

CLEAN ENERGY MINI-GRIDS NEWSLETTER

December 2015 Edition



FEATURE STORY

Accelerating Mini-grid Deployment for Energy Access Green Mini-Grids Africa - Update on the DFID-supported Programme

The Green Mini-Grids Africa programme aims to help transform the Green Mini-Grids (GMGs) sector in Africa into a thriving industry on track to deliver IEA's estimate that over 40% of universal access to electricity by 2030 will be most economically delivered by mini-grids. The intention is to achieve this by supporting a critical mass of experience and evidence of success in the two countries of Kenya and Tanzania, coupled with improved policy and market conditions for mini-grids regionally.

[Read more](#)



MINI-GRIDS AROUND THE WORLD

The Quest to Bring “Power, Everywhere” in India

India, a country where nearly 400 million people still live and work without access to electricity, represents a significant opportunity for innovation. This is what motivated the creation of OMC Power: a new type of power company that finances, builds, owns and operates solar micro-power plants in rural areas of India that are not part of the traditional electricity grid, with both rural communities and mobile networks as customers.

[Read more](#)

SparkMeter Brings Smart Grid Functionality to Underserved Utility Customers

SparkMeter was created out of recognition that low-income electricity consumers are best served when they can make payments on a flexible basis, and when the utility can control its customers' energy consumption with consent and transparency to maintain reliability. SparkMeter enables grid operators to control customer loads and incentivize customer behavior in ways that will keep the lights on for everyone.

[Read more](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

EnDev Rwanda Call for Proposals
For Private Companies Developing Mini-grids in Rwanda
CLOSING SOON: December 31, 2015

In a call for proposals, EnDev Rwanda offers up to 70% subsidy and a package of technical assistance for investments in privately owned and operated mini-grids of 5 to 100 kW installed capacity. For more information and detailed project proposal templates, please visit the [website](#) or contact razvan.sandru@giz.de.

VISIONS Sustainability Energy Project Support (SEPS) Call for Proposals
In Latin America and the Caribbean
CLOSING SOON: December 21, 2015

This call focuses on the introduction of small-scale renewable energy technologies and knowledge exchange in Latin America and the Caribbean. Further information on the call and applications process is available [here](#) and the selection criteria are available [here](#). Please note application forms and further documents have to be submitted in English. Applications written in Spanish will not be considered. For further information, email info@visions.net.

Promotion of Renewable Energy in Mozambique
Bidding Documents Available in December

The Government of Mozambique has received a grant from the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) managed by the African Development Bank to strengthen and improve the enabling environment for private investments in the country's promising renewable energy sector.

[Read More](#)

TOOLS & RESOURCES

The United Nations Foundation Investment Directory Highlights Financing Opportunities and Investment Needs of Mini/micro-grid Companies

The recently released [Investment Directory](#) published by the [United Nations Foundation](#) showcases a billion-dollar financing opportunity presented by the growing number of companies and organizations in the decentralized renewable energy sector, including mini/micro-grid companies. A copy of the report is available at www.energyaccess.org.

Clean Energy Mini-grids Initiative Maps Mini-grid Support Providers and Programs

On behalf of [Sustainable Energy for All](#)'s clean energy mini-grids initiative, the [Alliance for Rural Electrification](#) has created a [web tool](#) that maps public, philanthropic and commercial sources of funding, technical and other support available for clean energy mini-grids companies and projects globally. The web tool is available [here](#).

Catalogue of Tools for Mini-grid Project Planning and Execution

Sustainable Energy for All's clean energy mini-grids initiative is developing a catalogue of tools that can help during the various stages of mini-grid planning and implementation. So far, 50 relevant tools have been identified; your assistance is requested to make the catalogue as comprehensive as possible. Please review the [draft catalogue](#) and answer a few simple questions. The draft document is also available for download [here](#).

[Read more](#)

NEWS

What will speed up the micro-grid revolution?

The International Institute for Environment and Development looks at what it takes for investors to have greater confidence in micro-grid electricity generation, including focusing more attention on ensuring that the technology operates well in rural communities.

IFC Launches Mini-Grid Program to Increase Energy Access in Tanzania

Tanzania has been selected as one of the first countries to test the concept of using small-scale renewable energy production sources under the Scaling-up Renewable Energy in Low Income Countries Program. In Tanzania, the program aims to help diversify energy production away from fossil fuel-based sources. IFC will work with project developers in Tanzania to promote commercially viable mini-grid business models, and will advise banks and financial institutions on how to extend long-term finance to mini-grid developers.

ECREEE and IRENA Start a Capacity Needs Assessment for Clean Energy Mini-grids in the ECOWAS Region

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), in collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), have started a clean energy mini-grids capacity needs assessment in West Africa, as a first step towards the expansion of joint capacity-building support to ECOWAS member states.

[Read more](#)

EVENTS

JANUARY

Sixth Session of the IRENA Assembly

January 16-17, 2016

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

World Future Energy Summit

January 18-21, 2016

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Powering Africa Summit

January 27-29, 2016

Washington, D.C., United States of America

[Read more](#)

CONTACT US

Send us your suggestions of news, events and updates for the newsletter at minigridnews@unfoundation.org.



Published on behalf of the Sustainable Energy for All [Clean Energy Mini-grids High Impact Opportunity](#) by the United Nations Foundation in association with the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program.

The content presented here is for informational purposes only and does not necessarily represent the views of the World Bank and/or ESMAP.

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Copyright © 2015 - Energy Access Practitioner Network - All Rights Reserved
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300 - Washington, DC - 20006
Phone: +1 202 887 9040

[Unsubscribe from receiving email, or change your email preferences.](#)