the Scaling Up of Renewable Energy in Mali (PAPERM): AfDB approved the project for SREP \$1.5 million in October 2014, to improve the enabling environment and knowledge dissemination to facilitate public and private renewable energy investments. The project is intended to benefit future investors and Malian citizens with more reliable, sustainable power generated by renewable energy. The launching mission is expected to take place in March 2015.

Tanzania

Geothermal Development: AfDB approval is planned for 2016. The preparation grant agreement was signed in August 2014. The government is finalizing its geothermal strategy and legal and regulatory framework for geothermal exploration. Expected results include 7 million beneficiaries.



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Mali Expands Mini-Hydro and Solar

In addition to PAPERM, AfDB and Mali are preparing two other projects. One project is dedicated to mini-hydro (about 13 MW), due for approval in 2016; the Bank is at final stages of procuring a consultancy to undertake feasibility studies. The other project is a 33 MW solar IPP project in Segou due for approval in mid-2015, which the Bank is financing in partnership with IFC and SREP.